



the SCOOP @ HOM TV

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Summer 2016

New Perspective of "Senior Living" at HOM



In July 2015, Peggy Frisch kicked off the newest episode of "Senior Living" stating, "Welcome back to an old show, with some even older new faces."

Last year, HOMTV and the Meridian Senior Center formed a new partnership having members of the center host and co-produce HOMTV's award-winning "Senior Living" program to help make the content more relatable to the senior audience. Peggy co-hosts and co-produces the monthly show with her husband Ralph Frisch from the beautifully renovated senior center. Their goofy sense of humor and enthusiasm has brought new life to the program.

"The efforts of HOMTV staff and interns really help bring the show to life. There is a multitude of activities that must be coordinated and integrated to get the show ready to air. It is a wonderful feeling to see the finished product," said Peggy.



Not only did "Senior Living" get new hosts, the show has a new set as well - located at the Meridian Senior Center which was recently remodeled and provides the show with a cozy atmosphere.

"The Senior Center and HOMTV have partnered together for 8 years. This partnership has helped us keep our communities older adults informed about vital community services, information that can help them stay healthy and independent," said Cherie Wisdom, Meridian Senior Center Coordinator.

HOMTV Welcomes New Staff Member Ben Makulski



Ben Makulski joined the HOMTV team in March 2016 as the Video Programmer/Studio Producer. Ben graduated from Specs Howard School of Media Arts in 2013 with a Diploma in Digital Media Production.

After graduation he started working as a producer at JTV in Jackson, working on the award-winning "Bart Hawley Show" and "JTV Sports".

In 2015, Ben moved on to become the video producer of the sports radio show, "Valenti

& Foster" at 97.1 the Ticket in Southfield. After a few months he moved on to CTN in Ann Arbor, where he recorded government meetings and community programs such as "FYI", "Access Ann Arbor" and "Ward Talk".

Ben received the offer to become a Video Programmer at HOMTV and he jumped at the opportunity to work at the renowned station. "Working at HOMTV has been exciting, challenging and intriguing. I wake up every day looking forward to coming into work and doing



what I love to do. This opportunity has kept me on my toes and I look forward to a long and incredible career here in Meridian Township," said Ben Makulski, Video Programmer/Studio Producer.

Ben lives with his Fiancé, cat (Arctic Cat) and dog (Haplo). He loves to watch bad Horror movies, collect comic books and retro video games and is an avid hockey fan.



Meridian Township
5151 Marsh Road
Okemos, MI 48864

FEATURED ALUMNI



“My Gordie Story”

Alum Erich Freiny (05) Meets Gordie Howe

If you've been a fan of the Detroit Red Wings for any significant amount of time or have been fortunate enough to work for the organization as I've been able to, almost every fan or employee you'll come in contact with will have a story about the time they met the greatest hockey player who's ever lived.

My “Gordie story” happened in 2007, my first season with the team, on the main concourse before a game at Joe Louis Arena. As he approached, I specifically remember wiping my sweaty hands on my suit pants “just in case” he walked by and I could shake his hand. Not only did he walk by, he stopped and we chatted for a few minutes.

In today's sports world, players and coaches are more guarded from fans and the general public than ever before, with good reason. Their entire lives are scrutinized and discussed within the 24 hour news cycle, with player salaries continuously growing, they are more business savvy than many of the players in previous eras, not wanting to “risk it all” by becoming the focal point of a viral online video for all the wrong reasons.

So it's with great confidence that I can say there will NEVER be another professional athlete like Gordie Howe. While he was the greatest player of his or any era, he had the uncanny ability to treat a fan as an equal and make them feel like an old friend with every interaction. His death June 10, 2016, brought sadness to the entire hockey world, especially Hockeytown. One positive within the past 2 weeks is hearing all the great memories and stories the Red Wings fans will carry with them forever about the time they met Mr. Hockey. “My Gordie Story” will live on throughout the NHL.



“My High Profile Encounter”

Alum Autumn Perry (03) Prepares for Visit from the President & Air Force One

As the Assistant Director of Marketing and Public Relations at Flint's Bishop International Airport, I had the great pleasure of meeting up with our nation's President when he decided to make a visit to the Vehicle City.

