

Purpose

The purpose of Out in the Mountains is to serve as a voice for lesbians, gay men, and our supporters in Vermont. We wish the newspaper to be a source of information, support and affirmation for lesbians and gay men. We also see it as a vehicle for celebration of the goodness and diversity of the lesbian and gay community.

Editorial Policy

We will consider for publication any material which broadens our understanding of our lifestyles and of each other. Views and opinions appearing in the paper do not necessarily represent those of the staff. This paper cannot, and will not endorse any candidates and actions of public officials on issues of importance to lesbians and gay men.

We will not publish any material which is overtly racist, sexist, anti-Semitic, ageist, classist, or homophobic.

All materials submitted must be signed so we can contact the author should we need to consider editorial revisions. However, within the pages of the newspaper, articles may appear anonymously, upon request, and strict confidentiality will be observed. No revisions or rejections of materials will occur without dialogue with the author.

We welcome and encourage all readers to submit materials for publication and to share your comments, criticisms, and positive feelings with us. This paper is here for you. The deadline for submitting material for each issue is the 7th of the month prior to publication.

Materials should be sent to:
Out in the Mountains
PO Box 177
Burlington, VT 05402

To Submit Articles

We encourage our readers to participate in bringing this publication to Gay and Lesbian Vermonters. Please assist us by submitting articles no longer than two double-spaced typed pages. Your submission should be received by OITM no later than the 7th of the previous month.

Thank you!

Editorial

Thinking Ahead

Over the past year U.S. citizens have been overwhelmed by politicians and political propaganda. Campaign weary Americans (U.S.) are looking forward to the final tally of votes on November 8th. However, being a responsible participant in this democracy involves more than casting a vote on election day-it involves an ongoing commitment to social justice.

Although electing progressive candidates is an essential first step in the process it is far from being the end of the road. Other essential steps are aggressive lobbying and applying political pressure. We cannot expect politicians to do our work for us. Every lesbian and gay man has a social responsibility to become involved in some way in the struggle for lesbian and gay civil

rights. The "out" members of the gay community, visibly involved in the political struggle, represent only a few of the gay people striving for social change. Many lesbians and gay men work out of the spotlight of public scrutiny. Many work behind the scenes in lobbying groups such as the Vermont Coalition of Lesbians and Gay Men and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. Others submit their anonymous testimony for state house and senate hearings on gay rights legislation. Still others phone and write their representatives.

October 11th was National Coming Out Day. Lesbians and gay men were to "take the next step" in coming out. Now in November we must think ahead to what next step we can take for lesbian and gay civil rights.

Letters from OITM Readers

To the Editor,

What is going on in the collective heads of the people of this country? Is it stupidity, insanity, brain death, or a little of each? Recent polls show that, once again, after the last presidential "debate", Bush has leapt in popularity.

We all know that the Dukakis/Benton record leaves a bad taste in our mouths, but let's examine the Bush/Quayle record. They both label themselves as conservatives which has become synonymous with rabid homophobia, fascist tendencies, white male supremacy, etc., etc.

Now let's look at them individually. Starting with Quayle: what an intellectual, eh? Is this guy smart or what? His quick

wit and powering of reasoning lead some to wonder if J. Danforth is actually the missing link incarnate. We all know that his family bought his way into every position he has ever had.

Now let's examine top-gun George. His resume is very clear: ex-director CIA, 8 years in the Ray-gun administration. Consider for a moment their response to AIDS, their slashing of all social programs, the massive increases military spending, and their foreign policy! Lest we forget their friends; Marcos, Duvalier, Noriega, Duarte, Botha, and the list goes on. With this record, Bush has the audacity to speak of a "kinder, gentler America"!

Get out and Vote on November 8!
J.B.

Walter Zeichner M. A.
Howard Russell M. A. Cand.

Are pleased to offer a 12-week

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