

# I Bid the New Year Welcome

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 01/03/2016

Dateline: My house, Friday, 2016-01-01, 07:00:10 AM (EST)

I am puttering. Putter Day 2016 is upon us, and yes, I putter as I type this.

Today I will:

Fix a loose kitchen cabinet door.

Repair a phone charger (bad voltage regulator solder point).

Pack away a bunch-o-Christmas stuff.

Tidy up the office.

Tidy up my email list.

Set up & organize the F-TV books for 2016.

Wire an ethernet sub-switch - to my TV.

Do a bunch of other lingering odds-n-ends.

Launch a New Year's resolution or two. (Wish me luck on that).

My annual Jan 1 Putter Day is about getting a productive jump on the year ahead. That's how I own my new year. I hope that in your own way you get to own yours.

Tinkering is definitely a big part of puttering. To tinker is to explore and learn.

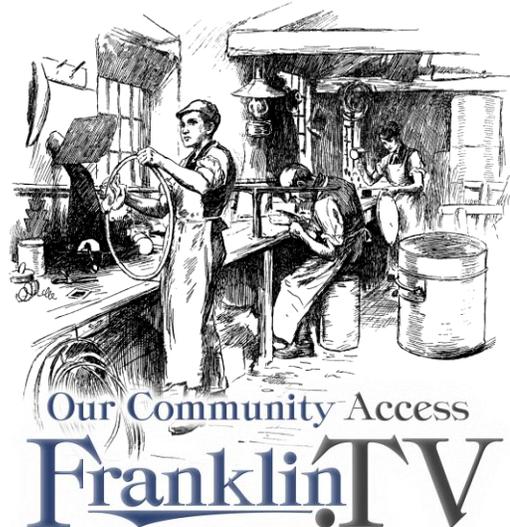
I note that next year my Putter Day falls on a Sunday. Not sure what that means. Perhaps all the puttering and tinkering counts double for combining a Sunday and the Holiday?

We shall see.

In the meantime, to all, a bright New Year filled with only wonderful memories.

And, thanks for watching!

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# This One's Easy – How to Begin

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 01/10/2016

In my years as a film director, I needed to focus my crew as a team – instantly. At the start of every project I gathered the crew and offered the following:

“I just want to inform you all that as your director I sincerely believe -

This one's easy; it's not like the others.  
It's all downhill from here.  
Today's just gonna be fun.  
No reason why it shouldn't work.  
Piece-o-cake. No-brainer. Sure bet.  
This time for sure. Easy pickin's.  
Ain't nothin' can stop us now.  
No sweat. Let's just coast.  
We're spring-loaded for success.  
I have a really good feeling about this.  
Slam-dunk. Swish. Nothin' but net.  
We got this. Can't miss. Victory is assured.  
Success is our default condition. Just like in the brochure.  
Everything on the dash is green. Punch it.  
Just call 'n' tell them we're all set.  
Who says it's not a perfect world?  
Gee! What'll we do with the rest of the day?  
Just kick back and let the good stuff happen.  
It just doesn't get any better than this.

Smiles creep in as I sail through my list. Some recoil in ersatz horror as I challenge Murphy's Law. They get it. Everyone is upbeat, and the tone for the day is on. We solve the little problems of the day, and through our collective efforts Murphy's Law is, at least for our purposes, temporarily suspended.

Whenever you sense that the challenges of the new year (and those resolutions) might be more difficult, I offer my mantra to help you begin. Enjoy.

**Caution:** Uttering only one or two lines can have negative effects. You must run through the entire list to realize its beneficial effects.

And, it just doesn't get any better than that.

And, thanks for watching!

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Our Community Access  
**FranklinTV**

# Senior State & Statistics

In the fullness of time, aging touches all of us.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 01/17/2016



On Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, The Franklin Senior center was graced by our government officials. Their mission: to educate seniors on what the state can do today to assist those elders in need. More pointedly, they also reviewed at length the growing needs of seniors going forward over the next ten and twenty years. The main presentation by Rep. Denise Garlick was crisply done, well organized, and filled with relevant information on what the key future issues will be for Massachusetts seniors.



Turnout for the event was excellent – a packed room. More notably, following the formal twenty minute presentation, everyone engaged in an equally informative Q&A discussion that filled out an hour and more covering many issues. Our seniors were given an excellent overview of key issues that can affect all of us; what the state is doing; and what we can do to insure our own well-being. Important information also flowed the other way. All four presenters were gratified by the audience’s engagement and their insightful questions and comments.

If you are still working – even if you are a millennial – this presentation is relevant to you as well. Watch for it in the coming weeks.

And, thanks for watching!



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# Tri-County Salon Secrets

Beauty is as Beauty Does, and they do very well.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 01/24/2016

For 2016 we're ramping up a second student TV series with Tri-County School. This time we're going to the beauty parlour, where we delve into Tri-County's - *Salon Secrets*.



Teacher Donna Flynn's cosmetology class was primed and ready.

With support from Nichole Hudson and Alexandra Ostergren, Carolyn Kiely made it all easy to understand.

Their first program is all about hair braiding. We're not talking your sister's third grade pigtails here.

This is flattering, sophisticated. Our first session on location at Tri-County took place just a few days before Christmas.

The beautiful results are now on Franklin TV this week.

Check our guide. Watch for it.

And, thanks for watching!



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# Getting Out The Vote

Cast your ballot in the Massachusetts primary  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 01/31/2016



**“The People cannot acquiesce to that which they do not understand.”  
“If a nation expects to be ignorant, yet free in a state of civilization,  
it expects what never was and never will be.” – Thomas Jefferson**

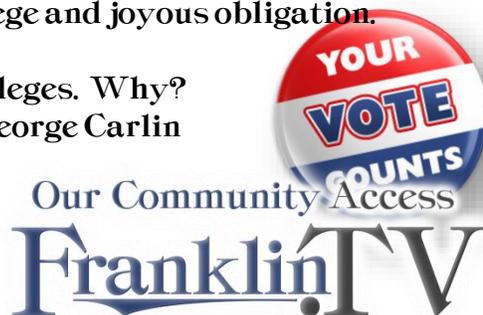
Jefferson spoke many times on the key importance of an educated citizenry as a requisite to good governance. To this end citizen Frank Falvey works to educate. This week Frank interviews Bruce Kaiden, the City Captain for Bernie Sanders. Frank offers politicians of every stripe equal opportunity to be heard. In so doing, Frank not only promotes the quantity of votes, but seeks to improve the quality.

Our Massachusetts Primary election is on March 1<sup>st</sup>. I say, “Our”, because it is just that - ours to do with as we will. Frank hopes that you will. Elections just like this one are the realized Will of the People writ large. You can also vote right now - with an absentee ballot. Such is your right, privilege and joyous obligation.

**“The Bill of Rights is actually a bill of privileges. Why?  
Because privileges can be taken away.” – George Carlin**

And, thanks for watching!

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# Strikes, Spares & Software

What's the Score? More there than meets the eye.

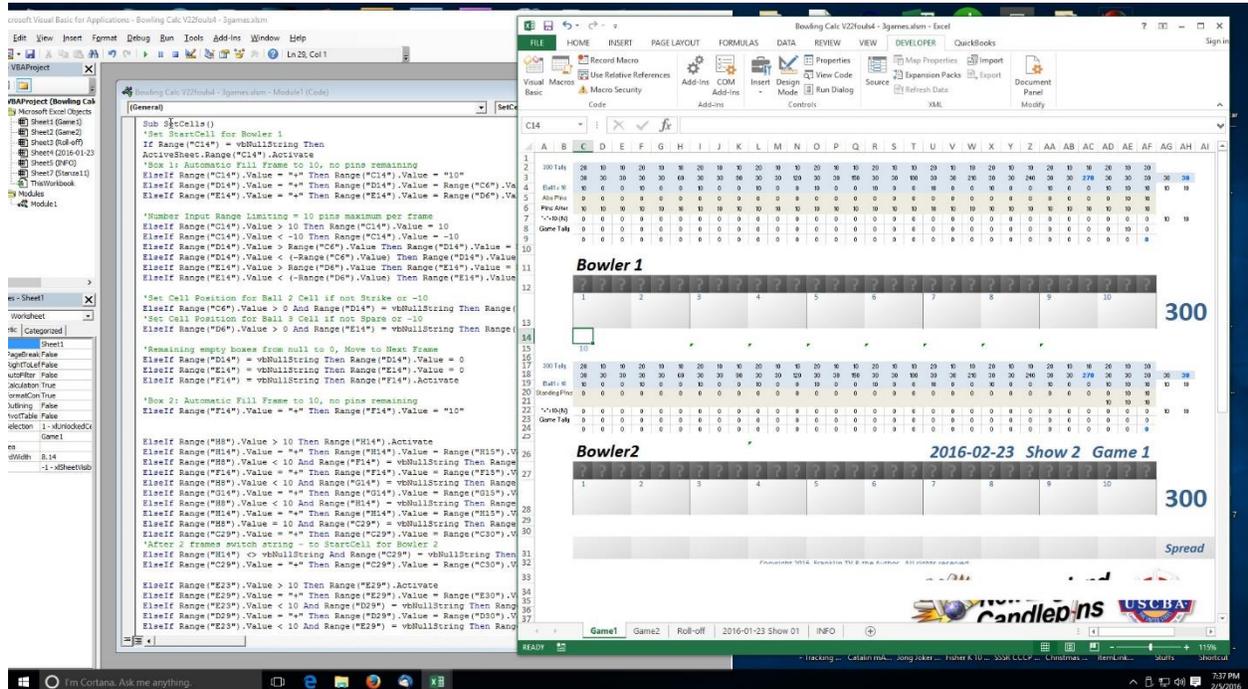
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 02/07/2016

Bowling is back! With the closing of Ficco's Family Bowladrome in Franklin, we are now shooting our *New England Candlepins* series at Ryan Family Amusements in Millis. We also shot our second series for juniors, *Candlepins New Gen* at Academy Lanes in Haverhill.



That's the latest score, so to speak.

However, scoring a bowling series for TV turns out to be more complex than meets the eye. We have to generate 75 digital art files of the scores for each tournament. Creating each score by hand would take weeks and be prone to mistakes.



This is where software comes to the rescue and reduces weeks of mind-numbing data processing by hand to about an hour. Above is our custom Excel spreadsheet with embedded computer code for scoring a single string of bowling. Our series tournament consists of 16 strings of data – 960 bowling balls and their pinfalls, all automatically rolled into our 75 scorecards.

But wait – there’s more.

When Public Access TV began in the eighties, the tools were electrical, mechanical – manual. Videotape and recorders were physical things that could be learned and operated by hand without too much difficulty.

Today’s digital TV production has moved from physical to virtual, using computing terms like “workflow, intermediary process, and metadata interface”. (Too many syllables.)

The overcomplexificatory confuzzlements of being digital is where visual elegance lives. The quality (and quantity) of TV programming that a public access studio can produce today is leaps and bounds beyond what was possible back in the good ol’ steam powered eighties.

The computer macro-code at the right will insure that our many government meetings are properly streamed live, recorded and posted online immediately. It will reduce 10 minutes and 32 preparatory mouse-click and typing steps down to a minute and a button.

At Franklin TV we create custom computer code to simplify more and more steps along the way to making more and better TV shows.

Even our TV program listings on these pages are organized and formatted automatically through customized macro-code. Properly organizing a few paragraphs of text could take two painful hours – or just two minutes.

Bowling scores? Posting online meetings? Publishing our Program Guide? I’ll teach our computers to do the work – while I just watch.

And, thanks for watching!

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# Senior Center Expanding

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 02/14/2016

The Franklin Senior Center is an expansive, inviting facility. Over the next several months it will become even more expansive. When the building was designed, there was a plan to eventually open the second floor. That time has come.

