

Copyright laws designed to protect owners, producers



MELANIE YOUNG

CABLE CONNECTION
You've heard that Public, Educational and Government access television is non-profit, non-commercial and free to residents of the cities of Novi, Farmington, Farmington Hills. But what does that mean? It means that the facilities, resources and equipment are free for your use. Remember, though, that some parts of your production may have laws regarding their use.

Take music for instance. The next time you need music for your access show, don't go to your personal CD rack. You could be breaking the law, and violating Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission policies in the process. That law is Copyright. If you are involved in a production that is aired on an access channel, read on for some important information you need to know.

So what is copyright? Everyone has heard the term, but it can be very confusing. Simply put, copyright is the exclusive right an author has over his or her work. These author's privileges include the right to do and authorize others to do the following: to reproduce the copyrighted work, to prepare derivative works, to distribute copies of the copyrighted works, to perform the copyrighted work and to display the copyrighted work.

Copyright laws cover anything that is in a fixed, tangible medium of expression. This can

include books, articles, movies, recordings, snapshots, software, sheet music, newspapers, charts, graphs, choreography and costumes. Thus, all original access shows have the benefits of copyright. Copyright protection exists immediately at the time the work is created in a fixed, tangible form (or down on paper). In fact, if you are the author of any of the above works, it is not necessary to register for a copyright. It automatically exists. However, it may be beneficial to register your work with the copyright office so that there is a public record of the copyright.

Another important fact about copyright law is that the length of copyright protection can vary depending on the length of the author's life. If a work is created today, it is protected for the length of the author's life plus fifty years, or seventy-five years if the author is an entity. That means that if you complete a script for a play today, the copyright protection exists for the rest of your life plus fifty years.

Of course, not everything is covered by copyright law. Some copyrights have expired, which make these works public domain, meaning the public has the right to use them. You may have seen clips of old movies in TV shows, or heard them on the radio. Usually, the owners of these copyrights did not act properly or promptly to renew the copyright.

So what can you do to stay out of copyright trouble? The best thing to do is to never use professional music recordings in your productions. A wide selection of copyright-free music is available

for your use at both access studios.

If you must use professionally recorded music, you should always obtain written permission by contacting the producer and/or artist. Otherwise, you face fines or a court battle. It has happened in other access communities. Don't let it happen here.

If you want more information on how to stay out of copyright trouble, contact the SWOCC staff. We helped producer Sandy Mamith obtain permission to use the Chonillo Sisters' song "Read To Me" in her show "Storytime With Sandy." Sandy did all the legwork by placing the original phone calls and drafting the letters. We wrote the letters on INFO TV-12 stationery and sent them off. Shortly after the letters were sent, she was granted permission by the artists to use the song on three shows. There is also an excellent book out there for media types that can help you determine if your program contains copyrighted material. It is called Copyright and Trademarks for Media Professionals by Arnold Lutsker. You can pick it up at any bookstore.

Want to register a copyright? Contact the U.S. Copyright office in Washington D.C. for the proper forms.

Melanie Young is the Community Relations Specialist for the Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission. The next SWOCC meeting is at 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 10, at the Farmington City Hall. The next Access Forum is at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 3 at SWOCC.



Always there: Robert Chappell, who is active with the Farmington Masonic Lodge, is known to lend a hand when needed. Here he rides in the Founders parade.

Volunteer from page A1

the 2-mile parade route. He buys the food, recruits volunteers, sets up and cleans up.

He is no stranger to awards. In 1995, he received the Farmington/Farmington Hills Senior Citizen of the Year.

Chappell, a longtime Farmington resident, worked in bakeries for Farmer Jack and Continental Baking for 40 years and retired in 1985. So when it comes to making sure food gets purchased, cooked and distributed, it's second nature for him. He's been an active volunteer for

roughly 14 years and is a Korean War veteran holding a good conduct medal.

What he enjoys most about volunteering is "making sure that people are taken care of," he said. That goes for either an impoverished family needing food, clothing and toys during the holidays or for a physically-impaired child and family needing financial assistance from the Shriners.

"With the kids, we make sure they get taken care of," he said, adding that eligible children and

families can receive 100 percent assistance through the Shriners if no insurance claims are made. The organization has hospitals in Chicago, Erie, Pa. and Cincinnati.

Three weeks ago, Chappell remarried after being a widower since 1993. He described his new wife, Lucille, as a "very nice lady," who added three grandchildren to his roster of four.

"I enjoy taking them out to see shows," he said.

OBITUARIES

ADELE M. BONO

Services for Adele M. Bono, 85, of Farmington Hills were held July 16 at the Church of St. Alexander in Farmington Hills with the Rev. Jim Wright officiating. Burial took place at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield. Mrs. Bono was born June 14, 1914, in Scranton, Pa. and died July 14 at Hospice Home in Farmington Hills.

