

# PEG In a Nutshell, 1 of 3

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 1/4/2013

Thought I'd start the year with a look back – way back – to the beginnings of local community TV. In the late sixties and early seventies, public-access television began as a slowly building movement to realize the social potential of cable TV.

In 1970 Bob & Janeen Burrel launched Stoughton, Wisconsin's WSTO TV as one of the first experimental public access cable channels. It continues in operation to this day. At that same time, Fred Friendly, head of New York City's Cable TV and Communications Commission, championed the idea of an access channel for free public use. This idea established the legal beginnings of PEG studios.

Documentary filmmakers George Stoney, and Red Burns, along with Sidney Dean, further refined the legal theories and practical need for public-access television, and worked to include public-access TV requirements in the franchise agreement between New York City government and its cable provider.

Cable providers need access to public rights-of-way in order to make money. The municipalities may set terms for granting these rights. Thus, the legal basis for local municipalities to mandate cable companies to fulfill prescribed community service requirements was established.

PEG TV studios and channels as we know them today were further defined and codified under FCC regulations and Congressional federal laws in 1984.

The basic arrangements to support local access today are:

Your cable service provider needs public right-of-way permissions (easements) from the town to bring a physical communications cable to your home or business. The local government can set terms and conditions when granting right-of-way.

Among these terms: A small local access fee is added to your cable bill. It defrays any costs incurred by the municipality in granting access rights. It also provides funding to support local access channels and free video production facilities for public use. These facilities also provide technical support for recording and cablecasting local government meetings under the open meeting laws.

Next week: Competition brings change.

And, thanks for watching!



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# PEG In a Nutshell, 2 of 3

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 1/11/2013

For several decades, local cable service contracts were awarded by each town to a single carrier. The cost of installing the cables and infrastructure was deemed too great to support more than one provider. Thus, each cable company enjoyed what was by practical measure a monopoly, carved out zipcode by zipcode. The towns provided right-of-way access, and cable companies provided local access studios and technical support. Later, through changes in Federal law, phone companies were granted the right to compete with cable TV companies (they already had their own cables and infrastructure in place). Likewise, cable TV providers could offer phone services. Local monopolies slowly gave way to local competition.

However, duplicating the local access studios made no sense. Thus, the legacy cable carrier (often Comcast) simply agreed to connect the existing local access channels to the new competitor (often Verizon). The competitor contributed to the cost of operating the local access studios. At first, this cost sharing seemed reasonable. However, the full burden of operating local studios requires more than money. It also requires "Management Attention Units", or MAUs. These can be costly yet difficult to quantify. Management Attention Units are labor costs that don't contribute directly to profit, and are deemed a business distraction.

As Verizon entered new cities and towns, Comcast requested a reasonable parity. Comcast would donate their existing access studios to local governments. Both Comcast and Verizon would provide ongoing funds and channels to support local access services, but the management burden now fell to the local governments.

Like other cities and towns in recent years, (Milford, Easton, Stoughton) Franklin acquired the Comcast access studios in 2009. Franklin's long-established volunteer Cable Committee oversaw the studio's operation on an interim basis until a permanent plan could be put in place. In 2012, The Cable Committee incorporated as Franklin Community Cable Access, Inc. (FCCA), an independent nonprofit organization to manage the Franklin Access Studios and make plans for future development. As we at Franklin TV set out on 2013 we would like to thank the Cable Committee and those who volunteered their time, energies and best efforts to make all that we are about to do possible. Their good works have prepared Franklin local access TV for ongoing success in serving our community and viewers long into the future.

Next week: More technology brings more change.

And, thanks for watching!

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# PEG In a Nutshell, 3 of 3

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 1/18/2013

Public access TV was first formed to solve problems of scarcity. Video equipment was costly and scarce. Training in the use of complex video equipment was scarce. Channels – or any means of program distribution – were also scarce. Public access studios sought to address this scarcity and put the means for making and showing personal TV programs directly in the hands of the average, interested citizen.

When public access television began in the early eighties, it was a pretty big deal.

Today's digital technology and connectivity make it possible for viral videos to just happen; some, quite by accident. We all have ready access – to video cameras and editing software – to free worldwide, on-demand video program distribution via YouTube, Vimeo, Blip and several other video streaming sites.

Access today? No big deal.

What of public access cable TV then? How do local studios remain relevant?

Producing meaningful TV programming still requires an understanding of story and art, along with craft skill and labor. Producing better television is easier with the help and collaboration of others. Access studios offer a place designed for groups to collaborate on video projects; a place that supports all aspects of video preparation, shooting and editing. Local community channels can also promote their (your) programming. They can help get the word out to find an audience.

The benefits and support that local access studios still offer is not just high-tech. It's high touch. It's people collaborating in common cause as they learn more about making media worth watching. It's about providing the place and the means to enjoy sharing and exploring creative ideas and possibilities.

Bring people together in the right place, and possibilities can become realities.

It's also about participation. Yours. Join us.

Next week: A glimpse into the future.

And, thanks for watching!

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# PEG In a Nutshell, 4 of 3

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 1/25/2013

You read that right. This is part 4 of 3 because this is the future of public access.

**Disclaimer:** When it comes to predictions, everyone's crystal ball has cracks. Trying to anticipate our future is imprecise at best. But, try we must, for the future is where we are all headed.

For access studios, part of our future is based on government mandate. We fulfill the obligations of open meeting laws by covering government meetings. Part of our future is prescribed for a set time (often ten year periods) in contractual agreements between local governments and cable service providers.



Our future via these agreements between municipalities and carriers is also affected by shifting technology and with that, the shifting habits of viewers as cable subscribers and internet surfers. It's about paradigm shift. Shift happens. In actuality, it's more akin to a paradigm drift over time, and many of us spot this slow change only in retrospect after wider adoption. When did you first watch a video over the internet? Who knows? Today it's commonplace.

Cord-cutters are viewers who quit cable altogether. They watch TV over-the-air or over-the-internet. As we move to offer more local PEG programs over-the-net as streaming HD video we will lose a bit of our funding with each snip of the cable.

Meanwhile, the cable service providers are reluctant to open up HD channels for local public access. This is another barrier that will prompt local access programs to move to the internet. The rising use of mobile devices is also a future factor. More people are video and information snacking on-the-go. How do local access studios afford to support these expanded, non-cable program services?

The future will likely see some contentious negotiations between carriers and municipalities as towns seek HD channels for local access use, along with internet and mobile video supported PEG access fees. The courts struck down internet based funding in the nineties since no one watched video that way back then. However, the times, (and technologies) they are a-changing. The time has come for revisiting this funding matter as a viable avenue that keeps local access TV programming alive and vibrant - well into the future.

And, thanks for watching!

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# Bob Dean

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 2/1/2013

I have never met Bob Dean in person. My loss. I don't even know what he looks like. By all accounts, everyone held him in high regard as a professional and as a person. I know him indirectly in other ways.

I was hired more or less to pick up where Bob left off. Bob suffered a stroke last spring. He is on a long journey of rehabilitation, and all wish him Godspeed.

I meet glimmers of him in brief moments when I mention his name. When I mention past Franklin cable committee business Bob's name comes up. I see the glimmer - a momentary facial reaction - always positive. The most prevalent observations that follow - jovial, upbeat, commanding. I hear these uttered with warmth and respect. Clearly, those who worked with Bob enjoyed a strong, dedicated presence.

I meet him through his craft. When I slip behind some equipment rack in a control room and survey all the wires, I see a thought process. Everything about the place; how the technical gear is laid out; how it's wired together - it all tells a story about the depth of creativity and problem-solving skills of the person who did the work. Bob accomplished a lot, building capable facilities on little means.

I meet him through his writing. Recently, in my efforts to rebuild some corporate memory, I received Bob's computer files. I spent last weekend eyeballs deep in the history of the Cable Committee that preceded and formed Franklin TV. As I read through all the correspondence, I see efficient thinking and logical planning. I also see bits of humanity in thoughtful turns of phrase that offer just a bit more than merely getting a message across.

Have I met Bob? No! Do I know him? It is said that we are known by our works. In that sense, I cautiously venture a "yes". Do I owe him? Absolutely. We all do.

One thing is abundantly clear. The big guy cared very deeply about this place - this little access TV studio - and about Franklin. He lived it and loved it.

