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The latest Buzz on IdahoPTV.org



Past GM Reports

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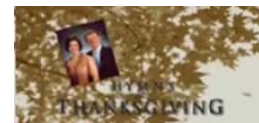
Quotes

“My wife, kids, and I thank you and Mike for returning the Idaho PTV service to our area (Sandpoint). We did not realize how much IPTV programming we watch until it was no longer on the air! We will now become members in order to support the channels and shows we enjoy so much!” Thank you again, Steve Sanchez, Hope, ID

(Editor's Note: IdahoPTV service to Sandpoint was knocked off for 10 days in late November due to heavy, early season snow. Our technician finally reached the site via helicopter. See more below.)



“I just wanted to thank Idaho Public TV for broadcasting the Hymns of Thanksgiving. We truly love watching it and rewatching it on Thanksgiving Day - it's become a family tradition and I just wanted to let everyone there know how much it means to us. Thank you Thank you Thank you!” Sincerely, Zack and Holly Ong Family

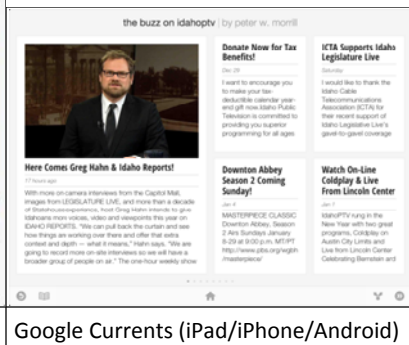


For the latest information on Idaho Public Television, check out The Buzz on IdahoPTV at: <http://idahoptv.org/buzzblog/>.

The Buzz is also available as an RSS feed <http://idahoptv.org/buzzblog/feeds/rss.cfm>. For a really nice magazine-style reading experience, try either Google Currents (iPad/iPad/Android) or Flipboard (iPad/iPhone). After downloading the app, simply type “The Buzz on IdahoPTV.”



Flipboard (iPad/iPhone)



Google Currents (iPad/iPhone/Android)



On Monday January 9, Governor C.L. “Butch” Otter delivered his annual State of the State speech and announced his fiscal year 2013 General Fund budget recommendations for state government agencies, including Idaho Public Television.



IdahoPTV produced live coverage of the event along with analysis hosted by Idaho Reports Producer Greg Hahn with guest Wayne Hammon, Director of Division of Financial Management; Vickie Holbrooke, Idaho Press-Tribune; and Kevin Richert, Idaho Statesman. <http://video.idahoptv.org/video/2185108035>

In addition, we provided video and audio pool feeds to local media and streamed the associated sessions in the House and Senate via Idaho Legislature Live. <http://idahoptv.org/leglive/>

After his State of the State speech, Governor Otter spoke to the press. His comments can be found at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MTZAsiyWNiA&list=UUcilbrY8iMEwzNHNugHqlhw&index=1&feature=plcp>.

The Democratic response can be found at: <http://idahoptv.org/idreports/>.

For Idaho Public Television, this is a critical milestone in the legislative process to determine the fiscal year 2013 General Fund resources that are appropriated to enable our statewide service.

His recommendation for IdahoPTV is essentially a flat budget from this year, FY 2012, with a net increase of \$ 7,200 for various pass-through expenditures to state agencies, such as benefit costs and other agency fees from the offices of risk management, attorney general, and the controller.

Overall to state government, the Governor's budget recommendation anticipates roughly 5% more in overall revenue, which was targeted to address some of the many needs and requests from agencies, rather than attempting to increase all agencies around 5% each.

The Governor recognized that employee increases, capital replacement and many line items have not been funded for four years, including this FY 2013 budget, during this economic recession. A pool of funds for employee compensation is proposed in the Governor's budget if certain revenue forecasts are met. For IdahoPTV, this budget puts on hold our requests for another year.

Our budget request items, which were not recommended, include:

- Capital replacement items totaling \$1.5 million for high priority items only. Note that IdahoPTV has about \$3 million on our current list of needs as of this year, which is a compounded value that largely continues to accumulate until capital replacement funding becomes available.
- Inflationary costs and expenditures that were previously paid by the General Fund of \$129,500.
- Our Line Item request for *Idaho Legislature Live* support of \$116,500.

Lean General Fund financial support for the administration and maintenance of the statewide delivery system will continue to challenge our ability to remain on air in all parts of the state, as well as hamper our ability to acquire and produce quality content for which our members donate funds.

Further funding challenges have arisen from the elimination or defunding of the two principle competitive federal equipment grant programs. In March, Congress eliminated the U.S. Department of Commerce's Public Telecommunications Facilities Program (PTFP), and they significantly reduced the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's Digital Distribution Fund (DDF) to \$5 million. IdahoPTV is in significant need of funds for equipment replacement and maintenance.

On January 27, 2012, I will present the Governor's budget recommendation to the Joint Finance – Appropriations Committee (JFAC). During that presentation, I will also outline areas of risk within IdahoPTV including a backlog of capital replacement, mandated/high priority items (outlined in the January 2011 GM Report), and a delayed project involving the removal of analog equipment in various regions of the state.

JFAC will consider the Governor's recommendation in late February or early March. We'll keep you posted as events warrant.

the buzz

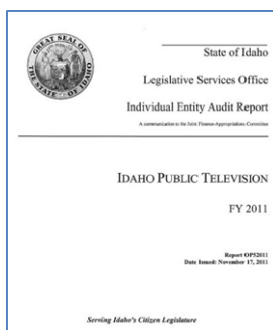


—Congratulations to everyone who helped make our DecemberFest pledge efforts successful! Over the December 2-4 period, we raised \$70,544, including the Web, with 521 pledges.

It's great working with a super team! And also, many thanks to the wonderful volunteers from Walmart for their efforts!



—I will be presenting Governor Otter's budget recommendation for Idaho Public Television's fiscal year 2013 budget request to the Joint Finance – Appropriations Committee (JFAC) on Friday, January 27, at 9:45 a.m. MT, in the third floor budget committee room. You can watch and listen at: <http://idahoptv.org/leglive/>.



—Our fiscal year 2011 audit is complete and was publicly released in mid-December. IdahoPTV has an audit each year by the Legislative Audits Division. This is a process to determine if our financial statements are materially accurate and reliable, and if we complied with laws and regulations affecting fiscal operations.

IdahoPTV was issued an “unqualified opinion” that we met those applicable auditing standards. The Legislative Services Office should have an electronic copy of this audit report on their website soon at:

<http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/audit/auditsummaries.htm>.

We had a single, minor finding during the audit of our FY 2011 financial reports.

The error was in classifying a fund balance of \$4,086 as “unassigned” when it should’ve been “assigned.” In previous years, this would not have been considered “material” to the financial reports and thus not reported as a finding. However, a new GASB rule changed the determination of materiality to where any value over \$441 on this particular line was considered material.

Per the Auditor’s Report, the audited financial statements “... present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the discretely presented component unit, and each major fund of IdahoPTV as of June 30, 2011 ...”

The full audited financial report is available online: <http://legislature.idaho.gov/audit/summaries/2011/iptv11.pdf>
You can see prior reports back to FY 2005 under “Public Television, Idaho” here:
<http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/audit/auditsummaries.htm>.

—In early January, we learned IdahoPTV had received two CINE Golden Eagle honors for our local productions.



The Color of Conscience won in Informational program:

<http://www.cine.org/winners/golden-eagle-award-recipient/fall-2011/telecast-news/#2>

and *D4K* won in Children’s Programs. *D4K* was the only children’s program recognized.

<http://www.cine.org/winners/golden-eagle-award-recipient/fall-2011/telecast-non-fiction/#1>

Please, take a moment a look at the above links. You will notice that there are virtually no local television stations honored. We are in pretty good company (ABC, CNN, *PBS Newshour*, *NOVA*). Congrats to all!



Idaho Legislative Live

—I would like to thank the Idaho Cable Telecommunications Association (ICTA) for their recent support of *Idaho Legislative Live’s* gavel-to-gavel coverage of the 2012 Idaho legislative session.

Idaho House and Senate floor action airs live on Idaho Public Television’s Learn/Create (Subchannel -3) and World (Subchannel -4) and are video streamed live online at idahoptv.org.

When the House and/or Senate are in session, cameras in the chambers capture the floor action for broadcast live on IdahoPTV. Anyone with over-the-air reception of IdahoPTV’s four digital channels can watch the gavel-to-gavel action from the Idaho House (Learn/Create) and Senate (World). These channels also are carried by CableONE across Idaho, Time Warner cable systems in Moscow and Pullman, Washington, as well as some additional cable systems.

Budget presentations to the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee (JFAC) are live video-streamed. Other committee hearings from the Capitol Auditorium will also be live video streamed online. All other standing committee hearings will be audio streamed. Mobile device streaming to iPhone, iPad and Android devices will also be premiered this session for the House, Senate, JFAC and Capitol Auditorium.

All streams can be accessed directly at: <http://idahoptv.org/leglive/> .

IdahoPTV provides this gavel-to-gavel coverage in partnership with Idaho Legislative Services and the Department of Administration.

Operational funding for Idaho Legislature Live is provided by a major grant from the Idaho State Broadcasters Association with additional support from Association of Idaho Cities, Idaho Association of Counties, Idaho Cable Telecommunications Association and your contributions to the Idaho Public Television Endowment.

—Travel Guru Rick Steves Live in Boise at the Egyptian Theatre
http://idahoptv.org/support_new/membership/rickSteves.cfm



Travel guru Rick Steves will be speaking live on Sunday, March 4, at 7 p.m. at the historic Egyptian Theatre in Boise. Join Idaho Public Television for an evening to remember as Rick shares his vast experiences of creating memorable, meaningful travel in our complex world. All seats are reserved for this family event. Rick will sign books immediately following the lecture.

Idaho Public Television has a limited number of tickets available when you pledge your support for television that educates, informs and inspires.

For ticket information, go to: http://idahoptv.org/support_new/membership/rickSteves.cfm.



—I wanted to let you all know that I have been asked to help out for a great cause. The Cabin, a center in Idaho dedicated to reading and writing, is having a fund raiser on Friday, February 24, at 7:30 p.m. at the Egyptian Theatre in Boise. The format of the event is called “Celebrities in Jeopardy,” and I suspect my participation will put me in jeopardy!

The following describes the event. I encourage you to attend. It will be a blast for a great cause!

