

[MUSIC PLAYING]

SPEAKER 1: Ah, I love that music. I just never get tired of this, this theme music for the *After Hours News and Views*. It's by a group called Deuce, and the CD's called Windjammer. It's two lesbians who do play a variety of instruments, and it's all instrumental. It's just great music. Great jazz music.

SPEAKER 2: Good stuff.

SPEAKER 1: Good stuff. And so I guess it is time for the *After Hours News and Views* with Big Roy and Chris.

SPEAKER 3: I'd like to welcome everyone to this week's edition of *After Hours News and Views*, if we can get ourselves all untangled here. I want to give a hearty shout out there to Randy down there in [INAUDIBLE]. And Randy, I'll get that letter out to you as soon as I can go buy some stamps and some envelopes. That's my only excuse, but it's a true one.

SPEAKER 4: Well, we'll just put him down that he contributed money, and just slip it in with the KPFT stuff.

SPEAKER 3: There you go. We've got listeners all over the place. We've got Randy. And Randy and Tony here in the Montrose. And we got a whole bunch more that slipped my mind right now, but that have talked to me, and I'm very sorry that the name slipped my mind. But thank you, thank you, thank you for listening in.

And it's a very big week for us here in the news in the state of Texas for gay people. Finally, in the words of Mrs. Byrd, the mother of James Byrd, finally, a good day.

SPEAKER 4: And the best Mother's Day present a mother could get.

SPEAKER 3: Yes. The James Byrd Hate Crime Bill has been signed into law. It was a tough going, folks, but it has finally been signed into law. A lot of work has gone into that. People from the caucus, people from the--

SPEAKER 4: Gay rights lobby.

SPEAKER 3: Gay rights lobby. And a whole bunch of-- a whole bunch of different groups worked on this, not to mention the tireless efforts of Dianne Hardy-Garcia and numerous other folks. [INAUDIBLE] Thompson and many, many others.

SPEAKER 4: Rodney Ellis, who pushed it through in the Senate.

SPEAKER 3: Rodney Ellis. And for the record, the people who voted in favor of this were--

SPEAKER 4: These are going to be members of the Texas Senate, correct?

SPEAKER 3: It doesn't say if it's the Senate or the Texas House of Representatives. But--

SPEAKER 4: Well, there's only 30 people. So I believe that's the Senate.

SPEAKER 3: Be the Senate. Yeah. There is Armbrister, Ellis, Moncrief, Van de Putte, Barrientos, Gallegos, Ogden, West, Bernson, Harry, Shipley, Whitmire, Cain, Lucio, Sibley, Zafferini, Duncan, Malida, Ruin, and President Ratliff. I'm not--

SPEAKER 4: That's the Lieutenant Governor. He's the president of the Senate.

SPEAKER 3: Also, voting against it was Bevins, Frazier, Lindsey, Wentworth, Brown, Haywood, Nelson, Corona, Jackson, and Shapiro. Now, the James Byrd Hate Crime Act, it increases penalties for crimes motivated by prejudice or bias based on race, color, disability, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, gender, or sexual preference. Oh, I hate that word, sexual preference. It should be--

SPEAKER 4: Orientation.

SPEAKER 3: Sexual orientation. Now, I've heard a lot of argument on this, why it shouldn't-- a hate crimes bill-- people within the community, why a hate crimes bill shouldn't be passed. Because robbery is robbery, regardless of who it is. And homicide is homicide, or whatnot.

OK, when a person commits a crime, a regular crime, it is committed against another person or against a property. But it's a crime against all the people of the state. That's why the court document always reads, the State of Texas versus John Doe.

SPEAKER 4: Yeah.

SPEAKER 3:

OK, a hate crime is not only committed against that particular person, but also targets an entire group of people that's not necessarily the entire citizenry, but especially a particular--

SPEAKER 4: And also, sometimes the crime is specifically against that group of people. We don't hear of a gang of kids from Pasadena going through one of the wards, yelling N this and N that. They don't go through the Barrio sections of Houston and yell out epitaphs against Latinos. You don't hear them driving through River Oaks and going, hey, rich person.

