

WDEV-AM X
WDEV-FM X

WEXP-FM _____

WCVT-FM _____
WLVB-FM _____

Programs & Issues List

The Radio Vermont Group

2nd Quarter 2023

April 1st to June 30th 2023

Following is a list of major topic areas to be addressed in our news and public affairs coverage. Different items may be substituted depending upon current news events unforeseen at the outset of this quarter.

Examples of specific stories are given to help you identify if the topic fits the issue category.

Issue 1: **Housing Shortage**

Issue 2: **Mental Health Issues**

Issue 3: **Legislative Bills**

Issue 4: **EB-5 Scandal**

Issue 5: **Homeless Hotel Program**

WDEV-FM and AM

Programs and Issues – 2023

The Programs and Issues in this file are “representative” of our news and public affairs efforts – but do not fully demonstrate the breadth of our reporting and our commitment to “live” local and relevant radio. Below is a summary of some of our major regularly scheduled broadcast efforts.

Monday-Friday:

Radio VT News provides extended coverage of local, state and regional news:
6:05am – 7:05am – 8:05am – 12:05pm – 4:05pm – 5:05pm
Each Newscasts is 5 to 10-minutes in length and features a variety of reports.

At 7:30AM Mon-Fri – The Morning Briefing: 10-mins of World & National News

The Morning News Service airs from 7-9am – two full hours of news, weather, sports, travel updates, commentary, interviews, plus studio and phone guests. WDEV employs our own forecaster Roger Hill who details the micro-climate of the region while watching major national weather stories and climate change. The MNS is produced by Radio Vermont News with additional world and national updates from CBS Radio News.

Radio Vermont News has developed reporter relations with WCAX-TV Channel 3 News. Monday-Friday reporter Alexandra Montgomery joins the Morning News Service with a “live” interactive update to explore stories in much greater depth than available from wire service reports.

In our “Conversation with the Editor” series, we discuss major stories from some of Vermont’s most respected weekly newspapers:

Monday: The News & Citizen (Morrisville) – Tommy Gardner, Reporter
Tuesday: The Addison Independent (Middlebury) - John Flowers, Reporter
Wednesday: The Valley Reporter (Waitisfield) –Erica Nichols-Frazier, Reporter
Thursday: The Gazette (Hardwick) – Ray Small, Publisher & Editor
Friday: The Herald (Randolph) – Tim Calabro, Publisher

Vermont Viewpoint: 9-11am

This is our newsmaker public affairs interview program that provides detailed analysis of the news plus a Vermont perspective on world events. His guests are varied and represent a wide spectrum. During the legislative session, The program originates direct from the Vermont Statehouse in Montpelier (Fridays and during special event days). The program also goes mobile for events such as the Chamber of Commerce Business EXPO, the Tunbridge World’s Fair and other gatherings.

The Midday News Service: Noon-1PM

An hour-long update of the very latest news, business report, sports, weather and a variety of human interest features. This is the most comprehensive lunchtime news hour of any Vermont radio station. With the “Special Assignment” section, Radio VT News often delivers lengthy segments of news conferences or legislative debate. We are committed to providing our listeners with more than a “sound bite” service.

The Afternoon News Service: 4-5:30PM

The very latest news developments, sports and weather, perfect for the drive home. Special updated reports on the day’s breaking news stories with Calvin Cutler from WCAX-TV News around 4:05PM and at 5:05PM, VT Digger.org reports – the state’s leading on-line investigative news site.

Waterbury Roundabout (Monday) – Lisa Scagliotti, Editor

Seven Days (Tuesday) – Courtney Lamdin, Reporter

Vermont Business Magazine (Wednesday)—Tim McQuiston, Editor

Stowe Reporter (Thursday) – Tom Gardner, Reporter

Times-Argus (Friday) – Steve Pappas, Editor

Saturday Morning:

Similar to weekdays, WDEV is “live and local” with updated news reports including the Morning News Service from 7-8am. This hour also features “For the Birds” a program dedicated to watching and listening to birds; “The Green Mountain Club” report – with opportunities to explore VT outdoors and take advantage of guided and organized hikes around the state.

