

# ARKANSAS PBS FCC QUARTERLY REPORT

## Issues / Programs

Time Period: **April – June 2020**

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This is the FCC Quarterly Report to be included in the Public Files. Arkansas PBS Management has determined the following issues to be significant within the service areas of its six (6) television transmitters (most of the state of Arkansas) for the time period: **April 1, 2020 – June 30, 2020.**

Arkansas PBS's six (6) television transmitters are:

- KAFT-13 / Fayetteville
- KEMV-6 / Mountain View
- KETG-9 / Arkadelphia
- KETS-2 / Little Rock
- KETZ-12 / El Dorado
- KTEJ-19 / Jonesboro

The following list of example programs illustrates how Arkansas PBS addressed these key issues:

1. Arts & Culture
2. Education
3. Economics
4. Environment
5. Government / Politics / Law

6. Health / Health Care
7. Minority Issues

## 1. ARTS & CULTURE

### Historic Bridges of Arkansas

Airdate: Thursday, May 28, 2020  
Airtime: 7:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

Some bridges still standing in Arkansas are nearly as old as the state itself, but each year several of these structures are being lost to the ravages of time and the demands of a modern roadway system.

"It is not practical or even possible to save all these historic structures," AETN Executive Producer Carole Adornetto said. "However, Producer Casey Sanders has done the next best thing, she's produced a very special program for our audience so that the stories and importance of these bridges can be archived and placed in the fabric of Arkansas life for generations to come."

In order to preserve these monuments and memories for the future, AETN partnered with the Arkansas Highway Department to produce this film.

"Our hope is that this program will heighten the awareness and appreciation of these structures, which most of us take for granted," Adornetto said. "It is a reminder of how bridges have served us through the years in very real ways."

Featured in the program is Hendrix College Assistant Professor of Art Maxine Payne, an artist and photographer who has photographed and chronicled historic bridges in the state for the highway department for the past three years. Payne has been responsible for not only capturing the bridges' unique qualities visually, but also for exploring the connections to the lives of Arkansans. She works in multimedia installation as well traditional photography. Maxine grew up in rural Arkansas, and her work is colored by this experience.

Accompanying Payne's aesthetic impressions of these bridges, Robert Scoggin, historic resources coordinator for the Arkansas Highway Department, offers commentary in the program on the more "hard facts" about the structures, the importance of preservation, locations and the historic significance of the engineering and materials that made them dependable for so many years.

Also included in the program are interviews with individuals with strong connections to and vivid memories of the various bridges. Eloise Wallace, whose father was a country doctor who traded his horse for a car to make his rounds when the Wallace Bridge was completed over the Fourche La Pave, shares her story. A man who survived a frightening incident on the DeValls Bluff Bridge over White River relates his tale, and Mary Ann Messick reads a poem her father wrote to honor the White River Bridge at Cotter.

### **Plantation Homes of Arkansas**

Airdate: Thursday, May 28, 2020  
Airtime: 7:30 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

They came to Arkansas from Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia to the rich river soil of the Delta. “Planters” arrived to grow the king of all crops – cotton. The stately homes these planters built with a unique architectural style, steeped in Southern history, exemplified the plantation era.

Through these unique homes, visitors can experience the plantation culture of the nineteenth century, which illuminated the rich historical and cultural heritage of the American South and the habits and traditions of its people, along with the triumphs and tragedies of its past, all preserved to come alive for present and future generations.

We’ll take you on a tour of the Lakeport Plantation near Lake Village – the only remaining Arkansas antebellum plantation home along the Mississippi River. Also, we’ll visit the Elms Plantation in Altheimer, which is actually a bed and breakfast inn. The tour concludes with what is known as “a mansion of Arkansas” – Marlsgate Plantation Mansion in Scott. Experience the plantation homes of Arkansas that have not ... gone with the wind.

### **Home Cooking With Kat & Friends**

Airdate: Thursday, June 4, 2020  
Airtime: 7:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 60 minutes

“Home Cooking With Kat & Friends” highlights delicious recipes that can be made at home.

Kat Robinson – Arkansas food historian, author, travel writer and enthusiastic foodie – hosts this culinary narrative featuring guests ranging from renowned chefs to home cooks from across the state.

“This is an opportunity to return to our roots in a comforting way,” Robinson said. “Our lives have been busy; now, with more time in our own homes, many of us are turning to our own kitchens and rediscovering our love of cooking.”