EVERYTHING YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT “CELEBRITIES IN JEOPARDY”

For the first time in Boise, a game show spoof benefiting The Cabin. Four teams of local celebrities match wit and wisdom. How well will they survive? Will the audience know the answers? Will they be able to help their favorite team?

Put your ticket stub in the pot; it might be you who gets the “gold.”

Are you ready for a night of wackiness, dubious prizes, light snacks and generally unexpected fun? Come casual, sit back, watch the show and be prepared to smile.

Featuring Boise’s Local Celebrities (Watch Out, World!)

EMCEES: Tony Doerr and Alan Heathcock, world famous authors and generally nice fellows

JUDGE: Federal Court Judge, Stephen Trott and Boise’s best Renaissance man

TEAM #1: Kathy Kustra, Boise’s best advocate and crossword puzzle extraordinaire; Bob Kustra, Kathy’s husband and BSU President

TEAM #2: Mark Junkert, New York's loss and Boise's gain, and General Director of Opera Idaho; Peter Morrill, college track star and General Manager for Idaho Public Television

TEAM #3: Cherie Buckner-Webb, best vocal pipes in the Valley and Idaho State Legislator; Margaret Montrose Stigers, member of the famous singing group Divas of Boise, and proud mother of Jake and Curtis

TEAM #4: Ken Bass, a guy Boiseans have been waking up with for years, plus, he's on the radio; Tim Johnstone, has more musical skeletons in his closet than he'd care to admit

Come Join Us on February 24th

Egyptian Theater

Doors Open at 6:45

Show Starts at 7:30

\$100 \$60 \$35 Get Your Tickets Now By Calling The Cabin: 331-8000



—On December 8, Idaho Public Television's reporting team produced a segment for the PBS

NewsHour. The report examined the Occupy Movement in San Diego, Oklahoma City and Boise. Congrats to Marcia Franklin (Producing/Reporting), Dave Butler (editing, shooting), Hank Nystrom (additional shooting) and Jeff Tucker for wrangling the technology to get the piece transferred to DC.

http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/business/july-dec11/occupy_12-08.html



—A human rights group in Pocatello will be showing *The Color of Conscience* on

Monday, January 16, Martin Luther King Day. On the same day, a similar showing of the program, along with a presentation by producer Marcia Franklin, is happening in Nampa. On Thursday, January 12, Franklin will be speaking and screening the program at the Coeur d'Alene Library. In addition to several statewide broadcasts of the program since its premiere last May and its availability for viewing on our website, <http://video.idahoptv.org/video/1949293974/>, we have been able to present the program at 11 sessions across Idaho, including Sandpoint, Coeur d'Alene (twice), Idaho Falls, Pocatello (twice), Nampa and Boise (four times—at the premiere, to two groups of teachers, and an upcoming presentation to the Idaho Women's Charitable Association on February 16.)

—In early January, executive producer Bruce Reichert walked into the construction site that will be the home of the new Idaho City fill-in translator. This was possible because of the light snowfall the area has experienced in December. Currently the site is a flat pad with a large storage container at the end of a half-mile, dirt road, overlooking Idaho City. A new translator for Idaho City is needed because of a poor channel assignment made by the Federal Communications Commission. Our current channel assignment, Channel 21, does not penetrate mountainous areas well. As a result, more than two years ago, we applied for several "fill-in translator" permits for areas including Idaho City, Emmett, Glenns Ferry, southern Wood River Valley and eastern Pocatello. We anticipate work on the Idaho City site to be completed the end of this coming summer.





—Go change that bulb!

Idaho Public Television's technical crew goes to great lengths to ensure you receive excellent digital television services all over our state.



In mid-December, one of the strobe lights on top of our Deer Point tower, near Chair #1 at Bogus Basin, needed changing. Functioning lights are required by both the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

So on Thursday, December 8, a tower crew climbed the 350-foot structure, with 25 mile per hour winds blowing and subfreezing temperatures.



The replacement incandescent light bulb costs about \$250 and last about two and a half years. In the future, perhaps as soon as next summer, we're hoping to begin using new generation LED bulbs. The upside is that they last much longer, up to ten years, but cost much more ... about four times as much plus needed high altitude electrical work. We think it will be well worth the investment in tower crew climbing costs and hazards!

Our IdahoPTV Productions



Writers at Harriman

Behind the Stories Writers at Harriman

By Marcia Franklin, Producer

Watch it now at: <http://video.idahoptv.org/video/2174858551>

I first heard about Writers@Harriman many years ago when I was at a musical performance and sitting next to Yvonne Ferrell, the former director of the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation. She told me she was working on the idea of a young writers' camp at one of Idaho's most iconic state parks, Harriman. Even then, I was enthusiastic about trying to produce an Outdoor Idaho documentary at the camp if it came to fruition.



Videographer Jay Krajic gets footage of a class on the banks of the Henry's Fork of the Snake River. [Photo credit: Marcia Franklin]



Jonathan Enoch O'Gara wakes his fellow campers with bagpipe music. [Photo credit: Marcia Franklin]

The setting alone, at Harriman State Park, amidst trumpeter swans, bald eagles, rainbow trout, and yes, grizzly bears, makes for fine television. But I also felt the stories of the young people coming together from all over the state would be compelling. Not only would they be learning about writing, a skill and an art I think is often undervalued, but they'd be learning about each other and themselves.

The camp was indeed organized, and after the initial year, I approached director Margaret Marti to see if we could film the next session. She said yes.

I had a great time for the week we were at Harriman. Margaret was both welcoming and organized (very helpful for a producer, especially when you're dealing with getting release forms from 35 parents.) The students were also gracious. It's not easy reading your work in front of others, much less a television camera. They were warm, polite and inquisitive.

They're unique, maybe even considered a little off-center in their schools, and that's cool with them – and me. These are teens who don't mind going without cell phones, call themselves "nerds," and who revel in a still mysterious outdoor game to me called "Ninja."

In their midst you'll find a bagpiper, a rodeo lover, a football player, and a budding activist with two mothers. What they all have in common is they feel life very deeply, and they're in love with writing.

Coming to Harriman gives them a place where they're not only OK, but celebrated. It's also a place where they learn they may not be the publishable writers they thought they were – yet. The seminars, taught by talented writers who use interesting "prompts," put them through their paces and force them to write, write and rewrite. "I think that's the hardest thing for anybody to learn, is, "How do I revise a paper?" says teacher Chris Dempsey. "I'll be sitting with kids and saying, 'What if we do this? What if we do that? What if you rearrange this? Do you really need this part?' So that they can start to refine their own work, and realize that getting something on paper is just the first step."



A class in the grass. [Photo credit: Marcia Franklin]

Boy, do I know that! How I would have liked to have had a teacher like Dempsey edit me before I had to write for "real." How I would have enjoyed meeting other young writers when I was a teen.

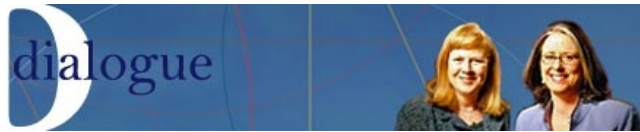
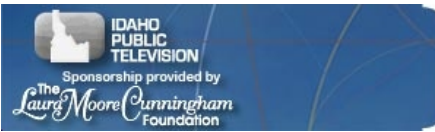
That's not to say this project was easy. Videotaping the classes turned out to be quite a challenge. Videographer Jay Krajic and I found ourselves running from one part of the park to another, since the classes weren't always close to each other. And since these were groups of at least eight people, we couldn't put a microphone on everyone. Instead, I held the boom mike, with varying degrees of success.

Sometimes we'd get to a class just as one of the students we wanted to hear had finished talking. Sometimes they didn't want to share their work. Sometimes the instruction was too technical for television. Sometimes the class was inside and dark. In one instance, we lost power altogether. And then there were long periods where the students were just writing.

But those challenges just made finding the stories even more rewarding. I look forward to seeing what these delightful young writers do with the lessons learned at Harriman. As director Margaret Marti says, "We can hope for great things. I think we'll get them."



Harriman State Park at dusk, with the Tetons in the distance. [Photo credit: Marcia Franklin]



STEM Research

—Airs Thursday, January 12, at 8:30/7:30 p.m. MT/PT

—Repeats at a new time, Sunday, January 15 at 10:30/9:30 a.m. instead of 5:30/4:30 p.m. MT/PT

Dialogue host Joan Cartan-Hansen talks with the administrators who oversee an array of cutting-edge scientific research at the state's three major universities to find out more about their work and their support for science education in Idaho.

Cartan-Hansen's guests are Mark Rudin, vice president of research at Boise State University; Deb Easterly, director of research development and compliance at Idaho State University; and John McIver, vice president for research and economic development at the University of Idaho. Included in this show is a report from Idaho Public Television reporter Aaron Kunz about how scientists are using microscopic creatures to repurpose garbage.

Emails are accepted before the program at dialogue@idahoptv.org and comments or questions may also be posted at www.facebook.com/dialogue. There is no call-in segment on the Sunday repeat.

View or listen to DIALOGUE episodes in a variety of formats:

Over-the-air broadcast on Idaho digital Subchannel 1 airs Thursdays at 8:30/7:30 p.m. MT/PT, with repeats on Sundays at 5:30/4:30 p.m. MT/PT, on channels 12-KUID/26-KCDT, 4-KAID/13-KIPT, and 10-KISU. Analog signals remain available through cable and satellite and many translators; consult local suppliers for channel numbers.

Standard-definition over-the-air broadcast airs on World digital Subchannel 4 frequently throughout the week, days and evenings, times vary. The standard-definition broadcast also is available through some cable companies; consult local suppliers.

Video streaming from idahoptv.org/dialogue is available in high-bandwidth or low-bandwidth format. Windows Media Player is required; a free download is available. *Dialogue* also is available through IdahoPTV's video player that also features national PBS shows (video/idahoptv.org).

Video download from <http://video.idahoptv.org>; ultra-high bandwidth required.

Podcasts (MP3, audio-only; and MP4, audio-video for Macintosh and iTunes users) are available for download from idahoptv.org/dialogue.

NPR News 91 audio-only airs in Southwest Idaho. Sundays at 11:30 a.m. MT.

KISU FM audio-only airs in Eastern Idaho. Saturdays at 12:30 p.m. MT.

