City’s BTN-TV introducing new programming BTN Drive-In

BTN-TV is known for its city services, events, and educational programming and is considered the premiere government channel in the area due to its original programming and content. It is a division of the city’s Office of Community Relations. “We constantly strive to keep our content ever-changing, informative, and educational. At the same time government TV isn’t known for its entertaining or fun side,” said Terrie Talbert, Director of Community Relations. “We have been researching ways in which we can expand our programming yet stay within the federal guidelines governing the channel. We looked to other cities’ government channels and found that many were offering community entertainment in the form of public domain films.”

BTN-TV will kick-off new programming, BTN Drive-In on Halloween night with three movies. Movies will begin at 7:30 p.m. with *House on Haunted Hill* starring the great Vincent Price. This is a fun, campy and creepy film and is considered a horror classic. *Night of the Living Dead* will be the second movie and will begin at 9 p.m. This film was directed by George A. Romero and has been described as the most famous of zombie films. It was the first zombie movie to feature what modern zombies are today, flesh eaters. Without *Night of the Living Dead*, there would be no *Walking Dead*, the wildly popular TV show that is so trendy with teens and young adults. The final movie of the evening is one of the very first vampire films, *Nosferatu*. It was produced in 1922 and is a silent German expressionist horror film. It is an unofficial adaptation of Bram Stoker’s *Dracula*.

“This is an exciting extension of what we do,” Talbert continued. “We hope the new family movie night will give families an opportunity to share some time together and see what the classics looked like before color TV and digital effects.” The new program will be hosted by Brennan Dye, a member of the BTN staff. Dye will share information about characters, the making of the film, and behind the scenes look on each of the movies broadcast. After the Halloween movie night, the programming will appear on Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. The first movie being featured will be *Freaks*. *Freaks* was released in 1932 and stars Wallace Ford and Leila Hyams. The film was also directed by Tod Browning who famously directed the 1931 monster classic, *Dracula*.
Dye said of the new venture, “This is a great opportunity for people to see some truly unique films and hopefully learn some fun film history along the way.”

For more information on the program or suggestions for movies please contact Brennan at 423-989-5500 Ext 2027 or email bdye@bristoltn.org.

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