



General Manager's Report

idahoptv.org

Peter W. Morrill, Idaho Public Television

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FUNDING FOR IDAHOPTV DTV TRANSMITTER CONVERSION COMPLETE

A week and a half ago, Idaho Public Television completed the final funding piece for our multi-year, federally mandated statewide conversion of transmitters, interconnection, and network operations center to digital television.

Over the last five years, the State of Idaho and the State Board of Education supported IdahoPTV's mandated conversion at each critical juncture.

The final top-off funds for this phase of our conversion to digital television came from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's (CPB) newly established Digital Distribution Fund (DDF), managed by the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS).

In addition, the support that Idaho Public Television has received for this multi-year project from the U.S. Department of Commerce/Public Telecommunications Facilities Program (PTFP) has been invaluable.

This massive statewide project could not have been initiated without early support for critical planning from America's Public Television Station's (APTS) DTV Business Plan Project supported by the Ford Foundation and U.S. Department of Commerce/TIIAP.

All told, approximately \$11 million in direct capital funds were raised over the last five years for this mandated project.

Critical in-kind and collaboration support also came from KIVI-TV/Nampa (ABC), KBCI-TV/Boise (CBS), the Idaho Department of Administration, Boise State University, University of Idaho, College of Southern Idaho, Idaho State University, and Citadel Radio.

We are currently constructing four transmitter facilities and proofing more than 1400 linear miles of digital microwave interconnection systems. These facilities and transmitters will join the first Ida-

hoPTV digital transmitter, which signed on in Boise on September 24, 2001.

What's next? Now that we are nearly complete with the transmitter, interconnection and network operations center, we are beginning the three-year process for the conversion of IdahoPTV's statewide network of 34 translators and base studio facilities in Moscow, Boise, Pocatello and the Idaho Statehouse to be digital compatible.

With all the support that IdahoPTV has received from both local and national organizations...and people...over the last four years, it suggests to me that the future of public broadcasting is indeed filled with great opportunities.

2002 IDAHO DEBATES UPDATE

The launch for the 2002 Idaho Debates in October is well underway. In addition to the live, statewide broadcasts on IdahoPTV, we are anticipating many of the debates to be rebroadcast on public radio (TBA) and commercial television (KBCI-TV, Boise; KIVI-TV, Nampa; and KIDK-TV, Idaho Falls) stations.

The debates are sponsored by the Idaho Press Club and the League of Women Voters.

The following is the current schedule:

Tribal Gaming: Dialogue Special Debate, Thursday, October 3rd, 8:00/7:00 p.m. MT/PT, live, 1 hour

Term Limits: Dialogue Special Debate, Thursday, October 10th, 8:00/7:00 p.m. MT/PT, live, 1 hour

Governor: Thursday, October 17th, 8 p.m./7 p.m. Mt/Pac 1 hour
Jerry Brady (D)
Dirk Kempthorne (R)

The Libertarian candidate, Daniel Adams, failed to submit any paperwork and will not be invited to participate.

Attorney General: Friday, October 18th, 8 p.m./8 p.m. Mt/Pac, 1 hour
R. Keith Roark (D)
Lawrence Wasden (R)

Controller: Friday, October 18th, 9 p.m./9 p.m. Mt/Pac, 1/2 hour (taped at 5 p.m.)
Keith Johnson (R)
Bob Sonnichsen (D)

The Libertarian candidate, Suzanne Gribbin, declined to debate.

Representative, 2nd Congressional District: Sunday, October 20th, 7 p.m./6 p.m. Mt/Pac, 1 hour
Edward Kinghorn (D)
Michael Simpson (R)

The Libertarian candidate, George Anthony, failed to meet the criteria outlined by the League of Women Voters of Idaho and the Idaho Press Club and will not be invited to participate.

Representative, 1st Congressional District: Monday, October 21st, 8 p.m./8 p.m. Mt/Pac, 1 hour
Steve Gothard (L)
C.L. "Butch" Otter (R)
Betty Richardson (D)

Supt of Public Instruction: October 24th, 8 p.m./7 p.m. Mt/Pac, 1 hour
Marilyn Howard (D)
Robbi Kier (L)
Tom Luna (R)

U.S. Senate: Sunday, October 27th, 7 p.m./6 p.m. Mt/Pac, 1 hour
Alan Blinken (D)
Larry Craig (R)

Lt. Governor:
Senator Jim Risch says he is unavailable the night proposed for the debate for Lt. Governor. We are attempting to find another opening. His opponent, Bruce Parry, has agreed to debate.