Journalism Expert Jan Schaffer



Igniting news
ideas that work

—Aired Thursday, December 22, at 8:30/7:30 p.m. MT/PT

Dialogue host Joan Cartan-Hansen spoke about the future of journalism with J-Lab Executive Director Jan Schaffer.

According to the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, 41 percent of Americans say they get their national and international news from the Internet. What does that mean for the future of newspapers and television newsrooms? What sort of entrepreneurial groups are getting into the news business? And in a digital age, what is news and how do we know when we can trust what we read?

J-Lab is a journalism catalyst, promoting cutting-edge journalism and assisting news start-ups to navigate the ethical dilemmas that come with the digital age. Schaffer was in Idaho as the keynote speaker for the Oppenheimer Ethics Seminar.

Author, Journalist Kati Marton

—Aired Thursday, December 15, at 8:30/7:30 p.m. MT/PT



Dialogue host Marcia Franklin talked with author and former journalist Kati Marton. Marton, who has written seven books, is a former correspondent for NPR and ABC News.

Franklin talked with Marton about her experience researching her most recent work, *Enemies of the People*. The book chronicles Marton's search to learn more about her parents, who were imprisoned by the Hungarian government during the Cold War for their work as reporters for American news outlets.

Released after nearly two years, her parents fled to the United States, where they lived out their lives and never discussed their ordeal. Years after her parents' deaths, Marton had the unique opportunity to look at the once-secret files compiled on her family. She discovered not only who had betrayed her parents, but more about their lives than she had ever imagined.

Franklin also asked Marton about the themes of her other works, which include *The Great Escape: Nine Jews who Fled Hitler and Changed the World*; *Wallenberg: Missing Hero*; and *The Polk Conspiracy*. The two also discussed the legacy of Marton's late husband, U.S. diplomat Richard Holbrooke, who died in December 2010 of complications from a torn aorta.

In a separate web extra, the two talk about Marton's work in human rights, and about her next book.

The interview is part of *Dialogue's* ongoing "Conversations from the Sun Valley Writers' Conference" and was taped at the 2011 conference.



Author Colum McCann

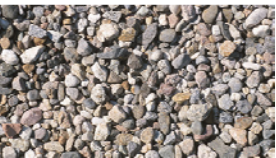
—Aired Thursday, December 8, at 8:30/7:30 p.m. MT/PT

Dialogue host Marcia Franklin interviewed Colum McCann, author of *Let the Great World Spin*, which has been called the “first great 9/11 novel.”

Let the Great World Spin won the 2009 National Book Award for fiction, and was Amazon.com’s 2009 Book of the Year. The novel weaves together the stories of fictional characters all living in New York City in 1974 during the week Philippe Petit made his famous tightrope walk between the Twin Towers. Although the book barely mentions the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, it is considered a homage to that day and its effect on the country.

Franklin talked with the Irish-born McCann about what prompted him to write the work, as well as the themes behind his other books, which include *This Side of Brightness*, about dwellers in the subway tunnels of New York City; *Zoli*, about a Roma woman in Europe; and *Dancer*, based on the life of Rudolf Nureyev. McCann has also written several collections of short stories.

The interview is part of *Dialogue*’s ongoing “Conversations from the Sun Valley Writers’ Conference” and was taped at the 2011 conference.



Geology

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

—Watch it at: www.idahoptv.org/d4k

Idaho is known as “The Gem State” for good reason. You can find over 240 different minerals in the state. Some are very rare and valuable. Others play an important role in our everyday life. Do you know what minerals you can find in Idaho? Can you recognize the things we have in our homes and schools because of geologists?

D4K host Joan Cartan-Hansen and her guest scientists will answer questions about geology. Cartan-Hansen will be joined by Reed Lewis, a geologist from the Idaho Geological Survey at the University of Idaho; and Megan Dixon, an instructor from the College of Idaho.

D4K is Idaho Public Television science education project for elementary age children. Students watch *D4K* over the air or on the *D4K* website. They can send their questions through e-mail to D4K@idahoptv.org, fax them in before the show to (208) 373-7245, call in live during the program to (800) 973-9800 or send a tweet to @D4KonIdahoPTV. Students who send in a question are eligible to win prizes for their classroom. The *D4K* website offers facts, links, reading lists, a glossary, podcasts of programs; video shorts, full episodes and special *D4K* web exclusive programming.



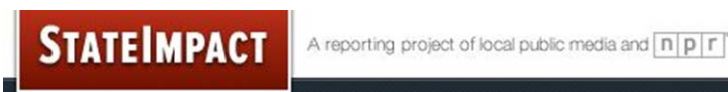
Predators

—Airs Tuesday, February 21, at 2:00/1:00 p.m. MT/PT

Predators are animals that eat other animals. They don't have to be big, but they do have to be really lucky to survive. Predators play an important role in the food chain and the health of an ecosystem. How? What special characteristics do predators share? And why is being a predator a tough life?

D4K host Joan Cartan-Hansen and her guest scientists will answer questions about predators. Cartan-Hansen will be joined by Gregg Losinski, Regional Conservation Educator for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game; and Jon Rachael, State Wildlife Manager for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

Public Television in the News



Idaho Public Television Live-Streams Legislative Hearings, Floor Sessions

January 10, 2012 | 12:33 PM

By Emilie Ritter Saunders

Idaho Public Television is broadcasting hearings and floor sessions from the 2012 Idaho Legislature.

You can check out the various live stream feeds here. You can also view live statewide broadcast coverage of the Idaho Legislature on Idaho Public Television's Learn [House] and World [Senate] channels.

Idaho Legislature Live is a collaborative effort among Idaho Public Television, the Idaho Department of Administration, and the Legislative Services Office.



Governor recommends \$2.66 billion budget Otter: Idaho's agencies are 'leaner'

By KATHERINE WUTZ
Express Staff Writer

Gov. Butch Otter announced Monday that even though state revenues are expected to grow by more than 5 percent in fiscal 2013, he does not plan on returning funds that were cut from state agencies last year.

"What we had to do will become our new normal going forward," Otter told state legislators during his State of the State address. "Idaho, having been tested by the great recession, is now emerging leaner."

Otter submitted his \$2.66 billion budget recommendations to the Legislature on Monday, a figure that reflects an assumption that state revenues will grow by about \$126.5 million over the next year.

Kevin Richert, political reporter for the Idaho Statesman, told Idaho Public Television on Monday that he thinks this figure is unrealistic, considering revenues this year grew by just over 4 percent.

"That [5 percent 2013 projection] is fairly robust growth," he said.

Rep. Donna Pence, D-Gooding, said she worried about that figure as well.

"I don't think we grew that much [this year]," she said. "I'd like to think we would reach that goal, but I'm not sure I'm comfortable with that number."

However, Wayne Hammon of the state Division of Financial Management told Idaho Public Television on Monday that the goal is not unrealistic. The revenue projections place revenue at 2006 levels, he said, which is far from "overly optimistic."

"It's not expansive growth," he said. "We're trying to find a balance. It's nice that after so many years, we're not talking about [budget] cuts."

Instead of funding cuts, Otter said the Legislature should be looking at tax cuts this year—\$45 million in "tax relief." He declined to offer more specifics about where those cuts would come, merely stating that the money would go "where it will do our people and our communities the most good."

"There are plenty of ideas and just as many ways to crunch the numbers," he added.

The governor has previously suggested cutting corporate tax rates in an attempt to promote business in the state. But Rep. Wendy Jaquet, D-Ketchum, said she wasn't convinced that cutting corporate tax rates would bring more jobs to Idaho.



Idaho Gov. due to set 2012 Priorities in State of the State Address

Associated Press | Posted: Monday, January 9, 2012 9:44 am |

BOISE • With the 2012 Legislature convening, Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter will deliver his State of the State speech at 1 p.m. today, laying out his priorities and outlining his budget expectations to lawmakers who are back in Boise.

With Monday's kickoff, Otter and lawmakers have a lot to do over the next three months, in what promises to be a dynamic session.

There's a dispute over using \$20.3 million in federal funding for Idaho's insurance exchange, pitting business pragmatists against conservative foes of the federal health care overhaul.

In addition, this is the final session before redistricting shakes up districts and legislators, while 2012 also marks the first year of the closed Republican primary election.

What's more, foes of public schools chief Tom Luna are already eying November, touting referendums to dismantle Idaho's education reforms.

Watch the address live on Idaho Public Television, and return to Magicvalley.com and read Tuesday's Times-News for more on the address.

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Read more: http://magicvalley.com/news/local/idaho-gov-due-to-set-priorities-in-state-of-the/article_e56a0542-3ae1-11e1-90de-0019bb2963f4.html#ixzz1j5cKmcbl



Color of Conscience' to be shown in Pocatello

BY ENIKO JORDAN, For the Journal

<http://www.journalnet.com/>



POCATELLO — The local human rights group 2Great4Hate invites the public to a showing of the Idaho Public Broadcasting documentary, "Color of Conscience." This one-hour film looks at the history of the Aryan Nations group in Idaho and the people who fought against it, as well as current human rights issues such as gay rights, hate crimes and immigrant issues. Two presentations are planned in conjunction with Pocatello's celebration of Martin Luther King/ Idaho Human Rights Week.

The film will be shown on Thursday, Jan. 12, at 7 p.m. at the Bengal Café in Idaho State University's Student Union Building, and on Monday, Jan. 16, at 7 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Pocatello. The church is located at 200 N. 15th Ave. 2Great4Hate will facilitate a discussion following each showing. Admission is free of charge, and everyone is welcome.

"Color of Conscience," winner of a 2011 CINE Golden Eagle Award, was produced and written by Marcia Franklin, of Idaho Public Television, where she has been a producer and program host since 1990. She is currently the lead producer and a host of "Dialogue," a statewide public affairs program in its 18th season.

Franklin talked about producing her film with the Idaho State Journal. "I knew about this story, since I've been here for 22 years," she said. "What we have seen is that every community in Idaho has people that are concerned about human rights issues, contrary to the general stereotype that Idahoans don't care much about human rights issues," she continued. "The documentary aimed to illustrate that people in the state really do care."

Franklin described several challenges in making the film. "One of the challenges was winding together the issue of the downfall of the Aryan Nations with the other human rights issues." Another challenge came from the logistics of finding old video footage that was still usable. "The hardest part about actually putting the documentary together was finding the archival material," she said. "Some of the material we were using was from certain forms of video tape that don't survive very well."

