

Vermont Association of Broadcasters

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TURNAU TO LEAVE VPR IN 2018



Photo by Daria Bishop

Robin Turnau, President and CEO of Vermont Public Radio has announced she will leave the station group next March.

Turnau started her career at VPR in 1989, working as a volunteer and membership coordinator. She later served as capital campaign coordinator and vice president for development before being named to her current position in 2009.

She is only the third president for VPR, following Ray Dilley and Mark Vogelzang. Vogelzang is now President and CEO of Maine Public Radio.

“Reaching this decision has been very difficult for me,” Turnau said in a statement. “I care deeply about VPR and it has been an integral part of my life for the past 28 years. Every one of those years has been incredibly rewarding and waking up and coming to work each day continues to be a joy. I’ve been working at VPR for more than half my life and I realized it was time for a new challenge. While I don’t have plans at this time, I look forward to taking some time to assess what my next professional endeavor will be.”

FCC APPROVES NEW VERMONT EAS PLAN

On August 21, the Federal Communications Commission approved the updated Vermont EAS Plan. The letter of approval can be [read here](#). The State EAS Plan is available to download by [clicking here](#). It’s mandatory for broadcasters to keep a copy of the state plan near their EAS receivers.



All operators should be made aware of the document’s location.

The VAB would like to thank Vermont Emergency Management and Homeland Security Operations Chief Jason Gosselin for his efforts to get the plan updated after many long years. Thanks, too, to all the volunteers on the State Emergency Communications Committee for their hard work on this project. Thank you!

NATIONWIDE EAS TEST SET FOR SEPT. 27



The FCC and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have

announced that this year’s National Test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) will be held at 2:20 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, September 27. If conditions are not conducive the test will be delayed until the following Wednesday, October 4.

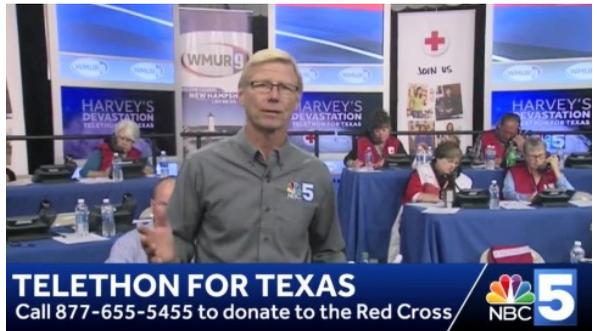
All radio, TV and cable outlets are required to air the test simultaneously and then use the FCC’s Electronic Test Reporting System (ETRS) to report the results. Many broadcasters recall the frustrations with registering at ETRS last year. Stations were required to update their ETRS Form 1 by August 28. By midnight on test night stations must submit data on Form 2. A final submission, Form 3, is due on November 13.

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD TO RESUME VAB PARTNERSHIP

The VAB is happy to announce that the Army National Guard will resume their participation in the VAB’s NCSA program on radio and television. The start date is tentatively set for November 1. More details to come within the next few weeks. The Army Guard will join Vermont’s Department for Children and Families as valued NCSA partners. You can learn more about how the NCSA program works by [clicking here](#).

BROADCASTERS HELP HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF EFFORT

Hats off to all the local radio and TV broadcasters in or region who have been helping to raise money and supplies to aid the effort to provide relief to the Gulf Coast communities devastated by Hurricane Harvey. Besides providing information and conducting interviews on how to help, some stations got directly involved in fundraising. WPTZ News 5, for instance, partnered with sister station WMUR in Manchester, New Hampshire to produce a "Telethon for Texas." The daylong effort raised more than \$338,000 for the American Red Cross!



Hall of Fame Awards Banquet Saturday, December 2nd Hilton-Burlington

If you know anyone in or outside your organization who deserves to be honored with one of the following awards, please make your nomination by 9/15/17 at VAB.ORG

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

Community Service Award:

Honors 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 the Alan Noyes Award in honor of longtime VAB Executive Director.

Snyder-Teffner Award:

Named in honor of longtime engineers Dennis Snyder and the late Ted Teffner, the Snyder-Teffner Award honors and individual who has demonstrated a career of excellence "behind the scenes".

Nominations Due Friday, September 15th www.VAB.org

[Click here to make nominations](#) for the 2017 VAB Hall of Fame Awards Banquet. This year's banquet will be held Saturday evening, December 2 at the Hilton Burlington. Nominations are being sought for the VAB Hall of Fame, Broadcaster of the Year, Community Service Awards, Distinguished Service Awards and the Snyder-Teffner Award for excellence behind the scenes.

To see a list of our previous winners, [click here](#).

1100 FILE FM TRANSLATOR APPS

It will be a busy few weeks at the FCC as they sort through the nearly 1100 applications filed by AM stations seeking to construct FM translators.

The latest filing window opened July 26 and closed August 2.

In Vermont, five AM stations applied for translators in the latest filing window. WIKE Newport filed for a translator at 103.1; WKVT-AM in Brattleboro applied for 106.9; WRSA St. Albans filed for 100.3; WSTJ in St. Johnsbury applied for a translator at 104.1; and WTWN in Wells River filed for a translator at 105.1.

In New Hampshire, stations applying for translators include WKDR Berlin for 92.5; WMOU Berlin for 107.9; WXEX Exeter for 107.5; WTSV Claremont for 94.3, WTSL Hanover for 97.5; WZBK Keene filed for 102.3; WEZS Laconia applied for 103.3; WLTN Littleton filed for a translator at 107.5; WBNC North Conway applied for 105.3; and WPNH Plymouth filed for 92.9.

Thanks to Scott Fybush of [Northeast Radio Watch](#) for aggregating the translator application information. He reports it should be only a few weeks before the FCC starts taking long-form applications that will generate construction permits.