A Sea Change in Public Broadcasting, Cont.

Meanwhile, this is a great opportunity to thank Verne for his service, his loyalty, and his steadfast dedication to a great public radio service in our community. We hope you will call the SPR Comment Line at (509) 232-6004 to leave your good wishes and memories. You can also send him a note at kpbx@kpbs.org. We’ll announce more plans to celebrate Verne’s long and wonderful service and his contributions to our community soon—stay tuned!

- Cary Boyce, President and General Manager

Venue Windham is retiring. It’s true. I’ve mentioned a sea change in public broadcasting, and for SPR this one is huge. His last day will be sometime this summer. His first day full-time at SPR was June 1, 1988, but he’s worked here occasionally since Bloomsday 1984. This total of 38 years of helping SPR grow and serve our communities and listeners—content, reach, and especially music and arts. Thank you, Verne!

In the next guide, I’ve asked Verne to offer some reflections of his nearly four decades here, and his views as such a major part of the musical community of the Inland Northwest. Verne’s time and talents have touched literally thousands of lives, both as a broadcaster and a musician. It’s a legacy to be proud of—and a legacy to honor. There will be an event to honor Verne at the station in the late summer or fall, and gifts in his honor may be made to the station, or to the SP Fund for the Future with the Innovia Foundation at https://innovia.org. (And we beg you to think of this as “in addition to,” and not “instead of,” your donations that help us stay on the air.)

Verne leaves large loafers to fill at the station, and plans are in development now to determine what a replacement might look like. His departure is yet another signal that the one constant in life, and in public radio, is change itself. A public media sea change is now on our shores. Even as stable as SPR has been, we have several new faces at the station, as well as on the board of directors and the community advisory board. SPR is planning for the changes to come and those now upon us. We’ll have more news of this and further updates in July.

Continued on the back page
Coming Up with Spokane Public Radio

Spring Pledge Drive
April 19, 20, & 21 on KPFX 91.1, KSPC 91.9 & KPQZ 90.3
Show your support for your favorite hosts, programs, and stations by donating during our 3 Day Drive. We wouldn’t be here without your help! Build a stronger station by tuning in and donating online at spokanepublicradio.org.

Record Sale Donation Day
April 23, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at 1229 N. Monroe St. Spokane
Drop off your record sale donations on this special Saturday. SPR Volunteers & staff will help unbox items. Your donations help make the sale a success! Visit our website for donation guidelines.

Return of the Record Sale
May 15, 9 a.m.-11 p.m., at CenterPlace Regional Event Center
This popular annual event is back! The sale of records is a great way to find rare, vintage, and collectible music. All proceeds benefit Spokane Public Radio & Local Musicians.

KPFX Kids Concert: Music by Young Performers
May 19, 10 a.m., at KPFX 91.1
Werner Windham hosts a special broadcast of music by young performers. Musicians from local middle schools, high schools, and universities will visit the studio to showcase the musical talent Spokane’s youth has to offer.

KPFX Kids Concert: Ragtime & Beyond
June 18, 1 p.m., at KPFX 91.1
 Herald a variety of ragtime and Beyond an onyxes performed by pianist Scott Kirby on this special broadcast. Werner Windham will host a medley of performances by the Colombo-based musician.

SPR Media Partnerships
Hagan Center Speaker Series
April 6 - June 8 at the Hagan Center
Spokane Community College welcomes seven fascinating speakers to Spokane to talk about humanities and education. The upcoming speakers include Kaiti Smidt, Ari Nafis, Alice W. Wong, and Jael Almary.

Spokane Bike Everywhere Month
May 1 - 31
SPR is a Media Partner for Spokane’s celebration of Bike Month. We will host an energizer station Friday, May 20. Other Bike Everywhere Month events include a pancake breakfast, Kids’ Bike Month, and several short-sentence rides.

2022 Season in the Spotlight
May 12, 7:30 p.m. at the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center
Capping the Season in the Spotlight series will be Neil Berg’s concert, “50 Years of Rock & Roll.”

The Fox presents Chris Botti Live in Concert
May 29, 8 p.m. at The Fox Theater
Trumpeter, handpan player, and composer Chris Botti plays a unique blend of jazz, pop, and rock with his own ensemble from the stage of the historic Martin Woldson Theater.

KPBF Program Grid / April-June 2022

KSFC Program Grid / April-June 2022

Updates to Jazz Programming
By Doug Nadworny, Program Director

We’re saying goodbye to two established late night jazz shows on KPBF and replacing them with a trio of programs, two of which will be locally produced. Jazz at 100 and Jazz Odyssey are leaving the airwaves. Jazz at 100, a one-hour program which aired Tuesday nights at 10, took 100 episodes to celebrate 100 years of the genre, from the very beginning to the current jazz scene.

Jazz at 100 will be replaced with a jazz century program produced by NPR’s business development director, Kathy Sackett. Kathy has a long and varied musical background. For years, she was the KPBF jazz director and KEUG station manager. Her program will begin on June 7.

On Fridays, Jazz Odyssey, a two-hour program which also aired at 10, focused on modern jazz and current players around the world. The program’s host and producer, Chris Kuborn, has stopped producing it.

To cover that time, we’re extending Mike Grabik’s wide-ranging Friday Night Jazz program by an hour. It will now run from 8-11 p.m.

In the 11 pm hour, we’ll bring you Blue Dimensions. Host and producer Jonny Meister features a range of blues, jazz, and related styles of music, featuring present-day artists and songs, sometimes interpreting classic songs and paying homage to the great history of jazz.

The new Friday night lineup will begin May 6. We hope you enjoy the additions. You can send your feedback to kpbf@kguf.org or to our listener comment line at 509-322-6994.

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