2 Great 4 Hate is committed to educating the public on issues of bigotry, supremacist messages, harassment and diversity, while seeking to honor and celebrate our diversity in ways that will make Pocatello a safe and more cohesive community. Susan Matsuura, a local leader in Pocatello's 2Great4Hate group, is pleased that they will be able to make the film available to the public. "It's a film produced in Idaho and about Idaho," she commented. "This is a well put together film that shows where Idaho has been and where we still need to do some work," she said.

In her travels around the state, Franklin said she has noticed that young Idahoans are concerned about human rights issues. "One thing that really interested me is how involved young people are in this state. Young people here seem to be really interested in these issues," she said. "And they are also actively involved in them, whether at the university level or the high school level," Franklin said.

Human Rights on PBS

If you are interested on seeing more programs about human right, Marcia Franklin recommends going to the following website for Idaho Public Television. <http://idahoptv.org/productions/specials/colorofconscience/>

"On this website, I made it a priority to make available to people about 20 programs that IPTV has produced," Franklin explained. "It's like compendium of human-rights related programs since the 1980s."



THIS WEEK: Your Advance Look at What's Worth Knowing About the Week Ahead

Times-News | Posted: Monday, January 9, 2012 2:00 am

Government

State of the State: In last year's State of the State address, Idaho Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter called upon the Gem State's spirit of volunteerism and sense of community to rally out of the recession.

Today, with battle lines drawn over health care and education reform, Otter starts the state's annual legislative session with his yearly address. Watch it live at 1 p.m. on Idaho Public Television. The address will be replayed at 8 p.m., and also later in the week.

Visit idahoptv.org for the complete schedule.

Read more: http://magicvalley.com/news/local/wood-river/this-week-your-advance-guide-to-what-s-worth-knowing/article_bfed9fd5-bed2-5203-9170-df4b836e81ef.html#ixzz1izFaeBug



Idaho Legislature 2012: Live blog here at 1, and some morning reading

Submitted by Kevin Richert on Mon, 01/09/2012 - 8:45am, updated on Mon, 01/09/2012 - 11:07am

http://voices.idahostatesman.com/2012/01/09/krichert/idaho_legislature_2012_live_blog_here_1_and_some_morning_reading

A programming note: at 1 p.m., I will live blog Gov. Butch Otter's 2012 State of the State address. Come back for instant analysis on the speech. You can watch the speech on Idaho Public Television. Afterwards, I will be on a panel with the Idaho Press-Tribune's Vickie Holbrook and Otter budget chief Wayne Hammon, breaking down the speech.

In the meantime, here's some pre-Legislature reading:

- Is there a glimmer, and an opportunity, for the 2012 Legislature? Our Sunday editorial previewing the session.
- Dan Popkey's Monday story previewing the State of the State address.
- Is the governor dialing back? Popkey's Sunday story examining Otter's schedule and workload..
- Elections, redistricting will shape the 2012 session. Here's a pre-session overview from the Spokane Spokesman-Review's Betsy Russell.
- From StateImpact Idaho: House Majority Leader Mike Moyle makes his case for income tax relief.
- Want to contact your local lawmakers? Bookmark our directory.
- Get daily updates from the Legislature. Register for our legislative newsletter.

Read more here: http://voices.idahostatesman.com/2012/01/09/krichert/idaho_legislature_2012_live_blog_here_1_and_some_morning_reading#storylink=cpy



Vickie Holbrook
(Photo credit: Greg
Kreller/IPT)

Catch me on Idaho Reports Monday. Gov. Butch Otter will give his State of the State address 1 p.m. Monday. Idaho Reports host Greg Hahn has invited me, along with Idaho Statesman's Kevin Richert and Wayne Hammon from the state to discuss the key points of Otter's speech.

Join us on PBS. For more information, visit idahoptv.org/idreports.

THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

<http://www.spokesman.com/stories/2012/jan/06/film-events/>

Film Events

January 6, 2012

"Color of Conscience" - Documentary exploring the effort to bolster human rights in North Idaho, followed by a discussion with the show's Idaho Public Television producer. The film looks at the development of the modern human rights movement in Idaho and features the story of a small group of concerned citizens who fought against the Aryan Nations, ultimately bankrupting the neo-Nazi supremacist group in North Idaho. Thursday, 7 p.m. Coeur d'Alene Library, Community Room, 702 E. Front Ave., Coeur d'Alene. Free. (208) 765-2315.

THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Eye On Boise

Got questions about legislative session? Dialogue is tonight

Posted by Betsy

Jan. 5, 2012 4:10 p.m.

Tonight's "Dialogue" program on Idaho Public Television will look at the upcoming legislative session; I'll be among those joining host Marcia Franklin for the discussion, along with John Miller of the Associated Press, Clark Corbin of the Idaho Falls Post Register and Greg Hahn of Idaho Reports. The show airs live at 8:30 p.m. Mountain time, 7:30 Pacific; you can call in during the show with your questions, toll-free, to (800) 973-9800, or send them in via email before the show to dialogue@idahoptv.org.

a blog about public media from
Current.org

Portland, Ore., mayor worries about security costs for OPB Republican debate

January 5, 2011

<http://currentpublicmedia.blogspot.com/2012/01/portland-ore-mayor-worries-about.html>

Sam Adams, mayor of Portland, Ore., went public Wednesday (Jan. 4) with his concerns about security costs for an upcoming GOP presidential debate at Oregon Public Broadcasting. He wants OPB and the Oregon Republican Party, co-sponsors, to move the event to a location closer to the airport to reduce the number of police necessary. "The costs are real," Adams told the Oregonian — and already \$1.5 million over budget. "I don't know what else to say. We just don't have the budget for this." OPB President Steve Bass said it would be cost-prohibitive for the station to move the event from the OPB studios.

The newspaper countered with an editorial Thursday saying, "Oh, suck it up, Portland. When the president or serious candidates for president come to town, you don't whine about the costs of ensuring their safety or ask them not to stray from the airport. You welcome them the way Iowans just did — you go overtime."

The debate, set for March 19, was announced last October.

a blog about public media from
Current.org

Noting that Romney likes pubcasting, Kerger is glad for bipartisan support

January 5, 2012

<http://currentpublicmedia.blogspot.com/2012/01/noting-that-romney-likes-pubcasting.html>

PASADENA, Calif. — PBS President Paula Kerger is not fazed by Republican Presidential candidate Mitt Romney's recent comment favoring an end to federal aid to public broadcasting. Nor is she worried by Romney's call for advertising on Sesame Street.

"I'm glad that he said that he liked public broadcasting," Kerger said during a Jan. 4 press conference at the Television Critics Association Winter Press Tour. "You know, we have always had bipartisan support."

The country must make tough decisions about government spending, Kerger said, but federal money costs only \$1.35 a year per American.

Broad support for public broadcasting, as shown by research, "should translate into political leverage," Kerger said. "We will be working with our stations to make sure that our elected officials know of the support that those stations have through the people in their community."

Any move to run ads with Sesame Street would violate FCC restrictions on noncommercial broadcasters, Kerger said.

She also reminded critics that cable channels that launched as commercial alternatives to PBS have since ditched their documentaries and performing arts for reality shows. The History Channel "found that the way to survive was to create a very different type of programming," she said. "Programming like Pawn Stars and American Pickers is not the same as American Experience and Ken Burns."

As in previous press tours, Kerger noted PBS's success with content on video platforms. PBS had just announced that PBSKids.org saw more than 11.7 million unique visitors in November, a 20 percent increase over a year ago. The site serves an average of 98 million video streams per month, making it the most-visited free children's video site on the Web.

"We've reached a new and different audience through our digital platforms," she said. Later, however, one critic reminded her that, despite promises to use social media, Kerger hadn't personally tweeted since Nov. 11. "I knew I was going to get nailed on that," she said. "The thing that's really kind of stupid about it is that I do use social media a lot and I love reading other tweets just for informational purposes — particularly when there's breaking news."

Kerger also fielded questions on veteran newsman Bill Moyers, who is returning Jan. 13 to public television — though not through PBS (Current, Aug. 29, 2011) — and Charlie Rose, host of the PBS late-night talk show who begins co-anchoring the CBS This Morning weekday show on Jan. 9.

Kerger said PBS talked to Moyers about distributing his new program on PBS Plus, a service that allows public TV stations to choose and schedule shows, such as Rose's program, as they see fit. "He (Moyers) made the decision for various business reasons to go through APT (American Public Television) and we will distribute it through our COVE video player, so he's very much a part of the PBS family."

As for Rose, "my only concern is that he get enough sleep," Kerger said. "He has said to me consistently that his most important project is his nightly show on public broadcasting."

THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Eye On Boise

Signs of impending legislative session...

Posted by Betsy

Jan. 5, 2012 7:39 a.m.



Today's hearings by the Legislature's Economic Outlook & Revenue Assessment Committee are being streamed live online, courtesy of Idaho Public Television; you can watch live here. Also today, the 2 p.m. hearing at the Idaho Supreme Court on Twin Falls County's challenge to the new legislative redistricting plan also will be streamed live here.

The New York Times

PBS Takes On the Premium Channels

In an effort to freshen its image and lift revenue, the Public Broadcasting Service is trying to be more like HBO — without the monthly cable bill.

By AMY CHOZICK

Published: January 1, 2012



Emboldened by the success of the British period drama “Downton Abbey,” one of the most critically acclaimed shows on television, PBS now faces the challenge of translating the buzz and enthusiasm for the show into donations to local stations and public financing. A stodgy pledge drive or traditional pleas for contributions would probably fall flat with viewers. So, PBS decided to fit “Downton Abbey,” which begins its second season on Sunday, into a broader effort to spruce up its prime-time lineup.

The goal is to attract new viewers to PBS and make audiences think of public television more like the top-tier programming of HBO, Showtime and other channels they are willing to pay for. “Think of PBS and the local stations as premium television on the honors system,” said John Wilson, senior vice president and chief television programming executive at PBS.

Around the time the first season of “Downton Abbey” had its premiere on the “Masterpiece” anthology series last January, PBS began taking a more strategic approach to programming. It has branded nights with clusters of shows about one subject — for example, the arts, science or the literary imports from “Masterpiece.” The anthology introduced younger and more male-skewing shows like “Sherlock,” a mystery series set in modern-day London that had its premiere in 2010, and a continuation of the popular British series “Upstairs, Downstairs.”

