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## VAB Hall of Fame & Award Nomination Deadline Friday, September 12th



[View HOF Criteria &  
Make a Nomination](#)

Each year, the VAB recognizes outstanding Vermont broadcasters with inductions into the elite VAB Hall of Fame as well as with awards for excellence including:

- Broadcaster of the Year
- Alan Noyes Community Service
- Snyder-Teffner Award for Support Roles
- Rising Star

The VAB relies on members to nominate colleagues they believe are deserving of either induction into the VAB Hall of Fame or one of the excellence awards. The nomination window is now open and it is time for you to let the VAB know who is deserving of these prestigious recognitions!

Descriptions of each excellence award are below and **nominations must be received no later than Friday, September 12th, 2025 at 11:59PM.**



The intent of this award is to honor a professional TV or radio broadcaster or a radio or TV station or group, that has done something so extraordinary within the past 12 months (August 2024-July 2025), that it shines a positive light on the role of broadcasting in Vermont.

Examples could include (but are not limited to) an extraordinary act during an emergency, a stand-out way of going above and beyond to make sure viewers or listeners are alerted to something serious or providing help to a fellow broadcaster in need.



The Snyder-Teffner Award honors a professional who has demonstrated excellence "behind the scenes" in a support role. This includes anyone working in operations, administration, sales, creative services, production, promotions, HR, traffic, reception, engineering, I.T., editors, producers, videographers, master control operators, etc.

The intent of this award is to honor the unsung heroes who do not work on camera or on a microphone and are unknown to viewers or listeners.

Submit a Nomination

Submit a Nomination



Open to a television or radio station or individual broadcaster that has completed a project within the last 12 months (August 2024-July 2025) that made a positive contribution to a community in need, or to a nonprofit organization that serves a community in need.

Submit a Nomination



This award will go to someone under the age of 30 who is new to broadcasting but shows an extraordinary amount of passion and potential and will likely have a long and successful career in the industry! Open to any person working in any department of radio or TV for 2-5 years.

Submit a Nomination

## Save-the-Date! VAB Hall of Fame & Awards Gala Saturday, November 15, 2025



# HALL OF FAME & AWARDS GALA



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2025**

● **DOUBLETREE BY HILTON BURLINGTON VERMONT** ●

**REGISTER AT [VERMONTBROADCASTERS.ORG](http://VERMONTBROADCASTERS.ORG)**

Saturday, November 15, 2025, the VAB will celebrate two milestones; the "Platinum" 70th Anniversary of the VAB as well as the "Pearl" 30th Anniversary of the VAB Hall of Fame & Awards Gala! This year's event will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Burlington Vermont and the theme is "Platinum & Pearls!"

More details and registration information coming soon, but if you would like to participate in the planning of this milestone event, please join the VAB Membership Committee meeting via ZOOM Wednesday, September 3rd from 3:30-4:15 PM at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84791787087>

## Free Webinar Tuesday, September 9th

**Local**  
Broadcast Sales

On-Demand Broadcast Training  
And Revenue Development That Works!





### Why AI Can't Replace You: The Art of the Audience-First Ad

**Tim Burt, LBS Creative and AI Expert**



**Tuesday, September 9th at 12:00PM**

**REGISTER HERE**

As a sales professional, you are juggling prospecting, closing deals and writing ad copy all while fighting against a tough market and the rise of digital ads. We will discuss how to cut through the chaos and find a simpler, more effective way to work. You'll learn to use AI as a tool, not a crutch, and discover why the Art of the Audience-First Ad is the one creative skill that no algorithm can ever replace.

## Merl Grabowski Retires



After 45 years in the radio industry, serving in many roles, Merl Grabowski is retiring in September from the Radio New England Broadcast Group.

Merl started his career in 1980 working part time at WSTJ-AM in Saint Johnsbury. After earning a communications degree from Lyndon State College, he worked at WYKR in Wells River as an announcer, then worked briefly as part of the morning show team at WMTK-FM in Littleton, NH before his first full time announcer job in 1987 at WIKE in Newport. In 1988, he moved to WCVR-AM in Randolph where he was promoted to Program Director. In late 1988, Alan Noyes hired Merl to be the Morning Drive Announcer and Operations Manager at WSNO/WORK in Barre. In 1995, he traded his microphone for a sales book and was hired back at WYKR-FM. Merl worked there until August 2018 when he moved to Newport and started working for Vermont Broadcast Associates.



In 2021, he returned to WYKR and was eventually promoted to Sales Manager. In September 2024, Merl moved to the Radio New England Broadcast Group as Sales Manager representing multiple stations serving Northeastern Vermont and Northern New Hampshire.

