

# Up the Ladder

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## Advertising

**GSD&M** named **Jay Russell** vice president/managing group creative director. Russell was most recently creative director at Crispin Porter + Bogusky in Boulder, Colo., where he managed the Microsoft Windows account. He previously served as group creative director at GSD&M.

## Real estate

**Mike Jones** will lead the **ReMax Metro Realty** office in southwest Austin as owner/broker.

## Consulting

**Bridgepoint Consulting** named **Pete Pearson** chief financial officer consultant. Pearson has over 14 years of experience, most recently as vice president, finance at Lombardi Software.

Architecture, engineering and consulting firm **HDR** promoted **Steve Keyes** to central region business group director for the company's federal energy and resource management business group. Keyes has been at HDR for 20 years.

## Technology

**Caringo Inc.**, an online data storage provider, named **Adrian Herrera** senior director, marketing. He most recently was on the founding team of Nirvanix, where he headed the marketing team.

## Financial services

Debt collection firm **Providence Dane LLC** named **Patrick Swanick** senior advisor. Swanick was previously chief executive officer at Gila Corp.

## Law

**Richel Rivers** and **Mary Evelyn McNamara** formed **Rivers McNamara** law firm. Rivers and McNamara were both partners at Brown McCarroll.

## Nonprofit organizations

**Hand to Hold**, which provides navigation resources and support programs to parents of preemies, babies born with special health care needs and those who have experienced a loss due to these or other complications, has elected board members: **David Alter**, venture capital investor at Austin Ventures, has been named president; **Barbara Balliette**, partner at Reid Collins & Tsai, has been named secretary; and **Scott Whitaker**, director of stewardship and development at the Catholic Diocese of Austin, has been named treasurer.

**Wolfgang Niedert**, principal and founder of financial firm E. Wolfgang Niedert and Assoc., and **Janna**

**Paulson**, president of ACI Group and founder of Peel Paulson Design Studio, were named to the **Texas Book Festival** board of directors.

**Jessica Olson** has been named vice president of diversity for the **Austin Human Resource Management Association** board of directors. Olson is a human resources generalist/human resources information resources specialist at the Austin Diagnostic Clinic.

**Gerald Smith**, a financial consultant with Charles Schwab & Co. Inc., has been named to the **Council of At-Risk Youth** board of directors. The organization provides aggression replacement training for at-risk youth who exhibit abusive or bullying behavior.

**Pat Wallis** has been named Volunteer of the Year for the **Travis County Medical Alliance**. **Vicki Blumhagen** has been named president. The organization facilitates and funds community service projects.

### Professional honors

**David Porter**, senior vice president of economic development for the **Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce**, has been named one of the Top 10 People Who Make a Difference in the South by Southern Business and Development Magazine.

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