

Trustees 2024

- Bob Duthaler President – 2026
- Doug Seidel VP – 2024
- Linda Besink Treasurer – 2026
- Rick Gearhart Secretary – 2024
- Stephanie Gibbons
- Corresponding Sec. – 2025
- Dave Garb – 2024
- George Fairfield – 2026
- Don Smith – 2025
- Mark Albala – 2025

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General Meeting Schedule 2024-25

- Oct. 30- The YMCA at the Piscataway Community Center
No Presentation
- Dec. 4- Cranford TV
Presentation- TBA
- Jan. 29, 2025- Oakland TV
Reorganization
Presentation- TBA
- Feb. 26- Bloomfield TV
Presentation- TelVue
- Mar. 26- Montclair TV
Presentation- TBA
- Apr. 30- Oradell TV
Presentation- DeSisti
- May 14-15- @ Crown Plaza, Edison
JAG Conference & JAG Awards
- Jun. 25- North Brunswick TV
Presentation- TBA
- Sept. 24- Varto Technologies
Presentation- TBA

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President’s Message

Bob Duthaler

Open Letter To Membership



Your Voice Matters: Share Your Needs and Ideas!

Dear JAG Members,

As the President of the Jersey Access Group, I am reaching out to emphasize how crucial your feedback is in our mission to enhance the services we provide. We believe that our organization exists to serve you, and your insights play a vital role in shaping our future initiatives.

In our ever-evolving community, it’s essential that we stay attuned to your needs and expectations. We want to ensure that the Jersey Access Group is not only meeting your current requirements, but also anticipating future needs. To that end, we invite you to reflect on the following questions:

1. **What resources or services do you find most beneficial?**
Understanding what currently works well will help us strengthen those offerings.
2. **Are there specific programs or support you would like us to develop?**
Your ideas for new initiatives can inspire us to create impactful services that address gaps in our community.
3. **How can we improve communication and engagement within our community?** We want to ensure that everyone feels informed and involved. Your suggestions will help us enhance our outreach efforts.
4. **What challenges do you face that we could help address?** Whether logistical, informational, or emotional, your challenges are important to us and we want to explore how we can provide support.

To share your thoughts reply to this request by sending me an email at bduthaler@jagonline.org or joining us at our upcoming meeting on Wednesday, October 30th in Piscataway, NJ. This meeting will provide an open forum for discussion, and we’d love to hear your ideas in person.

Our goal is to create a vibrant, supportive environment that truly meets your needs. Your participation is key to making this a reality, and we deeply value your contributions to our community.

Thank you for being an integral part of the Jersey Access Group. Together, we can continue to build a stronger organization that serves us all.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

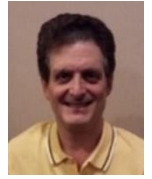
Warm regards,

Bob Duthaler

President, Jersey Access Group



Here is an additional update to the threat of HR 3557. A couple weeks ago, the bi-partisan national organizations of local government officials National League of Cities (NLC), the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM), the National Association of Counties (NACo) and the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (NATOA) sent a letter to House leadership reiterating their opposition to HR 3557 the American Broadband Deployment Act. This was a response to the recent Industry Trade Association letter sent to House leadership by NCTA, CTIA, US Telecom, WIA, NTCA and INCOMPAS and others.



From NATOA on HR 3557:

[Opposition Letter to HR 3557](#) NACo, NLC, the USCM and NATOA oppose the heavy-handed federal overreach into local land use, permitting, and franchise negotiation decisions in HR 3557, which represents:

- An unprecedented and dangerous usurpation of local governments' authority to manage public rights-of-way and land use
- Favors cable, wireless and telecommunications providers
- Waives historic preservation (NHPA) and environmental (NEPA) rules

H.R. 3557 runs counter to the recommendations from the new multi-stakeholders Benton Foundation and Georgetown Law Institute for Technology Law and Policy white paper: "[Permitting Success: Closing the Digital Divide through Local Broadband Permitting](#)," which recognizes that the main issue for smaller communities is a lack of staff and resources, particularly in that jurisdictions that will get most of the BEAD funding. Further, the Permitting Success white paper reflects the acknowledgement by the industry and other stakeholders that local permitting is important to protect public safety and the diverse values of communities. In addition, the FCC's Communications Equity and Diversity Council model rules for states and local governments recognized similar values and the need for local involvement (like franchising) to be sure deployment is equitable. H.R. 3557 is at odds with those recommendations.