This fall, PBS embarked on a marketing blitz to promote Ken Burns’s “Prohibition” documentary miniseries, including a joint round-table discussion with Mr. Burns and the creators of HBO’s drama “Boardwalk Empire,” which takes place during the Prohibition era.

An aggressive promotional campaign helped “Downton Abbey” win six Emmy Awards, including best mini-series or movie, away from competitors on HBO and Starz.

“The thinking was that they had to up their game,” said Kliff Kuehl, president and chief executive of KCPT, a public television station in Kansas City, Mo. “That’s what we’ve evolved to — trying to give people that pay-TV moment.”

“Downton Abbey,” which follows an aristocratic English family and its nosy staff at a sprawling estate on the cusp of World War I, was first shown on ITV in Britain. It slowly built an audience in the United States after critics called it a “delightful romp.” Viewers who didn’t typically watch PBS tuned in.

The first season, consisting of four 90-minute episodes, had a nightly average of 4.9 million viewers, in contrast to 1.9 million viewers on an average night on PBS stations, according to Nielsen. The number of women ages 25 to 54 who watch “Masterpiece,” which typically has an average age of 64, was up 56 percent during “Downton Abbey.” More than one million viewers, mostly from the ages of 18 to 49, streamed “Downton Abbey” on PBS.org or via Netflix.

"It was the closest thing to water-cooler television as public television gets," said Rebecca Eaton, executive producer of *Masterpiece*, produced by WGBH Boston.

A water-cooler show couldn't come at a more critical time. The Budget Control Act, which ended the debt ceiling crisis in August, strips public television and others of a portion of federal financing starting as early as 2013.

In 2010, PBS had \$571 million in total revenue, down from \$624 million in 2007. (A PBS spokeswoman said annual revenue varies based on programming investments.) Federal financing for public television in 2010, through grants and appropriations to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, was \$97.8 million, or 17 percent of PBS's total revenue. That's down from \$121 million, or 19 percent, in 2007, according to audited consolidated financial statements.

States, meanwhile, under severe budget pressure, have cut financing for local public broadcasting stations. In Florida, Gov. Richard Scott, a Republican, vetoed \$4.8 million in funds for stations. In April, Daystar Television, a Christian media group, announced its plans to buy WMFE-TV, a public station in Orlando. Since then, another local Orlando station, WUCF, has picked up PBS content. In January, KCET-TV in Los Angeles, citing financial problems, ended its 40-year relationship with PBS.

"People say 'your business model is broken' and we should walk away from federal appropriations," said Paula A. Kerger, president and chief executive at PBS. "It's an unusual system but frankly, PBS was envisioned as a public/private partnership. I don't think we can trade out that blend that makes public television different."

PBS is hoping that prime-time hits like "*Downton*" and "*Sherlock*," which appeal largely to better-off viewers, will attract donations to local PBS stations that will be used to pay dues. In turn, that helps finance other programs like "*Sesame Street*" and "*Sid the Science Kid*." PBS Kids is the most-watched bloc by children aged 2 to 5 and was originally created for underprivileged young viewers who lacked access to early-childhood education. (Viewers can also donate directly to the "*Masterpiece*" programming bloc through the Masterpiece Trust.)

"That wasn't just chance, but an effort to reach a wider audience and really think about how we can make the case to them to continue their support," Ms. Kerger said.

But first PBS must connect to that wider audience. Though the broadcaster has a limited marketing budget, it has introduced an ambitious campaign ahead of the season premiere of "*Downton Abbey*" that includes placing ads on CNN, BBC America and Lifetime and in publications like *People* and *TV Guide*.

A social media campaign includes "*Downton*" actors sending Twitter messages about the show and sponsored, promotional Twitter messages. Viewers can unlock "*Downton Abbey*" stickers on GetGlue. On Dec. 26 fans got a 10-minute preview of "*Downton Abbey*" on the "*Masterpiece*" and PBS Facebook pages.

"Social media drove the success of '*Downton*' the first time around," said Lesli Rotenberg, senior vice president of marketing and communications for PBS. "This time we're using social media to help further drive buzz."

Viking River Cruises has signed on as "*Masterpiece's*" corporate sponsor, filling a five-year void that began when Exxon Mobil withdrew its support in 2004. Viking will send mailers to customers pegged to the "*Downton Abbey*" Season 2 premiere. A corporate message will come on right after the show's host, Laura Linney, introduces the program. "Our demographic is affluent baby boomers, 55-plus," said Richard Marnell, Viking's senior vice president of marketing. "We'd been looking for a broadcast partner that reaches that group."

Originally envisioned as a mini-series, "*Downton Abbey*" had such success that the writer, Julian Fellowes, agreed to do additional seasons. The second season begins in 1916 and will run for seven episodes. Its September premiere in Britain averaged more than nine million viewers or roughly a 35 percent share.

In October, PBS introduced a redesigned iPad app modeled loosely after HBO Go. Combined, the mobile apps and online video player offer free access to 2,700 hours of local and national video. Ms. Kerger said PBS was exploring ways to link app downloads to easy-to-access online donations. "I want to be very careful that we don't become commercially driven in the online space," she said.

PBS doesn't expect "Downton" to immediately lead to an influx of cash, and still plans to push shows like "Nova" and "Antiques Roadshow" in prime time.

"No one sat around and said 'How can we sex it up?'" said Mr. Wilson, PBS's chief programmer. Still, he said: "There's nothing better for our future than to have a large audience. That engagement stimulates financial support."



"Legislative Preview" scheduled for Jan. 5 on Idaho Public Television

By Melissa Davlin | Posted: Thursday, December 29, 2011 1:22 pm |

Can't wait until Jan. 9 for exciting Idaho political action? Tune in to Dialogue, 8:30/7:30 p.m. MT/PT, Jan. 5 on Idaho Public Television. Host Marcia Franklin and guests Greg Hahn of Idaho Reports, Betsy Russell of the Spokesman-Review, John Miller of the Associated Press and Clark Corbin of the Post-Register will discuss the upcoming session and take questions from viewers. The show will re-air at 5:30/4:30 p.m. MT/PT on Jan. 8.

And keep an eye out for the Times-News legislative preview, set to run on Jan. 8. I'm talking to Magic Valley legislators about major issues that will come up this session. We'll also have an extended preview on this blog.

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Read more: http://magicvalley.com/blogs/capitol-confidential/legislative-preview-scheduled-for-jan-on-idaho-public-television/article_0330a592-325c-11e1-bc63-0019bb2963f4.html#ixzz1iK3gGGEr



Romney wants ads during 'Sesame Street'

Republican presidential hopeful says he'll cut off funding for PBS

By Paul Bond

Hollywood Reporter

Updated 12/29/2011 11:23:17 AM ET

<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/45815754/ns/today-entertainment/#.TvznNflrnSt>



Mark Lennihan / AP

"We're not going to kill Big Bird," Mitt Romney said. "But Big Bird is going to have advertisements."

It's safe to say that none of the Republican candidates for president are quite as enamored with public funding for the arts as the Democrats are, but Mitt Romney was making it an issue Wednesday, claiming he'll even cut off PBS.

To be sure, Big Bird and the rest of the "Sesame Street" Muppets probably aren't endangered. They'll just have to go commercial, if Romney gets his way.

In order to balance the budget, Romney told supporters in Iowa Wednesday, he'll "stop certain programs."

"Close them. Turn 'em off. Even some you like," he said. "You might say, 'I like the National Endowment for the Arts.' I do," Romney said. "I like PBS. We subsidize PBS. Look, I'm going to stop that. I'm going to say that PBS is going to have to have advertisements."

"We're not going to kill Big Bird," Romney said. "But Big Bird is going to have advertisements. All right?"

"I happen to think it's immoral for us to keep spending money we don't have, and passing on to our kids our obligations," Romney told supporters at Homer's Deli in Clinton, Iowa. "My test is, is a program so critical that it's worth borrowing money from China to pay for it."

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting, which delivers a portion of the funding for PBS and other public-broadcasting entities, spent \$422 million in 2010 while the NEA has given more than \$4 billion in grants since it was created in 1965.

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PBS Station To Cut After-School Programming To Attract Donors

Author: Paul Kiser

Published: December 28, 2011 at 5:44 pm

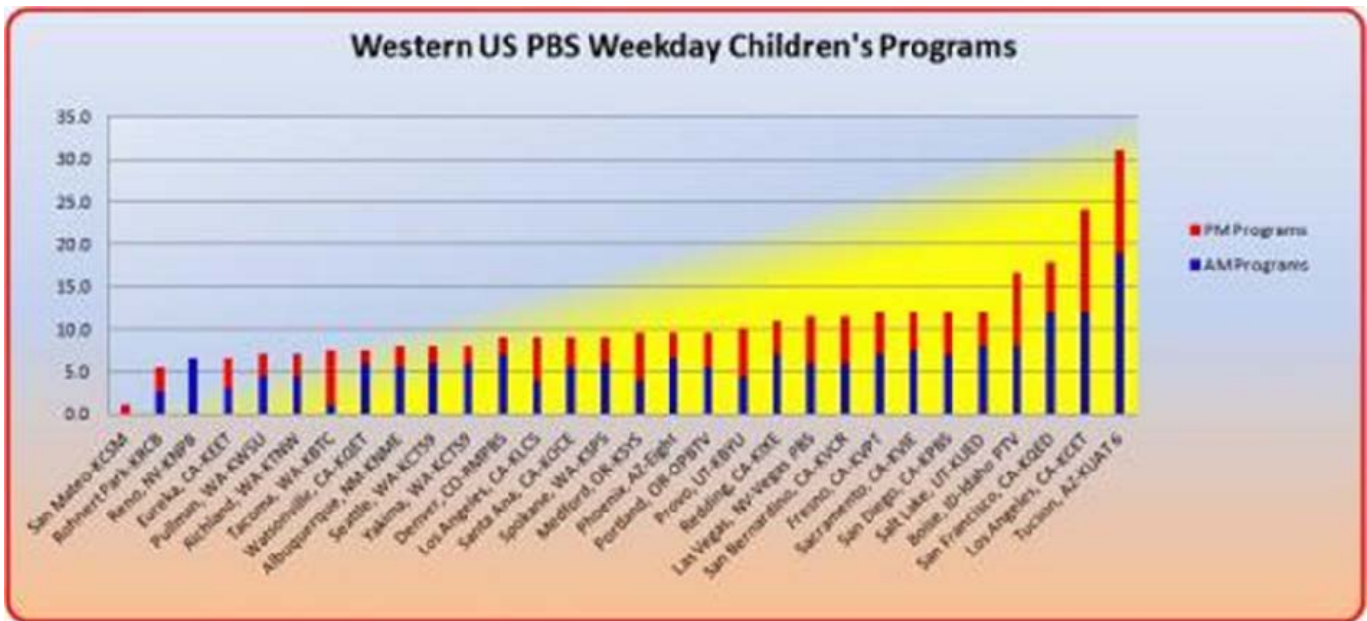
<http://technorati.com/lifestyle/family/article/pbs-station-to-cut-after-school/>

Reno, Nevada PBS affiliate, KNPB is cutting almost a third of its dedicated children's programming and all of its dedicated after-school shows that target school-aged children. Effective next week all PBS Kids shows on KNPB will end at 12:30 PM, cutting 2.5 hours from its current 9 hours of children's programming. The programming cuts will put KNPB tied in third place for the fewest hours of daily children's programs among 30 PBS affiliated stations surveyed in the western United States and the only PBS affiliate without after-school programming.

