Celebrating Five Years
Of Investigative Journalism In Vermont

3,587 ARTICLES
33,383 READER COMMENTS
4,929,491 PAGE VIEWS
116,500 UNIQUE MONTHLY VISITORS
INFORMATION IS POWER

VTDigger is a nonprofit online news daily dedicated to public-service journalism. We cover Vermont politics, consumer affairs, business, education, energy, the environment and other matters of public concern. Our objective is to publish news that makes complex public issues accessible, holds government accountable and gives readers opportunities to become educated and engaged participants in their governing institutions.

Who Owns VTDigger?

Founded in 2009, VTDigger is a project of the Vermont Journalism Trust, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. VTDigger is supported by foundation grants, business underwriting, and individual contributions from members.

News Stories by Category

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Business &amp; Economy</th>
<th>Courts &amp; Corrections</th>
<th>Commentary</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Energy</th>
<th>Health Care</th>
<th>News Briefs</th>
<th>People &amp; Places</th>
<th>Politics</th>
<th>Environment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VTDigger is filling a critical gap in the changing landscape of Vermont journalism.

At a time when daily newspapers in Vermont continue to experience declines in revenue, forcing staff reductions and limiting coverage of public policy and politics, VTDigger continues to see its readership grow.

Our mission is to provide free, accessible news reporting that holds government accountable and to offer a platform that broadens the scope of civic debate in Vermont.

In 2014 we saw a 35% increase in site traffic to over 116,000 unique visitors each month, up from 86,000 each month last year.

We attribute our growth to several factors: the quality of our news reporting, the fact that it is freely accessible without paywalls or subscriptions, and the disruptive impact of the internet. As coverage in traditional media declines, we’ve learned that citizens want to know about the inner workings of state government.

As a nonprofit online news daily, we’re also forging an entirely different business model, while providing an essential public service to our readers. Our work is made possible from the tremendous support we receive from individual donors, underwriters, and foundations.

Thank you for your support of our mission and our work.

From the Executive Director

2014 Staff and Interns

Executive Director & Editor: Anne Galloway
Publisher: Diane Zeigler
Associate Publisher: Phayvanh Luekhamhan
Assignment Editor: Tom Brown
Copy Editors: Cate Chant, Joanna May
Reporters: John Herrick, Laura Krantz, Hilary Niles, Morgan True
Interns: Anna Abrams, George Aldrich, Cory Dawson, Aly Furber, Katie Jickling, Isabelle Monticolombi, Alex Stetter

2014 HIGHLIGHTS

DONATIONS (members): 76% increase

UNDERWRITERS (advertisers): 45% increase

READERSHIP: 35% increase

PUBLISHED STORIES: 38% increase

READER COMMENTS: 41% increase

DAILY DIGGER: (email list subscribers): 122% increase
Vermont Journalism Trust
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VTDigger is a project of the Vermont Journalism Trust, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting investigative journalism in Vermont.
2014 Most Popular News Stories

VT First State To Call For Constitutional Convention To Get Money Out Of Politics
58,683 page views, 86 comments

Zuckerman Introduces Marijuana Legislation Bill
19,450 page views, 34 comments

Exclusive: Jay Peak Loses Trust Of First EB-5 Investors
17,146 page views, 49 comments

St. Johnsbury Toddler Death Third In 3 Months Involving DCF Contact
12,313 page views, 22 comments

Single Payer Financing Likely To Start With 8 Percent Payroll Tax
11,998 page views, 260 comments

VT Law School Professor Cheryl Hannah Dies at 48
10,654 page views, 6 comments

Vaccinated Kids Account For 90 Percent of Whooping Cough Cases in VT
8,616 page views, 118 comments

What You Need To Know About The Hands-Free Cellphone Law
7,839 page views, 7 comments

Analyst, Economist Weigh Potential of IBM Sale to GlobalFoundries
7,804 page views, 7 comments

Community Fears History Will Repeat Itself at Q Burke Mountain
7,779 page views, 6 comments

Our Media Partners

VTDigger distributes stories to the following media outlets, which are a critical component of our revenue model.

Addison Independent
Bennington Banner
Berkshire Eagle
Brattleboro Reformer
Colchester Sun
County Courier
Essex Reporter
Manchester Journal
Mountain Times
St. Albans Messenger
Stowe Reporter
Valley News
Vermont Business Magazine
Waterbury Record
WDEV Radio

Nonprofit, Non-Partisan News

VTDigger does not promote or support any political ideology.

Our objective is to hold public officials accountable and to help readers understand what's really going on in state government.
SPECIAL REPORT -
What Went Wrong With
The State’s Health Care
Exchange, And Why
by Morgan True

The dysfunctional Vermont Health Connect website has burned up some of the Shumlin administration’s political capital and could jeopardize millions in ongoing federal funding for health care in Vermont.

