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# VIEW

Vermont Information Exchange for Women

## Newsletter



**November 29th, 2018**

### **Kim Nolan of Shelburne Appointed to the Vermont Commission on Women**



The Speaker of the Vermont House of Representatives, Mitzi Johnson, has appointed Kim Nolan to serve a four-year term on the Vermont Commission on Women. Ms. Nolan is an Executive Leadership Team member and Senior Director of City Market Co-op, a community-owned food cooperative with two locations in

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Burlington. A community-based leader, educator, and consultant, Ms. Nolan facilitates collaborative processes across teams, building safe relationships, and achieving desired outcomes within larger systems. Ms. Nolan has worked closely with leaders and diverse teams for 25 years, helping create engaged workplaces and learning environments that make a positive impact on the world.

Prior to joining the leadership team of City Market, Ms. Nolan served as Assistant Professor and Program Director of the Master's program in Mindfulness Studies at Lesley University. Prior to that, she was Program Officer of the Mind and Life Institute, designing the Academy of Contemplative and Ethical Leadership (ACEL), and also served as Department Chair and Lead Faculty of Integral Psychology at Burlington College, where she founded The Institute of Contemplative Studies. Ms. Nolan was also Founder and Executive Director of the Dignity Foundation, through which she taught self-care and mindfulness in schools and in human service agencies and provided coaching to leaders seeking contemplative practice. Commissioner Nolan holds a Ph.D. in Leadership and Change from Antioch University and an M.Ed. from Boston University in Counseling Psychology. She has been a champion for women's rights and issues of gender equity since grade school student council. She is ordained as a Buddhist Chaplain and is a lifelong activist for social change and an advocate for human rights.

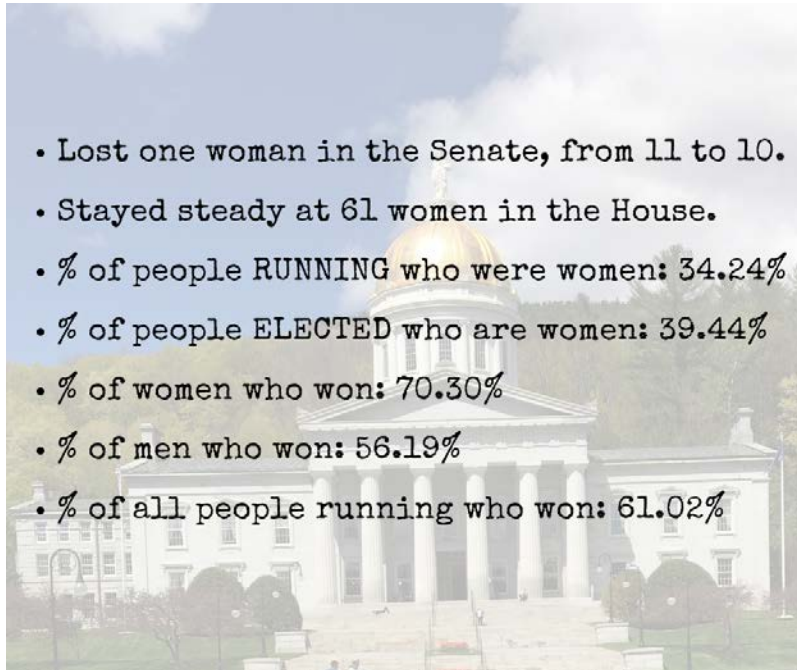
## **Number of Women Headed to Vermont Statehouse Drops by One**

"The "Year of the Woman" didn't upend the gender breakdown in Vermont politics. In fact, the number of female state legislators dropped from 72 to 71 after the November 6 elections...Cary Brown, executive director of the Vermont Commission on Women, said she's "beyond impatient" to send a woman to Congress. But she isn't disheartened by the outcome in state legislative races because "we are starting from such a high place." In June 2018, Vermont was tied with Arizona for having the highest percentage of women — 40 percent — in its state legislature, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures." [Read more.](#)

## **Women in the Vermont Legislature, Post Election**

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VCW crunched the 2018 election numbers of women in the Vermont legislature, here's where we're at:



## **Public Comments Welcome on U.S. Department of Education Secretary DeVos Releases Proposed Title IX Rule**

The U.S. Department of Education released a proposal on changing schools' responses to sexual harassment and assault. It defines sexual harassment and assault, determines the conditions that mandate a school to look into accusations, and explains how schools should conduct such investigations. To view the Department's one page summary of the proposed Title IX rule, click [here](#). To take a deeper dive and review the proposed rule's section-by-section summary, click [here](#). This proposed rule will be open for public comment for 60 days following publication in the national registrar today, November 29<sup>th</sup>. [Read the entire proposed rule and submit a public comment here.](#)

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## **Vermont Women in Higher Education Seek 2019 Conference Workshop Proposals**

Vermont Women in Higher Education is accepting proposals for workshop sessions for their 2019 VWHE Annual Spring Leadership Conference, to be held on Thursday, March 28th and Friday, March 29th, 2019 at Stoweflake Mountain Resort & Spa. Workshops will take place during concurrent sessions on Friday, March 29th. Proposals are due by December 1 and should address the theme of the conference, Women with Vision: Creating your Best Future. Workshops should be designed to engage women in active learning and dialogue. [Learn more.](#)

