

OITM Roundup: State, National and World News Briefs

compiled by Kip Roberson

Vermont CARES raises \$25,000

BURLINGTON -- Vermont CARES has reached its goal of raising \$25,000 to help rebuild its Burlington office, which was destroyed by arson June 7, said executive director Kate Hill.

The money raised by the HIV/AIDS services group will be matched by a \$25,000 emergency allocation from the Vermont Legislature.

Confidential information, client files and personal items were salvaged from the blaze, but everything else was destroyed, Hill said.

The money won't pay for all of the damages, Hill said. "If people are still interested in making a donation, we're still interested in accepting them."

Vermont CARES currently operates out of the basement of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Burlington. (Also, CARES has opened a new

office in Rutland, designed to serve a growing client base in the southern part of the state.) For information or to donate, call Vermont CARES at (802)863-AIDS. (*Burlington Free Press*)

Gayest Cities in the nation

WASHINGTON, DC -- Of the 20 cities with the highest populations in the United States, San Francisco has the highest percentage of same-sex, unmarried partner households out of all unmarried partner households. The cities rank in this order:

1. San Francisco (35.4%)
2. Washington, DC (18.9%)
3. Boston (16.2%)
4. Los Angeles (9.6%)
5. San Diego (9.3%)
6. New York (8.9%)
7. Chicago (8.6%)
8. Dallas (8.5%)
9. Houston (7.4%)
10. San Jose (6.8%)
11. Columbus (6.6%)
12. Philadelphia (6.3%)
13. Baltimore (6.2%)
14. Phoenix (5.0%)
15. Indianapolis (5.0%)
16. San Antonio (4.1%)
17. Milwaukee (4.1%)
18. Jacksonville (4.0%)
19. Detroit (3.5%)
20. Memphis (3.2%)

(*The Washington Blade*)

ABC agrees not to attack, ridicule gays

NEW YORK -- The ABC-TV network has agreed to add lesbians and gay men to their list of groups which are not to be misrepresented, ridiculed or attacked in its programming.


The decision was made after a meeting with the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), New York chapter. ABC had received many complaints from members of the gay community when the network's Broadcast Standards and Practices Department tried to censor the lesbian kiss on a recent episode of "Roseanne".

To thank ABC for its decision, and to urge them to make lesbian and gay people more visible, write Christine Hikawa, vice president, Broadcast Standards and Practices, ABC, 77 W. 66th St., NY, NY 10023. (*GLAAD newsletter*)

Hawaii bans same-sex marriage

HONOLULU -- Hawaii Gov. John Waihee in late June signed legislation prohibiting same-sex marriages and explicitly tells the state's Supreme Court it has no business dealing with the question. Last year the state's high court ruled that state laws restricting marriage licenses to male-female couples were an unconstitutional violation of Hawaii's sexual anti-bias laws and ordered a lower court to review a legal challenge brought by three same-sex couples who had been refused the licenses. The law states that the Hawaii Supreme Court overstepped its bounds and intruded on the legislature's prerogative in its ruling on the state marriage laws.

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