IDAHOPTV DTV EDUCATIONAL DATACASTING PILOT

Idaho Public Television has been selected as one of only 8 stations to implement a pilot project to identify opportunities and issues related to school-based delivery data via digital television. IdahoPTV was selected because of our ability to transmit a digital broadcast and our award-winning productions: Sacred Journey of the Nez Perce and Echoes of a Bitter Crossing: Lewis and Clark in Idaho.

The Digital Classroom K-12 Pilot project consists of distributing curriculum materials to schools through three different modes: Internet to a school user, datacast via DTV to a school server, and CD-ROM. This pilot will serve as a real-world test for delivering educational content to schools and should serve to help develop a strategic vision for educational digital television programming.

We are excited to begin this exploration of expanding resources for the students and teachers in Idaho.

IdahoPTV will be partnering with Kuna Middle School in this exciting project this fall semester. We will install a server with a DTV receiver within the school. Curriculum materials to be datacast to the school include videos, websites, teacher guides, and searchable databases related to westward expansion.

DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICE (DVS) COMES TO EASTERN IDAHO; PROVIDES VERBAL PICTURES TO THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Idaho Public Television began offering in late August its service to the visually impaired in eastern Idaho (KISU) for nationally distributed programming encoded with DVS.

Descriptive Video Service (DVS) provides narrated descriptions of the key visual elements of a televised show without interfering with the audio or dialogue. The narration describes visual elements such as actions, settings, body language, and graphics.

New DVS equipment was recently installed at IdahoPTV's eastern Idaho location at East Butte.

DVS is now offered statewide through KAID, KIPT, KUID, KCDT, and KISU, and is also available via IdahoPTV's 34 translators.

DVS is transmitted on what is called the SAP channel and like closed captions usually can be turned on by the television set's remote control. Viewers can determine how to access the channel by checking the manual for their television set.

"Many of IdahoPTV's educational programs that are used by teachers throughout the state are provided with DVS," says Gens Johnson, director of DTV planning and educational services. "During the testing phase, the outreach director at the Idaho State School for the Deaf and Blind (ISDB) began working with regional advisors to teachers and parents of visually-impaired students to integrate DVS into training materials."

The service is marked by a (D) in IdahoPTV's Channels magazine listings.

The ISDB Outreach Program includes in-service training, curriculum development and technical assistance, for students with visual impairment, in their public school classrooms and for their teachers, as well as services to aid preschoolers, including infants, with vision impairments through home intervention and preschools.

PBS ongoing series that offer DVS include:

Adventures From the Book of Virtues

American Experience
ExxonMobil Masterpiece Theatre
(selected episodes)
Mister Rogers' Neighborhood
(selected episodes)
Mystery!
Nature
NOVA (selected episodes)
Scientific American Frontiers
ZOOM

IdahoPTV joins 171 other public television stations nationwide that offer the service, reaching more than 80 percent of television households in the United States.

Since 1986 DVS has been turning pictures into words enabling thousands of people who are blind or have vision disabilities to enjoy television and movies on video. DVS weaves carefully crafted descriptions of a program or movie's key visual elements into the natural pauses of the program or movie dialogue.

IDAHOPTV REMEMBERS SEPTEMBER 11

As the nation commemorates the one-year anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, Idaho Public Television presented a selection of programs that saluted the heroes, memorialized the departed, and analyze the attacks and their aftermath.

FRONTLINE "Faith and Doubt at Ground Zero"

Aired Tuesday, September 3 at 9:00 p.m. MT/PT and repeated Wednesday, September 11 at 7:00 p.m. MT/PT

Ground Zero in Manhattan has become a place of pilgrimage; thousands of people visit the site, looking for consolation as they question the events of September 11. This two-hour program explored how survivors, families, and friends are coping with difficult questions of good and evil and the potential for darkness within religion itself.

CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE: ARAB AMERICANS IN WARTIME

Aired Wednesday, September 4 at 10:00 p.m. MT/PT

Since the upheaval caused by September 11, Arab Americans' lives have altered. They are now a population subject to excessive discrimination. This program investigates their culture in search of a better understanding of their way of life.

FRONTLINE "Campaign Against Terror"

Aired Sunday, September 8 at 9:00/8:00 p.m. MT/PT

Secretary of State Colin Powell, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Russian President Vladimir Putin, and Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf speak to filmmakers about international action against Al Qaeda and the Taliban.

HEROES OF GROUND ZERO
Aired Monday, September 9 at 7:00 p.m. MT/PT

Hard hit in the attacks, the Fire Department of New York City lost 343 firefighters at the World Trade Center. The shock, despair, determination, professionalism, and hope experienced by the firefighters in the weeks immediately following the attacks is caught on film. The two firehouses featured are the West 31st Street Firehouse in midtown Manhattan and the Middagh Street Firehouse in Brooklyn Heights.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FEATURING THE MORMON TABERNACLE CHOIR

Aired Monday, September 9 at 8:00 p.m. MT/PT
The Mormon Tabernacle Choir and church President Gordon B.

