

Annual Report 2006

Foxboro Cable Access, Inc.

*Proudly Serving The Foxborough Community
Since 1982*

The Community At Your Fingertips

Foxboro Cable Access (FCA) is a non-profit organization established in 1982 as part of the License Agreement between the Town of Foxborough and Cablevision Industries, the franchise operator at the time. The License Agreement gave FCA the authority to establish rules for the use of the facilities, equipment, and channels provided by the cable franchise company, now Comcast Corporation. All cable subscribers in Foxboro are included as voting members of the Foxboro Cable Access corporation.

The corporation is managed by a nine member Board of Directors. Seven members are elected by the membership, while two are appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Board operates under the Foxboro Cable

Access Corporate Bylaws, revised in January 1996. A copy of the by-laws is kept on file at the FCA Office.

The Board elects officers and the President appoints the operating positions of Technical Advisor, School Liaison and the staff positions for office and operations. Other associate positions are created, as required, to help manage the operation.

The video equipment and facilities provided for access television are used by trained individuals from the Foxboro community. Acting independently as volunteers, they produce programs of their choice which are cablecast in the community on the local public access Channels 8, 12 and 22.

2006 FCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

	Term Expires
PAUL O'SULLIVAN	2008
PAUL GODIN	2008
PAULA PEDROLI (Retired)	2008
PAUL BECK	2006
DENIS ROBICHAUD	2006
DIANE MONAHAN	2006
NEIL KAISER	2006
ROBERT HICKEY, JR. *	2007
WILLIAM MILHOMME *	2007

* Appointed by Selectmen

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Foxboro, MA 02035

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(508) 543-4757
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Email: info@fcatv.org

Corporate Officers:

<i>Chairman</i>	Diane Monahan
<i>Treasurer</i>	Paul Beck
<i>Clerk</i>	Paul Godin

Operations:

<i>President</i>	Diane Monahan
<i>Vice President</i>	Neil Kaiser
<i>Technical Advisor</i>	Paul Beck
<i>School Liaison</i>	Paula Pedroli

Staff:

<i>Executive Director</i>	Michael Webber
<i>Administrative Assistant</i>	Margaret Nash
<i>Master Control Technician</i>	Lauren Bitar

<i>Gov't Mtg Crew</i>	Gary Nash
	Paul Godin
	Frank MacDow
	Neil Kaiser
	Mike Everson

<i>Photos:</i>	Michael Webber
	Margaret Nash
	Paul Godin
	Neil Kaiser
	Rick Haddad

Mission Statement

Foxboro Cable Access is a non-profit corporation created by the Board of Selectmen and funded by Cablevision Industries, Inc. through a license agreement with the Town of Foxboro. We are organized to provide and actively promote public local cable channels for interested Foxboro residents who want to produce and/or cablecast video programming of local interest. We are a group of dedicated individuals committed to providing the equipment, resources, and the environment needed to encourage local cable access.

To this end we provide training for the youth and adults in the community, studio and editing facilities in multiple locations, and live and taped access on local cable channels for information and local programming. We actively promote FCA to provide understanding of what FCA is, how it can individually and collectively benefit the community, and to encourage its use within the entire community of Foxboro.

FCA Board of Directors
June 9, 1994

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Diane Monahan



As we look back at the past year, 2006, FCA has much to be proud of.

Foxboro Cable Access continues to be ever vigilant as it monitors access and looks out for the telecommunication interests of the Foxboro community amid some very serious threats from industry giants and the national legislative agenda. As we approach the license negotiation process for the third time, we are fully aware of the options and have set aside funds to support experienced legal counsel to act on behalf of the town. The Cable Advisory Committee is activated with preliminary ascertainment planning well underway. Chairman Lyn Foell, as a former member of the FCA Board of Directors, brings a solid understanding of public access and our operations as well as his strong leadership skills and sense of business practices. The committee includes a balanced representation of experienced members, energetic volunteers, general town residents, and ex officio public officials. We are in good hands.

As always, we have tried to utilize our resources to best advantage. The addition of taped replay of School Committee meetings is a good example. FCA's ability to respond to a request from the committee is direct result of good management and our pro-active policies & planning. This has been a long time coming, and will ultimately serve the community well. We want to thank the School Committee for making it possible.

At FHS, the Beck Studio nears completion. Paul Beck along with his faithful cohorts, Neil Kaiser and Mike Everson have transformed an underused accessory area near the auditorium into a high capacity production control center that will

serve the town well into the future, and make life much easier – and fun – for the volunteers who

will use it to tape concerts, plays, meetings, or presentations. Innumerable hours, weeks, and months were spent building this studio from scratch. It would be impossible to add up Paul's contribution of time, expertise and materials to this project, and all the other projects he undertakes for our benefit. He is a treasure and we appreciate him. .

Volunteers with a capital "V" are our most important resource. Without them, we would not be here providing the community with complete coverage of town and school events. From all walks of life, and across all demographics, they share a common interest in video production and service to the community. Our Senior Tax Volunteers bring their many talents and skills to assist in the administrative operations and studio support. We welcome them and appreciate their contribution.

Janet Gavin is one of our new Senior Tax Volunteers whose skills have added a lot to the FCA operations. This year we had 7 volunteers who assisted with data entry, filing, studio coverage, studio improvements and maintenance. With their help we have been able to tackle some really big projects and plan to undertake a major upgrade of the Program Library & Archives this winter with another three volunteers.

Thank to ...
AGNES CURRAN
AL PAPIANOU
MERRILL KASS
CHARLOTTE
ALTMAN
GRETCHEN TRIPP
MIKE DAVIS
and
BRAD PITTS
&
DAVID O'LEARY,
our custom
carpentry
experts.