I have inherited the house that Bob built. In so many ways I have his huge shoes to fill. So whenever you see someone clumsily flip-flopping about the town in these overly massive shoes - it's just me struggling to do right by Bob's legacy.

Thanks, Bob. You rocked the house. May you rock on.

And, thanks for watching!

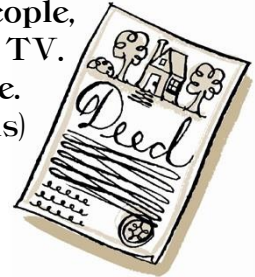
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# At Last, The Deed is Done

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 2/8/2013

January 14<sup>th</sup> came. January 14<sup>th</sup> went. Just another date to most people, but it was anticipated to be a very momentous day for us at Franklin TV. We were going to close the sale on a property for our new studio-to-be. Deed in hand; the sellers were ready and happy to sell. The buyers (us) were quite ready and happy to buy.



Didn't happen. (Oops!)

Someone made a small clerical error in the paperwork – two transactions earlier. A typo! A simple scribe's lapse. Someone we will never know got the numbers wrong when recording the deed. That tiny mistaken entry surfaced during a standard title search. We could not move forward until the error was corrected. No doubt, it was as frustrating for sellers Reddy and Pria Gali as it was for us. That took three long weeks, but finally it was resolved, and the Sun returned.



Our deep appreciation to Eileen Mason at Re/Max Executive Realty. She found the place for us. She helped us figure out how to make it all work. She chased down the closing details. She made it all happen.

If Mark Twain was right, “No good deed goes unpunished”, then Eileen might be in for a rough patch.

With Eileen's insight, experience, and help, the deed is done.

Smiles all around from:

FCCA President, Ken Norman, Eileen Mason, and the sellers, Reddy and Pria Gali.

Object lesson: This is why your elementary school teachers insisted that you always double-check your homework – dot every *i*; cross every *t*; review the capitalization, punctuation, yada-yada.

Lesson learned.

And, thanks for watching!

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# And the Journey Begins

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 2/15/2013



This is where we are today. Not much to look at. Never was. Our present home of these recent years is humble at best. Stuffing a TV studio, live control room, editing systems, racks of distribution equipment and an office into a mere 600-ish feet is an uncomfortably tight fit to say the least.

However, that is about to change. Now that we have our new property at Hutchinson St. we are moving. The new digs aren't ready yet. Won't be for months. But, move we must.

Therefore we are moving the whole of it from our cramped 600-ish square feet and temporarily jamming much of it into 400 square feet. Madness, you say. But, our madness is backed up by good reason. We are setting up temporary operations – our small studio and all – in a trailer parked next to our new building where the construction will be taking place.

There are many special details to getting a TV studio just right. Being on site will allow us to work closely with our builders on soundproofing, lighting, technical installation issues, special air conditioning and cabling, etc.

And thus, our journey toward creating something new and better begins.

Being in a trailer on site might be reminiscent of camping out in the back yard at night as a kid.

We will chalk it up to high adventure.

When our trailer finally leaves, come whenever – I suspect that in some quiet way we will miss it.

And, thanks for watching!



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# Packing It In – Part 1 of ?

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 2/22/2013



In the weeks to come as our studio moves to 23 Hutchinson St. I'll put up some snaps of our progress. How many parts to this series are there? Who knows? Lore has it that you haven't settled into your new place until you finally locate the salt and pepper shakers. It'll be a while.

The old place is becoming a little less familiar. As we shut down all our computers and production gear, it's becoming a bit more sullen. We're surrounded by packing boxes, yet the rooms are oddly emptier. We are in those boxes. The place knows we're leaving.

The week has been busy with emptying shelves, rummaging and sorting through old boxes and filling new ones.

Moving phrases that we've all said/heard:

What *is* all this old stuff?  
We still have one of *these*? *Why*?

Can't lose that special attachment – again.

Who packed the tools already? I need 'em.



And, the chaos of conducting our move goes on.

Most moves are not just about relocating. Moves force us to reorder our lives. That's a deeper chaos than just losing track of odds and ends. But, from this temporary, self-inflicted frustration comes a new order – a fresh sense of direction and purpose.

We leave our spent and unnecessary parts behind.

And, thanks for watching!

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# Packing It In - Part 2 of ?

Our moving experience- we survived the trauma.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 3/1/2013

Nothing moves things along like a deadline.



Wednesday was it: Moving Day!

After being in one place for decades, stuff collects. We got rid of much old stuff, yet still filled the truck. We had stuff in every cranny. Finally, the crannies were empty and the truck was jammed.

Off we lumbered. It was only a half-mile. A mere ten minutes later and we're just as feverishly unloading the truck. Systematically (Yes, we did have a system), everything went into our new building or our trailer.



My  
Get

Our

And,



next deadline?  
it all wired and operating  
properly before the  
weekend.

Done. (Whew!)

thanks to Gallo Moving for  
making it all go smoothly.

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# Packing It In - Part 3 of ?

Our moving experience- we survived the switch.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 3/8/2013

Another week; another deadline. Wednesday was it (again): Switch Day!



Switch Day means that our three channels were switched successfully from our old program system at Main St. to our new equipment at Hutchinson St.

The old equipment racks will be dismantled, and most of the distribution gear in them will be retired.

programs into our  
new program



We are completing our new distribution system, even as we send out programs.

Our labor intensive task at hand for this week: transferring and scheduling our library of current new servers. We will have a schedule posted next week.

Although Thursday was a gray and snowy day, we all stayed very comfy in our new temporary home. Who knew that moving into a trailer would be a step up from

where we were? We have windows and light. We have more space. We have ample parking, peace and quiet.



For these little things, we are thankful.

And, thanks for watching!

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# Packing It In - Part 4 of ?

Our moving experience - demolishing - to rebuild.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 3/15/2013

It's starting to feel normal, whatever normal is. Being and working in our new place is taking on that every-day-ness that says this is where we belong. Yes, it's a trailer and the new place is technically next door, but we have found our normal.



We like to think of ourselves as being ensconced in our cozy trailer. Ensconced is Good. It's better than being encamped. In our old place we felt more, um - entombed.

Our channel distribution system already resides in the new building, and there is now a lot of construction surrounding us. We have to isolate our tech gear from the (cough) demolition dust.



While Pam Jones was working on our schedule she experienced a shift from ensconced to enshrouded - as workmen put up a plastic barrier to minimize all the dust around our equipment. We do plan to let her out once the dust settles (literally).

An observation: Nothing generates a deep sense of progress like ripping apart everything around you.



As a metaphor for progress, sometimes a necessary deconstruction must take place for reconstruction, renewal, and the good things that lie ahead. Sometimes a bright future starts out a bit messy.

And, thanks for watching!

# Packing It In - Part 5 of ?

Our moving experience - that empty feeling.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 3/22/2013

Generally speaking, the word *empty* usually conveys some negative connotation. We have spent or used up something of value.



The demolition crew is gone and our new building is now starkly empty. However, the initial reaction from most people is positive, "It's so big".

Emptiness becomes openness.

With everything gone, we have that clean slate before us, and we can begin to see how our future fits into this place, and how this place fits our needs. Yes, it all fits.



These are not pictures of an aftermath. They are the *before* pictures. The hint of what is to come is marked on the floor in green tape. Walls will go up. Rooms will take shape.

The photo at the right is the before picture of one of our new studios. Lovely, no? It will be.

This is the point where we fill in the emptiness with our imagination.

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# Packing It In – Part 6 of 6

Our moving experience – at last, the last hurrah!  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 3/29/2013

While embracing and enjoying trailer life as our new normal, we've been clearing out the old digs. The last of the dead gear and other detritus has been hauled away. Our old studio is empty now, and the illusion of spaciousness has been restored. It's



just about the same size as our trailer, but not so evenly laid out. I'm standing in one corner of what was the studio area. The little 8 by 10 room to the left was the lobby/office/kitchen. The other room was our storage closet and live control room. The open area to the far right was where our programs were edited and prepared for distribution. Not hard to imagine it all in someone's basement.



Moving an ongoing enterprise often raises the question, "How do we keep doing what we do while moving?"

Our old programming system kept running for a week after the initial move while we installed our new gear. The system is retired now. It deserves one last heroic moment in the Sun before being dismantled.

At the outset of our adventure, I noted that no move is complete until you unpack the salt and pepper shakers.