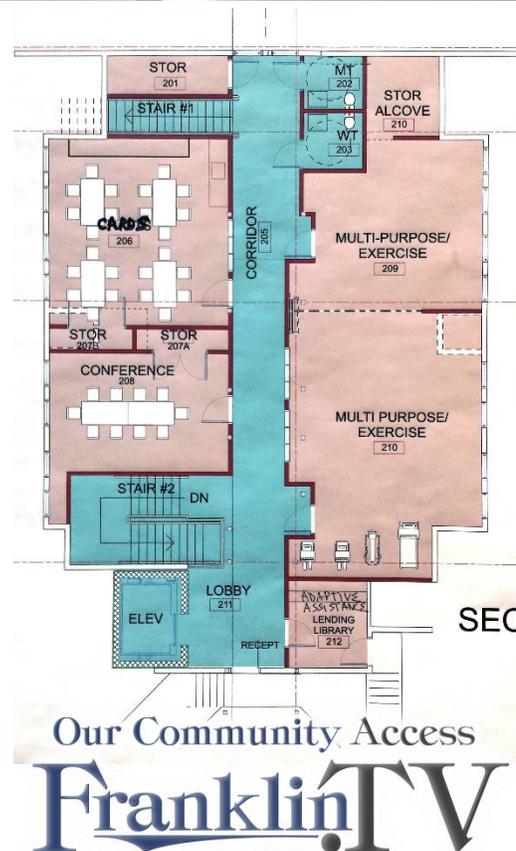


The space as it is today is airy and wide open and waiting for walls. When completed, there will be four new rooms available for activities, meetings, exercise and many other purposes.

During the construction the Senior Center will close off part of the first floor to accommodate new stairways and an elevator.

The new spaces are expected to open in the fall. In the meantime things at the Center will be a bit tighter. Our Franklin.TV Community Room will host a number of Senior Center activities and we welcome the company. Tax season is here, and seniors are coming to Franklin.TV every Friday to complete their filings. Contact the Senior Center for details.

And, thanks for watching!



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# Bob & Ray

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 02/21/2016

Bob & Ray. They were an early radio and TV comedy duo whose famous names we speak as if one word. BobandRay. They were comedy pioneers who blazed a trail with their low-key, impromptu humor. Today's improvisational comedy and skit shows like Saturday Night Live can trace their roots back to Bob & Ray. The duo's radio banter was subtle parody delivered as the straight scoop - as off-the-wall as it was off-the-cuff, and always on the mark.



Their ersatz radio and TV interviews and routines were delivered with a faux deadpan gravitas that brilliantly satirized the medium itself.

Bob Elliott and Ray Goulding began as announcers (Elliott a DJ, and Goulding a news reader) in Boston with their own separate programs on WHDH AM 850. Each would visit the other on the air. Their informal banter was so appealing that WHDH would call on them to fill in when Red Sox Baseball broadcasts were rained out. Elliott and Goulding (not yet known as Bob and Ray) would improvise comedy routines all afternoon, joking around with studio musicians. Their humor caught on, and WHDH gave them their own show. *Matinee with Bob and Ray* was originally a 15-minute show, soon expanding to half an hour. When explaining why Bob was billed first, Goulding claimed that it was because "Matinee with Bob and Ray" sounded better than "Matinob with Ray and Bob.") Their trademark sign-off was "This is Ray Goulding reminding you to write if you get work"; "Bob Elliott reminding you to hang by your thumbs".

A few weeks ago Bob Eliot, 92, quietly passed on at his home in Maine. He is now reunited with Ray, raising rafters in the hereafter, always in good fun.

As a couple of locals who made it to the national media stage - good on 'em.

They influenced my own ability to find parody in my day, embrace my own foibles (an oddly useful life skill), and, with tongue in cheek, to write on with abandon.

And, thanks for watching!

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**Allow me to offer the following as my humble homage as an appreciation of their particular comedic genius, so often served up on the spot as absurdist reality.**

Wally Ballou here, outside the funeral home of the famed Bob Elliot.  
I'm interviewing both mourners...

I understand that you two are professional mourners. Is that correct?

F: Yess. Thutty too years. I'm Fred Noonan. He's Al Knight.

Thirty two years? That's a long time to be in mourning – professionally or otherwise.

F: Yeah, but it was for a bunch o' people over the years.  
Some nice. Some, not so much.

A: The variety breaks it up, so mourning's not such a bad gig.

So, what kind of money does a mourning gig pay?

A: Less than an evening gig, Wally. That's an inside gag in our line o' work.

F: A touch-o-levity – relieves the tension.  
Money's not great, but it's easy work – steady.

A: At least they can't ship our gig offshore to India.

So, how's today going here at the Elliot funeral.

F: Kinda quiet for a famous guy. Al and I, we're it. Nobody else showed.  
It happens when the guest-o-honor's the last one out the door, so to speak.

A: Yeah, Fred and I – we already got our own mourners lined up – y'know – just in case.  
Fellow union guys. We gotta all stick together – to the end.

Professional mourners have a union?

A: Yeah, but that's dyin' off too. – another inside joke there.

F: Helps us find our motivation – that solemnity to sulk-n-sigh on demand.  
Y'gotta set the right tone.  
The bereaved relations appreciate those little touches - if they show up.

A: Yeah, this ain't your gig if you can't fake sincerity.

F: That's why we're the professionals – from Mourning, Noonan Knight – sincere sorrow, 24/7.

There you have it – at the Elliot wake, a true sense of sincere loss –  
fabricated by the grieving professionals, Fred & Al – of Mourning, Noonan Knight.

Wally Ballou, signing off. Back to you, Ray...

# Meeting Our Neighbors

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 02/28/2016



This week we invited the managers of neighboring public access studios to come by for lunch, a tour of our studios, and to discuss opportunities for collaboration. Because local TV is just that - local - there are folks in surrounding towns who do what we do. They all work to make local TV accessible, interesting and vibrant in their cities and towns. Getting together locally and regionally, we share ideas, learn from each other, and keep pace with changes in technology and trends. Such meetings are always collegial, informative and mutually beneficial.

We discussed program sharing. Franklin TV works with Tri-County School to produce programs of regional interest. Sharing such programs allows parents from surrounding towns to see the work of their students on TV. There are also programs from neighboring towns that are of interest to folks in Franklin.

Before our building construction began we toured many local studios, adopting the best designs and practices from each. This meeting was our turn to share the wealth and pass on some of what we learned. In so doing, we learn even more.

So, here's to having good neighbors. We thank them for being just that.

And, thanks for watching!

Our Community Access  
**FranklinTV**

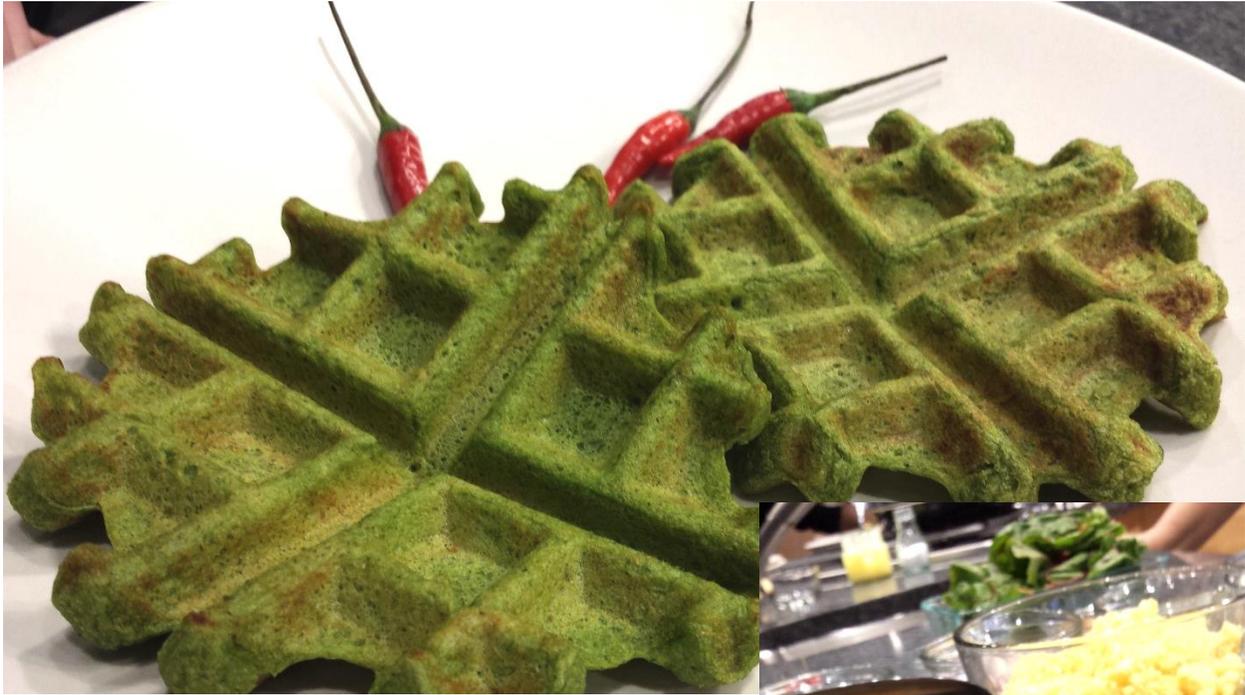
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# Sandhya

Kale waffles? Yes!

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 03/06/2016

That's right - kale waffles. We're launching our second series on food and cooking. Welcome to Sandhya Jain and Sandhya's Kitchen.



You are about to enter a new world of amazing spices and wonderful flavors that will quite literally expand your gustatorial horizons.

If you're looking to explore something new and break out of the same old same old - we bid you welcome to Sandhya's kitchen.

For someone like me who done grew up on mac&cheese, beans&franks, an' yep- grill cheese sammiches, my taste buds are on another planet - and happy to be here.

And, thanks for watching!

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# Towering Task

Things are looking up for radio.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 03/13/2016

Waaay back in November of 2013 we at Franklin•TV applied to the Federal Communications Commission for a permit to construct a small community radio station for the town of Franklin;

“WFPR-LP, Franklin Public Radio, 102.9 on your FM dial.”

In February of 2014 the FCC said yes.

Note that the typical gestation period for a radio station or a baby elephant is about the same – thirty-six months.

Yours truly thinks this is no coincidence. If fortune smiles on us, we could be ready to begin broadcasting perhaps by the end of the year.

The engineering challenges of constructing a radio station are many and varied. Where can we position a radio tower that can also benefit the town’s public safety communications services? Our current planned location is atop Forge Hill.

The planning goes on at Franklin•TV as we go about our day producing local TV programs.

What would you like to hear? We’re open to suggestion. School recitals and sports? Town Meetings? Local happenings around Franklin? We’re taking requests. If you live in Franklin and its neighboring towns, this is your radio station. Perhaps you might be interested in volunteering.

Imagine yourself on the air, waxing eloquent – engaged with listeners in spirited discourse – about some baby elephant in the room.

And, thanks for watching!



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# PizzaPalooza!

Making Our World a Better Place - Through Pizza!  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 03/20/2016



**Bill Hurley's Full-Contact  
PizzaPalooza!** (w/ xtra cheese)

This week we began shooting the first episodes of our third yummy cooking series, PizzaPalooza! Actually, the full name of the series is something like:



There are so many variations that span the Wide World of Pizza. Bill covers all the delicious tips and tricks for crafting a perfect artisanal pizza. There are fave pizza shops, pizza lore and more to explore while we Pizza! Yes, Bill regards pizza as a delicacy and a verb. - PizzaPalooza! The only question: how much weight gain can we tolerate while producing the entire series? Who cares?

And, why? Because: Pizza!

And - thanks for watching!