“We knew from the beginning that it would be a really big and complex project and that the date given by the federal timeline of Oct. 1 was a pretty big stretch,” said Lindsey Tucker, the lead project manager for Vermont Health Connect.

But Tucker said she was confident the state could deliver.

That optimism, reflected in rosy scenarios painted by the governor and Mark Larson, the commissioner of the Department of Vermont Health Access, has been characteristic of what one person familiar with the planning process, who spoke with VTDigger on condition of anonymity, described as “a lack of realism.”

Read the full story at:
http://vtdigger.org/2014/03/16/special-report-went-wrong-states-health-care-exchange/

A SENSE OF BETRAYAL:
EB-5 Investors Go Public
by Anne Galloway

A group of EB-5 investors says they are growing increasingly frustrated with Northeast Kingdom developer Bill Stenger and are speaking out publicly for the first time.

The group of 20 investors in the Tram Haus development at Jay Peak Resort, question whether Stenger had the right to change the terms of their original investment and whether the new financial deal imposed by Jay Peak is as good. They also claim Stenger has withheld financial information they say they are entitled to under state law and that state officials are not doing enough to protect their interests.

Read the full story at:
http://vtdigger.org/2014/10/22/sense-betrayal-eb-5-investors-go-public/

BURLINGTON COLLEGE
In Fight For Survival
by Laura Krantz

The fate of Burlington College remains uncertain. The school is running on fumes as it attempts to strike a deal with real estate developer Eric Farrell, who wants to build 20 private homes and 500 housing units on a large portion of the 32-acre property located on Lake Champlain.

While proponents say the deal with Farrell will eliminate much of the college’s debt and potentially save the school, critics believe cash from the land deal won’t be enough to bring Burlington College back into solvency.

Read the full story at:
http://vtdigger.org/2014/08/28/increased-enrollment-way-save-burlington-college-president-says/
HALFWAY HOTELS -
Vermont’s Quick Fix for Homelessness

Laura Krantz and Cory Dawson report on the Department of Children and Families’ practice of using housing vouchers for Vermont’s homeless, which often places families in unsanitary and unsafe circumstances:

You check into your motel, plop down and the bed crinkles. You pull back a cigarette-burned bedspread, threadbare sheets, and find a bed-bug infested mattress wrapped in plastic and duct tape.

The carpet smells like dog urine. From across the parking lot, other guests stare. And you may have to live in this room for 28 days.

This is the story of Sara Bowen and her family’s first journey into homelessness, which began with 10 days in the shabby Budget Inn in Barre last month.

And it is the story of thousands of homeless Vermonters that the Department for Children and Families houses each year in motels from Newport to Brattleboro.

Read the full story at: http://vtdigger.org/investigations/halfway-hotels/

---

SPECIAL REPORT: State and Entergy Remain At Odds
by John Herrick

The Shumlin administration declared victory in December when Entergy agreed to dismantle the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant in as few as 15 years, but the settlement did not address the most pressing question at hand: How will the company pay to tear it down?

Even if the state does leverage the power it has to return the site to greenfields as soon as safely possible, questions linger over the true cost to decommission the plant.

“Our concern is that they haven’t provided a realistic estimate of what those costs would be,” said Chris Campany, executive director of the Windham Regional Commission. Read the full story at: http://vtdigger.org/2014/03/02/special-report-dismantling-vermont-yankee/

SPECIAL REPORT: Wind’s Role In VT’s Energy Future
by John Herrick

The appetite for building wind projects in Vermont has tapered off in recent years.

Wind opponents say Vermont’s ridgelines — where all the state’s utility-scale projects are located — are ecologically sensitive areas threatened by such development. Critics also cite the health and aesthetic impacts of windmills.

But Gov. Peter Shumlin has made it clear that his administration wants to fight climate change by harnessing all the available resources Vermont has to offer, including the wind. And public surveys indicate that, overall, Vermonters support building projects in-state. Read the full story at: http://vtdigger.org/2014/08/10/special-report-winds-role-vermonts-energy-future/
VTDigger’s data projects take publicly owned datasets and make them aggregable, usable and understandable so that citizens can draw conclusions from available facts.

We support our news stories with data analysis and reporting, and build out accessible databases such as those listed below.

**Campaign Finance Database**

The most comprehensive dataset of money in Vermont politics, VTDigger’s Campaign Finance Database is the only public database with historic and aggregated data for all election cycles since 2009.

Currently, it displays and aggregates donations to candidates who reported contributions over $100 during that period. It also displays connections between donors and businesses.

In the future, the database will present connections between PACs, businesses, donors and candidates. We are now seeking donations for this phase of the project.

At no cost to taxpayers, users can now easily search for donors and candidates by name, quickly retrieve aggregated totals over time, and explore connections between donors.

The first phase of this project was made possible with funding from the Lintilhac Foundation, the Ethics & Excellence in Journalism Foundation, and the individual members of VTDigger.