And, thanks for watching Our Community Access



# A Studio Grows in Franklin

Our building experience - Clearing the Lower 40  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 4/5/2013



In the midst of moving, we have also been planning and designing our new building. Now it's time to prepare the grounds. Part of the property is a tiny park. The rest is natural woods in rough condition with invasive vines, deadfall, damaged trees, and piles of junk and trash. Through the winter, we met with Franklin's Conservation Commission to survey the grounds and set some goals for properly managing the growth.

On Wednesday, we began the business of cleaning up the Lower 40 as we like to call it. There was detritus to haul away and mulch; a number of dead and distressed trees to clear away.



Picking trees as if they were daisies is not something you see every day. Machinery with muscle and reach gets it done. Clean and ready for a fresh growing season, our Lower 40 should be more pristine as the new healthy vegetation grows in.



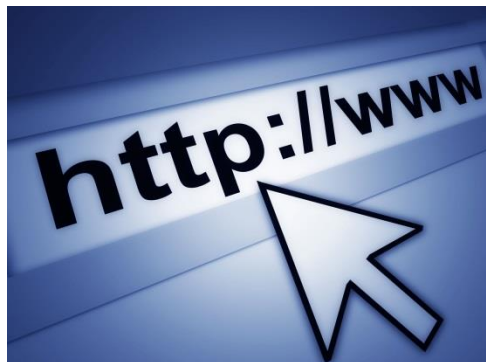
Our goal is to maintain the wooded area in its best natural state. With reasonable stewardship, it will become an attractive backdrop for the rest of the property.

And, thanks Our Community Access

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# What's in a Website?

A website is many things to many people.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 4/12/2013



What's in a website? Information. In the weeks ahead our website will see a few small changes. We will be working on making our web pages a little easier to navigate, and our information, a little easier to find. The updates to our pages won't be all that dramatic; just more direct and (hopefully) more functional.

Folks call us from time to time and ask when certain programs will be on. When they are near a computer, I guide them to our website. I listen as they navigate our pages. That opportunity for real-time feedback provides insight about changes for the better.

We'll make our schedule available right off the top page and elsewhere. We'll also combine our channel listings into one master schedule. We'll be fine-tuning some pages, buttons, icons and widgets here and there as well.

Our goal is straightforward; improve how our information lines up with your expectation - click-by-click. Then - we'll sit back, learn some more, and plan further refinements. In that sense, a website is a living thing that evolves over time and grows for the better.



Thus, our website is part of our ongoing journey of progress.

One last thing - We're taking requests. What would you like to see on our site? Just email us.

[info@franklin.tv](mailto:info@franklin.tv)

And, thanks for watching!

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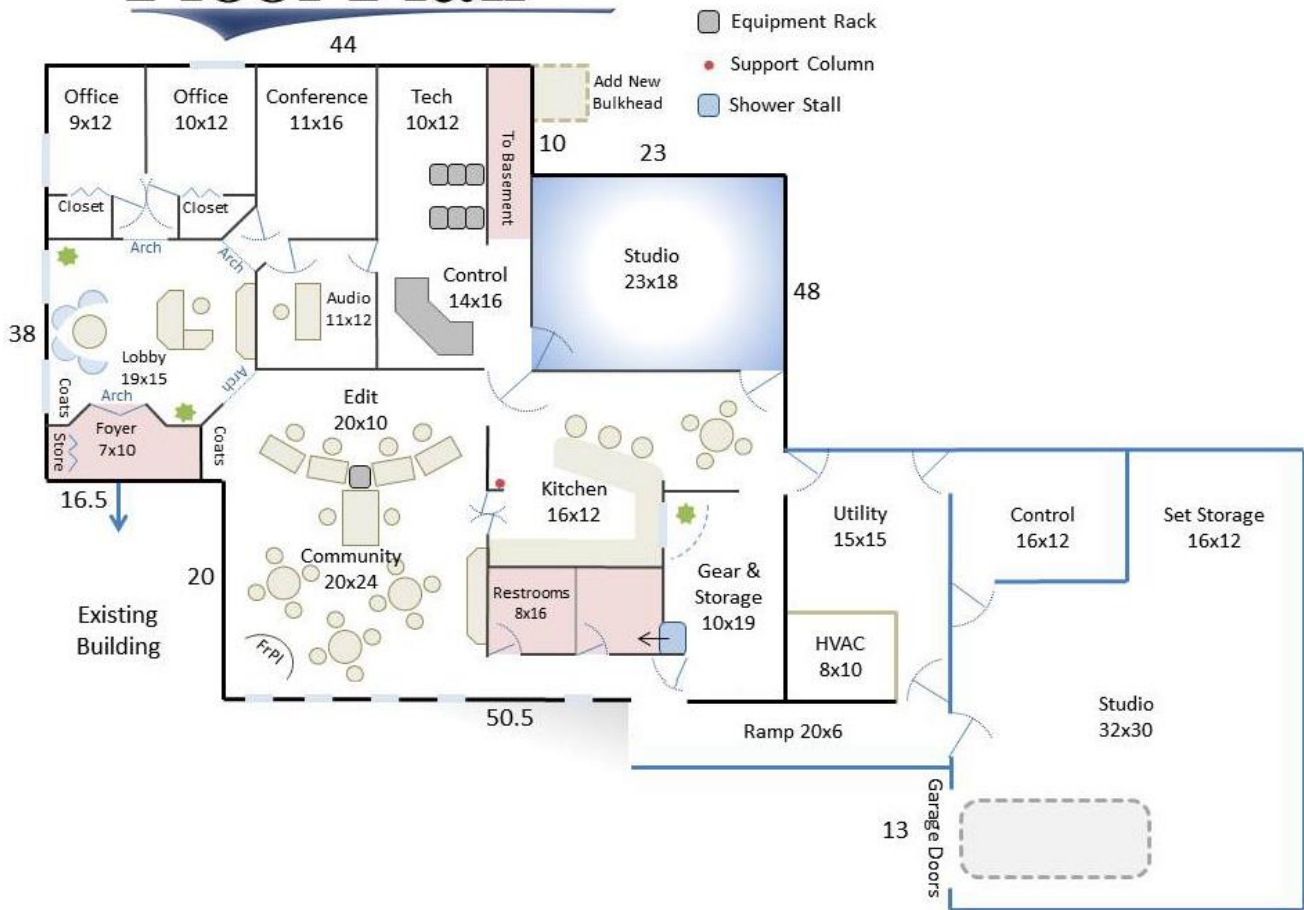
# Architectural Update

Rooms with a view – of a bright future.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 4/19/2013

In our November 30 and December 12, 2012 newsletters, we featured a first peek at what was on the digital drawing board for our new studios. That early vision has been further pondered, obsessed over, and fine-tuned.

Now the plans are in the hands of Dennis Colwell Architects, and it's their turn to obsess and fine-tune as experts.

## Floor Plan



At this point, we are very close to a final plan, and construction will begin in May for completion by late summer. Obsession becomes anticipation.

And, thanks for watching!

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# Matt Ferrara

Yes, we have a new “new guy”.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 4/26/2013

When I signed on as the new guy at Franklin TV I wasn't quite sure how *new guy* expectation works. Is there some obligatory length of time that one must maintain this mantle of new-guy-ness? What's the protocol? In quieter locales where things tend to stay the same, you just might be considered the new guy forever, because – well – you're the new guy.

One thing I've learned about Franklin, it's about getting things done. This is a busy, happening town. If you do your best to solve problems and make things happen, then your *new guy* status vaporizes – quickly – and you fit right in.

This week there's good news – and good news. We now have a brand-new *new guy*. Recently, Matt Ferrara joined our staff as a program Producer/Director. Matt came on when we were squarely in the midst of our recent move.



Here Matt (standing) is preparing to shoot an interview program in our studio with Frank Falvey (right) and his guest.

Matt has ably taken on the tasks-at-hand and taken charge as necessary.

He has hit the ground running, and as he makes his own good things happen for us, I anticipate that he won't be considered the new guy for long.

The other good news? Next week I will have been at Franklin TV for one year, and I realize that all that we've done to date, and all that we will do in the year ahead is lining up to our vision and plan. We are where we hoped to be. We are going where we wish to go. The past year has been all about progress. Progress was the first topic that I wrote about in these very pages nine months ago when I anticipated being the new guy for at least a year. Progress for us has become very real.

The year ahead will be transformative as our many preparations to date take hold. While I'm no longer the new guy I remain every bit as excited as the day I arrived.

