

## BRANFORD COMMUNITY TV AWARDED GRANT FOR NEW EQUIPMENT

BCTV is the recipient of a \$43,181 grant from the State of Connecticut.

The grant will enable the station to significantly upgrade its equipment, as well as its ability to offer BCTV producers state of the art technology that is designed for ease-of-use.

The grant is restricted to one-time purchases and cannot be used for recurring expenses. The funds will be used to purchase two new wall-mount, remote control, digital video cameras which will be mounted in the main meeting room at Canoe Brook Center, providing improved coverage of Branford Town Meetings. A new portable HD camera for off-site recording will also be acquired, as well as new monitors, DVD players, a switcher and an audio mixer.

By transitioning to new all-digital equipment, a dramatic improvement in quality is expected in studio-produced programs as well as broadcasts of the Branford Town Meetings from Canoe Brook Center and programming from remote sites, at no cost to Branford. It will also enhance support of the high school internship program, which enables Branford students to participate hands-on in actual TV productions at the studio. "Internship participants can take advantage of the experience garnered from this terrific 'launch-pad' into the broadcast and communications industry," said Walter Mann, BCTV Station Manager.

BCTV serves 11,000-plus Comcast subscribers in Branford and additional subscribers of the new AT&T U-Verse service in town. Its mission is to provide Branford citizens access to the many activities of the local community and encourage citizen participation in the town's governance. BCTV operates channels 18, 19 and 20 on the Comcast cable network and reaches AT&T U-Verse subscribers throughout Connecticut via channel 99.

Among the many hours of weekly programming, Branford citizens can watch most of the regularly scheduled meetings of their Town government, such as the Board of Finance, the Board of Selectman, the RTM, and the Fire Commission. Some are broadcast repeatedly at different times throughout the week, and they can all be seen on Comcast channel 20 and AT&T channel 99. In addition, a number of other local programs are available to help keep Branford people in the news, stay healthy, save money, and be entertained. Citizens can even produce their own shows on BCTV. Help is available from the station, which can be reached at 203-481-3232. Complete program schedules are available online at [BranfordTV.org](http://BranfordTV.org).

Created more than 30 years ago and initially located in Town offices, BCTV has been developed into an independent nonprofit institution, with studios and offices in the lower level of the former VNA building at 40 Kirkham Street.

Installation of the new equipment will begin as soon it is delivered.