

CEO & EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Scott DeGarmo / scott@bbcmag.com

PUBLISHER

Nancy McCain / nancym@bbcmag.com

EDITOR

Masha Zager / masha@bbcmag.com

EDITOR-AT-LARGE

Steven S. Ross / steve@bbcmag.com

ADVERTISING SALES ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Irene Prescott / irene@bbcmag.com

COMMUNITY NEWS EDITOR

Marianne Cotter / marianne@bbcmag.com

DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Karry Thomas

CONTRIBUTORS

Joe Bousquin

David Daugherty, Korcett Holdings Inc.

Joan Engebretson

Richard Holtz, InfiniSys

W. James MacNaughton, Esq.

Henry Pye, RealPage

Bryan Rader, Bandwidth Consulting LLC

Robert L. Vogelsang, Broadband Communities Magazine

BROADBAND PROPERTIES LLC

CEO

Scott DeGarmo

VICE PRESIDENT, BUSINESS & OPERATIONS

Nancy McCain

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Robert L. Vogelsang

VICE CHAIRMEN

The Hon. Hilda Gay Legg

Kyle Hollifield

BUSINESS & EDITORIAL OFFICE

BROADBAND PROPERTIES LLC

1909 Avenue G • Rosenberg, Tx 77471

281.342.9655 • Fax 281.342.1158

www.broadbandcommunities.com



Broadband Communities (ISSN 0745-8711) (USPS 679-050) (Publication Mail Agreement #1271091) is published 7 times a year at a rate of \$24 per year by Broadband Properties LLC, 1909 Avenue G, Rosenberg, TX 77471. Periodical postage paid at Rosenberg, TX, and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to **Broadband Communities**, PO Box 303, Congers, NY 10920-9852.

CANADA POST: Publications Mail Agreement #40612608. Canada Returns to be sent to Bleuchip International, PO Box 25542, London, ON N6C 6B2.

Copyright © 2015 Broadband Properties LLC. All rights reserved.



The Benefits Of FTTH

Universal fiber to the home will change the world.

A few years ago, as we were finishing an issue of **BROADBAND COMMUNITIES**, I told the CEO, Scott DeGarmo, that I was having trouble finding a subject for the editor's note.

Scott was dumbfounded. "How could you possibly have any problem?" he asked. "Just talk about the benefits of fiber to the home. Tell everyone why fiber broadband is the most important thing happening right now. Tell them how it's changing the world. Isn't that the message we want to get across?"

"But, Scott," I protested, "the whole *magazine* is about the benefits of fiber." And I went on to find some other subject to write about.

So here's the column Scott wanted me to write.

WHY FTTH IS IMPORTANT

Fiber to the home erases distance. Humans evolved with two incompatible needs – to live in small tribes and to travel. Having families and friends scattered around the world is an age-old problem. Letters, telephone, email, and now Skype, FaceTime and similar programs help bring people closer. Universal fiber to the home and true bandwidth abundance will allow people to interact as if they are in the same room. Wouldn't you like to have dinner with your far-flung family this evening?

Fiber to the home (or to the desk, or the classroom) opens up new worlds of possibilities. Musicians and dancers can perform or study with musicians and dancers in faraway cities. Art lovers can

wander around museums anywhere in the world. Students can travel abroad, climb Mount Everest from their classrooms or learn any subject of their choosing – and interact in real time with their guides and professors.

Fiber to the home (desk, office) enlarges human knowledge. Today's scientific breakthroughs depend on analyses of vast data sets – astronomical data, genomic data, climate data and more. There's no way to handle these data sets without supercomputers and massive bandwidth.

Fiber to the home (desk, office) improves health and quality of life. To coordinate care, multiple doctors need instant access to terabyte-sized patient records. There's no way to access these centralized records without fiber connections to medical offices. Fiber connections at home help caregivers monitor patients who have chronic illnesses, those recovering from surgery and those in frail condition. People can live at home longer than they otherwise could have.

Fiber revitalizes depressed areas by attracting new and home-based businesses. Fiber makes businesses more productive. Fiber-connected smart grids and smart farms conserve natural resources. Fiber-based smart cities serve citizens better.

And this is only the beginning. ❖

Masha Zager

masha@bbcmag.com