“We’re bringing out the old family cookbooks and working with foods that are available to create meals for those under our roofs again, like our parents and grandparents once did. Our kitchens have become bright spots in uncertain times.”

“Home Cooking With Kat & Friends” shares the foods people choose to eat when they are unable to order what they want on demand and tells the story of what chefs and home cooks are creating while they aren’t dining out.

Segments include:

Zara Abassi of @zaramadeit food blog making Natural Strawberry Popsicles. Born in New York City and from an international background, Abassi cooked at her family's restaurant (Masala Grill) and helped with menu development and dessert production for others. She’s now a recipe developer for magazines and while proficient in desserts, her true strong suit is savory foods and teaching others to cook.

Kelli Marks of Sweet Love Bakes making Pantry Packet Oatmeal Cookies. Marks learned her way around the kitchen from her grandmother. She opened Sweet Love Bakes in January 2012 with the idea that treats can both feed a sweet tooth, as well as the soul.

Ken Dempsey, executive chef for Aramark Russellville School District, making Pork Rind Crusted Fried Green Tomatoes with Strawberry Shrimp Pico. Dempsey credits his grandma’s kitchen for his passion for food and cooking. He is an avid barbecue enthusiast who has won multiple awards.

Scott McGehee and John Beachboard of Yellow Rocket Concepts making Grilled Pizza. Yellow Rocket Concepts is a Little Rock-based restaurant group that owns popular eateries including Zaza, Big Orange Burger, Local Lime, Heights Taco & Tamale and Lost 40 Brewing.

Ruth and Grace Pepler of Dogwood Hills Guest Farm making Dogwood Hills 2 Egg Omelet. This mother daughter duo run a homestead farm that offers visitors an authentic, hands on farm experience on 82 acres of Ozark hills. They also host monthly farm to table dinners and the annual Cast Iron Cook Off. Coby Smith of The Hope Bistro making Dill Salmon with Sautéed Asparagus. Smith’ has served as the executive chef at Fox Ridge Luxury Senior Living and at Arkansas Heart Hospital, where he received many accolades, including a feature on “CBS This Morning.”

“Creating this no-contact cooking program has been challenging,” Robinson said. “Much of what you’ll see was recorded on a cell phone, by cooks who may have not had video experience before.

“These stories matter, even if the technology isn’t state-of-the-art. The recipes, the individuals, and what they bring to the table are all part of the story.”

## **Once Upon a Time In Arkansas**

Airdate: Sunday, April 19, 2020  
Airtime: 11:30 p.m.

Program Length: 30 minutes

What power does storytelling hold, and how has it impacted our state's history?

Dive into a unique catalog of Arkansas folklore – and see how it has shaped the way we view ourselves and the South – in the new AETN digital series "Once Upon a Time in Arkansas." A blend of sharecroppers' stories, myths of the Wild West and tall tales from the deepest hollers of the Ozarks, the series takes a creative look at some of the more powerful stories to find out just what a tale needs to have lasting impact.

### **The White River Monster**

A Jacksonport State Park ranger and an amateur monster hunter share the evolving story of the "Devil Fish" that has appeared four or more times since the Civil War. This episode shows why the town has accepted and celebrated the monster and why it is important to them.

### **The Legend of King Crowley**

A Jonesboro magician and the director of the Museum of Discovery help uncover the unlikely beginning of one of the biggest attractions in Little Rock's River Market. Viewers will learn about the visionary Arkansan, Bernie Babcock, and her unlikely archeological discovery on Crowley's Ridge.

### **Dexter Harding's Sawdust Bridge**

A volunteer museum bosun and a representative of the city of Pine Bluff help dig up a ghost story predating the Civil War. This episode examines one of the City's founders, Dexter Harding, his sawmill and how a silly superstition had a serious impact on the fledgling city.

### **Will Rogers Fights for England**

A University of Central Arkansas history professor and an Oklahoma music enthusiast discuss the incendiary "food riots" in England, Arkansas, in January 1931. They explain how international celebrity Will Rogers led the charge against Washington to raise money to help the starving farmers.

### **The Gurdon Light**

Older Gurdon townsfolk tell the story of the Gurdon Light, while viewers follow a young thrill-seeker in his journey to see the phenomenon for himself. This episode explores the power local lore has on small communities and why it is important to keep telling the stories, even in the face of science and reason.