But it's perfectly acceptable to come through and drive through the Montrose and yell out faggot and queer and all those other derogatory things.

SPEAKER 3: Right.

SPEAKER 4: Well now, not only are they disturbing the peace, or they were probably drinking and driving, most of these people, it's now increased more of what they're doing. They're coming down here specifically to intimidate and to harass people based on their sexual-- as the wording of the paper goes-- preference.

But that's the main thing to it. Yes, robbery is for hatred, sometimes. But if you're going out because you want a drug fix, and you're going to go-- you don't care who the person is, you're taking the money.

SPEAKER 3: It's outright robbery.

SPEAKER 4: But it's when you beat up a person, and you're yelling faggot and queer and homo. Or it's the same thing as if you're going to be, in the case of James Byrd, Jr., who was targeted specifically because he was African-American. And these guys saw the opportunity to commit this crime, and that was the basis for it. Yes, hatred comes down to all of this. But it has to be-- but there's specific hatred.

SPEAKER 3: Against a particular group of people.

SPEAKER 4: A particular a group of people. These three guys in [? Vyer ?] with James Byrd, they didn't stop off and pick up some white guy who was walking down the street. They may have picked up a Latino that was going down there. But they specifically did the crime because he was African-American. And that's the basis of it. It's not-- I mean, you can sit and use that argument that all crimes are hate crimes, but--

SPEAKER 3: They're really not.

SPEAKER 4: They're not. I mean, if you're looking for a drug fix, you don't care whose TV you steal, just as long as the pawn shop give you \$50 for it. They don't care what type of place you run into to grab that.

SPEAKER 3: And not all homicide is done with hatred by the person committing the homicide. Sometimes it's accidental homicide. Sometimes it's negligent homicide. There's different factors there.

SPEAKER 4: Yeah.

SPEAKER 3: But homicide from hate against a group is-- any crime-- any hate crime or hate act targets a specific group of people.

SPEAKER 4: Yeah. I mean, that's the thing. What you have to look at with all this stuff is the extra part to it.

SPEAKER 3: We just convicted a guy in the bombing-- the church bombing 40 some-odd years ago out there in Alabama of a church in which four young Black kids-- children--

SPEAKER 4: Girls.

SPEAKER 3: Black girls died in this church bombing. That was done specifically as a hate crime. The burning of a cross is a hate crime. The painting of swastikas on a person's door or on a door of a synagogue or on tombstones is a hate crime meant to intimidate and to create-- and it is meant to create fear and unrest.

SPEAKER 4: And it does, also, when you use the hate crime or what the legally correct term is, a biased crime. I mean, that's how it's actually worded. Hate crime is just this vernacular that everybody uses, but it's actually on the laws as a biased crime. When you get to some of these situations, it makes people look a little closer.

That family out in Kingwood that somebody placed-- they're a Jewish family, and they placed-- these teens placed pig intestines and pig body parts on their doorstep, which in the Jewish faith, it's considered unclean animal. Well, a couple of months later, somebody was doing donuts in their front yard, tearing it all up. And they started investigating as a hate crime, and it was-- it wasn't a hate crime. It was just somebody who's doing donuts in someone's front yard. They just happened to be there.

SPEAKER 3: There is a difference.

SPEAKER 4: There is a difference.

SPEAKER 3: OK. What this bill also does, it creates civil penalties for hate crimes that allow victims and families to sue and obtain damages from the criminals. Now in this case, it would be Chris versus John Doe, Chris being the plaintiff, John Doe being the defendant. In a criminal case, a person needs to be proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. In a civil case--

SPEAKER 4: You just need 50.1%.

SPEAKER 3: Or a preponderance of the evidence.

