



VIEW

Vermont Information Exchange for Women

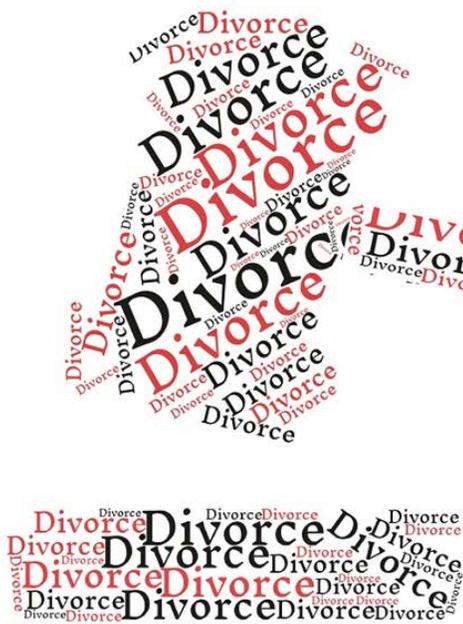
Newsletter



October 25th, 2017

News & Resources

Public Hearing 11/6: Spousal Support and Maintenance Task Force



Public Hearing

Spousal Support & Maintenance Task Force

Got Alimony?

5:30 - 7:00 PM

Monday, November 6, 2017

Debevoise Hall | Building 4

Nina Thomas Classroom

Vermont Law School

South Royalton, Vermont

The Spousal Support and Maintenance Task Force's public hearing is scheduled for **Monday, November 6th, 2017, from 5:30 -7:00 pm at Vermont Law School**. The hearing takes place in Debevoise Hall (Building 4), the Nina Thomas Classroom, located at 164 Chelsea Street, South Royalton, Vermont ([VLS campus map link here](#)). Members of the public will have 5 minutes to testify, and can begin signing up 30 minutes prior to the event.

The legislation that created the Task Force included new non-binding statewide guidelines around amount and duration of alimony as one of eight factors for judges to consider. Taskforce discussion has included termination of maintenance upon cohabitation or remarriage of the recipient and upon the retirement of the payor. VCW encourages women who have experience receiving or paying alimony to attend and share their stories, and for women who care about this issue, regardless of their personal experiences, to come share their thoughts. [Learn more.](#)

2018 Women's Leadership Circle in Waterbury/Stowe

The application process is open for the [2018 Women's Leadership Circle in Waterbury/Stowe](#). *Application deadline is November 24th.* The Women's Leadership Circles of Vermont is a Marlboro College program providing powerful women the space, support, and tools to lead with clarity and confidence. The program was developed for established women in leadership positions across sectors—nonprofit, business, and government. Participants have the initiative and vision to push themselves toward greater personal and professional achievement, and to grow in their roles as influential change-makers.

Congratulations to Colleen Twomey Recipient of the 2017 Visionary Voice Award for Excellence in Work to End Sexual Violence!

Each year, The National Sexual Violence Resource Center offers the Visionary Voice Awards to recognize creativity and hard work of individuals around the country who demonstrate outstanding work to end sexual violence. Sexual violence coalitions across the country are invited to nominate an outstanding individual to receive the award in their state. Colleen Twomey is the coordinator of the Legal Advocacy program with the Clarina Howard Nichols Center in Morrisville which serves victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, and stalking. Twomey is an engaging and effective

collaborator. Through her work, Twomey supports survivors of domestic, sexual, and stalking violence as they navigate the complexities of the justice system. She is currently empowering students at Johnson State College to create a violence-free campus culture. She is interested in collective freedom for all people and the planet and is inspired by a vision of healing. Says Twomey, "I am called to my work to build supportive relationships with survivors in our community while enhancing and bridging system services for survivors. I work each day to create a culture of wellbeing and healing for survivors through deep empathy, human connection and authentic relationship."

