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VIEW

Vermont Information Exchange for Women

Newsletter



June 27th, 2017

News & Resources

Legislative Update Correction

The Domestic and Sexual Violence Bill – H.74/Act 44 included parts of H.27, eliminating the statute of limitations for sexual assault effective July 1, 2017. Our recent legislative update erroneously indicated H.27 was still in progress. We apologize. [A corrected version of VCW's legislative update can be found here.](#)

2017 National KIDS COUNT Data Book Released by Annie E. Casey Foundation

Vermont ranks 3rd among states in 2017 for child wellbeing. The Data Book index ranks states according to 16 indicators across the four domains of Economic Security, Health, Education, and Family & Community. [Find it here.](#) For even more Vermont-specific data, read Voices for Vermont's Children's report, [2017 Seeing the Whole Child: A KIDS COUNT in Vermont State Data Book.](#)

Rosie's Girls and Dirt Divas Summer Camps by Vermont Works for Women Still Accepting Registrations

There is still time to register for Rosie's Girls and Dirt Divas Summer Camps being held in various locations. Rosie's Girls® is a one-week summer day camp that helps girls develop grit, connection and expanded possibilities as they explore hands-on STEM- and trades-related activities. Dirt Divas is a one-week day camp that helps middle schoolers develop grit, peer connection and expanded possibilities through adventure activities. [Learn more.](#)

Paid Family & Medical Leave: Share Your Story

H.196, a proposal in Vermont to create a statewide paid family leave insurance program, is making its way to the Senate in January. The FaMLI Coalition wants to hear from moms, dads, caregivers, and individuals about their experiences with or without access to paid family and medical leave. [Visit this link](#) to share your story in a brief, confidential survey.

2017 Point In Time Count Report: Vermont's Annual Statewide Count of the Homeless Released

The 2017 Point-in-Time Count Report, released this month by the Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness and the Chittenden County Homeless Alliance, showed an overall increase in homelessness by 11% compared to the 2016 Point-in-Time Count. While there was an overall statewide increase, there were striking regional differences, including decreases in Chittenden (-12%) and Franklin (-17%) counties. Included in the total were 306 children, representing 25% of the entire homeless population counted. 267 persons (22%) reported as survivors of domestic violence, a 40-person increase from 2016. [Learn more and download the entire report.](#)

Maureen McElaney, Girl Develop It Burlington Founder, Featured in Vermont Life

Vermont Life featured an interview with Maureen McElaney, the founder of the Girl Develop It Burlington Chapter in their Summer 2017 edition. You can read the interview in their latest newsletter, [available here](#).

The Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) and the National Domestic Workers Alliance (NDWA) Release New Report: *The Status of Black Women in the United States*

Key findings of the report include that Black women vote at comparatively high rates and had a higher voting rate than all other groups of men and women during the last two presidential elections, yet are Black women remain underrepresented at every level of federal and state political office in the United States. Black women's median annual earnings (\$34,000 for those who work full-time, year-round) lag behind most women's and men's earnings in the United States, and eight out of ten (80.6 percent) Black mothers are breadwinners. From a young age, Black girls are disciplined at higher rates than all other groups of girls within public schools. Black women of all ages were twice as likely to be imprisoned as White women in 2014 (109 per 100,000 Black women were imprisoned in state and federal prisons compared with 53 per 100,000 White women). [Read the full report](#).

Honey and Wax Book Collecting Prize for Young Women

In the interest of encouraging the next generation, Honey and Wax announced their Book Collecting Prize, an annual prize of \$1000 to be awarded to an outstanding book collection conceived and built by a young woman. The contest is open to women book collectors in the United States, aged 30 or younger as of January 1, 2018. The winning collection must have been started by the contestant, and all items in the collection must be owned by her. Collections will not be judged on their size or their market value, but on their originality and their success in illuminating their chosen subjects. The prize rewards creativity, coherence, and bibliographic rigor. Submission deadline is July 15th, 2017. [Learn more](#).

Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center Appoints First Female President and CEO, Dr. Joanne Conroy

Dr. Joanne Conroy, who currently runs the Lahey Hospital and Medical Center in Massachusetts, a teaching hospital, will take over in August. She succeeds Dr. James Weinstein, who retires at the end of June. [Read more from VTDigger.](#)

Vermont Police Association Elects First Female President

Colchester Police Chief Jennifer Morrison was elected in early June and will serve for one year. The Burlington Free Press reports she is one of only two female police chiefs in the state - the other being University of Vermont Police Chief Lianne Tuomey.

Tapestry Workshop-in-a-Box: Professional Development for High School Teachers

From the National Center for Women & Information Technology, this free Tapestry Workshop-in-a-Box contains materials for organizing professional development workshops that train high school educators in research-based, field-tested ways to attract and retain more and diverse students to computing courses. This Box includes information about the objectives and content of a Tapestry Workshop; advice on logistics and budgeting; suggestions for selecting participants and presenters; and a sample agenda, templates, and evaluation tools. [Learn more and download.](#)

Who's on the Commission?



Commissioner Nancy LaVarnway of Northfield is a Career Development Specialist at the South Burlington High School Career Development Center where she designs and implements programs providing educational experiences in both pre-professional (school-to-work) and community (Volunteers in Action) settings. VCW intern Summer Colley interviewed Nancy about her experience as a Commissioner.

Why is the VCW Important?

“VCW is important because it keeps at the forefront issues that are critical to women in the State of Vermont. In particular, VCW raises awareness and advocates for its constituents on a broad spectrum of issues such as family leave, equal pay, and healthcare.”

How did you become a Commissioner and what has the experience been like?

“I was encouraged by a member of the Commission to submit my credentials to the talent bank for consideration. Fortunately, I was appointed by the Senate Committee on Committees and I am currently serving in my second term. The experience has been extremely enriching and educational, as well as rewarding both personally and professionally.”

What piece of advice do you wish you had known as young

woman? What advice would you give to young girls in VT today?

"As a young woman, I wish I had known that there were organizations like VCW at the state level. My recommendation to the current generation of young women is to network and seek out inspirational women as colleagues and mentors. "

What does women's empowerment look like to you?

"In my opinion, the concept most prevalent in the term 'women's empowerment' is realized when women are in leadership positions in their communities, local/state/national governments as well as the business world. In these leadership positions, women have much to give and a significant opportunity to improve the status of all women, their families and the community at large."

Want to learn more about Nancy? [Read her full bio.](#)

Employment Opportunities

Let's Grow Kids is Hiring

Let's Grow Kids, based in Montpelier, is hiring a Part-Time Temporary Field Organizer and four Grassroots Organizers. The positions pay \$15 per hour and applications are accepted until filled. [Learn more.](#)

Upcoming Events

Girl Develop It Summer Social

[Tonight, Tuesday June 27, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Juniper Bar, Burlington](#)

Social nights are an opportunity to get together to learn more about GDI, meet new people or catch up on life or tech! Share your thoughts for upcoming classes or topics you want to learn more about! Find Maureen (event host) for a GDI sticker so you can locate other GDiers! If the weather is nice we'll probably be out on the patio. Please RSVP.

Wilderness Adventures for Girls Camp

[Session I – Sunday, July 2 – Saturday, July 8, Kroka Expeditions, Marlow, NH](#)

[Session II – Sunday, June 30 – Saturday, August 5, Kroka Expeditions, Marlow, NH](#)

Attention all spirited, fun, and adventurous girls! Campers start out hiking along a river trail to where canoes await and then paddle across a remote lake to a magical hidden cove, where campers create their wilderness home. Days will be spent swimming, practicing paddling skills, making wilderness crafts, singing, and exploring the lakeshore to see what lies beyond our camp. In the evenings, come together around the campfire to reflect on experiences. Wilderness Adventures for Girls and Wild Girls are open to anyone who identifies as female, regardless of their sex assigned at birth. Cost is based on income, ranging from \$585 - \$1355.

