

On Christmas day, the Independence Missouri Messiah Choir performs their 85th anniversary performance of Handel's Messiah in Handel's Messiah: Independence Messiah Choir. The program airs Wednesday, Dec. 25 at 11 a.m. on KET2. Finally, the Jubilation Ringers of Allentown sends viewers on a musical trip around the world when this handbell choir presents Around the World in Bronze, Wednesday, Dec. 25 at 9 p.m. on KET1.

Baxter Black and Friends

back in the saddle for three programs.

•Sunday, Dec. 15, 22 and 29,
9:30 p.m.

Cowboy poet Baxter Black has been entertaining audiences for years. After appearing on the Tonight Show over a period of six years and performing on PBS, Black is currently a cowboy commentator on National Public Radio. Through his poetry and stories, this ex-veterinarian presents unique observations of everyday people who live with livestock and work the land.

Now, Black hops back in the saddle for three hilarious programs on KET2. Baxter Black and Friends airs Sundays, December 15, 22 and 29 at 9:30 p.m. Each sidesplitting episode reveals the cowboy soul of this New Mexico native and his friends, and also features an original song from Black.

Garrison Keillor

featured on program

•Monay, Dec. 16, 9 p.m.

Garrison Keillor, a humorist in the great American tradition of Mark Twain and Will Rogers, creates an enthralling mix of small-town reminiscence and razor-sharp commentary on Kentucky Author Forum Presents: A Conversation with Garrison Keillor. The one-hour program premieres Monday, Dec. 16 at 9 p.m. on KET1. In a departure from

the program's usual format, Keillor is not interviewed. He entertains with a monologue that ranges in tone from bittersweet to raucous.

Keillor grew up in Anoka, Minn., a town that became the model for the mythical Lake Wobegon of his monologues and was made famous by his long-running radio program, A Prairie Home Companion. The town is populated by what Keillor refers to as "dark people" haunted by religious guilt and stunted by conformity. There, one encounters folks like "Norwegian bachelor farmers," eccentric aunts who decorate clothes with duct tape and wild cousins who disrupt the school talent shows with smoldering renditions of "Great Balls of Fire." Keillor laces the bleakest, most stinging observations with empathy and warmth, turning what could be cruel caricatures into touching portraits.

Keillor is the author of fifteen books. The fiction he has created from the Lake Wobegon material includes the novels Wobegon Boy (1997) and Lake Wobegon Summer 1956 (2001). His latest book is Good Poems, a collection drawn from the poetry he has read on his other popular radio show, The Writer's Almanac.

Kentucky Author Forum Presents: A Conversation with Garrison Keillor is a KET production. The producer/director is Duncan Hart; Nancy Carpenter serves as executive producer. The program is closed-captioned for the deaf and hard-of-hearing. The author's appearance in Louisville was produced by the Kentucky Author Forum (Mary Moss Greenebaum, producer) and sponsored by the University of Louisville, in cooperation with the Kentucky Center for the Arts and Hawley Cooke Booksellers. Viewers can find out more about programming on KET's four digital channels by visiting the KET Web site at www.ket.org.

At Home with Rick Dees

invites viewers into the Danville home of radio personality

•Monay, Dec. 16, 9:30 p.m.
•Sunday, Dec. 22, 9:30 p.m.