**Legislator Lookup and Bill Tracker**

This interactive database makes it easy to find out who your lawmakers are, what bills they sponsored and how they voted.

Users can search by name, district, party or simply type your address in the search box to generate a list of your representatives and senators.

Watch a video to learn more about this project at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTHRBp8ns0A

Interns Aly Furber and Alex Stetter also contributed to this project.

VTDigger Interns

VTDigger Intern Anna Abrams

Phase One of our Campaign Finance Database was made possible by the energetic work by Montpelier High School interns, including Anna Abrams, featured above, and George Aldrich, featured below.

VTDigger Intern George Aldrich

Interns Aly Furber and Alex Stetter also contributed to this project.
**Balance Sheet Comparison**
for the years ended December 31, 2014 (Pending Review) and 2013 (Reviewed)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>2014 (Pending Review)</th>
<th>2013 (Reviewed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td>$ 249,930</td>
<td>$ 186,343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Assets</td>
<td>8,787</td>
<td>5,573</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>258,717</strong></td>
<td><strong>191,916</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
<td>$ 41,512</td>
<td>$ 30,738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Equity</td>
<td>217,205</td>
<td>161,181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</strong></td>
<td><strong>258,717</strong></td>
<td><strong>191,916</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Income and Expense Statement Comparison**
for the years ended December 31, 2014 (Pending Review) and 2013 (Reviewed)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$ 186,100</td>
<td>$ 198,021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>166,038</td>
<td>94,514</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News &amp; Other Revenue</td>
<td>37,052</td>
<td>11,319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Underwriting</td>
<td>279,808</td>
<td>194,712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 668,998</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 498,565</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Administration</td>
<td>$ 43,845</td>
<td>$ 24,955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td>464,427</td>
<td>343,918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>114,851</td>
<td>92,393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 623,124</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 461,266</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| NET INCOME                  | $ 45,874             | $ 37,299        |

*This financial summary is unaudited and pending review by VJT accountants. Fully reviewed financial statements are available upon request.*
2014 Revenue Sources

- Grants 27.4%
- Donations 24.4%
- News and Other Revenue 5.4%
- Underwriting 41.8%

2014 Expenses

- Program Expense 74.5%
- General Administration 7%
- Fundraising 18.4%
# 2014 Financial Supporters

## Foundations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$37,500</td>
<td>Miami Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>The Permanent Fund For Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>Johnson Family Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>GDS Legacy Foundation, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>J. Warren and Lois McClure Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$14,000</td>
<td>Tulgey Wood Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Lintilhac Foundation, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>High Meadows Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>Acorn Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>John Kern &amp; Valerie Hurley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,800</td>
<td>Keelan Family Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>Norman J. and Doris Fisher Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>Hinda and Joel Miller Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>Morris and Bessie Altman Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>Ruth and Peter Metz Family Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$720</td>
<td>Wayne and Deborah Granquist Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$500</td>
<td>Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$500</td>
<td>Simon/Gannon Family Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$400</td>
<td>Ben &amp; Jerry’s Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$200</td>
<td>Edwin I. Colodny Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$200</td>
<td>Zephyr Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$175</td>
<td>Klein Fox Family Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100</td>
<td>Clark Family Trust</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Benefactors Circle

**$5,000 Plus**

- Mary and Tom Evslin
- Mark Johnson

## Champions $1000-$2000

- George Burrill
- Chelsea Green Publishing
- David Coates
- Kevin Ellis and Kimberly Hackett
- Maxwell King
- ELAC-LCA, PLC
- Charles Lacy and Gaye Symington
- Cheryl Galloway Logsdon
- Bill Mares and Christine Hadsel
- Carol and Paul Ode
- Bill & Ruth Porter
- Carin F. Pratt
- Mathew Rubin
- Ina Smith and Thomas P. Johnson
- Dr. Jerry Stein
- Steve Terry
- Vermont Coffee Company
- Vermont HITEC
- VT Transco LLC

## Patrons $500-$999

- Dona Bate
- Sara Cady

## Believers $250-$499

- Margaret K. Arthur and Alan W. Cheever
- BBS Gaming
- Bethany and Brian Bishop
- Deborah Brighton
- Warren Buckles
- John F. Buddington & Kathryn Gohl
- Butternut Mountain Farm
- Kathryn Callaghan
- John Canning
- David R. Chipman
- Betsy and Daniel Chodorkoff

---

*VTDigger provides accurate results that make it a site I can go back to time and again as a comprehensive archive of Vermont’s most important public policy debates.*

Anthony Iarrapino, Montpelier

"There is simply no other VT news outlet that compares. Even when I’m on vacation, I still read the headlines to keep my pulse on what’s happening. Thanks for all of the long hours you put in, the head scratching, deadline sprints. We value what you all do.*

