

## Talbert, Lilly

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**From:** Talbert, Lilly  
**Sent:** Monday, January 06, 2014 1:02 PM  
**To:** Talbert, Lilly  
**Subject:** VCW VIEW Message: January 6th 2014

The Vermont Commission on Women is pleased to invite you to join us as we celebrate 50 years of progress for Vermont's women and their families.

-On Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, late afternoon in the State House cafeteria, enjoy delicious food, good company and keynote speaker Governor Madeleine Kunin.

-on Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, for Women's History Month, a panel discussion on women artists and artisans, in the basement auditorium of the Pavilion building on State Street in Montpelier, with a reception to follow in the Snelling room of the history museum, in coalition with the Vermont Historical Society's Vermont Women's History Project.

-We'll be in the Springfield area for a listening forum in May and in St. Albans in October...please stay tuned to VIEW for details.

Have a commission-related memory, photo, or story to share about us? We want to hear from you! Call 800-881-1561 or [email us](#)

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Vermont Adult Learning - Windsor County Announcement  
Free Orientation & Learning Assessments

\* All sessions are from 9:00 AM -1:30 PM

White River Junction:	Windsor:	Springfield:
Thursday, January 16th	Thursday, January 9th	
Thursday, January 30th	Thursday, January 23rd	Monday, January 20th

[Email](#) for more information.

Vermont Adult Learning - Windsor County  
363 River Road, North Springfield, VT 05156 802.546.0879  
212 Holiday Drive, WRJ, VT 05001 802.281.4311  
Windsor Resource Center, 1 Railroad Avenue, Windsor, VT 05089

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Umbrella  
(802) 748-1992  
[www.umbrellanek.org](http://www.umbrellanek.org)

Umbrella provides critical services and supports to the residents of over 50 towns and goes in the Northeast Kingdom, from a 24-hour crisis hotline for victims of domestic and sexual violence to enhancing the availability of quality child care for working families.

Early Care & Education

The NEK region saw the largest increase in the percentage of licensed child care programs participating in Vermont's STARS quality recognition program (a 26% increase). STARS participation reflects providers' commitment to going above and beyond the state's minimum licensing requirements, and is one of the simplest ways for families to identify program quality.

Support for Victim/Survivors

Umbrella's Advocacy Program saw an unprecedented 32% increase in the number of adults who sought support in the wake of interpersonal violence. This comes in conjunction with a collaborative outreach and education project called "No Place for Violence," consisting of posters, movie theater ads, radio PSAs and outreach events to engage bystanders and inform victims of the availability of help at Umbrella. No Place for Violence (NP4V) continues in 2014.

#### Economic Justice

Umbrella launched a new social enterprise, Cornucopia. A culinary arts and hospitality training program for women in transition, Cornucopia trainees receive universal job skills like resume writing and interviewing, followed by 13 weeks of on-the-job training in the kitchen cooking fresh, nutritious meals for Newport area seniors in the Meals-on-Wheels Program. Cornucopia moved into a new space in December and will be offering senior and community meals every Tuesday at noon in 2014. Support Cornucopia's Senior Meals and Transitional Job skills training program by joining them for lunch every Tuesday at noon in Newport. Located in the former Big Joe's/Pomodoro's restaurant on the back side of 125 Main Street (access via Coventry Street). Suggested donation \$3.00 for seniors 60 and older, \$5.00 for those under 60. Cornucopia seeks Volunteers to help with the weekly senior meal site in Newport. The meals take place every Tuesday at noon, beginning January 7th. Help is needed to collect donations, set up, bus tables and clean up. Please contact Program Manager Lynn Rublee for more information, at 487-9380 or [lrublee@umbrellanek.org](mailto:lrublee@umbrellanek.org).

#### Umbrella's Donations Wish List

Waiting room reading materials - We could use some general interest magazines and special interest publications (kids, seniors, glbtq, etc.). If you have a subscription you'd like to pass along after you've read it, we'd love to give it a second life in one of our waiting rooms/common spaces. You can drop them by Umbrella at 1222 Main Street #301 St. Johnsbury, VT 05819

Seasonal decorations- The Cornucopia Meal site in Newport would love some seasonal decorations to liven up the dining room. Table center pieces, table cloths, etc. They also need small bowls and salad plates. Contact Lynn @ 487-9380 or [lrublee@umbrellanek.org](mailto:lrublee@umbrellanek.org).

Shelter furniture - they could use storage shelves and/or bureaus at the shelter, as well as see-through plastic bins to store linens and clothes. Contact Zoe at 748-8645 or [zoe@umbrellanek.org](mailto:zoe@umbrellanek.org).

