

Letters

OITM, PO Box 1078, Richmond, VT 05477-1078 or oitm@together.net

Praise for OITM Website

Editor:

I happened to discover you through a link on Don Imus' MSNBC Daily Update newsletter. Your site is particularly well designed, easy to negotiate, and full of all sorts of interesting, engaging, and very well written and presented features. I hope I learned a good deal, and I know I found my time enjoyable, and well spent.

Were I gay, I'm sure I would find you to be a particularly invaluable resource, especially if I lived in the northeast. As it happens, I am not gay, and hail from West Virginia. Therefore I must simply welcome you to the spectrum of publications to which I look for interesting, entertaining, and informed journalism.

Thank you,
George Rollins

Sorry to See Moes Go

Editor:

I am saddened to read of the resignation of Chris Moes as editor of OITM. The new design of the paper is fabulous, and his never-ending willingness to speak the truth, no matter how controversial, is refreshing! No longer is OITM a community newsletter, but a forum for diversity in thought and opinion. It is wonderful that our community can argue about various issues while (hopefully) respecting each other's opinions. Chris's handling of gay marriage, the AIDS Ride and other hot-button issues has been a valuable asset to the community and I hope he continues to

write for OITM. Although I don't agree with his opinion, I was thrilled that he had the courage to go out swinging at VCLGR and HRC in his final editorial!

I implore Mountain Pride Media to strive to pay the OITM editor a liveable wage, so that someone like Chris can stay involved for more than a year. It is clear that his work was done from love and activism rather than the dollar sign, but we need to compensate our editors adequately so that they can stay in the position for more than a year.

Chris, thanks for your never-ending enthusiasm and love for the Vermont queer community!

Tom Aloisi
Burlington, VT

Students Need Input on Community Center

Editor:

We are two UVM students who attended our town meeting on October tenth. Talk of a community center in the area sparked our interest. We were wondering what the general feeling in the community about this issue is.

This is an idea that has been circulated before. Are there any reasons why it has not been taken further? We would like to do something pro-active about this issue. We are hoping for suggestions from anyone in the community to see where the interests and needs lie.

Please contact us!!

Kate Jerman
kjerman@zoo.uvm.edu
Mike Bense

Art Critic Rebutts September Editorial

Editor:

I have only recently read Christopher Moes's editorial titled "Questionable Liberal Priorities" in the September issue of *Out in the Mountains*. Most likely I am the 'art critic from some art magazine or another' who called and left a message on Mr. Moes's answering machine about the censorship of Dale Wittig's painting from an

:"Obscurantism has certainly reigned."

exhibit at the Firehouse Gallery in Burlington this past summer. Moes returned my call, leaving a message on my answering machine. Circumstances made it impossible to get back to him in timely fashion, unfortunately. He expressed an interest, but he did not in any part of his message 'offer the pages of OITM for (me) to say what (I) wanted to say...' This is simply a false and impulsive assertion.

First, it is very disturbing that Vermont's gay and lesbian newspaper would treat a local instance of censorship - particularly one involving the censorship of gay work - as if it were of no consequence and in a manner that tacitly supports the action. As so often happens with censorship, opportunities to address its structures and subtleties - for example the Christian Right did not, at least directly, bring the Firehouse show down - are lost in an eruption of blind and perverse discourses.

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Join the Rainbow Business Association for it's second annual meeting!

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135 Pearl

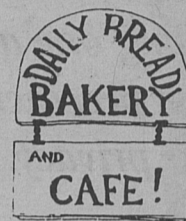
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