



VAB Remembers Hall of Famer Mike Donovan



The VAB is sad to learn of the passing of VAB Hall of Fame member, Mike Donovan.

Mike began his career in broadcasting at WCCM-AM in Lawrence, MA. In 1966, he followed Al Noyes to WSNO-AM in Barre and was there nearly 50 years.

Throughout his career, Mike has worked as a Program Director, an Account Executive and a Sales Manager and made the transitions seamless. Before he retired in March of this year, he was selling for VOX AM/FM in Colchester. Ken Barlow says, "Mike was the consummate radio person. He was a rare breed----an excellent salesperson who had a thorough understanding and respect for programming. He was someone that everyone liked to see walk through the door. His community roots were deep and he was a wonderful family man. Our Vermont radio community lost one of it's best."

Mike passed away Tuesday, July 28th. The VAB offers our sincere condolences to his wife, Olive, and all his family, friends and colleagues. The VAB will share any details about a memorial service as soon as they become available.

VAB Remembers WCAX VP Andy Luchini



A longtime member of the Channel 3 family, Andy Luchini, passed away Tuesday, July 28th at the age of 86.

Luchini was born and raised in Burlington. He started at WCAX in 1956 as a part-time projection operator. He went on to become the station's production manager - overseeing the newscast directors and technical crew, who are the ones in the control room and the studio who make the show come to life every day.

After 40 years with WCAX, Luchini retired as a Vice President in 1997.

The VAB offers our sincere condolences to Andy's family, friends and colleagues.

VAB Remembers Morning Show Co-Host Hobbes

Hobbes Zeman, the tiny, lovable brown dachshund who made radio history as the nation's first canine morning radio show host in 2009, sadly passed away Tuesday morning at the age of 13.



Hobbes rose from terrible circumstances to become a fixture on Vermont Radio. Abused, and severely beaten by his first "humans," Hobbes was rescued by WVTM Morning Show host Bruce Zeman, and his wife, Tami. As Bruce continued to talk about his new pup, the dog became more and more popular, and eventually, a dog star was born. In 2009, he made his debut on WVTM, as the co-host of "The Wake Up Crew with Bruce & Hobbes," a role he would relish for his entire life.

During his distinguished career, Hobbes visited hundreds of schools across the country along with his dad, promoting anti-bullying efforts while teaching empathy and kindness to young and old alike. His book, "Hobbes Goes Home" was recognized by President Barack Obama, after the 44th president sent a letter to the Zeman's, acknowledging how important their work was. Hobbes received significant accolades in Vermont as well, being recognized by the Vermont Legislature twice (2010 & 2014) for his work on behalf of kids and animals, becoming the ONLY canine in state history allowed on the floor to receive those awards. Hobbes continued to make firsts throughout his radio career, becoming the ONLY dog in Vermont history to become a Police K9 in three cities and four departments (Middlebury, Bristol, Vergennes and a Deputy Sheriff with the Addison County Sheriff's Department.) He was also the official "Fire Dog" of the New Haven Volunteer Fire Department. One of Hobbes proudest accomplishments was being awarded the Alan Noyes Community Service Award by the VAB in 2012.

Prior to his passing, Hobbes was given a full police escort, around Addison County, to various police departments and businesses so people could say goodbye, with hundreds of people lining the streets to pay their respects. [CLICK HERE](#) to read the full story about Hobbes.

The VAB offers our sincere condolences to Bruce, Tami, everyone at WVTM and VOX AM/FM and all of Hobbes' pals, both human and canine.

Amy McGovern Memorial Motorcycle Ride 8/1



Saturday, August 1st, there will be a Memorial Motorcycle Ride to celebrate the life of Amy McGovern.

"Amy's Thunder Ride" will begin and end at Truth Performance, 183 Colchester Road (Route 2A) in Essex Junction. Line-up beginning after 2:30pm ... Kick stands up at 3pm.

After the ride, colleagues, friends and family will meet back at Truth Performance to honor Amy's life.

The approximate 30-mile ride will go through Essex, Colchester and Milton and take about one hour. There is no cost to participate in the ride, but there will be a donation jar going around for Amy's father during the event.

Over-The-Air TV Interruption Saturday 8/1



Saturday, August 1st, all four commercial over-the-air TV stations serving VT, Upstate NY and Western NH will be shut down during the morning hours. The stations will be going "off-air" for major repairs, which include replacing all four of the station's primary broadcast antennas.

Viewers who receive their television signals over-the-air will not be able to get a signal while the stations are powered down for repairs. All other viewers will continue to be able to watch normally via their cable or satellite service.

Over-the-air viewers will be able to watch their favorite programming on Saturday afternoon and all four stations will be back on the air at full power output starting Saturday evening.

Over-the-air viewers who have not been able to receive WFFF-TV 44 and/or WVNY-TV 22 since early July should be able to once again receive those stations after rescanning for TV signals Saturday night. For information on how to rescan your television receiver, go to www.mychamplainvalley.com.

Saturday morning, watch the WFFF/WVNY antenna be lifted by helicopter onto the broadcast tower. The helicopter lift and antenna placement will be livestreamed on www.mychamplainvalley.com and on the Local 22 & Local 44 Facebook page.

Broadcasters COVID-19 Resource Pages



Sales
Resources



News Dept.
Resources



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