SPEAKER 4: Yeah.

SPEAKER 3: And a lot of times, both these trials go on at the same time. And as you found out in the case-- as we've all found out in the case of OJ Simpson, you can be found not guilty in a criminal court and be found guilty in a civil court.

SPEAKER 4: What he was found was negligent in that part. But what you're seeing on here is a hate crime, a bias crime doesn't take effect-- isn't discussed, really-- until the punishment phase.

SPEAKER 3: Right.

SPEAKER 4: And it's just a tack-on for people who have committed these crimes as a deterrent.

SPEAKER 3: Now, it also requires the counties annually report hate crime prosecutions to the state.

SPEAKER 4: Well, push your little button, and you can talk.

SPEAKER 1: Thank you. Need to interrupt in here for a little bit. Wait a minute.

SPEAKER 2: I need voice.

SPEAKER 3: Hello.

SPEAKER 2: Hello.

SPEAKER 1: Whitney's here, and we have a thank you. We got a very generous pledge, and there's a story that goes with it.

SPEAKER 3: OK. Go ahead.

SPEAKER 1: It's very important that we get this out on the air.

SPEAKER 2: This pledge came in from Ricky, and it is in memory of Daniel. This was a 15-year marriage, and Daniel passed away suddenly of an aneurysm, just that quick. And Ricky's listening to the show. He supports *After Hours*.

SPEAKER 3: Thank you, Ricky.

SPEAKER 2: And he's new to the Houston area, as well. He's from Corpus Christi. But he had this great love, and he loved this man so much. He needs everyone to know how proud he was of Daniel, of the commitment that was made to him. And he just didn't have the time to say goodbye.

SPEAKER 3: Aneurysms, just--

SPEAKER 2: And he needs everyone to know how proud he was of this man that he loved. And that there was a voice out here somewhere where he could go. We really thank you for your pledge, Ricky.

SPEAKER 3: We do.

SPEAKER 2: Mister Carol, we had some noise back in there that we couldn't hear too well. And I apologize for that. But the pledge means a lot to us.

SPEAKER 1: And I know Daniel meant a lot to you.

SPEAKER 2: Oh, definitely. We don't like to hear about the loss of a love.

SPEAKER 1: No, we don't. But on this show, we bring you three hours of queer life. And some--

SPEAKER 2: And this is part of it.

SPEAKER 1: Sometimes-- yeah. This is part of life, and I hate to do it, but--

SPEAKER 2: It's devastating when you lose someone, and you're at a loss. And he turned to the radio, because we all know that every song you hear is going to make you just sad. Everything-- you drive down the street, and you will see a Subway that goes-- (FEIGNING SADNESS) the chicken breast sandwich was his favorite.

SPEAKER 1: Yeah.

SPEAKER 2: We've all been there. So he tuned in and knew that he could find some support with the radio. And that's why he pledged. To keep us going. That's all. To keep the voice going. To be able to call up and say, I was proud of my partner, and I'm not ashamed anymore.

SPEAKER 3: Thank you, Ricky.

SPEAKER 2: Thank you so much.

SPEAKER 4: We do appreciate that. And it's great to hear that-- I mean, that's what the goal of the show is, is to be that voice to the people who don't have a voice and to-- we've always said our biggest listeners are the kids with the Walkmans under their covers.

SPEAKER 2: Yeah. He had said that his family had finally realized that they were the best couple of the family. 15 years, that's solid. That's commitment.

SPEAKER 3: That's stable.

SPEAKER 2: That's love.

SPEAKER 3: Yeah.

SPEAKER 2: You don't stay with somebody for 15 years because of anything sexual. That comes from the heart. And it goes beyond anything that's done in other rooms of the house.

SPEAKER 3: That's so true. It's so true.

SPEAKER 2: Isn't it? That's 15 years. That's a long time. Do y'all have some more news?

SPEAKER 3: Yeah.

SPEAKER 4: Oh, yes.