Hinckley offer a memorial in honor of the victims of 9/11 in this special concert.

P.O.V. "Afghanistan Year 1380"
Aired Monday, September 9 at 10:00 p.m. MT/PT

This program, named for the religious calendar year, follows surgeon Gino Strada and medical coordinator Kate Rowlands of the human rights group Emergency. In 2000, the two join up in Kabul to develop a hospital, later closed by the Taliban. Their renewed efforts become part of the rebuilding of Afghanistan.

NOVA "Why the Towers Fell"
Aired Tuesday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m. MT/PT

Forensic engineers look at the causes behind the Twin Towers' collapse.

STRANDED YANKS

Aired Tuesday, September 10 at 8:00 p.m. MT/PT

In the immediate aftermath of the assaults, 252 international flights carrying nearly 44,000 dazed and frightened passengers — most of them Americans traveling

home — were suddenly grounded in Canada. **STRANDED YANKS** documents a five-day period, from September 11 to September 16, when Canadians opened their hearts and homes to the stranded travelers in need.

AMERICA REBUILDS

Aired Tuesday, September 10 at 9:00 p.m. MT/PT

The process of cleaning up Ground Zero poses a challenge to the engineers and workers on site. Granted exclusive access in the weeks following September 11, the documentary team filmed there for nine months, interviewing crew members.

A REQUIEM FOR SEPTEMBER 11

Aired Wednesday, September 11 at 9:00 p.m. MT/PT

The New Jersey Symphony and the Westminster Choir perform Verdi's Requiem, a work composed in the spirit of music's power to comfort. The memorial concert gives meaning to a country that endured and survived the losses of September 11.

KIDS' SHOWS DEAL WITH AFTERMATH OF SEPTEMBER 11

Several kids' shows on Idaho Public Television present ways for kids to deal with the fears and grief caused by the events of 9/11.

READING RAINBOW premiered four episodes with themes closely tied to the emotions and issues of September 11. The two-week block of programming (September 3-13) provided hopeful situations and positive models for action for children. The special programs aired weekdays, September 3-13 at 2:30/1:30 p.m. MT/PT. Host LeVar Burton spends the day with the students of P.S. 234, an elementary school just blocks

away from Ground Zero; hears true stories of real-life young heroes and meets 2002 Nobel Peace Prize nominee Craig Kielburger, the teenage founder of the global youth group "Kids Can Free the Children," which is run completely by kids. Youngsters from this organization take an extraordinary journey to one of the poorest sections of Nicaragua and build a school in 10 days.

The venerable Fred Rogers, of **MISTER ROGERS' NEIGHBORHOOD**, provided new PSAs to air during September between regular programming that will help

guide children at this important moment. The ongoing **MISTER ROGERS'** programs air weekdays at 1:00 p.m./12:00 noon MT/PT.

ZOOM: AMERICA'S KIDS REMEMBER deals with the difficult memories and renewed fears that the first anniversary of 9/11 can produce. It aired Sunday, September 8 at 10:00/9:00 a.m. MT/PT. This half-hour program moved beyond the crisis to celebrate the strength and spirit of children. Hosts discussed tough issues such as coping with loss, feeling helpless, and respecting differences.

DIALOGUE EXPLORES SPIRITUAL QUESTIONS, EMOTIONS ABOUT 9/11

—Aired Thursday, September 12 at 8:30/7:30 p.m. MT/PT

—Repeated Sunday, September 15 at 5:30/4:30 p.m. MT/PT

Two spiritual leaders and a psychology professor who volunteered near Ground Zero appeared on DIALOGUE to discuss the emotional and spiritual aftermath of September 11, 2001.

“One year after the tragic events in New York City, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania, Idahoans

and Americans everywhere still are grappling with the emotional and spiritual questions left behind,” says DIALOGUE host Joan Cartan-Hansen.

Joining Cartan-Hansen were: Reverend Kent Schaufelberger, manager, Spiritual Care, St. Luke's Regional Medical Center, Boise; Reverend Richard Gorman, chaplain, St. Luke's Children's Hospital, Boise; and Ron Jaques, professor and chairman of Psy-

chology Department, BYU-Idaho, Rexburg.

They discussed questions of faith, questions of healing, moral conflicts, and how to deal with emotions that surface during the anniversary of the terrorist attacks.

During the live call-in show, the group took phone calls from viewers statewide.