Neil Kaiser & Jim Darlington make quite a team on the sidelines of the champion Warrior football games.

On the staff side, we are again fortunate. Our extremely capable administrative assistant, Marg Nash has many responsibilities and yet manages to take care of the details that make FCA function effectively. As Master Control Technician, Lauren Bitar puts her focus on Programming; scheduling the many and varied programs, seeking out interesting programs from outside sources, and operating the automated scheduling and playback equipment. Mike Webber overseas it all with good humor and good sense. He keeps on top of the local, state and national issues that affect public access, maintains and upgrades our equipment while meeting the needs of our volunteers for training and technical assistance. Mike is diligent and thorough in all he does. This year, he and his wife Debbie brought us our newest volunteer – Lucas Anthony. He already has his crew ID, compliments of “Uncle Ray”, a miniature sweatshirt imprinted with FCA’s Mobile Van. We all wish the Webber family every happiness.

Building upon the strong foundation of those who preceded us, the current Board of Directors is indebted to them. They each brought their best and made FAC what it is today: a very strong, supportive board who individually devote a great deal of time and expertise for the benefit of all. Our members are visionary, and keep Foxboro Cable Access at the top, equipped with the latest technology to ensure that our volunteers have the best to do their best. Each one brings their expertise and their strengths to the table for the benefit of all – the staff, volunteers, community and our own organization.

This year we accepted the resignation of Paula Pedroli, our School Liaison, with deep regret, but wish her the best as she retired from her teaching position at Foxborough High School. Paula taught the Communication Arts classes since 1993 and served as chair of the FCA Scholarship Committee. Through her skillful mentoring and concern, a lot of students gained a meaningful understanding of modern media consumption and many went on to higher education and careers in the field. Paula was a valuable member of the board and we will miss her. Her departure leaves a key vacancy on the board, and Al Papaniou will be nominated to fill the remainder of her term. He also brings us a whole different range of business and marketing skills, a sense of humor, and a fresh outlook to the serious issues facing us on the national level.

The commitment of its Board of Directors keeps FCA strong and allows everyone connected with it to do their best work. Foxboro Cable Access has always been at the vanguard. It is a recurring cycle of honor, relationships, reputation, and increase in volunteers and viewers. Each time we add a new volunteer, we also expand our reach to that volunteer’s circle and we grow.

I want to thank everyone at Foxboro Cable Access for their support and hard work. Our community is truly fortunate that they care.



In recognition of her long involvement with FCA and her many contributions, Paula Pedroli was the guest of honor at an Appreciation Luncheon and was presented with some flowers and a parting gift from the Board of Directors.

Diane Monahan,
President
 Foxboro Cable Access, Inc.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Michael R. Webber

"Warp speed, Scotty!"

This famous line from the hit TV program, Star Trek, comes to mind when I look back at 2006. OK, the phrase might be a slight exaggeration; maybe the past year was more like the Fox action drama "24", which also just happens to be my favorite commercial TV program at the moment. If you are familiar with the show, you know that the cast of 24 is always under extreme time constraints

There is a culture that has developed within our organization over many years that has instilled strong values into all of us who participate in community television.

with objectives that must be met regardless of the situation. This is not much different from the day-to-day efforts by FCA volunteers, minus the blood of course.

Seriously though, the hectic lifestyle of the FCA community is wonderful to sit back and watch sometimes. I am continually amazed how our volunteers gravitate towards the big challenges and never seem to shy away from difficult tasks. The Doolittle Home Auction, the FHS POPS Concert, the 2006 Division II



FCA's newest volunteer, Lucas Anthony Webber -- Mike's best production yet ... of course he had help!

Hockomock League Football Super Bowl, and the multi-year Paul Beck Studio project are just some examples. Public Access Television is a great community resource, but it's only as good as the volunteers who take advantage of the opportunity.

There is a culture that has developed within our organization over many years that has instilled strong values into all of us who



KAISER SPACE ! As Auction Floor Director for the umpteenth year, Neil briefs the gathering of auctioneers, helpers and technical crew on the finer points of studio traffic flow patterns.

participate in community television. I am proud to be part of this organization and would like to thank everyone who got involved, produced, or helped out in any way during 2006. You make our organization a strong and vibrant community resource.

In the coming year we must continue to grow, learn new skills, and produce more and better programming. This is our challenge! To meet this challenge we will continue to upgrade our facilities and equipment. The Avid editing suites need work and our studio could use some sprucing up, along with some new sets. I encourage all producers to use this opportunity to take a fresh look at your programs. How can I improve my show? Is there something I can change to make it more informative, more entertaining, or both?



Mike Greeley and Mark Stopa add color to the commentary at the Girls' Basketball games this year. We've found that parents really like to get involved and find that it's FUN!

Another challenge for us in 2007 will be somewhat out of our control. There is great debate over cable TV regulation and the franchise process. Although congress was unable to pass legislation that could have been detrimental to PEG Access, the FCC late in the year voted in some new rules that will

be challenged in 2007. On the state level the Department of Telecommunications and Energy – Cable TV Division also was asked to change their policy in 2006, but did not make a ruling. A new bill is also being introduced into the Massachusetts House for consideration and looks bad for PEG Access.

I encourage everyone who values community media to contact your elected officials and let them know how you feel.

Michael R. Webber,
Executive Director
Foxboro Cable Access, Inc.



PHOTO BY Rick Haddad
FCA Volunteers gathered together for a group photo this Fall at the high school. Afterwards, everyone had a chance to see the progress made in the FHS Telecom Center.

Each year at this time it is always satisfying to look back over the variety of productions community volunteers organized and produced. Through their willingness to learn the technology and share their time and special skills, the life of our town in 2006 was captured on video.

