

Out in the Mountains
established in 1986

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To Submit Articles and Letters

We encourage and implore our readers to do what they can to make *OITM* a paper both for and by gay, lesbian, and bisexual Vermonters. Please assist us by typing your articles and letters double-spaced and including your name and phone number in case we have any questions. Your submission should be received by *OITM* no later than the 1st of the previous month. Thank you for helping out!

KEEP US POSTED!

Please let us know of any events that you feel should be on our calendar so that we can share them with all our readers. Send your group's listings or other information to: *OITM*, PO Box Box 177, Burlington VT 05402. Materials must be received by the 1st of the month prior to publication in order to be assured of appearing in print.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

After the March in Washington I continue to be amazed that you still carry first names under your listing of staff members on page two. Knowing that Vermont has the added benefits of a gay rights law, enough of this homophobia. The complete name or none at all. Unfortunately, the closet is a state of mind, unless, of course, your name is Cher.

Albert Santerre
Seacoast Gay Men

Dear Editor,

Coming out is a process which is more gradual for some of us than others. It took me a long time to identify myself as a lesbian. Than it took awhile to act on it. Becoming involved with OITM was another step. And I really felt "out there" when my first name appeared on the masthead. Someday my full name may appear, but I have a few more steps to take before then.

Carol ▼

Burlington Police Meet Gay Community

On May 25, eight Burlington police officers met with members of the gay and lesbian community in an open forum to discuss issues of concern.

The meeting, arranged at the request of Officer Greg Knight of the Community Based Police (CBP), was moderated by Howdy Russell. About 20 men and women attended the meeting. Representative from the Police Department included all but one of the Community Based Police Officers, Sgt. Mike Rogers, CBC Supervisor and Lt. Emmet Hillard, the Police Department night shift supervisor.

The officers introduced themselves and talked about the role of the CBP and their reasons for attending the meeting. Ac-

ording to Officer Robert Moore, "Our #1 goal is to create a better living environment help people get to know and develop a relationship with a local cop." Officer Knight the lack of trust the gay community has in the police and the fact that in many cases, people will not call on the police for help. Community members described concerns and fears of the police and the "system" and gave some background on why many people feel the way they do.

The meeting provided both police and community members an opportunity to exchange opinions and concerns. It was part of the Police Department's ongoing effort to reach out to Burlington's minority communities and provide service to them. ▼

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