

LT. GOVERNOR ZUCKERMAN NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2017

Public service is a rewarding and meaningful way to give back to your community. Serving on the Burlington Electric Commission, as a Representative, Senator and now as your Lt. Governor, has been a great honor. We need more Vermonter's to lend their time, voice, different perspective and experience to the conversation. If you are considering running to serve, you might want to attend the "How To Run For Office" conference being hosted by Vermont Law School. There is more information on the back.

OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR VERMONT HEALTH CONNECT IS NOV. 1 – DEC. 15, 2017. DURING THIS PERIOD YOU CAN SIGN-UP FOR HEALTH INSURANCE, CHANGE PLANS, OR ADD OR REMOVE DEPENDENTS.
(Additional information on back.)

Many Vermonters have been in touch with me concerning recent changes to the car inspection process. While car inspections are now tracked on a statewide database, the criteria for passing or failing inspection has not changed. This year, to ease the transition, thousands of Vermonters have received a "Conditional Pass" affording them an additional time to bring emission components into compliance. My efforts, working with legislators, the Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Motor Vehicles, as well as the Auto Manufacturers and Dealers, will continue to ensure Vermonters are aware of extended warranty options and make certain there are resources available to ensure our most vulnerable are able to come into compliance. You can learn more about extended warranties and how to access them on the back. You will also find information on how to share your ideas for the VW Mitigation Trust Fund.

I am attending some great events throughout Vermont, you can find more details to the right or on my website. I hope to see you this fall.



(Over)

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 1

Open Enrollment for Health Insurance begins. See back.

November 10

10:00 Congressman Keith Ellison on American Politics.

Ira Allen Chapel, UVM

Tickets are free and available at the Davis Center 3rd Floor Information Desk

2:00 Solar Power Up.

Burlington Co-Housing, East Village Drive, Burlington

November 11

8:00-4:00 Vermont Crossroad Conference. Learn about major campaigns that will lead Vermont forward.

Champlain College, Burlington
www.vermontcrossroadsconference.org

9:30-3:00 How To Run For Office.

Chase Community Center, Vermont Law School, Royalton

November 14 5:00PM

"Vermont Farm Kids" a documentary presented by NOFA. Unitarian Church, 130 Main Street, Montpelier

November 16 9:00-12:00

"Central Vermont Council on Aging Annual Meeting. Charlmont Restaurant, Morrisville

**For a complete list of events please visit the calendar on our website:
www.LTGov.vermont.gov**

HOW TO RUN FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

The New Economy Law Center at the Vermont Law School is presenting a nonpartisan, free, workshop “**How To Run For Public Office**” on Saturday, November 11th from 9:30-3. Whether you’re thinking of the US Senate, Vermont Legislature, or your local school board, you are welcome to attend. Topics include Motivation, Message, Money and Mechanics. The workshop will take place at Vermont Law School, Chace Community Center in Royalton, Vermont and is free (including lunch) and open to the public. Pre-registration is requested at: <http://go.vermontlaw.edu/new-economy/session-three>

VERMONT HEALTH CONNECT

This year the window to get or make changes to your Vermont Health Connect (VHC) insurance plan is November 1 – December 15**. If you currently receive health insurance from Vermont Health Connect you must contact them to add or remove dependents, change plans, report a life change or adjust your income. If you do not connect with VHC you will automatically be re-enrolled in your current plan. For more information or to make changes call toll free 1-855-899-9600 or visit them at:

<https://portal.healthconnect.vermont.gov/VTHBELand/welcome.action>. If you are having trouble connecting with them or obtaining insurance please call the Office of the Health Care Advocate at 1-800-917-7787.**Open enrollment dates for private and employer based insurance plans may vary.

CAR INSPECTION “CONDITIONAL PASS”

In 2017 Vermont implemented an electronic data collection and management system for vehicle inspection. No changes were made to criteria for passing inspection, but for a limited time Vermonters with vehicles that fail the on board diagnostic system (OBD) portion of the inspection are being provided with a one year “Conditional Pass.” This provides motorists an additional year to complete necessary emission repairs associated with the Check Engine Light. That light only turns on when your car’s emissions are 50% or more greater than the allowable level! Currently about 14% of all vehicles exceed emission limits and negatively impact air quality in our state. Vermont law requires vehicle manufacturers to provide more extensive emission warranty coverage than required by federal law, so depending on your vehicle’s age and mileage, repairs may be covered by the vehicle’s manufacturer.

Find out if you qualify for Emissions Warranty Coverage by contacting your vehicle’s manufacturer or visiting <http://bit.ly/2m99Ek7>.

PUBLIC INPUT FOR VW MITIGATION TRUST FUND

The Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) is seeking public input on how to utilize potential VW Mitigation Funds. Funds must help to reduce emissions, demonstrate marketability of alternative fueled vehicles, and maximize public-private investment in electric charging infrastructure. You can find many more details on the potential fund, specific questions ANR is seeking input on, and learn how to submit your thoughts at: <http://dec.vermont.gov/air-quality/vw>.