SPEAKER 1: But I do want to stress that we're not professionals here. None of us are. We're all amateurs. We're all just people who happen to get into a radio station once a week. And that's what I want to bring, just ordinary life over the airwaves.

SPEAKER 2: And there's sadness. There's great times. But we have to remember that just every moment is important. And we have to grab onto that.

SPEAKER 1: So this is Daniel's show.

SPEAKER 2: This is Daniel's show. This is dedicated to Daniel and Ricky, because with one, there wouldn't be the other.

SPEAKER 1: There you go. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER 2: Thanks, Ricky.

SPEAKER 4: Back to Austin, the completion of the George Bush's-- Governor Bush's presidential campaign out of the way, the legislature is moving ahead on four pieces of legislation advocated by gay groups in the state. The House of Representatives, a bill is being considered to decriminalize sodomy. Came out of the committee at a 7 to 2 vote.

Also, there's a bill to ban bias against students or teachers based on, among other characterizations, sexual orientation passed its committee vote 6 to nothing. The hate crimes legislation we just were talking about also has finally passed and signed. And there's one negative bill affecting our community coming up.

DOMA, the Defense of Marriage Act, which would prevent Texans from recognizing-- the state of Texas from recognizing same-sex marriages passed by other states. The bill has not passed yet, but probably will. However, the pro-gay legislation is generally getting a positive response in Texas-- in the state, where Republicans control both chambers of the House.

Most of these bills have been supported by a bipartisan coalition made up of Democratic legislators and Republicans. So we're going to keep an eye out there on Austin and find out what's happening next in our legal rounds.

SPEAKER 3: Well, you win one, you lose one. OK. Normally, we don't go this far West, but seeing as we passed a hate crime, just want to let everyone know that Hawaii has just passed their hate crime bill. And this now means that for the first time in US history, a majority of the 50 states will have hate crime laws covering sexual orientation, according to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

That's in all 27 states will have hate crime laws that cover sexual orientation once the Hawaii bill becomes law. Five states have no hate crime laws at all, and 19 states have hate crime laws that do not mention sexual orientation. Of the 26 states that have favorable laws, four states-- California, Minnesota, Missouri, and Vermont-- also include gender identity in their laws.

And I think that that's really great, that we've got these things happening now. And we are witnessing history in the making, folks. This is very important history. This is a very exciting time that we're living in, and things are changing. And some people do not like change, but change is going to come. And those who do not like change will act adversely, and we will now have--

SPEAKER 4: The ones who don't like change usually are the ones who are expecting dollar bills in the collection plate.

SPEAKER 3: Oh, is that what that is? OK.

SPEAKER 4: A couple of ways to get your voice heard in local government here. On Monday, the mayoral liaison forum, Janine Brunjes, who is Mayor Brown's liaison to the GLBT community, hosts a monthly public meeting on the second Monday from 5:00 to 6:30 PM at Houston's Lesbian and Gay Community Center. Also, you can chat online with the mayoral liaison on the second Wednesday of each month from 9:30 to 10:30. Go to www.talkcity.com. Sign in, and go to Houston GLBT Forum. So there's two ways you can get your voice heard in local government here in Houston.

SPEAKER 3: OK, folks. The third millennium has dawned, and we still don't know what to call ourselves. GLBT, or G-L-B-T. Just plain gay. Queer. Artistic. Or whatever. In an attempt to resolve the confusion and with a sense of humor, the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center announces the first annual what did you call me name runoff.

Between now and Pride Festival on Sunday, June 24, join the effort to name our family by completing an official form, either at the community center or at one of the many events around the neighborhood. Choose one of our options or supply your own favorite. Enter for just \$1, and proceeds benefit the center. All entries will appear in future issues of the community center news and at www.hlgcc.org. A panel of judges will assess the entries and name the best and the funniest. Call the Center at 713-524-3818.