New Report: Race for Results

This new Annie E. Casey Foundation report measures how children are progressing on key milestones by race and ethnicity at the national and state levels. Vermont's small non-white population and associated data challenges mean that the state-level index scores for Vermont were only calculated for non-Hispanic white children, whose score of 739 translates to a rank of 17th in the United States. [Download the report here.](#)

Elayne Clift: Why Gender Studies Matter

Read commentary from Elayne Clift about the continued need for gender studies [here.](#)

Vermont Works for Women October Newsletter

VWW's October newsletter was full of great information, including a piece about the work they do at Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility (CRCF), Vermont's women-only facility. [Read it here.](#)

Jody Williams, 1997 Nobel Peace Prize Recipient, Still Pushing for Peace

Read VT Digger's article about Vermont native Jody Williams [here.](#)

It's Time For A Change | Windham County's Diaper Bank

Thirty five percent of mothers have reported running out of diapers in the United States (Cybele Raver, 2010). Currently, there are no government programs that assist families with diaper needs in Vermont. Time for a Change Diaper Bank began with a small grant from the United Way of Windham County and a lot of community support. There are no eligibility requirements to access diapers, housed at Parks Place and accessible anytime Parks Place is open. Want to donate? Open packages accepted. [Learn more.](#) Looking for diaper banks in another VT community? Find a list [here.](#)

Cheryl “Cookie” Danyow named Vermont’s Early Educator of the Year by the Permanent Fund for Vermont’s Children

Cheers and applause for Cheryl, who runs a preschool program out of her home in Addison. [Learn more.](#)

Upcoming Events

Zero Weeks Film Screening and Discussion Series

TONIGHT, [Wednesday, October 25 at 7:00 p.m., Middlebury College](#)

The final screening in Main Street Alliance of Vermont and VT FaMLI Coalition's series of film screenings and panel discussions to highlight the need for a statewide family and medical leave insurance program. Weaving powerful emotional stories together with insightful interviews from leading policy makers, economists, and researchers, [ZERO WEEKS](#) lays out an argument for guaranteed paid leave for every American worker. The film looks at paid leave from an emotional, medical, financial and global perspective. Following the film, the panel discussions feature local business owners and community members who have been impacted by a lack of family leave. Attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions of the panel. Panelists in Middlebury include: Sivan Cotel, Co-Owner of Stonecutter Spirits in Middlebury; Sarah Haselton, Mother & VT Worker based in Bristol; Senator Claire Ayer (D-Addison); and Senator Christopher Bray (D-

Addison).

Speed Mentoring Clinic

[Friday, October 27 from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m., Center for Women & Enterprise, Burlington](#)

Get an opportunity to meet one-on-one with up to 4-5 small business experts and have your questions answered or advice on your business, in one afternoon! Select up to 4 topics you would like to speak to a counselor about. Each appointment lasts 30-minutes. Registration costs \$25.

Samara Fund 25th Anniversary Celebration

[Friday, October 27 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., Burlington City Arts](#)

The Vermont Community Foundation celebrates 25 years of The Samara Fund. The event will feature Alison Bechdel, graphic novel author and syndicated cartoonist, Beth Malone, Broadway star and Tony Award nominee. Tickets cost \$50.

Refusing Silence: Survivors' Writing Workshop

[Saturday, October 28 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Saint Michaels College](#)

Sarah Bartlett, founding co-director of [Writing Inside VT](#) hosts a survivors' writing workshop for those looking to explore relationships with silence, voice, and healing through words and images.

Break the Silence Sneak Preview

[Sunday, October 29 from 4:00 – 6:30 p.m. at Latchis Arts, Brattleboro](#)

At this intimate community event and fundraiser for reproductive justice, screen a selection from 'Break the Silence,' featuring interviews with Brattleboro area locals about their personal sexual & reproductive health histories. After the screening, engage in a facilitated talk-back and panel discussion in response to the video project. Admission is by suggested donation of \$10 - \$50, proceeds to benefit Vermont Access to Reproductive Freedom; no one will be turned away for lack of funds.

Public Education That Works for All Children

[Wednesday, November 1 from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Capitol Plaza Hotel, Montpelier](#)

Hosted by Voices for Vermont's Children and the Public Assets Institute, this conference features a keynote address: Pulling Together for a Public Education System that Works for all Children, delivered by John Castle. It also features a panel discussion and issue focused workshops. Registration is \$30 and includes lunch.