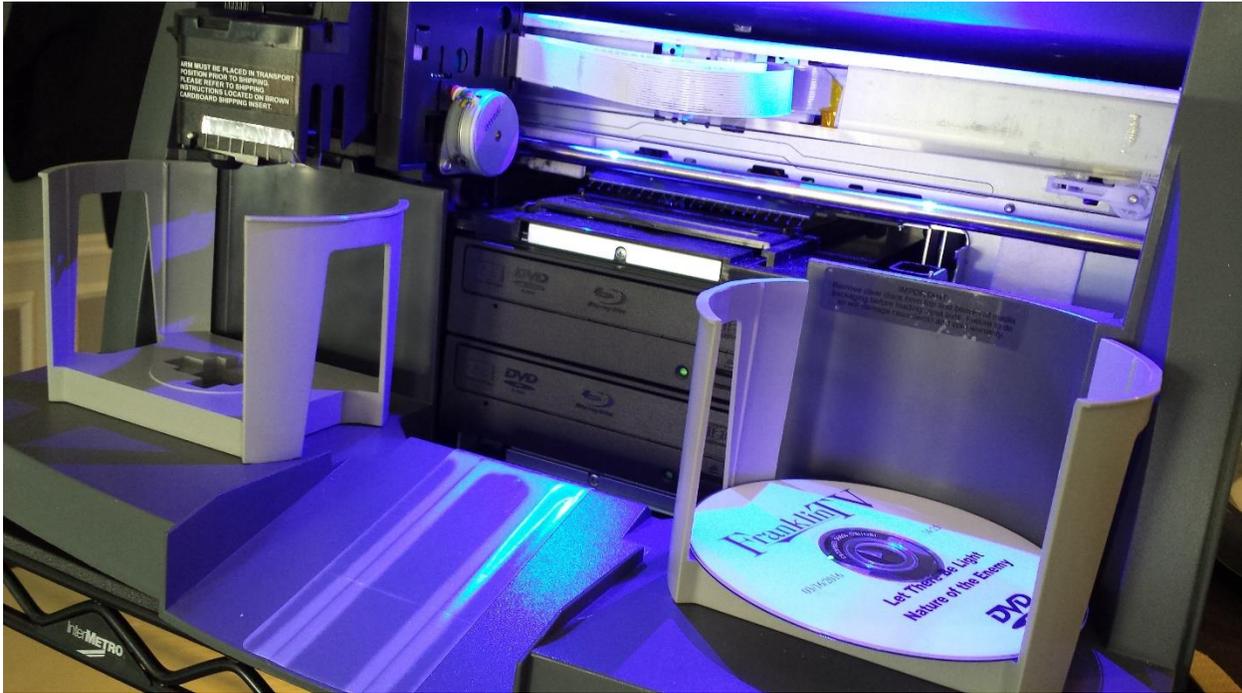
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# Let There Be DVDs

We got your DVDs right here! High Definition, too.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 03/27/2016

This is a robot.



I know it doesn't look like much of a robot, but it is. It's not what you conjure as that helpful mecha-servant that cleans the house or fetches slippers on command.

Most of today's robots are defined and designed for their tasks. Custom software and hardware come together to automate a drudgery. This robot's singular 'talent' is making DVD copies of our programs. All we can eat. It is prodigious and tireless. We simply show it what one DVD program looks like, and it will spit out (literally) hundreds of faithful copies in SD or HD - all part of a tireless day's work.

If there's a specific Franklin•TV program that interests you enough to want a DVD, just call. Our small but mighty DVD-bot is here to serve.

DVDs! If you want 'em, we got 'em.

And - thanks for watching!

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# It's Never Too Early...

Mom, what would you like for dinner?

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 04/03/2016



Healthy Cookies? Yes, she did.

Sandhya's second session in our FranklinTV kitchen was all about introducing kids to the yummy joys of cooking.

When kids learn how to make basic recipes in the kitchen they develop useful problem solving skills.

They develop independence. They also develop a greater appreciation for what mom (or dad) has to do in the kitchen when they say,

"What's for dinner?"

During this session Sandhya created five new tasty programs that we will be scheduling in the coming weeks. As a teacher, Sandhya enjoys sharing her passion for cooking. Through her kids' cooking classes, Sandhya also feeds their natural hunger for learning.

And - thanks for watching!

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And -  
Yes, I would love another cookie - or two -  
or... m - mmph! (I have no shame.)

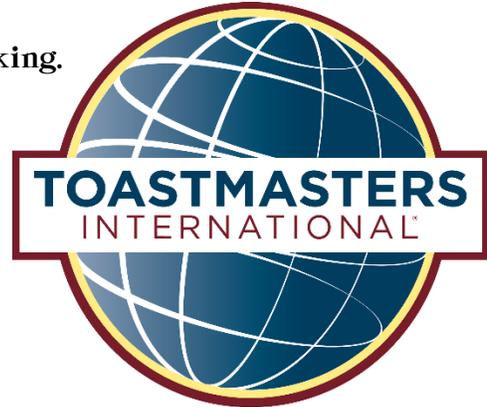
# Your Greatest Fear...?

Speaking in public – about your greatest fear.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 04/10/2016

Per Jerry Seinfeld:

“Most studies claim our worst fear is public speaking.  
Number two is death. Death is number two.  
Does that sound right?”

So – if you’re at a funeral, you’re better off in the casket than doing the eulogy.”



*Voice of Franklin*

**We Meet 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays**  
**7:30pm at Franklin.TV**

*~An Open Club ~*  
**Inviting members**  
**without limitation**



Well, get up and out of that casket because we have the answer for you.

The Voice of Franklin is one of the many local nonprofit groups that we support at Franklin•TV. The Voice of Franklin is the local chapter of Toastmasters International.

If you wish to face your worst (or second worst) fear head-on, consider coming to their next meeting at our studio. Every Toastmasters journey begins with a single speech. During that journey, members learn to tell their stories. They listen and answer. They build confidence. They plan and lead. They provide feedback – and accept it – and find their path to leadership.

Learn more. Check our listings to watch how our Voice of Franklin meetings work. Join the group. Come and experience a meeting first hand at our studio.

<https://www.toastmasters.org/>

<http://voiceoffranklin.toastmastersclubs.org/>

And – thanks for watching!



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# Trees are Awakening!

Go take a hike – along the Rail Trail.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 04/17/2016

Spring is fast upon us, and trees are waking up – sprouting – greening up. Few appreciate nature’s awakening more than the members of FBRTC the Franklin and Bellingham Rail Trail Committee

This week we are running our show about the Rail Trail on Tuesday and Wednesday. Check our schedule.

Our Rail Trail is actually a gateway to a longer run of natural grandeur.



**Franklin & Bellingham  
Rail Trail Committee**

Help us create a great multi-use recreation trail for our community.

*We meet monthly, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays,  
7:30pm at the YMCA, Franklin.  
All residents are welcome!*

Visit our website~  
[FranklinBellinghamRailTrail.org](http://FranklinBellinghamRailTrail.org)



The Southern New England Trunkline Trail (SNETT) is a stretch of connected rail trails that wends its way west for 22 miles from the Franklin State Forest to the Douglas State Forest on the west. From Franklin, it passes through six towns; Bellingham, Blackstone, Millville, Uxbridge, Douglas, as one of the longest trails in southern Massachusetts. Most towns have marked trail entrances, but parts of the trail remain unimproved. The FBRT & SNETT are enjoyed year-round by bicyclists, cross-country skiers, equestrians, and hikers. But, wait - there's more!

The SNETT connects to several other state and interstate trails. The SNETT comprises the eastern-most section of the larger Titanic Rail Trail, which extends from Blackstone to Palmer in the Pioneer Valley. To the southwest, the SNETT in Douglas is the main connection to the interstate Airline Trail in Thompson, CT. In Uxbridge, Millville, and Blackstone the SNETT is concurrent with the Blackstone River Bikeway, which will connect to Worcester in the north and Rhode Island to the south. Within Douglas State Forest, the SNETT intersects the Mid-State Trail, one of the Commonwealth’s long-distance hiking trails.

There’s a lot of Spring out there to take in. Hike on –

<http://www.franklinbellinghamrailtrail.org/>

And – thanks for watching!

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# Going Digital on Comcast

Our Comcast picture will be improving this week.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 04/24/2016



We have been sending our local programs to Verizon customers via our digital TV fiber link ever since FiOS came to Franklin. Sometime this week Comcast will also switch to our digital TV link for all three of Franklin's local TV channels. What does that mean? Comcast customers will enjoy a marked improvement in picture clarity. Our cost to implement this upgrade for Comcast? Thirty thousand.

A look back -

In 2010, Franklin installed high-speed fiber communication lines, including a direct link to Comcast - a digital upgrade. Connecting to Comcast was put on hold when they moved, centralizing their technical facilities to Milford. Comcast also passed ownership and day-to-day operation of their small Access TV studio on Main St. to the town. In 2012, Franklin.TV was contracted to rebuild and manage the studio. Over time we designed and built our new home; our TV studio on Hutchinson St. We also contributed funds and technical oversight for the new high school TV studio and expanded the town's digital fiber system to connect the high school and the municipal building directly to our studios.

Today, we are pleased to finally complete the fiber link between our studio and Comcast Milford. This digital connection will retire Comcast's old analog system, in place since the eighties. Our Comcast picture will improve significantly.

**A look ahead -**

**There's more to be done. Steady progress never takes a rest. Planning is already under way to rebuild our government channel's studio in Town Chambers. This work will take place over the summer. When completed, our town meetings will be recorded in high definition. Our website will be expanded to include on-demand streaming in HD for many of our programs. We are also completing the lighting system for our large main studio.**

**Wants & Needs -**

**Although our programming is produced in high definition, both Comcast and Verizon continue to limit our three local access channels to standard definition. This is true for most towns, and we continue to lobby the cable carriers to upgrade our channels to HDTV.**

**We also wish to have our programs listed on the cable company's electronic program guide. More folks could enjoy our local programs - if they knew when we were running them. For now, all we can do is post our weekly TV Guide on our website. We update it every Saturday.**

**HD channels - Program listings - our wish list.  
Because - steady progress never takes a rest.**

**Digital hope springs eternal.**

**And - thanks for watching!**

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# Our Annual Member Meeting

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 05/01/2016

The time has come once again for our annual open member board meeting. This year our meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm and is open to all. 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. You can also call us for more information. 508-541-4118.

This meeting is an opportunity to tour and learn about Franklin•TV's studio. Our facility enables us to provide full production support for Franklin residents and organizations who wish to create TV programs. It's also an opportunity to meet our current board and staff. At the annual open meetings the membership customarily casts votes for new and renewing board positions. This year we will vote to reaffirm board members and terms of their office on the current board as voted and accepted at the last open member meeting held on November 12, 2015. We will vote to reaffirm John Milot's board position for another 3 years.

We will also review the year's progress and plans for our radio station WFPR, its tower and facility construction and programming. We will also discuss Verizon's upcoming contract renewal and community needs.

**Excerpt from FCCA bylaws:** (Available on our website.)

Section 15. Election of Director by the Membership (a) Members shall be notified by the Clerk of the election of a director by the Membership at the Annual Meeting. Said notice shall be in accordance with the notice provisions of Section 4 of this Article IV. (b) Any eligible voting Member may be nominated for election to the position of Director by: (i) Written notification to the Clerk no later than seven (7) days prior to Annual Meeting; or (ii) By nomination from the floor of the Annual Meeting made and seconded by no less than three (3) eligible voting members.

## Meet Our Current FCCA Board



L to R: W. Ken Norman, John Milot, Nick Remissong, Anne K. Bergen, Jay Horrigan, Rose Turco, and Wesley Rea.

Please join us at our Franklin•TV event. Starting at 6:00pm we'll have tours of our facility, some good eats, and you can meet our board and staff. Meeting begins at 7:00pm. Come meet, greet, and learn all about local TV in Franklin.

**And - thanks for watching!**

Our Community Access  
**Franklin•TV**

# Property in Development (Part 1)

A very Hollywood thing..

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 05/08/2016

Around these parts when we hear that a property is under development we think of the construction work going on at the old town hall and such.



In Hollywood, the meaning is very different. In film-obsessed southern California, a property is any idea, concept, premise, treatment or script that might become a movie or TV show. These are properties.

The Hollywood insider's joke is that if you ask any parking valet or waiter; why yes, they do indeed have a property in development. Everyone has a multi-million dollar dog-eared script or idea treatment stuffed in their back pocket.

