

Vermont Public Radio - VPR News

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Quarterly Issues / Program List

1st Quarter - January 1, 2019 to March 31, 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	Farmers needing government loans confront empty offices and unanswered calls as the partial government shutdown drags into the fourth week. State officials are also concerned that the shutdown will result in a delay in developing a program designed to help struggling dairy farmers. Broadcast during Morning Edition.	1/14/19 at 8:44 a.m. 3 mins 1 sec
Agriculture	After four years of low milk prices — which has led to the loss of dozens of Vermont dairy farms — experts say to expect little improvement in 2019. As the downward spiral continues, policymakers are increasingly looking for ways to control the milk supply to stop the price freefall. Broadcast during All Things Considered.	2/26/19 at 5:44 p.m. 2 mins 46 sec
Arts / Culture	Vermont author Lindsey Stoddard has something in common with Rain, the narrator of her new young adult novel Right As Rain. Like the young girl whose life is uprooted when she abruptly moves from Vermont to New York City's Spanish Harlem neighborhood, Stoddard has experienced a similar locale change as well. Broadcast during Morning Edition.	3/14/19 at 7:44 a.m. 5 mins 33 sec
Arts / Culture	Can the Holocaust be funny? That's the premise of The Last Laugh, a documentary film that features Holocaust survivors, as well as Jewish comedians, trying to answer that question. It screened at the University of Vermont, followed by a panel discussion with some of the filmmakers, who we spoke with for this piece. Broadcast during Morning Edition.	2/15/19 at 8:44 a.m. 5 mins
Business / Economics	Report Finds Economic Opportunity In Shrinking Vermont's Carbon Footprint: A new report says Vermont's greenhouse gas pollution is increasing and that aggressive action is needed to curb emissions from heating and transportation. Broadcast during All Things Considered	3/7/19 at 5:44 p.m. 3 mins 19 sec

Business / Economics	During his 2016 presidential campaign, Sen. Bernie Sanders compiled a list of roughly 2.5 million people who donated more than \$230 million to his campaign. The average contribution was only \$27. As Sanders begins his second presidential bid, he's counting on this distinctive fundraising strategy to help him secure the 2020 nomination. Broadcast during Morning Edition.	3/7/19 at 7:44 a.m. 5 mins 22 sec
Education and Schools	There's been a lot of focus on the school districts that are fighting forced mergers, and what they would do about passing a budget this year. But even in the districts that have successfully merged, Act 46 churned up some strong emotions on Town Meeting Day. Broadcast during Morning Edition.	3/6/19 at 8:44 a.m. 4 mins 4 sec
Education and Schools	Small colleges in Vermont and around the country are struggling to fill classrooms and remain viable. Meanwhile, Sterling College is attracting students from across the country and around the globe to its Northeast Kingdom campus to take classes offered by its School of the New American Farmstead. Broadcast during Weekend Edition Saturday.	1/11/19 8:45 a.m. 4 mins 31 sec
Health Care / Public Health	The Agency of Natural Resources wants to test all of Vermont's drinking water for five per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), and the agency said it will begin a rulemaking process to add the five chemicals to the list of contaminants that all public drinking water suppliers must monitor on a regular basis. Broadcast during Morning Edition.	1/28/19 at 7:44 a.m. 5 mins
Health Care / Public Health	Over the last year, about a dozen involuntary psychiatric patients have filed legal arguments claiming it is unconstitutional to make them wait in hospital emergency rooms for a treatment bed. When psychiatric patients are deemed a threat to themselves or others and then refuse treatment, the state can force them to receive treatment against their will. But a shortage of inpatient beds means many have to wait in the ER for days to receive care. Broadcast during Morning Edition.	3/11/19 at 7:20 a.m. 6 min, 53 sec
Politics and Government	The parents of a 23-year-old man who committed suicide last December are asking lawmakers to create a waiting period for gun purchases in Vermont. Broadcast during All Things Considered.	2/28/19 at 5:44 p.m. 4 mins 22 sec
Politics and Government	Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders held his first campaign rally to launch his bid for the 2020 Democratic presidential primary in his home city of Brooklyn, New York. In his speech, he also leaned into his Brooklyn roots. So, how does this play to Vermonters?	3/11/19 at 7:44 a.m. 5 mins 54 sec