From ACM on HR 3557:

HR 3557 allows for corporations to be able to modify franchise agreements at will and to be in public rights of way in perpetuity, if they so choose, to help promote broadband deployment in America. Obviously, something that is not in the interest of local communities and not in the interests of community media operations across the United States.

Many of our members wrote letters to the House and Senate leadership about the concerns of local preemption happening as a result of that bill. This is something we'll keep monitoring, but we want to ensure you knew that we don't have to worry about that until December at the earliest.

JAG urges all of our members in the House of Representatives to ensure that Public Educational and Government (PEG) Access media organizations like ours (and others throughout the United States) will continue to serve local residents by continuing to **not** include language from HR 3557 (American Broadband Deployment Act) in any resolutions this fall.

HR 3557 is **not** a bi-partisan effort and was passed out of committee with no testimony from local and state governments, which represent legitimate interests of residents and cable and broadband consumers throughout the country. The Bill's promoters talk of clearing "regulatory underbrush" to ensure that

broadband is extended to all areas of the country. And yet, that “underbrush” ensures the rights of all communities—rural, suburban or urban—are respected when negotiating with corporate interests, and that communities with little power have a place at the bargaining table and a voice in the media.

From ACM on the Closed Captioning Registry:

The FCC has closed comments on the notice of further rule making petition that the ACM brought forward regarding the closed captioning registry and the request they had to have a waiver for public access producers in the United States not registering with the federal government about their captioning exemption status.

Mike Wassenaar, president of the ACM is happy to report that he has gotten some supportive comments from our friends at NATOA, as well as from other local governments across the United States, and we will hopefully hear soon about the FCC's actions.

The sort of the information necessary for individual channels to actually give their points of contact in the registered database in case their consumer complaints for those of you are not familiar with the 2016 ruling that promulgated our concerns.

The FCC says that all television channels actually should have a point of contact listed for any consumer complaints about closed captioning and the point of contact also should be able to tell an individual at the FCC what the exemption status is for the FCC's captioning rules.

The FCC has a set of closed captioning rules that are separate from the Department of Justice requirements under ADA and those rules by and large state that I think most public, educational and government television operations in the United States are exempt because of one of a number of different factual conditions.

One of them is the amount of revenue received. You have to make more than \$3,000,000 per channel to not be exempt from captioning requirements. This is actually a rule that was set way back in 1998, so it's our analysis that most peg channels in the United States are probably exempt by of the FCC's captioning conditions.

We'll need to actually get points of contact for any channel that is on a cable operation in United States to be with the FCC in case consumer complaints come forward.

So I think that process will get rolling in 2025 and we'll provide you information as it moves forward. It's probably in everybody's best interest that consumers know if you're exempt from captioning rules, and they know who to talk to in case there's a question.



Clark TV-36 is owned and operated by the Township of Clark as **OurClark Media TV 36**. The studio is overseen by Nathaniel Clee who brings over 30 years of experience in information technology and electronic engineering support. Additionally, there is a team of part time videographers, editors and studio staff that are brought in as needed.



TV-36 covers Council Meetings, Board of Ed Meetings, Zoning Board Meetings, Planning Board Meetings and any other governmental meetings that need coverage. The studio is also used to cover emergent news reporting to the community about situations that may arise in the township.

Our Communications and Business Development department utilizes our resources to provide an overview of life in the community. This includes the TV 36 staff videoing all Township events, special occasions and business openings to broadcast on television, social media and YouTube.



TV-36 staff also broadcasts school and library events of interest such as concerts, talent shows, graduations, sporting events, guest speakers, special programming and much more.

In 2025 and beyond, we plan to host various podcasts, business spotlights, and the Clark community with special interests, talents, and a willingness to share, slide in front of our cameras and do what they do best for our audience.