SPEAKER 4: And don't forget, that's all with Houston's Lesbian and Gay Community Center at 803 Hawthorne, your queer home in Houston. Bering Support Network has two groups that may be of interest to people in the community. For mature audiences only, it's a all-inclusive multi-issue health and wellness community for persons over age 35 to celebrate the successes and share the challenges of midlife changes. That occurs on Tuesday nights from 7:00 to 8:30 PM.

Also on Monday nights, Bering Support has gaydar for 20- to 35-year-olds dealing with current issues and other topics on being young adults in the gay community. And that's Mondays from 7:00 to 8:00. This is all held at Bering Memorial United Methodist Church at 1440 Harold. For more information, call the Bering Support Network, 713-526-1017 or check them on the web at beringumc.org.

SPEAKER 3: Now, the Hawthorns Mens Club, the compelling monthly discussion group, meets on Friday, May 18, at the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center at 7:30 PM. The 2,000 book *Golden Men, the Power of Gay Midlife*, by Harold Kooden, who happens to be a PhD, inspired the formation of the group. On the third Friday of each month, participants talk about the book and other topics, some critical, others just simply entertaining.

And at next month's meeting on Friday, June 15, respected Houston psychotherapist Miles Glaspy joins the group for the summer months as facilitator. We are delighted that Miles will be joining us, the community center president Tim Brookover says, and we know he will bring valuable insight and skills to our discussion and help make the meetings even more significant for all of us.

Individual donations at Hawthorn Men Club are welcome to support the center programming. And the community center is located at 803 Hawthorne. Once again, that telephone number is 713-524-3818.

SPEAKER 4: Did you talk about Euphonia?

SPEAKER 3: Never even heard of it.

SPEAKER 4: Ah, you haven't? Everyone will be hearing about Euphonia. It's an evening of acoustic music to benefit the gay and lesbian switchboard. It's featuring Christy Ray and Joel Stein. And one other person, and I don't have that name yet. It's happening at Bocados Restaurant and Bar at 1312 West Alabama, 8:30 to 11:00. There's going to be a donation requested at the door, and it's going to be emceed by Rosie from *Pat & Rosie*, right here KPFT. Yes. I'll be there to give a very short little talk about the history of the switchboard. Yeah.

SPEAKER 3: Now, one other thing. I understand the archives is in the news for a big opening.

SPEAKER 1: Why interrupt the switchboard plug to do a thing about the museum? Let him finish with the switchboard.

SPEAKER 4: Because I'm associated with both places.

SPEAKER 1: Yeah, I know. But it's rude to interrupt one group for another.

SPEAKER 4: Well, that's it. I just want people to remember June-- Friday, June the 15th, Bocados Restaurant and Bar, 1312 West Alabama. And on June the 14th-- the night before, on Thursday-- will be the opening of the Gulf Coast Archive and Museum located-- it will be-- it is--

[LAUGHS]

Hello.

SPEAKER 3: Doing a Chris on us?

SPEAKER 4: Yes, we are.

SPEAKER 1: Ooh, ouch. I heard that.

SPEAKER 3: I know it.

SPEAKER 4: We're just putting it together now, and we will be opening. It's located at 1609 West Main number 4.

SPEAKER 3: Now, I have a question about GCAM.

SPEAKER 1: I thought I saw--

SPEAKER 4: You saw wrong.

SPEAKER 1: Oh.

SPEAKER 4: It's number four.

SPEAKER 1: That's good--

SPEAKER 4: And that is just--

SPEAKER 1: I think the couple that lives there would probably be a little upset.

SPEAKER 4: Yeah. They'd be very upset.

SPEAKER 1: Where's the queer museum?

SPEAKER 4: Yes. And that's right-- just a stone's throw from Cafe Artiste.

SPEAKER 1: Please don't test that distance.

SPEAKER 4: No, no. OK.

SPEAKER 3: Now.

SPEAKER 4: Yes.

