

# The reality TV network

I remember my father telling me that old chestnut, "Most people will not go for a day without breaking a law." I do not doubt that he was correct.

We have all stood in one place for a half-hour or more, waiting for a bus that was behind schedule. By doing so, we could have broken a loitering law. And how many of us have not damaged government property by walking on the grass in a public park?

Whether we are aware of our transgressions does not matter. We more than likely broke a law. In today's world, that could have dire consequences.

Why? Because now, all of those seemingly meaningless and outdated laws are enforceable, even if nobody is around to see a crime being committed.

For this, we can thank the U.S. government and all of its little subsidiaries from state to county administrations — and, ultimately, every municipality down to the smallest village in the nation. They are all participants in the latest and greatest television production company of all time — the Big Brotherhood Television Surveillance Network.

Welcome to the most real of all reality television programming. It's life in America, as seen through the ever-vigilant eye of none other than Big Brother. The Orwellian prophecy knows no bounds. The watchful eye of Big Brother has been unleashed and it is haunting us with impunity.

The old "Smile, you're on Candid Camera" slogan has taken on a new meaning. It has evolved into, "Smile, you're always on government camera."

The various echelons of management across the country are responsible for surveillance cameras on every street corner, especially those with traffic lights. The cameras are also located in every tollbooth to allegedly catch cheaters. Cameras are the latest version of unmanned speed traps, a most



**You can't beat a system you can't understand**

By Sam Bari

efficient revenue generator. They can be found on highways from coast to coast. These cameras are costing taxpayers hundreds of millions so that Big Brother can become a formidable reality.

For those who aren't aware, cases concerning the legality of uncontrolled surveillance are being tried today in widely-divided courtrooms on both sides of the issue.

The seriousness of the effort to equip the country with the latest surveillance technology can probably be found in the halls and offices of the Capitol Building in Washington D.C. Here, lobbyists stalk congressmen to convince them that they are peddling products designed for the greater good.

Recently, a high-tech holding company acquired majority ownership of a company whose primary focus is to commercialize and market its proprietary technology in the compressed digital video recording (DVR) industry, for use in the \$20 billion homeland security surveillance sector.

Technology providers to the 2002 Winter Olympics, correctional facilities, hospitals and many government agencies ranging from the Secret Service to the Army Corp of Engineers and the Department of Homeland Security, have used this technology.

The development of highly-sophisticated digital video systems offers advantages over the outdated and cumbersome VHS technology. Multiple cameras can be integrated into digital systems, allowing real-time DVD quality, remote access, remote operation,

two-way audio, instant retrieval and compression for long-term storage, just to name a few features.

Broadcast quality images can be generated from spy cameras that are small enough to be incorporated into a tiepin or a button on a shirt, and can then be operated without detection.

The economy going down the tubes, wars on three fronts and the possibility of an impending catastrophic natural disaster dominate the news. Although these matters are legitimate causes for concern, they are also convenient smoke screens that easily distract the masses so that little attention is paid to sweeping compromises that chip away at basic freedoms, such as the right to privacy.

Many feel that allowing unimpeded use of sophisticated technology is just opening the door to the "ultimate security measure" of a tracking device being implanted in, and a DNA sample being taken from, every citizen and resident in the country.

But there is another threat to our privacy. Not everyone is aware that the locations of cell phones can be traced unless the tracking feature is disconnected or turned off.

Many people died so that we can have our freedoms, and I am not willing to give up any of them. I don't know about you, but I kind of like having a right to privacy as I muddle my way through life in this system we can't understand.

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THE JAMESTOWN TEEN CENTER IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE

# THE 2009 SUMMER TEEN JOBS CORPS

**ATTENTION JAMESTOWN RESIDENTS:** Do you need help around your home? Someone who can walk the dog, serve at your party or help clean up after? How about weed the garden, plant flowers, rake the lawn, wash windows or wash and wax your car? Or maybe there are other tasks at your house or business with which you'd like help.

**HELP IS AVAILABLE!** The Jamestown Teen Center will manage a Teen Work Referral Program for the Summer of 2009. To hire a Jamestown Teen, residents must first complete a short, one-time application, accompanied by a \$10 fee, for a background check.

A Teen Center staff member will screen all jobs, refer a Teen worker and then accompany the selected Teen to the job site to answer questions. The staff member will also follow-up with a phone call or visit to make sure that the job was properly completed. Teens will be paid minimum wage with a 2-hour minimum. Teens will be paid directly by the Jamestown Resident. Tips will be graciously accepted but not required.

All Jamestown Teens entering the 7th through 12th Grades who are interested in working are invited to apply for the Summer Teen Jobs Corps at the Teen Center. Teens must pledge to abide by the Zero Drug and Alcohol Tolerance program and follow a code of conduct.

**Want to hire a Teen? Want to work this summer?**

**Apply at the Jamestown Teen Center at 41 Conanicus Ave.**

Teen Center Hours: Tuesdays thru Thursdays 2 to 6 pm • Fridays & Saturdays 2 to 9 pm.  
E-mail [JamestownTeens@Yahoo.com](mailto:JamestownTeens@Yahoo.com) • Call Teen Coordinator Debbie Tungett at 423-7261



**Sponsored by the Jamestown Teen Center**  
*Working to support our Island's Teens*



## THE PENNFIELD SCHOOL



### Merit Scholarship Exam

[For Grade 7 Students]

Tuesday, July 14 & Thursday, July 16

Between the Hours of 8 am-6 pm

[APPROXIMATE EXAM TIME - THREE HOURS]

The \$5,000 Merit Scholarship will be awarded to the top performer on our in-house comprehensive test. The exam includes math, science, language arts, social studies and writing. The Scholarship is good for each of the students' consecutive years at The Pennfield School. Recipients are welcome to apply for additional financial assistance based on need. Exams will be held at Bistline House, on the Pennfield campus. Deadline for registration is July 13, 2009.

To register for the Scholarship Exam, please contact  
Kathleen Burke, Director of Admission,  
401.849.4646, ext 147, or [kburke@pennfield.org](mailto:kburke@pennfield.org)

THE PENNFIELD SCHOOL

Little Slocum Farm • 110 Sandy Point Avenue • Portsmouth, RI • 02871  
[www.pennfield.org](http://www.pennfield.org)