



THE VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS

**CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (June 29, 2018)** - The Virginia Association of Broadcasters awarded four outstanding Virginia citizens on June 22nd for their contributions to broadcasting and the Commonwealth.

Recipients were presented with the awards following the 81st Annual Summer Convention Awards Banquet held at the Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel. The presentation preceded the Annual Virginia Broadcast Awards, which recognizes excellence in broadcasting at member television and radio stations (please see separate release).

### **2018 Distinguished Virginian Award**



**Dorothy McAuliffe**

For years, Dorothy McAuliffe has been a committed advocate for women's health, public safety, social justice, and equal opportunity. As First Lady of the Commonwealth, she engaged stakeholders across Virginia to seek solutions that expand opportunities for national service, increase support for military-connected families, and empower community efforts linking locally grown food, education, health, and nutrition.

Mrs. McAuliffe's advocacy resulted in nearly \$5 million over five years in the Governor's budget to help schools adopt 'Breakfast After the Bell' programs. This historic investment, in conjunction with her partnership with the No Kid Hungry Virginia campaign, led to an increase of over 10 million school breakfasts served to Virginia students each year.

Dorothy McAuliffe is a graduate of The Catholic University of America, and completed her J.D. at Georgetown University Law Center. She recently completed a Fellowship at Georgetown's Institute of Politics and Policy at the McCourt School of Public Service and continues to serve as the Chair of the No Kid Hungry Virginia campaign.

*The Distinguished Virginian Award honors those who, by their own actions, have contributed substantially to the wellbeing of the Commonwealth, its citizens, or the broadcast industry. Recipients have spent a majority of their life in Virginia, and command the respect of broadcasters and the general public.*

### **2018 C.T. Lucy Distinguished Service Award**



**Jack Dempsey**

Jack Dempsey's broadcast career spans more than 45 years when he began his broadcasting career in 1973 at WAXU-AM in Georgetown, Kentucky.

He started his television career at WKYT-TV in Lexington, Kentucky. Dempsey also worked at WOWK-TV in Huntington, West Virginia. He spent 27 years at WJHL-TV in Johnson City, Tennessee, where he served as General Manager for 23 of those years. Jack joined WCYB in 2012 as Vice President and General Manager.

As part of his service to the Tri-Cities community, Dempsey is a past-president of the Rotary Club of Bristol, a past member of the Barter Theater's Board of Directors and served for nine years on the CBS affiliate advisory board. Dempsey also served as President for both the Tennessee and Virginia Association of Broadcasters.

Dempsey was born and raised in Ashland, Kentucky. Recently retired, Dempsey plans to continue his avid love of golf and spend quality time with his wife, Diane, along with their five children and eleven grandchildren.

*Named for the founder of the VAB, the C.T. Lucy Distinguished Service Award honors a broadcaster who spent a significant part of his or her career at one or more Virginia broadcast properties and who has become a leader in the state's broadcast industry.*

## 2018 George A. Bowles, Jr. Broadcast Journalism Award



**Phil Goodwin**

Phil Goodwin's broadcasting career began in 1972 while game-fully employed by the United States Army. Stationed at Fort Jackson, South Carolina- and later with Armed Forces Radio in Thailand- Phil served as a Broadcast Specialist, newscaster, radio and TV news director.

Locally, Phil began his radio career in 1974 at WVJZ-FM and WJMA-AM, Orange, Virginia as an on-air personality, later program and music director, and eventually news director. Through the years Phil has worked in similar roles at WCUL-FM, and WCVA-AM, Culpeper, WINA-AM and WQMZ-FM, Charlottesville, and for the last 28 years with WJMA-FM, WOJL-FM, WVCV AM and WCVA-AM in Orange and Culpepper.

Goodwin covered President George W. Bush's campaign in central and northern Virginia, Virginia Governors' Northam, McAuliffe, MacDonnell, Warner, Allan and Robb; and interviewed academy award winning entertainers such as Charlton Heston and Sissy Spacek.

Goodwin has also served and connected with the various communities where he's worked throughout the years as a member of the Orange County and Virginia Jaycees and numerous Chambers of Commerce.

*The George A. Bowles, Jr. Award is presented to a reporter or news director who is distinguished in the field of broadcast news, has longevity in Virginia broadcasting, is respected by peers and exhibits enthusiasm for his or her work and the community.*

## 2018 J. Jerry Freeman Engineering Award



**Dennis Sloatman**

Dennis Sloatman is a 48-year broadcasting veteran. He began his radio career in 1970 in Rockford, IL with hopes of being a top-40 DJ in nearby Chicago. In 1974, Sloatman became a country DJ in Cedar Rapids, IA before going to work for Harris Corporation (Now Gates Air) as an Automation Field Service Engineer.

In 1980 he moved to Orlando, FL for 28 years serving as Chief Engineer and Market Technical Director for various broadcast facilities - including Cox Media Group. While in Orlando, Sloatman attended the University of Central Florida (UCF) and earned a degree in Electrical Engineering graduating Summa Cum Laude and earning a Commercial Pilot's License.

In 2008, he moved to Richmond Virginia as Market Chief Engineer for Cox Media Group and was the first recipient of the Cox Media Engineering Manager of the Year Award.

In 2012, Sloatman moved to Los Angeles to become the Vice President of Engineering for iHeartMedia's 10 stations in Southern California. He then returned to Richmond in 2016 to assume role as Vice President of Engineering for Summit Media Group. Dennis and his wife Maureen now make their home in Midlothian.

*The J.J. Freeman Engineering Achievement Award honors those who have made an outstanding contribution to broadcasting and who have shown technical knowledge, dedication, dependability and leadership in broadcast engineering affairs.*

The Virginia Association of Broadcasters has been working to advance broadcasting since 1937. The Association provides legal advice, holds sales, news and production educational seminars, and provides government relation services for its members. The VAB sponsors scholarship and internship programs to help educate and train future broadcasters, and the annual awards program recognize excellence in broadcasting among its member stations. For more information on the VAB, please visit: <http://vabonline.com/>

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