SPEAKER 3: I have a question about GCAM. What will folks see when they go into GCAM?

SPEAKER 4: OK. This is going to be-- this is a new exhibit. We've had two exhibits so far, and this one is going to be on stage. It's going to be costumes that have been donated to the museum from all faces, from drag to Mardi Gras to-- let's see.

SPEAKER 1: Probably a simple pride parade frock.

SPEAKER 4: Yeah. To a cheerleader's outfit that was worn by Rainbow de Clown.

SPEAKER 3: Oh, boy.

SPEAKER 4: And it's a skirt.

SPEAKER 3: No.

SPEAKER 4: Surprise. Yes, we've got-- oh, I think so far, we've got about 15 different outfits, and still looking for more. Now, also in the museum, on permanent display, we've got a shadow box, which is, like, 6 feet long by 4 feet tall, for Lady Victoria Lust. That's on permanent display, given to us by Don Gill and the LVL Foundation.

We've got a trophy case for the Houston area Bears. And this Saturday, we will be receiving the trophy case from the Colt 45s. Those three will be permanently there.

SPEAKER 3: You know, it would be nice if you could get the trophy case and trophies and photos and whatnot from Dirty Sally's.

SPEAKER 4: We are looking for anybody who has anything, because we even-- we are going to be opening an erotic room, because erotica has been very important.

SPEAKER 1: Erotic, not neurotic.

SPEAKER 4: No, no.

SPEAKER 3: We've got the neurotic on this show.

SPEAKER 4: No kidding. And so we're looking for--

SPEAKER 1: You keep it up, you'll be the neuter on the show.

SPEAKER 3: No, you don't want me neutered.

SPEAKER 4: We're running overtime into Sandy's time, you know, and he's got a lot to talk about. And he's going to just have to talk faster.

SPEAKER 1: It's hard enough to understand him as he is now.

SPEAKER 4: Ouch! He's sitting right here.

SPEAKER 1: Oh, yeah, yeah.

SPEAKER 3: OK. Well, let me just wrap up the news with one last thing I promised that I would do.

SPEAKER 4: OK.

SPEAKER 3: For about Compact employees. Compact Plus, Compact's gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered employee networking group, will be celebrating Pride month with an event on the afternoon of June 8. The program includes presentation on the benefits and consequences of being open in the workplace by Marie Minicucci and a retrospective of the changes and attitudes in the computer industry towards a transgendered people and the lesbian, bisexual, gay community by Lynn Conway. To contact Compact Plus, see the website at www.genderweb.org in--

SPEAKER 4: Slash.

SPEAKER 3: Yeah, backslash tilde C-P-Q-L-B-G-T, end quote.

SPEAKER 4: Tilde Compact Plus--

SPEAKER 3: No, that's--

SPEAKER 4: Where'd the Q come from?

SPEAKER 3: That's--

SPEAKER 1: Can't you do, like--

SPEAKER 4: Oh, just email us, and we'll forward it to you.

[LAUGHS]

That's the way we work it, folks.

SPEAKER 3: Anyway, folks, that's a wrap for this week's edition of--

SPEAKER 4: I certainly hope so.

SPEAKER 3: --*After Hours News*. I'd like to thank all of you for listening in to this insanity. Come back next week, listen to us again, and--

SPEAKER 4: If you want to send us news, stories, information, love mail, hate mail--

SPEAKER 3: Dirty picture.

SPEAKER 4: Or even if you want to figure out what one of the websites are we butchered here tonight, you can email us at afterhour--

SPEAKER 2: You know he's going to keep the dirty pictures, right?

SPEAKER 1: Yeah.

SPEAKER 3: Yeah.

SPEAKER 4: You keep it up, I'm going to say that word on your show, now.

SPEAKER 1: Hey, hey.

SPEAKER 4: Afterhours--

SPEAKER 2: What, what, that you love me?