And, thanks for watching!



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# It's Been a Year

Looking back - Looking ahead.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 5/3/2013

Here at Franklin TV there's a rare lull in the main action. Our architects are refining our new studio plans. I'm tackling simpler projects such as assembling small TV studios for the middle schools, researching/purchasing field equipment, updating our website pages, etc. We are never at a loss for things to do. Once I check off one project or task from he list, another magically appears.

Lists do that.

So what big items have we crossed off The List?

- Equipment - fix almost everything. Replace the unfixable items.
- Rewire our government studio.
- Rebuild/replace our program playout systems.
- Define and design artworks that say who we are.
- Design and build our website, Franklin.TV.
- Program and launch a music service for our channels.
- Create an art library for our Community Bulletin Board.
- Research and purchase a suitable building for our studio.
- Design our new facility, physical layout, technical requirements.
- Hire and train new staff members.
- Move.

The List is actually a list of lists. Each item on The List has its own longer list.

Lists do that.

When I joined Franklin TV a year ago, the first order of business was just getting things organized, getting our equipment to work more reliably, and improving our program signals. Today, our programs and channels are looking and sounding better. Tomorrow, everything will be better and better still.

Why? Because I still have The List.

Lists do that.

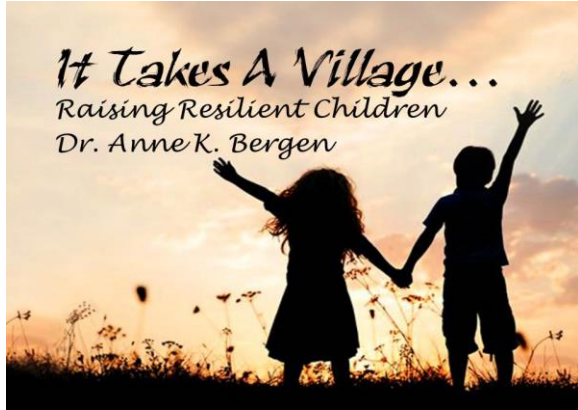
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# Dr. Anne K. Bergen

A Passion for Encouraging Student Passion  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 5/10/2013



Passion is fuel. Passion is fire.

They say that everyone has potential. However, passion is kinetic. Passion converts potential into something we all want; a meaningful, rewarding life.

Passion is abiding and unstoppable.

Indifference is unstartable.

The unappreciated become the indifferent.



As educators and parents, how can we connect with our children and help them to find and pursue their personal passions?

This is Dr. Anne K. Bergen's passion. As an accomplished educator, Anne's focus is on promoting an appreciation for the needs, abilities and interests of the whole child - for every child.



*Raising Resilient Children* - says it all. As the host and producer of *It Takes a Village*, Anne brings her own considered passion to each interview and discussion. In a world of quickened pace and change, resilience is a key life skill, self-esteem is essential, and passion is a thriving force for success.

If no child is to be left behind, then every child deserves appreciation - and passion.

And, thanks to Our Community Access

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# Middle Media Mavens

Instant TV Studio - Just Add Enthusiasm.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 5/17/2013



Dan Chase called. He's the resident I.T. guru (maven?) at Remington Middle School. He had some questions about distributing video to the classrooms. They wanted to do a daily program of announcements. Did we have any old spare video gear?

Middle schoolers have both curiosity and enthusiasm, pursuing whatever interests them. I saw this as a timely opportunity to promote some hands-on media experience.



Modern video equipment has become much easier to operate. What would it take to assemble a simple yet complete TV studio as a kit? I pulled together two systems for the Remington and Sullivan Schools. Each has three camcorders with tripods, three microphones, a video mixer, an audio mixer, a DVD recorder and the cables, connectors and what-not to plug it all together.

The result? Instant TV Studio - just add enthusiasm. The whole kit goes together in less than an hour. Dan then arranged for the enthusiasm. We held a session at our studio to teach our teachers. They set up everything, learning quickly as they went.



We are also forming a Media Teach group to shape a middle school media initiative and help our teachers maintain their new gear - and their enthusiasm.

Our newly minted Media Teach Mavens, L to R: Teachers Christine Gontarz, Mike Procacini and Susan Richards with I.T. gurus Alvaro Etcheverry and Dan Chase.

And, thanks for watching!

# Men, Missions & Memorials

A moment of solemnity, remembrance – and optimism  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 5/26/2013

Memorial Day – the unofficial start of summer – an optimistic perch from which we may gaze across the warmth of the weeks to come. Spring has done its job, and the world is lush and verdant once again. Optimism is in the air. It's all good.

It is altogether fitting at this time of year that we remember those who went *over there*. They packed their optimism, then set out on an uncertain mission, hoping to get the job done and return home safe as soon as the war was over.

Such was their noble, sacred mission. We remember their brave sacrifices. Let us also remember their optimism.



Bob Fahey does. As Franklin's able



and dedicated (and optimistic) Veterans Services Officer, Bob's a man on a mission to make sure that we do right by every veteran. So are the Elks. On May 24<sup>th</sup> folks gathered at the Elks Club to remember. Bob assembled an excellent program of remembrance and solemnity to honor our veterans as they so richly deserve and to underscore why Memorial Day is important – to all of us.

is not look

also look forward beyond toward that bright American freedoms our fought to protect.



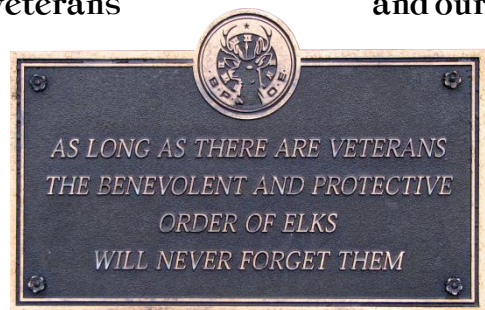
Memorial Day just a time to back and remember. We summer, promise of veterans

Yes, each Memorial Day is a rededication to our veterans men and women who serve today – as well as a celebration of our optimism, national and personal. It's that *can do* attitude that defines veterans of every stripe.

and our

Optimism. It's the stuff that makes us American.

And, thanks for watching!



# March of Progress, 1 of ?

The Beginnings of Franklin TV 2.0 Rebuilding  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 6/02/2013



We are experiencing a brief burst of Christmas in May. The first brand-spankin' new equipment has arrived, and our location videographers are the giddy beneficiaries. What's in the boxes and travel bags? HD camera systems that will allow us to begin covering and producing our programs in high definition.

We are preparing for distribution of our programming in HD over the web, and eventually over cable TV. We will be making programs available on Blu-Ray DVDs as well. In the coming months as we build our studios, more gear will be arriving for editing, live studio and remote operation.



That means many more possibilities for creating programs and yes, more buttons to master as well.

We are up to the task.

Our new field gear is step 1 in creating an all-digital production facility

Here, ken Norman checks the left of our new field cameras (or lack of it because they are so light).

Is this perhaps a budding film-maker?

We shall see.

We shall see.



And, thank you for watching.  
**FranklinTV**

# The Class of 2013

Graduation, and a Commitment to Commencement  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 6/09/2013

The month of June always turns us toward the future. We may look back briefly to reminisce. We consider how far we've come, and then we move ahead. Be it individually or collectively, moving ahead is what we all do. We commence.

Our own Franklin TV FHS Graduation event crew yearbook pix, top down: David Chatterton, Director of our graduation event, and broadly talented freelance videographer - a man of many skills.

Bill Page, (Camera 3) videographer/editor, our Sports Coverage Guru who does whatever it takes to cover as many Franklin games as possible.

Chris Flynn, (Camera 4) Franklin's own as videographer/editor who covers many of Franklin's institutional and educational events all over town.

Pam Jones, (Camera 1) Producer who figures it all out, gets it done, helps everyone else get it done as well.

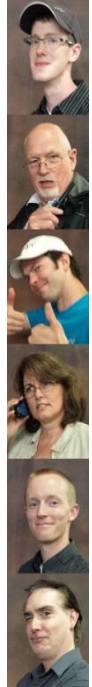
Nick Bailey, (Program audio) Franklin High's Media Teacher and visionary for Franklin's new high school media center (under construction).

Mike Peacock, (House audio) Franklin High's Music and Audio Production Teacher, and producer who brings that extra effort.

