Spencerneilan.com

Meet the team:

It’s just me!

I’m a software engineer, currently working for Johnson Controls/ Shoppertrak, a retail analytics company. My background is in electrical engineering, and I’ve been doing IoT/embedded systems work for about 7 years.

I got interested in ICP when I started investing in crypto about 4 months ago, and I’ve been learning ICP for about 2 months. I have a full time job, so I don’t have as much time as I’d like to work on this, but I’ve been working on this site for probably a 5 days of working time.

This is starting out as a personal project. I wanted to build a website for myself to create a brand to expand my career, and I’m trying to get more into the crypto space. And I thought what best way to do that than to teach? So my plan is to build a website from scratch that I can also host videos on and make blog posts etc. Medium.com meets video and photo hosting meets forum.

Some of the videos I plan on hosting will involve

I’m taking this in kind of an exploratory direction.

I started with just the website portion, but I also wanted to host videos without relying on youtube or Vimeo. So right now I’m building out a media hosting section, using distributed hash tables in canisters. So you would upload the videos on the editor, it would break it into chunks that go into the distributed hash table, to be divied into multiple canisters, to help with performance.

My goal is to have a website that functions as a blog, with tutorial videos, and a professional website for myself. I am carefully documenting the steps I’m taking in learning and building the site, so that I can turn it into a tutorial video series that would be hosted there, a kind of “build this site”.

Milestones:

Keep within 16 weeks

What I can accomplish in 16 weeks

Come up with

August 1st: Blog/WSYWIG editor online

September 1st: File storage system online

October 1st: Comments and social network online

December 1st: Personal website launch, spencerneilan.com

January 2022: Public website launch

May 2022: Tutorial series completed: "Build this website!"

Problem statement:

A blog website where you can post articles, host tutorial videos, and have profile pages, accounts, and comments. The idea would be to create a blog/educational website kind of like Medium.

1st leg: oct, nov, dec

2nd leg: Jan, Feb, Mar

1st half will be focused on core functionality. This will all be local development

Nov 31st:

Blog online. Can post and edit articles. Pictures can be included, but videos and file storage will be added later. For now videos will be embedded youtube links

Dec 31st First launch to mainnet

Navigational hierarchy:

Spencerneilan.com/<user>/<article title-uid>

MVP

* Blog posts
  + Content management database
    - Contains title, content, formatting, embedded html
  + Unique links
  + Dates, Tags
  + Photo uploads
  + Video uploads
  + Public links (home/<username>/<article\_slug>
    - Article\_slug is title\_name + uuid
  + Create a “series” of posts. Part 1,2,3 etc that can be navigated in between left and right
  + Stock image generation
* Profile
  + Edit account information
  + Edit picture
  + Edit Bio
  + Unique links for profile
* Home page
  + Showcase different posts, and series, with a preview panel

From the MVP above, what can I accomplish in 6 months?

1st 3 months

* User accounts
* Blog WSYWYG editor, with embeddable HTML
* Start with a one person blog, no dynamic navigation for multiple users, just post, and the post is entered on a simple list on the backend instead of a whole database
* Instead of video uploads, just use embedded youtube links for now. No photos just text
* Access control, only the author can edit the post
* Still have unique links, just home\_url/article\_title
* Bring MVP site online

2nd 3 months

* Convert the single person blog to a multi-person blog
* Add Comments
* Navigation
* Photo/video uploads
* Profile/bio editor. Photo in profile
* Unique links for profiles
* Unique links for profile are now <user>/<article\_slug>
* Tags on posts that can be searched in a search bar
* Blog posts can be organized into sequences that can be navigated left and right
* Hire a graphic designer for the layout with the $ received from milestone 1

2nd

Jan 31st Integration of video and media storage system

Feb 31st Comments and social accounts online

Mar 31st Design update, logo etc