SPEAKER 3: [NON-ENGLISH SPEECH]

SPEAKER 4: [NON-ENGLISH]. AfterhoursKPFT@hotmail.com. It took three times to get out the name of the email address.

SPEAKER 3: Is it .com or .org?

SPEAKER 4: .com. You're listening to *After Hours*, queer radio with attitude, on KPFT Houston, KEOS College Station. Jimmy, do you got some music to queue, or?

SPEAKER 3: Or I'm going to start singing.

(SINGING) Money, money, money. Give me money.

SPEAKER 4: Actually, that's what we do need. You need to call in your pledge of support for KPFT, because we could use the funds to keep going and get a second light in here.

SPEAKER 1: 713-526-5738. 526-KPFT. You're listening to KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station, and we've got some old Menudo coming your way right now. And this happens to--

SPEAKER 2: Be the one he was--

SPEAKER 1: Ricky Martin was in Menudo. Do you have any pictures?

[MUSIC PLAYING]

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, you're listening to *After Hours*, queer radio with attitude, on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station. I'm Jimmy Carper and--

SANDRA This is Sandra Lopez.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: This is the-- do you have a name for this segment yet?

SANDRA Actually, we just call it the Latino Hour.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, I know. Well--

SANDRA We never really came up with a name.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: And you've been here almost a year.

SANDRA I know. They forgot. I should have gotten a cake. But it's like, I don't eat sweets. At least not--

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: We talked about that.

SANDRA Yeah.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: You eat the-- when your mother takes the bread and coats it with egg and fries it, and then puts it in the dulce in another pan.

SANDRA Yeah.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: I was listening to that just yesterday on your tape. That was from last month.

SANDRA And she's still-- there's still, like, half of it left from last month.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Really?

SANDRA I mean, I don't eat it. It's too sweet for me.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Ooh.

SANDRA It's like, I've started to work out, and I look pretty good now. I don't want to start eating sweets.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Getting those pecs working there.

SANDRA What pecs? I just thought they were just my tits.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Well, hey.

SANDRA Well, I just wanted to let you know that Francisco's out of town.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, he is.

SANDRA He's in the Valley with his family. They're celebrating Mother's Day. And I was like, good for you. And--

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes?

SANDRA My mother is with me, so she is celebrating Mother's Day with me. So I guess I just repeated myself.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. Little Roy just walked in, and he hasn't been here in months.

SPEAKER 5: Hi, everybody.

JIMMY CARPER: And he walks in with a pet.

SPEAKER 5: Rat.

JIMMY CARPER: Rat. OK.

SPEAKER 5: It's my baby girl. This is the only girl I'm going to ever have.

JIMMY CARPER: But it's on his neck, as a matter of fact.

SANDRA And it's so cute.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: It's so cute. I thought he was wearing a boa. OK. Well, life just happens around here. You know it.

SANDRA It's freaky.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, that's a sweet one.

SANDRA Well, I wanted to thank Jordan and Eric for their wonderful contribution to KPFT.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

SANDRA And we're really happy that people are listening and that they're calling in with their pledges. And we'll ask you

LOPEZ: to continue to support KPFT, because this is a worthwhile--

JIMMY CARPER: I think so. Yes.

SANDRA --effort, especially because we come in, and we tell people how we feel. We tell it like it is. And we tell what's

LOPEZ: going on in our community, which a lot of us need to listen to.

JIMMY CARPER: And in your lives. Yeah. And what I try to do here is try to amass as many segments of the community together as I can just to remind us that we're all one.

SANDRA I'm very happy that the Latino community has a voice within the gay community, which is very important.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: I think so, too.

SANDRA Especially since now we're the top group in the city, and we're a group to watch. I mean, I just remember a few

LOPEZ: days ago I saw Orlando Sanchez. He's running for city council.

JIMMY CARPER: Mayor.

