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The *Transmitter* is free to members and available to non-members by subscription for \$25 per year. KAB's mission is to provide professional lobbying and governmental representation, efficient communication and effective recruiting, education and training for Kansas broadcasters for the purpose of enhancing the success of Kansas broadcasters and helping them better serve the people of Kansas.

Kansas Association of Broadcasters
1916 SW Sieben Ct, Topeka KS 66611
(785) 235-1307*FAX (785) 233-3052
www.kab.net * e-mail: harriet@kab.net

Mark your calendar
2003 KAB Convention
October 19-21 (Sunday - Tuesday)

Wichita Airport Hilton



Chairman's message

(*Kyle Bauer, KFRM/KCLY*)

Your industry needs you now! We are all busy but I hope you'll take the opportunity in the next week to contact your legislators. Your actions to help defeat HB 2421 will affect our bottom lines long term. We issued a Legislative Alert about the bill. If you've misplaced it, contact Harriet for another copy.

HB 2421 would repeal all sales tax exemptions, including the sale of broadcast equipment and electricity; and it would extend the sales tax to ALL services, including the sale of advertising. Our worst nightmare could come about if HB 2421 becomes law.

We have gone from defending our sales tax exemption in the House Taxation Committee to fighting to have it reinstated. When we got the sales tax exemption passed on electricity and equipment, it finally brought us up to par with an exemption which newspapers have had for years. The rationale is that newspapers are our primary competitors for advertising dollars and the state should not provide a competitive advantage to newspapers over broadcasters through its tax policy.

The sales tax on advertising will equate in most cases as a tax on your gross sales. More or less \$6,500 per \$100,000 of your sales will be sent to the State of Kansas. Do you think most of your clients will raise their budgets by 6.5 per cent? Will your out-of-state clients bypass us if we don't lower prices by an equal amount to the tax?

The passage of HB 2421 would be
(*continued on page 2*)

Transmitter

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Robert Pratt

Bob Pratt, 82, died February 21, 2003 in Greenwich, CT while visiting his son and family. Bob was a longtime resident and community leader in Coffeyville and held many honors in the broadcasting industry.

He was born in Lawrenceburg, TN on September 18, 1921. As a young boy, he moved to Kansas with his family in the mid-1930's. He attended Pittsburg High School and worked as an announcer for then, KOAM Radio of Pittsburg. In 1940 he attended Coffeyville Junior College and worked as announcer for KGGF-AM Radio. Following a three-year tour of duty in the U.S. Marine Corp., Bob returned to Coffeyville and KGGF in 1945 as program manager.

He met and married Coffeyville native Jean Marie Miller. She preceded him in death in 1989.

Bob Pratt eventually became general manager and part owner of KGGF-AM & KQQF-FM Radio of Coffeyville. He retired from broadcasting in 1990 when the stations were sold.

Pratt was a charter member of Kansas Association of Broadcasters and also served as the president of the organization for a time. In 1978, he was awarded the KAB's Distinguished Service Award. He received the KAB Hod Humiston Award for Sports Broadcasting in 1983. In 2000, Bob was inducted into KAB's Broadcasting Hall of Fame.

He served as a director of the National Association of Broadcasters in the early 70's and as a member of the Board of Directors of (BMI)

Broadcast Music Incorporated for nearly twenty years. He was the

(continued on page 2)

Chairman's message cont.

devastating to Kansas businesses and our economy because of the business related exemptions it would repeal and the business-to-business professional services it would tax. It would put Kansas ahead of the pack in our region for high taxes on business.

The place to stop this bill is in the House Taxation Committee. If you have Members on the Committee it is paramount you talk to them now. We need your help!

On another item, while we were in Washington, DC last week, attending NAB's State Leadership Conference, a long time Kansas broadcaster was laid to rest. Bob Pratt was visiting family in Greenwich, CT when he passed away at the age of 82. KAB had honored Bob with several distinctions over the years, but when you read his obituary, I think you will agree that, "He kept it local" and "He made the world a better place". I hope we all can have the same epitaph.

#

Bob Pratt continued

Chairman of the Board of BMI in the mid-80's.

Bob Pratt was active in member groups and organizations in Coffeyville including the Rotary Club, Interstate Fair Association, Chamber of Commerce, United Fund and he headed up many local fund raising projects.

His son, Bill Pratt of Greenwich, CT, two grandchildren, and a brother, Allan Page of Holiday Island, AR, survive him.

Services were held February 26, 2003 in Coffeyville. Burial was in the Fairview Cemetery with military graveside rites conducted by the U.S. Army of Ft. Riley KS.

Memorial contributions may be made to Coffeyville Regional Medical

Center, Coffeyville KS 67357.

Condolences may be sent to William Pratt, 4 Doverton Dr., Greenwich, CT 06831.

EAS monthly tests AMBER quarterly tests

Tues., March 11, 1:50 pm / EAS
Tues., April 8, 10:50 pm / EAS
Tues., May 13, 1:50 pm / EAS
Sunday, May 25, 1:50 pm / AMBER
(It's National Missing Children's Day)
Tues., June 10, 10:50 pm / EAS
Tues., July 8, 1:50 pm / EAS
Tues., August 12, 10:50 pm / EAS
Thurs., August 14, 1:50 pm / AMBER
Tues., September 9, 1:50 pm / EAS
Tues., October 14, 10:50 pm / EAS
Tues., November 11, 1:50 pm / EAS
Thurs., Nov. 13, 1:50 pm / AMBER
Tues., December 9, 10:50 pm / EAS

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## Welcome new member

A warm KAB welcome to new Student Member: **Erin Dehn, Topeka**, student at Kansas State University.