Sunday Morning:

At 6:00AM, WDEV airs CBS Radio Sunday Morning, and “The Takeout with Majhor Garrett”, a weekly news magazine show. National and International issues are explored in-depth with a variety of reporters and guests.

WDEV airs Red Sox Baseball, Norwich D3 Hockey, NASCAR racing, local stock car racing and high school basketball (boys & girls) regular-season and championship games. WDEV provide “Team Coverage” of every Town Meeting Day (March) plus coverage of Primary and General Election nights.

RADIO VERMONT GROUP

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 1 (See Cover Sheet)

WDEV-AM/FM X WCVT RVNN-7AM RVNN-8AM

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| () Other _____ | |

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Length :30 :60 2:00 5:00

WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

Description or Script: Attached or on Reverse side

New Text Document

The city of Burlington claims that more affordable housing has opened up thanks to a short-term rental ordinance approved last year.

Officials now say they are starting to crack down on landlords operating in violation of the new measure.

The city says the primary goal of the ordinance was to stop landlords from converting long-term rentals into more profitable Airbnbs, worsening the city's housing crunch.

People with accessory apartments at their primary residence are okay. But if you want to convert an off-site unit to a short-term rental, you are also required to turn another unit into an affordable rental. The city's Bill Ward says the number of short-term rentals remains around 270, and so far, 25 new affordable units have been created under this policy.

(061423SOT Bill Ward)

Julie Marks heads the Vermont Short Term Rental Alliance.

She was forced to convert her off-site unit to a long-term rental when Burlington's ordinance took effect. She does not think many property owners will choose the one-to-one option.

There's also a new nine percent tax assessed on short-term rentals. About \$52,000 of that will head into the Housing Trust Fund this year to create affordable housing. Next year the city projects short-term rental fees will rake in \$700,000.

Marks says the tax and the city's limit on short-term rentals are making it more expensive to visit Burlington.

(061423SOT Julie Marks)

As of June 1, all rentals needed to be in compliance with the new rules. The city has a third-party agreement to actively monitor short-term rentals for compliance.



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Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Wednesday ANS - 6/28/2023 › B10 Morrisville Apts

Versions

1. 6/28/2023 3:48:06 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:37 ▾

00:00:37 at 20 ▾ characters per second

A new complex of energy-efficient, affordable apartments has opened in downtown Morrisville.

Evernorth and the Lamoille Housing Partnership are behind the Village Center Apartments. Representatives say there are 24 new energy-efficient and affordable apartments.

The units are for low- to moderate-income residents including six apartments set aside for people who are homeless. The apartment building is on Hutchins Street and has studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments.

The completion of the project was delayed by nine months after a fire that caused smoke and water damage. The Lamoille Housing Partnership confirmed the fire started from the corner of the first-floor windows and that no one was inside at the time.

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Untitled

Plans have been submitted to turn Burlington's former YMCA into an apartment complex. Over the past several years, some of Burlington's homeless population had taken over the former YMCA.

The Ward 8 Neighborhood Planning Assembly said they're in "total agreement the current site is a serious problem." For committee members like Keith Pillsbury, plans for turning the building into apartments is only the first step in reclaiming the space and bringing more housing to the district.

According to zoning permit application laid out, the renovation will bring 110,000 square feet of new housing to Ward 8. The apartments will range from studios to 1, to 2, to 3-bedroom apartments intended for residents outside of the student population. Plus, 10% to 20% of them are expected to be affordable housing options.

The \$200 million project will expand the former Y and add 6 floors. The current blueprint outlined a lounge area, meeting space, laundry room, fitness center, sauna, and outdoor patio, along with a two-level underground parking garage.

The timeline for the apartments' construction is unclear.



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Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Monday ANS - 6/26/2023 › B10 Howard Center

Versions

1. 6/26/2023 4:54:19 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:32 ▾

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The Howard Center is a nonprofit organization that provides mental health and substance use disorder treatment in Chittenden County.

The Center recently announced cuts to four programs, including the Centerpoint school.

