A MILESTONE YEAR: OUR 50th ANNIVERSARY & DIGITAL TV

TWO MILESTONES—one personal and one technological—marked our 2008-2009 fiscal year: in January 2009 we began celebrating our 50th anniversary, and in February New Hampshire Public Television successfully made the transition from analog to digital transmissions. That we were able to attain both of these milestones is a tribute to you and all those who have supported NHPTV and its mission for over five decades.

Back on July 6, 1959 at 6 p.m., Channel 11 (originally known as the New Hampshire Network) premiered. We’ve come a long way, from broadcasting via a 51-kilowatt transmitter in black and white to today’s digital color TV screens. Over the decades, we’ve presented an array of popular award-winning PBS programs as well as our own programs that focus on New Hampshire and regional stories. Our broadcast programs, educational and community engagement initiatives support our mission of engaging minds, connecting communities and celebrating New Hampshire.

Today, NHPTV is the state’s only locally owned and operated television station and its only public television station. Five transmitters around the state carry NHPTV’s signal to 500,000 households throughout New Hampshire and into Maine, Vermont and Massachusetts. Our content distribution channels now extend beyond on-air and our website to YouTube, iTunes, and social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter.

On February 17, 2009, NHPTV successfully made the switch from analog to digital transmissions, as mandated by the federal government. Since DTV allows stations to offer more channels to viewers, NHPTV launched its EXPLORE channel, initially available to over-the-air DTV viewers. It presents programming focused on lifelong learning.

NHPTV offers a number of award-winning programs of local and regional interest, such as our own NH Outlook, Windows to the Wild, Granite State Challenge, Wildlife Journal, and NH Crossroads. This year, Windows and NH Outlook again were noted for excellence by the NH Associated Press Broadcasters Association, and NH Association of Broadcasters.


NHPTV’s NH Votes 2008 coverage included candidate forums and a series of debates in partnership with regional media and BIA-NH. More than 30,000 students participated in the NHPTV-sponsored NH Mock Election.

Sustainability issues are the focus of our new community engagement initiative with statewide partners – Planet Granite. The project includes segments on NH Granite. The project includes workshops, special projects, and online resources. Our educational services “got MESY” this year with a project designed to educate, engage and excite kids, parents, educators and community leaders about our “Math, Engineering, Science & You” initiative. NHPTV’s Knowledge Network services reach more than 470 public schools statewide, as well as educators, childcare providers, parents and students, through workshops, special projects, and online resources. We were honored to receive a Community Impact Award for Education from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

Your support of New Hampshire Public Television, now and through the decades, is very much appreciated. We look forward to many more!

With thanks,

Peter A. Frid, President and CEO

NHPTV Board of Directors chair Marge Chiafery, Peter Frid, and incoming chair Mark Collin.
IN FISCAL YEAR 2008 - 2009, New Hampshire Public Television programs and services continued to play an important role in northern New England. We are grateful to NHPTV’s valued partners and supporters for investing in our services.

PROGRAM, PROJECT, WEBSITE AND SPECIAL EVENT SPONSORS
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Monadnock Mountain Spring Water
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The Music Hall
Nashua Telegraph
New England Accountability
New England Toyota Dealers
New Hampshire Antiquarian Booksellers Association
New Hampshire Business Review Business Excellence Awards
New Hampshire Credit Union League
New Hampshire Department of Agriculture
New Hampshire Home Magazine
New Hampshire Magazine
New Hampshire Lottery
New Hampshire Society of Professional Engineers
New Hampshire Union Leader
New Horizons Computer Learning Center of NH
New London Hospital
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University of New Hampshire Athletics
Upper Valley Life Magazine
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WXRV The River 92.5 FM
WX2D 97.5, WMVL The Mill 96.5, WPEA 1370

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Association of Home Professionals
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CGL Employee Benefits Group
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PBS KIDS GO! Web Grant
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Roy A. Hunt Foundation
Stratford Foundation

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General Electric
Houghton Mifflin
IBM Corporation
Johnson & Johnson
Markem
Microsoft
NSTAR Foundation
Riverstone Resources, LLC
Verizon

LEADERSHIP GIFTS TO NHPTV encompass financial commitments to the PROFILE SOCIETY, GRANITE SOCIETY and PLANNED GIVING. These contributions have a significant role in supporting NHPTV’s programs and services now, and in assuring NHPTV’s future.

PLANNED GIVING BEQUESTS
Dorothea L. Raddin
Patricia Stips

NHPTV ENDOWMENT FUNDS
K. Bailey
E. Clement
New Hampshire Charitable Foundation

FUTURE FUND
Makes available investment capital for mission-related programs, outreach efforts and other public service opportunities.

Rawson Wood

NEW TECHNOLOGIES FUND
Allows NHPTV to take advantage of technological advances to ensure it remains a unique communications resource fulfilling its mission in ways yet to be developed.

PROGRAMMING FUND
Provides resources to produce and purchase programs of relevance to New Hampshire and northern New England and to utilize new technologies that deliver programs, services, and outreach activities to specialized audiences.

The Little Family Foundation
Anonymous

EDUCATION FUND
Enables NHPTV to provide educational programs and services for children and adults, and to acquire up-to-date technologies to deliver these services.

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Jim Lehrer of the PBS NewsHour came to NH and spoke about covering the news, presidential debates and his new book to supporters, including (from left) - Susan Lewis and NHPTV Board of Directors member Marilyn Higgins Forest.
From left: Winning students attend the 2009 Reading Rainbow Young Writers and Illustrators Contest awards ceremony at NHPTV; the 2008-2009 winners of Granite State SuperChallenge, Hollis-Brookline High School; fans of Arthur, a favorite PBS Kids program, enjoying an outing with him at StoryLand in June.