## **Girls on The Run Vermont Adds Board Members and Staff**

Girls on the Run Vermont, celebrating their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, is pleased to announce the addition of two new board members: Melissa Paradee of Rutland, and Tiffany Keune of Rutland. Melissa Paradee, a Rutland native, is the Vice President of Student Affairs at the College of St. Joseph. She also teaches part-time at Castleton University in the Psychology Department and holds teaching licensure in Vermont in elementary education and special education. Tiffany Keune is the Associate Dean of Workforce Education at the Community College of Vermont (CCV). A strong community member, Tiffany has served on the Executive Board of Vermont Women in Higher Education, has been a member of the Vermont Public Radio Community Forum Steering Committee, and the Creative Economy Steering Committee.

Girls on the Run Vermont welcomes new staff members: Richele Young, Jessica Lubas and Callie Ginter. Richele of Winooski, Communications & Development Specialist, formerly of KW Vermont, has a rich background in graphic design, marketing and communications. Jessica Lubas of Burlington, Northern Program Coordinator, is passionate about making active living accessible on the community level. Callie Ginter of Brattleboro, Southern & Central Program Coordinator, studied at Castleton University where she earned her degree in Journalism. She has coached youth sports and volunteered helping the homeless in her home state of New Hampshire.

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## **Janice St. Onge: Changing the Faces of Our Investment Community**

“Female entrepreneurs receive less than 5 percent of all venture capital funding despite owning 38 percent of the businesses in the country. According to the National Venture Capital Association, 89 percent of venture capital investors are white men. These men have a bias toward familiar faces. This bias is not always a conscious one, but it’s there. And, it is part of the reason why less than 1 percent of venture capital goes to blacks or Latinos, and less than 5 percent goes to women.” [Read more.](#)

## **Pride Center of Vermont and Vermont Health Department Conduct New LGBTQIA Cancer Screenings Survey**

Pride Center of Vermont is collaborating with the VT Health Department to make cancer screenings more accessible for LGBTQIA community members, and they need help! They are looking to understand the current rate at which community members are being screened for both cervical and breast cancer and identify the barriers to care, in order to improve healthcare access for the LGBTQIA community. To take the survey, click here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PCVTSurvey>. If you have any questions or feedback about this survey, please contact Taylor Small at (802) 860-7812 or [taylor@pridecentervt.org](mailto:taylor@pridecentervt.org).

## **New Fundraising and Development Certificate at the Center for New Leadership at Marlboro Grad School**

Specially designed for small to mid-sized nonprofits, this nine-month program will demystify and destigmatize fundraising and build your skills in all areas of development. Participants will learn in a collaborative and hands-on environment

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consisting of interactive trainings, peer learning circles and one-on-one coaching. Leave with a personalized Development Plan, a strong peer network, and the tools, skills, and confidence to put that Plan into action. The program runs February-September 2019 and all in-person sessions will be in Barre VT. Applications are now being accepted on a rolling basis. Click [here](#) for details.

## **Vermont's Abortion Rate Declining, are Lower than National Average**

A [new report](#) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says there were 1,265 abortions performed in Vermont in 2015, the latest year for which the agency compiled such data. That gave Vermont a rate of 10.9 abortions per 1,000 women between the ages of 15 and 44, down from 13 in 2006. The national rate in 2015 was 11.8. Federal documents also show that the number of abortions in Vermont fell 21 percent in the decade from 2006 to 2015. Nationally, the number dropped by 24 percent. The CDC report says that, between 2006 and 2015, the adolescent abortion rate decreased by 54 percent nationally. "This decrease in abortion rate was greater than the decreases for women in any older age group," the report says. [Read more.](#)

## **Mercy Connections Offers Upcoming Training Programs**

### [Vermont Women's Mentoring Program training, beginning January 23, 2019](#)

Mercy Connections partners with the Vermont Department of Corrections to provide trained female volunteer mentors to incarcerated or formerly-incarcerated women making the transition to sustainable lives in Northwest Vermont/Chittenden County. They provide this 5-week training program and ongoing support, inclusive of mentor support group meetings, education on issues which affect the re-entry process, and healthy social events. Pairs of women are carefully matched for a successful experience. Women interested in the training do not need to have prior knowledge of the criminal justice system or mentoring experience in order to participate.

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### [Start-Up: Comprehensive Business Planning, beginning January 24, 2019](#)

Learn the language of business. This 15-week, action-oriented class is tailored to your individual business, using the business plan as a framework. Taught by an entrepreneur instructor team and featuring a host of special guest experts in three content areas: financials, marketing, and business management.

### [Vermont Community Leadership Training, beginning January 29, 2019](#)

Want to make a difference in your community? This 15-week program will provide you with leadership skills to help with this. This one-of-a-kind leadership and civic experience combines exciting community-based projects with leadership and self-awareness activities for all abilities. Participants will gain confidence and find their voice about the issues affecting them and their families.