Rowing Against Wind and Tide: The Journals and Letters of Anne Morrow Lindbergh

[Wednesday, November 1 at 7:00 p.m., Norwich Congregational Church](#)

Author Reeve Lindbergh discusses collecting four decades of her mother's previously unpublished diaries and letters—shedding light on her mother's marriage to Charles Lindbergh and her take on world events.

Women's Summit at the University of Vermont

[Thursday, November 2 from 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., UVM Davis Center, Burlington](#)

Beverly Guy-Sheftall, Ph.D., founding director of the Women's Research and Resource Center and Anna Julia Cooper Professor of Women's Studies at Spelman College, comes to the University of Vermont to keynote this much anticipated event. Join her to discuss feminism and intersectionality, and her colleagues for panels including Bold, Brilliant, Brave, and Phenomenal: That's Us, and SuperWomen, ChangeMakers, and Allies. Registration costs \$15.

Beyond Bathrooms: Trans Affirmative Practices for Schools, Camps, and More

[Thursday, November 2 from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., High 5 Adventure Learning Center, Brattleboro](#)

Beyond Bathrooms is a day-long training, facilitated by Perry Cohen and Meg Bolger of The Venture Out Project. Beyond Bathrooms is an opportunity for folks to learn the knowledge, awareness, and skills they need to create gender affirming environments, practices, and protocols in their organizations and communities. Workshop participants will explore everything from terminology, gendered language and pronouns, to

identifying common pain-points for transgender individuals, creating inclusive intake-processes, introductions, and much more. Participants will walk away with not only a more complex understanding of transgender identity and issues but also concrete tools for making their organizations more trans-affirming. No prior experience or understanding of transgender issues/identity necessary. Registration cost \$195 and includes meals.

6th Annual Vermont Vision for a Multicultural Future Conference

Thursday and Friday, November 2-3, The Putney School

Vermont Partnership for Fairness and Diversity and The Putney School have space this year for fifteen teams of no more than three people each from any agency, organization, or business. At least one member of each team must have budgetary or policy oversight responsibility. Conference registration fee is \$285 per participant.

Vermont Afterschool Conference

Friday, November 3 from 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Snowflake Resort

The Vermont Afterschool Conference is an annual event that brings together hundreds of expanded learning programs, partners, advocates, and educators from around the state for a full day of learning, networking, and celebration. Dr. Michele Borba will keynote. Dr. Borba is a globally-recognized educational psychologist who is passionate about educating strong, caring, resilient children and creating safe learning communities. Registration costs \$175.

A Time to Be Born – One-Day Saturday Express

Saturday, November 4 from 8:45 a.m. – 4:15 p.m., Dartmouth-Hitchcock Women's Resource Center, Lebanon, NH

This one-day intensive class promotes a positive birth experience by preparing the expectant mother and her support person for the labor and birth process. A variety of comfort techniques will be taught, including: relaxation, positions and movement, hydrotherapy, breath awareness, vocalization and touch. This course will also cover the use of medications and what to expect during labor and birth. \$125 per couple.

Intro to Weaving Class

Saturdays and Sundays November 4, 5, 18 & 19 from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., White River Craft Center, Randolph

Introduction to Weaving & Open Studio will cover learning the basics that turn yarn into a finished piece of fabric. Participants will learn how to use a loom, measure a warp, dress the loom, and weave a sampler of different weave patterns, yarns and colors. Attendees will prepare and interpret weaving drafts and plan a project of their own choice from beginning to end. The group will discuss resources that will enable folks to continue weaving at home. The class is taught over two weekends.

New England Advanced Victim Services Conference: The Complexities of Co-Occurring Crimes & Victimization

Monday, November 6 from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Killington Grand Resort

Presented by the Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services, this conference features keynote speaker Dr. Aron Steward and is appropriate for Victim advocates, victim services providers, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, State's Attorneys, law enforcement officials, community service providers, staff of Child Advocacy Centers and Special Investigation Units, Department of Corrections staff, Department for Children and Families' staff, as well as allies & partners. Approved for 5 hours of general legal continuing education credits (CLE's). Registration costs \$50.