Several years ago, our facility completed a multi-year remodel and upgraded to state-of-the-art equipment. The studio is run with a TriCaster TC1 unit which is fed by three Sony Studio Cameras HXC-FB80SN with HDVFL750 VF/20X Lens and Viewfinder controlled by three Camera Control Units (Sony HXCU-FB80N) for Full 1080p Resolution.

Our Bulletin Board is powered by the Infovue system Player and 1 Remote stick, Show management is controlled by a Leightronix Ultra HD Server running through a Blackmagic Smart Video Hub.

The biggest upgrade was to our council chamber's infrastructure with 5 Sony PTZ Cameras controlled remotely from our control room to the brand new Court/Council Chambers and Police HQ Across the street all brought in with bi-directional fiber. In addition to the cameras we are able to control four 65 inch Sony monitors on the walls in the courtroom with full control of audio and video to the room with a Crestron Control Unit.



We also have fiber lines to the high school football field for live games as well as a fiber line to the high school auditorium. In addition to the fiber feeds we have a LiveU Solo Unit that enables us to go live anywhere throughout the town.

TV-36 is set for the future needs of the community and will continue to grow its programming for years to come.



Congratulations: JAG Awards Winner 2024:

Rich Desimone, Editor-in-Chief
Photos by Doug Seidel

Feature

Documentary

Woodbridge TV—The Barron Arts Center: Holiday Model Train Show, Award of Excellence
JCETV Jersey City—Jersey City Public Schools Official Sesquicentennial Video, Award of Distinction
Woodbridge Schools—Woodbridge Township School District: CJCEE, Award of Recognition



Instructional/Training

Woodbridge Schools—Gifted & Talented: Professional Development Learning, Award of Excellence
Piscataway Community TV—Piscataway Cooks: With the Bertolinis, Award of Distinction
Piscataway Community TV—Appliance Building Permit, Award of Recognition

News Magazine

EbTV, East Brunswick—EB Stories, Award of Excellence
Woodbridge Schools—The Bridge: Social Emotional Learning, Award of Distinction
Woodbridge TV—Meet the Artist: Tyler Nunnally-Duck, Award of Recognition



Talk Show

EbTV, East Brunswick—Old Ways in NJ: Rik Palieri, Folk Singer, Award of Excellence
Piscataway Community TV—Women Talk – Crafts, Award of Distinction
Premiere Media—CAZUAL CONVERSATIONS 40TH Anniv. of NJ Festival of Ballooning, Award of Distinction
Woodbridge TV—Greenable Woodbridge: We Feed Food Bank, Award of Distinction
Asbury Park TV—ArtsRule in Asbury Park: A Conversation with AP-AMP, Award of Recognition



PSA: Public Service Announcement

Newark TV—MLK Day of Service, Award of Excellence
WBMA-TV/Bloomfield—Juneteenth PSA 2023, Award of Distinction
Piscataway Community TV—Will It Flush, Award of Recognition

Promotion

Premiere Media—Brandywine Living at Princeton Celebrates Seniors, Award of Excellence
Asbury Park TV—Arts Rule in Asbury Park :The Cardboard Art Show, Award of Distinction
EbTV, East Brunswick—EB Restaurant Week '23: Magnifico's, Award of Distinction
Woodbridge TV—Snapshot: B-Street Band, Award of Distinction
Piscataway Community TV—Piscataway Pete, Award of Recognition



Sports Programming/Multi-Camera

Piscataway Community TV—PHS Football, Award of Excellence
EbTV, East Brunswick—EBHS Boys Volleyball EB vs. Monroe 5/2/23, Award of Distinction
CNET, State College—High School Football vs. Altoona, Award of Recognition



Public Meeting / Single Camera

WM77, West Milford—West Milford Council Meeting, Award of Excellence

Public Meeting / Multi-Camera

Oakland TV—Oakland Council Meeting February 28, 2023, Award of Excellence
Roselle Park TV—Township Council Meeting 2023, Award of Distinction
Scotch Plains Television, Scotch Plains—Township Council Mtg: 10-17-23, Award of Recognition



Public Ceremony / Single Camera

Oradell Public TV—Mural Unveiling, Award of Excellence
Oakland TV—Veterans Day Ceremony, Award of Distinction
WBMA-TV/Bloomfield—Juneteenth Educational Ceremony 2023, Award of Recognition