Not shown, yours truly as technical overseer, making sure it all comes together as planned, and Matt Ferrara (Camera 2, our New Guy, see our 4/26/2013 story). Matt has become our go-to guy for making day-to-day operations run smoothly.

Last week we got new field gear and tools to do our job. This week we commenced. We began putting our new equipment to work. Like our FHS students, this year's graduation is a form of commencement for us. The future lies before all of us as an empty stage for making all our plans and aspirations possible. We wish this year's graduating class all the best that life's stage has to offer. As you go forward in life, know your lines and play your roles well and fully. Make a personal commitment to your commencement.

And, thanks for watching!



# The Class of 2013

FHS Graduation is available as a DVD  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 6/16/2013

Several folks asked us at the FHS graduation if we would offer DVDs of the event.

Yes, we have DVDs of Franklin High School Graduation 2013 as well as many other favorite Franklin school events and TV programs.

From our website:



You watched it. You loved it. Now own it.

Most of our locally produced programs are available for purchase.  
Just email [info@franklin.tv](mailto:info@franklin.tv) or call us at 508-541-4118 to place an order.

The cost is \$20 for the first DVD copy and \$10 for additional copies.  
Proceeds from DVD sales do help to defray our operating costs. Thanks.

New DVD news:

In the Fall we plan to offer many of our programs on High Definition Blu-Ray DVDs as an option for those who have Blu-Ray DVD players and wish to purchase HD DVDs.

Your cable provider does not carry our programming in high definition. However, we are producing many of our programs in HDTV.

And, thanks for watching!

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# In the Fullness of Time

There are TV programs that span many months  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 6/23/2013



At Franklin TV we try to cover as many local events as we can with our limited resources. Most events last an hour or so, and covering these is fairly routine. There are some Franklin stories that are larger and longer than any specific event. These stories may take weeks or years to play out. The construction of the new high school is one of a number of stories that we are following as they unfold, chapter by chapter over time.

On Thursday morning we recorded the new high school building's *topping off* ceremony. Our pictures illustrate the ceremonial placement of the final piece of steel (autographed by many students and faculty) atop the structure.

Sometimes covering a story is a patient game, and good things can happen along the way - things that you didn't plan for. Principal Peter Light's excellent speech at graduation on FHS, past and future is another notable chapter in this story. He framed a poignant truth that comes with change where legacy and progress reach across a generation of memories. He reminded us that we are all from a place defined more by tradition than by a physical building. He was spot on.

All that good stuff we remember in the old place? Celebrate it in the new place.

More on our FHS story - in 2014...

**And, thanks for watching!**

Photos by Matt Ferrara  
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# Planning – For Success

There's no such thing as too much planning.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 6/30/2013



After many months of planning and more planning, we shift from architects toward contractors as we go through the bidding process to construct our new studios. That means more questions from builders and a lot more — planning.

So, I thought including a generic picture of a builder would be nice. In these pictures, the generic people usually hold some very important generic plans and they point.

Pointing is good, (except when teachers, parents or police are pointing at you). We see pointing as affirmative. What are they pointing at? I like to think that they are pointing toward that bright exciting future, assured by thoughtful planning. (Did that last sentence come off just a bit over the top? I planned that.) Once we start construction, every aspect of our studio design will have been planned to the smallest detail.

Here are a few of my favorite oft uttered quotes on planning:

“A goal without a plan is just a wish.”— [Antoine de Saint-Exupéry](#)

“Without leaps of imagination or dreaming, we lose the excitement of possibilities. Dreaming, after all is a form of planning.”— [Gloria Steinem](#)

“If you don't know where you're going, you'll end up someplace else.”— [Yogi Berra](#)

“By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail.”— [Benjamin Franklin](#)

Planning helps us avoid going from ‘too early to tell’ directly to ‘too late to fix’.  
— [Author unknown](#)

And finally, my favorite, (because I wrote it):

Time spent planning is not deducted from your life span.

In fact, you gain an extra bonus hour at the end for every hour you plan.

So, plan — to live forever.

And, thanks for watching!

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# It's The Forthajooleye!

A big, big holiday through the eyes of the small  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 7/7/2013



With all its sparkle and festivity, our Independence Day makes a big impression on teeny tots and toddlers who are just getting the hang of sentences. They take it all in as a huge bedazzling celebration of pyrotechnics and parades. It's a big party that their parents and grandparents call The Fourth of July.

"Forthajooleye!"

They parrot back the string of syllables, "Forthajooleye! Forthajooleye! Yaay!!"

In the fullness of time, they grow to understand why we celebrate, "Forthajooleye". They learn another important four-syllable word: Independence.

Yes, the Fourth is a biggie in our national psyche. As it should be. It is that annual affirmation of who we are as a nation and what we stand for as a people. It is that day when our youngest citizens get a wondrous introduction to our celebration of freedom in this special place we call home.

Forthajooleye is our patriotic tradition that spans and binds generations.

There are few places that celebrate the Fourth as well and fully as Franklin. At Franklin TV, we are covering all the big events and festivities of the Fourth that the town has in store. We'll be extending the Fourth by bringing you these events throughout the summer. A holiday as big and boisterous as our national birthday deserves big play. We're happy to oblige.

So, celebrate our independence - our freedom.  
Celebrate with the very young. (It's more fun.)  
Celebrate, because we want to.  
Celebrate, because we can.

Happy Forthajooleye!

And, thanks for watching!



# Doorways to the Future

They don't look like much now, but just wait.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 7/14/2013



You would think that a *Doorway to the Future* would be something a bit more grand. In time it will be. As we continue construction for our new studio, we are at the stage where we are considering the many design details.

What should the main entrance to our studio building, The Franklin Media Arts Center look like? What is an appropriate, "good first impression"?

I would like it to be an entrance that says,

"Welcome - to your future."

It need not be ostentatious; just warm and inviting.

Our other day-to-day doorways face each other. Life in our construction trailer is comfortable enough and will continue on through the end of the year. We meander back and forth between the building and the trailer as we set about our daily tasks. It has become routine.

None of these look like doorways to your future, but they could be.

Why would you want to pass through them?

If you have a bit of free time to volunteer; if you are looking to be a part of something new; if you are interested in developing new skills and an understanding of video production and artistic expression, then you have come to the right place.

We're not much to look at right now, but after years of planning and preparation, our own future in Franklin's Media Arts Center is not that far off.

If you are at all curious about the future - yours or ours, stop by. Just bang on the trailer door.

And, thanks for watching!



# Details, Details, Details

A well designed access studio is many things.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 7/21/2013



During our search for an appropriate facility for our Franklin TV studios we also visited several other communities.

We continue to make the rounds, noting how access studios serve their towns and what ideas work particularly well.

Some studios had a very warm, inviting atmosphere. Check.

Some had spacious community rooms and conference facilities. Check.

Some had expanse studios with ample clearance for lights. Check.

Some had fully functional kitchens for producing cooking shows. Check.

Some had very organized and carefully installed technology. Check.

All had one thing in common: Someone who was willing to help us by sharing his/her insights and vision. There are several communities that are building new facilities. Some have gone before us. Others will follow.

To those who were gracious with their time and insights, we offer our thanks.

To those who have yet to embark on their own mighty trek into the future, we're happy to offer our full support.



**And, thanks for watching!**

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# March of Progress, 2 of ?

Continued from our June 2<sup>nd</sup> Issue.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 7/28/2013



We've been out and about with our new HD cameras for some weeks now, and the image quality is impressive. There were very few snags along the way as our staff easily adapted to production life without videotape. Even seasoned videogeeks like us still marvel at the novelty of recording hours and hours of high definition video on a memory card roughly the size of a quarter.

This week we extended this digital HD magic to our new video editing systems. They first arrive looking like any other computer. Fire them up and - Bli-n-n-g! The familiar Windows desktop screen.



We start installing software. Lots of it: Necessary utilities, services, browsers, system updates, etc. Then we install the magic - Adobe Creative Suite 6.0.

Next, we add a keyboard designed for video editors. It provides many editing shortcuts and defines the computer as a system with a unique purpose. The computer is no longer just a computer. It's a dedicated video editing system.



Over the next day or so we organize our storage systems and get files connected across our network. We work out a few early kinks and we are good to go.

Our programs are now in (echo for drama) High high high Defi defi defi nition nition nition. (Awesome!) Perhaps someday Comcast and Verizon will let you watch them in HD. For now, you can buy our programs in high definition on BluRay DVDs.