The development process is how a movie or TV concept is further defined and refined; polished and perfected. Without development, a script is simply a waste of a perfectly good ream of paper. Scripts (properties) and their arduous development are what make Hollywood - Hollywood.

Outside of H'wood, development receives short shrift. It's not that folks don't want to bother. It's that few appreciate its necessity, and fewer understand the creative alchemy of it. At Franklin•TV, our development process is a journey of design and discovery that guides our citizen producers to learn all that they and their shows can be. Development also separates passion from passing interest. If someone really wants to create a TV program, development can make it happen. Conversely, if there's no *there* there, development makes it clear that something's missing or just not working. Not every idea deserves to find its way to the screen. Thus, development also benefits our viewing audience.

At Franklin•TV we believe in development. When someone wants to create a new TV show we do our best to help him/her/them succeed and have some fun along the way. We dedicate time and take specific steps to help them shape their ideas and become comfortable with the process of making TV programs. This includes time to rehearse before the cameras and become adept at hosting (whatever that is), and learning how to guide great conversation. When we launch a new TV series we want our citizen producers and hosts to be ready and successful from episode one.

And - thanks for watching!

Our Community Access  
**FranklinTV**

# Property in Development, (Part 2)

A very Franklin thing...

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 05/15/2016

Last week I described in general terms the film and television industry concept of moving a property into development. A script or treatment is a valued property.

The backstory of Public Access TV: During the nascent years, access studios provided local citizens with a modicum of training and access to expensive (scarce) TV cameras, editing equipment and a local channel to cablecast programs. Today, the world has moved on. Video cameras are commonplace. There are software programs (some are free) to edit camera files into finished video programs.

<http://www.videolan.org/vlmc/>

So, as a public access studio, what makes us special today? Program development.

At Franklin•TV our development process is fairly extensive. Worthwhile TV programming doesn't just happen. The journey from enthusiasm to episodes is just that - a journey of many unseen, unfamiliar steps. This is preproduction.

So, you have an idea for a TV show. Every program has a mission; a core narrative. We begin by brainstorming - exploring your program ideas and topics of interest. We help you to refine your own understanding of what your program is and is not. This exploration should lead you to a crisp, clear program title that says it all.

Your program's mission and title must also be expressed visually. Your program's visible elements - title design, supporting graphics/effects, and set design - should visually reinforce your central narrative. This preparatory work must be done before you create your first TV program. We do that. It's our investment in you.

Then there's getting ready to be great. We arrange a studio session just for the purpose of practicing. What does it mean to 'host' a show? How do you interact with cameras (the audience) and your guests? What constitutes a good interview, and how do you guide that as an engaging conversation? This takes practice. With guidance, feedback and encouragement, we help you.

If you have a program idea and a passion, we have a process. We can get you there.

And - thanks for watching!

Our Community Access  
**Franklin•TV**

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# A Job Opening

For someone who can do it all?

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 05/22/2016

We have a job opening. I'm posting the information here first for these reasons:

You live in or near Franklin and you know the area.

You watch us.

We're looking to expand our service to the community. The position is for a community video producer for news and social media related programming.

Our goal is to produce news and information programming for Franklin on a recurring basis. This and other programs and information will also be posted for engagement via social media.

Our ideal candidate is a people person with good writing and communication skills. This person will also provide outreach and support for residents creating their own programs.

Our ideal candidate is also adept at using and learning a variety of visual, social media and related computer programs. This role will begin as a part-time position. Over time, success might enable us to advance this role to a full-time position.

We are a small broadcast operation, but we pride ourselves in doing innovative work. We do all we can to support our residents and other nonprofit groups, and occasionally, our small team gets to tell small stories that are larger than life.

See more details on the following page.

And - thanks for watching!



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Franklin TV is a service oriented Community Access TV studio.

We have a part-time opening for a Community Producer with broad social, media, and presentation skills.

In the course of your regular duties and responsibilities, you will:

- Be involved in all aspects of program production – perhaps on both sides of the lens.
- Record and edit programs. Coordinate and direct multi-camera shoots.
- Oversee production facilities during normal business hours. Respond to public inquiries.
- Manage equipment inventory; keep organized and in good order and coordinate its usage.
- Provide instruction, mentoring and assistance to others in studio and field production, videography, lighting, audio, video editing, proper equipment use and care.
- Recruit and schedule volunteers and producers as needed for community productions.
- Undertake other reasonable tasks and responsibilities assigned by the Executive Director.

You must have a minimum of 2 years of experience in all aspects of digital media production.

Your experience includes a working knowledge of:

- Video cameras, studio & portable lighting equipment
- Digital file based workflows, Windows & Apple OS, MS Office, Ethernet and related I.T. infrastructure.
- Nonlinear Video Editing, Audio Editing and Mixing Programs.
- Graphics and Image Editing, Titling and Animation Programs, Live Production Systems.
- Program Automation Systems, Video and Audio signals and standards.
- Social media, New media, CMS and web development tools.

Your essential and interpersonal skills include:

- Solid verbal and written communications, organization, planning and presentation skills.
- Comfortable on-camera, on-mic presence and presentation.
- Ability to interact and provide support to coworkers, the public, town officials.
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively.
- A positive, can-do, professional demeanor.
- Ability and self-motivation to master new software tools and skills as needed.
- Flexibility to work some evenings and weekends.
- Driver's license, transportation, the ability to comfortably lift and carry up to 50 pounds.
- You must pass a CORI background check.

Plusses:

- Communications degree or related life experience.
- On-camera presence, narrative/voice-over experience, script writing.
- Portfolio of creative works.

FCCA/Franklin TV is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified individuals are encouraged to apply. Compensation is commensurate with skill and experience.

Submit a cover letter, resume, work references and portfolio or links to recent works.

Applicants may submit information via email to [info@franklin.tv](mailto:info@franklin.tv) before June 15, 2016.

Information also may be sent by mail to:

Executive Director  
Franklin TV  
23 Hutchinson St.  
Franklin, MA 02038

No phone calls or on-site inquiries, please.

# Pride & Remembrance

Soldier is a verb.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 05/29/2016



**Memorial Day!**

If there were no holiday to welcome our summers, we would have to create one.

Time to look forward to vacation plans and grilling with friends and family. The warm days are ahead. Summer's outlook is sunny on this most optimistic day.



**Memorial Day!**

If there were no holiday to honor our brave and fallen, we would have to create one.

Time to look back and reflect in pride and remembrance, honoring all, both living and gone for their dedication, service and valor on this most solemn day.

Throughout our nation's history we have been solemn optimists. Each generation has faced adversity and scabbled together enough optimism and tenacity to keep going. We have always moved ahead - made things better. It's what we do.

With the playing of taps, we pause in solemnity to honor and remember. Then we move on, taking pride in all that came before to build something new and better.

**Memorial Day!**

If there was any collective wish for our nation by the brave and fallen, it might be this: Keep going. We are the bright unknown future that they bet their lives on. At the very least, we owe them that sunny optimism of summer.

Thus, for them and for ourselves - we soldier on.

And - thanks for watching!



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**FranklinTV**

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# FHS Graduation 2016

Another one in the books.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 06/05/2016

Ever have one of those days? On Friday 6/3,, it was our turn.

On Thursday and Friday we received several phone calls asking if we were going to cover graduation live. Yes. Absolutely. We look forward to it, as do all the moms, dads, relatives and friends of the graduating class.

The technical planning for covering a key live event - graduation - is extensive. We began organizing equipment several weeks ago. We convert the gym into a TV studio, cabling and installing 5 cameras and all the associated control systems. Installing and testing the entire system takes the better part of a day and is in place, tested and working on Thursday, the day before graduation.

We send the program to the projectors in the gym and the auditorium. We stream the event via the school's internal media system and YouTube Live as well. We also send the program over our private fiber system to our Hutchinson St. studio for cablecasting on both the Public Access and Educational Channels.

That was the plan.

Four hours before graduation we learned that our fiber lines had been damaged somewhere between the school and our studio; a repair that will take days. No quick fix. Time to go to Plan B. Yes, we had a Plan B.

In short order we had our backup system in place. We connected the school's incoming YouTube stream directly to our control system. With everything tested and working we were good to go. Then, just as graduation ceremonies began, the backup equipment failed.

It's times like this when long-range contingent planning - planning for the worst - can be the difference between a temporary disruption and complete failure. In about twenty minutes we connected a spare backup system. We maintain an inventory of contingent equipment just for such purposes. Even in a digital world technical glitches are a frustrating part of live TV. The best laid plans of mice and men oft go awry. But, with options to mitigate the awry, hopefully not for long.

And - thanks for watching!



# Government Meetings, Part 1

More meetings, more often.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 06/12/2016

This week we are overhauling and expanding our Government Channel services. Town Hall TV on C11 and V29 will be featuring a new expanded replay schedule for all government meetings. We have installed new equipment in our distribution system that will enable us to run a schedule of meeting replays on Town Hall TV throughout the week. Here is a sample schedule that we are currently planning:



Note that from time to time, government meetings may be cancelled or rescheduled to a later date on short notice.

## Monday 6/20

09:00 AM Planning Board 05/23/16  
03:00 PM Planning Board 05/23/16  
07:00 PM Planning Board, LIVE

## Tuesday 6/21

07:00 PM School Committee 05/24/16

## Wednesday 6/22

09:00 AM Town Council 05/25/16  
03:00 PM Town Council 05/25/16  
06:00 PM Town Council, LIVE

## Thursday 6/23

09:00 AM Conservation Commission 5/26/16  
03:00 PM Conservation Commission 5/26/16  
07:15 PM Conservation Commission, LIVE

## Tuesday 6/28

09:00 AM School Committee 05/24/16  
03:00 PM School Committee 05/24/16  
07:00 PM School Committee, LIVE

## Thursday 6/30

09:00 AM Zoning Board of Appeals 5/19/16  
03:00 PM Zoning Board of Appeals 5/19/16  
07:30 PM Zoning Board of Appeals, LIVE

Our new Town Hall TV playback schedule is still taking shape, and we are planning to include additional replay times. When would you like to see meeting replays? Please let us know.

And - thanks for watching!

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**FranklinTV**

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# Government Meetings, Part 2

More meetings, more often.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 06/19/2016

This week we are overhauling and expanding our Government Channel services. Town Hall TV on C11 and V29 will be featuring a new expanded replay schedule for all government meetings. *Sometime this week we anticipate making the switch-over after a bit of reprogramming, scheduling and testing.* Then all government meetings will replay on Town Hall TV on a regularly scheduled basis.

Watch all government meetings – live & replays – on Town Hall TV, C11 & V29.

Here is a sample schedule that we are currently planning:



Note that from time to time, government meetings may be cancelled or rescheduled to a later date on short notice.

## Monday 6/20

09:00 AM Planning Board 05/23/16  
03:00 PM Planning Board 05/23/16  
07:00 PM Planning Board, LIVE

## Tuesday 6/21

07:00 PM School Committee 05/24/16

## Wednesday 6/22

09:00 AM Town Council 05/25/16  
03:00 PM Town Council 05/25/16  
06:00 PM Town Council, LIVE

## Thursday 6/23

09:00 AM Conservation Commission 5/26/16  
03:00 PM Conservation Commission 5/26/16  
07:15 PM Conservation Commission, LIVE

## Tuesday 6/28

09:00 AM School Committee 05/24/16  
03:00 PM School Committee 05/24/16  
07:00 PM School Committee, LIVE

## Thursday 6/30

09:00 AM Zoning Board of Appeals 5/19/16  
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07:30 PM Zoning Board of Appeals, LIVE

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And – thanks for watching!

Our Community Access  
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# It Flew By – Again.

Random thoughts – with apologies to Douglas Adams.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 06/26/2016

It happened again. One of my favorite days just passed rather unceremoniously. It came. It was nice. It was gone. The Summer Solstice is the longest day of the year. No one gives notice.