The four programs that were cut are the Autism Spectrum Program's center-based programs for toddlers, Intensive Family Based Services, the St. Albans Public Inebriate Program and the Centerpoint program.

The organization will also administer a 1% budget cut to every program and department at the agency.

The cuts are due to financial setbacks, and come after the closure of two other programs earlier this year.

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Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Monday ANS - 6/26/2023 › B16 Overdose Numbers

Versions

1. 6/26/2023 10:34:23 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:46 ▾

00:00:46 at 20 ▾ characters per second

PRONUNCIATIONS -- XYLAZINE -- (ZY-la-ZEEN), GABAPENTIN (GAB-ba-PEN-tin)

The latest state data says Fifty-five Vermonters died of an accidental opioid overdose in the first three months of this year, ahead of last year's record-breaking pace.

There were 51 such deaths during the first quarter last year, when 250 Vermonters fatally overdosed on opioids.

Windham County registered the highest death rate this quarter.

The Health Department says the synthetic opioid fentanyl and the stimulant cocaine are driving the numbers.

Fentanyl was involved in 53 of the 55 total fatalities between January and March, and cocaine in 35.

The animal tranquilizer xylazine, was present in 16 deaths. And the anti-seizure medication gabapentin was used in six.

Those two drugs are used to dilute the extremely dangerous fentanyl.

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Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Thursday ANS - 6/29/2023 › B13 Mental Health Gathering

Versions

1. 6/29/2023 11:57:17 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:28 ▾

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Vermont's congressional delegation will be at Spaulding High School in Barre Tonight to hear from parents, teachers, students and doctors about the challenges that face young Vermonters.

Youth mental health was deemed a national emergency by a collection of medical organizations two years ago, and now suicide is one of the leading causes of death for young people.

In a Vermont survey in 2021, 35% of high schoolers and about 20% of middle schoolers in Vermont reported poor mental health.

Tonight's event starts at 7;00 p.m.at Spaulding High School.

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RADIO VERMONT GROUP

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 2 (See Cover Sheet)

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Length 30 :30 :60 2:00 5:00

WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

Description or Script: Attached or on Reverse side



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Radio Vermont › Monday ANS - 6/19/2023 › B2 211 drops

Versions

1. 6/19/2023 4:18:02 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:24 ▾

00:00:24 at 20 ▾ characters per second

The state's one-stop number to call for information about community health and human services resources -- Vermont 211 -- is dropping 24/7 coverage.

Starting July 1st, contact center hours will be from 8am to 11pm daily, including holidays.

United Ways of Vermont says the cutback is a result of contract changes, though they say the quality of service will not change.

They say those most affected by the change will be those seeking after-hours emergency housing.

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Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Tuesday ANS - 6/13/2023 › B2 Shelter Arrest

Versions

2. 6/13/2023 4:17:42 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:38

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A Berlin man is facing a series of charges after some belligerent behavior at an area homeless shelter.

On Monday, Berlin Police got a report from the Good Samaritan Welcome Center, that 60-year old Michael Carpenter was intoxicated and threatening staff members.

Police say when they arrived, Carpenter made homicidal and suicidal statements to officers.

Officers brought him to Central Vermont Medical Center where he assaulted nursing staff and officers and grabbed one of the officer's duty weapon.

Police say Carpenter also damaged the cruiser by breaking the interior.

A judge set bail at \$750. Carpenter was taken to the state Correctional Complex in St. Johnsbury and scheduled to appear in Washington County court today.

About 25% of people who gave birth in 2020 reported depression, anxiety or other mental health issues during their pregnancy or after their child was born, according to a report from the Vermont Department of Health.

The report, based on a yearly survey of people's experiences after giving birth, showed an uptick from about 20% of birth parents in 2014, according to the department. That uptick could be the result of the pandemic's effects on the mental health of everyone in Vermont, said Iliisa (Illi-Issa) Stalberg at the health department.

The changes brought on by pregnancy can have far-reaching effects on every system in the mother's body, and those changes can lead to depression and, in rare cases, severe mental illnesses such as mania or psychosis, experts said.

