

# TATS Newsletter

★ the Texas Association for Transsexual Support

Volume 6, Issue 1

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TATS is ... a volunteer-led peer support group devoted to helping transsexual persons, their partners, their families, and their friends accept life and experience it to the fullest.

## ANNISE PARKER WINS RUNOFF, MAKES HISTORY!!! LEE BROWN ELECTED AS HOUSTON'S FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN MAYOR

By Vanessa Edwards-Foster

The runoff election on December 6 was a truly momentous occasion: for the first time in the city's history a minority was elected mayor, and an open lesbian was elected to city council. Lee Brown beat back a challenge by Rob Mosbacher, and inspired the black community in unprecedented numbers to turn out the vote that put him over the top. With all votes counted, Brown won with 156,307 votes -- or 52.67% -- to Mosbacher's 140,449 which amounted to 47.33% of the votes cast. It was a very heated contest, and a very close vote throughout the night, with the neck-and-neck vote changing lead on numerous occasions. Mosbacher held a conference to concede the race late in the evening, and did so in a very conciliatory and classy manner. In Brown, we have a mayor known in past experience for his 'consensus building,' and as a minority himself, more likely to listen to the plight of the 'little guy'... which includes, possibly, the transgender community.

An added benefit of the Brown mayoral

race was the high African-American vote, which directly helped make Annise Parker's campaign an overwhelming success. Annise garnered 144,417 votes -- outpointing all non-incumbents in the race, and even Mosbacher! Her election seemed never to be in question, with the exit-pollsters predicting her victory even before the vote count. She opened up a slight 51% to 49% lead with just one percent of the vote count, and never trailed the entire night as her lead continued to widen throughout. With the final votes counted, Annise won 57.9% of the vote to Don Fitch's 42.1%, or 105,017 votes. In his own concession speech Fitch, sounding less than conciliatory, pointed to her success as being the result of "having run for



Kathy Hubbard (L) and her partner, councilmember-elect Annise Parker (R) celebrate the victory

### THE WINNING TEAM: TEAM PARKER!



Dec. 6 Election  
Victory Party  
at Riva's Rest.

(L-R) vol. coord. Patrick McIlvain, field dir. Deborah Bell, campaign mgr. Grant Martin, vol. coord. Vanessa Edwards-Foster, and the victorious candidate Annise Parker

### MEETING SCHEDULE:

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| January 10  | Social Meeting at:<br>Michelle Myers' @ 3:00 PM     |
| January 24  | Un-Meeting at<br>Vanessa Edwards-Foster's @ 7:00 PM |
| February 14 | Social Meeting at:<br>Michelle Myers' @ 3:00 PM     |
| February 28 | Un-Meeting at<br>Vanessa Edwards-Foster's @ 7:00 PM |

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