

**THE VERMONT  
ASSOCIATION OF  
BROADCASTERS**

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**POWER UPGRADES OK'D**

The FCC has granted Construction Permit upgrade requests for two Vermont radio stations. WDVTV-FM in Rutland will be allowed to move its tower to Boardman Hill and boost power from 3kW to 6kW. The station (94.5 MHz "The Drive", formerly WJEN) is part of the Cata-mount Radio group owned by Pamal Broadcasting. Meanwhile, Radio Vermont's Classical WCVT-FM (101.7 MHz) has been granted a CP for a new tower arrangement on Mount Mansfield that will allow it to change from a non-directional C3 to a directional C2, doubling its effective radiated power. Both stations have 36 months to complete the upgrades.

**NEW GUARD NCSA SPOTS**

VAB radio and TV stations participating in the NCSA Army National Guard program will be receiving new creative announcements within the next two weeks. The new campaign is entitled "Real Life," and features three new :60 spots and two new :30 spots for radio and three new :30 spots and one new :15 spot for TV. The new NCSA spots should replace the current announcements which have been airing since the first quarter of 2009. We thank all stations for running and invoicing the Army Guard announcements!

**VPR WINS TWO CPB AWARDS**

Vermont Public Radio will receive a \$2000 grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting after winning two CPB Community Impact Awards. The awards were given for two VPR broadcast projects, "Vermont Reads," and "My Vermont." The reading project was part of a statewide Vermont Humanities Council effort encouraging communities to read the works of poet and longtime Ripton resident Robert Frost. The "My Vermont" project asked everyday Vermonters to discuss their traditions, values and hopes for the future.

# The VAB Voice



May, 2009

## THE FINAL SALUTE: ALAN NOYES 1924—2009

A patriot. A broadcaster. A community leader. A family man. These descriptions all apply to General Alan H. Noyes, who passed away April 26 at his home in Barre. He was 84.

Born Sept. 7, 1924 in Haverhill, Mass., Al attended local schools before joining the Army Air Corps on December 7, 1942. It was the start of a long and distinguished military career.

In 1946, Al married Joyce Pingree of Haverhill and in 1948, Al graduated from Boston University with a degree in Business Administration.

After working in radio in the Haverhill area, Al and his family moved to Barre, Vermont, where Al became VP and GM of radio stations WSNO and WORK. He retired in 1990. He gave dozens of broadcasters and salespeople their first



Gen. Alan H. Noyes

opportunities in the business, and after "retirement," he served as Executive Director of the VAB until December, 2008. He helped build the VAB into one of the healthiest state associations in the country.

His involvement with the military continued throughout his career. Active in the Air Force Reserve, he was named

Second Lieutenant in 1951, and in 1970 was named State Preparedness Liaison officer attached to the Vermont National Guard. In 1981, he was named Asst. Adjutant General for the Vermont Guard and served in that post until 1988, retiring as a Brigadier General.

As a community leader, he served as the first president of the Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce and was a founder of the Central Vermont Economic development Corporation, and is credited with helping bring Bombardier Corp to Barre.

He leaves his wife, Joyce, three daughters, three sons and 13 grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Vermont National Guard Charitable Foundation, P.O. Box 683, Essex Junction, VT 05453.

## Cancer Claims Local Radio Champion Bill Corbeil

It was a shock to all in the Vermont broadcasting community when Bill Corbeil of Brattleboro passed away on Tuesday, April 21 after a brief battle with cancer. Corbeil was 40. He was born on New Year's Day in 1969 in Brattleboro and was fascinated with radio from an early age.

While attending the University of Vermont, Corbeil started working with the "Corm and the Coach" program on WIZN-FM, earning the on-air nickname of "The Rocker." He worked at WIZN for nearly ten



Bill Corbeil 1969—2009

years before returning to his hometown of Brattleboro to manage an auto dealership.

Two years ago, a lifelong dream came true when Bill and his wife

Kelli were able to purchase hometown radio stations WTSA AM & FM. He was a dedicated community supporter, serving with the Chamber of Commerce, the Elks and by donating time and money to many local causes.

Bill leaves his wife, Kelli, and two young sons, Connor and Zachary. Contributions in Bill's memory may be made to the Connor & Zachary Corbeil Education Fund, C/O Chittenden Bank, 479 Canal Street, Brattleboro, VT. 05301, attn: Mary Dickman.