One week out from the President's visit, the Secret Service arrived. From the moment they arrived, all details for the presidential visit were handled by the Secret Service. Our fire lieutenant, Dan Owen, was the Secret Service's right-hand man throughout the week. I was lucky enough to shadow Lieutenant Owen throughout the week. It was an incredible experience! I was in awe of how much work goes into a presidential visit. The Secret Service leave nothing to chance and are true professionals.

On the day of the visit, Air Force One landed shortly before noon. Fifteen minutes prior to the arrival and 15 minutes after departure, the airspace around the airport is shut down. In addition, there is to be no movement on the ramp. This is crucial information for employees like myself who carry a special badge that gives them access to the ramp. Should there be unnecessary movement on the ramp, the President's visit could be jeopardized. Luckily everyone was well-informed and the President's landing went incredibly well. When the President landed, his motorcade was waiting and he was swiftly escorted off the airport ramp and on to his visit at The Food Bank of Eastern Michigan and Flint's Northwestern High School.

Air Force One remained on the airport ramp for roughly 5 hours. During that time, several people including myself got to see the plane up close. It's not every day, Air Force One is parked outside your office.

While covering a presidential visit as a reporter is an awesome experience, being a part of the planning process at an airport is a unique opportunity. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity. As in news, every day is different - and at the airport, you never know who you'll get the chance to meet.



Johnny Austin (14) is a Photographer/Editor at WILX 10 in Lansing, MI.

Alysia Burgio (08) is a News Reporter at WLNS 6 News in Lansing, MI.

Jason Carr (89) is a Digital Anchor and Reporter at WDIV-Local4/ClickOnDetroit in Detroit, MI. Carr is joining the “Local 4 News Today” team and contributing to the station's mid-morning show, “Live in the D”.

Molly Cassidy (14) is a Multimedia Executive Assistant at ESPN in Chicago, IL.

Simon (Mantai) Chow (04) is a Summer Intern at CNN in Atlanta, GA

Lia Davis (13) is a Junior Content Editor for Katie Wagner Social Media in Long Beach, CA.

Chrystaline Decker (15) is a Promotions Producer at WPBN UpNorthLive in Traverse City, MI.

Anamaria Dickerson (15) is a Reporter for the Chronicle Tribune in Marion, Indiana.

Kyle Dollarhite (14) is a Photographer at WILX 10 in Lansing, MI.

Mallory DuBose (14) is a Morning News Producer at WILX 10 in Lansing, MI.

Julie Dunmire (15) is a News Interns at ABC12 WJRT-TV in Flint, MI.

Siobhan Findlay (15) is a Video Production Manager at Michigan Creative in Lansing, MI.

Chloe Hill (12) is an Executive Producer at 40/29 News in Fort Smith & Fayetteville, AR.

Alexis Howell (16) is a News Assistant at WILX 10 in Lansing, MI.

Ji Eun Lee (15) is a Recruiting Coordinator and Marketing Analytics at P&J Search Group in Columbus, GA

Megan Sanctorem (09) is a General Assignment Reporter at WISHTV 8 in Indianapolis, IN.

Allison Scott (14) is a Nighside Reporter for WPBN News 7&4, UpNorthLive.com in Traverse City, MI.

Alex Tekip (15) is a Personalization Writer for ESPN Digital team in Bristol, CT. Tekip will be creating, editing and curating MLB content for ESPN.com and ESPN's mobile alerts and apps.

Brandon Wirth (14) is a Photographer at WILX News 10 in Lansing, MI.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Emmy Winners - Evan Linnert (00), Taryn Asher (94), Darryl Bradford, Jr (07).

6A Feature News Report - Light Feature, Benton Harbor's Hope WOOD - Evan Linnert (00) and Casey Jones.

16B Military - Program Feature/Segment, The Oldest Living Veteran WJBK - Taryn Asher (94) and Jeffrey Jewell.

22C Documentary - Topical, Cody High: A Life Remodeled Project Framed by Grace Films/DPTV - Darryl Bradford Jr. (07), Timashion Jones and Walter V. Marshall

Best Use of Videography 2015 WLNS Michigan Associated Press - Blair Nelson (14)

2016 Michigan Student Broadcast Awards - Miguel Martinez-Valle (14) and Amanda Chodnicki (13)

Email us updates at homtv@meridian.mi.us