Public Ceremony / Multi-Camera

Scotch Plains Television—Scotch Plains Veteran's Day Ceremony 2023, Award of Excellence
Oakland TV—Christmas/Chanukah Light Ceremony, Award of Distinction
Newark TV—Harriet Tubman Monument Unveiling, Award of Recognition



Public Parade/Multi-Camera

Woodbridge TV—Woodbridge Township Holiday Parade, Award of Excellence
Long Hill TV—Township Halloween Parade 2023, Award of Distinction
WBMA-TV/Bloomfield—Bloomfield Memorial Day Parade 2023, Award of Recognition



Concert/Single Camera

Woodbridge Schools Woodbridge—HS Choir at St Andrews Church, Award of Excellence
Asbury Park TV—AP Juneteenth '23 Highlights: Valerie Adams and The Dimension Band, Award of Distinction



Concert /Multiple Camera

Clifton Cable Channel—Super Trans AM 2023, Award of Excellence
Woodbridge TV Woodbridge—Mayor's Summer Concert: Gypsy-Fleetwood Mac Tribute, Award of Distinction
WM77-West Milford—Bob Magnuson Concert, Award of Recognition

Community Holiday Event

Roseland TV—Santa's Arrival & Hometown Christmas Celebration Recap, Award of Excellence
EBTV, East Brunswick—48th Annual East Brunswick Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, Award of Distinction
CNET, State College—A Celebration of Juneteenth: Threading the Fabric of Freedom, Award of Recognition

Community Development Event

Cranford TV35—Home for the Holidays, Award of Excellence
Newark TV—Newark Fashion Forward: "Final Fire on the Runway," Award of Distinction
Cranford TV35—Sand Sculpture Award of Recognition
WBMA-TV/Bloomfield—Inter-Faith Rally Against Hate 2023, Award of Recognition



Community Ground Breaking/Ribbon Cutting/Dedication

Cranford TV35—Toast, Award of Excellence
Newark TV—Home for the Holidays, Award of Distinction
WBMA-TV/Bloomfield—Mayor McCarthy Street Naming, Award of Recognition



Community Festival/Fair Event

CNET, State College—2023 Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts, Award of Excellence
Scotch Plains Television—Scotch Plains Trunk or Treat 2023, Award of Distinction
WM77-West Milford—West Milford National Night Out, Award of Recognition



Community Award Presentation

Asbury Park TV—APin3 Film Challenge Compilation 2023, Award of Excellence
WBMA-TV/Bloomfield—Bloomfield Police Chief Ceremony, Award of Distinction
JCETV Jersey City—Jersey City Public Schools Teacher of the Year Awards Presentation, Award of Recognition

Congratulations to all our award recipients!





JAG General Meeting

October 30, 2024 @ 12:00pm, YMCA at Piscataway Community Center, Lunch at 11:30am
No Presentation

For more information and access to the meeting email JAGinfo@jagonline.org

Don't forget to check out our YouTube channel. <https://www.youtube.com/@jagjerseyaccessgroup>

Have something you want on our YouTube channel? Send a link to dseidel@piscatawaynj.org for review.

The JAG Job Board is currently being populated with opportunities. New password needed after June 1.
Contact Linda Besink lbesink@gmail.com for access

Share the value of JAG's newsletter with your elected officials, cable committee, station volunteers, associates and friends. Send this invitation:

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/B7EMU1R/JAGnewsletter>

EVENT SCHEDULE 2024-25

Dec. 4th at 12pm: General Meeting, Cranford TV35, Presentation scheduled TBA

Jan. 29th at 12pm: General Meeting, Oakland TV, Presentation scheduled TBA

Feb. 26th at 12pm: General Meeting, WBMA TV Bloomfield, Presentation scheduled TelVue

Mar. 26th at 12pm: General Meeting, Montclair TV34, Presentation scheduled TBA

Apr. 30th at 12pm: General Meeting, OPTV, Oradell, Presentation scheduled DeSisti

May 14th & 15th: JAG Annual Conference, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Edison

Jun. 25th at 12pm: General Meeting, North Brunswick TV15, Presentation scheduled TBA

Organizational Members



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JERSEY ACCESS GROUP

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