The health department data showed that 12% of respondents reported symptoms after giving birth that suggested they were at risk for postpartum depression.

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Versions
 1. 6/19/2023 4:01:12 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:47

Radio Vermont > Monday ANS - 6/19/2023 > B14 Mental Health and Pregnancy

Script Editor





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Radio Vermont › Friday ANS - 5/26/2023 › A4 Housing Meeting in Barre

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A new effort is underway to add more housing units to the so-called "missing middle."

State officials and other stakeholders gathered in Barre Thursday to discuss a new state project creating a toolkit for the development of missing middle homes all over Vermont. The missing middle is neighborhood-scale residential homes, including single-family, duplexes, or townhomes.

Housing Commissioner Josh Hanford told WCAX that kind of project represents a critical percentage of the upwards of 40,000 ~~thousand~~ units the state needs and that a better roadmap needs to be in place for their development.

052623SOT Josh Hanford

Project leaders are looking for five communities to use as case studies. They hope to have the "Homes for All" design guide and resources ready by February 2024.



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Radio Vermont › Monday ANS - 6/5/2023 › B9 Gun Law

Versions

1. 6/5/2023 4:38:48 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:39 ▾

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Vermont Governor Phil Scott has allowed a 72-hour waiting period for gun sales to become law without his signature.

Scott said He's concerned about the constitutionality of the new law, but told lawmakers that he feels the courts will address his concerns.

One of the provisions the governor says he supports now makes negligent firearm storage a crime under state law.

The other provision receiving his approval concerns extreme-risk protection orders, under which weapons can be removed from someone deemed by a judge to be at high risk of harming themselves or others.

A county-level state's attorney and the Vermont Attorney General's Office can now ask a judge for such an order, as can a family member or a household member.

Previously, only police could do so.

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Radio Vermont › Thursday ANS - 6/29/2023 › B14 Workplace Harassment

Versions

1. 6/29/2023 3:57:13 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:36 ▾

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Vermont has enacted a law intended to strengthen anti-harassment protections in the workplace and ban pay discrimination for certain groups.

The bill won final approval in the Senate during this month's veto session, and was signed Wednesday by Governor Phil Scott. It replaces the previous standard for harassment claims with a broader, more holistic view of what constitutes harassment.

The measure also expands Vermont's equal pay law, already in place on the basis of gender, to include race, national origin, disability status, sexual orientation and gender identity.

Scott's spokesperson said the bill would strengthen protections against discrimination as Vermont focuses on increasing equity.

▾

New Text Document

Finding family and getting an original birth certificate will be easier for Vermont adoptees as part of a new law going into effect in July, simplifying what many agreed had been an unwieldy process.

Naomi Malay with Vermont Department for Children and Families, tells WCAX News that Under current Vermont law, getting an original birth certificate is a lengthy process and there are certain stipulations that prevent adoptees from having access.

(063023SOT Naomi Malay)

Christina Shuma, a partner from Lund and coordinator of the Vermont Adoption Registry says that even under the new law, adoptees' biological parents still have the option to withhold personal information.

(063023SOT Christina Shuma)

Parents who want to fill out non-consent forms need to contact the state by July 1. That means identifying information won't be released, but their names would still appear on birth certificates.



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Radio Vermont › Friday ANS - 6/30/2023 › B6 Bottle Bill Veto

Versions

1. 6/30/2023 4:37:15 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:40 ▾

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Governor Phil Scott Thursday vetoed an expansion of Vermont's bottle bill.

It would have expanded the five-cent refund to water and sports drink bottles and put a 15-cent deposit on wine bottles. Backers claim it will help Vermonters recycle more.

But the governor wrote to lawmakers that it would be expensive and logistically complicated for people who don't live near recycling centers. He also says the state should focus on its single-stream blue bin recycling system.

(063023SOT Phil Scott)

Scott also says he's concerned it could drive revenue away from the single-source system operated by Casella.

Lawmakers will have to wait till January to override. But if they return to Montpelier before that --possibly for impeachment proceedings on two Franklin County officials -- they could also vote then.