And, thanks for watching!

Photos by Matt Ferrara  
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# A Banner Week

Our Proclamation of Sovereignty.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 8/4/2013



When folks stop by to they have trouble

When I joined FCCA 15 months ago one of the first tasks I tackled was generating all of our identifying artwork - for our posters, stationary, banners and the like. I hung one banner outside of our entrance and another in our cramped lobby/office area. A large banner declared who we were and made us real.



When we relocated to 23 Hutchinson St. we settled into our new normal. We're fixing up the building while we operate from the studio in our trailer.

visit, some mention that finding us. - Oops! Time to put up the banner for all to see. Time to fly our Franklin.TV flag - and perhaps declare our sole, supreme sovereignty over the building and parking lot. Putting up a sign does feel a bit like marking territory - planting a conqueror's flag.



The big banner declaring who we were made us real -

again, and reinforced our sense that this is our home. A tiny task; a small celebration; a big banner week.

And, thanks for watching!

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# We're Going Bowling!

Who doesn't like bowling?

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 8/11/2013

Yes, we're going bowling this fall on Franklin TV. Starting this September, bowlers from Franklin and nearby towns will be racking up strikes and spares at Ficco's Bowladrome, and we're covering all the candlepin-crushing action.

Here's how it works: Ficco's is holding a qualifying roll-off on the Seventeenth of August.

The top sixteen high-scoring participants will move on to our TV tournament.



300 East Central Street • Franklin, MA 02038 508-528-1142

On August twenty-fourth we will conduct our TV tournament in five one-hour TV programs. Each program starts with four contestants. Two contestants will compete in string one. Two compete in our second string. The winners of these first two games compete in string three. The program winner moves on to our finals as one of four contestants in program five of our series tournament.

That's it!



If you've got game, contact Ficco's and participate in the qualifying roll-off. If you're one of the high scorers, you will move on to our Franklin TV tournament where you could win prizes and bragging rights.

At Franklin TV we're excited about this series. It's an opportunity to bring you entertaining local TV that involves the whole community.

It's a fun event that's open to participation by everyone. Even if you don't bowl, join us at Ficco's on August twenty-fourth and watch the games.

So, tune in this fall as we roll out our new bowling series from Ficco's Bowladrome. It's great local TV! It's bowling! (Everyone likes bowling.)

It's how we roll.

And, thanks for watching!

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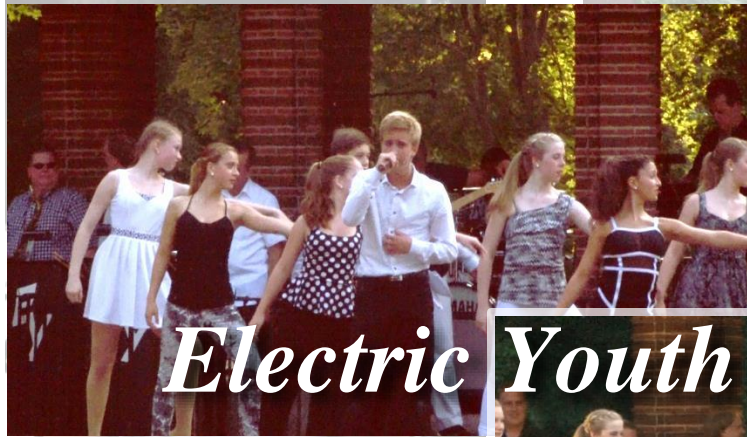
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# Our Summer Concerts!

A Season of Sultry Summer Sunsets and Sweet Song.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 8/18/2013

Another summer of concert music



*Electric Youth*



*Frank Padula*



and merriment has come to a close.

We recorded a season of Wednesday evening Concerts on the Common from our very talented local performers: The Roy Scott Swing Band, Electric Youth, The Sharon Band, Frank Padula, Ayla Brown, and Fab4Ever.

They all brought Wednesday evenings to life. Enjoy them again. Visit their websites. Buy their music. Follow (and like) them on Facebook, and let summer linger a little longer by watching all of them on Franklin TV's Concerts on the Common series now through early fall.

And, thanks for watching!

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# Bocce at the Senior Center

A nod to part of Franklin's heritage.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 8/25/2013



Bocce is an easy, accessible sport that anyone can play. It brings good friends together in friendly competition. Franklin's Italian community goes back a fair way in its history. They brought Bocce with them to this country. Growing up, I remember seeing Bocce courts nestled among the grape vines in a few back yards. You can play it just about anywhere you have a flat open space that's about the size of a driveway.

You just roll a candlepin sized ball toward a smaller ball. Accuracy and finesse are more important than speed or power. Some positioning strategy also comes into play.



What's not to like? So, off we went to see and learn. With some able play-by-play coverage provided by our volunteer, Nick Remissong and his "color man" Jack, we were off to the Senior Center to record a game. A simple experiment. That morning we covered two games, and we could have easily recorded four. Our players brought some fun and a little flair as we learned the subtle details of the game.

Check our balls your way worth playing.



And, thanks for watching!

We will do more.

schedule. We'll be rolling the Bocce soon. It's worth looking at. It's also

# Our First Bowling Tournament

The Games Are in the Record Books  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 9/1/2013



Well, we did it. We conducted our first TV Tournament at Ficco's Bowladrome. All of our Hockomock Candlepins Tournament play was covered by our very able hosts, Jay Horrigan and bowling guru, Ed Dunn.

We came away with five action-packed shows to determine our four finalists, who then rolled to become the ultimate winner. Who won? Watch us this fall and find out.

We're already planning for our next Tournament Series at Ficco's. It will be scheduled in mid-November. You could be a part of it. If you bowl, you have a chance to win. If you would just like to watch, come and see how our bowlers do as they compete for prizes and bragging rights.

Join us!

Watch!

Check our weekly schedule for show dates and times. Our first of five shows will start running in two weeks. All five programs are slated to run over ten weeks, with our final tournament winner revealed in late November.

Want to know more? Just call Ficco's, 508-528-1142 or stop by. Learn how you can roll and win.

See you at Ficco's?

And, thanks for

Photos: Ken Norman  
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Our Community Access  
**FranklinTV**

# Our Annual Members Meeting

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 9/8/2012

We have a big event coming up and you're invited. Our annual open member meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM at the Senior Center. This meeting is open to all Franklin TV members. If you would like to become a Franklin TV member, it's absolutely free. Just send an email to: [info@franklin.tv](mailto:info@franklin.tv) with your contact information and a request to join.

You can also call us at 508-541-4118.

This meeting is an opportunity to learn about Franklin TV's progress in building our new studio. This facility will enable us to provide better production support for Franklin residents and organizations who wish to create TV programs. It's also an opportunity to meet our current board. Our progress to date, plus all the groundwork for our plans going forward are all thanks to our current board members who have contributed so much of their time and energy to shape a clear vision for Franklin TV and move ahead as a nonprofit organization.

## Meet Our Current FCCA Board



L to R: Robert Linney, W. Ken Norman, Wesley Rea, and Jay Horrigan.  
Front: Rose Turco and Anne K. Bergen.

Long before I joined FCCA as Executive Director they did all the work, guiding Franklin's local access TV channels from the original Comcast access studios to our Franklin TV facilities scheduled to begin operations sometime early next year.

Not pictured is our newest Board Member John Milot, who also serves as our recording secretary. John was elected to the board at our last open member meeting.

Come to the Senior Center, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. Presentations begin at 6:30. Please join us at this important Franklin TV event. Get to know the current board. Come meet, greet, and vote for the latest board nominees.

And, thanks for watching!



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# Honoring Bob Dean

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 9/15/2012



At the start of Town Council meeting the members took a moment to engage in one of its more enjoyable tasks. They honored a man whose long-standing commitment to the Town of Franklin and to Franklin TV demonstrates how good citizenship becomes stewardship.

I have spoken before of Bob Dean's able and unwavering contributions to the enduring success of Franklin TV.



If there is anyone who made our current progress and growth possible, it's Bob. The government channel's control room that Bob designed and piloted for years stands as a legacy to his crisp thinking and deep technical prowess.

I finally got to meet Bob a few weeks ago. He came to visit our Hutchinson St. Studio and saw the early stages of our progress first hand.

