



Here's the 4-1-1 on Do713.com, the new Master Calendar for Houston's GLBT Community:

Reported by Carol Wyatt on
www.socialnoteshouston.com

We finally have a centralized location to promote all our Houston GLBT events and activities

It's easy for organizations and event producers to add their own listings to the site, whether it be your fundraiser, party, church social, tournament, steak night, concert...well, you get the idea!

Houston GLBTs will now have a timely go-to source to keep them "In The Know" about ALL the wonderful things our GLBT community has to offer

It's a Win/Win for everyone. And did I mention that it's free?

The site is called Do713 (pronounced "Dew seven one three"). Please continue reading to find out about the site, and how you can start listing your events TODAY!

Do713 is Houston's newest and most comprehensive online events website. The site went on-line in April, focusing on general Houston events/activities. Now they're ready to serve our city's GLBT community, and that's why I am reaching out to all of you.

Using the drop down filters provided at the top of the site, visitors can search for GLBT listings. And once all of us provide more GLBT-specific content on the site, we'll get our own GLBT Tab, which will make it even easier to search for events of interest to our community.

The general premise of Do713 is to help people find neat things to do in and around Houston. Whether you are looking for happy hours, live music, literary events, karaoke, gallery/museum openings or outdoor activities, Do713 will help point you in the right direction.

~ 713 continued on Page 4



Dan Meador 1951-2010

"Life is a party, so we might as well dance..." --Dan Meador,

by Brandon Wolf

Houston's LGBT community was surprised and saddened by the death of longtime community activist Dan Meador, on Friday, August 23, 2010. He was 59 years old.

Meador was born on July 15, 1951 in San Antonio. He graduated from MacArthur High School in Decatur, Illinois, and attended the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton, Texas.

Meador's friend Trevan Ross announced Meador's passing in an email message sent shortly after 8pm on August 23: "Dan had been diagnosed with cancer earlier this year. But being a very private, Dan told only a few close family and friends, and those of us who were close to Dan did our best to respect his wishes."

Ross continued: "Dan made the personal decision to forego traditional treatment for his cancer, and live his remaining days to the fullest. Dan departed surrounded by the love of his close friends and countless members of our community. Whether through his music, his on-air personality, or simply his smile, Dan brought joy to everyone who met him. He will be greatly missed."

Meador was long known throughout the city as a KHOU Channel 11 meteorologist, and was the right-hand man to Dr. Neil Frank. Meador worked behind the scenes as a videotape editor and eventually became an on-air weekend weatherman.

~ See *Meador* on Page 6

Same Sex Marriage Will Be Ruled Constitutional

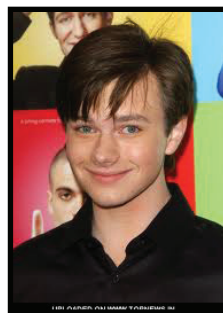
by Carroll G. Robinson, Esq.*and
Dr. Michael O. Adams, Ph.D.

The United States Supreme Court will ultimately rule that same sex marriage is constitutional because states have no rational basis for making them illegal. Though the states have historically defined marriage as a legally binding commitment between one man and one woman, same sex marriage does not prevent heterosexual couples from continuing to marry and procreate. It will have no impact on whether heterosexual couples will stay married or get divorce.

Recognizing the legality of same sex marriage does not mean that churches, synagogues or mosques will be forced to conduct or recognize same sex marriages. Though the Bible may consider homosexuality a sin, the Supreme Court has interpreted the U.S. Constitution as providing a level of separation of church and state. American jurisprudence is built on the rule of law—equal justice under the law, a pursuit that continues to this day.

Under the U.S. Constitution all Americans are entitled to equal protection under the law and "No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States..."

~ See Marriage on Page 10

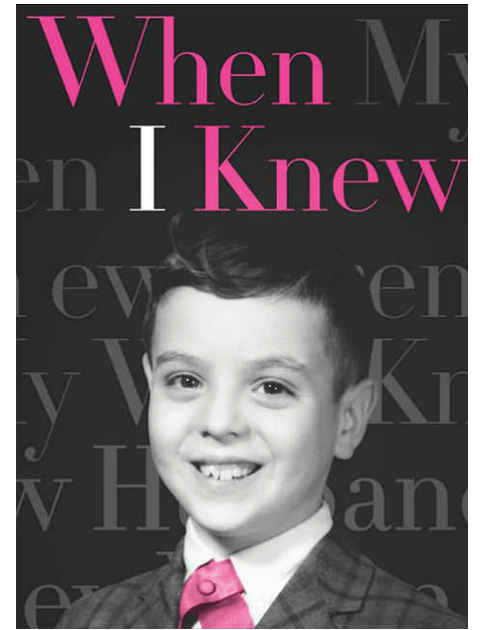


GLEE Star Colfer Was Bullied Over Sexuality

Gay GLEE star Chris Colfer was targeted by bullies at school over his sexuality.

The actor, who plays fashionista Kurt Hummel in the hit U.S. show, admits his camp and quirky persona led to teasing by his classmates.

~ See *Colfer* on Page 7



When I knew, a staged reading of Robert Trachtenbugr's work presented by Joe Watts (Theatre New West) at the Station Museum of Contemporary Art on Thursday, Sept. 16, 2010, Page 5



Ken Mehlman, former Chairman of the RNC has come out. Mark Segal weighs in on this news on Page 10



Holly Hughes, above, is one of the artists whose work inspired women performers at the WOW Theatre. Find out more in Jone Devlin's Review of Kate Davy's book *Lady Dicks and Lesbian Brothers*, on Page 8.



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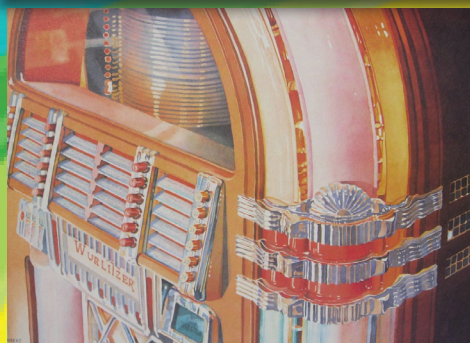
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BEELINES

by Deborah Moncrief Bell



OK, so the latest edition of the GEM is due except for my column. I have thought about many different things to write this week, yet I can't think of much right now as I am down with a cold. I really just want to be curled up sleeping the day away. I long for someone special to be there for me to fix me chicken soup and take care of all the things one normally has to tend to in a day that I am not up to doing. That is one of the perks of being in a relationship. A person to care for you, take care of you and to share a life with. Such a normal thing.

I raised two sons and as a mom, I took care of everyone else and there really wasn't anyone to take care of me when I got ill. Later in life, when not in a relationship, I got very sick with a bad case of the flu and then three weeks later with strep throat. I have not been the same since. If it has not been for a friend bringing me soup, juice, tissues and the like, I don't think I would have lived through that time.

It is so comforting to have someone in your life you can count on. There are times we all wish we had a mom taking care of us even as adults. However, not all of us are lucky enough to have a caring partner.

Back in the Eighties we were hit hard as a community by AIDS. A lot of gay men became sick and did not have partners to care for them, or their partner was sick as well and they tried to take care of one another.