MOBILE UNIT

FCA producers utilized the resources of the Mobile Unit in 2006 to produce timely community programming such as: high school sports, music, and other community events. The Mobile Unit is a twenty foot television production truck that was purchased and put in service June 2000. The van is one of the organization's principal capital assets and accommodates the sophisticated television equipment required to produce multi-camera productions in the field.

As with any volunteer based organization, we are aware of the limited time volunteers typically have to contribute to organizations such as FCA. We continually strive to make the process of producing television by citizens an enjoyable and rewarding experience. Through the use of a "live to tape" production format, a style which requires little or no editing after taping is complete, we have been able to strike a balance between time and quality. Although the opportunity is

**FCA's Mobile Unit
was in use for over
459 Hrs
during 2006.**

always available to take a program such as a football game or music concert back to the FCA Studio for post production editing and audio sweetening, this is very time consuming and not practical for many of our producers. With proper planning all elements of the program, including music, graphics, public service announcements, and other video segments are usually prepared ahead of time and then inserted "live to tape" during the event. This approach has contributed to fun, enjoyable, and time efficient way of producing community events, as well as an increased technical proficiency on a personal

level. Because a quick and painless approach can sometimes come at the expenses of quality, we try to maintain a high production quality through training workshops and stressing the importance of preproduction organizing.

In September three new "umbilical cords" were assembled in-house for use with the Mobile Unit. These audio and video cables gathered into one larger cable is used to connect all the commentator headsets and related communications equipment to the truck, along with video signals. Each bundle was built to contain one dozen audio and three video cables each. This effort has shortened our remote production setup time and provides more reliable connections, not to mention an improved safety and aesthetic condition in public places.



Producer-director Lauren Bitar takes control in the Mobile Studio during the 3rd season of Concerts-on-the-Common. Frank MacDow on graphics is one of the regular crew who look forward to the summer evening productions.

During 2006 the Mobile Unit was reserved by volunteer producers for more than 84 productions, over 459 hours of use. Currently, it is outfitted with four professional cameras (with additional camera available for special projects), an assortment of microphones, graphics, and slow motion replay capabilities.

STUDIO A

In addition to the field production assets, FCA also maintains a spacious studio and control room facilities for community use. This community resource is used throughout the year for a variety of productions including: community talk shows, candidate election information, performances, sports

discussion shows, and community auctions.

The **Doolittle Home Auction** happens to be the largest scale studio production we undertake during the year. Jack Authelet was the Executive Producer for the 2006 auction and was supported by the Foxboro Jaycees, as well as Foxboro Cable Access volunteers. Additional phone lines, cameras, and volunteer crew are assembled for a marathon effort to produce a live eight hour community TV auction to raise money for a worthy non-profit organization in Foxborough.

The **Behind the Scenes** show, without exception, reserves Studio A for more production hours than any other show. The weekly show produced by Charlie Masison provides an informal atmosphere that makes



Charlie Masion and his crew pause for a photo before celebrating the 200th episode of "Behind the Scenes." From left, top row: Ray McKenna, Don Phelps, Bob German, Harold Donnelly, Paul Godin, Mike Everson, front row: Barbara D'Entrmont, Charlie, Lauren Bitar, and Carolyn Godin.

guests comfortable and provides a venue for community leaders and organizations to discuss timely issues and disseminate important information to the community. In February the Behind the Scenes crew celebrated the accomplishment of 200+ shows since the production started in 2001. That is certainly an FCA milestone!

FCA volunteers Dan and Phyllis Washington produced a new program entitled **Expressions of Respect** during 2006. The show reaches out to the community and fosters community discussion about a variety of topics related to the younger youth population. EOR is an extension of the Washington's non-profit organization, Become Won, Inc. that helps mentor the youth through a variety of workshops and other positive activities throughout the year. The show is normally taped in the studio, but very often incorporates video footage from on-location, allowing for a variety of content in each episode.

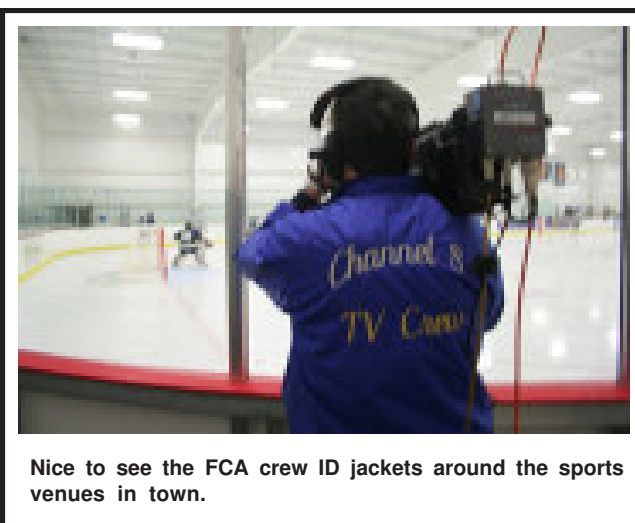
Another interesting new studio show is **Weather or Knot** produced by Raymond McKenna. Ray has enlisted Glenn Field, a Foxboro resident on staff at the National Weather Service, to host the show and bring in renown experts in meteorology to discuss detailed information relevant to various severe weather conditions. So far, they have done episodes on Lightning, Hurricanes, Tornadoes, and Severe Winter Storms.

Sports Talk produced by Neil Kaiser is a seasonal series designed to acquaint the community with the coaches and captains of the various varsity sports team at Foxborough High School. Neil has assembled a team of hosts, Dick Kelter, Rick Plasmati, Doug Suess, Ernie Guy and Dottie D'Ambra, who each take a turn at the chair interviewing the coach and players. It's been a great

way to give the student athletes another dimension of experience and a coach the opportunity to discuss some of the finer points of their strategy.

