

YOU DESERVE THE BEST

Prism Health North Texas provides high-quality, personalized healthcare for the LGBTQIA+ community.



SERVICES OFFERED

- STI Testing and Treatment
- HIV Testing with Treatment
- PrEP Prevention
- HIV Primary Care
- Transgender Primary Care
- Behavioral Health Care
- Dental Care
- Pharmacy
- Case Management
- Insurance and Financial Aid Assistance
- HIV Empowerment

4
Convenient Locations

Oak Lawn
2801 Lemmon Ave
Suite 200

Oak Cliff
219 Sunset Ave
Suite 116-A

South Dallas
4922 Spring Ave

Worth Street
4004 Worth Street

PrismHealth
NORTH TEXAS

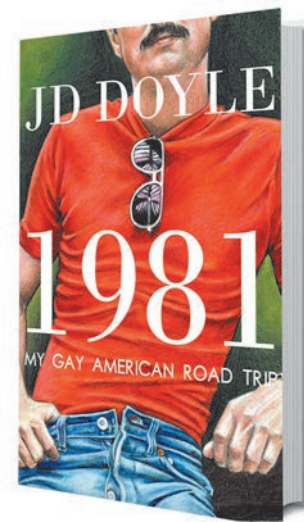
MAKE AN APPOINTMENT AT
PHNTX.ORG OR CALL **214.521.5191**

Before the AIDS crisis

BOOKS AND HISTORY

JD Doyle tells the story of a road trip he took just before HIV hit Texas

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com



In 1981: *My Gay American Road Trip*, JD Doyle sets out on a cross-country adventure a year before the AIDS epidemic overtook the gay community. During his trip, Doyle discovers Texas, eventually settling in Houston.

One fun chapter in the book is all about his visit to Dallas, where he parties on Cedar Springs and describes recently-opened bars, including a one-story JR.'s, TMC (where Sue Ellen's now stands) and the Round-Up Saloon.

Doyle was in Dallas recently for a meeting of the Gay Press Association and described Mark Segal, still publisher of the Philadelphia Gay News as "on the ball although perhaps a little pushy, or let's say, very self-assured." Great description, although Segal has mellowed some over the years.

A must-see picture is one taken at the corner of Oak Lawn and Cedar Springs of the eight-story landmark Omni Melrose hotel there. The hotel still looks the same, except for the flashing red neon "Melrose Hotel" sign on the roof back then.

Doyle's road trip documents life before AIDS in the gay community, and it will bring back memories for those who lived through the era. For those not around back then, it will likely seem quaint or simply odd.

For example, Doyle describes how he traveled with a *Bob Damron* guide, a pocket-size book that listed every gay bar, shop and meeting place — arranged by state — across the country. Having the latest Damron was a must for any gay traveler.

Doyle kept diaries of his road trip and today documents Houston's LGBTQ community the way *The Dallas Way* records the history of the North Texas community.

Doyle began his archiving efforts with his Obituary Project, compiling obits of people in the LGBTQ communi-

Want to participate in psychology research?

The Aging Well Lab is looking for adults ages 25-85 for our study on risky decision making!



Interested?

Scan the QR code or contact us!

Phone: (972) 883-3730

Email: AgingWellLab@UTDallas.edu





FUNDRAISING From Page 8

ty as printed in TWT and Houston gay publications he collected. He expanded the project statewide and today has thousands of death notices, including those from Dallas Voice.

That expanded to collecting historic photos documenting the LGBTQ community, especially in Houston, and, today, his websites have more than 80,000 pages of historical documents and photos.

Doyle's book includes plenty of photos from his road trip, including a shot of Cedar Springs from the window of his room in the Melrose that shows Adair's where S4 now stands. Adair's was a Cedar Springs fixture long before the LGBTQ community moved in, and its owner just hated queers. To encourage him to move off the strip, Union Jack would place scantily clad models in its window on Adair's busiest nights.

I don't know if Doyle knew that story or not, but as a historian, he'd be happy that one picture of his conjured memories of how the gayborhood developed. And 1981 is a pleasant memory of the world before AIDS. ■



The Black Tie Dinner committee

an important alignment for their companies and for their employees," Vyers said.

"Some of our sponsors have looked

at their companies' DEI initiatives and made some adjustments to the benefits they receive from sponsoring — like a sponsor might say they cannot accept the benefit of a table at the dinner, but they still want to donate to Black Tie. And one of our sponsorship committee members actually just signed an agreement with Coca-Cola!"

"That," Vyers interjected, "is the kind of big fish we always want to play with."

Black Tie Dinner ends again this year with the two-hour After Black Party at the Sheraton, underwritten by Morgan Cox and Derrall Hill and open to all dinner guests. Then, once all is said and done, checks from this year's proceeds will be distributed to beneficiaries at a Dec. 14 event at Gilley's, underwritten by Lexus.

"I have to say, it has truly been an honor to serve as Black Tie co-chair," said Pierce, who officially steps down at the Dec. 14 event after two years in that role. "I am very excited for Dustin's journey as co-chair, both for this year and for next year when he is senior co-chair.

"And I also want to say a huge thanks to everyone on our all-volunteer board of directors," she continued. "They are the most dedicated, hard-working people I know, and they are truly passionate about the mission and the vision of Black Tie Dinner, and this event would not happen, and it would certainly not be so amazing without them."

Vyers added, "We are all excited to come together to celebrate our beneficiaries and all the wonderful work they do. That's what Black Tie is all about, and that's what our theme this year, 'Mirror-Ball,' means.

"Individually, we all have our own little shimmer inside of us. Sometimes it's hard to be yourself, depending on your family situation, maybe, or where you live. But when two people come together, you can both be more confident and shone a little brighter. Then more people join in and soon, it's all about the community coming together and being a big burst of light from all these individual mirrors, all of us reflecting each other's joy." ■

FIGHTING ON THE FRONT LINES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE FOR OVER 30 YEARS!



infectiousdiseases.com
or ntidc.org



NORTH TEXAS ID CONSULTANTS

HIV Care & Treatment

at our location on the Baylor campus.

PrEP Services

provided with specialty pharmacy on-site.

Financial & Medication

assistance available.

PrEP & HIV Clinical Trials

available

Gender Affirmation

hormone therapy.

Long Acting Injection Treatment

available.

We accept most insurance plans!

MAKE YOUR IN-OFFICE
OR TELEHEALTH
APPOINTMENT

214.823.2533
3409 Worth St.#710 · Dallas, TX

214.890.1616
9301 North Central Expy. #310 · Dallas, TX

dallasvoice

The Premier Media Source for LGBTQ Texas

Established 1984 | DallasVoice.com | Volume 40 | Issue 26 | FREE | Friday, Oct 27, 2023

HALLOWEEN
2023

(Plus Black Tie Dinner, page 8)