They also unfortunately, did not have family. Many of them were seen through their illness and their deaths by a circle of friends. Then there were not enough friends to do the job and the community responded. Organizations like AIDS Foundation Houston began the task of forming care teams. Bering Memorial Methodist Church started support groups and other services. The Montrose Counseling Center began case management. Many women in the community became care-givers to their gay brothers.

In 1996, Tori Williams who already had a long history in the community founded an organization called AssistHers. Williams had been on the front lines of the AIDS epidemic.

Williams had a number of female friends with chronic illnesses. She and other friends helped them and as is her way, she realized there was a need for Lesbians who faced serious illnesses.

Thus, AssistHers was born. AssistHers is a volunteer organization that provides non-medical in-home support and care to lesbians with illnesses such as cancer, fibromyalgia, HIV/AIDS and multiple sclerosis. Volunteers work together to provide transportation and care to help clients remain in their own homes.

Half of the clients live alone. The other half have friends or partners who are struggling as the caregiver and sole provider. Naturally, support and friendship is extended to the clients' partners, care-givers, children and other family members.

AssistHers is a lesbian-based organization which uses the Care Team model, provides ongoing health-related education to its volunteers and is willing to take clients affected by illnesses.

AssistHers, now celebrating 14 years of service, is achieving its goal to create a more positive, organized response to lesbian health needs in the Greater Houston Area. The mission is accomplished through the work of volunteer care teams and committees. We have no paid staff members.

Since the inception of the program, over 800 women and men have been involved as volunteers enabling the organization to serve over 80 clients over time. AssistHers is currently providing direct care to 22 women through the volunteer work of 24 care teams. There are currently 78 active volunteers who give a minimum of six hours a month as a member of a Care Team or committee.

Each team is made up of four to eight members who give emotional support, meal delivery, pet care, errand running, transportation for medical and social services appointments.

Clients suffer from a wide range of autoimmune diseases, brain and spinal cord injury, fibromyalgia, cancer, hepatitis, stroke, and other debilitating illnesses.

Ten years ago, AssistHers held their first Decadent Dessert Fund-raiser. This year on October 10, 2010 (that's 10/10/10) is the tenth annual Decadent Dessert. It is their biggest fund-raiser of the year. It is a great way to support this important work with entertainment, great food, and friends to share a good time with. It is a fun and easy way to tell these dedicated women "Thank You".

You can find out more on Page 7.

See ya there.

That's the buzz from me for now!

THE COMMUNITY PAPER FOR MONTROSE AND BEYOND

Please email or call to let us know you want an ad so we can reserve the space for you.

Schedule for the rest of 2010

Deadline 12pm Mondays prior to print date

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142	10/8	10/4
143	10/22	10/18
144	11/ 5	11/1
146*	12/3	11/30
147*	12/17	12/13
148	12/31	12/27

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~ 713 continued from Page 1

Do713 also allows users to share all of their great events with friends through social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. So head on over and give the site a spin!

To find GLBT content on Do713, simply use the drop down menu at the top left corner, called "Show me the best of" and select GLBT.

To list your events, simply Register (takes all of 30 seconds!), then Add an Event. The Event form is very straightforward, and it allows you to link to your website and other social media.

Spread The Word!

A Community Master Calendar has been on everyone's wish list for a long time, but for this to be successful, we need your help in two ways:

* Encourage your groups and organizations to be diligent in posting their events and activities on the Do713. After all, this is a FREE way to expand your reach - delivering your message to a much larger audience!

* Use the site to plan your social calendars, and let your friends know about Do713 too!

I have no ties to Do713 (financial or otherwise). I'm promoting it because I think it is a much-needed service for our community, and I like and respect the two young entrepreneurs who created the site. I hope you'll join me in embracing this great new resource!

HGLBTPC-PAC endorses Radnofsky for Texas AG

Barbara Ann Radnofsky received the endorsement of the Houston Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Political Caucus Political Action Committee at its Sept. 1 meeting. Radnofsky mentioned that amendment 2 (against gay marriage) is badly as written it would outlaw marriage itself. Reports Caucus member Scott Tillinghaust. He states, that "The office of Attorney General may seem like a low-profile one to most voters, but it is pretty safe to say it is more powerful than that of Governor. The Texas AG can render opinions on interpretation of laws and these, while not actually binding on courts, carry much influence. The AG is a member of the Legislative Redistricting Board, which redraws the Legislature's districts in case the Legislature fails to do so at the beginning of a decade. The powers of the Texas AG have many ramifications for the glbt community."

HISTORY AT A GLANCE

by Craig Farrell,

The Gulf Coast Archive & Museum of GLBT History takes us back to the middle of summer in 1978. The date was June 25. It was a Sunday. The place was the Astroarena in Houston, Texas. The event was "Houston Town Meeting 1" The keynote speaker was Frances "Sissy" Farenthold

During 1977 Anita Bryant was to appear in Houston for a singing engagement. Having previously demonstrated her disapproval of homosexuals, hundreds of protestors took to the streets. This unrehearsed march in Downtown Houston found the leadership and organization it needed at "Houston Town Meeting 1", held in 1978.

This June 25, 1978 meeting was endorsed by CCGO, Dignity/Houston, Executive and Professional Association of Houston, Homophile Interfaith Alliance, The Houston Gay Political Caucus, Houston Human Rights Defense Foundation, Houston Human Rights League, Integrity Houston, Mickey Leland, Lesberadas, Lutherans Concerned for Gay People, MCCR, Montrose Activity Center, Montrose Sports Association and Ron Waters.

Frances Farenthold was the keynote speaker. "Sissy" as she was known, was active in national politics. She served as a delegate to the 1972 Democratic National Convention and was nominated for Vice President of the United States. Wilde 'N' Stein Bookstore at 819 Richmond was the place where people could get registration forms and door passes to attend the event. "Houston Town Meeting 1" proved to be a pivotal point allowing the GLBT community in Houston to be heard. Our voice was getting louder!

Wilde 'n' Stein Bookstore was opened in 1977 by Charles Gillis at the 819 Richmond location, It later was located at 520 Richmond Ave. and eventually moved to the spot where the Houston Police Department now is located, just next oor to the "One's A Meal" at 812 Westheimer.



Wilde 'n' Stein Bookstore at its second location, 520 Richmond

Museum District Day

Saturday, September 25, 2010
10am to 5pm.

Enjoy a free day in the Houston Museum District on Saturday, September 25 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Board a free bus shuttle at any participating museum and spend the entire day exploring favorite museums and discovering new destinations. Museum District Day will feature fascinating exhibitions, hands-on activities, demonstrations and performances throughout the day. Seventeen museums will waive their general admission fee to offer the community the opportunity to enjoy the District's diverse displays of art, science, nature and history. For more details about Museum District Day please visit www.houstonmuseum-district.org; Facebook; Twitter or call 713.790.1939.

Part of the Museum District is in Montrose. Participating museums are:

Buffalo Soldiers National Museum
Byzantine Fresco Chapel
Children's Museum of Houston
Contemporary Arts Museum Houston
Czech Center Museum Houston
The Health Museum
Holocaust Museum Houston
Houston Center for Contemporary Craft
Houston Center for Photography
Houston Museum of Natural Science
The Jung Center
The John C. Freeman Weather Museum
Lawndale Art Center
The Menil Collection
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
Rice University Art Gallery
Rothko Chapel

The 17 participating museums, KHOU-TV Channel 11, and the Houston Museum District generously underwrite Museum District Day. Veolia Transportation, proud partner of Houston METRO, supports the free bus shuttle service. Museum District Day is part of the national Museum Day celebration sponsored by Smithsonian Media.