Lauren Bitar continued her series **From Studio A**, bringing musicians from local area bands to our facilities to perform in concert on tape. Having the versatility of lighting and control room effects to enhance the musical styling results in some great video.

In December 2006 a new character generator graphics system was purchased for Control Room A and will be installed early in 2007. This new character generator (CG) will be identical to the system now in use within the Mobile Unit. More importantly this upgrade will allow FCA to meet technical requirements in other areas as well. The CG that is being replaced in Control Room A will not be thrown away, but rather moved to the School Committee console where the CG functionality fits better with the system requirements. Whenever possible we make an effort to keep equipment identical in our different facilities so that once a volunteer learns one system they can use it throughout our operations. Other technical benefits include the ability to have redundant systems that can backup each other in the event of a failure and easily transfer files between systems.



Nice to see the FCA crew ID jackets around the sports venues in town.

NON-LINEAR EDITING

Over the past three years FCA has focused on upgrades to our editing facilities. The suites have been completely overhauled transforming the rooms from a cuts-only, tape based editing system to brand-new Avid Express non-linear editing systems. With upgrades now complete and hands-on training yielding more independent editors, reservation time has increased to near capacity.

PRODUCTION

We feel the facilities are now in line with the needs of our community producers, and offer many options for creative expression.

The Avid NLE systems have helped volunteers produce complex highlight reels for a variety of high school sports, complicated openings for shows, and transformed countless single camera productions with the look of multi-camera efforts.

Volunteer Michael Everson has been an enormous help making this transformation to NLE a success. Though his willingness to take the time to learn the software and mentor others the advantages of this technology have blossomed. We supported his interests in attending the NAB Post Production Conference held in New York City by defraying his expenses. Volunteers really benefited from the additional dimension of knowledge that he brought back.



Replay Ray ... on duty in the van at one of the many school sporting events covered by FCA volunteers.

PORTABLE EQUIPMENT

A sometimes overlooked, yet growing, area of our operation is the use of our camcorder packages by community volunteers. This year two new Canon GL-2 mini DV digital camcorders were purchased to augment the two already in service. They are



The new lightweight GL-2 cameras are a welcome addition to the portable equipment options.

Comments From The Friends of Camp St. Augustine ...

"For three years now FCA has given us a wonderful vehicle with which we can effectively advertise our event to the people of the community ... Ray, thank you for the professional and creative coverage of the event with the video camera ... all is very much appreciated and we're convinced that without your annual coverage of Autumn Fest, it would not be anywhere near as successful as it has been."

much smaller in size compared to the Sony DSR-250 camcorders purchased just a few years ago. The Canon product was selected for its superior picture quality, small size, and ease of operation. Volunteers were immediately impressed by the new camcorders which are a great addition to our equipment assets. Each model provides unique features allowing us to more appropriately match a camera with a particular project need. For example, the large, full-size camcorders are still in-demand as they offer more advanced features and longer recording times compared to the new units. The GL-2 is perfect for smaller scale productions with recording lengths under an hour.

THE PAUL BECK STUDIO AT FHS

Progress on the developing 10-camera production facility at FHS moved forward faster in the later part of 2006. Paul Beck has worked diligently with his installation team, Mike Everson and Neil Kaiser along with a few other volunteers, on many, many weekends to populate the racks with the variety of equipment which will be needed to accomplish the potential envisioned.

Recently, the Grass Valley 1600 3K 3-mix/effects production switcher was installed, and progress is brisk. Mike O'Leary and the FHSCrew have been extremely supportive and helpful with solutions to a range of logistical problems, electrical requirements and other logistical issues that have come up. More information on this project is

contained in the School Support section of this report.

Hope is high that we will be making great pictures in early 2007.

CONGRATULATIONS

to these volunteers whose **Total Hours of Service** are impressive ... (* = 100 hours)

Lauren Bitar *	Frank MacDow *
Scott Daniels *	Ray McKenna ***
Paul Godin ***	Ed Pentilla *
Neil Kaiser ****	Matt Shea***
Paul Ladd **	Barbara D'Entremont **

and
especially
to

Mike Everson
with a total of **1139**
Volunteer Hours in 2006

volunteer *adj.* to offer or give of one's own free will

- Webster's New World Dictionary

FCA VOLUNTEER PRODUCERS

Jack Authelet
Steve Bagley
Paul Beck
Bob Bernstein
Bethany Congregational Church
Lauren Bitar
Margaret Chaisson

pro-du-cer *n.* 1. one who is generally responsible for a film or play 2. one who brings something into existence.

- Oxford English Dictionary

Steve Cheney	St. Mary's Catholic Church
Jim Darlington	
Mike Everson *****	
Foxboro School Committee	
Foxboro Board of Selectmen	
Barbara D'Entremont *	
Paul Godin **	
	Gary Grosberg
	Neil Kaiser ***
	Chris Kelly
	Paul Ladd **
	Frank MacDow
	Charlie Masison
	Ray McKenna
	John Mangano
	Scott Nelson
	Jim Sestito
	Matt Shea **
	Matt Tomasello
	Jim Tooper
	Union Church
	of South Foxboro
	Dan & Phyllis Washington

FCA VOLUNTEER CREW

Ken Appel	Courtney Galvin
Eric Arvedon	Carin Gelotte
John Barros	Bob German
Stu Bayuk	Frank Giffune
Benjamin Beatty	Bob Gillis
Phyllis Beatty	Paul Godin
Paul Beck	Carolyn Godin
Lauren Bitar	Martin Golemme
Jeff Bernstein	Vincent Golemme
Bob Bernstein	Ed Guy
Margaret Chaisson	Rick Haddad



Mike Heinricher
Eric Hoffman
Judy Houghton
Andy Jameison
Neil Kaiser
Chris Kelly
Ed Kelly
Dick Kelter, Sr.
Paul Ladd
Owen Ladd
Richard Lewis
Mitch Lincoln

crew *n.* a group of people working together.