Kim Greenwood, Duxbury
Frank Cioffi
BElieverS $250-$499

Lucy and Stuart Comstock-Gay
Concept 2
Diane Derby
William and Leonora Dodge
Kirby Dunn
Ellis Mills Public Affairs
John and Crista Gannon
Barbara and Richard Heilman
Thomas B. Hyde
T. R Jackson
JB Kennedy Associates, LLC
Jane Kast
Warren B. King, TTEE
Douglas Kirtz and Mary Durling
Missy Kraus
Robert Lorenz
Paul Lorenzini
Mary and Evan MacEwan
MacNeil Building
James H. Maroney, Jr.
Marguerite Mason
John McLaughry
Charles & Rebecca Moore
Wendy and Robert Morgan
Jessica Oski
Tom Pelham
Kinni Perot
Ernest Pomerleau
Ann and James Rademacher
John Reilley
Pat Robins
John D. Shullenberger, Esq.

VTDigger has established itself as the go-to site for in-depth coverage about Vermont policy issues. I’m proud to be a donor.

Jessica Oski, Burlington
Peter Yankowski
Peter and Rosemary Zamore
Bob and Patricia Zelliff

SUPPORTERS $100-$249

AARP Vermont
Michael and Marion Abajian
Action Circles
David N. Adair, Jr.
Edward Adrian
Ron Alderman
Allegro Property Management
Darren M. Allen
Stephen Allen
Representative Janet Ancel
David M. Anderson
Noreen P. and Peter H. Anderson
Meredith Angwin
Associated General Contractors
Dana Atkinson
Senator Claire Ayer and Dr. Alan Ayer

My wife and I were excited to receive our Digger hat, but looks like we have another fan in the house! We start everyday by reading your email. We love your coverage - keep up the great work.”

Gordon and Debbie Winters, Swanton

Laura Soares
Heidi Spear and Seth Henry
Roger and Katharine Stone
Robert A. Summers and Orly Yadin
SunCommon
Robert and Susan Titterton
Vermont Business Roundtable
William Shouldice & Associates, LLC
Representative Jeffrey D. Wilson and Jacquelyne W. Wilson
The Woods

Back to the Land, LLC
Evelyn Bailey
Todd K. and Lauren M. Bailey
Elizabeth Bankowski
Bannon Engineering
Michael and Judy Barone
William Barrette and Christine Lilyquist
Pennie Beach
Philip Beard
Helen M. Beattie and Brendan Buckley

David Beatty
Peter and Marjorie Behr
Ian Bender
Peter T. Bennett
Mary Helen Bentley and Katrin Tchana
Michael Bernhardt
Brenda Bisbee
William C. and Emily L. Boedecker
Hans Boerma
Clara J. Bond
Seth Bongartz
Robert Botjer
Representative William G. F. Botzow and Ruth Botzow
Joseph Boutin
Jennifer Boyer
Kenneth and Kathryn Boyle
Michael Boylen
Kym Boyman, M.D.
Rosalea Bradley
Representative Carolyn Branagan and Christopher Branagan
Al Brisard & Julie Mountain
Benjamin Bristoll
Christopher & Constance Brown
Conchessa M. Brownell
Paul Bruhn
David Bryan
David Brynn
Clare Buckley
Thomas A. Buckley and Prudence J. Doherty
Henry Busetti and Dee Reever
Mark Bushnell and Susan Clark
Alden Cadwell
J. Scott and Cathy Cameron
Gina Campoli and John Brodhead
Alan and Patricia Cantor
Capital Connections LLC
Anna Carey
Laura Carlsmith
Robert Carnwath
David Carris
Thomas Cecere
Bill Cinnamon
Richard Clark and Janet Clapp
Brenda Clarkson and Brian Fitzgerald
VTDigger is filling a huge and important niche in Vermont journalism.

Robert J. Rosenthal
Center for Investigative Reporting, California

VTDigger is one of the few sources for in-depth coverage of the political issues we face in Vermont. Thank you for all you do to keep us informed!

Joy Limoge, Williston
Supporters $100-$249

Kenneth Johnson
Representative William F. Johnson
and Ursula S. Johnson
Barry Kade
Ronald Keen
Paul L. Kendall and Sharon K. Rives
Kennedy Brothers
Richard Kenney
Matthew and Mary Kenny
John R. Killacky and
Lawrence Connolly
Deborah G. Kimbell
Susan Kimmerly and
Marcel Rocheleau
Senator Martha B. Kitchel
Representative Warren Kitzmiller
Frances and Sidney Knibb
Representative Patti Komline
Jennifer Kravitiz
David Krolick
Connie Krosney
Governor Madeleine M. Kunin
and John Hennessey
Margaret Laggis
Lake Shore Drive Shopping Plaza
David C. and Kathryn B. Larsen
James Lavoie
Gregory Leech and Amy Golodetz
Andrea Lemon
Rachel Levin
Joy Limoge
Buff Lindau
Sandra Lindberg
Thomas Little
Ann Livingston
Robin Lloyd

VTDigger represents a new form of journalism, one that conducts dialogue with its readers, publishes opinion that is not rant, and allows open discussion between the commenters. Keep it up!