Please note that the Houston Zoo is NOT free on Museum District Day. For information about free hours at the Houston Zoo please visit <http://www.houstonzoo.org/hours> or call (713) 533-6500.

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• Award winning architecture creates the sacred setting for the two largest, most important examples of 13th-Century Byzantine wall paintings outside the orthodox world at the Byzantine Fresco Chapel.

• With more than 90,000 square feet of interactive exhibits here is just a sample of what your family can enjoy at the Children's Museum of Houston. Play Pirate Memory Game and Treasure

Hunter's at the Math Cart; and create animal puppets at the EcoStation and then put on a play at the TreeStump Amphitheater.

* Docent-led tours of Dance with Camera at the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston.

* At Holocaust Museum Houston, families can create their own "stained glass window" using contact paper and tissue paper. Then visit the glass window created for the new exhibit Never Let it Rest! Participate in the Upstander Activity and share how you will make a difference in the world. Don't miss the permanent exhibition, Bearing Witness: A Community Remembers.

• * At Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, interact with craft artists and watch demonstrations during the annual "Gathering of the Guilds." In the gallery spaces, view CraftTexas 2010, featuring a variety of craft objects by Texas artists, and Convergence II: an exhibit of glass-bead jewelry inspired by persons of fact and fiction.

* Enjoy Created and Found Maps – Exploration of Self and World at Houston Center for Photography.

* Be part of the INSIDE-OUTSIDE Virtual Parade at The Jung Center. Use an assortment of images to create a collage of yourself and add it to the community collage. Visit the collaborative painting exhibition An Artistic Union.

* At the Menil Collection explore all the nooks and crannies of the main museum – and its satellite buildings – as well as the special exhibitions Objects of Devotion, treasures from the world's religions, and Earth Paint Paper Wood, an array of new acquisitions, from 18th century French portraiture to 21st century watercolors and ceramics.

* In addition to the vast collections at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, there are numerous special exhibitions and programs including: Dynasty and Divinity: Ife Art in Ancient Nigeria; German Impressionist Landscape Painting: Liebermann-Cornith-Slevogt; Drawing from Nature: Landscapes by Liebermann, Corinth, and Slevogt; and Richard Misrach: After Katrina. Enjoy on-your-own family guides including Travel the World at the MFAH: 15 Works of Art Kids & Families Won't Want to Miss and What to see in an Hour Guide: 20 Works of Art, available at Guest Services. There will also be four sketching stations and gallery educators stationed throughout the museum to answer questions.

* Stop by Rice University Art Gallery to experience D-17, Sarah Oppenheimer's monumental installation that soars upward and out of the museum space. Then relax and enjoy free ice cream and water in the shade of live oak trees.

Information from Press Release

Community Online

www.houstonglbtcommunitycenter.org

www.montrosecounselingcenter.org

www.legacycommunityhealth.org

Houston GLBT Political Caucus
www.thecaucus.org

Fort Bend LGBT Political Caucus:
FBLGBT_Political_caucus@yahoo.com

Out In Houston
www.outinhouston.com

www.PFLAGHouston.org
HelpLine
713-46PFLAG 713-467-3524
HelpLine@pflaghouston.org

www.assisthers.org

Houston Political Organizing Network - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HoP-ON>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LoneStarActivists/> (LSA)

FEMINIST ONLINE NETWORK
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FEMNET>

Northwest Corner
www.nwcorner.org

www.socialnotesHouston.org

www.queermusicheritage.com

www.centerforAIDS.org

AIDS Foundation Houston
www.AFHouston.org

Imperial Court of Houston
www.spacecityempire.org

Empire of the Royal Sovereign
Imperial Court of the Single Star
www.ersicss.org

TG Center
www.tgctr.org

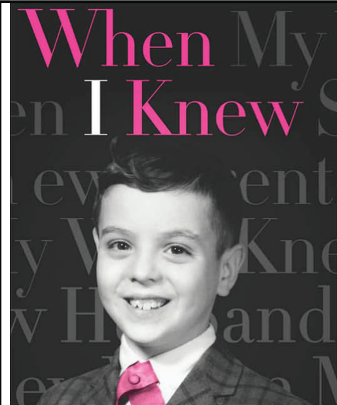
UH LGBT Resource Center
www.uh.edu/lgbtrc

www.Do713.com for Community Calendar

Give a Damn Campaign
www.giveadamn.org

Do you know of a group that should be featured here? Let us know at: montrosegem@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY NEWS & RESOURCES



STATION

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

& THEATRE NEW WEST

Presents a staged reading of
WHEN I KNEW

Under the auspices of Theatre New West, Artistic Director Joe Watts announces a staged reading from the book **WHEN I KNEW** edited by Robert Trachtenberg. The reading will be presented at Station Museum on September 16th, in support of their current exhibition "**BECAUSE WE ARE...**"

"**When I Knew**" is a collection of smart, hilarious, and often poignant stories about that revelation for all gay men and women: when they first knew. Also mixed in are tales about when parents knew and when everyone else knew, as well as laugh-out-loud coming-out stories.

"I knew in my twenties, when I kept waking up with women."
Jenny Allard / Head softball coach, Harvard University

"I was lying on the floor of the living room, watching an episode of the Tarzan series. I kept sliding closer to the TV, sort of looking under it, trying to see under Tarzan's loincloth. Seven years old, go figure".
Jeff Judd / Makeup artist

"When I first ran for public office in 1971, I was petrified someone would know I was gay. After all, it was 1971, and at that time not a single openly gay person had ever been elected to public office anywhere in the United States. Then one day I looked up at one of my billboards on the busiest thoroughfare in my district and I saw the word FAG spray-painted all over it. And I thought: "Oh well...so much for the closet!"
Joel Wachs / President, Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts

Cast:
Steve Bullitt
Lisa Marie Daugherty
Taavi Mark
Henry Membreno

Station Museum of Contemporary Art
1502 Alabama St.
Houston, Texas 77004
713.529.6900
For more info: www.stationmuseum.com

Thursday, September 16, 2010 / 7 - 8:15 PM
Free Admission

Contact: Joe Watts at 713-522-2204 / Reservations (due to limited seating)
theatrenewwest@att.net / www.theatrenewwest.com



Pol. adv. HGLBTPC PAC, Rose Wall, Treasurer.

JOIN US FOR OUR 2ND ANNUAL BRUNCH

Join us as we celebrate the achievements of the GLBT community at the Caucus' second annual brunch September 26 at 11 a.m. at the House of Blues! Click here to buy tickets today.

We'll be honoring some of Houston's finest citizens who have done so much for the GLBT community. Stayed tuned for who we'll be honoring. All proceeds go toward our PAC for efforts to turn out the vote for our pro-equality candidates.

You can also sign up to be a sponsor. For sponsorship info, e-mail Kris Banks at kbanks@thecaucus.org.

