



Seelbach, Cincinnati's first openly Gay council member

Chris Seelbach, a Democrat, was elected to Cincinnati City Council Tuesday becoming the first openly Gay member of that body.

He was not the first openly Gay person to run. Joshua Moore, (*later Joshua Thomas*) ran as an Independent in 1981 and Richard Buchanan, ran in 1991 as a Democrat.

Seelbach did not run on a Gay platform, now a non-issue.

In his campaign literature Seelbach said council needs to create the most effective, efficient police force in the country by using modern technology and cutting-edge crime fighting strategies; needs to invest in great entertainment, a great arts scene, and great trans-

portation options to attract the talented young professionals businesses want to hire.

Seelbach, 31, is vice president and chief financial officer of The Seidewitz Group, a marketing and consulting firm. The council also will be majority Democrat. "This is an important victory for LGBT people in Cincinnati and for Chris, who will be an outstanding leader on the council. We were proud to endorse him and support his campaign," said Chuck Wolfe, president and CEO of the



Chris Seelbach

Victory Fund. Here are comments of several of his supporters.

Dan Fitzgerald: Congratulations to Chris!

Grace Jones: Congrats Chris.... everyone is proud of you. You reached your

goal and now you can begin to make a difference in our community!

Steve Gall: Way to go Chris !!!!!....dont forget the little people!

Doris Marks Callis: Yay! Well deserved!

John A. Maddux: Congrats. A tremendous victory!

Jerod Weber: Congrats Chris. Thank you for allowing me to be part of this amazing experience. But most of all, thanks for being a role model for LGBTQ youth everywhere by letting us know we can be whatever we want to be, and that no matter what nay sayers may cross our paths, we are capable of anything we set our hearts and minds to! You rock! Thanks so much!

David Williams: Congratulations, Chris! You're making two cities proud. Is there anything higher in your future someday? Like mayor of Cincinnati, or taking on John Boehner (*if he's in your district*)?

Christopher Davis: Congratulations, Council-member Seelbach! Thank you for running an open,

See *Gay*, Page 2, Col. 2

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Gay—from Page 1
honest, inclusive and forward thinking campaign. Now get to work on December 1st.
Jon J Harmon: Wow!!! What a night! Thank you, Cincinnatians, for rewarding us for hard work, honesty and what we think are some pretty good ideas for our City. Here’s to the beginning of eight years with Councilman Chris Seelbach!
Christopher Davis: Congratulations, Councilmember Seelbach! Thank you for running an open, honest, inclusive and forward thinking campaign. Now get to work on December 1st.

The gang at On Broadway Bar: Congratulations to you Chris, and the other three new council members. You guys pull off an amazing campaign, and turning over four council seats in one election is almost unheard of. It’s the people telling you they need change, and they need you to help bring about this change for a great city. Unfortunately, the campaigning is over, but the work has just started. Best of luck to you, and our newly elected City Council.
Candace Gingrich-

Jones: Congratulations, Chris! We definatley need more people like you in politics.
Jon J Harmon: Wow!!! What a night! Thank you, Cincinnatians, for rewarding us for hard work, honesty and what we think are some pretty good ideas for our City. Here’s to the beginning of eight years with Councilman Chris Seelbach!
Carrie Sublett: I am so happy for you! And think you ran a great campaign...*(from what I saw)*...Cincinnati is lucky to have you.
David Pepper and Sherri Crowley will swear him in on Thursday, December 1 in City Hall. All are welcome. Jim Tarbell has agreed to play his harmonica in celebration!
MAPublications congratulates Chris on his win for all GLBT citizens of Cincinnati. Now we move forward.
The third time is the charm.

Around the U.S.
Several races across the nation resulted in victories for openly LGBT candidates in several state and local governments, ac-
See U.S., Page 3, Col. 1

U.S.—from Page 2
 cording to the **Victory Fund**

In Houston, Texas, Mayor Annise D. Parker was re-elected to a second term. She is Houston's second female mayor and the first elected Gay mayor of a major U.S. city.

In New London, Conn., a political newcomer, openly Gay attorney Daryl Justin Finizio was the city's first elected mayor in nearly nine decades.

