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## The VAB Voice



### CUMULUS BUYS AND SELLS

You'd need a large scorecard to keep track of the deals made last week by Cumulus Media. First, Cumulus purchased program and music format distributor Dial Global for a reported \$260 million. The new Cumulus Radio Networks will operate under the Westwood One name.



To help finance the deal, Cumulus is selling 53 radio stations to Townsquare Media Group for a reported \$238 million. The block of stations includes WPKQ-FM in North Conway, NH, WOKQ-FM in Dover, NH and WSAK-FM in Hampton, NH.



Townsquare, meanwhile, has purchased Peak Broadcasting's 11 stations in Boise, ID and Fresno, CA, and is spinning off the Fresno cluster in exchange for 15 Cumulus stations in the Poughkeepsie, NY and Dubuque, IA markets. The deals are expected to close by the end of the year.

### VOX DIVESTS IN BERKSHIRES

Vox Communications, which owns WEZF-FM and four other stations in the Burlington-Plattsburgh market, is selling the six stations it owns in the Berkshires. Vox subsidiaries Berkshire Broadcasting and Gamma Broadcasting are selling three stations in Pittsfield, two in North Adams and one in Great Barrington to Reed Miami Holdings, LLC, owned by Greg Reed. No purchase price was announced.

September, 2013

### George Cameron 1923 - 2013



Longtime broadcasting executive George Cameron died August 23 at his home in Essex Junction. He was 90.

A native of Rutland, Cameron began his radio career in 1957 as an announcer and salesman at WHWB-AM in Rutland.

In 1965, after serving as GM of WEAV-AM, he became a partner with Simon Goldman in owning and operating WVMT-AM in Colchester. George served as GM and Vice-President of the group, which also included WSYB-AM and WRUT-FM in Rutland.

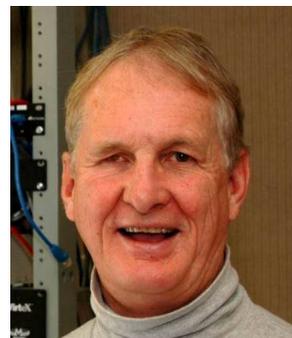
In 1984, he won the NAB's first Crystal Award for community service, and in 1985 was named a Charter Member of the VAB Hall of Fame. He retired in 1989 but continued to serve as a member of many different boards and charitable groups.

Current WVMT owner Paul Goldman says his father's partner was a mentor to him. "He epitomized how a radio station could be massively successful along with serving the public," he said, adding, "There are so many people in radio who got their start with him. He did it right...he did it well."

Cameron is survived by his wife of 65 years, Marion, and five children.

Donations in his memory may be made to the Saint Pius X Building Fund, Center Road, Essex, Vermont or the Holy Family/St. Lawrence Building Fund, 4 Prospect St., Essex Junction, Vermont.

### A. Brooks Brown 1947 - 2013



A. Brooks Brown, the builder, owner and General Manager of alternative rock station WEQX-FM in Manchester, died August 29 in Manchester.

Born in Texas, Brown majored in journalism at the University of Oklahoma and worked at newspapers and radio and TV stations in Oklahoma, Texas and New York before taking a job in ski equipment marketing in Vermont.

He tried to place a radio ad to hire people to unload his van and realized Manchester had no radio station. Thus began a seven-year quest to obtain a license and build a station from scratch. WEQX signed on Nov. 14, 1984 with an alternative rock format that it has maintained for nearly three decades.

A true independent, Brown rejected many offers for WEQX. In 2009, he gave the *Albany Times Union* his typical response to a buyout offer from a big group: "I wouldn't sell to you if you were the last (expletive) station on Earth, because I don't like what you do with the stations you buy."

The station has a loyal local audience and has won national recognition as well, twice winning Station of the Year honors from *Rolling Stone* magazine. Brown was inducted into the VAB Hall of Fame in 2005.

He is survived by his wife, Melinda "Mimi" Brown. Memorial service information was unavailable at press time.

## HURRY! VAB AWARD NOMINATIONS DUE SEPT. 15

The deadline for nominating a person or station for one of the VAB Awards is quickly approaching. Anyone may make a nomination for one of our prestigious awards. Just go to our homepage at [www.vab.org](http://www.vab.org) and make a nomination in any or all of the following categories:

### VAB Hall of Fame

The ultimate honor for Vermont broadcasters, the VAB Hall of Fame honors those men and women who have demonstrated excellence throughout their careers, have enhanced the broadcasting industry and have contributed to the betterment of their communities.

### Broadcaster of the Year

Honors a broadcaster (or station) that has made a significant contribution to their state and to the broadcasting community over the past year.

### Distinguished Service Award

Honors those individuals who have distinguished themselves in their profession over the course of many years. Award is open to all broadcast-related occupations

### Community Service Awards

Honors those individuals or stations that have gone above and beyond the call of duty to make their community a better place to live. One person or station will receive our special Community Service Award, the Alan Noyes Award, in honor of the longtime Executive Director of the VAB.



### THE VAB HALL OF FAME BANQUET

When: Saturday, Dec. 7

Where: Hilton Burlington

## THE VAB HALL OF FAME BANQUET WILL BE HELD SATURDAY, DEC. 7, 2013



Make sure to mark  
your calendar for the  
VAB Hall of Fame  
Banquet!

More details to come.

## ANN CURRAN RETIRES FROM VPT



Ann Curran started out as a temporary employee at Vermont Public Television, and a volunteer at the station's first on-air auction. Little did she know back then that her temporary stint at VPT would last 38 years!

Curran, Communications Director for VPT, retired from the award-winning PBS affiliate on August 30 after nearly four decades on the job.

She has seen many changes over the years, including the expansion of VPT's coverage area and the switch to all-digital television.

In 2009, the VAB presented Curran with its inaugural "Broadcaster of the Year Award." The award recognized the crucial leadership role she played in helping Vermont enjoy one of the smoothest DTV transitions of any state in the nation.

The VAB wishes Ann Curran all the best in her richly-deserved retirement!

## JOIN US FOR A **FREE**

### RADIO LICENSE RENEWAL WEBINAR

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 AT 2:30 P.M.**

The renewal period for all commercial radio stations in Vermont is quickly approaching. To help you navigate the complexities of the license renewal process, the Vermont Association of Broadcasters in conjunction with the Maine Association of Broadcasters is pleased to present a FREE webinar with attorney David Oxenford on Tuesday, September 10 from 2:30 - 4:00 P.M.



David Oxenford  
Partner, Wilkinson Barker  
Knauer LLP

Go to our homepage at [www.vab.org](http://www.vab.org) to register for the webinar today - space is limited!