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Keshet Houston to Host Sukkot Dinner

(Houston) Keshet Houston, a nonprofit organization for lesbian and gay Jews in the Houston area, will host "Dinner in the Sukkah" on Saturday, 25 September, 2010, at 7:30pm. The Sukkot dinner will be held at Congregation Brith Shalom, 4610 Bellaire Boulevard. Havdalah will be followed by dinner in the synagogue's sukkah. After dinner, the Sukkot-themed, Israeli film, "Ushpizin" will be shown. Board games will also be available. The cost for dinner is \$10 per person, and RSVP is required.

To join Keshet Houston or to RSVP for the dinner, call 832-429-5392 or send email to keshethouston@gmail.com. Membership is open to lesbian and gay Jews and their significant others.

TGRA HOUSTON

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the General Membership of the Texas Gay Rodeo Association - Houston Chapter we are proud to announce the community charities that have been chosen as 2010 Beneficiaries.

Join us in Congratulating them.

- * Legacy Community Health Services

- * Kimberly Anne O'Neil "Believe In A Dream" Scholarship Fund through ERSICSS, Inc.

- * Gulf Coast Archive Museum (Non-Monetary)

Congratulation to all three of these organizations from the Texas Gay Rodeo Association - Houston Chapter. We look forward to helping your organization any way possible and raising some much needed charitable funds.

Love, Loyalty, Honor and Respect from my heart to yours for as long as you want it.

Steven Harvard
Fund Raising Coordinator

Meador continued

A short video of Meador issuing a weather alert in 1991 can be viewed on You Tube, by searching for 'KHOU Severe Weather Bulletin, 1991'.

Meador was one of the first local on-air personalities to acknowledge that he was gay, in 1996.

In recent years, Meador also served as a moderator of the on-line www.KHOU.Com Weather Forum. By August 20 of this year, word of Meador's health condition was announced on the Forum, but members were asked to keep the information private.

By September 1, the situation had grown extremely serious and one member remarked: "Every time I check the radar or hear thunder, I can't help but think about Dan."

On September 3 at 8:20pm, the grim news arrived: "We have all lost a friend and someone that we cherished. Please know that Dan cared so much for all of you. He was a gracious and humble man."

Community Activist & DJ

In addition to his work at KHOU, Meador developed a career as DJ Storm, and often donated his services to fund-raising dance events. He was also active socially throughout Houston's LGBT community.

His Facebook profile includes a long list of local LGBT organizations that he supported. And also several of his very creative photo albums. Meador, however, is probably best remembered for his love of Star Trek, and he enjoyed portraying characters from the story at Halloween parties.

Within minutes of the announcement of Meador's passing, tributes sprang up on his Facebook account, and continue to be posted. They can be read at the following link: www.facebook.com/dpmeador.

Meador's friend Frank Staggs, reading the volume and variety of comments, reflected: "He definitely cut a wide swath in the community and his unique charm, friendliness and impact will be missed."

Among the comments left on Facebook were notes of appreciation

from Evan Stewart in Virginia and Garrett Conner in Spring, Texas who thanked Meador for mentoring them in meteorology.

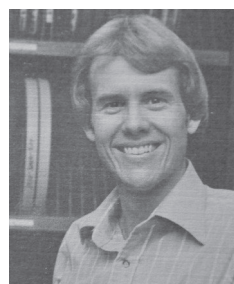
Longtime friend Barry Bertin wrote: "You are now soaring with the angels and surrounded by your beautiful music for all eternity. You will be greatly missed by me & so many others who loved you."

Marco Roberts Director of the Flyboys of Flag Troupe Houston issued the following statement: "Dan was a great friend to the Houston Flyboys, and was instrumental in forging the relationship between the Flyboys and Bunnies on the Bayou." The Flyboys website now includes a tribute to Meador.

Jack Valinski, longtime head of the Houston Pride Parade, remembers: "Dan would give the Pride Parade Committee weather reports starting 10 days out, I would send the reports out to the committee to pump them up about our celebration."

Meador's friend Vance Nesbitt, in a Facebook comment, reflected: "Einstein said that you can't destroy energy - it just changes form. Thank you, Dan, for your loving fun energy which will always be dancing in the light."

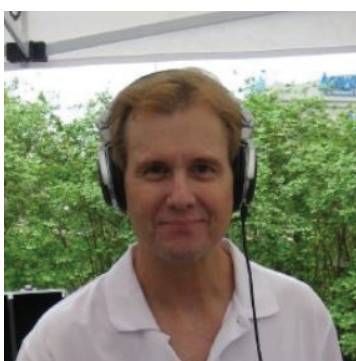
Arrangements for a celebration of Dan's life are pending. The details will be communicated as soon as they are finalized.



Dan Meador in 1980.

The epitome of "A really nice guy."

His friendly smile will be greatly missed by all.



Dan as DJ Storm spinning the discs for the Bunnies at Bunnies on the Bayou



Dan on the job.

**Through the Looking Glass**

by Alice Melott

Diary of an irresponsible journalist

Posted on August 24, 2010 by amelott

A pseudo-journalist with a WordPress blog (just like this one) poses as a newsman and "writes" a pseudo-news story by watching a video interview with Mayor Lyda Ann Thomas from June of 2009. From that interview, he pronounces Galveston one of America's 10 Dead Cities.

Here's the email visit I had with Mr. McIntyre shortly after reading his article. It appears here uncensored — spelled and punctuated exactly the way it was written.

Alice: Mr. McIntyre, You wrote: "Galveston's port and hospitality industries had begun to improve, but were [sic] trampled by the effects of Hurricane Ike in 2008. The event destroyed a large part of the city's tax base and set back the tourism industry once again."

"...begun to improve...?"

"...trampled...?"

"...destroyed a large part of the city's tax base...?"

Where in the world do you get your information?

You are irresponsible at best and malicious at worst. Do us a favor and don't write about Galveston again. You're not qualified.

McIntyre: It was based on your mayor's comments <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/30951045/>

Alice: Check the date.

McIntyre: I did, She said for five years

Alice: The report was June 2009. A lot has changed. Reputable agencies don't usually report "news" by regurgitating 14-month old stories from other sources.

McIntyre: You are obviously a housewife who spends time selling homes and bemoaning a tough market

Alice: Wow! With those sorts of journalistic instincts, my point has been made.

McIntyre: She's your mayor, not mine

Alice: Actually, she's the former mayor, but why check facts when you're publishing a story with a title as provocative as "America's 10 Dead Cities."

McIntyre: She made the comment when she was mayor, and her time line was five years Let's give it a rest

A regular Walter Cronkite, isn't he?

And another thing...!

Posted on August 26, 2010 by amelott

I love a lively debate, but caution everyone against letting Douglas A. McIntyre drive any part of it. This blogger made sweeping generalizations and drew specious conclusions while referring to, but not quoting, his alleged sources.

He said, "Researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology did a study of what they described as America's 150 forgotten cities." But when/where/what are the citations?

So I asked him where he got his information. Click here for the unedited exchange.

In summary, in June 2009, before we had had a full season after Ike, Mayor Thomas said that the West End, which represented roughly 47% of our tax base, was hardest hit, and she "predicted" it could take up to five years to rebuild. Hooray! She was wrong! And guess what? That same article went on to say, "The quarter-million Memorial Day visitors equaled the number of tourists for the holiday a year ago..."