- Webster's New World Dictionary

Bruce Lint
Frank MacDow *
James McCarthy
Ray McKenna **
James Manning
Tad Minkler
Gary Nash
Karen O'Connell
Ed Penttila
Don Phelps
Rick Plasmati
Bill Redding
Denis Robichaud
Matthew Russell
Paul Santos
Matt Shea
John Stather
Doug Suess
Jay Tedoldi
Gretchen Tripp
Ingrid Viventi
LePrayer Washington
Deb Wendall
Ed Whalen

Steve Cheney
Devon Calautti
The Cutler Family
Adam Crossly
Denise Callahan
Tom Coughlin
Barbara D'Entremont
Scott Daniels
Jim Darlington
Jayne Davis
Mike Davis
Harold Donnelly
Chuck Drayton
Paul Duffy
Mike Everson ****
Greg Everson
Paul Farrell
Chris Findlen
Kevin Fitzmaurice
Janet Forest

NOTE: On Producer & Crew Lists, BOLD indicates 50+ hrs, UNDERLINE indicates 100+ hrs, * indicates each add'l100+ hours, and LARGE, BOLD, ITALIC indicates LEADING HOURS OF SERVICE IN THAT CATEGORY

Foxborough High School
COMMUNICATIONS ARTS CLASSES



Paula Pedroli, Instructor 2005-2006

Michael Cashman, Instructor 2006-2007

It has been a year of change at Foxborough High School. With the retirement of veteran teacher Paula Pedroli, there was some initial concern that support for the class would be reduced in favor of other pressing needs of the English Department. However, those concerns were quickly alleviated. Department Head Kathleen Keane stepped up to continue the partnership between FCA and the school that was begun back in 1984. She was successful in filling the vacant teaching position with someone who had some background in the field of communications, and an interest in taking on the Communications Arts class. Mike Cashman joined the faculty in September and has shown a lot of enthusiasm for the work ahead. Under the circumstances, it was fortunate that only one class was scheduled for the Fall Semester so he will have more time to become acclimated to the studio suite. Michael Webber has been available to assist in this process, and has met with the class several times this fall. They used the mobile van to videotape the Homecoming Pep Rally and have been using the "Famous Person Interview" format to learn the basics of studio operation. Senior Chris Kelly, an advanced study student, has also been very helpful during the transition.

In the last semester of the 2006 school year, there were two classes fully enrolled, with two independent study students who were very helpful. The students used all aspects of the studio and control room for personal and class projects, heightened their awareness of media literacy, and performed a thorough inventory and completed maintenance procedures before retiring the equipment for the summer. In her year end report to the board, Mrs. Pedroli expressed appreciation of FCA's support over the years, and noted that the camcorders would soon need to be upgraded and replaced with models that were more compatible with the digital editing that has become the norm.

In an excerpt from her last report to the board, Paula Pedroli comments that ...

"...The most perfect day - not only of the course, but also of my teaching career - was the day the class taped the Veterans' History Project at the studio on April 15, 2003, ironically, the first day of the War in Iraq. It was a multi-generation experience of mutual learning among students, veterans, their spouses, and the staff of the Foxboro Senior Center and FCA. The stories that were videotaped are kept for reference here in town, but also in the U. S. Library of Congress. It will be an outstanding memory for me always."



Town residents were able to watch the spectacular NASA Space Missions Atlantis and Discovery, from take off to landing, LIVE in their entirety on Channel 12.

CHANNEL 12 PROGRAMMING

Much to the delight of a dedicated group of local space enthusiasts, satellite equipment at the high school Media Center was upgraded this year with a digital receiver and live spacecasts returned to Foxborough ... just in time for the latest **Shuttle Discovery Space Flight**. School Facilities Manager Mike O'Leary was instrumental in getting the upgraded equipment and necessary adjustments to the physical plant. We are very appreciative of his help in this project, and also his willingness to assist in many other ways throughout the year. **Classic Arts Showcase** is also back on the line-up, and we will be exploring other satellite programming options over the coming months.

We have also made good use of the new multi-disc automated player which was installed late last year. Over

1200 hours of regularly scheduled programming from the U.S. Dept. of Education were cablecast on Channel 12, as well as the continued live cablecasts of Foxboro School Committee meetings.

Through the summer months, the committee began to discuss the possibilities of recording their meetings for repeat playback. As producers of the meeting cablecasts, they decided to make the necessary changes to their policy and Foxboro Cable Access was asked to recommend an equipment package that would provide reliable recording and back-up in digital format. Because the prospect of additional programming for Channel 12 has been a long term objective, FCA was pleased to provide funding for this additional equipment package. School Committee crew members Neil Kaiser and Mike Everson worked with Michael Webber to install and test the new equipment. As the year ended, we conducted our first trials of the recording system and were ready at the first meeting of the year to begin the recording/playback process.



FHS TELEPRODUCTION SYSTEM

Despite the numerous weekend marathon sessions over the past year or more, there still remains some tedious tasks to be done before the system can be tested. Each of the nine, plus spare, camera cable runs, along with its intercom and audio, is pulled through the ceiling of the auditorium to its place under the switcher in the small accessory room which has been transformed into a nerve center of teleproduction. The room has been cleaned and painted in preparation of the donated equipment which Paul Beck has obtained for our use. According to reliable sources, we are 80% of the way to our first concert coverage without dragging 100 ft. cables through the auditorium.