Winter Solstice enjoys its moment in the Sun (pun intended) as the origin for all the late December Yuletide festivities from Saturnalia and on. With winter's shortest day behind, we celebrate, anticipating the sure return of light. That's what's happening this week astrologically and meteorologically (but not sociologically) with our very good friends down-undah.  
Wait! What?

On summer solstice eve, as we sleep in warmth, the Aussies wake twelve hours (give-take) ahead of us. In Adelaide, Perth, Melbourne and Sydney they rise to their shortest day, and with that, they must bravely countenance the onslaught of a Southern winter – without holiday cheer or fanfare. They suffer.



That's winter's hallmark. It onslaughts. Winter goes South for the summer. Summer solstice makes a kinder, more considerate entry. Thus, a busy schedule takes no heed, and my favorite solstice slips by yet again without fanfare.

I, for one, won't complain about summer's heat. Summer Solstice brings this gift of light and warmth that I so longed for last January. So, what of this longest day?

Let me suggest that we in the Northern hemisphere cobble a Summer Solstice Day dedicated to sending warmest wishes (and anything else that generates warmth) to our Aussie friends. True, they are a hardy lot, but compassion must prevail.

So, reach out and be kind to an Aussie this week.  
In about six months we just might need them.

And as we say in New England –  
Summer Solstice Day? Wait 'til next year.

And – thanks for watching!



# | 4<sup>th</sup> in 3D | 4<sup>th</sup> in 3D |

Yes, this headline really is typed as a 3D Anaglyph.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 07/03/2016

This year's laser show on the Town Common will feature animated images in 3D. When watching the laser program, wear those 3D glasses with the red-blue filters.

Oct. 13, 1936. F. H. OWENS 2,057,051  
METHOD OF DRAWING AND PHOTOGRAPHING STEREOSCOPIC PICTURES IN RELIEF  
Filed Aug. 11, 1934 2 Sheets-Sheet 1



Freeman H. Owens. Inventor By Eusey Booth, Amy Holcombe his Attorneys

The colored 3D images are called stereo anaglyphs; a process patented by inventor Freeman Owens in 1936. They created a 3D comic book craze in the forties and fifties.

That craze has continued through the years in various forms such as 3D stereography and 3D movies. Modern films use polarized glasses that show the full color range.

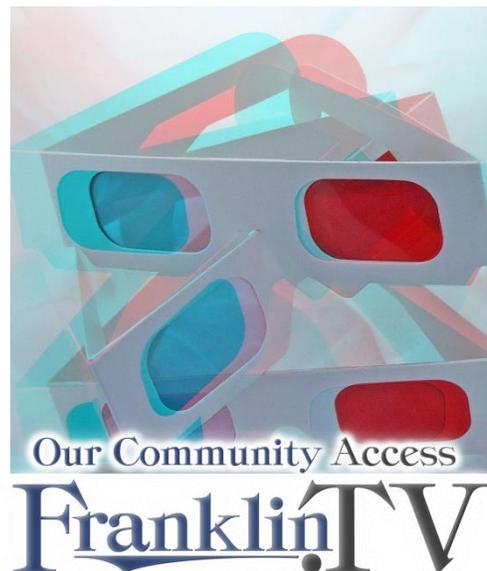
So - here's where things could get interesting. We are recording all of the festivities and events as usual. It will be interesting to observe what happens if you don colored glasses when we replay the laser show.

You might be able to see the 3D laser effects on TV as well - if the red-blue colors coming from your TV screen are close enough to the colors of both the laser and your glasses.

Anaglyphs tend to work poorly when shifting between additive and subtractive color systems. The techno-uber-geek in me knows why, but I won't digress. The effect will either work or not.

My uber-geek will be checking. Happy Fourth.

And - thanks for watching!



# Sound Ideas About Sound

Getting the sound- more challenging than the picture.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 07/10/2016

Sound 101 - we never think about the sound until it's either very distorted or - gone.

A joke: What do you call a video program without sound? Surveillance.

Up until 1929 pictures without sound was the norm. Such was the silent movie era. Although our most famous inventor Edison gave us the phonograph and movies, old Tommy never succeeded in marrying these technologies. A totally unsung, yet equally prolific inventor, Freeman Owens did exactly that, creating fully synchronized sound on film circa 1928. This innovation introduced a host of new challenges to moviemaking. Movie cameras had to be redesigned to run quietly. Microphones were stuffed into potted plants, furniture, floor lamps and placed as close as possible to anywhere the actors might be standing while they performed their lines.



I can sum up the challenge simply as: recording the sounds you want while avoiding the sounds you don't want. In practice, isolating (framing) the sound you want is much more difficult than framing the picture you want.

We instinctively *look at* whatever we wish to record with our video camera. We simply zoom our camera lens in to magnify and frame the subject of interest. Sadly, there's no true equivalent for sound - a zoom microphone. Long, pencil shaped shotgun microphones are a help, but don't come close to the reach of a modern lens. They are but one tool in an arsenal of microphones for recording sound with picture. The built-in camera mic provides ambient sound from the viewpoint of the camera. This *acoustical perspective* can be useful, but it takes in everything around us. However, we expect sound for the spoken word to be clear, up close and personal. In short, for microphones, closer is almost always better. If the subject is far away, the choice is usually a wireless microphone. You hide one on whomever is speaking. If two or more people are talking, the challenge becomes more complex. The microphone should somehow be hidden between the speakers.

Sounds like it's back to that potted plant gag.

And - thanks for watching!



# How Loud is a Loud Sound

If a tree falls in the woods- it's loud if it's a commercial.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 07/17/2016

This week I let my techy uber-geek loose again. For those of us in the video/audio engineering world, this chart is gospel. We plan systems, adjust and tweak stuff “for your listening and viewing pleasure”.

Last week I attended another engineering summit on managing sound levels. Why? Because people still believe commercials are too loud. Technically, they're not.

Franklin•TV doesn't run ads, but we do follow the procedures of stations that do. What some pushy advertisers do is make their ads punch through by making all their sound louder through compression. Then they 'brighten' it up by adding a bit more 'treble' where speech frequencies reside. It's legal, but it's annoying.

TV stations are on that. There is an FCC rule in the works called the 'CALM' act. Commercial Ad Loudness Mitigation. This rule permits/demands TV stations to make adjustments to compensate for advertisers who push the loudest sound they can in their ads. This is a law that TV stations have wanted for a long time.

It's all about making the commercials no longer sound like they're 'off the charts'.

And - thanks for watching!

dB	Power ratio	Amplitude ratio
100	10 000 000 000	100 000
90	1 000 000 000	31 623
80	100 000 000	10 000
70	10 000 000	3 162
60	1 000 000	1 000
50	100 000	316.2
40	10 000	100
30	1 000	31.62
20	100	10
10	10	3.162
6	3.981	1.995 ≈ 2
3	1.995 ≈ 2	1.413
1	1.259	1.122
0	1	1
-1	0.794	0.891
-3	0.501 ≈ 1/2	0.708
-6	0.251	0.501 ≈ 1/2
-10	0.1	0.316 2
-20	0.01	0.1
-30	0.001	0.031 62
-40	0.000 1	0.01
-50	0.000 01	0.003 162
-60	0.000 001	0.001
-70	0.000 000 1	0.000 316 2
-80	0.000 000 01	0.000 1
-90	0.000 000 001	0.000 031 62
-100	0.000 000 000 1	0.000 01

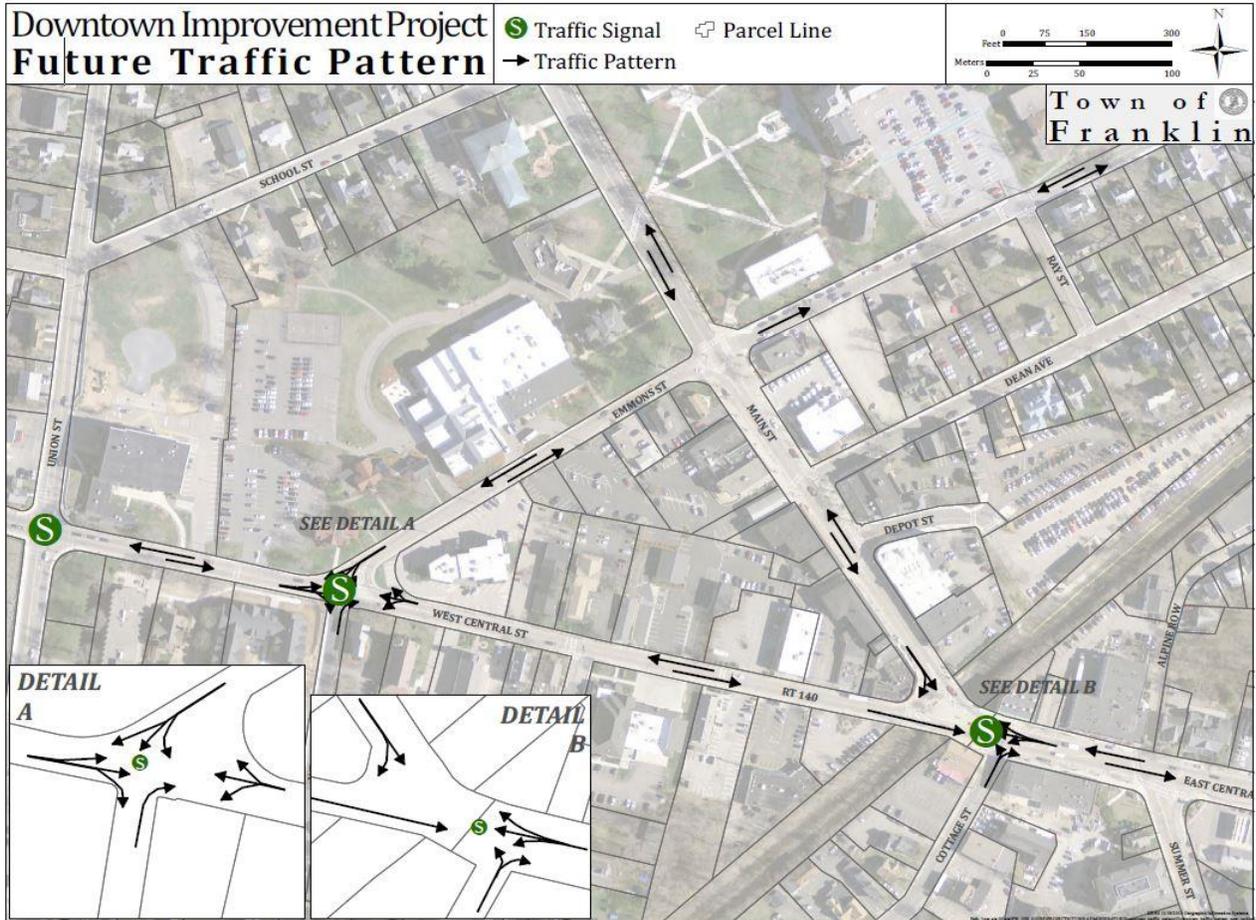
An example scale showing power ratios  $x$  and amplitude ratios  $\sqrt{x}$  and dB equivalents  $10 \log_{10} x$ . It is easier to grasp and compare 2- or 3-digit numbers than to compare up to 10 digits.



# Just Doing Our Small Part

The times – and traffic patterns – they are a-changin’.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 07/24/2016



Tuesday, July 26<sup>th</sup> is the big day. What was for so long a distant horizon event is now here. ( No way! Yes way!) Two-way traffic comes to downtown Franklin. Please be extra mindful of all the new traffic markings and lights. There are new stoplights on Central St. at both the Emmons St. and Main St. intersections.

Headed for downtown Main? Coming from the west along Central St., if you were accustomed to turning left onto Main at the tracks– that is no more. Now you will turn left a block sooner– onto Emmons and then right onto Main. Coming from the east, you will have the familiar option to bear a slight right onto Main St. or (new) continue straight through on Central St. (Route 140) to Emmons St. and beyond. It’s all now two-way all the way. At last – we actually get to have it both ways.