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New Text Document

Vermont's Democrat-dominated legislature overrode Governor Phil Scott's vetoes of the state budget and a sweeping \$120 million child care reform package.

In all, Democrats, with their supermajority, overrode five of the governor's eight vetoes, including the Affordable Heat Act earlier this session.

The coalition of 17 Democrats and Progressives that had threatened to block the budget was brought into line when a deal was struck by top lawmakers and the governor to create a smoother transition plan to get homeless Vermonters out of hotels.

Shelburne Democrat Jessica Brumsted tells WCAX News the proposal was a game-changer.

(062123SOT Jessica Brumsted)

Saint Johnsbury Republican Scott Beck stressed that Vermonters can't afford this plan.

(062123SOT Scott Beck 1)

Burlington Progressive Democrat Brian Cina complained that not everyone was on board with the hotel program compromise to keep some in hotel rooms while they are paired with more permanent housing solutions.

(062123SOT Brian Cina)

About two dozen protestors disrupted the proceedings, saying the compromise doesn't go far enough for the nearly 800 people already evicted from hotels and that should get permanent shelter.

Waterbury Democrat Theresa Wood says
The budget will use leftover funds from the Agency of Human Services and spend \$21 million on housing the homeless in projects like restoring mobile homes. Recipients will also have to pay for the hotel room, look for housing, and be paired with services. *(062123SOT Theresa Wood)*

Representative Beck questioned the state's capacity to find permanent shelter for up to 1,200 households and whether that capacity exists in communities.

(062123SOT Scott Beck 2)

Other veto overrides Tuesday included the \$120 million child care reform bill rejected by the governor for its dependence on a new 0.44% payroll tax split between employer and employees.

Lawmakers also overrode a bill adjusting fees at the Office of Professional Regulation; a charter change allowing 16 and 17-year-olds to vote in Brattleboro; and another allowing noncitizens to vote in Burlington.

Lawmakers gave final approval to an expansion of the bottle bill, unfinished business from



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Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Thursday ANS - 6/22/2023 › B9 Non-Citizen Voting

Versions

2. 6/22/2023 3:34:52 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:58 ▾

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A third Vermont city will now allow noncitizens who are legal residents to vote in local elections after the Democrat-controlled Legislature on Tuesday overrode the Republican governor's veto of the Burlington charter change bill.

Burlington now joins Montpelier and Winooski, which already permit such voting. City residents voted in favor of the charter change in March. The three Vermont cities are among more than a dozen communities in a handful of states -- including New York City, and a number of towns in Maryland -- that allow noncitizens to vote in local elections. Eight states have laws that only allow U.S. citizens to vote in elections, according to the group Americans for Citizen Voting.

The Republican National Committee filed lawsuits against Montpelier and Winooski asking judges to declare noncitizen voting unconstitutional and lost those challenges. Federal law prohibits noncitizens from voting in federal elections, including races for president, vice president, Senate or House of Representatives.

In January, the Vermont Supreme Court ruled that such voting in local elections in Montpelier doesn't violate the state Constitution.

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Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Tuesday ANS - 6/27/2023 › B12 More Broadband

Versions

1. 6/27/2023 3:38:23 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:37 ▾

00:00:37 at 20 ▾ characters per second

Vermont is set to receive nearly \$229 million in federal funding to expand broadband access. This sum is expected to get state officials significantly closer to their goal of connecting every resident to high-speed internet.

This comes through a Biden administration initiative to expand broadband, which dispersed \$43 billion across all 50 states, the District of Columbia and five territories.

Officials estimate that it will cost about \$650 million to get every Vermonter reliably connected to high-speed internet.

Vermont is close to reaching its goal between the money from this initiative and broadband funding that came to Vermont through the American Rescue Plan Act.

Bonding can fill the gap of about \$176 million.

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RADIO VERMONT GROUP

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 4 (See Cover Sheet)

WDEV-AM/FM X WCVT RVNN-7AM RVNN-8AM

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Length :30 (:60) 2:00 5:00

WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

Description or Script: Attached or on Reverse side

New Text Document

Just two days into a 10-day trial, the state of Vermont settled with eight defrauded Jay Peak investors. The state is now attempting to reach a possible settlement that could apply to hundreds more.