### Report from the NAB Show in Las Vegas, NV

More than 85,000 people were in attendance when the National Association of Broadcasters held their annual show in Las Vegas last month. Reflecting the worldwide appeal of the show, more than 20,000 of the attendees were from foreign countries.

Hundreds of exhibitors displayed their latest radio and TV wares, including cameras, operating systems, transmitters, timers and vehicles. Despite a slight drop in attendance from previous shows, business seemed very brisk on the massive convention center showroom floors.

Upstairs, dozens of conference seminars were conducted in nearly every area of the broadcasting business. In the sales arena, many seminars looked at the expanding arena of digital streaming and web media interaction for radio and TV stations. Web banner sales and interactive sponsor promotions are seeing double-digit growth and will continue to be a source of new revenue for those companies prepared to make it a priority.

On the technical front, topics ranged from the future of HD radio, DTV reception, mobile and handheld TV transmission, reauthorization of the Satellite Home Viewer act and the ongoing debate over the future of the Emergency Alert System.

On the mobile TV issue, new standards are expected to be issued this summer by the ATSC. The concept of offering digital TV to the handheld crowd (mostly twenty-somethings) is generating lots of excitement. That excitement, however, is mostly shared among those who don't have to worry about the cost. Stations would face very expensive upgrades to make the concept a reality. Nonetheless, 63 stations in 22 markets say they're planning to begin mobile TV testing, once the standards are announced by ATSC.

FM radio stations may soon be able to tap into a large handheld market without major new investments. Outgoing FCC Commissioner Jonathan Edelman says it's likely the commission will support an industry effort to mandate that all new cellphones come equipped with FM receiver chips. It may cost only 50 cents per phone to install the chips, which would provide every cellphone user with access to EAS alerts, as well as their favorite FM programming.

Speaking of EAS, FEMA and the Dept. of Homeland Security still appear to be deadlocked in their effort to approve a Common Alerting Protocol. Once it happens, the FCC would give stations 180 days to get the new equipment. The problem is that timetable is completely unworkable. No devices can be made or type-accepted until the CAP is announced. It's likely the FCC will relax the timetable once the new CAP is proposed. - Ted Teffner and Jim Condon



### FCC: NO KID GLOVES FOR NONCOMM'S

In a decision fining a noncommercial radio station \$7200 for failure to have several year's worth of quarterly issues programs lists in its public inspection file, the FCC specifically stated it does not have a reduced scale for fines for noncommercial broadcasters. Instead, noncommercial station licensees, like the college involved in this case, have to justify a reduction in the amount of a fine based on financial hardship by providing a financial statement for the licensee itself - not just a showing of the budget for the radio station. Thus, a college or university station that is in violation of an FCC rule, and which is issued a Notice of Apparent Liability, cannot justify a reduction in the fine merely by saying that the station cannot afford the fine - they will have to show that the institution itself is unable to pay the fine that the FCC imposes.

This case is but one of a number of noncommercial stations that have received fines in recent days. Last week, another noncommercial station owned by a college was fined \$7000 for not having timely filed its license renewal application. The college's explanation that the regulatory failure was due to "poor administration" of the station didn't fly - as the FCC is clearly not going to reduce a fine because the licensee was not paying attention to the actions of its agents. These cases and others like it demonstrate that the FCC is going to hold noncommercial stations to the same level of scrutiny as commercial operators. The days when noncommercial broadcasters could count on being treated by the FCC with a lighter regulatory touch are over. And many college, universities and other nonprofits that had not paid attention to the actions of their broadcast stations need to pay attention now, as in these days of tightened budgets, nonprofit groups can hardly afford the costs of paying an unexpected FCC fine.

- David Oxenford

### BOB NEWHART NAMED TO NAB HALL OF FAME

On TV, he ran an inn in Vermont. But in Las Vegas last month, actor-comedian Bob Newhart found himself being inducted into the NAB Broadcasting Hall of Fame. Newhart had the NAB crowd in stitches as he recounted his rise from an accountant to TV star. "The Bob Newhart Show" ran on CBS from 1972 to 1978, and "Newhart" ran from 1982 to 1990. In the latter show, Newhart played



Dick Loudon, owner of the Stratford Inn. The exterior shots of the inn were those of the Waybury Inn in East Middlebury. Congrats Bob!