



Kenosha Community Media turns 30!

Kenosha Community Media is celebrating its anniversary! The non-profit public access center is marking 30 years serving Kenosha County residents and non-profit organizations.

John Bloner, the City of Kenosha's Technology & Media Specialist, is excited about the future of community television in Kenosha. He notes that KCM is always busy, six days a week, providing access to the studio, field camcorders, and editing equipment to those who have taken KCM's video production training. Besides helping non-profits, KCM staff also covers community events like the 4th of July Parade, symphony concerts, community-wide spelling bees, and most recently, the construction of the Kenosha Dream Playground, a fully-accessible play area for children of all abilities.

KCM will be thanking its volunteers with a reception and then throwing a party with music, dancing, casino games, raffle prizes and more. "It's a Boo-tiful Night" will be held at the Woman's Club of Kenosha on Saturday, October 24th from 6:30-10:00 pm.

Live Daily Show is *Talking Fitchburg*

To catch up on what's going on in Fitchburg, tune in to FACTV's *Talking Fitchburg*. It's a new hour-long show seen weekdays at 9 a.m. Modeled after morning talk shows, *Talking Fitchburg* hosts Preston Schmit and Jeremy Crosby use a radio-style set-up to meet with guests from the city, local businesses, the schools, and area non-profits. If you miss it on Charter's channel 985 or on AT&T's ch. 99 clickable website, you can view it streaming live on the City of Fitchburg's website. Some segments will also be posted in its Video-on-Demand archives and on YouTube.



Kids can celebrate with the TV show *FESTIVAL!* all year long in River Falls

As summer wanes and the carnivals shutter one by one, there is one fun spot that continues to attract visitors – especially kids. *FESTIVAL!*

The show's short stories and skits featuring clowns, cartoon characters, puppets and animated objects teach kids about appropriate social behavior year round on the City of River Falls' community television channel.

Set at local parks and businesses, *FESTIVAL!* is designed to capture children's attention and inspire their imagination with an entertaining rapid-fire succession of performances. The award-winning show uses art, music and humor to take a look at right and wrong and how people treat each other, touching on sometimes difficult subjects important to children - such as bullying, safety and cultural differences - in a fun and entertaining way.



The show's producer, Tim Montgomery (pictured here), is a graphic designer at KSTP-TV - St. Paul, a former print journalist for the St. Paul Pioneer Press and the author of a series of children's books. At RFCTV, Tim has been able to produce, script, direct, shoot, and edit *FESTIVAL!* often using RFCTV public access equipment. Over the last three years, Tim has gotten his family involved in producing the 20-minute show every one to two months. His three kids, ages 9 – 13 can be found in front of and behind the camera having fun, learning, and making a difference in their community.

FESTIVAL! is cablecast on River Falls Community Channel 16 at 7 a.m. and Noon every day. You can also watch it on demand through the RFCTV website.

The “Voice of Watertown Soccer” celebrates 25 years



The “Voice of Watertown Soccer” is celebrating 25 years behind the microphone this year. Ray Bezanson has been calling high school soccer games for Watertown's public access station since 1990.

“I really didn't volunteer, I was approached by Gary Fisk, the cable coordinator at the time, probably because I was yelling a lot from the sidelines at the games,” Ray says with a warm chuckle. Since then his involvement has expanded to include play by play for Watertown High School football and basketball.

Ray's commitment to public access television goes farther than calling sports. He is also secretary of the Watertown Cable Board and promotes the station whenever he can. “Watertown TV is an important asset for our community, it's a great local resource.”

When he's not in the press box, Ray is the pastor of Watertown Advent Christian Church and a chaplain at Marquart Memorial Hospice and Aurora Health Care.

“Ray is a wonderful volunteer,” says Watertown TV Media Coordinator Jill Nadeau. “He loves calling the games and does such a great job. Especially with soccer, there are still a lot of people who aren't as familiar with the game and he has a nice way of explaining what's going on. He does his homework and is always prepared.”

Ray says his working conditions have certainly improved over the years. “When we first started we were at a picnic table along the sidelines, we had a handheld mic and that was about it. When it rained I had to hold the mic, my notes and an umbrella!” He now calls the games from an elevated sports box and uses a headset. One thing that hasn't changed is his love of the game and appreciation for the coaches and kids who play, especially when they score a “Goooooooooaaalll!

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How will community TV fare if Charter takes over Time Warner?



The vast majority of Wisconsin cable subscribers may soon be served by “New Charter,” a company created when Charter purchases Time Warner and Brighthouse - if they receive approval from the FCC and the Department of Justice. New Charter would be the second largest operator in the country after Comcast. WCM is surveying its members about their experience with the two operators and will be submitting comments to the FCC. Look for our survey results on our website.

Asque the Blaguesmith answers a need



By 2007, licensed psychologist Dr. Ramel Smith had come to the realization that there was a great need to get more mental health information out to the public. Too many people with mental health issues were not walking into a doctor's office. For some, it was a transportation issue. For others, the cost was prohibitive. Still others did not want the stigma of mental illness.

Then Dr. Smith learned about MATA Community Media and he got an idea for a monthly show. At first *Asque the Blaguesmith* stuck solely to mental health issues, covering depression, anxiety, sleep disorders, and the importance of exercise. Over the last eight years, the half-hour show has evolved to talk about issues that affect people's everyday lives such as managing money, building relationships, and communicating effectively. *Asque the Blaguesmith* also goes on-location to events happening around the city. Dr. Smith has interviewed the cast of *Clybourne Park* (a sequel to *Raisin in the Sun*) at the Milwaukee Performing Arts Center and talked with candidates for the Milwaukee School Board.

Perhaps the relationship he cherishes most is the one with the Milwaukee Public Schools. *Asque the Blaguesmith* has promoted and covered the flag football fundraiser for MPS and has started a scholarship program that rewards eighth graders, seniors, and college students for academic achievement and involvement in activities.

Asque the Blaguesmith can be seen on channels 14 and 96 in Milwaukee on Wednesdays at 7 pm, Thursdays at 1 pm and Saturdays at 11:30 am. It is also carried on AT&T's channel 99, a clickable web-based platform on the line-up.