In an email response, Kurt Mische, President and CEO of KNPB, denied that the station is cutting 'all' programming for school-aged children, and noted that programs like NOVA, Nature, American Experience, and Great Performances "are of great benefit...and interest...to school age children." Those programs along with the Antique Roadshow will now air once a week at 5:00 PM after PBS News Hour and The Charlie Rose Show, which will fill the after-school time slots at 3 and 4 PM.

Mische indicated that the programming changes are being initiated to attract donors and money, which school-age children are not providing to the non-profit organization. He explained, "Making our changes will allow us to serve a larger audience of viewers...and donors...who not only watch but help to financially support our important service."

Another PBS affiliate recognizes the issue, but has different philosophy regarding programming for school-age children. Ron Pisaneschi, the Director of Content for the PBS affiliate in Boise, Idaho (Idaho PTV) said that there is more programming competition for the attention of school-age children because of commercial children's television on the cable channels, but added, "even though the audience is small, we want to serve them."



Read more: <http://technorati.com/lifestyle/family/article/pbs-station-to-cut-after-school/#ixzz1hx0GaKA9>



Rural Idaho - 10 years later: Farms are helping rural areas in Idaho persevere A decade after a collaborative journalism project, ag communities show what it takes to survive.

BY ROCKY BARKER - rbarker@idahostatesman.com

Copyright: © 2011 Idaho Statesman

Published: 12/25/11

Read more: <http://www.idahostatesman.com/2011/12/25/1929298/farms-help-rural-areas-persevere.html#ixzz1hbBKeTNJ>

Chris Florence and his two partners did exactly the opposite of what most young Idahoans were doing a decade ago.

They started a farm.

Florence, 33, left his career as a chef and joined two friends to start Sweet Valley Organics on 27 acres near Sweet. There they raise 10 varieties of specialty crops, including tomatoes and cucumbers, for wholesale.

They add value to increase their profits by canning tomatoes, making tomato sauce and pickles, and gathering and cultivating mushrooms.

“You can’t just do one thing and feed three families,” Florence said. “The season is too short and the audience is too small.”

Florence is one of thousands of rural Idahoans who have changed the way they live and work to adjust to the dramatic changes taking place in the past few decades. Ten years ago, the Idaho Statesman joined partners like the Spokesman Review in Spokane, the Post Register in Idaho Falls, the Lewiston Tribune and Idaho Public Television in a yearlong examination of Idaho’s troubled rural landscape.

The series found that fewer people in rural Idaho had jobs, and they were paid less, were growing older and were attracting lower commodity prices. A third of farm income came in the mail in the form of government checks. Young adults were forced to leave their small communities to find work.

Some of the trends continue. The rural population is getting older, and unemployment is far higher in rural Idaho than in urban Idaho, which also has suffered during the recession.

But farm income is up. Rural Idaho's 24-to-35 population actually grew by a higher percentage than did urban areas. Federal farm subsidies dropped by more than half and in 2010 represented just 1 percent of net Idaho farm income of \$1.4 billion.

Silver and gold prices also are up, helping North Idaho's Silver Valley. But the housing crash struck another blow to the state's once-thriving timber and building-products industries, and forest communities continue to struggle the most.

Still, people willing to change have found ways to survive and even grow in the face of hard times.

Mark Mahon was a 30-year-old logging company owner in Council in 2010. "I'm scared to death of the future," he told us then. With timber supplies down, he worried he'd have to follow private timber harvests to the Oregon coast — and take his 15 jobs with him.

But in 2011, Mahon is still in Idaho and still has 15 people on the payroll. Today he not only logs but also builds roads and has 12 independent truckers working with him. With three mills still operating in the area and the Idaho Department of Lands still offering timber, he has been able to stay alive despite the recession and the collapse of the building economy.

"We were really doing good until this recession hit," he says today.

A NEW DOMINANT FARM PRODUCT

Dairy has replaced potatoes as the driving force of Idaho agriculture, with revenues of \$1.95 billion. Potatoes, at \$690 million, are now third, behind No. 2 cattle.

That change, along with a national ethanol-subsidy program, has transformed the landscape. Thousands of acres of corn and hay grown to feed thousands of dairy cattle have displaced other crops. The economic effects have spread to larger communities as makers of dairy products have followed the herds. Greek-yogurt maker Chobani, for instance, formally broke ground Monday on a Twin Falls plant that will employ 400 people.

"The impact it will have on the whole Magic Valley is tremendous," said Celia Gould, Idaho Department of Agriculture director.

A decade ago, ethanol used 5 percent of the national farm crop. Today it consumes 40 percent, driving the price of corn from \$1.50 a bushel in 2000 to more than \$7 in 2011.

Increased competition for all feed crops has driven the cost for dairy-grade hay, for example, from \$50 a ton to \$250.

But Gould said the income figures are deceiving. The costs of fuel, fertilizer, property taxes and energy are also up, she said.

"I don't know how much of that translates to Main Street," Gould said.

The dairy industry has been bitten by the bounty it spawned. Feed prices are high, but dairy prices remain below costs, said Bob Naerebout, director of the Idaho Dairy Association. Farmers get from \$14.40 to \$17.25 a hundred weight for milk, depending on where it's being shipped. But they need more than \$18 to break even.

At least one cheese producer is paying farmers more for milk if they sign a one-year contract to ensure they have supply. Demand for milk for Chobani's yogurt is the catalyst.

"As we increase the amount of processors in the state of Idaho," Naerebout said, "that increases the pay price to producers and that spreads through the community."

SOME COMMUNITIES STILL HURTING

Idaho's rural communities are not bouncing back, even if the farm economy is. The trends that set them on a downward path at the end of the past century continue.

A fourth-generation timber worker, Mahon, now 39, is saddened that there aren't enough kids in his son's junior high classes for a basketball team.

Efforts to replace the Boise Cascade mill in Council with a call center a decade ago failed.

"The dilemma for a lot of rural communities," said Gould, "is that even when people have money to spend, the car dealer went out of business or the implement dealer went away."

Paul Romrell of St. Anthony told the Statesman in 2001 that his family farm in eastern Idaho's Fremont County was getting \$2 for a bushel of wheat and 90 cents for a sack of potatoes in 2001, the same prices his grandfather got during the Depression.

Today, at 72, Romrell has quit most of his irrigated farming and rents out his 200 acres.

But wheat has been going for as much as \$9 a bushel and potatoes up to \$9 a bag. He plans to sell off his cattle in 2012 and live off his pensions, his Social Security and his rent.

His daughter is married to a farmer near Idaho Falls. His son is an economics professor at Utah State. With farmland prices strong, his land is now a good investment.

"The farms keep getting bigger up here," he said.

Meanwhile, St. Anthony, the county seat, continues its shift from an agricultural town to a bedroom community to Rexburg, the home of BYU-Idaho and its growing student body 10 miles to the south.

St. Anthony has found new people to fill its homes and shop in its remaining stores.

"We have students now that come here to rent apartments, young couples," said Romrell, a former county commissioner.

CHALLENGED TO COLLABORATE

Ultimately, the Idahoans and communities who stepped up to meet the challenge to change are the ones who are holding on.

Bob Cope, a Lemhi County commissioner from Salmon, stood up and challenged speakers at a Rural Idaho conference co-sponsored by the newspapers and the Andrus Center for Public Policy at the College of Idaho in November 2001.

He expressed anger over restrictions on timber and threats to ranching from endangered species like wolves. During the conference, he made connections with other community leaders who were moving past the resource wars of the 1980s and 1990s.

Over the course of the past decade, Cope has worked with the Sonoran Institute on planning, and with the Salmon Valley Stewardship group and the North Fork Collaborative to get some timber contracts moving.

“Once you get on the ground with people and they can see what we’re up against,” he said, “it makes a big difference.”

LEARNING TO ADAPT

Council’s Mahon also sits on a collaborative panel with environmentalists, planning for the future. Through the stewardship-contracting program, the federal government is providing more timber.

Working together has required both sides to compromise, Mahon said. But he remains frustrated that more can’t be done with all the timber available in the national forests — for timber or biomass energy.

Instead of cutting more wood for timber products, the driving force behind the federal logging is improving wildlife habitat.

The habitat and forest-restoration work, which has grown in the past decade, fits one of the recommendations experts made a decade ago: That to survive, rural industries must adapt to provide services that urban America wants.

Organic farmer Florence and partners Chance Morgan and Geoff Neyman are doing just that in Sweet. They started raising 40 varieties of crops, but that’s down to eight or 10, Florence said.

If conditions change, however, these self-described “new age” farmers are prepared to adapt, he said.

That’s good advice for all rural residents today, said Gould.

“They need to look at every option and take opportunity as it comes,” she said.

Rocky Barker: 377-6484

Read more: <http://www.idahostatesman.com/2011/12/25/1929298/farms-help-rural-areas-persevere.html#ixzz1hbBDTBBC>



Can Big Bird Save Afghanistan?

Sesame Street brings its message of tolerance and hope to a war-torn nation.

by Jean MacKenzie, GlobalPost

December 12, 2011

<http://www.boiseweekly.com/boise/can-big-bird-save-afghanistan/Content?oid=2561421>

The team that was crowded into a slightly down-at-heel office in central Kabul could not look more ordinary. There was Zubaid, a young man in a sweater with a knitted cap pulled low over his head, Ali, in a suit, tall with cropped hair; Ferishta, in a typical long black coat-dress and blue headscarf. They and the others in the room were a bit shy, smiling politely.

