

Rep. Shap Smith, Speaker of the Vermont House has appointed Cathy Frey of Barre to serve on the Vermont Commission on Women.

Commissioner Frey is Professor of Mathematics at Norwich University and serves as Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate. She joined the Norwich faculty in 1985, and in 1991, became the very first woman promoted to Associate Professor in Mathematics, and the first woman ever tenured in the University's Mathematics department. In 2001, she became the first woman promoted to the rank of Professor of Mathematics at Norwich. She served as the first and only female Chair of the Mathematics department from 2002-2006 and as the first and only female Dean of Mathematics and Sciences from 2006-2013. With research interests in the areas of mathematics pedagogy (methods of teaching) and actuarial science (applying mathematical and statistical methods to assess risk), she particularly enjoys creating videos and instructional modules for the web. Under her leadership, Norwich began offering a major in Actuarial Concentration in Mathematics in 2014.

Commissioner Frey was the recipient of the Vermont Women in Higher Education Jackie Gribbon's Award for leadership in 2008. She returns to the Vermont Commission on Women, having served two terms previously from 2006-2014. "Cathy is an experienced and effective advocate for women's issues and I am thrilled that she has agreed to return to the commission," said Speaker Smith. Cary Brown, VCW's Executive Director, responding to the appointment stated, "We warmly welcome Cathy back to the commission. She's a great example of a trailblazer: a woman who has not only succeeded brilliantly in a traditionally male-dominated occupation, but has risen to leadership positions within that profession. Cathy is a strong proponent of fairness and equity in education. We know she will contribute this experience and passion to our deliberative discussions."

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View the latest from the **Vermont Women's Fund** newsletter [here](#).

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The **National Women's Law Center's** recently released an [analysis of 2014 Census Poverty Data](#) indicating no change in the gender wage gap from last year. Women working full-time, year-round, on average, earn just 79 cents to a man's dollar. African American and Latina women experience increased wage hits on top of that, earning 60 and 55 cents to the dollar. Working mothers experience increased wage hits on top of that, too.

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Join [Let's Grow Kids'](#) statewide conversation about Vermont's child care challenge. Attend a community forum near you!

Vermonters agree that every child deserves a strong start to life. Yet, more than half of Vermont infants and toddlers likely to need child care don't have access to high quality, affordable programs, and many providers struggle with the costs of offering quality programming—let alone keeping their doors open. At these Child Care Challenge forums participants will: view [Small Talk](#) (personal stories) interviews; share concerns and challenges with Vermont's child care system; meet others with similar struggles; learn more about who has access to child care, who doesn't, and why; and contribute solutions to the child care challenge. Click on the links below for more info., or to RSVP:

► [St. Albans - Church of the Rock, Oct 26, 5:30-7:30 pm](#)

- ▶ [Rutland](#) - Franklin Conference Center at the Howe Center, Oct 27, 5:30-7:30 pm
- ▶ [St. Johnsbury](#) - Fairbanks Museum Planetarium, Oct 28, 5:30-7:30 pm
- ▶ [Vergennes](#) - Vergennes Opera House, Oct 29, 5:30-7:30 pm
- ▶ [Bennington](#) - Firehouse, Nov 2, 5:30-7:30 pm
- ▶ [Brattleboro](#) - American Legion, Nov 3, 5:30-7:30 pm
- ▶ [Essex](#) - St. James Episcopal Church, Nov 5, 5:30-7:30 pm

Watch the new Let's Grow Kids' ["Tough Choices" public service ad here](#).

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Early Childhood Advocacy Skills Trainings and 2016 Legislative Issue Review Available

Are members of the early childhood community in your area looking to hone advocacy skills or become informed on early childhood issues? The Vermont Early Childhood Alliance has scheduled over 20 training sessions around the state this fall to support early childhood advocates in their goals to influence policy change at the local or state level. Each training can be tailored to cover any of the following topics:

- Understanding the Vermont Legislature, legislators and regulators;
- Becoming effective advocates with policymakers in the State House and in the community; and,
- Discussing early childhood issues likely to be considered during the 2016 legislative session.

Lear more [here](#). To schedule a local training, contact [Kelly Ault, Alliance Public Engagement Director](#), at [802-272-0795](tel:802-272-0795).

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Planned Parenthood of Northern New England's Annual Report was released this month. Read it [here](#).

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Vermont's new Blue Ribbon Commission on Financing High Quality, Affordable Child Care has set a standing meeting time—the third Thursday of every month from 10 a.m. to 12:30 at the State House. Commissioners also agreed that the public should be encouraged to participate in the process through the [commission's website \(temporarily located on the Governor's website\)](#) and through reports from interested organizations. Lets Grow Kids is live-tweeting BRC meetings from @LetsGrowKids.

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October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Find your local service provider [here](#). For the ninth consecutive year, Vermont's local domestic violence programs participated in the National Census of Domestic Violence Services on September 10th. In that 24-hour period, Vermont's local domestic violence programs helped 323 adults and children and

answered 101 hotline calls. Consider a donation of volunteer time or money to the work these amazing Vermonters do, serving our state's victims of domestic and sexual violence.

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Webinar: Planning for Retirement - Making the Most of Your Social Security

Date: Thursday, Oct. 29, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. Eastern

Cost: Free

This webinar, the second in a three-part series hosted by the National Women's Law Center, National Academy of Social Insurance, National Council of La Raza, and National Urban League, will provide more information about the benefits Social Security provides to workers and their families and how the decisions you and your spouse make about when to claim benefits can affect the income you'll have in retirement. Register [here](#).

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Vermont Suicide Prevention Platform offers a well-defined, structured guide to the priorities of suicide prevention in Vermont, built on a foundation of collaboration and ongoing research. From the Vermont Suicide Prevention Center. Learn more [here](#).

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EngineerGirl Essay Contest

The National Academy of Engineering invites students (both boys and girls) in grades 3-12 to [submit an essay](#) about how they would protect the environment and the safety, health, and well-being of the public as a responsible engineer. Submission deadline is February 1, 2016.

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Congratulations to Laurie Patton, first woman president of Middlebury College!

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[Pride Center](#) Seeking SafeSpace Anti-Violence Program Coordinator

This position is responsible for providing part-time direct services to LGBTQ-identified survivors, as well as other trainings requested. The position also oversees the Pride Center's Older Adults SafeSpaces Network program. Request job description [here](#).

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Help prevent human trafficking in Vermont: United States Attorney's Office Event to Launch "[u can stop traffick](#)" Campaign

Monday, November 2nd, 3:00 - 6:00 pm

Contois Auditorium, City Hall, Burlington, VT

Learn more about how you can help prevent human trafficking in Vermont. It does happen here. Kick off [the new campaign](#) and be part of the change. Event features free t-shirts, bumper stickers, pizza and great tunes from DJ Craig Mitchell.

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Learn more about the **new on-line voter registration program** offered in Vermont [here](#).

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A new report from [Voices for Vermont's Children](#) presents a stark picture of the **impact of Vermont's housing crisis on children**. [Click here to read the report.](#)

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Happy 125th Lund, Chittenden County's comprehensive treatment center and family support agency, offering an array of integrated services in response to the needs of pregnant or parenting teens and women, adoptive families, and children.

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[Vermont Commission on Women \(VCW\)](#)

VIEW Message – Vermont Information Exchange for Women

126 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont 05633-6801

[800-881-1561](tel:800-881-1561)

[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

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