### **Men & Women of Distinction: Mike Beebe**

Airdate: Thursday, June 11, 2020  
Airtime: 7:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 60 minutes

This film examines the life of the Honorable Mike Beebe, a product of Arkansas, born in a tar paper shack in Amagon. Beebe rose from his humble beginnings to practice law in Searcy and run for Arkansas Senate – where he was first elected in 1981 and served for 20 years – followed by successful

runs for attorney general (2003-2007) and, finally, governor (2007-2015). Directed and produced by Kathryn Tucker.

Kathryn Francis Tucker is a Little Rock native and sixth-generation Arkansan. An alumna of Little Rock Central High School and the University of Pennsylvania, Tucker is also a Directors Guild of America member with experience in still photography, photo editing for film and film production. Tucker founded the Arkansas Cinema Society in 2017 and currently serves as the nonprofit's executive director.

### **Men & Women of Distinction: John Paul Hammerschmidt**

Airdate: Thursday, June 18, 2020  
Airtime: 7:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 60 minutes

Former U.S. Senator and Arkansas Governor David Pryor sits down with John Paul Hammerschmidt to discuss his years as a congressman during the administrations of six presidents – from 1967 to 1993. Hammerschmidt was born in 1922 in Harrison Arkansas and stated his professional career working as the third generation in the Hammerschmidt Lumber Company. In 1942 Hammerschmidt enlisted in the Army Air Corps and became a highly decorated World War II combat pilot before returning home in 1945. Hammerschmidt was the original sponsor of congressional authorization for a national Vietnam Veterans Memorial to be located in Washington, D.C. He was also the author and initiating sponsor of the legislation which preserved the Buffalo River as a free-flowing stream, designating it as America's first national river.

### **Men & Women of Distinction: Sid McMath**

Airdate: Thursday, June 25, 2020  
Airtime: 7:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 60 minutes

Born Sidney Sanders McMath on June 14, 1912 in Columbia County, Ark., McMath was a graduate of the University of Arkansas Law School. He served with the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II, earning the Silver Star and Legion of Merit. He returned to Hot Springs after the war, where he became politically active to fight corruption in local government. He was elected prosecutor for Garland and Montgomery counties in 1946, and governor in 1948 and 1950. He was an advocate of internal improvements and anti-lynching statutes.

### **State of the Art**

Airdate: Friday, June 12, 2020  
Airtime: 8:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 60 minutes

An exhilarating journey of artistic discovery ... 100,000 miles and 1,000 destinations in the search for 100 under-recognized American artists for one unforgettable exhibition. The curatorial team of Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Arkansas, crisscrossed the nation to find extraordinary contemporary art happening in unexpected places: the woods of North Carolina, the deserts of Nevada, the backstreets of Pittsburgh, the foothills of Arkansas, and the riverbanks of New Orleans.

These far-flung artists, and many more, led to the exhibition "State of the Art: Discovering American Art Now," which showcased 227 works, many of which might otherwise have never been seen. "State of the Art," a one-hour documentary, captures the personal stories of seven of the diverse artists that make up a groundbreaking exhibition and redefine the American aesthetic.

From award-winning filmmakers Craig and Brent Renaud and Arkansas Educational Television Network, "State of the Art" tells a story of diverse artists driven to create -- with work that is intensely personal, firmly rooted in community, and inseparable from the lives they live. Their work offers a window into not only what concerns Americans, but also what lifts them up.

## **2. EDUCATION**

### **Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood**

Airdate:	Weekdays: April 1 – June 30, 2020
Airtime:	9:00 and 9:30 a.m.
Program Length:	30 minutes

This weekday award-winning animated children's television series targets preschool-aged children. Two 11-minute segments are linked by a common socio-emotional theme, such as disappointment and sadness or anger, or being thankful and appreciative. The theme also uses a musical motif phrase, which the show calls "strategy songs", to reinforce the theme and help children remember the life lessons.

### **Sesame Street**

Airdate:	Weekdays: April 1 – June 30, 2020
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Airtime: 12:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

This award-winning weekday series delivers academic and social education that prepares kids for grade school. Since its premiere, the show's base curriculum has been set by academic research on preschoolers. Encore episodes focus on music and art and how these tools can be used to develop the whole child – the cognitive, social, emotional, and physical attributes.

In addition, the *"Elmo's World"* segment looks at the world through the eyes of a three-year-old, continues as a featured segment. Themes include birthdays, pets, teeth, families, games and more.

### **Wild Kratts**

Airdate: Weekdays: April 1 – June 30, 2020  
Airtime: 2:30 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

The weekday show's aim is to educate children about biology, zoology, and ecology, and teach kids small ways to make big impacts. The basic plot of an episode is usually to save the animals or an animal from a situation, be it villains, general human influence, or confusion on a baby animal's part.