These stations have renewed since the January *Transmitter*: **RADIO**: KVCO FM, Concordia; KNDY AM/FM, Marysville; KREJ/KSNS, Medicine Lodge; KQNK AM/FM, Norton; KKAN/KQMA, Phillipsburg; KKOW AM/FM/KBZI FM, Pittsburg; and KILS/KQNS, Salina. **TELEVISION**: KPTS TV and KWCV TV, Wichita.

#

## News briefs

\***EBC, Inc.**, Salina, is selling its six radio stations - KSAL AM, KYEZ FM, KZBZ FM, KABI AM, KSAJ FM, and KBLS FM - to Morris Communications Co. of Atlanta GA. Among Morris' other holdings is WIBW AM/FM and the *Topeka Capital-Journal* in Topeka. **John Vanier** is president of EBC, Inc., and **Jerry Hinrikus** is vice president and general manager.

\***WIBW FM**, Topeka was a 2003 Humanitarian Award Finalist in Country Radio Broadcasters Caring for the Community Awards. **Craig Colboch** is general manager.

\***KSNW TV** and **KSCC TV**, Wichita, have made the transition to digital.

## Call for nominees Hod Humiston Award

Nominations for KAB's **Hod Humiston Award** are due at the KAB office by March 21. The award will be presented during KAB's May 6 Sports Seminar at Kauffman Stadium in Kansas City. Nominations received in the last two years also will be considered.

The award will recognize a Kansas broadcaster who has made significant contributions to the field of sports broadcasting in Kansas. The award is named for the late Hod Humiston of Hutchinson. He was the first TV sportscaster in Kansas, who did play-by-play of college games for KTVH (now KWCH TV), Wichita. The KAB established the award in Humiston's honor in 1979.

#

## Check your KAB alternative inspection certificate . . .

If the expiration date on your Certificate of Compliance is in 2003, start thinking about signing up for another inspection. The advantage to KAB's alternative inspection program, is that stations which pass get a three-year exemption on routine FCC inspections. Go to [www.kab.net](http://www.kab.net) to download the information and form to request an inspection, or contact KAB.

#

## Listeners satisfied

According to a study released by Arbitron, Inc., radio listeners are pleased with the programming choices available to them. The majority of listeners - 79% - feel they get more or the same amount of programming choices from their local radio stations than they did five years ago. Over two-

thirds - 69% - said that local stations do a very good or good job of providing a wide variety of programming.

## 2003 KAB deadlines

- March 10, deadline for entries in KAB Student Broadcast Awards
- March 21, deadline for nominations for KAB Hod Humiston Award for Sports Broadcasting (to be presented at May 6 Sports Seminar)
- April 1, deadline for KAB Kids Scholarship applications
- May 1, deadline for KAB Broadcast Scholarship applications
- May 1, deadline for KAB paid summer student internships
- May 1, deadline for KAB paid summer educator internships
- July 1, deadline for KAB station awards entries
- August 11, deadline for nominations for KAB Distinguished Service Award, Hall of Fame inductees, Sonny Slater Award, Tony Jewell Award and Tourism Award
- November 1, deadline for KAB Student PSA Contest (alcohol/drug prevention - holidays)
- November 1, deadline for paid faculty and student internships (semester break and spring break)

#

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## 2003 KAB events

- March 20, KS SBE ATSC Digital VSB Transmission System Seminar, Topeka
- March 26, KAB Board of Directors Meeting, Emporia Candlewood Suites
- April 16, KAB Student Seminar and Career Fair, Wichita Marriott
- May 6, KAB Sports/Sports Sales Seminar, Royals Stadium, KC
- June 9, KAB Sales Academy, Topeka Capitol Plaza Hotel
- June 10, KAB Board of Directors Meeting, Topeka Capitol Plaza
- July 18-Aug 8, KAB Office closed
- August 27, KAB Board of Directors Meeting, Clay Center
- October 19-21, KAB Convention, Wichita Airport Hilton
- November 18, KAB Executive Committee Meeting, Topeka
- December 11, KAB Board of Directors Meeting, Manhattan

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## SBE, KAB and KTWU co-sponsor ATSC digital seminar

On Thursday, March 20, a one-day seminar will be presented on the ATSC's digital television vestigial sideband transmission system, at KTWU TV in Topeka. The seminar is for broadcasters, broadcast consultants, equipment manufacturers, translator/ LPTV operators and cable operators. It will give participants an understanding of the digital VSB transmission system and its performance attributes.

For details, contact Duane Loyd at KTWU TV (785) 231-1111.

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**The March Transmitter will have a complete report on NAB's State Leadership Conference, KAB's day on the Hill and a Washington Update.**

## Are you in the dark about public issues?



PO Box 4341, Topeka KS 66604

[www.sunshinecoalition.com](http://www.sunshinecoalition.com)

*Help the Kansas Sunshine Coalition for Open Government shed light on Kansas open records and meetings by becoming a member today!*

Do you have a question about open records or open meetings?

Call the Kansas Sunshine Coalition Hotline for free information from a qualified Kansas attorney.

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- **YES!** Sign me up as a member of the Kansas Sunshine Coalition. I want to help in the fight to keep public meetings and public records open to the public.

\_\_\_ Individual membership \$25/year

\_\_\_ Organization membership \$100

\_\_\_ Students \$10

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

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City/St/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Tel \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete and mail this form with payment to: Kansas Sunshine Coalition, PO Box 4341, Topeka KS 66604