Women's Self Defense – Level 1

Tuesday, November 7 from 6:00 – 8:15 p.m., UVM Medical Center, Burlington

Offered by The Safety Team, this beginner workshop focuses on recognizing pre-assault behavior, learning ways to deter or avoid an attack before it becomes physical, understanding how predators think and what they look for in their victims, enhancing decision-making around lifestyle choices that minimize vulnerability yet maintain personal freedoms, and finding the inner-strength to fight back. Fee is \$37.

2017 WBON Fall Conference

Wednesday, November 8 from 12:30 – 6:00 p.m., Hotel Vermont, Burlington

This half-day conference will feature keynote presentations by Janice Shade of Milk Money and Jovial King of Urban Moonshine, and roundtable discussions with subject matter experts and entrepreneurs who have found solutions to the issues we women business owners face in the changing political, economic, social/cultural, technological, and environmental arenas. Registration costs \$45 - \$115.

The Dish: Women in the Food Industry, A Place at the Table

[Wednesday, November 8 from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m., ArtsRiot, Burlington](#)

Women play a crucial role in the food industry as farmers, chefs, entrepreneurs, producers, and resource providers. While progress has been made in recognition of that role and the economic and social benefits of gender diversity in the workplace, women still face barriers to entry in many fields within the food system. Attend a conversation moderated by Change the Story, a statewide initiative focused on “[aligning] policy, program, and philanthropy to significantly improve women’s economic status in Vermont” as we explore the challenges and successes experienced by women in the industry here in our state. Hear from leaders in their fields about the trends they see in the industry’s approach to female leadership, how Vermont compares to other areas in the country in terms of gender equity, and how they found “a place at the table” in these typically male-dominated fields.

Issue and Advocacy Discussion at a Building Bright Futures Regional Council Meeting

Wednesday, November 8, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m., Winston Prouty Center, Brattleboro

Friday, November 10, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m., Central VT Home, Health and Hospice, Barre

Monday, November 13, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m., The Church of the Rock, St Albans

Tuesday, November 14, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m., Lamoille Family Center, Morrisville

Thursday, December 7, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m., Howard Center, Burlington

Vermont Early Childhood Alliance staff will be discussing early childhood issues likely to be the focus of discussion during the 2018 Legislative Session at a number of Building Bright Futures Regional Councils around the state. Attend to share your perspective. [Learn more.](#)

Women in Conservation

[Thursday, November 9 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., Montshire Museum of Science](#)

Listen and learn as two influential women in conservation share their inspiring stories. Former Gov. Madeleine Kunin founded the Institute for Sustainable Communities (ISC) and served as its first Board Chair. Liz Putnam of Shaftsbury, VT, is widely considered the “Mother of the American Youth Conservation Movement.” She founded the Student Conservation Association (SCA) in 1957. This free event is co-sponsored by the Sierra Club, the Student Conservation Association, the Institute for Sustainable Communities, and the Montshire Museum of Science.

Energize Democracy: How to Run For Office

[Saturday, November 11 from 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Vermont Law, South Royalton](#)

This free, non-partisan event is open to the public and will outline the basics of running for elected office: Motivation, Message, Money, and Mechanics. The event features Kathleen Falk, former Gov. Madeleine Kunin, Randy Brock, Sue Minter, Sen. Joe Benning, Ruth Hardy, Robert Sand, Sarah Buxton, Jim Condos, and Melissa Mulliken. Advance registration required. Livestream available.

LAVA Presents A Goddessy

[Saturday, November 11 at 7:30 p.m., NECCA, Brattleboro](#)

LAVA presents A Goddessy, a feminist survival story that journeys through landscapes emotional and geologic carrying a transmuted traveler from a bleak and blurry patriarchal present into a rainbow colored feminist future with the help of ancestors geologic and otherwise. A Goddessy is the synthesis, culmination, and explosion of 15 years of earth-moving performance by LAVA. LAVA's unique movement language integrates handstands, human pyramids, hoop-diving, aerials, wrestling, and post-modern dance in the re-telling of the traditional “hero's journey” subverting the lone hero's quest of fights, feats, and loss and instead offering the tale of a string of connected women seeking pre-patriarchal knowledge, unearthing a shared legacy of lost lessons, and enjoying a return home to a vision of future feminist balance and equality. Tickets cost \$10 - \$25.



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](#).**

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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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