## **3. ECONOMICS**

### **America's Heartland**

Airdate: Sundays: April 5 – June 28, 2020  
Airtime: 11:30 a.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

This weekly magazine-style series give consumers an inside look at the people and processes involved in bringing food, fuel, and fiber to those in the United States and around the world. The series' producers and reporters have brought viewers informative and compelling stories about farm families, agricultural technology, consumer issues, animal welfare, environmental concerns, organic farming, and crop sustainability to demonstrate the impact that American agriculture has on a global economy.



## **Market to Market**

Airdate: Sundays: April 5 – June 28, 2020  
Airtime: 11:00 a.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

From global trade conflicts to environmental controversies and changing technologies and emerging enterprises, this series explains the issues and illuminates the alternatives that challenge rural America. The program examines the trends that confront Main Street, from the growth of rural outlet malls, to community-based economic development efforts, the dispersion of health care, and the growing demands of environmental regulation.

## **4. ENVIRONMENT**

### **Exploring Arkansas**

Airdate: Sundays: April 26 – June 28, 2020  
Airtime: 4:30 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

This program showcases Arkansas activities and focuses on the extreme adventures available in the Natural State. Each episode includes high adventure and outdoor recreation, featuring some of the most breathtaking and spectacular sights in Arkansas.

### **Exploring Arkansas “Trails Less Traveled”**

Airdate: Sunday, June 7, 2020  
Airtime: 5:30 p.m.  
Program Length: 60 minutes

“Exploring Arkansas: Trails Less Traveled,” featuring host Chuck Dovish highlighting less-trafficked hiking and waterway options to experience safely while observing social distance, will premiere Sunday, June 7, at 5:30 p.m. on Arkansas PBS. Dovish will host a live Facebook chat during the broadcast at [facebook.com/arkansaspbs](https://facebook.com/arkansaspbs).

“What began as just an idea to help you enjoy the outdoors safely while social distancing during COVID-19, ‘Trails Less Traveled’ has turned into a useful guide to some of the lesser-known areas and locations around The Natural State for solitude and peace to enjoy at any time,” Dovish said. “Most of these hiking trails are not lengthy – a couple or so miles at the most – leading to secluded waterfalls, overlooks and caves.

“We’ve also included a few of my favorite ‘water trails,’ or floating routes that are not too well known.”

The one-hour program will include the following hidden gems in The Natural State:

Marinoni Scenic Area.

Moonshiners Cave/Falls.

Madison County Wildlife Management Area Falls.

Hwy 123 Falls.

Ranch North Woods Preserve.

Bayou Bartholomew Nature Trail.

Red Bluff Overlook.

Alum Cove National Recreation Trail.

During the broadcast, viewers can ask questions or leave comments about the program at [facebook.com/arkansaspbs](https://facebook.com/arkansaspbs), and Dovish will respond beginning at 5:30 p.m. on June 7.

Viewers will have the opportunity to donate during the program to receive an “Exploring Arkansas” DVD set, logo cooling towel and “Trails Less Traveled Guidebook” featuring 14 lesser known adventures.

“Exploring Arkansas: Trails Less Traveled” began as a 14-part digital-first series with a new episode premiering each Wednesday at 2 p.m. through the summer at [youtube.com/exploringarkansas](https://youtube.com/exploringarkansas), on Facebook, and in the Engage Arkansas PBS app. Dovish also publishes weekly blog entries, new each Monday, at [myarkansaspbs.org](https://myarkansaspbs.org).

Fans who download the Engage Arkansas PBS app and visit any of these areas can use the "Share My Trail" feature to upload their favorite photo using specialized photo frames during their hike. Additionally, people can enter for a chance to win an "Exploring Arkansas" prize pack by watching one of the trail episodes. The Engage Arkansas PBS app is available through the Apple App Store and Google Play.

## **Nature**

Airdate: Wednesdays: April 1 – June 24, 2020

Airtime: 7:00 p.m.

Program Length: 60 minutes

This award-winning wildlife television program consists of documentaries about various animals and ecosystems. Consistently stunning documentaries transport viewers to far-flung locations ranging from the torrid African plains to the chilly splendors of icy Antarctica.

The show's primary focus is on animals and ecosystems around the world.

## **NOVA**

Airdate: Wednesdays: April 1 – June 24, 2020

Airtime: 8:00 p.m.