John Perry, St. Johnsbury

Bill Lockwood
Roberta MacDonald
Brian Machesney
Stephanie Machia
Thomas and Charlotte MacLeay
Erhard Mahnke
Lynn M. Mansfield

Madeline Mongan and
Kirby Scarborough
Representative John Moran
Robert Morgan
Marybeth Morrissey
Jim & Gretchen Morse
Lauren Moye

Carole Naquin and Stephen B. Sease
Robert Naylor
William New
Tim Newcomb
Dr. Margaret Newton
Next Step Consulting LLC
Northshire Bookstore
Representative Betty Nuovo and
Victor Nuovo
Karen Nystrom Meyer
Kevin O’Connor
Meg H. O’Donnell
Susan and Hans Ohanian
Janice Ohlsson
Jill Maza Olson
Otis & Kennedy, LLC
Candace Page
Edward Paquin
Faith Parker
Representative Avram Patt
Mary W. Peacock
Anthony Pellegrino
Representative Peter Peltz
and Cacky Peltz
Joe Perrotto and Sarah Bunker
PEW Charitable Trusts Employee Matching Gifts Program
Aimee E. Picchi and Peter S. Dodds
Ned Pike
Stephen Pilcher
Elke Pinn
Heather Pipino
George E. Plumb
Susan Polk
Senator Anthony Pollina and
Deborah Wolf
Willem Post
Thomas Powell
Ron and Sarah Pulcer
Dr. Allan and Ann T. Ramsay
Brent Raymond
Anthony Redington
Mark and Marybeth Redmond
Sheila Reed
Renaissance Development Company

Kate Fox, Arlington

Representative Ann P. Manwaring
Theodore Marcy and
Kimberly Hornung-Marcy
Susan Marks
Representative Cynthia T. Martin
John McAllister
Scott Mc Ardle
Diana McCorma
Louise McCarren
Dr. Daniel P. McCauliffe
David McColgin
Elaine McCrate
Kevin McGrath
Steve McKenzie
David McLean
Marilyn McQuaide
Steven A. Merrill
Susan Mesner
Carole F. Meyers
Joel and Carol Miller
Keith Milne
Sue Minter
John Mitchell
David Moakley

VTDigger provides the quality, unbiased, and measured coverage that is sorely needed to help Vermonters navigate our changing world.

Kate Fox, Arlington

Representative Ann P. Manwaring
Theodore Marcy and
Kimberly Hornung-Marcy
Susan Marks
Representative Cynthia T. Martin
John McAllister
Scott Mc Ardle
Diana McCorma
Louise McCarren
Dr. Daniel P. McCauliffe
David McColgin
Elaine McCrate
Kevin McGrath
Steve McKenzie
David McLean
Marilyn McQuaide
Steven A. Merrill
Susan Mesner
Carole F. Meyers
Joel and Carol Miller
Keith Milne
Sue Minter
John Mitchell
David Moakley
Supporters $100-$249

Don Rendall  
Virginia Renfrew  
Antonia Richie  
Sheila Rochefort  
David Rogers  
Michael and Maria Roosevelt  
William Roper and Barbara Ganley  
Peter Rothschild  
Peter Rousmaniere  
Robert Rovella  
James Rude  
Mike Ryan  
Rebecca L and Terrance C. Ryan  
Representative Marjorie Ryerson  
John and Suzanne Sales  
Alice R. Sargent  
Dick and Karen Saudek  
Representative Brian K. Savage and Lynn B. Savage  
Lisa Scagliotti  
Ted Scatchard  
Lisa Schatz  
Robin & Edward Scheu  
Arthur W. Schmidt, Jr. and Elizabeth M. Schmidt  
Rama Schneider  
David Schoales  
Bill and Kate Schubart  
Jan Schultz and Sue Burton  
Lieutenant Governor Philip Scott  

Merry Shernock  
Kitty Shumlin  
Wendy Simpers  
Curtis Sinclair  
Senator Michael Sirotkin  
David Sleigh  
Representative Harvey Smith  
Meg A. Smith  
Steven Smith  
William Smith  
John Snell  
Mark Snelling  
Paul E. Soboleski  
J. Paul Sokal  
Peter Sterling and Andrea Proulx  
Keith Stern  
Stuart Stevens  
Representative William C. Stevens and  