And – thanks for watching!



# Franklin Home Gardener

Few simple pleasures say 'Summer' quite like gardening.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 07/31/2016



Every two or three weeks Ken Norman (left) takes us on a field trip to visit Colin Cass and his meticulous garden.

We bear witness to the work and the resulting rewards of growth through the season.

Start with seeds. Add planning, some effort, a dab of patience, and hopefully, some good growing weather.



Gardening is a quiet magic, but a magic nonetheless. The result is a small miracle of our own devising.



And - thanks for watching!

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**FranklinTV**

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# That Other Project

The one we'll get to when we have time.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 08/07/2016



Technology – Seems like you just got comfy with that new cell phone or computer. Now it's (yup) time to upgrade (again).



Such is the nature of our digital existence. Newer, faster, better. Now, consider our TV studio. It's full of digital stuff. Digital advancements keep coming.

Studio upgrading and equipment planning is without end. Thus, a TV studio is a living thing that grows, changes, adds new capabilities.



We first moved to Hutchinson St. in Feb, 2013. At that time we assembled a 'temporary' playback system (upper left). Now, 3.5 years later, after several 'temporary' upgrades – adding high school and Town Hall connections, a Comcast digital upgrade, data storage systems and more, it's still going strong, but due for an overhaul and some forward-looking permanence.

Other current projects; our large studio lighting, our radio tower, our Town Hall rebuild – are all waiting for approvals, deliveries or estimates. With a break in the action, a slice of time opens up for 'that project', started when we first moved.

Even when it's done – it's never really quite done.

And – thanks for watching!

# The Life of Reilly

Our youngest voice speaks - kid to kid.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 08/14/2016

They called. They asked if it was possible to visit our TV studio.

Yup. No problem. Yoobetcha.  
(We do this all the time.)

Reilly DeForge and his mom Tracey came for a tour. They asked if a kid could produce his own TV show.



(Brief pause -)  
Yup. No problem. Yoobetcha.  
(We've never done this.)

In the next hour I went from curious to confident as Reilly described his ideas for a TV series.

Reilly had given this a lot of thought, and as we talked he was taking detailed notes - factoring in all the new information I was offering.

This week we finished our third studio session; recording two more programs in his series of kid interviews, kid activities and kid interests.

Reilly is earning his self-proclaimed title: *Doctor of Kid-ology*. He is doing well, learning, and developing many new skills that will benefit him throughout his adult life.

Yup. No problem. Yoobetcha.

And - thanks for watching!



# ACM/Alliance for Community Media

Our annual national organization meeting comes to Boston.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 08/21/2016



Massachusetts has a strong reputation for supporting Public Access TV. There are hundreds of small local studios just like Franklin•TV all across our state - and across the country. Each of us does all we can to improve our cities and towns.

Many of us are members of ACM, the Alliance for Community Media. As a trade organization, they define our national presence and work with federal and state legislators to shape the future of local Access TV. In Massachusetts we also have a statewide organization, MassAccess. Both groups work to educate members on all manner of new PEG TV developments. P/E/G is our acronym for your local Public Access, Educational and Government cable TV channels.

At these conventions we can compare our operations, share ideas, catch up on what's happening with media techniques and technologies, cable TV legislation, new directions, and new challenges.

While our PEG TV charter remains at the heart of what we do, our newer identity as a local *Community Media Center* offers up a new TLA (three-letter acronym).

We are a CMC.

That said, given all that our media future can be – and all that we wish to do for Franklin and its residents – it all becomes increasingly difficult to reduce to just three letters that provide easy, clear and relevant meaning for people.

A Community Media Center can be many things. We are shaped in part by how towns define our charter. Fortunately, at Franklin•TV our forward looking bylaws were carefully crafted by the town's cable board and key advisors.



When TV began, Hollywood moguls eschewed it as the plywood box in the living room. They feared change. Facing today's digital media world, we have to think outside that box. Our bylaws clearly support a future of change.

Excerpted from Franklin•TV bylaws:

- ... providing access to existing and future communications media used in the production and/or cablecasting of PEG access programming.
- ... and for the innovative use of said access channels and other forms of communications media.
- ... Distribute PEG programming, by cablecasting, broadcasting, or by any other means, within and/or outside of the Town of Franklin.
- ... the operation, scheduling, and/or management of the PEG access channels, facilities and equipment or other information and/or telecommunications services, including Internet or information services.

Thus, the ongoing challenge before us is to embrace and master an expanding media landscape – and be the go-to source and resource for helping Franklin residents and businesses with all matters media related.

And so, our national conference is an annual opportunity to anticipate the changes. For a few days each year we shuffle from meeting room to meeting room and topic to topic. Powerpoint slides click by. We scribble notes. We get a bit smarter.



Conventions are important. In the weeks to come their imported wisdoms will filter into our long-range and into our day-to-day. We will create change and be changed – for the better. It gives new meaning to the term, 'conventional wisdom'.

And – thanks for watching!



# Making Progress – 4 Years Later.

On 08/24/2012 – we published our first newsletter.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 08/28/2016

I think I accidentally wrote a book. On this week four years ago I began publishing our weekly program guide and with that, some thoughts on the week gone by, the week ahead, or random what have you. Not having missed a week, that's over 200 missives and musings. Technically, a motley book of sorts.

At that time I had been onboard for 5 months as the new guy. Our Franklin•TV board and I were deep in the planning stages – visiting other PEG TV studios and learning what designs worked best. Today, other studios in the making have come to visit our facility for the same insights. We're happy to return the kindness.

In 2012 we created a long-term development plan. It consisted of many specific projects that would be prioritized and tackled over time, each requiring funds, time and those ever precious MAUs (Management Attention Units – research, and that personal, roll up the sleeves engagement and oversight). Today we have whittled that lengthy original wish list of major projects to just a few remaining. However, as they say in TV infomercials, “But wait! There's more!”

Such is the nature of progress. It's ongoing. There is always more to do. There is no sanguine moment to park hands on hips and declare, “My work here is done.” As our original project list is being checked off, new items are being added.

Such is the beauty of progress. It unfolds. It reveals shiny new things. You say to yourself (and anyone who'll listen), “We have to do that. We have to.” Progress is the fuel of enthusiasm. Enthusiasm is also the fuel of progress. It's a virtuous cycle.

For me, living my accidental book has been a real page turner. Such is the great gift of progress. Let it be without end. Why?

Progress = happiness. Srsly! One of my favorite books (other than this one) is by futurist Buckminster Fuller, “I Seem to be a Verb.”

He describes mankind primarily as a doing creature. We are happiest not in a place, but rather, at a rate – of progress.

And – thanks for watching!



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# Verizon & Community Ascertainment

Verizon is up for renewal – What do you want/like?  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 09/04/2016

Verizon FIOS service came to Franklin in 2006. Their agreement with the Town of Franklin expires in December and is up for renegotiation and renewal. That process has begun. Technically, Verizon is the cable service provider (The Carrier) and the Town of Franklin is the recognized LFA, (the Legal Franchising Authority).

This fall there will be a Verizon Community Needs Ascertainment meeting.

On a date to be determined a public meeting will be conducted in Town Chambers to discuss Verizon's service to date as well as the Town's and cable subscriber needs and wants going forward.

Note that Franklin•TV is a separate third party to these negotiations. We work under our own agreement with the Town to provide programming on Franklin's three local Pub26/Edu28/Gov29 TV channels on Verizon.

The public community needs ascertainment meeting that the Town will conduct is your opportunity to participate in the Verizon negotiation. What do you want?

What do we at Franklin•TV want? We would like to offer you HDTV programs on all channels. We would also like to have our programs listed on the TV guide – so you can find them. We would like Verizon to provide internet streaming video support for our programming. Cable carriers do not support local TV channels beyond the old standard definition analog TV service. In today's digital, High-Def, smart-media world, we are contractually stuck in the past. These modern services for local channels are already in place in a growing number of municipalities.

Our wish is simple: We want Verizon to enable us to offer you better TV service.

What else would you like from Verizon? You can weigh in when Franklin schedules its Verizon Community Needs Ascertainment meeting this fall. More on this as details unfold. Stay tuned.

To learn more about Franklin•TV and our services to the community please see our Annual Town Report at the end of our schedule.

And – thanks for watching!



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**2016 Report for our operating year 2015  
FRANKLIN COMMUNITY CABLE ACCESS, INC.  
dba Franklin•TV (www.franklin.tv)**

Franklin•TV is an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. We operate the local access TV studios for Franklin. We produce local TV programs on three channels:

**Franklin All Access TV**

Our Public Access Channel (Comcast 8, Verizon 26).

**Franklin Pride TV**

Our Educational Channel (Comcast 96, Verizon 28).

**Franklin Town Hall TV**

Our Government Channel (Comcast 11, Verizon 29).



We are Franklin's local TV channels on Comcast and Verizon, but we do not provide cable TV service.

**Background**

The Town of Franklin is the *Local Franchise Authority* (LFA) that maintains agreements with Comcast and Verizon cable TV providers. Franklin•TV's funding comes from a 4.8% access fee on cable service that cable subscribers pay via these agreements.

As an IRS 501(c)(3) charitable organization we also may receive grants and donations from contributors. F•TV does not rely on government taxes. F•TV pays a PILOT fee (Payment In Lieu Of Taxes) to the Town of Franklin by agreement. We are the first nonprofit organization that pays for town services.

**Local Programming Produced in 2015**

During our 2015 operating year we generated:

- 217 Public Access Programs
- 95 School/Sports Programs
- 19 School/Civic Events Programs
- 96 Government Meetings
- 427 Locally Produced Programs**

All of these programs were produced, recorded and edited by our staff on behalf of Franklin residents, organizations, agencies and local government.

Our extensive production support reaches beyond the customary charter of other public access studios to lend equipment and provide technical training. This additional commitment of professional support enables us to provide a broader range of programs



**Community Bulletin Board Service**

In addition to programming, Franklin•TV offers free community announcements on our Bulletin Board for all three P/E/G channels. Nonprofit organizations who wish to promote their meetings, special events and activities are welcome to contact us.



## Our Studios and Offices



We have five thousand square feet that houses two video studios (a large drive-in access studio and an interview studio), two audio recording rooms, four digital video editing/effects systems, and our offices.

We also have general purpose Community Meeting Space available – free to qualified nonprofit groups and service organizations for occasional meetings. Our facility accommodates up to 30 people.



## Franklin TV Our Public Service

- Organizations we support
  - Creating a public good.



10 of 21

## Our Comcast Digital Connection



After some years of effort, we finally succeeded in arranging for Comcast to upgrade our PEG channels connection to digital fiber. We are now connected by our own private fiber directly to the Comcast Milford Network Operations Center (NOC). This noise and distortion free connection was installed in April at a cost to us of \$30,000. This digital upgrade retires the obsolete Comcast analog RF iNet link that experienced regular signal outages and interference.

## Our Interview Studio

Franklin TV has two studios. Our smaller studio is an excellent facility for staging and recording interview and discussion programs. In 2015 this room was transformed with five all-digital displays that provide fully animated backgrounds. This novel approach enables us to stage more programs very efficiently, with each enjoying customized graphic set design.



## Scholarships

In June, as part of our continuing commitment to Franklin students, Franklin•TV awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors:

Tatyana Youssef of Franklin High  
Emily Scannell of Tri-County High

Our congratulations and best wishes go out to them in their academic endeavors.

## A Broadcasting Opportunity, WFPR-FM

In February of 2014, Franklin•TV was awarded a construction permit by the FCC for a 100 Watt, noncommercial educational FM radio station. WFPR, (Franklin Public Radio) broadcasting on 102.9 FM. The FCC received 3,000 applications. Franklin.TV was among 81 Massachusetts applicants. Of these, 19 permits were granted, with 8 going to P/E/G studios like Franklin•TV. WFPR will be an extension of F•TV's services to the community and surrounding towns. Our construction permit runs to February, 2017 to allow sufficient time to properly site and construct a broadcast antenna.