She is survived by sister, Stephanie Heinz; niece, Adele (William) Martz. She was preceded in death by husband, James; and brothers, Joseph and Edmund Mase.

Memorial contributions can be made to St. Vincent DePaul of St. Alexander's Church in Farmington Hills. Arrangements made by Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington.

Award for excellence

James Rigby of Farmington Hills has received a Distinguished Graduate Faculty Award from Wayne State University, where he is a professor in the chemistry department.

The honor, which includes a \$2,500 cash award, goes to faculty members whose research, scholarship and teaching have

brought distinction to WSU's graduate programs. Rigby is a specialist in organic chemistry.

Hospice resident

Bob Cahill of Farmington Hills, has been named senior vice president for business operations/chief financial officer of

Hospice of Michigan. He has served as vice president of finance and CFO at Hospice of Michigan for the past year.

Meeting Partner of the Year

Lillian Sims has been awarded Meeting Partner of the Year by the Professional Speakers Association of Michigan.

Sims, assistant to the executive director of the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority in Farmington Hills, was chosen because of her extraordinary communication, collaboration and implementation skills. She has served as the assistant to the director of the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority since 1989.

CAMPUS PIPELINE

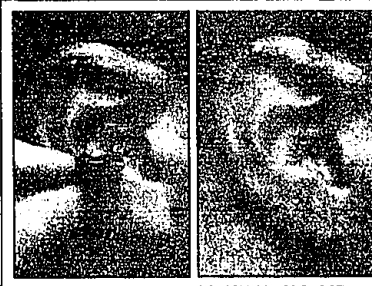
SAVE DOLLARS ON HEARING AID BATTERIES FOR ARGOSY • AUDINA • AUTHORIZED • BERNAFON • NATURA

OUR 45th YEAR IN BUSINESS

NOW EVERYONE CAN AFFORD COMPLETE-IN-CANAL Hearing Aid

Best Buy in C.I.C.'S

\$598⁰⁰ **WHY WAIT?** **30 DAY FREE TRIAL**
Model C.I.C.-AHS Class A Circuit up to 35DB
SAVE DOLLARS with this Ad
Expires 7-23-99



COMPLETE IN CANAL HEARING AID...

HEARING AID BATTERIES

Fittings Available up to 80 D. B. Loss with Options
By Appointment Only - Please Call Today!

<p>COUPON Now Available 5 YEARS FACTORY WARRANTY FACTORY LOSS 6 DAMAGE Extended Service Contract Expires 7-23-99</p>	<p>COUPON ALL IN-EAR HEARING AID CUSTOM CANAL Reg. 798⁰⁰ With \$498 Coupon Model Canal-GMI up to 35 DB-Class-A Expires 7-23-99</p>	<p>COUPON ALL IN-EAR HEARING AID CUSTOM FULL SHELL Reg. 698⁰⁰ With \$298 Coupon Model Full Shell G.M.I. up to 35 DB-Class-A Expires 7-23-99</p>	<p>COUPON HEARING AID REPAIR ALL BRANDS In-The-Ear Complete-in-Canal With \$59 Coupon Except B.T.E. Program & Digital Plus \$ 6.00 Expires 7-23-99</p>	<p>COUPON WHY PAY \$5.00 OR MORE PER PACK OF BATTERIES? 98¢ PER PACK OF FOUR ZINC AIR CELLS Four batteries per pack. Made in U.S.A. by Eveready Battery Co. Inc. Pay \$5.94 to George Iwanow Hearing Aid Centers Inc. for three packs of batteries and receive a \$3.00 cash refund (by mail) from Eveready Battery Co. Inc. Zinc Air Cell #230 #13 #312 #675 Expires 7-23-99</p>
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

GEORGE IWANOW HEARING AID CENTERS, INC.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AND INTEGRITY SINCE 1954.
We are providers for Blue-Cross & Blue Shield Medicaid, and most insurances.

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>ROYAL OAK
38381 WOODWARD AVE.
(248) 435-8855
Ground Floor</p> | <p>SOUTHGATE
15838 FORT STREET
(734) 285-5666
Ground Floor</p> | <p>LIUNOIA
18988 MIDDLEBELT RD.
(734) 261-6388
Ground Floor</p> | <p>ROCHESTER HILLS
REGAL OFFICE PLAZA
2494 ROCHESTER RD.
(248) 853-2268
Ground Floor</p> | <p>BLOOMFIELD HILLS
53 WEST
LONG LAKE ROAD
(248) 723-2880
Ground Floor</p> | <p>EASTPONTE
21261 KELLY ROAD
(810) 772-1780
Ground Floor</p> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
- WIDEX • GMI • LORY • MIRACLE-EAR • NU-EAR • OMNI • PHONAK • PHILLIPS • QUALITONE • RESOUND