Nine -count'em, NINE ... preview camera monitors, with a possible expansion to ten, mounted in a five bay rack unit along with audio, graphics and a three tiered Grass Valley switcher, nearing final installation at the Foxborough High School auditorium "Beck Studio" , freshly paintly, complete with Blue & Gold racing stripe.

PROGRAMMING

The process of submitting a program for cablecast on Channel 8 can be the most rewarding part of the production process. This step marks the end result of countless hours spent planning, organizing, and producing a program for air.

GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

Volunteers have been providing gavel-to-gavel coverage of weekly Foxboro Board of Selectmen and School Committee meetings since 1985. This community service keeps our town government accessible to residents who may be unable to attend meetings or prefer to stay informed by watch the meetings on cable.

For the past 20 years meeting coverage has been cablecast live on the access channels, which is made possible through the town's Institutional Network (INET). In August 2006, a discussion started with the Foxborough School Committee over expanding their live coverage to also include replays of meetings on the Educational Channel. As the School Committee re-examined their decision from years earlier when

publish a schedule for repeat showings. Subsequently we upgraded the equipment console in the High School Media Center to provide the capability for digital recording and back-up. Because upgrades were made in the last few years to the FCA Master Control Room, equipment was already in place that made scheduled replays possible without added cost in that area.

Starting in 2007 each meeting will be recorded and shown again the following weekend on Channel 12 –

The Education Channel on Fridays at 12 noon & 7 pm, Saturday at 7 pm, and Sunday at 12 noon. In addition, the meetings will also be available for viewing on the Foxboro Cable Access website at www.fcatv.org. Because of the digital file format, the program

can be linked to the web page and viewed on any computer in streaming video and sound. The use of video streams on the FCA website is a focal point of our newly redesigned web presence.

ELECTION PROGRAMMING

During elections FCA resources are used by a variety of individuals, organizations, and the Town of Foxborough to communicate with the voters. The Foxboro Jaycees produce a **Candidates Forum** providing each candidate the opportunity to address the community directly through questions posed by a panel of local journalists. Also, Charlie Masison often interviews the candidates in a more informal setting on his show, providing voters with a variety of opportunities to observe and educate themselves on the issues.

Several years ago, we began an outreach program to inform local candidates of FCA's media option so they could use in their bid for public office.

A standardized message screen for our Bulletin Board was designed to feature a photo and slogan, along with several main points of information on the candidate's positions. Reponse varied from year to year, and this year it was mixed, with fewer candidates submitting CBB announcements than last year. However, this decrease was offset by a vast increase in video programming.

School Committee Chairwoman Martha Slattery commented that:

"this is something that the public needs and it is exciting that it has come to fruition. Education is a personal issue and with these new viewing options, the community will be more aware of everything that comes before the committee. They'll be able to see for themselves how we try to handle things within the budget constraints and make the best choices we can."

- Foxboro Reporter, January 11, 2006

FCA CHANNELS

CHANNEL 8 - The Public Access Channel *Programs produced by FCA volunteers and programs from other sources are cablecast on this channel with the daily program schedule displayed alternately around the clock.*

CHANNEL 12 - The Education Channel *Live School Committee meetings, school related announcements, information on Boyden Library activities, NASA mission coverage and other programming via satellite is cablecast on this channel.*

CHANNEL 22 - The Government Channel *Live Government Meetings, Community Announcements, Senior Citizen information and Special Notices. Public service messages from town departments, non-profit organizations, local election coverage and results, and government meetings can be found here. Cancellations due to inclement weather and emergency information are also posted on this channel.*

they opted to not videotape the meetings, FCA began researching best-practices for recording and replaying the sometimes lengthy meetings. We also provided the committee with background information and issues that were discussed previously. A decision was finally made in December 2006 that instructed FCA to start recording the meetings and to

Local candidate Claire Naughton was joined by US Rep. Barney Frank to tape an informative program prior to this fall's election.



During the 2006 election season we received several video programs from candidates directly, produced elsewhere, for air on the Foxborough public access channel. Other candidates opted to produce programming utilizing FCA resources, such as our studio, editing facilities, and portable equipment for field shooting. Programs included: **Jay Barrows for State Representative, Clair Naughton for State Representative, Paul Feeney for State Representative, Michael Atwill for State Senator, Jim Timilty for State Senator, Tim Cahill for State Treasurer and Amber Hillman for Lt. Governor.** Clearly the candidates view the public access channels as a viable and important outlet for community dialogue and we continue to encourage that participation. Each year we send a letter to all candidates running for elected office to explain the opportunities available at Foxboro Cable Access. This provides each candidate with an equal opportunity to take advantage of our facilities throughout the election season. FCA does not endorse any candidate, but rather fosters the use of our facilities in the process of communication with the town residents.

ON-LINE PROGRAMMING

In the past few years FCA has watched with excitement as video use on the internet has grown. The popularity of this technology has brought us new tools and resources that are making it easier to publish content. Streaming video always seemed like the next logical step for advancement. In the past, server space and bandwidth requirements made the cost too high to justify. This year we were finally able to start experiment-

ing with video through a low-cost web hosting provider and video encoding software. Much of the late summer and early Fall was spent in trials to work with various encoding methods and begin uploading select programs.

We also completely redesigned our website and by year end had over a dozen video streams available for viewing. **The Division II Hockomock League Football Super Bowl** and the **FHS Holiday Concert** were among the more popular videos available on our site. We also experimented with game highlights from all the home football games and some information clips about the organization. Overall the response has been great and we plan to continue this effort in 2007. The outreach section of this report contains more details on our redesigned website.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Displayed on our three community channels when regular video programming is not being cablecast, the community bulletin board (CBB) continues to be a keystone of our programming efforts. With the help of interested senior citizens, interns, and other volunteers, the pages are kept updated.

