

Vermont Association of
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JOEL CHANDLER
1927 - 2015



The original host of WCAX-TV's "Across the Fence" program has passed away. Joel Chandler died April 23 at the Vermont Respite House in Williston. He was 87.

Remembered by friends and colleagues as a kind and classy man with a wonderfully mellifluous voice, Chandler was born in Plattsburgh and grew up in Mooers, NY.

After serving in the Army, he attended broadcasting school in New York City. He worked at several area radio and TV stations, including WCAX-TV, WCAX-AM (now WVMT), WEAV-AM, WJOY-AM and Vermont ETV. He also worked at WFDF-AM in Flint, Michigan. At WEAV, he would occasionally host national live music broadcasts on the ABC Radio Network.

Outside broadcasting, he worked as public relations director for the Baird Center in Burlington.

He was predeceased by his wife Shirley. He is survived by his companion Lori Copp, three children, Lori, Tracy and Jamie, a sister and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Donations in his memory may be made to the Respite House, 99 Allen Brook Lane, Williston.



May,
2015



TWO PERFORMANCE TAX MEASURES INTRODUCED

On April 13, Rep. Jerrold Nadler (NY-10) introduced the Fair Play Fair Pay Act, which would levy a performance fee on local radio stations across America. In response, NAB activated its radio members to sound off on social media against a performance tax to ensure our voice was heard amidst a lobbying blitz by record labels on Capitol Hill. The NAB also released a statement of strong opposition to this legislation and any performance tax on local radio.

On April 23, Reps. Marsha Blackburn (TN-7) and Anna Eshoo (CA-18) introduced the Protecting the Rights of Musicians Act, which would block a broadcast television company from accepting retransmission consent payments if its parent company also owned a broadcast radio station that did not pay a performance royalty. NAB issued a statement opposing the bill, which is simply seen as a shot at broadcasters and not expected to move.

Despite these new legislative threats, NAB's counter measure is gaining support daily. More than 190 members of Congress have joined as cosponsors of the Local Radio Freedom Act, which opposes "any new performance fee, tax, royalty or other charge" on local radio. The NAB will continue to educate Congress on the disastrous impact a performance tax would have on radio's contributions to local economies and news, entertainment and emergency information across the country.

NORWAY PLANS TO SCUTTLE FM RADIO



Following up on a 2011 radio digitization mandate, the Norwegian government says all FM radio stations in the country will be shut down in 2017. The government-run system will instead mandate the use of Digital Audio Broadcasting, or DAB, for radio stations. DAB, the digital broadcast standard in Europe, is eight times less expensive to operate and offers more channels and slightly better audio quality than FM. There are five national FM stations that will make the switch. 22 DAB channels are already operated by the Norwegian Broadcasting Company. NBC chief Thor Eriksen said, "This is an important day for everyone who loves radio. The minister's decision allows us to concentrate our resources even more upon what is most important, namely to create high quality and diverse radio-content."

**Register Today for the
VAB 60th Annual Convention!
Thursday, May 28**

Capitol Plaza Hotel, Montpelier

- Seminars to help you make more money and keep more clients
- ABIP and Regulatory seminars
- Great giveaways and welcome gifts
- Commercial of the Year Luncheon
- Only \$25 per person

Click here to register or visit www.vab.org

VAB CONVENTION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

8 - 9 A.M.	Registration, Governor's Ballroom Coffee, Tea, Juice and Bagels
9 - 9:15	VAB Business Meeting, Governor's Ballroom
9:15 - 10:30	Sales Seminar #1 With Pat Bryson <i>"Conversations with Clients"</i> Capitol Theatre
9:15 - 10:30	Copywriting Seminar with Jeffrey Hedquist <i>"Better Stories, Better Results"</i> Ethan Allen Room
9:15 - 10:30	ABIP Refresher Seminar with Bob Shotwell Boardroom 335
10:30 - 10:45	Coffee & Snacks in the Governor's Ballroom
10:45 - 12:15	Sales Seminar #2 with Pat Bryson <i>"Managing Client Expectations"</i> Capitol Theatre
10:45 - 12:15	Marketing Seminar with Jeffrey Hedquist <i>"Ten Powerful Client Profit Accelerators"</i> Ethan Allen Room
10:45 - 12:15	Regulatory Roundtable with Scott Flick of Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP and Curtis LeGeyt, NAB Senior VP for Public Policy Boardroom 335
12:15 - 1:30	Commercial of the Year Luncheon Governor's Ballroom Welcoming remarks: Gov. Peter Shumlin

COMCAST OUT, CHARTER IN FOR TWC?

Now that the proposed merger of Comcast and Time Warner Cable has been called off due to anti-trust and other regulatory hurdles, industry sources believe TWC may be pursued by a former suitor. Charter Communications made an unsuccessful bid for TWC in 2014, and has reportedly reached out to TWC to see if a friendly merger might now be possible.



The Comcast TWC deal would have created the largest pay TV company in the country, but drew opposition from Congress, the FCC and the U.S. Justice Department. Charter is the fifth-largest cable TV company and analysts believe a deal with TWC would not face the same level of scrutiny as the Comcast deal generated.

ST. MIKE'S DONATES TO VPR



Last year, St. Michael's College in Colchester was awarded an LPFM license at 92.5 MHz, and planned to surrender their 100 watt full-time FM license for WWPV at 88.7 MHz.

The new LPFM will have similar coverage and will be less expensive to run and fewer FCC rules to follow. But now the college has decided to donate the FM license to nearby VPR.

VPR operated WWPV for a few years in the early 2000's, featuring BBC World Service. A later attempt to buy the station fell through.

In exchange for the 100 watt full-time station, VPR will help St. Michael's with the LPFM, which will retain the WWPV call sign.