But McIntyre didn't report that, didn't update the "predictions," or do a single piece of independent research. And when asked to defend his position, he lashed out at me personally. Isn't that what all rats do when trapped?

Every blogger knows that putting "Top 10" in any title will attract soundbite readers, and this one was no exception. There is nothing redeemable in the conclusions of the piece or the undocumented process McIntyre went through to produce it.

What boggles my mind is that some people are so myopic, so selfish, so irresponsible that they would repackage this drivel as "real news" from the Wall Street Journal, hoping to harm the island so that they can say "I told you so" and advance their neanderthal social agenda.

Ugly, ugly stuff.

P.S. to housewives everywhere. How do you feel about being the "insult" he hurled at me?

HOUSTON GLBT COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS

Center charitable efforts raise financial support

Thanks to community supporters who helped the Center with two recent efforts:

* The collection of dorm and school supplies and financial assistance for Lupe Longoria III, the college-bound student whose parents cut off support because of his orientation. Lupe left for school in Minnesota on Wednesday.

* Raising funds for the LGBT Community Center of New Orleans on the fifth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. The New Orleans Center was the beneficiary of the 50/50 raffle conducted during First Saturday Queer Bingo on September 4.

Beginning September 13, the Center launches Project Empower, an exercise program for people living with HIV/AIDS. David Lewis, a personal trainer with more than 10 years of experience in working with HIV issues, has created the program, which will be offered every Monday at 7:30 p.m. at the Center. The Center moved the launch and changed the weekly date to avoid conflicting with other local HIV service programs. Classes will be offered at no charge. More info: empower2010@aol.com.

LGBT Center Awareness Day on September 15, join the Center for LGBT Center Awareness Day, a day of action organized by CenterLink, the national organization of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community centers. The theme for 2010 is "Building Our Community from the Center." The Center will host an open-house reception from noon until 8 p.m., featuring information on Center programs and Center community partners. At the same time, the Center will hold an opening-night reception for a new exhibition of GLBT-themed quilts created by the artist Mike Kelley in Montrose Gallery, the Center art space.

Center activities include the following:

Ongoing. The Gulf Coast Archive and Museum of GLBT History exhibits objects from its collection at the Center.

Calendar

Saturday, September 11. The Center Volunteer League meets at the Center. 1 p.m.

Sunday, September 12. Team Houston meets at the Center. 4 p.m.

Monday, September 13. Project Empower meets at the Center. 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 14. The Center hosts the monthly Center Dinner at One's A Meal (812 Westheimer). 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 15. The Center hosts the LGBT Center Awareness Day open house. Noon-8 p.m. The Center hosts an opening reception for the "Mike Kelley Quilts" exhibition in the Montrose Gallery. 6-8 p.m.

Thursday, September 16. The Center HIV Support Group meets at the Center. 6-8 p.m.

The Center is located at 3400 Montrose Blvd., Suite 207. The phone number is 713.524.3818. The website is www.houstonglbtcommunitycenter.org

AssistHers Announces Tenth Annual Decadent Desserts

The popular annual fundraiser will take place on 10-10-10 at South Beach from 4pm to 8pm.

Nancy Ford will be the Mistress of Ceremonies. Entertainment includes Sister's of Avalon, Jody Travis, ERSICSS DukeXXVI and Gloria Silva, soloist and spectacular entertainer.

Eleven restaurants/caterers with desserts and appetizers, raffle and auction items, cash bar served by the amazing staff at South Beach.

Support AssistHers clients and become an underwriter for our 10 year anniversary.

For more information please contact the chair, Karen Morry at ddhouston2010@aol.com

~ Colfer from Page 1

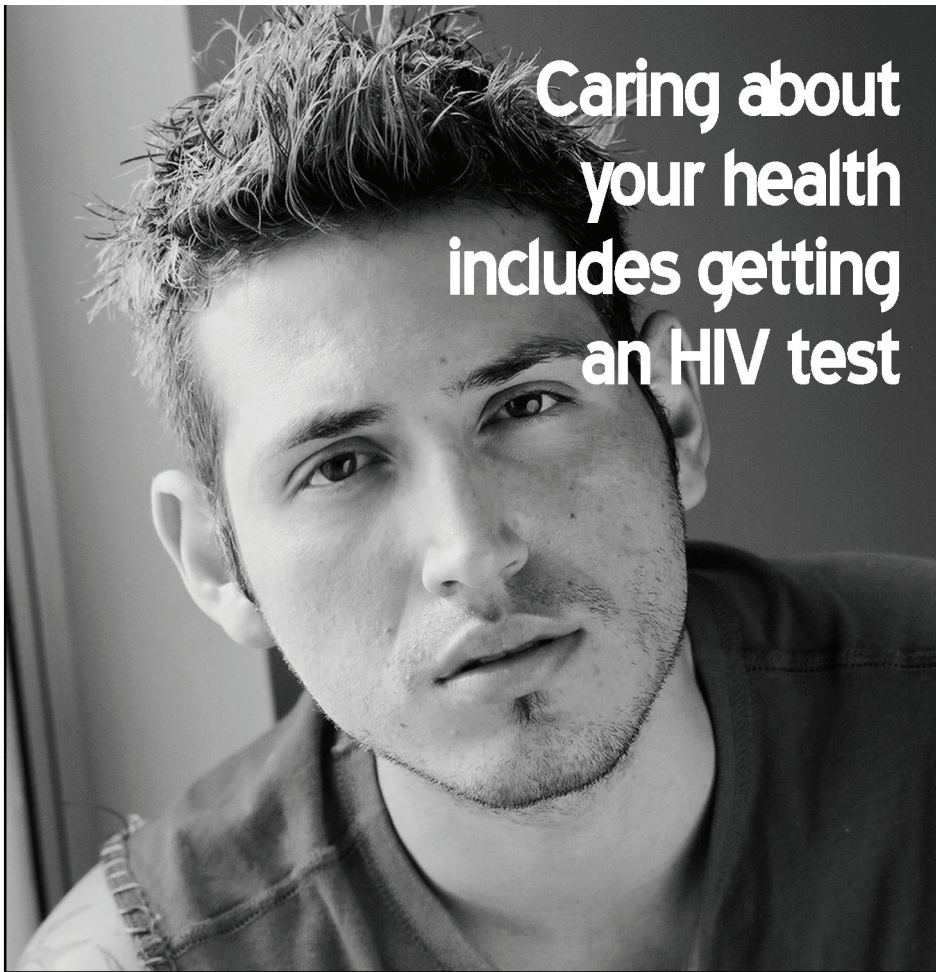
Since he shot to fame, his former tormentors have tried to befriend him - but the actor is adamant he'll never forget their mean behaviour.

He says, "Absolutely, yeah (I was bullied). I was teased every day, mainly because of my voice. They said I sounded like a chipmunk! Now everyone likes to remind me how they used to be my best friend, but I have a very good memory - that wasn't always the case.

"I was really intense at high school because I knew what I wanted to do. I was in a small town in the middle of nowhere and everything seemed impossible. People liked to feed off that and make me feel as if it was impossible."

The second season premier of Glee starts on Tuesday, September 21, 2010 8/7c on FOX.