The state Agency of Commerce and Community Development ran a regional center that promoted and oversaw projects.

The effort secured hundreds of millions of dollars in economic development from foreign investors as part of the federal EB-5 visa program.

Federal regulators in 2016 said the Jay Peak projects were a sham. Investors later sued the state. They alleged that Vermont officials failed to meet their legal obligations.

It is unclear how much money the eight defrauded investors will receive from the deal announced Thursday.

The plaintiffs are in the midst of negotiating a potentially much more expansive settlement with the state that could extend to more investors, including those not directly involved in the lawsuit.

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Untitled

The state of Vermont has agreed to settle in the trial filed against the state by a group of defrauded foreign investors from the EB-5 Kingdom Con scandal.

After two days of trial proceedings in Lamoille County Court, the state decided to settle with a group of eight plaintiffs who lost money and opportunities for green cards in the EB-5 scandal.

There are more than two dozen plaintiffs involved in this case who claim state officials knew something illegal was going on, but failed to act.

The massive Ponzi scheme to rebuild Jay Peak, Burke Mountain and the Newport area was fueled by \$200 million in foreign investor money as part of the federal EB-5 green card program.

Prosecutors say the investment money was misused or stolen by the developers.

The lawsuit claims the state intentionally kept quiet, allowing more investors to be defrauded so that construction projects already underway could continue.

A statement from the Office of Vermont Attorney General Charity Clark deflected from the state's role in the scam.

It read quote, "Vermonters, investors, and the State of Vermont were all deceived by the fraudulent promises made by Ariel Quiros, Bill Stenger, and William Kelly – who have since answered for their crimes in the justice system. We are pleased to have reached a partial resolution in this longstanding civil case."

There's no word yet on the exact terms of that settlement, and this is just one of four groups suing the state.

The next jury trial in this case is scheduled in December in Lamoille County.

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Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Tuesday ANS - 6/20/2023 › B13 EB-5 Investor Lawsuit

Versions

1. 6/20/2023 3:45:26 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:30 ▾

00:00:30 at 20 ▾ characters per second

A jury was selected for the two-week EB-5 trial to decide whether the state harmed investors by failing to stop the \$200 million fraud at Jay Peak Resort.

The trial is expected to feature testimony from key former state officials including former Governor Peter Shumlin.

The EB-5 immigrant investors say Vermont officials billed special state oversight as part of a sales pitch for the development projects, but in fact provided little to no supervision.

Each of the 32 investors, who are being represented in four separate trials over the next 18 months, are seeking damages.

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- () Opinion / Commentary
- () Interview / Caller Participation
- () WCAX Reporter
- () Vermont Viewpoint Show (WDEV 9-11)
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Length :30 :60 2:00 5:00

WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

Description or Script: Attached or on Reverse side



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Welcome, Lee! [Log Out]

Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Thursday ANS - 6/15/2023 › B5 Burke Mtn Sale

Versions

1. 6/15/2023 4:27:10 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:42 ▾

00:00:42 at 20 ▾ characters per second

Federal court paperwork is pointing toward a possible sale later this year of the Burke Mountain Ski Resort.

The federal receiver in charge of finding a buyer for Burke says in a filing that they have received a bid.

Burke was caught up in the Kingdom Con -- along with Jay Peak -- back in 2016 when Ariel Quiros and Bill Stenger were accused of misusing more than \$200 million raised through the federal EB-5 visa program.

While state regulators allowed the resort's multi-million renovation to be completed, it has been in receivership ever since. Quiros is serving a five-year sentence and Stenger served nine months behind bars.

Burke is expected to go up for auction to the highest bidder approved by the court by the end of this year.

Last September, Pacific Group Resort bought Jay Peak at a similar auction for \$76 million.