Program Length: 60 minutes

This award-winning science series is the most-watched prime time science series on American television, reaching an average of five million viewers weekly. Now in its fourth decade of production, the series remains committed to producing in-depth science programming in the form of one-hour documentaries and long-form mini-series, from the latest breakthroughs in technology to the deepest mysteries of the natural world.

## **5. GOVERNMENT / POLITICS / LAW**

### **Arkansas Week**

Airdate: Fridays: April 3 – June 26, 2020

Airtime: 6:30 p.m.

Program Length: 30 minutes

Arkansas Week, an AETN weekly production, features veteran journalist Steve Barnes and a dedicated, distinguished group of Arkansas journalists giving knowledge and insight on the issues in the news. Episodes are repeated the following Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

### **BBC World News**

Airdate: Weekdays: April 1 – June 30, 2020

Airtime: 11:00 p.m.

Program Length: 30 minutes

This series from the British Broadcasting Corporation features current political events around the world and in the USA from an international viewpoint.

### **PBS NewsHour**

Airdate: Weekdays: April 1 – June 30, 2020  
Airtime: 6:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 1 hour

This award-winning program is known for its in-depth coverage of issues and current events with a highly objective and thoughtful approach and goes beyond the headline journalism of most broadcast television and partisanship of most cable news channels.

### **Washington Week**

Airdate: Fridays: April 3 – June 26, 2020  
Airtime: 7:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

This long-running PBS public affairs series featured Washington's top journalists analyzing the week's top news stories, and their effect on the lives of all Americans.

## **6. HEALTH / HEALTHCARE**

### **Classical Stretch**

Airdate: Monday – Saturdays, April 1 – June 30, 2020  
Airtime: 5:30 a.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

With a focus on overall wellness as well as physical fitness, Classical Stretch belongs to a new generation of exercise programming. Each episode features a new method of stretching the entire body, gently and artistically – the first comprehensive, overall stretching program created for public television.

### **Sit and Be Fit**

Airdate: Saturdays: April 4 – June 28, 2020  
Airtime: 6:00 a.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

Each week, this program addresses the gentle exercise needs of seniors and those with physical limitations. Elements of the show include a section devoted to viewer health concerns, exercises set to age-appropriate music, relaxation techniques, and strengthening and stretching routines utilizing a variety of easy-to-use items around the home.

### **Yoga with Andrea**

Airdate: Saturdays: April 4 – June 28, 2020  
Airtime: 6:30 a.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

Andrea Fournet from Arkansas Yoga Center leads viewers through vinyasas and poses to inspire a healthier life. Options and modifications are given for beginning and advanced yogis.

## **7. MINORITY ISSUES**

### **To the Contrary with Bonnie Erbe**

Airdate: Sundays: April 5 – June 28, 2020  
Airtime: 9:30 a.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

This weekly news analysis program is the only woman-centered national news/talk show on television. Dedicated to the premise that women of all ethnic backgrounds and political persuasions are an important part of the national dialogues, the series provides a platform for the multifaceted views of involved, informed women journalists and commentators. Topics range from women's health to family issues to women in the workplace, the environment, women in finance, and education.

### **Osiyo: Voices of the Cherokee People**

Airdate: Sundays: April 5 – June 28, 2020  
Airtime: 12:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 30 minutes

Osiyo, Voices of the Cherokee People is an Emmy-winning, documentary-style program featuring the people, places, history, and culture of the Cherokee Nation.

### **Healing the Divide: Race Relations in Arkansas**

Airdate: Thursday: June 11, 2020  
Airtime: 7:00 p.m.  
Program Length: 60 minutes

How does race permeate and affect the lives of Arkansans? Find out in the live, one-hour special “Healing the Divide: Race Relations in Arkansas”.

Host Dr. Malcolm Glover, CEO of Glover Global Consulting, and guests, including an appearance by Gov. Asa Hutchinson, will discuss topics involving race, such as police brutality, racial history, disparities, and community interactions.

Dr. Sybil Jordan-Hampton, former president of Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation; Epiphany “Big Piph” Morrow, hip hop artist and founder of I Am Not Them; Tamika Edwards, J.D., executive director of the Social Justice Institute, Philander Smith College; and Dr. Christina Standerfer, dispute resolution scholar, will be among the featured panelists.

Jimmy Warren, host of ArkanTalk, will interview KenDrell Collins, assistant federal public defender and member of the governor’s law enforcement task force; Laura Brunson, LR CARBON (Community Activists Rebuilding Our Nation) board member; and Crossett Police Chief J.W. Cruce about police reform.