FPR will also provide opportunities for local citizens to have a voice by producing their own programs or participating as volunteers to make our radio station successful as a local community resource.

## Our Charter Operations

We continue to see increasing requests from various town agencies and civic organizations to provide TV coverage for local events. We cover Franklin events that are cultural or institutional in nature and of general interest.

We are always interested in training volunteers who would like to learn the craft of video production. Trained volunteers and interns work alongside our roster of free-lance and staff professionals to shoot and edit the institutional programs that we cover.

## Citizen Access

Residents who produce their own access programs are the owners of these programs. As such, these producers hold their own copyright and may copy and distribute these programs freely, provided that the programs are cablecast on the Franklin system.

Per our Public Access charter, we do not provide equipment for covering private or personal events or for purposes other than generating Access Programs to be shown over the Franklin cable system

Information about our weekly programming can be found on our web site: [www.franklin.tv](http://www.franklin.tv).

While visiting our website, also read our informative F.A.Q. on P/E/G TV studios, their operation, history and charter. We also recommend browsing our past newsletter archives to learn more about Franklin•TV, our growth and development, and the civic events that we cover throughout the year.

Finally, in closing, *"Thanks for watching!"*

Respectfully submitted,

Franklin•TV's Board of Directors

Ken Norman, President  
Jay Horrigan, Vice President  
Wesley Rea, Treasurer  
John Milot, Clerk  
Anne Bergen, Nick Remissong, Rose Turco

Peter Fasciano, Executive Director

# Legal Notice – Forge Hill Tower

Franklin•TV has filed an application with the FCC for a tower.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 09/11/2016

Notice is hereby given that as of Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> the Federal Communications Commission is conducting a 30 day public comment period regarding an application to construct a 120 foot radio communications tower to be located at the DPW water site, 71 Forge Hill Road in Franklin, MA.

The applicant is Franklin Community Cable Access, Inc., dba Franklin•TV. 23 Hutchinson St., Franklin, MA 02038 508-541-4118. Franklin•TV proposes to construct a radio tower at the top of Forge Hill for use by its planned FM station WFPR-LP and also by Franklin public safety services, fire, police and other municipal uses. Information on this project is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Franklin•TV studio.

The Franklin Zoning Board of Appeals approved a building variance for this project at its public meeting conducted on 2016-08-11.

The Franklin Conservation Commission reviewed and accepted the Federal Environment Assessment presented by Franklin•TV at its public meeting conducted on 2016-08-18.

Franklin•TV's FCC FRN is 0023087646. The tower TCNS Notice# 140853  
All persons or organizations wishing to file comment with the FCC regarding this project may contact the FCC. For guidance on filing comments, visit:  
[fcc.gov/consumers/guides/how-comment](http://fcc.gov/consumers/guides/how-comment)

Comments sent via U.S. Post should be addressed to:

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12th Street, SW  
Room TW-B204  
Washington, DC 20554

To learn more about Franklin•TV and our services to the community please see our Annual Town Report at the end of our schedule.

And – thanks for watching!



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# Go, Panthers!

An expanded sports season ahead on Franklin•TV  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 09/18/2016

It's that time of year. It's fall.  
The Autumnal Equinox returns.  
The leaves (not so much this year).  
The ever encroaching darkness.  
The foreboding cooler nights.  
(Insert doom&gloom music here.)  
"Winter is coming."  
(winteriscoming.net)  
But, I digress.

It's- Panther Season! (Fanfare)



This year we are stepping up with expanded coverage - both home and away - and interviews and insights with our sports guru in residence, Jay Horrigan.

Get to know (and root for) the teams, the captains, the coaches, and watch all the Panther action on our school channel, Franklin Pride.



Say it with me now. Go, Panthers!

And - thanks for watching!

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# #shopFranklin

There's no business like local business, on Franklin•TV

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 09/25/2016



#shopFranklin sums it up in a nice tight hashtag.

Sarah Mabardy was on a quest to promote local shops and businesses when she came to see me. We discussed programming ideas. I explained that we can't run commercials on local TV, but we definitely support a strong local economy.



That discussion eighteen months ago (along with Sarah's constant efforts) has evolved into one of our fave TV series all about getting to know our local family businesses in Franklin. When our local economy is healthy we are the better for it.



When you shop:

- If you enjoy neighborly advice and support -
- If you enjoy discovering unique products -
- If you enjoy being appreciated where you live -

Then - #shopFranklin!

And - thanks for watching!



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# October is Election Season

All about voting, on Our Franklin - on Franklin•TV  
 by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 10/02/2016

That's right - the actual election process - voting - is no longer just a specific day, (November 8<sup>th</sup>) but a season. Welcome to our first year for early voting as a new option in the 2016 Presidential Election.

The opportunity for early voting runs for two full weeks beginning on Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup> through Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.



Monday	Oct 24	8 AM - 4 PM
Tuesday	Oct 25	8 AM - 4 PM
Wednesday	Oct 26	<u>8 AM - 7 PM</u>
Thursday	Oct 27	<u>8 AM - 7 PM</u>
Friday	Oct 28	8 AM - 1 PM
<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Oct 29</u>	<u>8 AM - 1 PM</u>
Monday	Oct 31	8 AM - 4 PM
Tuesday	Nov 1	8 AM - 4 PM
Wednesday	Nov 2	<u>8 AM - 7 PM</u>
Thursday	Nov 3	<u>8 AM - 7 PM</u>
Friday	Nov 4	8 AM - 1 PM



These hours are for early voting only at the Municipal Building. There will be official voting stations arranged just like at the regular voting venue on Nov 8<sup>th</sup> in the High School gymnasium.

Be sure to register by Oct 19<sup>th</sup>. You can also check to make sure you are listed as 'active' on the voting rolls up until Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. After that date voter registration will be closed to enable early voting to begin the following Monday.



So let the voting season begin. On October 24, as the last of the leaves slip freely from the trees may the first of the ballots slip freely into the ballot boxes.

On Election Day you can just put your feet up, relax and watch the results roll in.

And - thanks for watching!



# Hearing Impaired?

Hear here! A tech tip from Franklin•TV  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 10/09/2016

He turns the TV volume up. She turns it down. He wants more. She wants less. Pianoforte or sotto voce – can't have both. But, what if you could? World peace! At the least, household peace.

The solution is simple. Transmit the TV sound on an empty FM channel and listen over the radio. Enjoy TV programs in great stereo at your own personal volume. Get up and walk around the house while still listening and not missing anything.

Here's how. You need:

- One or more tiny, portable FM radios with earbuds.
- A small, low-power FM transmitter.
- An audio cable to connect the FM transmitter to your TV or cable box.

It takes only 5 minutes to set up. If you are not technical, call a friend.

There are many options out there for portable FM radios. Sony's small Walkman radio is a popular example. It will play for up to 40 hours on a single AAA lithium battery. You can also save money by using rechargeable batteries. Rechargeables will play for 4 to 6 hours typically.



Quality low-power FM transmitters are available in the \$50. to \$100. price range on Amazon.

Just connect the antenna. Then connect the TV or cable box audio output to the transmitter's line audio input.

Listening to your radio, find a quiet channel on the FM dial and set the transmitter to that frequency. Then adjust the transmitter's volume so that the TV program's sound is at about the same loudness over the radio as other local stations.

Then just kick back and watch the big game – or the news – or – us.

And – thanks for watching!

Our Community Access  
**Franklin•TV**

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# Random Thought – Eating Stars

Journeys of the muse – imagination and heartburn  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 10/16/2016

When preparing to write, I seek that relaxed alpha state where imagination can take wing. The purposeful me strives to get to the matter of things. Square up the desk objects. I'm getting ready to get ready. It's that puttering ceremony – a stab at mindless surface discipline that inadvertently unleashes some creative flow. It works in a contributory way, busying me with wrote process that takes no mental effort, leaving all of my thoughts to the other me.

The other me is cruising the cosmos as a meandering guest whose attentions are more kindly framed as – highly portable. I value a practiced random stroll through the infinite affinities, adrift in the ether of imagination's realm where novelty might find me.

I start by looking for a quiet corner of the cosmos where I can just sit back and snack on stars. With practice, you can swirl galaxies around your fork, like so much sparkly spaghetti.



A dietary note: Stars are all energy. Beats protein drinks hands down. White dwarves can cause heartburn. Black holes are filling and a bit chewy.

The metrics of writing are also chewy. Who's to say what's good? The grammar obsessed me keeps trying to strap an odd-shaped measuring device around each concept. Cosmic me sez, 'Hey, y'know when y'know – urm - y'know?'

The grammarcrat in me hits backspace over adroit turns of phrase that don't quite pass muster in the *Chicago Manual of Style*, such as not ending a sentence with a preposition. What's *that* about? My muse mutters over the sacrifice of unique voice to convention. If you regard noshing on stars as a bit of a mental reach, then consider how readily we look toward the heavens to feed the imagination.

*Adastra per aspera* By our aspirations, to the stars.

Snacking on stars is just one way to put some fire in the belly of your soul. Eat up!

And – thanks for watching!

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**FranklinTV**

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# Cooking Up a Storm.

Cooking shows. They're all back this year.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 10/23/2016

Yes, our favorite cooks are all back for another year of yum. Sandhya just completed her first group of episodes this week. Our Cooking Thyme gang from the Tri-County



Culinary Arts Program was in the kitchen a couple of weeks back and making it all happen with pumpkins.

Then there's Bill Hurley.  
Le Pizzapalooza Maestro.

Got an idea (and a passion)  
for a fun cooking show?

Let's do it! Give us a call.

We can be shamelessly  
bribed with great food.



Any day that we do a cooking show is a good day. We are nothing, if not well fed.

And - thanks for watching!

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# Towering Task – Part 2

A Tale of Radio and Red Tape.

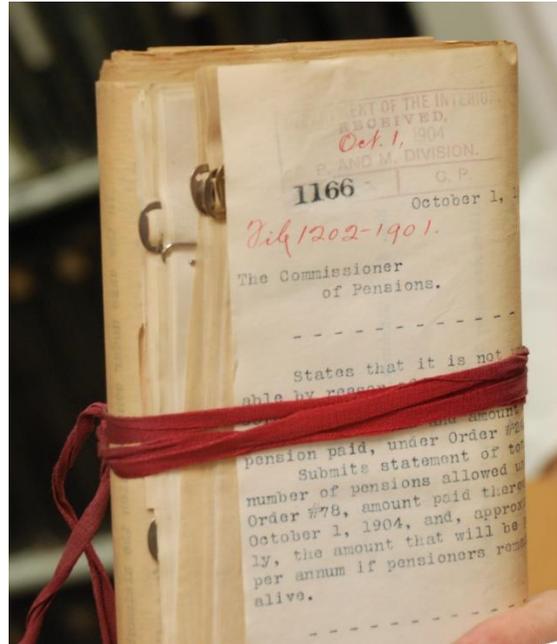
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 10/30/2016 (from 03/13/2016)

From Wikipedia:

**Red tape** is an idiom for excessive or rigid conformity to regulations considered redundant or bureaucratic that hinder or prevent action or decision-making. It usually refers to governments and other large organizations. One definition is the "collection or sequence of forms and procedures required to gain bureaucratic approval for something. The origin of the term is first noted in historical records in the 16th century, when King Henry VIII besieged Pope Clement VII with eighty petitions to annul his marriage to Catherine of Aragon.

The royal documents, declarations and decrees of kings, popes and their assigns were often bound by red tape.

We at Franklin•TV have been pushing our way through the extensive bureaucratic red tape required of any project in need of federal approvals. We have prevailed.



“WFPR-LP, Franklin Public Radio, 102.9 on your FM dial.”

If fortune smiles on us you'll be hearing that when you tune in early in 2017. Approvals in hand, we're shifting into the physical construction phase of our tower project. In the next several weeks we'll be pouring the foundation and erecting our tower atop the highest point on Forge Hill (at 409 feet).