DIALOGUE GUESTS LOOK AT SCHOOLS AND BUDGET CHALLENGES

—Aired Thursday, August 29 at 8:30/7:30 p.m. MT/PT

—Repeated Sunday, September 1 at 5:30/4:30 p.m. MT/PT

DIALOGUE examined schools and the financial challenges they face across Idaho as children return to classes.

DIALOGUE host Joan Cartan-Hansen was joined by Kathy Phelan, president, Idaho Education Association; Candis Donicht, superintendent, Moscow School District; and Mike Friend, executive director, Idaho Association of School Administrators.

The guests discussed how school districts throughout Idaho are dealing with the financial challenges and how these might affect the classroom.

They also took phone calls from viewers statewide.

NEW IDAHOPTV WEB SITE OPENS VISTAS FOR AGES 9-13

There is a new place to check out for young people ages 9-13 on the Idaho Public Television Web site where visitors can find games, conversation, and information tailored for the age group.

Parents can know the site at idahoptv.org/kids/fun.html features links to safe places on the Internet that serve up learning with fun. Kids (and their parents) can find information about shows on IdahoPTV for the age group —

DRAGONFLY TV, STANDARD DEVIANTS TV, and ZOOM. And, there is information about IdahoPTV's own DIALOGUE FOR KIDS, the science call-in program for young people during the school year.

The page also offers links to other sites, all funded and approved by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB). Destination sites include Don't Buy It: Get Media Smart, It's My Life, Backyard

Jungle, 3d&i, and Plastic Fork Diaries.

On these sites, kids can:

Take quizzes about products and learn the truth about advertising, including what to watch out for in Internet advertising.

Design a backyard, provide pictures of natural surroundings, and make discoveries in the neighborhood.

Find out what is different about middle school, ask advice of mentors, and see interviews with celebrities their own ages.

Play architect, learn about professional designers, submit designs, and find activities that demonstrate design in action.

Follow six middle school students into the school cafeteria and other parts of their school as everyone learns about food — from facts to recipes, from how it is grown to how it is used by the body.

The new IdahoPTV page is made possible by a CPB grant, which also is funding two DIALOGUE FOR KIDS shows during the 2002-03 school year — one on nutrition, the other on ecology.

IDAHOPTV ANNOUNCES WINNERS FOR 2002 NATIONAL TEACHER TRAINING INSTITUTE

Idaho Public Television's National Teacher Training Institute awards 25 students from the University of Idaho, Idaho State University and Boise State University for their education lesson plans. For the NTTI project, participating faculty members modified syllabi to include assignments to create lesson plans for K-12 classrooms using IdahoPTV resources based on the NTTI methodology. The NTTI methodology provides pre-service teachers with the techniques and strategies to develop multimedia-rich lesson plans that combine video, the Web, and hands-on experiences that make learning an interactive experience.

Each student created lesson plans incorporating video and submitted their lesson plans to be entered for inclusion in a statewide lesson plan contest. Awards included \$50 cash prize, CD-ROM of winning lesson plans, and an NTTI tote bag.

The winners are: Erin Lunstrum, Sara Black and Stephanie Trebesch from Boise; Becki Ketterling, Kristen Baumchen and Stephanie Marquardt from Nampa; George R. Allen, Caldwell; Victoria L. Reid, Kuna; Max Delgado, Meridian; Korbie Vaughan, Ashley Thurman, Kandice Mortimer, Pamela Renner, Sheila Tatten and

Ramona "Annie" Taylor from Pocatello; Erin Horton and Cheryl Moya Galyean from Idaho Falls; Cheri Beus, Burley; Sonja Dodge, Shelley; Becky Jones, Twin Falls; Julie Ingram, Challis; Tiffany Scriptor, Moscow; Kirsten Evenesen, Coeur d'Alene; Sarah "Sally" Lang, Gainesville, Florida; Dara Mittelstaedt, Honolulu, Hawaii; and Shannon Weller, Missoula, Montana.

The institute is a project of Idaho Public Television, WNET, and Cisco.

FATHER OF TELEVISION, PHILO FARNSWORTH'S BIOGRAPHY DISCUSSED ON DIALOGUE

— Aired Thursday, August 15 at 8:30/7:30 p.m. MT/PT
— Repeated Sunday, August 18 at 5:30/4:30 p.m. MT/PT

Arizona State University Professor, Donald Godfrey appeared as the guest on DIALOGUE. Host Joan Cartan-

Hansen and Godfrey discussed his new biography about Idahoan Philo Farnsworth.

Godfrey shared facts and highlights about Farnsworth, a character he feels is often over-looked. Farnsworth's invention, first inspired in Rigby, has

gone on to change the world. He developed the idea of how to create images using electrons in 1921. By 1927 he transmitted the first electronic image and in 1934 Farnsworth staged the first public demonstration of his TV system.