In other GLEE news, Jane Lynch, 50, best known for her role on Glee as the ultra sarcastic and cleverly witted cheerleading coach, Sue Sylvester, is reportedly hosting Saturday Night Live in October for the fall season of SNL's 2010/2011 season. Lynch won an Emmy for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series. The GLEE star wed Dr. Lara Embry in a small ceremony on Memorial Day in Sunderland, MA,



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TWO ON THE AISLE

REVIEW BY BILL O'ROURKE



ODD DUCK

If you thought, as I did, that *A Behanding in Spokane* (TheAlley, through September 26) is about sharia law being imposed in Washington state, you are wrong. Twenty-odd years before the play starts, a group of thugs made Carmichael (Andrew Weems) watch as a train rolled over his wrist. As they left, they waved goodbye to him with his own hand from a distance. He cauterized the stump with fire himself and since then has been searching for his lost hand. That's why he's in the nondescript hotel room - just like so many others except for the pile of severed human hands on the floor - in any town USA.

If you like your theater rather conservative, following a mainstream tradition you're comfortable and familiar with, like *Loyal*, this isn't your show. *Loyal* said I couldn't advise anyone to go see this show. Sorry, babe. It's just too freakin' funny.

It's about a ninety minute one act, but it won't feel that long, most of the time. But sometimes the pauses are deliciously long, and pregnant. And you know how it is when people talk, there are things that should not be said, but are said anyway.. People, rightfully so, keep asking each other if they are really trying to get Carmichael to shoot them, or blow up the place. Do they want to be dead?

Well, the hotel employee (Chris Hutchison) wouldn't mind dying. But then, there's nothing much that this gently wacko guy would mind. If Weems and Hutchison seem familiar, they should. They were two of the best things about *Intelligence-Slave*. And they're two of the best things here, too. But the whole four person ensemble, under the able direction of James Black, works extremely well together

Marilyn (Emily Neves) and Toby (Sean-Michael Bowles) have come to this place (great set by Kevin Rigdon) to sell Carmichael "his hand." It's actually an aborigine hand that they stole from the Museum of Natural History, but, what the hey, they didn't know until they met the homicidal nut job that he wasn't Black.

I wasn't sure if I liked Bowles acting and I wondered why. Then I realized that, strange as this thing is, it's sort of like the old Mary Tyler Moore show. Remember how Mary had her own little quirks, but, compared to everyone else, they hardly counted? She was the sane center around which all these lovable

loonies rotated? Well, Bowles character is the sane one, only he's not at the center. And while the others are lovable, really, in their own way, he is probably the only one you might not mind dating your brother.

He does have a tendency to cry when he is actively trying to solve the problem, which does get a lot of anti-gay jokes thrown at him by the gun toting bigot. But Marilyn almost complains about them but doesn't actually do so till the man threatening her life makes a lot of mentions of the "N" word aimed at her boyfriend.

Throw in a 70 year old mother (she's on the phone) who may have broken both legs climbing into a tree to take down a balloon, and, well, you have the picture by now, don't you? This play is like spending an evening with your weird friend, who is an odd duck but you still love being with him. Lots of laughs and an interesting personality. That one. This one. See it.

Alley Theatre, 615 Texas Ave., 77002, 713-228-8421, www.alleytheatre.org.

OPENINGS

Driving Miss Daisy (AD Players, 9/8-10/17) - with Jeanette Cliff George herself.

The Doctor's Dilemma (Main Street, 9/9-10/3) - Shaw.

Auntie Mame (Stages, 9/15-10/10) - new adaptation of script.

Among The Thugs (Horeshead, 9/16-10/9) - soccer hooligans.

When I Knew (Theater New West, 9/16 only) - coming out stories. Free but reservations required, 713-522-2204.

Barefoot in the Park (Island ETC, 9/17-10/16) - Romcom on the island.

The Philadelphia Story (Suburbia, 9/17-10/17) - Romcom.

The Waiting Room (Ensemble, 9/18-9/24) - Not here long. Don't wait. Reserve today.



Emily Neves as Marilyn, Andrew Weems as Carmichael and Sean-Michael Bowles as Toby in *A Behanding in Spokane*. The play runs through September 26, 2010 on the Neuhaus Stage. Photo by Jann Whaley.



Nose in a Book

Review by Jone Devlin

Lady Dicks and Lesbian Brothers

During the early years of the GLBT civil rights movement, collectives were all the rage. While the results of most of these were mixed bags, one that flourished was a little theatre space called WOW Café.

WOW stands for Women on Women, and during its approximately 30 years of life, the theatre has never compromised on that ethic. WOW Café is also known as the first theatre to proudly feature and support the transgender community.

In *Lady Dicks and Lesbian Brothers*, Kate Davy lays out the timeline of WOW, talking about their productions, the people who volunteered at the theatre, the people who acted, directed and wrote the shows, and the people who, year after year, have kept coming back. WOW Café Theatre was an anomaly from the beginning. Started by women, for women, and committed to the principle of the fewer rules the better, WOW never spent much time on record keeping, titles, or assigning duties. It was a system that definitely allowed for huge creative flow, but also caused lots of dissension, tension, and sometimes catastrophe for the theatre and its personnel.

While not everyone was able to appreciate the concept that made WOW...well WOW, almost everyone has been able to appreciate the platform this crazy little disorganized theatre gave to the community.

Fledgling women authors, actresses, directors and designers have been able to launch careers at WOW. Some, like Lisa Kron, have taken their productions directly from the WOW Café to off Broadway, while others have been able to credit WOW with giving them a chance to find their niche in the world.

One thing that always distinguished WOW, even back in the early 80s, was that it was a safe space for those women who were too butch or androgynous to ever be seriously considered in the "legitimate" theater. It also gave these individuals a platform to speak their minds and their truths to society.

While the early 80s found gay men finding more and more success on Broadway, gay women were floundering, unable to get their foot in the door, much less contribute their vision. WOW Café made a home for these women, while the productions they generated charted a whole new course in avante garde theatre.

Many of the women interviewed in this book talk about how seeing groups like the Split Britches, or performers like Holly Hughes and Carmelita Tropicana, made them look at who they were in an entirely different way. It also confirmed for them their realities as gay women, and strengthened them in their struggles.

Best of all, because WOW Café Theatre was a no holds barred place, women were able to freely express their love and lust toward each other, taking lesbian eroticism to new levels, and aiding many in their coming out journey.

Davy's extensive, historical look at the WOW Café Theatre is an intensive, painstakingly researched work of art. She has worked tirelessly to bring organization to where there was none while at the same time maintaining the free form spirit and zest of the WOW Café. She is also careful to always be fair in her assessments, allowing people to criticize as freely as they praise, and presenting those efforts that didn't work out with the same honesty she uses to present the ones that did.

A delightful look at a topic that is rarely seen, *Lady Dicks and Lesbian Brothers: Staging the Unimaginable at the WOW Café Theater* is the must read book of the season.

The book is available wherever fine GLBT books are sold. Reviewer's Grade: 5 out of 5 stars.