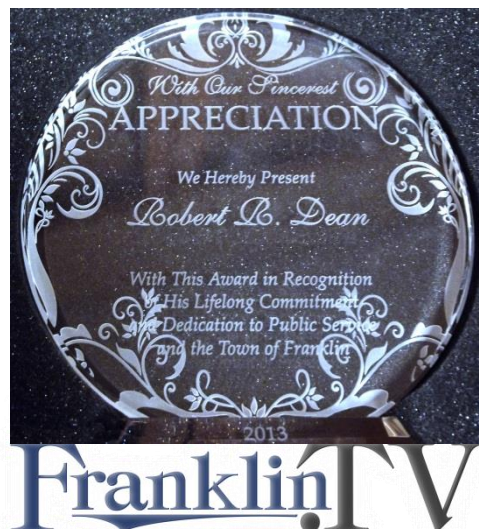
We still have much to do. As our new studio construction begins in earnest this fall Franklin TV will undergo a transformative rebirth. The year ahead will see the culmination of patient plans and abiding vision that began long before my time.

If there is anyone who deserves proper credit for that vision - and our future, it's Bob.

That said, mine is a simple promise.  
Make it all happen.

Bob, I promise.

And, thanks for watching!



# The Autumnal Equinox

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 9/22/2012

On Sunday, 9/22 at 4:44pm autumn officially happens to us. It is a brief poignant moment to reflect on Summer's exit. Fall is a festive time. Embrace and enjoy it. Their Summer seasonal work done, the leaves will party 'til they drop (literally). We will also take up the festive colors of autumn as a pleasant distraction from the coming chill of shorter days ahead.

Welcome to autumn. Welcome to the waning Sun's last warming rays cast against the crisp dry breezes of fall. Brisk football weather.



It is a busy time for us. We'll be covering football and other great school sports; The Harvest Festival, Veteran's Day and many other notable Franklin events that usher us through autumn and on to the holidays. As the days grow short we'll be doing our best to give you good reason to stay in, curl up and watch local TV.

Note that we can now offer recordings of our programs in high definition Blu-Ray as well as standard DVDs.

We've spent this past Summer gearing up to improve our coverage of events around town. That effort will continue as we complete the construction of our new Hutchinson St. studio facilities. Come spring, we will emerge as a new operation.

Meanwhile, back at the equinox, here's some bits of interest for the astro-geeks among us. At 4:44pm all things astronomical that surround our humble little planet enjoy a momentary balance and symmetry. The Sun's arc aligns East and West perfectly with the equator. The Sun's rising and setting shadow runs precisely from Pole to Pole. As the North Pole sees the last of day the South Pole sees the first. What does this all mean? For the Sun worshippers among us, it's a long, dark, patient journey to spring.

All things being equal,  
I look forward to the Vernal Equinox.

And, thanks for watching!

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# Nick Remissong, On The Move

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 9/29/2012

Nick called me several weeks ago. His voice was tentative.

His voice was also exactly what you expect to hear over the radio. He was very articulate - commanding your attention, yet invitingly warm & fuzzy.

Nick was a pro. He just didn't know it - yet.

He was calling in response to our bulletin about volunteers - offering a pair of able hands to help out. Whatever we need. No problem.



Nick, calling the shots during a bocce series.

Nick was exploring a new path: one long denied. He was interested in pursuing a career in broadcasting. When we met I knew that I had a smart guy with the right stuff, so I threw Nick into the deep end right away. He's been out and about, covering Bocce games at the Senior Center, the local growers at our Farmer's Market. You'll see Nick at the upcoming Harvest Fest as well; interviewing folks and taking in all the festivities with our video crew. He's a natural.

In these recent weeks Nick and I have been talking shop, developing technique, covering the finer points of the art, and scoping out where all this might take him on his endeavors to pursue an interest and forge a new career.

Nick has already discovered some things. With just a bit of Franklin TV guidance and encouragement, he's pretty good at this business of communicating. He can do this, and do it well. At Franklin TV he's also family. Welcome to the family, Nick.

And, thanks for watching!

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# Our Annual Members Meeting

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 10/6/2013 to 11/10/2013

This newsletter serves as our fifth public notice that the FCCA/Franklin TV Annual Open Members Meeting will be on Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM at the Senior Center. This meeting is open to all Franklin TV members. If you are a current Franklin TV Member, you may vote at the meeting. At this meeting we will be voting for a new board member to replace Bob Linney (left). Bob is stepping down after years of dedicated service going back to our Cable Board days. We'll miss you, Bob. Additionally, some of our current Directors are up for re-election.

## Meet Our Current FCCA Board



L to R: Robert Linney, W. Ken Norman, Wesley Rea, and Jay Horrigan.  
Front: Rose Turco and Anne K. Bergen.

Long before I joined as Executive Director they did all the work, guiding Franklin's local access channels from the original Comcast studios to our Franklin TV facilities scheduled to begin operations sometime early next year. Not pictured is our newest Board Member John Milot, who also serves as our recording secretary. John was elected to the board last year.

Members interested in a Director position on our board may submit their names for the upcoming vote. Nominations must be mailed in writing to: John Milot, Franklin TV, Box 286, Franklin, MA 02038, and received not later than Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>.

If you would like to become a Franklin TV member, it's absolutely free. Just send an email to: [info@franklin.tv](mailto:info@franklin.tv) with your contact information and a request to join. Get on our email list for periodic updates and other useful information. We fully respect your privacy and will never share your information. You can also call us at 508-541-4118.

Come to the Senior Center, November 14<sup>th</sup>. Light refreshments and Meet/Greet begin at 6:30 PM. Presentations begin at 7:00. Please join us at this important Franklin TV event. Get to know our current board. Come meet, greet, and if you are a member, vote for our latest Board nominees.

And, thanks for watching!



# Stella is Smooth

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 10/27/2013

Stella Jeon called me to schedule a recording session for her interview program at the Senior Center. I hadn't seen her in a while. I was also interested in refining our production techniques for using multiple cameras on location. (That's a story for another time.) With two good reasons to spend time out of the office, off I went. While we were setting up microphones, lights and cameras in the Senior Center's library Stella sat with her two guests to discuss the program they were about to do. The guests were nervous about being on TV, about saying the wrong thing, and a handful of other apprehensions. But, Stella is a pro. Stella is in charge.

Stella is smooth.



Smooth means that you have a natural ability to put folks at ease because you are at ease and totally engaged, all while engaging those around you.

Stella is always engaged.

Stella makes ease contagious.

Stella is a carrier.

Well before we began recording, Stella worked her subtle magic. Her two guests settled in. They focused on her and the conversation that rolled by effortlessly. They were focused on Stella simply because she was totally focused on them. That's what Stella does. All the time.

Then - it was over.

'Really? That's it? We're already done? - That wasn't so bad.'

Score another one for Stella. For her - just another day at the office.

And for me (thanks to Stella), it wasn't just another day at the office.

And, thanks for watching!

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# We Have Moved- Again!

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 11/3/2013

For many years our small studio and offices were maintained by Comcast and located at 10 Main St. In 2011 Franklin's volunteer committee, The Cable Board became incorporated as Franklin Community Cable access, Inc. / Franklin TV. That's when things began to move forward.

Last February we moved the entire operation (all 600 square feet) from Main St. to a building we purchased at 23 Hutchinson St. More accurately, we moved into a trailer parked next to our building, currently being converted into our new studios. We moved about a half-mile south of downtown. This week we moved the entire operation (all 400 square feet) about - 15 feet. Yes, we moved our trailer forward a bit to make room for construction of our new studio.

We moved forward - making a subtle change for the better. Mailing address is the same. View out the window? About the same. But, that small yet necessary move makes it possible for us to grow.

Therein resides our story of progress. We are continually making a series of small yet necessary moves - always forward - just a bit more.

Yes, we moved again.

We will never stop moving.

And, thanks for watching!

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# Fenced In – for the Moment.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 11/10/2013



Our fence arrived. (!?!) It brought a touch of reality shock as the first visible sign that after many months of planning and waiting, we were actually going to start construction.



I never thought I would welcome the notion of being fenced in.



The construction fence will be here for safety through the winter as we begin the work of converting the former mini-mart & restaurant into our TV studio.

As snow melts in spring, the fence will go away. The trailer (our cozy home these past ten months) will leave as well. It's improbable to compare a trailer and a chain link construction fence to the utopian suburban home and white picket fence.

For us – for now – that's what they are.

The "big yellow equipment" will be showing up soon enough to dig up ground and pour our foundation. Then, a new building will emerge.