But put them in a sound studio and they are transformed: this is the uniquely talented crew that is now bringing the characters of Sesame Street to life for thousands, perhaps millions, of Afghan children.



Supported by a grant from the US Embassy in Kabul, the Kaboora production house has worked for the past 10 months to make Shahpar and Kachkool — Big Bird and Grover, to most — household names in Afghanistan.

The show premiered just one week ago, and has attracted a lot of attention in a country starved for some good news for a change.

According one Kabul parent, whose 3-year-old is a finicky eater, Sesame Street has already proved a boon.

“Once he saw the characters, our little Hamsa sat right down and ate his cereal,” laughed Inayat.

Others were similarly impressed.

“My 5-year-old nephew was stuck to the television until the end of the show,” said Fazel Oria, a Kabul resident. “I did not feel it was a foreign show at all.”

The style might take some getting used to, though.

“I did not think it was attractive,” said Huzzein Hazara, a Kabul resident who watched the show with his daughters. “While it was on my daughters were asking me to find Tom and Jerry.”

Tania Farzana, the Afghan-American executive producer of the show, is hoping that Sesame Street will do more than make children behave. She has set herself the mission of bringing a new vision to a generation that has known nothing but war.

“I was the luckiest child in the world,” said Farzana, who was born in Kabul in the 1970s, before leaving for the United States at the age of nine. “There was so much comfort and warmth, a sense of security. Children now cannot even imagine a Kabul like that.”

Coming back after close to 30 years was a shock.

"The first three months broke my heart," she confessed. "Nothing was the way I remembered it."

Farzana recalls a Kabul where her mother rode a bike to university, where women were free to do what they liked.

"My mother never even wore one of these," she said, flicking at the white headscarf that covered her dark hair.

Through Sesame Street, Farzana wants to give children back a sense of wonder.

"I am hoping we can give them the right to use their imaginations," she said. "This instills empathy, the ability to identify with others."

This, in turn, could help to reduce some of the religious, ethnic, and regional divides that exist among Afghans.

The project is an ambitious one. While much of the footage is archival stock straight from New York, giving the Sesame Street Muppets their own Afghan identity has been a challenge.

"We interviewed over 600 applicants for 15 characters," Farzana said. "The voices had to be dead-on. I wanted them to be perfect."

It is not just a matter of translating the original dialogue into Dari or Pashto, she added. The language has to be pitched just right for the age group — three to seven — and, in addition, has to have the same number of syllables as the English text, so that the famous Sesame Street mouth flaps will match the new words.

"Our actors have become co-creators in making the dialogues work," she said.

In addition to the familiar character pieces, though, Farzana is making 26 original films about Afghan life and society, to insert into the half-hour show.

These will cover topics as diverse as the first day of school and kite flying.

The first day of school will feature a little Hazara girl. The choice was not accidental.

"Many people call Hazaras, who are mainly Shia, 'infidels,'" she said. "We wanted to show that this little girl's mother blessed her with the Quran as she left the house, just as millions of mothers do every day. We want a Pashtun child in the south, a Tajik or Uzbek child in the north, to watch the film and say 'that girl is just like me.'"

Farzana's message is particularly important in the wake of a horrific attack on Shiites in Kabul on Dec. 6, as they marked their holy day of Ashura. More than 50 people were killed, and many feared a new round of ethnic or sectarian violence in the country.

Sesame Street, or Bagch-e-Simsim, as it is called here, wants to put those fears to rest.

But as Afghan culture rubs up against Sesame Street rules, sparks begin to fly.

"We had some amazing footage of children flying kites on rooftops," Farzana said. "This happens all over Afghanistan. But Sesame Street said we could not use it because it was against their safety rules."

Sesame Street sets great store by teaching children how to protect themselves, and did not want young Afghans encouraged to take up such a dangerous activity.

The compromise: Farzana's team added a graphic fence to the film.

More problematic is the season's final show, in which Farzana wants to show a father taking his 6-year-old daughter to Friday prayer. But Sesame Street in New York, with its resolutely secular message, balked.

"I told them this is not about religion," she said. "It is about community. In Afghanistan, social life revolves around the mosque; you go there to meet old friends and make new ones; you go to feel that you are never alone."

She got a tentative go-ahead from New York, but then ran into trouble on the Afghan side.

"So many people did not want me to show a father taking his daughter to the mosque. 'She's a girl!' they said. But I answered, 'she's a child!'"

The issue is still not resolved, but Farzana, a woman of prodigious energy and enthusiasm, vows that the segment will be shown.

"I will have a film on Friday prayer," she said firmly.

In the meantime, she is content with the progress she is making. Her team, she points out, has forged strong bonds, overcoming all the obstacles that Afghanistan's post-war society puts in their way.

"Look at these two," she said, gesturing at Zubaid and Ali. "One is Pashtun, one is Kizlbash. One speaks Pashto, the other Dari. One is from the north, the other from the south. There is so much that divides them, but they are the best of friends. Yesterday they went horseback riding together."

Asked if Bagch-e-Simsim had helped them to get past their surface differences, Zubaid answered with a wry smile.

"Yes," he said. "When we were out there riding, it was Zubaid, Ali, Big Bird and Grover, all together."



Dec 11, 2011

Four shows on PBS are faves among most conservative and liberal TV viewers

Viewers on each end of the political spectrum, conservative Republicans and liberal Democrats, have favorite PBS shows, according to a yearlong study by the Experian Simmons consumer research firm. It wanted to see what programs indexed highest and lowest among those viewers. Masterpiece was the third-highest indexing show among liberal Democrats, behind only The Daily Show and Colbert Report, says the Washington Post, which noted, "Masterpiece indexes at a whopping 234, which means a Masterpiece viewer is 134 percent more likely to be a liberal Democrat than the average adult viewer."

Three shows on PBS also rank in the conservative Republican index: This Old House, New Yankee Workshop and Antiques Roadshow.

And Frontline is No. 10 among news shows for liberal Democrats.

Mountain Home News

Local students to appear on Outdoor Idaho program

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

Mountain Home News

Two Mountain Home students will appear in a Dec. 8 airing of "Outdoor Idaho," a weekly program on Idaho offered by Idaho Public Television.

<http://www.mountainhomenews.com/story/1792301.html>

The new show, "Writers at Harriman," premieres on Idaho Public Thursday at 8 p.m. and repeats Sunday, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m.

The show focuses on a unique camp for young writers at Harriman State Park on the Henry's Fork of the Snake River in eastern Idaho where participants share a love of writing and nature.

"I just love writing. I have a passion for it. It sort of takes me away from everything that happens," said Eric Amador of Hammett, a junior at Glens Ferry High School.

"I thought I'd come here and (it would) just be a bunch of shy little kids who are like, 'hi' -- but it turned out to be so rambunctious," said Marissa Aiken of Mountain Home, a senior at Mountain Home High School.

Amid wildlife and the whirl of anglers' lines on the storied fly fishing stream, the 35 Idaho teenagers and three workshop teachers who took part drew inspiration from the 11,000-acre state park.

The students wrote about their impressions, thoughts, and experiences. They learned to use images to convey feelings and emotions. They used the natural world surrounding them in their writing, or simply as a calming backdrop for their thoughts. They also worked on a project for the park.

And, they get to know each other.

Idaho Public Television producer Marcia Franklin said she first heard about the camp when it was in the development stage. "And even then, I thought it would make a great Outdoor Idaho documentary, not only because of the setting and its effect on the students' writing, but also how the camp transforms the students' own life stories," Franklin says.

Teacher and poet Chris Dempsey of Boise said that "to teach writing in this setting is an incredible gift."

Franklin and videographer Jay Krajic profile several students both before camp and during the six-day experience, as well as convey the setting and history of the park itself.

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The Washington Post *Lifestyle*

Research firm breaks down politics of TV: 'This Old House' vs. 'The Daily Show'

By Lisa de Moraes, Washington Post

December 6, 2011

http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/research-firm-breaks-down-politics-of-tv-this-old-house-vs-the-daily-show/2011/12/06/gIQAQPSkaO_story.html

In announcing this week that he was suspending his GOP presidential campaign, Herman Cain quoted from "Pokemon: The Movie."

He might better have referenced PBS's "This Old House," Discovery's "Swamp Loggers" or ABC's "The Bachelor" (a shocking final-rose gag, maybe) — shows beloved by conservative Republicans, according to the media-research company Experian Simmons.

On the other hand, a Democratic hopeful looking to sound "of the people" at a gathering of followers can't do better than to drop the names of Comedy Central's "The Daily Show" and "The Colbert Report," or PBS's "Masterpiece" — darlings of the liberal Dems.

Experian Simmons looked to see which programs indexed highest and lowest among conservative Republicans and liberal Democrats, for a survey of a full year ending last summer. The analysis does not include news, sports or music programming.

Liberal Democrats feel an overwhelming urge to laugh, Experian-Simmons concluded in the study, the results of which were given first to the Time Warner publication Entertainment Weekly.

But not bodily-function, Chuck Lorre-esque laughs. No, no — liberals are big fans of the more sophisticated comedy of ABC and, particularly, the too-hip-to-live comedies of NBC.

The list of top indexing shows popular among more left-leaning Democrats includes NBC's "30 Rock," "Parks and Recreation," "Saturday Night Live," and "The Office."

Also on their Must-See-TV list are ABC's "Modern Family" and "Cougar Town"; Fox's "Glee" and "Raising Hope"; and Showtime's daddy's-a-drunk-and-hilarity-ensues series, "Shameless."

They love CBS's two late-night talkers, David Letterman and Craig Ferguson. They also gravitate toward Conan O'Brien — which may explain why he did so badly when he was hosting NBC's "Tonight Show" airing directly opposite Letterman: They were splitting the vote!

Meanwhile, "Masterpiece" is the third highest indexing show among liberal Democrats, trailing only the two Comedy Central faux-news programs. "Masterpiece" indexes at a whopping "234," which means a "Masterpiece" viewer is 134 percent more likely to be a liberal Democrat than the average adult viewer.

It's one of two PBS programs in the liberal top 25 — the other is "American Masters."

But before you go all "PBS is soooo liberal" on us: "This Old House" is the second highest indexing show among conservative Republicans. It indexes higher than even "The 700 Club." PBS has three shows on the Conservative Index List, including "New Yankee Workshop" and "Antiques Roadshow."