EDITOR'S NOTE: WOW started as an international women's theatre festival in October of 1980. Over the course of eleven days, 36 shows from 8 countries were performed for hungry New York lesbians. Within 18 months the group began what is WOW today:



The Five Lesbian Brothers create provocative lesbian theater for the masses through the fine feminist art of collaboration. They are Maureen Angelos, Babs Davy, Dominique Dibbell, Peg Healey and Lisa Kron. The Brothers came together as a theater company in 1989 after performing together in various other combinations at the Obie award winning WOW Cafe Theatre.

Cooking Capers with Dr. Dave



It was a busy weekend on Galveston Friday, August 6, 2010 with a huge fund raiser taking place in support of the Humane Society. Kind people brought in huge donations of food for the cats and dogs, along with litter and even play toys! We had a show with all funds raised going directly to the humane society shelter.

On a different note, let me share some neat appetizer, soup, and main dish recipes with you. I love all three of them, and I hope they'll ease onto your dinner table when next entertaining guests.

Mushroom Caps Stuffed with Walnuts and Cheese

12 medium-size mushroom caps
1 Tablespoon olive oil
1 Tablespoon sweet butter
1/2 Cup minced shallots
2 Tablespoons coarsely chopped walnuts
1 Garlic clove, peeled and minced
5 Ounces frozen chopped spinach, thoroughly defrosted and squeezed dry
1 Ounce feta cheese, crumbled
1 Ounce Gruyere cheese, crumbled
2 Tablespoons minced fresh dill salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
Remove stems from mushrooms and save for another use. Wipe mushroom caps with a damp cloth or paper towel and set aside. Heat the olive oil and butter in a small skillet. Add shallots and cook over medium heat, covered, until tender and lightly colored, about 25 minutes. Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Add walnuts garlic, and shallots and cook for another minute. Add spinach and cook for 5 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and cool slightly. Stir in cheeses, dill, salt and pepper. Arrange the mushrooms, cavity side up, in a baking dish. Divide the spinach and walnut mixture evenly among the caps. Set baking dish in the upper third of the oven and bake for 8 to 10 minutes, or until the filling is browned and the mushrooms are heated through. Serve immediately.

Curried Butternut Squash Soup

4 Tablespoons sweet butter
2 Cups finely chopped yellow onions
5 Teaspoons curry powder
2 Medium-size butter nut squash
2 Green apples, peeled, cored and chopped

3 Cups chicken stock
1 Cup apple juice
Salt and pepper to taste

Melt butter in a Dutch Oven. Add chopped onions and curry powder, and cook, covered, over low heat until onions are tender, about 25 minutes. Peel the squash; discard the seeds, and cube the flesh. When onions are tender, pour stock, add squash and apples, and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat and simmer, partially covered, until squash and apples are tender, again, about 25 minutes. Pour the soup through a strainer, reserving the liquid, and transfer the solids to a food processor. Add 1 cup of cooking stock and process until smooth. Return the pureed soup to the pot, add apple juice and additional cooking liquid, until the soup is of desired consistency. Salt and pepper to taste, simmer briefly to heat through.

Braised Beef Short Ribs

1 Teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
4 Pounds short ribs
5 Tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
8 Cloves garlic, peeled, and finely chopped
1 1/2 Cups canned Italian tomatoes with juice
2 Cups sliced carrots that are about 1/8 inch thick each
3 Cups sliced onions
8 Whole cloves of garlic peeled, and finely chopped
1/2 Cup chopped Italian parsley
3/4 Cup red wine vinegar
3 Tablespoons tomato paste
2 Tablespoons brown sugar
2 Teaspoons salt
1/4 Teaspoon cayenne pepper
3 Cups Beef Stock

Sprinkle pepper over short ribs. Heat olive oil in a Dutch oven. Sear ribs, browning well on both sides. Drain them on paper towels. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Return half the ribs to the casserole. Sprinkle with half the garlic. Layer half of each vegetable over the meat. Add 4 cloves of garlic and sprinkle with half of the parsley. Repeat with remaining ingredients, ending with parsley. In a bowl, mix together vinegar, tomato paste, brown sugar, salt, 1 Teaspoon black pepper and cayenne. Pour over meat and vegetables and add beef broth just to cover. Cover casserole, set over medium heat, and bring to a boil. Bake in the oven for 1 1/2 hours. Uncover and bake for 1 1/2 hours longer. Taste and correct the seasonings if need be.

Enjoy!

The power of a liberal arts education

by Jere Douglas

Alan Balter and the Die Cast Machine

Troubleshooting

Sight, Sound and Mechanics now come into play in this scenario. Today, I am laughing at a wonderful awareness that has been ruminating in my convoluted mindset. Alan Balter not only taught me some things about playing the clarinet but also how to set and run a 700 Ton Die Cast Machine. Of course, digging into the brain wave functions of a disturbed traumatized practiced performing artist could be delving into major uncharted fearful territory.

Minute Evaluation

Picture this, a person, a clarinet, a metronome, a stack of music in a 4 X 4 cubicle for hours on end each day, trying to get fingers, wind column, rhythm and intonation all in sync at the same precise millisecond can lead to total "brain fry" at times.

However, it's important to realize the thought and analyzation skill sets that are also being developed during this intense process. In this unique process there are times when even the slightest variance in finger height or hand position can cause an irrefutable catastrophe lasting only a second but destroying the performer mentally and emotionally.

Situation Analysis

Moving forward one step at a time, perhaps we over analyze a situation that we as performers deem to be important, but there is a sideline to all this. Yes, I am getting to the point, eventually; this finger moves a millimeter too far to the left as I raise it making the mathematical formulation of the 32nd note run seem infinitesimally gross. In other words, it's just not working the way it should fit into the complexities of the rhythmic structures around it.

Verbaciousness aside, slow methodical working through each and every motion will give the performer a different aspect of each action and reaction. This is really becoming an explanation on the theory of relativity I do believe.

From A to Z (ot rather A to F)

A – Air

B- Breathing

C – Nothing Here

D – Dense

E – Eureka!

F – Fine'

Found the problem and eureka, it's working again! Complete and total analyzation skill set developed. Now, take

that into the workforce along with a knowledge of computers (this is where Alan fits in the picture). Combined together, the challenge with the 7000 Ton Die Cast Machine is in the programming, the parabolic curve on the plunger or injection force is not compatible with the mold itself, adjust using these concepts and while you are at it, check the coolant flow in the hot die, clean it out and Viola!, perfect parts. The KISS Principle comes into play here, Keep It Simple Stupid.

Personal reality, I topped out in an industry where 3 to 5 years was the standard time frame for acquiring knowledge and skills in 6 months, the rest took me to mid-level management in a multinational corporation within a year. There is a lot more to this experience, if you would like to know just ask for the rest of the story.

A Liberal Arts Education, what a road map to success!*



Texas Jaycess President Adam Vanek presents award to Sean D. Carter- Hammerle
Sean D. Carter-Hammerle, CFRE Named as 2010 "Five Outstanding Young Texan"

The 60th Annual Five Outstanding Young Texan (FOYT) Ceremony hosted by the Texas Junior Chamber presented the 2010 Awards on August 21. The FOYT program annually honors five outstanding people between 18 and 41 years of age who "exemplify the best attributes of the nation's young people."

"The amazing thing about Sean is that he is such a respected leader not only in the GLBT Community but in Houston's mainstream community as well, which is few and far between," explained Chris McVey, President of the Houston Junior Chamber. "He was the first openly gay individual to be named as one of the Five Outstanding Young Houstonians at the 78th annual award presentation in 2009, and we are extremely proud that he won this year's Five Outstanding Young Texan."