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RADIO VERMONT GROUP

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 5 (See Cover Sheet)

WDEV-AM/FM X WCVT RVNN-7AM RVNN-8AM

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Year 2023 () Jan-Mar (X) Apr-Jun () Jul-Sep (X) Oct-Dec
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| () | Public Affairs Program | () | Interview / Caller Participation |
| () | VT Digger Reporter | () | WCAX Reporter |
| () | Public Affairs | () | Vermont Viewpoint Show (WDEV 9-11) |
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Length :30 :60 2:00 5:00

WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

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Welcome, Lee! [Log Out]

Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Wednesday ANS - 6/21/2023 › B11 Motels

Versions

1. 6/21/2023 3:38:52 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:37 ▾

00:00:37 at 20 ▾ characters per second

Lawmakers on Tuesday approved a deal to extend the motel shelter program until the spring.

The program will keep roughly two thousand unhoused Vermonters sheltered in motels until April 1, 2024, or until state officials can find alternate placements.

The new motel legislation was tacked on as an amendment to a bill overhauling Vermont's adult protective services.

It will not re-enroll people who lost motel benefits in June when the state narrowed eligibility. And it will not apply to those who fall into homelessness after July 1.

Those people will have to ask for help under the state's much stricter pre-pandemic rules.

The governor's press secretary confirmed that he will give the measure the stamp of approval.

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QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

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| () Public Affairs | () Vermont Viewpoint Show (WDEV 9-11) |
| () On-Location Report(s) | () Weekly Reporter _____ |
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Length :30 (X) :60 2:00 5:00

WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

Description or Script: Attached or on Reverse side

New Text Document

The state of Vermont has rejected a proposal from the city of Burlington to turn the state's Cherry Street office building into a homeless shelter.

The Scott administration announced earlier this year it wanted to sell the building as part of a plan to consolidate state government. In the wake of the pandemic, much of the workforce based there is now working remotely.

Burlington Mayor Miro Weinberger asked the state if the city could turn part of the building into a temporary low-barrier congregate shelter for 50 adults. He told WCAX he learned this week the answer is "No."

070123SOT Miro Weinberger

Weinberger says the city will continue to look at other options for a temporary shelter as it deals with a surge in homeless people exiting the state hotel program. He says if the state does move to sell the building, the city actually has the right of first refusal to purchase it.

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Length :30 (X) :60 2:00 5:00

WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

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Welcome, Lee! [Log Out]

Script Editor

Radio Vermont > Friday ANS - 6/30/2023 > B7 Homeless Extension

Versions

1. 6/30/2023 4:39:37 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:39 ▾

00:00:39 at 20 ▾ characters per second

Governor Phil Scott Thursday signed a bill to wind down the hotel-motel program and find permanent shelter for those who need it.

The plan extends emergency housing for about 1,200 households and sets new requirements for people in the program.

It redirects millions of dollars for mobile homes and rehabbing old units, and puts sweeping zoning reforms on the fast track to encourage more housing.

Legislative leaders worked with the governor on the plan so they would be able to muster the votes to override his veto on the state budget.

(063023SOT Phil Scott 2)

The governor noted there were a number of his priorities that made it into the bill, which is also tied to a sweeping housing bill, and represents the first time that Democratic leaders compromised with the administration this year.

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QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

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Length :30 :60 2:00 5:00

WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

Description or Script: Attached or on Reverse side

New Text Document

A month after the first wave of evictions from Vermont's emergency hotel--motel program, Burlington officials say shelters are full and as many as 70 people a night are sleeping outside.

Ronnie Bevins tells WCAX NEWS he has seen the number of people who are in a similar situation increase since he's been without shelter for about six weeks, sleeping around Callahan Park.

(062823SOT Ronnie Bevins 1)

Burlington city official Sarah Russell tells WCAX say they are actively trying to track how many people are sleeping outside and believe that it has increased from about 40 earlier this year to now more than 70.

(062823SOT Sarah Russell)

The Howard Street Outreach Team has five members who are trying to help people who are struggling. Team leader Tammy Boudah says a variety of factors including substance use, and mental health, are barriers to stable shelter.

(062823SOT Tammy Boudah)

Outreach teams in Burlington are trying to connect unsheltered people with available resources.

The city says they've been able to successfully house about 25 people a month through the Coordinated Entry System.