Herbert G. Ogden  
Susan Tranby  
Roger Tubby  
Brian Vachon  
Rick and Kate Vanden Bergh  
Maren Vasatka and Ricky Clark  
Dr. Carol Anne Vassar  
David Vergil  
Vermont Assembly of Home Health Agencies  
Vermont Association of Conservation Districts  
Vermont Council of Developmental and Mental Health Services  
Vermont Fuel Dealers Association  
Vermont Smart Sites  
Ray and Jeanne Walker  
Dick and Ginny Walters  
Barbara K. Waters  
Thomas Watkin and Thomas Gardner  
Representative Kate Webb and Marshall Webb  
Chris Weinheimer  
Joanna Weinstock  
Carl E. Werth  
Gary West and Jay Seitz  
Rodney F. West  
Frederick Weston  
Maureen A. White  
Senator Jeanette K. White and William M. White  
Mark Whitworth  
Herbert and Catherine Wilcox  
Larry Williams  
Wendy & Charles Wilton  
Deborah and Gordon Winters  
Nancy C.B. Wright  
Dave Wolk  
Nancy E. Wood  
Michael and Valerie Wood-Lewis  
Alan Woodbury  
Joseph and Patricia Woodin  

With most newspapers cutting back on investigative reporting, VTDigger fills a vital role in bringing to light important news and analysis essential to good citizenship. I’m proud to be a supporter.

John McClaughry, Kirby

“We read and support VTDigger because it’s good old-fashioned, in-depth reporting. In an age of fierce competition for eyeballs, clicks and subscriptions, VTDigger is a beacon in the fog.”

Abby White and Christopher Curtis, Montpelier

“With most newspapers cutting back on investigative reporting, VTDigger fills a vital role in bringing to light important news and analysis essential to good citizenship. I’m proud to be a supporter.”

Abby White and Christopher Curtis, Montpelier

We read and support VTDigger because it’s good old-fashioned, in-depth reporting. In an age of fierce competition for eyeballs, clicks and subscriptions, VTDigger is a beacon in the fog.”

Abby White and Christopher Curtis, Montpelier
**SUPPORTERS $100-$249**

Woodman Hill Orchard  
Barbara Woods  
Representative Scott D. Woodward  
Art Woolf and Celeste Gaspari  
Chuck Wooster  
Steve E. Wright  
Yankee Farm Credit, ACA  
Steven Zind

**FRIENDS TO $99**

99 Enterprises, Inc  
Robert B. Abell  
Al-Iens Farm  
Kristofer Anderson  
Louise Anderson  
Aplomb Consulting  
Brian Appleberry  
Applied Standards, LLC  
Tiki Archambeau  
James Arisman  
Robin and Bob Arnell  
Judy Ashley  
Nathaniel Bacon  
Steve and Heather Bailey  
Dianne Barclay  
John Barnes  
Nadine Canter Barnicle  
Dan Barrett

---

The heart of a healthy community is active and informed civic engagement. This relies on in-depth, smart and objective journalism, which is why I support VTDigger.

George Hamilton, Montpelier

---

The quality of the reporting is top-notch, and the depth of questioning and investigation is unique in Vermont journalism.

Sylvia Fagin, Montpelier

---
As a young adult living in Vermont, I always am impressed by the objective tone of VTDigger. It’s where I go to cut through the ideological fluff and get to the facts, and it’s how I stay informed on important Vermont issues.

Hayden Dublois, Manchester Center

Richard Dana
Bonnie Dash
Anne Day
Thomas De Poy
Mary Deaett
Julie DeCuypere

Terry Edwards
Efficiency Vermont
Anne and David Elston
Energy Futures Group, Inc.
Eli Enman
Betsy and Tim Ettchells

As the sources of reliable local news keep dwindling, I find myself counting more and more on VTDigger. I’m glad I can point my students to this important resource - and want to do what I can to ensure its future.

Joyce Hendley, South Burlington

Dennis Deiters
David and Tammy Dempsey
Mary Denison
Gregory Dennis
Paul Denton
Clancy DeSmet
Representative Dennis J. Devereux
John Devir
Joseph Di Natale
Joan Rogers Dinsmore
Bettina Dold
Peter Domine
Paul Donovan
Kevin and Paula Dougherty
Neil and Vicki-Ann Downing
Senator William T. Doyle
Hayden Dublois
Robert Dubrowsky
Bethany Dunbar
Jim Duncan and Laura Dlugolecki
Clover Durfee
Mary Durfee
Jennifer Durgin
Tom and Sue Durkin

