

Vermont Public Radio - VPR News

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Quarterly Issues / Program List

3rd Quarter - July 1, 2019 to September 30, 2019

The Community Issues listed in this section of the report aired during local VPR newscasts. This listing is illustrative of the programs aired on VPR and is not meant to be an exhaustive listing of programs responsive to issues of importance to the community. A daily programming and local newscast schedule is provided at the end of this report.

Issue	VPR News - Story Narratives	Air Date(s) & Length
Agriculture	A decade ago, Vermont lawmakers found themselves scrambling to respond to dropping milk prices. They wanted a more proactive way to strengthen Vermont's food and farm economy, and settled on a law they called the Farm-to-Plate Investment Program. The initial goal was to double the percentage of dollars spent on local food. Now 10 years later, we ask: did it work? Broadcast during All Things Considered.	Broadcast 9/10 at 4:50pm, 8 mins 39 sec
Agriculture	Author Jason Wilson joins Vermont Edition to talk about his new book <i>The Cider Revival: Dispatches From The Orchard</i> and discuss the apples, orchards, growers and ciders taking root in Vermont, New England and beyond. we'll hear from Steve Wood, owner of Farnum Hill Ciders and Poverty Lane Orchards in Lebanon, New Hampshire, about his decades growing cider apples and sharing his knowledge — and cuttings — with other orchardists. Broadcast during Vermont Edition.	Broadcast on 9/5 at noon and 7pm. 35 mins, 35 sec
Arts / Culture	Two sisters. Both under age 15. Both talented pianists. And both juggling being kids with becoming master musicians. As part of VPR's summer series <i>Young At Art</i> , we meet the Upper Valley's Roxane and Maxine Park. Broadcast during Morning Edition and All Things Considered.	Broadcast on 8/25 at 7:50am and 4:50pm. 6 mins, 9 sec
Arts / Culture	Singer-songwriter Anaïs Mitchell's career began in Vermont, and has since been on a long and windy path around the world. Most recently, it's landed her on Broadway, where her folk opera <i>Hadestown</i> won eight Tony Awards this year. As Mitchell prepares for a solo tour, she told Vermont Edition about her musical journey.	Broadcast on 9/18 at noon and 7pm. 36 mins 46 sec
Business / Economics	In recent years, the state has put a lot into upgrading infrastructure at the Northeast Kingdom International Airport, in Coventry. But those improvements were made in conjunction with expected private sector developments in the region which never happened. Despite that, has the airport seen a boom in business? Broadcast during All Things Considered.	Broadcast on 9/12 at 4:50. 6mins 36 sec

Business / Economics	Economic indicators paint a pretty rosy picture for the country and for Vermont. Take record low unemployment for instance. So how does that translate for the average Vermonter to buy a home or pay rent? To pay for food and clothing? Or send kids to school or child care? We'll hear how Vermonters are faring while the economy appears to be robust. Broadcast on Vermont Edition.	Broadcast on 8/8 at noon and 7pm, 34 mins 14 sec
Education and Schools	A merger plan between Vermont's Marlboro College and University of Bridgeport, in Connecticut, was put on ice Friday. Marlboro College announced on its website that the institutions suspended those negotiations "due to concerns around the sustainability of a merged institution." The news from Marlboro College comes at a time when many small colleges in New England are struggling financially and competing for a shrinking pool of students. Three Vermont colleges have closed thus far in 2019: College of St. Joseph, Green Mountain College and Southern Vermont College. Broadcast during All Things Considered.	Broadcast on 9/16 at 4:44. 4 mins 43 sec
Education and Schools	Summer vacation is winding down and students will soon head back to school, but does a long summer holiday still make sense for students today? Vermont Edition hosted the discussion on how the summer break affects learning, achievement, independent reading and more. Broadcast during Vermont Edition.	Broadcast 8/19 at noon and 7pm, 33 mins, 55 sec
Health Care / Public Health	State officials say a dramatic increase in treatment services for opioid use disorder has mostly eliminated waitlists for Vermonters trying to get into recovery, but some active opioid users in Brattleboro say they continue to face barriers to care. Broadcast during Morning Edition.	Broadcast on 7/8 at 7:50 am, 7 mins 32 sec
Health Care / Public Health	With the recent approval of double-digit rate hikes for the state's two major health care insurers — Blue Cross/Blue Shield and MVP Health Care — by the Green Mountain Care Board, many in Vermont are concerned. During this Vermont Edition we hear about what's driving these cost increases and some possible solutions for reigning in the rising cost of health care.	Broadcast on 9/6 at noon and 7pm. 43 mins 41 sec
Politics and Government	There aren't any statewide political races in Vermont this year, but a group of soup makers in Windham County is actively engaged in this November's election. "Be the Change Corn Chowder" is this month's soup selection from the Southern Vermont Sister District Project, a group that came together soon after the 2016 presidential election. Broadcast during Morning Edition.	Broadcast on 9/19 at 7:44 am. 3 mins 44 sec
Politics and Government	The number of refugees entering the U.S. has fallen dramatically in the last three years: from roughly 85,000 refugees entering the country in 2016 to fewer than 30,000 people this year. The number of refugees resettling in Vermont has shrunk to roughly a third of what it was three years ago. This Vermont Edition episode discusses changes to the country's refugee policies and how it affects the refugees coming to Vermont, the families they leave behind and the nonprofits and agencies helping them resettle. Broadcast on Vermont Edition	Broadcast on 9/23 at 12pm and 7pm. 30 min, 28 sec