Girl Rising: Changing the World One Girl at a Time

[Wednesday, July 5 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m., Aldrich Public Library's Milne Room,](#)

[Barre](#)

Award-winning author Tanya Lee Stone integrates raw interview footage from the Girl Rising filmmakers with her own research to see how educating girls across the globe will change the world. Girl Rising, a global campaign for girls' education, created a film that chronicled the stories of nine girls in the developing world, allowing viewers the opportunity to witness how education can break the cycle of poverty. Stone examines barriers to education in depth—early child marriage and childbearing, slavery, sexual trafficking, gender discrimination, and poverty—and shows how removing these barriers means not only a better life for girls, but safer, healthier, and more prosperous communities.

Dirty Girl Mud Run

[Saturday, July 8 at Killington Grand Resort](#)

Run, walk, climb, crawl—you'll experience it all at the Dirty Girl Mud Run for women and girls 14 and older. The event will happen rain or shine. Costumes and teams are highly encouraged. The course is typically a mix of off road and some pavement, so wear your running shoes but not your favorite running shoes. The course is 3.1 miles long with approximately 10-12 "obstacles". At registration, you

will pick your "Start Time Wave" beginning at 9:00 am and going until 1:00 pm and every half hour in-between. You will start with approximately 250 other women and because it is an un-timed event, you can go at your leisure. Over 50% of participants choose to walk and/or light jog so that they can stick together with their whole team. Registration costs \$75 per person. Proceeds benefit Susan G. Komen® New England, which has awarded more than more than \$81 million for breast cancer research in Massachusetts, \$9 million for breast cancer research in Connecticut, and nearly \$4 million for breast cancer research in Vermont and New Hampshire.

National Women's Political Caucus Convention

Thursday, July 27 – Sunday, July 31, Hilton Boston Back Bay

NWPC is a national, pro-choice, multi-partisan, grassroots membership organization dedicated to identifying, recruiting, training and supporting women candidates for elected and appointed office. This convention is a 4-day event of noteworthy speakers, campaign trainings, receptions, luncheons, and more. Members will vote for National officers and members of the political planning committee for the 2017-2019 term.

Nonprofit Management Summer Camp 2017

Friday, August 18 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Hilltop Montessori School, Brattleboro

Organized by Marlboro College's Center for New Leadership, the fourth annual Nonprofit Management Summer Camp is a retreat for nonprofit professionals in southern Vermont. Participants can choose two from six offered workshops. Workshops are tool-based, out-of-your-seat sessions, that encourage participation, connection, and fun. Attend for a day of catching up, connecting with your nonprofit colleagues and innovating sector leaders, and eating s'mores. Workshop presenters include VCW Commissioner Kerry Secrest. Registration is open and costs \$75.

Fall Doe Camp

[Friday, September 15 at 8:30 a.m. – Sunday, September 17 at 2:00 p.m.,
Jackson's Lodge, Canaan](#)

Vermont Outdoors Woman is sponsoring an outdoor education retreat for adventurous women. Fall Doe Camp will offer three days of classes to be held in the woods, in the lodge, on the lake and on the sandy beach as foliage season begins in the Northeast Kingdom of VT. Campers can choose from a list of classes that include: Archery, Birding, Firearms Marksmanship & Safety (Muzzleloader, Handgun, Rifle and Clay Shooting), Outdoor Cooking, Survival Skills, Log Rolling, Fly Fishing, Boat Fishing, Deer Hunting, Ax Skills, Camping, ID Ferns, Trees & Wild Edibles, Wildlife Photography, Panning for Gold, Advanced Shotgun, Basket Weaving, Dowsing, Building a Harmonious Labyrinth, Coping With Critters While Camping (bears, raccoons, blackflies, ticks, etc.), Chainsaw Skills & Safety, Land & Water Mobility Skills, Fitness and more. Early morning (before breakfast) options include yoga, birding or a morning run and swim. Cost is \$390 per person, and includes food and lodging, discounts available.



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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