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#### Workplace Laws VT Employees & Employers Need To Know

As part of a public information campaign to educate both employers and employees in Vermont about their rights and responsibilities under the new equal pay law (Act 31), flyers are now available on the [Vermont Commission on Women's \(VCW\) website](#). Starting in January 2014, workers in Vermont will have the right to request flexible working arrangements without fear of retaliation. Those intermediate or long-term changes might include such provisions as working from home, changes in the number of days or hours worked, changes in work arrival or departure times or job-sharing. Employers must discuss, consider and respond to such requests at least twice per calendar year. The flyers detail this provision as well as current equal pay laws, how to handle suspected pay discrimination, wage disclosure laws, pregnant workers' rights, lactation accommodations, anti-retaliation protection, and information concerning family and medical leave. The flyer targeted to employers features an equal pay audit - a checklist to help employers review fair pay policy and procedures, and also case studies illustrating how Vermont businesses implement flexible working arrangements. The flyer targeted to employees includes a section on what to do if you suspect pay discrimination. Each flyer includes additional resources to learn more or get help.

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#### Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) Reports

##### [How Education Pays Off for Older Americans](#)

Recent IWPR [research](#) finds that higher education pays off for women and men age 50 and older, including for

the oldest group studied. While women and men at older ages with at least some education beyond high school work and earn more per hour, women still earn less at every age and education level than men.

### Women Continue to Hold More Jobs than Ever Before

According to IWPR analysis, due to continued job growth in November, women hold more jobs on payrolls than ever before. Men have regained 75 percent (4.5 million) of the jobs they lost during the recession. Of the 203,000 total jobs added in November, women gained 94,000 of those jobs (46 percent), while men gained 109,000 jobs (54 percent). Women's employment growth was strongest in Education and Health Services, Professional and Business Services, and Retail Trade. If the number of jobs had grown as fast as the working age population since the start of the recession, women would hold 3.8 million more jobs in November 2013 and men would hold an additional 5.4 million.

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Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness  
Homelessness Awareness Day & Memorial Vigil  
VT State House, Thursday January 9th

Every year in January concerned citizens and homeless service providers from across Vermont gather at the State House in Montpelier for a day to engage with their elected representatives and to renew their commitment to end homelessness in our state. The day begins at 8 am in the Card room. The Memorial Vigil will take place on the State House steps at 12 noon. The reading of the Resolution commemorating the day and recognizing those experiencing homelessness and the work of providers and advocates will take place at 1 pm. For more information, go to [helpingtohousevt.org/](http://helpingtohousevt.org/) or contact Linda Ryan by email or phone at 802.373.6505

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U.S. Department of Labor is currently soliciting stories from working women  
<http://www.dol.gov/wb/50-years-later/>

In 1963, President John F. Kennedy's Commission on the Status of Women released its report, American Women, which examined several aspects of the daily lives of women in the United States. In the 50 years since American Women, more women are working, entering new job fields, taking on leadership positions, and even starting their own businesses. Women nationwide are being asked to participate and simply to finish this sentence: "My experience as a woman in the work force is..." in 100 characters or less. Go to <http://www.dol.gov/wb/50-years-later/> to participate and read responses.

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Navicate's TIPS internship program Exhibition Night  
Wednesday, January 15th, 2014 at 5:30 PM  
Essex High School Cafeteria  
2 Educational Drive, Essex Junction, VT

With help from a generous grant from the VT Dept. of Labor, Navicate's TIPS program will reach over 400 students statewide this year. TIPS (Training Interns & Partnering for Success) is an internship program for in-school and out-of-of school youth ages 16+ that includes a 20-hour job skills class and a 40 hour unpaid internship with a local business and/or organization. Students typically earn 1/2 high school credit for completing both the class and internship. Learn more: [lindsey@navicate.org](mailto:lindsey@navicate.org) | [navicate.org](http://navicate.org) |

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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 | [women.vermont.gov](http://women.vermont.gov) | [Find us on Facebook](#)  
Celebrating 50 Years of Progress | 1964 - 2014

*Share your VIEW: forward this email to colleagues who share your interest in improving the lives of Vermont women and girls. | Get the VIEW: it's easy! Reply to this message and include "subscribe" in the subject heading. | Missed a VIEW? Find recent VIEW messages on our website: [women.vermont.gov](http://women.vermont.gov). | To unsubscribe: reply and add the word "unsubscribe" in the subject heading.*