Nancy Everhart
Nancy Faesy
Sylvia Fagin
Louis E. Faire
Ned Farquhar and Janis Finelli
Wayne Fawbush and
Robert A. Harold
Carolyn J. Fenn
Jamey Fidel
Robert Fireovid
Alex Fischer
Bob Fish
James Fitzpatrick
Mitchell R. Fleischer
Lisa and Patrick Flood
Representative Margaret Flory
Flying Under Radar, LLC
Flywheel Communications
Paul Forlenza
Ellen Forsythe
Kristen Fountain
Kathryn Fox
Roger and Linda Fox
Representative William Frank
Russell Frank
Edorah Frazer
Catherine and Bill Freese
Patsy and Patrick French
Stephen Frey
Jody Fried
Kimberly Friedman and
Tom Redden
Veer Frost
Clayton Gage
Sylvia Gagne
Lillian G. Gahagan
Representative Anne L. Gallivan and
Thomas A. Gallivan
Liz Gamache
Elias Gardner
Helena Gardner
Kirk Gardner
Erica Garfin
William (David) Gerns
Ellen Gershun and William Half
VTDigger offers the coverage I need to stay current with Vermont health policy. No other VT media outlet focuses on getting the facts behind the headlines on Medicaid, insurance, single payer, and how we can afford the care we all need.

Kay Johnson, Hinesburg

I was raised in a ‘newspaper family’ and I find that VTDigger provides the in-depth coverage on statewide issues that the print media can only summarize. I love my local ‘papers’ but I rely on VTDigger to keep me informed about Statehouse issues.
I feel VTDigger gets at the heart of issues that are important for Vermonters. If I want fluff, there are endless sources for that.

Ellen Waldman, Morrisville

Walter Luchini
Phayvahn Luekhamhan
Kelly Lyons
Alex MacDonald
David A. Mace
Nicole Mace
Roderick Maclay
Sarah MacMillan and
R. Alexander Reutter
Anne Majusiak
Gabrielle Malina and Kari Bradley
Ellen Maloney
Sheila Manchester-Coniff
Lawrence Mandell
Reverend Mary Robb Mansfield
Rita Markley
David Marsters
Matt and Linda Martin
Martin Poppe Associates, LLC
Leslie Matthews

Gregory Mikkelson
Mark Milazzo
Representative Alice Miller
Bruce Miller
Johanna Miller
L. Samuel Miller
Marianne Miller and Gus Seelig
Peter Miller
Millyn Moore & Associates
Charles Minert
Katie Flanagan Mobley
Leslie Mooney
Julie Moore
Mark Moore
Bradford Morgan
Sarah Morgan
Ryan Morra
Edward Morrow
Charlie Morse
Charles and Martha Moseley
Jim Mossman
Phillip Mulligan
Barbara S. Murphy
Georgia Myer and Patrick Farmer
Jennifer Nachbur
Jane Nathan
Candace Neary
NEKTI Consulting
Christopher Nesbitt
Kathy Newbrough
Zoe Newman
Beth Newman-Place
John F. Nicholls
Dr. David A. Nichols
Mary Niebling
Janet Nielsen
John Nopper
Lauren Norford
William Northup
Karl and Patricia Novak
Peter Novick
Roberta G. Nubile
Leslie & Timothy Nulty
Tom O’Brien
Michael J. Obuchowski

Investigative journalism and reporting seems to be disappearing from our landscape but it’s alive and well at VTDigger. Please support it. Our democracy may depend on it.”

Mark Madison, Danby

Jim Libby
Steve Libby
Ken Libertoff
Bruce Lieberman
Brenda Lindemann
LineSync Architecture
Mary Lintermann
Robert A. Lloyd
Jamie Longtin
George Lovell
Phillip Lovely

Kimberly and Jon Mathewson
Mike & Merry Matukonis
Sam Mayfield
Andrea S. McAslan
Claudia McCarty
Representative Michael McCarthy
Rick McCraw
Ryan D. McLaren
Thomas McLeod
Glenn and Hollie McRae
Robert and Louise Messner

97 State St.
Montpelier, VT 05602
802.225.6224
I think the press is critical for the development of good public policy - especially those relating to the needs of working families. VTDigger does an excellent job covering issues the print media has left behind.

Julie A. Davis, Williston

Representative Constance N. Quimby
Will Raap
David and Susan Rahr
Tuck Rainwater
Margaret M. Ramsdell
Ramsey, McLaren, LLC
Richard Ratico
Dr. Ann E. Raynolds
Ed Read
Martha Real
Douglas Reaves
Alan and Wendy Regier
Rob Reiber
J Tyler and Ann K. Resch
Marvin Resnikoff
Grant C. Reynolds
Norbert and Alma Rhinerson
George and Pamela Rice
Peter Richardson
Arthur R. Richter
Deborah Richter
Cathy Rickerby
Christopher Riddell

I was once in a group that spanned the VT political spectrum, and which only agreed on two things:
1) Vermont has lost much of the excellent press coverage it once had.
2) Thank [insert your own deity] there’s VTDigger. A public which is not informed will certainly be as “stupid” as any politician would wish.

