

Statement of Purpose

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

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, gay men, and bisexuals.

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.

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 10th of the month prior to publication.

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

How to Advertise

If you would like to run an ad in *OITM*, please contact us for rates, sizes, and information. Ad copy must be received by the 10th of the month to be included in the next month's issue. Copy can be mailed to: *OITM*, P.O. Box 177, Burlington, VT 05402, or call Ellen at (802) 860-1922.

Letters (continued)

affirmed and so versed in dealing with aggression based on who I am (not who I "choose to be," as later stated by the staff), my progress would have not just come to a screeching halt (as it did), but I would have been set back to the point of suicidality.

How can these people say that their "mental health unit" is a safe place for everyone when they clearly mean that it is safe for every *heterosexual*? It will take more than a three hour or so workshop on gay sensitivity/gay issues to make these people understand that *everyone* needs and deserves a safe place, especially in times of such crises.

Serena D. Dickson
Shelburne, Vermont

Dear *OITM*:

Thanks for existing and for distributing your newspaper through drop-spots as well as subscriptions. I had been mulling over a number of questions/doubts about my sexual orientation for several months when I happened to see a stack of *OITM* in the health food store. I hesitated briefly, then quickly (and I hope unobtrusively) stuffed one in my bag.

That was back in September, and I *think* I'm ready to subscribe now.

The October issue is probably responsible for my decision to drop you folks a line and a check. The different articles about people coming out, National Coming Out Day (I never would have guessed there

would be a day for it!), and the "Coming Out: Steps You Can Take" article pushed me a little farther along in my journey to redefine myself. Right now I'm still working on telling my cat and myself that I'm a lesbian, so the other steps will have to wait for a bit.

In the meantime, I'll eagerly await the good and not-so-good news in each *OITM*. Thanks again for being there!

Sincerely,
Jennifer

Dear *OITM*:

Thank you for the November *OITM* cover article of the Philip Morris/Bill of Rights action. It was an exciting day that saw the birth of ACT UP/VT (Aids Coalition to Unleash Power).

We are a non-partisan group of people distressed by lack of world/national/state/local attention being paid to the AIDS crisis. It is our intention to bring the crisis to the forefront of community concern and discussion where it belongs.

AIDS is a terrifying social problem, but we must not allow the fear to paralyze us from action. It is all too clear that the national and state governments do not consider the communities ravaged by AIDS (gay men, people of color, women, children, and IV drug users) of enough importance to appropriately fund AIDS education, prevention, and relief. We will
(continued on next page)

SUBSCRIBE TO OITM!

By subscribing now to *OITM*, not only will you guarantee delivery to your mailbox (in a discreet envelope, of course), but you will also help underwrite the rising costs of publishing the newspaper. We also welcome any additional contributions you can make to support our continuing existence. Checks should be made payable to *OITM* and sent, along with this form, to: *OITM*, P.O. Box 177, Burlington, Vermont 05402.

Name _____

Address _____

____ One-year (\$20) ____ Low-income (\$10) ____ Donation (\$_____)

Donations are especially welcome from those who prefer to pick up *OITM* at one of the paper's distribution points rather than be added to the mailing list.

____ Please also let us know if you'd like to get involved in the newspaper.