Much change lies ahead. At the moment we find ourselves surrounded by it.

And, thanks for watching!

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# Our Members Meeting – Results

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 11/17/2013

The results are in – a fine time was had by all. On Thursday evening we gathered for our second annual Franklin TV open member meeting. Per our bylaws, this is a publicized board of director’s meeting that we hold on the second Thursday of November. A key item on the agenda, our members vote for one or two candidates who have submitted their names to become new directors on our board.



This year we say farewell to Bob Linney. After many years of service on the Franklin Cable Committee and on our Franklin TV board, Bob’s stepping down, so we opened our meeting with a proper sendoff. We wish Bob all the best.

Above: Ken Norman & Bob Linney

We then set about to conduct the vote to fill Bob’s vacated seat. We also voted for our Clerk John Milot to continue in his position.



Thus, in short order our board was formed. Top left: Our President, Ken Norman; our newest board member, Nick Remissong; our vice-president, Jay Horrigan; Treasurer, Wes Rea. Lower Left: Our Clerk/Secretary, John Milot; and board members Anne K. Bergen and Rose

Turco.

Nick has been doing great work as an active volunteer with Franklin TV, and we all enthusiastically welcome him to the board.

And, thanks for watching!

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# We Have a Lot of Roof.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 11/24/2013

I looked out the window and saw – nothing. It was the kind of nothing made of big city steel where the highway overpass could be at arm’s reach. The parking lot was gone. The trees and grass were gone. The sky – gone.

Wha - ? The steel was moving – slowly creeping past my office window.

I’m having an “Arthur Dent” moment. Is this the intergalactic superhighway? <sup>1</sup>



No. It’s just our dumpster. Looks like we scored the XXL “Family Size” model. Is that good?

Last week our fence magically appeared. Now, the dumpster. What’s next?

Then the roof fell in. Or, more precisely, it was dropped off. Stuff is showing up.

It’s a lot of roof. When someone says, “It’s a lot.” This is quite literally what that looks like.

It’s one parking lot’s amount of roof.

Things are becoming a bit cramped, but it’s all good.

It’s all good.

And so, it begins.

And, thanks for watching!



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<sup>1</sup> See: Hitch-Hiker’s Guide to the Galaxy.

# Thanks for Watching!

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 12/1/2013

With Thanksgiving ushering in the holidays, it's a moment to pause and reflect. Ralph Waldo Emerson observed that in order to achieve contentment, one should, "Cultivate the habit of being grateful for every good thing that comes to you, and to give thanks continuously."

We end most programs that we produce with our "Produced by Franklin TV." The last bit in our animation is the simple sentence, "Thanks for Watching!"

We really are grateful and thankful to those of you who watch us, and email or call us with suggestions, questions, compliments and yes, occasional complaints. When you watch, we matter.

Consider the opposite. No calls. No interest. No one cares. We're not on anybody's mind. We don't matter. (We become forlorn and sulky. We brood.) Your emails and calls encourage us to continue stepping up our game. For that, we thank you.

Ralph also noted, "And because all things have contributed to your advancement, you should include all things in your gratitude."

Indeed. We are thankful to our volunteers (including our dedicated board) who make many of our projects possible.

We are also thankful to:

"Our Franklin friends and neighbors, good folks just like you."

That's why we say so at the end of all our programs - because it true.



And, (as always) thanks for watching!



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# Progress is a Dirty Job!

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 12/8/2013



The big yellow equipment showed up this week and made its presence known in short order. Suddenly, huge dumpsters were being filled with trash, concrete, stone, wood, and other earthy detritus. (Where did all this stuff come from?) The rear grounds are being carved up to make way for the foundation of our new studio.

It's one thing to imagine all the work to be done. (before - after) It's quite another to witness it. (during)



The 'during' part can be unsettling. One minute there's our loading dock. Next minute, there's the open space where it was. The ornamental well was reduced to rubble where it once stood. In short order, a seemingly permanent landscape is reduced to a fleeting memory.

Empty dumpsters are dropped off; soon filled with stuff of the past and unceremoniously carted away.



Ground-breaking work is unsettling, but a necessary thing for progress. The progress I've often mentioned and looked forward to is now here - in full force.

(Stare far beyond the upper pair of images to fuse them into a 3D view.)

And, thanks for watching!

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# The Stuff of the Holiday!

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 12/15/2013

I love stuff. We all do. We love getting stuff. We collect it. Stuff is great!  
(Except for stuff that must be scraped off or smells bad).

## Stuff

1. Noun - material, items, articles, or activities that are unspecified, general.  
"A pickup truck hauled the stuff away"
2. Noun - the basic constituents or characteristics of something or someone.  
"Healey was made of sterner stuff"
3. Verb - to fill a container or space tightly with something.  
"Stuff the Christmas stocking full of goodies"

We tend to focus on lots of stuff during the holidays. This is especially true for the *holiday makers*. The holiday makers are those who do all the party prep, wrap the presents and fuss over everything that will make the times memorable for family and friends. They get out all the holiday stuff. They put up the stuff; buy the stuff; wrap the stuff. Stuff the turkey. Get stuff done. They'll spend a month preparing all the stuff - for that singularly special day. So, let us be especially grateful for the holiday makers in our lives.

The stuff of my holiday is more abstract (See noun 2).  
The stuff of my holiday is quieter, more reflective.  
I take in the softer moments and celebrate inside.

We often advise our overwrought holiday makers  
to just relax, slow down and enjoy the holidays.  
How? There's so much stuff to do! True enough.

Some holiday advice:

Do some stuff for those who have no holiday maker.  
Take time to help out the holiday maker in your life,  
for this is indeed the most joyful stuff of holidays.

I wish you all lots of stuff.

And, thanks for watching!

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# In the Deep of December

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 12/22/2013



In the deep of December, resides

In still of frost, a dance of snow,  
Alighting, soft, on all below.

These angel feathers flit our way  
With heaven's wish for all, they pray

That we beseech our higher selves  
To do the jolly work of elves.

So, in the deep of December, we wish.

We ask the dancing snows on high,  
That on their wings our wishes fly.

For wishing's where our dreams begin,  
So, wish - and let the season in.

Thus, in the deep of December, we love,

A little more than through the year.  
Let's raise a glass of yuletide cheer.

In poignant reverie, we weave  
Our perfect dreams of Christmas Eve..

Now make your merry, spin your joy  
With each new present, gift and toy.

Let love and giving make it thus,  
For heaven's wish - is wrought by us.

And, thanks for watching!



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Solstice



Chamukkah



Christmas



Epiphany



Kwanzaa



Eid al-Adha



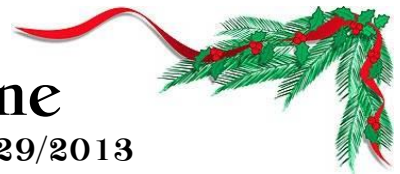
The New Year



Oshogatsu



謹賀新年



# For Auld Lang Syne

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 12/29/2013

There are hundreds upon hundreds of Christmas Carols. Most are reverent or merry. A few novelty carols are cringe-worthy; Dogs barking “Jingle bells”, Elmo & Patsy’s “Santa Got Run Over by a Reindeer”. Fun, but not on my playlist.

As we draw closer to each New Year, the yuletide tunes and carols drift away, leaving behind one last song and sentiment – Auld Lang Syne.



What began as a Scots poem by Robert Burns in 1788 was old in its traditional role start of the New Year at the stroke the song also has been sung at as a farewell or conclusion to other



later set to the music of an folk song. It is well known many countries, especially English-speaking world; being to celebrate the of midnight. By extension, funerals, graduations and solemn occasions.

The phrase “Auld Lang Syne” may be translated into English literally as “old long since”, or more idiomatically, “long, long ago”, “days gone by” or “the old times”. Consequently, “*For auld lang syne*”, at the start of the chorus, may be interpreted as “for (the sake of) old times”.

It reminds us as we start the New Year to appreciate our long-standing friendships.

Especially the ones who helped us get this far.

Auld Lang Syne –  
So raise a cup of kindness yet,  
and consider it a New Year’s resolution.

As my Lang Syne gets- um, Aulder (-?)  
I’d say it’s a pretty good one at that.

And, thanks for watching!



## FranklinTV

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Solstice



Chanukkah



Christmas



Epiphany



Kwanzaa



Eid al-Adha



The New Year



Oshogatsu



謹賀新年