Tom Evslin, Stowe

Kimberly Pritchard
Public Press, LLC
Robert Purvis
Spencer and Fran Putnam
Susan Keese Pyatak

Heather Riemer
Tom Roberts
Wally Roberts
Allan Rodgers
Jeff Rogers

Andrew Rome
Chris Root
David H. Rosen and Carol A. Clauss
Bob Rosenfeld
Marguerite Rosenthal
Randolph Rowland
Maria Royle
Larry Rudiger and Joe Sorenson
Rural Vermont
Cindy Rutkowski
Kathleen Ryan
Linda Ryan
Michael Sabourin
Jonathan and Ann Sairs
Kaj Samsom
Sarah Saul
Fritz Schmidt
Adam Schmucker
Paula Schramm
Mia Schulz
Erik Schwarz
Karen Schwartz
Mary and Bob Schwartz
Andrea Serota and Eric Winston
Jeffrey Severson
Lila Shapero
Tyrone Shaw
Deborah Shenk
John Sherman
Nancy and Michael Sherman
Bernie Shiao
Douglas Shick
Andrew and Margaret Shinn
TJ Sibilia
Jonathan Siegel
Katherine Simpson
Frederick and Susan Skeels
Josh Sled
Ian Smiley
Susan M. Smiley
Annette Smith
Charlie Smith and Amy Mellencamp
Kim Smith and Adam Kahn
Mark Smith
Many sites today are driven by click-throughs. You know them because their articles are about 100 words long. VTDigger covers the issues that impact our lives every day. Digger’s non-partisan, non-corporate approach to news is worth supporting.

Tiki Archambeau, Burlington

Helen Toor
Representative Maida F. Townsend
Nancy Tucker
Unnamed donor via Benevity Community Impact Fund
Jo-Anne Unruh
Ruth E. Uphold and Mary Provencer
David Usher
John Valente
Steve Valentine
John Van Deren
Connie Van Eeghen
Vermont Car Company
Armando D Vilaseca
Richard and Harriet Virkstis
Mary M. and Timothy R. Volk
Konstantin von Kruisenstien
Sheila Vowinkel
Rick Wackernagle
Candelin Wahl and George Thabault
Ellen M. and Peter J. Waldman
Ruth Wallman
Jessica and Benjamin Edgerly Walsh

Joseph F. Whelan
Richard White
Katharine C. Whiteley
Richard Wickman
Kevin Wilkinson
Annabelle Williams
Derek Williams
Laura Williams
Stan Williams
John Wilmerding
Rhea Wilson and Frederic L. Levy
Rufus Winsor
Rep. Susan L. Wizowaty and J.G. Robinson
Charles Wohlers
Robert Woford
Elizabeth Wood
Daniel Woodbury
Howard Wooden
Richard Woods
Fredric Woogmaster
Alan Wooley
Robert E. and Margaret S. Woolmington
Cass and Deborah Wright
Sarah Wunsch
Elinor Yahm
Maggie York
Carol T. Young
Representative Samuel Young
Nevin Zablotsky
Patrick Zachary
Michael Zahner
Emma Zavez
Diane Zeigler and Geoff Sather
Yasmine Ziesler

Health care has been an area of particular interest to me and VTDigger’s coverage has been superb. Thank you for the contributions you make to better inform our electorate and elected officials on the important issues before us.

Joseph Boutin, Burlington

C.S and Regina Thompson
Glenn Thompson
Tim Thompson
Holly Tippett
Katie Titterton
Dorothy Tod
Brian Tokar

John S. Walters
James F. and Barbara E. Wanner
Don and Beverly Webster
Weather Hill Company, Inc.
Liz Weishaar
William and Diane Wessel
Douglas B. and Lynne Westin

We’ve done our best to acknowledge all of our FY14 donors. If we’ve missed you, please call (802) 225-6224 so we can update our records.
SPECIAL REPORT - Does Pressure To Reunify Families Lead To Tragedy?

by Laura Krantz

DCF officials say no, but in the case of slain toddler Dezirae Sheldon the rush to put a family back together ended horribly wrong.

Sandra Eastman was searching for love. With a childhood marred by violence, instability, cocaine and abuse, as an adult she wanted a peaceful family life of her own.

Eastman’s mistake, perhaps, was to let that need blind her to the threat her husband posed to her baby girl. Dennis Duby, who friends described as an angry, jealous, violent liar, is charged with Dezirae’s murder.

The events that led to the toddler’s death tell not only the story of a broken family, but also of a social services agency that is struggling to protect children of abusive parents.

Read the full story at: http://vtdigger.org/2014/07/13/special-report-can-federal-pressure-reunifying-families-lead-tragedy/
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Some of the VTDigger staff at the 2014 Independence Day parade in Montpelier

**Back row:** Cory Dawson, Morgan True, Phayvanh Luekhamhan, Tom Brown, Laura Krantz, Hilary Niles, John Herrick.

**Front Row:** Diane Zeigler, Declan Sather (volunteer Diggermobile driver), Anne Galloway.
Printing and distribution of this report was made possible with support from the Larsen Fund and The Vermont Community Foundation.