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## **Employment Opportunities**

### **Change The Story Vermont Seeks Communications Director**

CTS is looking for a highly motivated, organized, and skilled individual with demonstrated communications experience to change the story for women (and men) in Vermont. Working as an integral part of the CTS team, the Communications Director will help to

## **Funding Opportunities**

### **Carol A. Moore Scholarship from Vermont Women in Higher Education**

Recognizes women currently working in higher education who are successful in their roles, who intend to engage in professional development or academic pursuits in order to further their career and work toward the mission of Vermont Women in Higher Education. VWHE is pleased to offer one \$1,000 scholarship in support of this mission. Apply by Friday, November 30th. [Learn how to apply.](#)

### **Legal Assistance for Victims (LAV) Grant Program Solicitation Open**

Funds are now available to enhance civil and criminal legal assistance programs for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault

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articulate CTS's values, priorities, and mission across multiple initiatives, advocacy efforts, and platforms—print, broadcast, and online media. The Communications Director will guide strategy and planning for all external CTS communications, including developing and executing strategies to increase the influence and presence of CTS and its partners, maintain CTS's reputation as a leading source of information about women's economic status in Vermont; and galvanize broad support for CTS goals. This is a 30-35 hour position, based in Burlington and requiring some travel around the state. Salary negotiable; range \$40-52,000. [Learn more and apply by Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>.](#)

and stalking. The funds may be used for a range of activities, including implementing, expanding, and establishing cooperative efforts and projects among victim service providers and legal assistance providers; providing competent supervised pro bono legal assistance for victims; and providing legal assistance for victims by organizations with advocacy services experience. Apply by January 31st. [Learn more.](#)

### **Justice for Families Grant Solicitation Open**

Funds are now available to support activities that improve the capacity of communities and courts to respond to families impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking, including cases involving allegations of child abuse. The funds may be used for a range of activities, including court-based and court-related programs; supervised visitation and safe exchange by and between parents; training and technical assistance for people who work with families in the court system; civil legal services; provision of resources in juvenile court matters; and development or promotion of legislation, model codes, policies, and best practices. Apply by January 8th. [Learn more.](#)

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## **Upcoming Events**

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## **10<sup>th</sup> Annual Shake Off Dance Party for Vermont Access to Reproductive Freedom**

[Saturday, December 1 from 6:00 – 11:00 p.m., Union Station, Burlington](#)

Dance Party to benefit Vermont Access to Reproductive Freedom, featuring DJs Abby, Brunch, and Crystal Jonez. All ages! Cash bar! Family hour starts at 6:00! Suggested donation is \$15-\$150.

## **Leading Change for Children: Let's Grow Kids' 3rd Annual Advocacy Conference**

[Tuesday, December 4 from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Capitol Plaza Hotel & Conference Center, Montpelier](#)

You're invited to this free annual advocacy conference! This years' highlights include time to focus on the finish line, LTG 2019 policy agenda, advocacy skills development workshop, State House orientation and regional action planning, and social hour from 4 – 5 PM at Capitol Plaza.

## **Mercy Connections' annual Mercy Marketplace**

[Saturday, December 8 from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Main Street Landing, Burlington](#)

Buy your holiday gifts and support Mercy Connections' participants selling homemade crafts, food, original artwork, music, books, jewelry and more. All income from sales goes directly to participants. Mercy Marketplace is an entrepreneurial initiative of the Mercy Connections Education & Transition and Women's Small Business Programs. Participants are taught skills in pricing, inventory, sales, customer service, professionalism, and more over six class sessions and their learning culminates in this annual vendor fair.

## **2020 Suffrage Centennial Celebration Committee led by The League of Women Voters of Vermont**

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*Tuesday, December 11 from 9:30- 11:30 a.m., Center for Achievement in Public Service (CAPS), Montpelier*

Interested individuals and organizations are cordially invited to join in this effort! Please RSVP to [League of Women Voters](#).

## **Screwnomics: How the Economy Works Against Women**

*Thursday, December 13 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., Peace and Justice Center, Burlington*

Rickey Gard Diamond, author of *Screwnomics: How Our Economy Works Against Women and Real Ways to Make Lasting Change*, will be the December 13th speaker at the regular meeting of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF). The event will begin with a short business meeting and potluck at 6 PM, and at 7 PM, Rickey will begin her presentation. The program is free and open to the public.

## **Children's Workshop on Human Rights Day**

*Saturday, December 15 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Fletcher Free Library*

In recognition of Human Rights Day, members of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) will lead a workshop for children (ages 7 to 13). They'll share a children's book on Human Rights, watch a video, hold a discussion, create a human rights quilt out of paper squares, and sing songs. Parents are welcome to join.

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We choose events for VIEW from our [statewide events calendar](#) for women and girls. **If you'd like your event featured in the VIEW**, make sure you [add it](#).

**Looking for more?** You'll find many more events for women & girls in Vermont on the calendar.



The Vermont Commission on Women (VCW) is a non-partisan state agency advancing rights and opportunities for women and girls. Sixteen volunteer commissioners, along with representatives from organizations concerned with women's issues, guide VCW's public education, coalition building, and advocacy efforts. For more information, please visit us at <http://women.vermont.gov>.

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