MASTER CONTROL

The growth and expansion of our playback capabilities presented some challenges for Master Control Technician Lauren Bitar and Executive Director Michael Webber during 2006. For example, Channel 12 must be able to cablecast from three different locations within any 24-hour period and programming must not overlap. Automatic timers were setup at each location to help avoid problems and automate parts of the process. Last minute schedule changes can cause havoc with the intricate coordination. As these issues occurred, we developed standard procedures to deal with them. Lauren has been very resourceful in locating outside programming in the public domain from government agencies, and other public access stations. The additional time involved in scheduling two channels instead of one has been significant, but worthwhile. We will focus on maintaining programming continuity as we continue to expand our capabilities in 2007.

Although Channel 22 programming equipment was installed, it did not go online during 2006 as hoped, but we expect that should be complete in the early part of 2007.

In addition to 317 Hours of First Run Programming, 4945 Hours of Repeat Programming was shown on Channel 8 with a grand total of 5262 Hours of PROGRAMMING in 2006.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

On behalf of 138 local and regional organizations, approximately 2423 individual pages were created and displayed on FCA's Community Bulletin Boards

Uniform Channel ID sequences for Channels 8, 12 & 22 display general information on Foxboro Cable Access operations, including:

CHANNEL ID
Foxboro Cable Access
FCA Info & Events
Comcast Information
Satellite Transmissions
Cancellation Procedures
FEMA Advisory Information

Messages are grouped by topic:

Channel 8 : Public Access

FOXBORO CABLE ACCESS
Daily Program Schedule
FCA Information & Events
Special Features

Channel 12: Education

SCHOOLS
Foxborough Public Schools
FHS Athletic Dept.
Foxboro Music Assoc.
PTO Groups
Sage School
Sabis Regional Charter School
Southeastern Regional H.S.
Southeastern Regional Institute
Newbury College
Bridgewater State College
Norfolk Agricultural H.S.
Living Waters Christian Academy

OTHER EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Hockomock YMCA
Boyden Library
Head Start
Scholarship Advertisements
Become Won, Inc.

Channel 22: Government

TOWNGOVERNMENT
Town Hall/ Town Clerk
Board of Selectmen
Town Collector
Water & Sewer Department
Board of Health
Planning Board
Foxborough Housing Authority
Conservation Commission
Historical Commission
Highway, Tree & Park Dept.
Council On Aging
Foxboro Senior Center
Foxboro Human Services
Foxboro Cultural Council
Office of Veterans' Affairs
Recreation Department
Foxboro Animal Control
Neponset Reservoir Comm.

PUBLIC SAFETY
Foxboro Police Department
Massachusetts State Police
Foxboro Fire Department
Foxboro Emergency Management Agency
Mass SATURN
9/11 Care Line
Drive 55

LEGISLATIVE INFO
ELECTION INFORMATION

LOCAL NON-PROFITS
Doolittle Home Auction
Lions Club/ Rotary Club
Foxboro Jaycees
Founders' Day Committee
Foxboro Garden Club
American Legion /VFW Post
Friends of Foxboro Sports
Field Hockey Boosters
Foxboro Midget Football
Foxboro Youth Baseball
Foxboro Youth Basketball
Foxboro Skates
FHS Golf Team
Foxboro Track Boosters
Foxboro LaCrosse Club
Foxboro Soccer Association
Foxboro Against Diabetes
Friends of Autism
CYO Basketball
Foxboro AAUW
Foxboro Discretionary Fund
Foxboro Moms Club
Newcomers' Club
Foxborough Historical Society
Foxboro H.U.G.S.
Parents Helping Parents
Foxboro Girl Scouts
Old Colony Boy Scouts

Felines of Foxboro
Knights of Columbus
McGinty/Palladino Scholarship Committee
Friends of Foxboro Seniors
South Foxboro Community Club
St. Albans's Lodge
King Philip Shrine Club
Friends of St. Augustine's
Community Piano Project

REGIONAL NON-PROFITS
Women's Success Network
Triad / Habitat for Humanity/SNARC
Norfolk/Middlesex County Bar Association
Audebon Society/Moose Hill
Fresh Air Fund
U.S. Coast Guard Auxilliary
Hockomock Kennel Club
So. Attleboro Lions Club

LOCAL CHURCHES
First Baptist Church
St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer
Union Church of South Foxboro
Bethany Congregational /The Place
Seventh Day Adventist
Church of Emmanuel
Church of Latter Day Saints
Foxboro Universalist Church
Centenary UME Church
So Walpole UME Church
Original/First Congregational Church
Temple Beth Abraham/Temple Adath
Temple Chayai Shalom
Foursquare Gospel Church
Zion Christian Assembly/ Beit Tekati
New Beginnings Christian Center
LaSalette Shrine
Attleboro Council of Churches

REGIONAL HEALTH INFORMATION
Visting Nurse Association, VNA Care, Inc.
Caritas Christi Health Systems
HESSCO Elder Services
American Lung Association, Red Cross
Alzheimers Partnership/Norfolk Adult Day
WIC Program / Overeaters Anonymous
Vison Services, Mass.Comm./Deaf/Blind
Schleraderma Association
MA Dept of Social Services
Old Colony Hospice

REGIONAL PERFORMING ARTS
Metropolitan Wind Symphony
Orpheum Center for Performing Arts
UnCommon Theater
Bay Colony Productions
Actors Collaborative
Bridgewater Rondileau Theater
Steps Off Broadway
Franklin Performing Arts Center

Community TV ... at Its BEST !

