

NEWS RELEASE

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**STATE TREASURER AND VERMONT COMMISSION ON WOMEN FOUNDATION
ANNOUNCE VERMONT WOMEN & MONEY CONFERENCE**

Montpelier: Women in Vermont will have a unique opportunity to hone their money skills next month. State Treasurer Jeb Spaulding and Victoria Young, Chair of the Vermont Commission on Women and the Vermont Commission on Women's Education and Research Foundation, announced today that they will host a free, day-long Vermont Women & Money Conference on Friday, September 17th, at the Wyndham Hotel in Burlington. Registration opens at 7:30 AM that morning, with activities ending at 3:30 PM and a bonus "Meet the Experts" session that will run until 4:30 PM.

The Vermont Women & Money Conference will focus on money management, retirement planning, and investment strategies, and is free for women of all ages and economic backgrounds and all levels of financial knowledge. The program is designed to address the unique financial issues women face in their work and personal lives.

"We are excited to be bringing this comprehensive and informative program to women in Vermont," Spaulding said. "We are confident that participants will come away more knowledgeable and enriched so that they will have the tools to help secure their financial future."

The conference will offer practical advice and tools to help participants achieve their personal financial goals, and will feature a keynote session with Dee Lee. Lee is a well-known financial planner and expert for many television and radio stations across the country. She is the author of several books, including LET'S TALK MONEY and THE COMPLETE IDIOT'S GUIDE TO RETIRING EARLY. Her newest, WOMEN & MONEY: YOUR PERSONAL FINANCE GUIDE, is a book for women and about women's struggles with their finances, protecting their hard-earned assets, and developed a customized financial plan.

Other conference speakers include Christine Doreen Moriarty and Mary Jane McQuillen. Moriarty is a Certified Financial Planner with a background in accounting and small business management. In addition to her financial planning practice, she teaches classes at the University of Vermont. McQuillen is the Director of Social Research for Citigroup Asset Management. She is Vice-Chair of the Social Investment Committee, an affiliate group of the New York Society of Security Analysts (NYSSA).

In addition, there will be sessions on developing a personal and family budget, life changes, retirement, investments, and debt management.

The all-day, free conference will also include a continental breakfast, lunch, and conference materials. Free day care will also be provided.

According to Young, "Women earn about 70 cents to every dollar earned by men, and two out of three working women have jobs that do not offer retirement plans. Statistics show that an overwhelming 70% of America's four million elderly poor are women." "These facts make it vital that all women become more informed and take steps to improve their financial future," Young said.

Space at the conference is limited. On-line registration or additional information is available at www.vermonttreasurer.gov, or by calling 802-828-6532.

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