In service to the red tapers, we have surveyed and staked the precise point where the tower will stand – a few times. We will do so again – verifying what we have already verified – just to be sure. If we ever have a ribbon cutting ceremony, that ribbon will be red in a symbolic cutting of the red tape.

In the meantime we will replant yet another stake at the highest point in Franklin. That makes our tower efforts (wait for it) – a high stakes game.

And, thanks for watching!

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# The S.A.F.E. Coalition

A new series dedicated to helping - and getting help.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 11/06/2016



Franklin.TV has begun producing an ongoing TV series with the S.A.F.E. Coalition to shed light on the spreading tragedy of opioid addiction and guide families toward resources of help and support.



S.A.F.E. Coalition President Jim Derick and Dr. Anne Bergen (center) guide a forum for understanding as they discuss all aspects of addiction with knowledgeable and dedicated community leaders.

**S.A.F.E.**  
COALITION

State Rep. Jeff Roy, Franklin Police Chief Tom Lynch, SAFE VP Jen Knight and others provide an expansive overview of issues and resources in our first episode. If you have family members or friends who are victims of opioids, this series is a starting point toward finding help and recovery.

To learn more, visit: [safecoalitionma.com](http://safecoalitionma.com)

And, thanks for watching!

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**FranklinTV**

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# Because - Pizza!

One needs no other reason.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 11/13/2016

Well, this week we were at it again. We let Bill Hurley loose in our kitchen and then we just stayed out of his way while he made Pizza happen.

Yes, I capitalized the word *Pizza* in mid-sentence. In Bill's case, quite deservedly so.



We're Pizza Pioneering.  
Bill created - dessert Pizzas.

Top: A Bananas Foster Pizza  
Left: A Chocolate Pizza with  
Irish Cream Drizzle.

Yep. You read it right. But, wait! There's more.

We also concocted half-a-dozen approaches to quickly cobble up - *Emergency Pizza*. Every now and then, whenever the mood strikes - Pizza!

For crust we used Naan, Pillsbury Crescent Roll Dough, English Muffins, Pita bread, etc. Catch all of Bill's PizzaPalooza action in the weeks ahead.

After all - a life with Pizza always at the ready, an arm's reach away - that's a good life. Why?

Because - Pizza! That's why.

And, thanks for watching!



Our Community Access  
**FranklinTV**

# Winter is Coming!

May the Weather Gods, Both the Old and the New, Deign to Smile Upon Us Mortals.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 11/20/2016

Winter is coming! That ominous warning.

So sayeth Edart, Lord of the House of Stark, in Game of Thrones season one. This is that week. It's the week that might - or might not - tease us with those first fluffy flakes of snow. As of this writing (11/19) north central U.S. was pounded with a blizzard blanket of white. It's headed our way. I dread. I whimper. I am a winter wuss.

There's also the practical matter of outdoor construction as the weather falls down. We're in a time crunch to construct our Forge Hill Radio Tower for Franklin Public radio - WFPR-FM.



We began bore testing this week to insure the grounds are suitable to support our tower. We still have much to do before WFPR's anticipated sign-on in February. Signs and portents of hard weather are afoot. The Old Farmer's Almanac is not optimistic. La Nina looms large in the Pacific. However, high atop Forge Hill - forge on we must, for winter is indeed coming.

And, thanks for watching!

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# I'm Soooooo Full!

The Day After Thanksgiving, and We Must Atone.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 11/27/2016

It's the day after Turkey Day. The tryptophan fog is slowly lifting, and I am still soooooo stuffed - and so still. The TV remote is so - remote. Can't - quite - reach. It's a first-world crisis. I blame the pies.



We indulged, splurged, binged, nay, went totally bulk-out bonkers. The calorie count wasn't all that bad - if I was eating for a family of four.

Pie eating? Let's just say I represented. If the Wampanoag Indians and Pilgrims supposedly spent three days partying down, I need to up my game.

However, there's a wrinkle in the history of our National romp of gastronomic gratitude.

If the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock in 1620 they were late for Thanksgiving. The settlers of Berkeley Hundred, Virginia already celebrated their Thanksgiving festivities the year before.

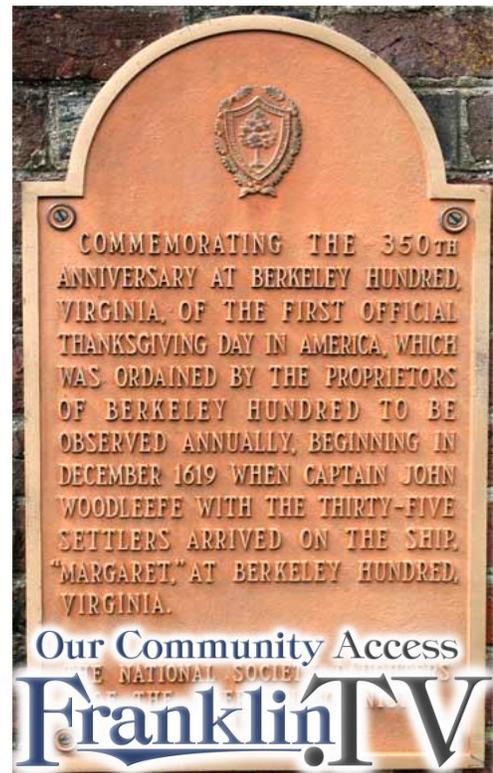
Whaaaaaat??

You read that right. Check it out.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Berkeley\\_Hundred](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Berkeley_Hundred)

Important Note: Next year on Thanksgiving eve, don't forget to set your scales back ten pounds.

And, thanks for watching!



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# What R U Wearing?

Charisma - It's the new black.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 12/04/2016

“What r u wearing?” This is probably among the most texted questions before any big social. We do obsess so about our appearance, status, fitting in, belonging, etc. Note how my object nouns quickly shifted from surface concerns to our deeper Maslow needs. Whenever we walk into the room we want to create a favorable first impression. Why? Because we all seek the same thing - acceptance.

Charisma is a compelling positive influence; an attractiveness, charm or appeal that inspires loyalty and devotion in others. The word *charisma* rose to common use in the fifties with the growth of the nascent television industry. It described an essential quality that program producers sought in identifying new TV stars.

The English word *charisma* originates from the Greek χάρισμα (*khárisma*). Its core meaning: *favor freely given - a gift of kindness or grace.*

Why does anyone have charisma? The social alchemy of charisma starts with self-confidence and caring. Confidence makes you interesting and worth knowing. Caring about others makes them feel like they are interesting and worth knowing. If you are having a conversation with someone, be in the moment. Listen actively. Engage. Give others your full attention and with that, the rare grace of kindness. (This person's pretty cool - and they think I'm pretty cool - Cool!)

Thus, charisma is not what you *have*. It's what you *do*. Think charisma as a verb. Charisma is not passive. It's active. Don't fret about whether you are accepted. Focus on accepting. Easy to say, yet harder to do. Reaching out beyond your own nagging self-doubt(s) in order to uplift and to genuinely appreciate others is a practiced act of faith - in yourself.

Charismatic people initiate their acceptance, freely offering their full attention and interest. They don't just hope that an event will be enjoyable. They help to make the event enjoyable. They bring, (wait for it) - 'Tidings of Comfort and Joy'.

Next time you are invited to a party, what will you wear? What will you bring? Whatever you choose to wear - your sunny smile is *the* haute fashion accessory, and it's where charisma begins. As the holidays draw nigh, let nothing you dismay. So - *Merry Charisma!* (Yep. The words share early etymological roots.) Charisma. Always in fashion. Always the perfect holiday gift. Give generously.

And - thanks for watching!



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**FranklinTV**

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# 'Tis the Season

When Does the Holiday Season Begin?

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 12/11/2016

As of 12/11/2016 there are 14 shopping days 'til Christmas. That relentless retail countdown creeps into our collective consciousness before Thanksgiving. Odd how that first flush of Christmas décor can seem anachronistic - out of place in early November, next to the Halloween clearance items (70% off).

Ho, Ho, umm - Ho? Mentally, most of us are not quite there yet. For folks who work in advertising, the holiday season might surface as early as September - right after wrapping up the 'back to school' sales.

Which season begins when? The Solstice and Saturnalia? That's December 21st. The Germanic Yule? Same. The eight nights of Channukkah are marked by the Jewish calendar. The Greek Orthodox Epiphany is later than the New Year.



What is common to all? Joy. At other times of the year joy is a most elusive form of happiness that pervades during the holidays. The Season (all of 'em) is about Joy. Quiet, simple, pure, personal joy. It's also about peace.

At some point, peace and joy will find you. That's when your season begins.

Some years ago I began printing my little row of collected holidays on the bottom edge of envelopes when I mailed out cards. Just my little way of starting someone else's season. Whatever season we celebrate, we are all celebrating the same thing - because we all seek the same thing.

Peace and joy.

So, make the most of The Season. Celebrate 'em all.  
Collect the entire set. Trade 'em with your friends.

And - thanks for watching!

Our Community Access  
**FranklinTV**

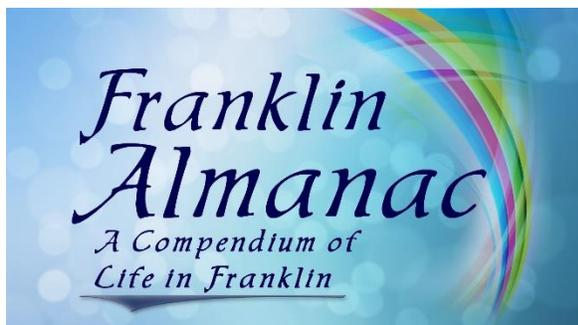
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# News about News

Yes, we have some, and it's all good.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 12/18/2016

There's a new program in town. In fact, it's all about the town. At Franklin•TV we've launched our very own news-magazine program, Franklin Almanac. Like an actual almanac of information, it's a compendium—of life in Franklin, produced and hosted (and written and edited) by our TV journalist Polikseni Manxhari.



See Almanac this week on All-Access TV. Almanac also has an introductory run weekdays at noon on our TownHall TV channel, Comcast 11/Verizon29.

As TV news pioneer Edward R. Murrow opined, reporting the news on TV is like writing with a five hundred pound pencil. There's a lot of preparation and location

work that goes into producing even a single story. With our pilot program done and on the record, we are already ramping up for our second episode in mid-January. Our plan is for Almanac to be a regularly scheduled program in 2017 with new episodes every two weeks. Almanac will offer a review of key recent events as well as a look ahead to the upcoming, the new and the notable.

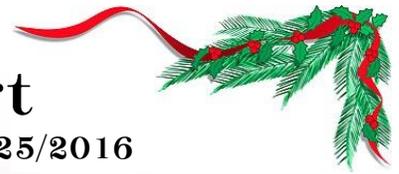
As we begin our new news endeavor, we want to give a nod of appreciation to Franklin's volunteer Information Director, Steve Sherlock and his invaluable website Franklin Matters. In our pilot episode you'll get to meet Steve as he sits down with Polikseni to offer his insights on citizen journalism, local news and information.

Okay, everyone— lift that pencil— on three.

And— thanks for watching!

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# Of Hearth & Heart

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 12/25/2016

On these, the coldest days of all.  
The hearth denies the winter chill.  
As fire shadows play the wall  
across an evening, ever still.

To warm the body, soul and heart  
the fire dances high.  
The yule log crackle sparks the air.  
The holiday is nigh.

Hearth and heart go hand in hand  
through tending in some way.  
Each has warmth to be maintained  
to hold the frost at bay.

Tend to hearth by routine care.  
Tend to heart by warmth to share.

Do freely pass your warmth around  
be it hearth or heart.  
And let the season's joys abound  
thy merriment impart.

'Tis then, you'll find the truest warmth  
beyond that of the hearth.  
Let all be wrapped in yuletide joys  
of warmth within the heart.

And, thanks for watching!



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Solstice



Chanukkah



Christmas



Epiphany



Kwanzaa



Eid al-Adha



The New Year



Oshogatsu



謹賀新年