SANDRA Mayor. He's running for mayor. Sorry. Oops. And my mom and I were talking about it, and I was impressed. And I
LOPEZ: was pleased. And I think he did the move because of the census, because they just found out that we have a voting power.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, surprise. I mean, it's no surprise to us. We've been saying this for years now. But--

SANDRA I was disappointed that Sylvia Garcia didn't run.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah. Me, too.

SANDRA I've also liked the idea that she wants to stay as the controller for another term. And she didn't feel that she could
LOPEZ: beat--

JIMMY CARPER: Secretly, I was hoping that she would be the first Hispanic mayor.

SANDRA And-- male? She's a female.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: First Hispanic Mayor.

SANDRA Oh, I thought you said--

LOPEZ:

[LAUGHS]

JIMMY CARPER: Mayor. We haven't had a Hispanic mayor, have we?

SANDRA No.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: I didn't think so. Because I was here, like, 20 years ago, and--

SANDRA But this is wonderful. I mean--

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

SANDRA San Antonio has it's-- has another Hispanic mayor.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Good.

SANDRA And Los Angeles just--

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. That's right. That's right.

SANDRA Had it's first Hispanic mayor and hundred or something years.

LOPEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. And in LA, when you think of what, just 10 years ago, that would have been impossible.

SANDRA Yeah. And now the community is really looking into a governor. I mean, especially in the most populated states,

LOPEZ: which has really close ties to Mexico. Also, Texas. Texas is getting there. And eventually, you know--

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, we're going to have one. Yes. And it's certainly time. You know, the thing about America is that we are so ever changing. Because there's no-- what do I want to say? What do I say this? Because people from European can say, oh, I'm from France, or I have French ancestry, or I have South American ancestry. I have this. I have that. But when you say American, what does that mean? That means the melting pot, I think.

SANDRA Yeah. And it's like, this is something that a lot of people are realizing, and I hope that our community also

LOPEZ: realizes, that we were always here. But nobody ever noticed. It's taken a long time for people to notice that Hispanics do have the capacity. You know, that we're not just about immigration or social issues. We want to be involved. I mean, we're going in big numbers to the universities.

We're becoming educated. I mean, and Spanish is becoming-- is the second spoken language in the United States. And I was so happy to see *The New York Times*. Was it *The New York Times*? One of the newspapers. I remember they were making such a big deal about it, because it has a segment in Spanish. And it had an article saying, do you speak Spanish?

JIMMY CARPER: That's the thing. Yeah. I'm becoming-- I'm becoming a fossil, because I only speak one language. And anyone coming up, anyone just being born better learn two languages.

SANDRA Well, children-- I mean, I work in a school, and I know that children are beginning to take advantage of the fact

LOPEZ: that Spanish is such a vibrant language. A lot of people speak it. We're taking a look into our roots, into our neighbors. I mean, Mexico-- I mean, I was so happy that President Bush held the first Cinco de Mayo ever in the White House.

JIMMY CARPER: I was very pleased about that, and shocked.

SANDRA And so was I. I was telling some of my friends, you know, I'm a Democrat. I'm a core Democrat. But it's like, Bush

LOPEZ: is doing a lot of things just Democrat presidents-- we have haven't done.

JIMMY CARPER: And he's been doing a lot of things for in the gay community, too.

SANDRA I know, and it's like-- so it's hard. It's hard for you to take a stand and say-- I mean, I'm not going to change. I still

LOPEZ: don't like him. Or I won't agree with certain issues that he's talking about, because you know. But it's like, he's doing a lot for the community. The Hispanic community is very pleased with what he's doing. And so is the gay community. I mean, as a gay person, I mean, from what I've seen so far, you know, I'm OK with him.

JIMMY CARPER: Big Roy just handed me a note, because we're talking about diversity and how America is a melting pot. E pluribus unum. It's on our money. It means "out of many, one." And I say that because of our diversity, not in spite of it. And when I said the melting pot thing, I immediately brought to mind that someone else had reminded me--