## FCC Regulatory Fee Schedule Announced



Federal  
Communications  
Commission



FCC has released its [2025 Regulatory Fee Order](#) and while TV fees are individualized based on population coverage, radio broadcasters will once again be paying **lower** regulatory fees than last year:

FY 2025 RADIO STATION REGULATORY FEES						
Population Served	AM Class A	AM Class B	AM Class C	AM Class D	FM Classes A, B1 & C3	FM Classes B, C, C0, C1 & C2
<=10,000	\$545	\$395	\$340	\$375	\$600	\$685
10,001 - 25,000	\$910	\$655	\$570	\$625	\$1,000	\$1,140
25,001 – 75,000	\$1,365	\$985	\$855	\$940	\$1,500	\$1,710
75,001 – 150,000	\$2,050	\$1,475	\$1,285	\$1,405	\$2,250	\$2,565
150,001 – 500,000	\$3,075	\$2,215	\$1,925	\$2,115	\$3,380	\$3,855
500,001 – 1,200,000	\$4,605	\$3,315	\$2,885	\$3,160	\$5,060	\$5,770
1,200,001 – 3,000,000	\$6,915	\$4,980	\$4,330	\$4,750	\$7,600	\$8,665
3,000,001 – 6,000,000	\$10,365	\$7,460	\$6,490	\$7,120	\$11,390	\$12,985
>6,000,000	\$15,550	\$11,195	\$9,740	\$10,680	\$17,090	\$19,485

Although the FCC continues to resist expanding the entities and industries that must help pay for FCC operations, the state broadcasters associations and the NAB have succeeded in keeping that issue front and center by applying continuous pressure over the years. The FCC has not announced the window for submitting regulatory fee payments yet, but it is typically around the third week of September.

## New Equipment For Sale @ 50% Retail Cost

The VAB has a pair of brand new Ubiquiti Wave Pros for Sale for 50% of the retail cost. They were purchased for an EAS project we thought we had to do, but then found out we didn't, so they are still in their shipping boxes and have never been opened. If you were to buy them from the supplier, the pair would be \$1,200, but the VAB is selling the pair for \$600 and will deliver for free within Vermont. If you are interested, call or email Wendy Mays, VAB Executive Director, at 802-233-0296 or [wendy@vermontbroadcasters.org](mailto:wendy@vermontbroadcasters.org)

UniFi US Store 60 GHz Wireless Wireless Fiber Wired Accessory Tech

Wave 60 GHz > Wave AP Micro | Wave AP Gen2 | Wave AP | Wave Pro | Wave Nano | Wave Pico | Wave Long-Range | airFiber 60 Long-Range

**Wave Pro**  
Wave-Pro  
**\$599.00**

High-capacity 60 GHz radio that supports long-distance PtP (bridge) and PtMP links.

**\$599.00** - 1 +

**Add to Cart**

Powerful Accessories

**UISP Dual-Power Injector**  
\$79.00

\*Serves as a station for the Wave AP and Wave AP Micro in PtMP mode.  
\*\*For devices operating in PtP mode with FW version 3.3.0 or later.  
\*\*\*48V DC, 0.65A 2.5 GbE PoE adapter included.

The VAB also has a brand new Barix Instreamer Audio Encoder for sale at 50% of the retail cost. Again, it was purchased for an EAS project it turned out we didn't have to do and has never been opened or used. It retails for \$399 and we are asking \$200 and will ship it to you. If interested, call or email Wendy Mays at 802-233-0296 or [wendy@vermontbroadcasters.org](mailto:wendy@vermontbroadcasters.org)



## Broadcast Job Openings Around Vermont



[Air Talent](#)



[Sales Representative](#)



[95 Triple X Midday Host, Part-time Board Operator](#)



[Sales/Traffic Assistant, Newscast Producer, Media Executive, News Anchor, Gray Television Future Focus Intern.](#)



[Multimedia Sales Executive, Junior Account Executive, Digital Marketing Consultant](#)



[Master Control Supervisor, Multimedia Journalist, Broadcast Production Assistant, Assistant Chief Engineer, Master Control Operator, Local News Producer, Sales Account Associate, Account Executive](#)



[Fall Marketing Internship, Fall Broadcast Internship, Multiplatform Account Executive, IT Broadcast Engineer, Graphic Artist/Photographer, Digital Content Manager, Senior Sales Account Executive, Multimedia Journalist, Photographer/Director](#)

## 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:

[vermontbroadcasters.org/this-week-at-the-fcc](http://vermontbroadcasters.org/this-week-at-the-fcc)

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