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October 17, 2016

Vermont to Celebrate Community Media Day on October 20th

A proclamation by Governor Peter Shumlin, open houses at public access centers and special television programming will be a few of the ways that Vermont will celebrate the first-ever nationwide Community Media Day.

Community Media Day will be marked throughout the country on October 20th 2016, for the first time. The Vermont Access Network (VAN) will spearhead local efforts to highlight accessible media and free speech on that day. VAN is the professional organization of Vermont's 25 Community Media Centers.

Events will kick off in Vermont on October 19th, with Gov. Shumlin signing a Community Media Day Proclamation at his office in Montpelier emphasizing the value of Community Media Centers in supporting civic engagement and community expression. In the proclamation the governor is to urge "all residents to support their local Community Media Center and the efforts of the Vermont Access Network."

"We're very pleased by the Governor's recognition of Community Media Day in Vermont and look forward to future annual celebrations of the important public resources that the state's Community Media Centers provide," says Kevin Christopher, VAN President and Executive Director of Lake Champlain Access Television in Colchester.

On this first-ever Community Media Day, many Vermont access centers will open their doors to the public and show special programs. Lisa Byer, Executive Director of Catamount Access Television in Bennington and a member of the VAN Board notes: "We're excited about this new initiative to highlight the importance of Community Media in the state and beyond."

Community Media Centers operate 69 channels throughout Vermont, their staff and volunteers producing nearly 17,000 television programs each year. These centers provide services to the public, local government and educational institutions, arts and non-profit organizations.

For more info about Community Media Day see: <http://www.communitymediaday.com>

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