INFORMATION

Historical Society Presents ...
A Visit To ...
Behind the Scenes
Historic Trolley Tour
Jaycee's Candidate's Night
The Yoga Show
FPS Strategic Planning Meeting
Weather or Knot

ELECTION INFO

Claire Naughton for State Representative
Paul Feeney for State Representative
Jay Barrows for State Representative
Jim Timilty for State Senator
Mike Atwill for State Senator
Amber Hillman for Lt. Governor
Tim Cahill for State Treasurer
Senatorial Debate

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Memorial Day Parade
Ecumenical Church Services
Founders' Day Parade & Events
FHS Graduation & Senior Class Night '06
Doolittle Home Auction
Bethany Church Services
Union Church of South Foxboro
St. Mary's Parish Events, Lifeteen Mass
& Baccalaureate Mass
Board of Selectmen Meetings
School Committee Meetings
Autumn Fest 2006-Friends of St. Augustine
A Really BIG Pumpkin Story/Topsfield Fair
Foxboro Remembers: Candlelight Service

SPORTS

Boys & Girls Basketball at FHS
Boys & Girls Soccer Games
FHS Football, Gymnastics, Track
Hockey, Lacrosse & Baseball
Wrestling, FHS Field Hockey,
Softball
FHS Alumni Basketball
SEMHO Hockey, Middle School Hockey
Cheerleading Competitions
Hockomock Gymnastics 2006

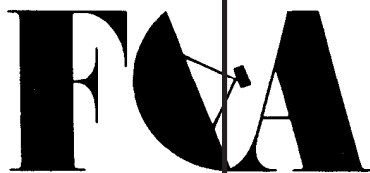
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

FHS & Ahern Middle School Concerts
From Studio A
LaSalette Nativity Display
Jaycees Concerts on the Common
O'Brien's Dance Recital
The Jim Tooher Show
The Christmas Story
Trainmania
A Christmas to Remember
Boyden Library Presents ...
Expressions of Respect
Cub Scout Pack 116 Movie Marathon
Nutcracker Ballet
Ecumenical Christmas Concert 2006
Afri-Tendo on the Common
Music & The Spoken Word
Igo School: Road to Revolution
The Jungle Book

OUTSIDE SOURCES

JoJo's Dream Cart / All Fired Up!
Army Newswatch
Emerging Artists / The Rhythm Room
Arabic Family Program
Capitol Perspective
NASA Space Missions
Destination Tomorrow
NASA Connect & Science Files
Money Matters / Making Dollars & \$en\$e
College Roundtable / Caritas Update
The Duttons Holiday Special
Amazing Facts / Life Matters
Mrs. Imagination's Tree House
George Hagopian's Piano Recital
Child & Family Today
FYI: Waste Management
Education News Parents Can Use
Media in the 21st Century

Sports Talk / Winter Sports Talk
Classic Cable 8 Sports ...
Hockomock League Football Report



COMMUNITY RESOURCES

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION

Providing Emergency Cancellation Notices continues to be a major focus of FCA's commitment to community service. The Dial Alert System has proven to be a great benefit to the town in this area. It was activated approximately 4 times in 2006. The list of prepared messages includes pages for various weather/local emergency situations, even potential natural disasters or terrorist attack, and traffic or crime alerts. Information on a variety of safety/preparedness issues is received from Mass. SATURN on a regular basis, and posted to the bulletin board for the benefit of the community. FCA staff members serve as associate members of the local Emergency Management team and have participated in basic training from the US Dept. of Homeland Security. They are available to the FEMA director for technical consultation or assistance should the need arise for mass media notifications for the safety of town residents. Michael Webber has also been pro-active in his involvement with town officials as they plan the new public safety building and its need for cablecasting infrastructure and equipment.

Over the summer months, we sent an updated notice to all local non-profit organizations, and departments of town government, explaining the clear steps they can use to initiate their participation in the Dial Alert Emergency Notification System. Because the pages are activated by telephone, advance preparation of notices, each with specific details for the various groups, is critical to the remote operation of the system. Advance participation from users increased this year, and we were pleased to customize several of the message screens to better serve the specific needs of the organiza-

tions. We have also taken additional steps to improve our internal procedures for posting cancellation notices and utilizing the system.



**FOR LOCAL CANCELLATIONS
PLEASE CALL
508-387-2808**



TRAINING WORKSHOPS

- FCA Orientation*
- Basic Studio Production*
- Field Production*
- Basic Portable Production*
- Basic Editing*
- Orientation to AVID Editing*
- Intermediate AVID Editing*
- Advanced Individual AVID Training*

TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Foxboro Cable Access offers a variety of Training Workshops, free-of-charge, throughout the year to residents in the community. During 2006 the following workshops were offered: Basic Studio Production, Basic Non-Linear Editing, Basic Field Production, and Mobile Unit Production. Response to our formal workshop series has been limited, although our Avid non-linear editing classes continue to be very popular.

In addition to our formal training workshops, many of our volunteers "learn by doing" and through mentoring with fellow volunteers. This approach has always worked well and often keeps volunteers on the fast-track to producing, directing, and other specialized skills.

ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY MEDIA

Michael Webber continued his involvement as Treasurer of the Alliance for Community Media-North East Region, and has become a well respected leader in this regional media advocacy group. He attended the National Conference in Boston this year and concentrated his attention public policy issues along with content management technology for the web. Much of the information gather during the conference shaped the plan for the new FCA website.

FCA was designated as a judging site for the ACM-NE Video Festival again this year, which was held in Brockton, Massachusetts this past Fall. Several volunteers spent evening viewing entries in the Music and Performing Arts & Sports Documentary category. Their reactions determined the winners.