Other 2010 honorees included:
Alberto "Beto" Cardenas (Houston). **Dr. James D. Fowler** (Rowlett) **Mark A. Melton** (Dallas) and **Michael H. Morath** (Dallas)

Republican ploy for redemption

by Mark Segal

Ken Mehlman, former chairman of the Republican National Committee and co-chair of President George W. Bush's 2004 re-election campaign, who ran what was arguably the most hate-filled homophobic campaign in American political history, came out last week in a slick public-relations campaign-type interview served up by The Atlantic magazine. His actions as head of the Republican Party created antigay laws, including antigay-marriage constitutional amendments in numerous states, gay baiting, harassment, hate crimes and even LGBT youth suicides. We have not seen his type since Roy Cohn. This man has no shame. But that is not the end of the story.

Now Mehlman wants redemption and is organizing a fundraiser this month benefiting The American Foundation for Equal Rights, the same organization that is successfully challenging the legality of California's anti-gay marriage ballot initiative Prop. 8. The benefit, according to both The Atlantic and AFER, has already raised close to a million dollars. So, does Mehlman expect to buy his way into our hearts? And are we to give him redemption and welcome him with open arms to our cause? Are we to forgive and forget that he is the reason we are fighting Proposition 8 in California?

There are two ways to look at AFER actions. First, are they selling out for \$1 million to add to their campaign chest? Personally, I don't believe so. These are sharp, pragmatic people who deserve our respect. Rob Rainer, Dustin Lance Black and lawyers David Boies and Ted Olson have run a brilliant campaign. Second, part of what this group stands for is reaching out to those who are conservative and saying, "Join us in fighting for equality. Equality is not a liberal or conservative issue: It's an American issue." Whether we want to admit it or not, Mehlman can accomplish that, but at what cost? While we respect the organization and its leadership, there is no respect for Mehlman in our community. It reviles us.

Rather than an apology to kickstart his road to redemption, we receive a slick PR campaign. Are we to be treated to a Jimmy Swaggart-type speech by Mehlman at his fundraiser, saying somethingo the tune of "I have sinned against you ..."? In tears, of course. (Someone please cue the guy who puts the glycerin in his eyes for the tears.)

Forty years ago, the Gay Youth Alliance was founded to help endangered youth. To this day, our endangered LGBT youth commit suicide more frequently than any other segment of society of that age group. To anyone who has received a call from someone on the verge, you've heard a line like, "Everyone hates us." Mehlman contributed to that atmosphere of hate. Mr. Mehlman, you have the blood of our youth on your hands. Until you recompense for that, we cannot give you redemption — no matter how much money you raise or how many people you bring to the table. We need to know this is no gimmick and that you have come to terms with and understand the pain you personally have inflicted on this community. After all, this struggle is about education, and education brings redemption.

In his interview, Mehlman didn't offer an apology, just a limp "I wish I would have spoken up." Having him take a bow at this fundraiser is a picture that repulses me. I understand what the organization is attempting to do, but this is hard to swallow. And due to my respect for AFER, I feel almost helpless in how to express my anger. Yes, it is important to embrace the "converted." And, as an old quote goes, you should choose your battles wisely. This is not a battle but a skirmish, and the truth is we need more soldiers. But a real apology would be a start. A million dollars is not.

Mark Segal, Philadelphia Gay News publisher, is the nation's most award-winning commentator in LGBT media He can be reached at mark@epgn.com..

Former Power Ranger David Yost comes out

Two more celebs have come out. Radio host Stephanie Catherine Miller, a popular liberal radio talk show host, came out on her show and said she was inspired by country singer Chely Wright. And actor David Yost, who played the original blue Power Ranger, a nerdy teen named Billy who possesses unexpected martial arts abilities, came out at the 2010 Anime Festival in Orlando.

But Yost's story has a twist. He said he walked off the "Power Rangers" set after being called faggot "one too many times ... I had just heard that several times while working on the show from creators, producers, writers, directors ... Basically I just felt like I was continually being told I was not worthy of being where I am because I'm a gay person. And I'm not supposed to be an actor and I'm not supposed to be a superhero." He said he had a nervous breakdown after being written out of the show and came close to suicide.

Councilwoman Jolanda Jones Takes on Covenant House

The following is a letter sent by City Council-member Jolanda Jones concerning the lack of services for transgendered youth.. The transgender Foundation of America opened a dialog with the director at Covenant House Houston after problems were reported when individuals were either placed in inappropriate situations, faced harassment or attacks, or were denied services at the facility. This has been reported in previous issues of the Montrose GEM.

August 24, 2010

Dear Director Robinson,

Greetings. This letter is a follow up to the meeting on July 6, 2010, at the Houston Covenant House. You informed the attendees that by July 19, 2010, you would provide the Transgender Foundation of America (TFA) with Policies and Procedures as it applies to Intake, Assessment, Placement, and Discipline regarding transgender youth. We were also to be notified on a follow-up meeting to discuss solutions.

To date, it is my understanding, the TFA has received nothing from you as promised. I have checked with my staff and have also looked into my files and have no indication/evidence that any of this information was carbon copied to and/or received by my office. If you sent the afore-referenced information to my office and my office has somehow misplaced it, please resend it as soon as possible. If you have not sent the information, I look forward to it within the next seven (7) days.

To that end, I look very forward to your expeditious response to this correspondence as you are well over a month late on the promised information. Most importantly this is a very important matter and dignified treatment of transgender youth is a cause we should all be committed to. Receipt of this information is the first step to resolution of this matter.

The People Are the City,

Jolanda "Jo" Jones
City Council Member
At-Large Position 5

~ *Prediction* continued from Page 1

Even though a majority of states have amended their constitution to define marriage as a union between one man and one woman, federalism arguments against same sex marriage based on the Ninth and Tenth Amendments will not prevail. Under Article VI—the Supremacy Clause—of the U.S. Constitution, not even a state constitutional amendment can trump federal constitutional protections.

States cannot use the Ninth and Tenth Amendments to limit the protections of the Fourteenth Amendment or those within the penumbra of the Bills of Rights. States' rights cannot be used to nullify federal constitutional protections.

The federal government cannot commandeer the states, but neither can the states commandeer the U.S. Constitution. Arguments that the Federal Defense of Marriage Act forces states to discriminate against their own citizens by treating same sex couples differently than heterosexual couples in the distribution of government benefits awarded based on marital status will likely prevail. A congressional statute cannot supersede constitutional protections.

Finally, the Supreme Court has acknowledged that the Bill of Rights of the Constitution protects Freedom of Association. What greater expression of freely associating is there than marriage?

We have not cited a litany of specific Supreme Court cases in this piece that we believe the Justices are likely to rely on (though there are many that run from Loving to NAACP v. Alabama to Lawrence v. Texas) because we are offering a macro overview of what we believe will be the Supreme Court's line of reasoning and logic in ruling that same sex marriage is constitutional.

This issue and the constitutionality of the individual mandate in the new Healthcare law will be among the major issues decided by the Supreme Court in the coming years.

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Photo credit: Thea Embury in a small ceremony on Memorial Day in Sunderland, Mass

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