

# VAB Voice | Tuesday, May 30, 2023



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## VAB Convention June 15th in Montpelier



You are invited to attend the VAB Annual Convention and Production of the Year Awards Thursday, June 15, 2023 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Montpelier!

### Agenda:

**11:00am-12:30pm**

#### **Content Creator's Workshop with Lori Lewis**

*For Radio & TV Personalities, Digital Managers & Creative Services:*

Learn how to produce engaging short form vertical video that gets attention and how to use your Instagram & Facebook audience to gauge what will work on Tik Tok.

**12:30pm-2:00pm**

#### **Lunch & Production of the Year Awards**

Find out who created the best content of the year!

**2:00-3:00pm**

#### **Digital Advertising Seller's Workshop with Lori Lewis**

Get answers to the questions digital advertising clients ask the most and learn how to steer dull content ideas in the right direction!



## Workshops & Award Ceremony are Free! Lunch is \$30/person

*Seared chicken with leek sauce, maple ginger glazed salmon, mashed potatoes, roasted sweet potatoes, garden salad & chocolate torte*

**Register for Workshops/Awards Ceremony and/or  
Optional Lunch Buffet no later than Friday 6/9** *(ask  
your manager if someone is coordinating a group registration)*

[REGISTER HERE](#)

**Sponsored By:**



## AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act

In a past issues of the VAB Voice, we covered Senator Markey's letter questioning auto manufacturers about removing AM radio receivers from the dashboard in Electric Vehicles.

To require the Secretary of Transportation to issue a rule requiring access to AM broadcast stations in motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MARKEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL**

To require the Secretary of Transportation to issue a rule requiring access to AM broadcast stations in motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

- 1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
- 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
- 3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**
- 4 This Act may be cited as the “AM Radio for Every
- 5 Vehicle Act of 2023”.

No doubt due to political pressure, Ford just announced it was reversing course and would make AM radio available in their 2024 vehicles. This is a small win for radio, but passage of the *AM Radio For Every Vehicle Act* is what will ensure that AM broadcast radio gets either put back in or remains on the dashboard of every make and model sold in the United States, which is the ultimate goal.

Since then, Ford announced it would be removing AM receivers from every vehicle.

Both the National Alliance of State Broadcasters Associations (NASBA) and the NAB sprang into immediate action and with help from FEMA and Jacobs Media, launched an advocacy campaign to reverse this harmful trend.

Senator Markey (D-MA), an avid AM radio listener, just introduced a bi-partisan bill along with Senator Cruz (R-TX) called the “*AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act*”. If passed, every vehicle sold in the US would require AM broadcast radio (because of the Emergency Alerts it provides) as a safety feature like seat belts and emergency brakes. Senators Welch and Sanders are currently reviewing the bill for consideration.

There is also a House version of the Act that Congresswoman Balint is co-sponsoring!!!

## Tim Thayer Retires From WCAX-TV



On April 28, 2023, WCAX celebrated Tim Thayer's retirement. Tim watched over part or all of WCAX's infrastructure for more than 38 years (14,081 days, to be more precise, we counted) as a maintenance engineer, growing ultimately to become the station's chief engineer for more than a decade.

In more recent years, Tim has directly managed and built solutions to major systems, both planned and unplanned. In the planned column was the FCC TV spectrum repack, the new transmitter and transmission lines, new operations at Mount Mansfield and the expectations of support to everyone at the site; unplanned of course was the antenna fire and replacement, thanks to the support of all the local TV stations to make that a reality. But there are always other issues that we might forget - from a flooded office one Christmas morning to roof repairs to HVAC woes; video servers and CGs and switchers (oh, my!)

Tim has been the steadfast mind and hands who diagnosed the issue, designed a solution, and usually built it himself by hand. He was the calm, even-keeled force who held us all together.

The best tribute for an engineer may be knowing the work he and his engineering teams have done over the years will continue to be depended upon for years to come. We are proud to celebrate Tim Thayer's legacy with WCAX, and his commitment to the community of engineers across our state as a professional, teammate and leader.

Despite his professional accomplishments, his grandson Jonathan offers some additional accolades: “it's really, really nice to have someone in your family who does something as honored as that... and I'm excited to do more stuff with him over the summer. It's going to be fun.”

After all Tim has quietly done for viewers across the region and for WCAX over 38 years, his grandson puts it in perspective. So, we wish him all the best, and can only say thank you - thank you very much.

## Broadcast Job Openings Around Vermont



COMMITTED TO OUR COMMUNITY



Production Assistant (P/T),  
Executive Producer, Master Control  
Supervisor, Associate Producer,  
Producer, Sales Account  
Associate, Multimedia Journalist,  
News Intern, Administrative  
Assistant, Account Executive

News Producer, Sales Account  
Executive, Broadcast Engineer,  
Director of Sales, Summer News  
Intern, Chief Photographer

Morning Meteorologist, Multi-  
media Journalist (Entry  
Level), Creative Services  
Producer/Videographer,  
Future Focus Intern,



Digital Marketing Coordinator/Sales  
Assistant

Marketing Consultant

Experienced Sales Professional



RADIO VERMONT



Office Coordinator

Sales Assistant,  
Radio & Digital Account  
Executive

Account Executive

Utilizing your state broadcasters association to post job openings earns you EEO Credit! If you have a job opening you would like the VAB to publicize, simply email a description to [vab@vab.org](mailto:vab@vab.org)

## This Week at the FCC



Every week, the attorneys at [Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP](#) in Washington D.C. provide a summary of the regulatory and legal actions of significance to broadcasters within the FCC. They also provide links to information about how these actions may affect your operations. Read this week's summary as well as summaries from past weeks at:

<https://vab.org/this-week-at-the-fcc>

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