Conservative Republicans, the study says, really seek out shows in which blue-collar folk do stuff — stuff like huntin,' fishin,' pawnin,' loggin' and fat-farmin'.

Anyway, conservative Republicans go crazy for cable: "Swamp Loggers" and such other Discovery shows as "Mythbusters," "Man vs. Wild" and "Auction Kings"; History's "Swamp People," "Top Shot," "Only in America With Larry the Cable Guy" and "American Pickers"; and BBC America's "Top Gear." They also gravitate toward ABC's "The Bachelor" and the "Dancing With the Stars" results show; NBC's "The Biggest Loser"; and CBS's "Hawaii Five-O" and "NCIS."

And Jay Leno — they love Jay Leno. Leno and Letterman don't split the vote; they can coexist in the same time slot, which explains why NBC brought Leno back to late night.

"We're entering a heavily political advertising season, and there's going to be a lot of ad dollars spent over the next year trying to reach voters. This is one way of identifying ... which television shows attract high concentrations of key voter segments," Experian Simmons marketing manager John Fetto told the TV Column.

"It might even be useful from a political standpoint," he noted, "a way to connect with voters at speaking opportunities: 'Hey, I just saw "x" on "Cougar Town"!' Okay, that one's not likely."

Oh, and by the way, the "Pokemon" quote that Cain recited in his "suspension" speech? "Life can be a challenge, life can seem impossible. It's never easy when there's so much on the line."

It's from the song, sung by Donna Summer, that was playing during the flick's final credits. In other words, as Jon Stewart noted on that liberal-Democrat-magnet "Daily Show": "The thing they play to get you the [expletive] out of the theater."



Idahoans rank their environmental priorities for poll

People in the Gem State report less concern about issues like climate change and salmon than other N.W. residents.

BY ROCKY BARKER - rbarker@idahostatesman.com
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Among all the environmental issues they face, Idahoans say they are most concerned about water quality. They shared the concern about water, along with residents polled in Oregon and Washington, with DHM Research, an independent and nonpartisan public opinion research firm based in Portland.

But Idahoans weren't as concerned about their water as residents elsewhere in the Northwest. And Idahoans said they are less willing to reduce their driving or consuming to combat climate change. But more Idahoans said they should spend less and adjust their lifestyle to address the poor economy.

The poll was a part of environmental journalism collaboration by public radio stations in Idaho, Oregon and Washington and Idaho Public Television. DHM Research polled 1,200 people, 400 in each state.

The online survey has a margin of error of plus or minus 4.9 percent.

John Horvick, a DHM senior associate, said he was most surprised by the consistency of residents in the three states. But there was a clear difference between Idahoans and their coastal neighbors.

"Idahoans are about eight to 15 percent less concerned about all these various issues," Horvick said.

Residents in all three states said improving habitat was the most important factor for improving salmon runs. Still, only 50 percent of Idahoans responded that way, reflecting that more than 10 million acres of Idaho is salmon habitat protected in wilderness or as roadless lands.

Nearly three in five Oregon and Washington respondents supported improving habitat.

But Idahoans were slightly more supportive of building new hatcheries and increasing the spillage of water away from power turbines. Just 17 percent said removing dams is the most important factor.

In another question, 45 percent of Idahoans said we should keep dams compared to 18 percent who called for their removal. But just like recent Boise State University surveys, people's answers depended on how the questions were asked.

One-third supported keeping the four dams on the lower Snake River in Washington; another third said that since other solutions aren't working, they would consider removing dams if it could be done without significantly increasing power rates or hurting the economy.

One of the shockers was that 78 percent of Idahoans said they would support a wind farm within sight of their home.

The Idaho Legislature nearly passed a moratorium on wind generation because a group of eastern Idaho residents raised concerns about the aesthetics and impacts of the huge towers and blades.

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Read more: <http://www.idahostatesman.com/2011/12/08/1908617/idahoans-rank-their-environmental.html#ixzz1fxRbPGi9>



Barker: Public TV series tells little-known history of American Indians

By Rocky Barker - rbarker@idahostatesman.com

Copyright: © 2011 Idaho Statesman

Published: 12/05/11

Read more: <http://www.idahostatesman.com/2011/12/05/1904707/public-tv-series-tells-little.html#ixzz1fgEeDCim>

President Barack Obama met Friday for the third time with the nation's 565 tribal leaders.

His settlement of the tribal royalty lawsuit, appointment of American Indians to federal court and key posts, and action on tribal health care have made him very popular on the reservations. The meeting coincides with Idaho Public Television's rebroadcast of the 2009 five part series called "We Shall Remain."

Produced, directed and acted by native Americans, the series tells the story of American Indians few know.

It begins with the Pilgrims and how Indians in New England were slaughtered by the second generation in the King Phillip War. It shows how the Cherokee were forced illegally off of their land when President Andrew Jackson ignored a U.S. Supreme Court order. It tells of Tecumseh's unsuccessful campaign to rally all Midwest tribes to stop the western expansion of the United States. It shows the mixed story in the lives of Apaches that Geronimo's last ditch fight brought.

Finally, it tells the story of the American Indian Movement's 1970s standoff in South Dakota at Wounded Knee and how it helped prompt a rebirth of Indian identity across the nation. Inherently, the series left out much, but it told a story of Indian history that even many Indians don't know.

It failed to talk about the continuing investigations into murders of Indians by Indians at Wounded Knee. We know more today thanks to the courageous work of Indian investigative journalist Paul DeMain.

DeMain, editor of News from Indian Country, won the Payne Award for Ethics in Journalism in 2003 for his years investigating and reporting on Leonard Peltier's involvement in the murder of two federal agents on the Pine Ridge Reservation in 1973 and the 1975 murder of Anna Mae Pictou-Aquash.

The PBS series also missed the role of tribal legal battles using the very treaties used to take their land to restore their rights and recognize their sovereignty. And because it ends at Wounded Knee, it only touches on the mixed story of tribes' success in governing themselves in these circumstances.

This is the history I know, and I've written about it before.

I began my career in 1975, just as the dust was settling after Wounded Knee. The event profoundly touched the lives of the Chippewa Indians I knew in Wisconsin.

It was both a renewing experience and a polarizing one. I covered disputes over hunting and fishing rights in Wisconsin that were remarkably similar to those in Idaho and the Northwest in the 1970s and 1980s.

I watched tribal fishermen exercise their treaty rights by spearing walleyes and muskies illuminated with flashlights from hundreds of angry white protesters. The cracking sound of shots fired across the lakes forced us all to instinctively put our heads down.

The issue, long resolved in court, was finally resolved on the ground as it was here in the Northwest when level-headed leaders and community members on both sides worked together to lower the volume and anger. Tribal governments proved they could co-manage natural resources from fish to wolves and forests.

Successful Indian governments such as the Nez Perce and the Coeur d'Alene tribes have improved the health, education and lives of their members through visionary leadership with an eye always on their history. But not all tribes have shared their success.

With "We Shall Remain" and its narrative, the story is maturing.

With that maturity tribal members are able to move forward to keep building the institutions that keep their governments accountable and decisions democratic.

Read more: <http://www.idahostatesman.com/2011/12/05/1904707/public-tv-series-tells-little.html#ixzz1fgEoWNTY>



Occupy Boise plans rally, march Monday to mark one-month anniversary of encampment

- Idaho Statesman
Published: 12/02/11

Read more: <http://www.idahostatesman.com/2011/12/02/1902287/occupy-boise-plans-rally-march.html#ixzz1fUadt8iR>

Members of Occupy Boise invite the public to participate in a rally at 2:30 p.m. Monday at the Idaho Anne Frank Human Rights Memorial. The memorial is at 801 S. Capitol Boulevard.

The rally -- and a march afterward -- mark the second month that local residents have organized as part of the Occupy Wall Street movement. The group set up its encampment across from the Idaho Statehouse on Nov. 5.

The march will begin at 4:30 p.m. Participants are invited to partake in free food and discussion of issues.

Occupy Boise participant Mary Reali says that she's been told that Idaho Public Television plans to shoot footage of the march and interview people for a national PBS segment.

Read more: <http://www.idahostatesman.com/2011/12/02/1902287/occupy-boise-plans-rally-march.html#ixzz1fUaX8BBJ>



Makin' tracks: Salmon river lodges, The Fowl Life, steelhead in the Boise River, Holiday Bird Seed Sale

November 30, 2011

Read more: <http://www.bellinghamherald.com/2011/11/30/2293111/makin-tracks.html#ixzz1fJwYUhaa>

Idaho Public Television's "Outdoor Idaho" features lodges of the Salmon River at 7 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 4. The program, "Salmon River Lodges and Legacies," follows a rafting trip where rafters stop at a different lodge each night.

The lodges' names are legendary in Idaho — Whitewater Ranch, China Bar, Mackay Bar and Shepp Ranch.

For details on the program go to idahoptv.org.

Read more: <http://www.bellinghamherald.com/2011/11/30/2293111/makin-tracks.html#ixzz1fJwOjpue>



Idaho Public TV's new translator provides wider over-the-air signal

Wednesday, November 30, 2011 4:00 am

Idaho Public Television engineers recently installed a new translator on the ridge south southwest of Emmett. The new equipment provides a digital signal to the part of the Emmett Valley shadowed by the foothills, which has blocked the signal from the Boise transmitter on Deer Point near Bogus Basin. The new translator, which is co-located with KQXR-FM a journal broadcast group station, sends an over-the-air digital signal that is found on channel 21 and provides four subchannels of IPTV programming. The tuners within digital televisions or converter boxes will automatically choose the signal that is stronger - transmitter or translator, both of which are seen on channel 21. The area covered by the translator is primarily east of Johns Avenue. The signal extends north to beyond Highway 52 and up to Black Canyon dam and south to South Slope Road at the base of the hills.

“Viewers who desire to receive an over-the-air signal in the Emmett area will need to complete the conversion to digital television. They need either a television with a digital tuner or a set-top box for an analog TV,” says IPTV Director of Technology Rich Van Genderen.

“And they need to scan for the new signal, which is divided into four subchannels, each offering a different programming lineup. People who are prepared to receive the signal in the area covered by the translator should experience a sharp, clear picture.”

As with the transmitter, the translator signal does require an antenna with UHF capability - either a small indoor antenna or a larger outdoor one depending on reception needs. For more information on antenna requirements, contact Van Genderen or other IPTV engineers at 372-7220 in Boise.

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