Alex Morse, a 22-year-old graduate of Brown University, was elected mayor of Holyoke, Mass., a city of nearly 40,000 residents near Springfield, becoming the nation's youngest openly Gay mayor.

LaWana Mayfield won her race for Charlotte, N.C., City Council, becoming that city's first openly LGBT elected official. She ousted the incumbent Democrat in the primary earlier this year.

And in Virginia, State Delegate Adam Ebbin was elected to the state Senate, making him the Commonwealth's first openly Gay Senator.

Following are results of additional state and local races, as reported by **Victory Fund**, a political

action group focused on increasing the number of openly LGBT public officials in U.S. political life:

Indiana—Zach Adamson has won his race for city council in Indianapolis, becoming its first openly LGBT city council member.

Montana—Caitlin Copple, an out Lesbian who was endorsed by the Victory Fund, has won her race for the Missoula, Montana, city council, defeating an incumbent who voted against Gay issues. Copple was among 75 openly LGBT candidates endorsed by the Victory Fund.

New Jersey—Mayor Tim Eustace of Maywood, N.J., was elected to the New Jersey Assembly, becoming the first openly Gay non-incumbent to win a seat in the state legislature. Eustace will join Assemblymember Reed Gusciora, who won his reelection bid, as New Jersey's only openly Gay state lawmakers.

Other races: In North Carolina, openly Gay Chapel Hill Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt won his reelection bid with 78 percent of the vote.

Openly Gay 22-year-old

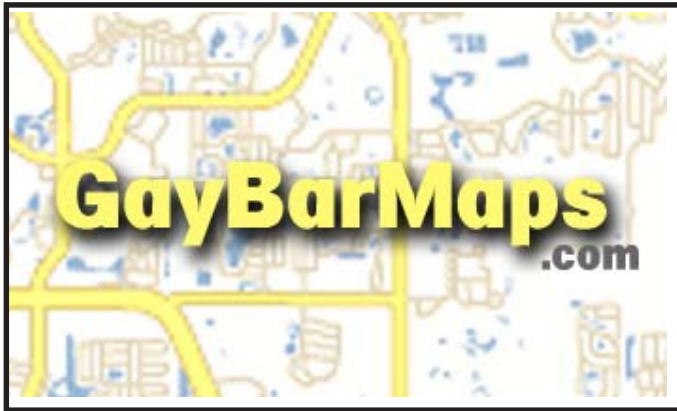
See *U.S.*, Page 4, Col. 1

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U.S.—from Page 3
and recent University of North Carolina graduate Lee Storrow won his race for a seat on the Chapel Hill Town Council. Storrow is the youngest member to serve on the council in 20 years. In Iowa, Democrat Liz Mathis was victorious in a special Iowa State Senate race, allowing her party to retain control of the chamber, blocking Republican efforts to overturn the state's Gay Marriage Law.

In an overwhelming victory, Traverse City voters on Tuesday chose to keep the city's local non-discrimination ordinance on the books. The ordinance, passed last year by the City Commission, prohibits discrimination against Gay and Transgender residents in employment and housing.

Iowa Gay Marriage saved as Democrat wins a Senate seat

Democrats have held a crucial senate seat in a special election in central Iowa .

Had the seat fallen to Republicans, it would have allowed the Iowa Senate to potentially proceed with revocation procedures of

legal Gay Marriage in the state.

The seat was made open to special election after incumbent Democrat Senator Swati Dandekar resigned to take a high paying job appointment from Republican Governor Terry Branstad to the Iowa Utilities Board.

Democrat Liz Mathis garnered 56 percent of the vote against contestant Republican Cindy Golding in the district just outside of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Between the two candidates, almost \$1 million was raised in the race with Mathis outspending her opponent by nearly 3 to 1.

Michigan pastor advocates for Gays

A pastor may be an unlikely person when thinking of LGBT advocates, but one pastor from the Midwest is doing just that.

Bill Freeman, a minister in Holland, Mich., has turned the town's weekly city council meetings into a platform to push local officials to amend current anti-discrimination laws to include sexual orientation and gender identity.



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