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Media in the 21st Century: Video Franchising - What's in it for the Public? *on CAN TV*

Produced by CAN TV, this half-hour program examines the drive by the telephone industry to dismantle local video franchising. As Congress prepares for a major telecom re-write, cities and public interest groups protest threats to local communities and cable access stations posed in pending legislation.

A panel of experts hosted by local journalist, Mara Tapp, bring the debate beyond the business pages to the Chicago's living rooms on CAN TV, Sunday, April 16 at 5:00 p.m. on CAN TV19. The program will also be telecast on Saturday, April 29 at 9:00 p.m. on CAN TV21.

Panelists include:

Anthony Riddle, Executive Director of the Alliance for Community Media
Joseph Bast, President of the Chicago-based Heartland Institute
Ben Scott, Policy Director of Free Press.

In response to Bass' contention, "Let's get democracy out of the way and let the market work on this," Riddle retorts, "We the people cannot be viewed as an impediment." Scott argues for taking the opportunity to make good public policy "to make sure that community needs are met across the board."

CAN TV provides coverage of events relevant to the local community and gives every Chicagoan a voice on cable television by providing video training, facilities, equipment, and channel time for Chicago residents and nonprofit groups. CAN TV's five local, noncommercial cable channels CAN TV19, 21, 27, 36 and 42 reach more than one million viewers in the city of Chicago. For more information call (312) 738-1400 or visit www.cantv.org

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