

DOUG DECKER: He was silent. But every time there was a problem, I'd call him on the phone. He'd say, well, do it this way, or do it that way. And we're getting ready to redo all the paperwork, and we were taking our time so that all our names would disappear from the paperwork, and it would just be an organization after that. So we'd have a board of directors, and we'd all be able to take a step back.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, it's important.

DOUG DECKER: And he was gearing up. Pretty much, [? Louis ?] for next year, or the upcoming year was all planned early. And they were starting to work on the following year, which is the 30th year. So half of that was planned out, and planned out very far in advance, and very organized, very well organized.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yes, I could tell from his work here on the show.

DOUG DECKER: Supported a lot in the community over the years, not just the leather community but a lot of the drag shows.

JIMMY CARPER: You bet. You bet. The first time I ever saw him, he was standing on the stage at Rich's in a white gown and big white hair.

[LAUGHTER]

DOUG DECKER: Is this a garden party?

JIMMY CARPER: Garden party.

DOUG DECKER: Is this the one where he went to the denim party afterwards, and he had that big, huge hat?

JIMMY CARPER: Probably, probably.

DOUG DECKER: It was the big-- what was it, 5 foot wide or 6 foot wide, and it had like potted plants on it or something? I don't remember what year that was.

JIMMY CARPER: It was many years ago, many years ago. Yes, it was. It was the early, mid-80s.

DOUG DECKER: I moved here in-- no, that couldn't have been then because I didn't move here till '90.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, no, it was before that.

DOUG DECKER: That was like '91 or '92, yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Gosh.

DOUG DECKER: Not that that's not a long time either.

JIMMY CARPER: No, I know. I know. It's-- I don't know. He's going to be very, very hard to replace. Actually, he's not going to be replaced because no one could.

DOUG DECKER: You can't replace him.

JIMMY CARPER: But those are big shoes to fill, and--

DOUG DECKER: It's a big loss for the community.

JIMMY CARPER: It is. It is. It's a step backwards, and we're going to have to regroup because we've lost an important person.

DOUG DECKER: And I know last few years with the misfits, he's a big push for the misfit ball, and they raised a lot of money. I don't know how much they raised this year, about three grand, that went to the Buyers Club for that day. I could be wrong, but I know it's in that area somewhere. And just a big supporter of anything in the community, especially if it was going to make money and donate it to something. And it's always a party, always a party.

JIMMY CARPER: Always-- yeah, he seemed to have that knack for giving people what they wanted-- having a good time and being able to raise a bunch of money while he was doing it.

DOUG DECKER: Well, that's really difficult. It really is. And that's a talent that not everybody has, and it has to be worked at. And it just seemed to come so natural to him. And he'd just get out there and do it and be on the front lines. These days, we're so inundated with fundraisers that aren't much fun, and he would come up with these ideas of let's do this, or let's do that. I think last year they did an AOL fundraiser-- AOL party, fundraiser around Christmastime for Houston Council Clubs and made like \$400 in the afternoon. just hanging out and having a party.

JIMMY CARPER: That-- well, that's it. And it takes the new ideas because what happens is that something new happens, like silent auction or something. And then everybody does a silent auction until you're over silent auctions, and it isn't fun anymore. And it takes people like Creath to come up with the new ideas.

DOUG DECKER: I think that might have been-- I think in talking to him a while back, that was one of the reasons he didn't do so much of the Whorehouse Girls anymore is because back then, not everybody got up on stage and did camp drag or any kind of drag in this community to raise funds for any of the causes that we all raise money for. But then after a while, everyone saw how much money you could make, and--

JIMMY CARPER: Said, oh, let's all try it.

DOUG DECKER: --everybody did it. Everybody did it.

JIMMY CARPER: But The Whorehouse Girls, like the Sambuca Sisters, I think, were always a step above the regular--

DOUG DECKER: They're great to go watch.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, because they're very professional. And they all know the words, and they all know the dance steps. And it's pure entertainment.

DOUG DECKER: And we'll be announcing-- actually, both those groups will be performing for Toy Drive in coming weeks. So we'll announce that later.

JIMMY CARPER: Let's go to another piece of music and come back and talk about the toy drive because I know that's a huge thing in the leather community, and I'm always proud to sponsor and to promote it.

DOUG DECKER: It's in full swing.

JIMMY CARPER: So this is-- I don't know, this is I think, a fitting song to what we've been talking about, Creath. And it's my favorite song from the "Queer as Folk" original USA soundtrack. You've seen the video if you've been to any of the clubs. It's Heather Small doing "Proud." Right here on KPFT, Houston and KEOS, College Station.

Heather Small, "Proud," and I'm proud to play that song. I really do like it. You're listening to "After Hours, Queer Radio with Attitude." I'm Jimmy Carper, and I'm here with Doug Decker. And we're doing a leather segment. And we're going to talk about some NLA stuff, or some toy drive--

DOUG DECKER: Actually, we have a lot of stuff.

JIMMY CARPER: A lot of stuff.

DOUG DECKER: We have NLA Houston and toy drive stuff and some of the NLA international, trying to get the local community more involved with that. They've recreated themselves.

JIMMY CARPER: How do you-- how so?

DOUG DECKER: Their old image was to promote themselves-- international was like their own group, even though it was comprised of the chapters that made it up. But for a long time, they did away with local chapter representatives and went to members at large. And if you were elected in as a member at large, you were pretty much in charge of a region, not your chapter.

So this year, I was elected as member at large, but it was also voted that position would go away. And so I was reassigned back to my chapter. So I'm the local chapter representative, if that's not confusing.

JIMMY CARPER: It is, but--

DOUG DECKER: So I'm the contact between international and the local chapter. And with that, they have an event every year they call LIL, living in leather. And it's going to move to Dallas like so many other leather events. And it's July 4th weekend, I believe.

JIMMY CARPER: Wow.

DOUG DECKER: So it'll be like the fifth, sixth, and seventh-- last year, it was supposed to be in Chicago, and it was canceled because the chapter there folded.

JIMMY CARPER: Whoa.

DOUG DECKER: And we had five chapters nationwide fold last year.

JIMMY CARPER: No, I didn't know this.

DOUG DECKER: And the main reason was is that NLA International was not providing anything to the chapters or groups that they couldn't get from their own communities. So NLA International has adopted some new philosophies and some new tactics to keep people interested.

And LIL is designed to showcase-- we hope, this year-- each chapter's responsible for representing their community. And if that means getting all the groups in their community involved to set up a table or demonstrations or whatever they want to do. And so the Houston chapter would highlight the community of Houston, not just Houston NLA, but the entire community. So it's more of a National Council of clubs type thing with the focus being NLA. And they're there to educate.

They have some very good projects this year that have finally been released after a few years of work. Mark Fraser did a project. I don't remember who he did it with, but it was a video project, and it's on videotape to promote awareness of the leather community and the problems within it, such as domestic violence. And the tapes are being issued to local authorities and police departments so that they can learn how to better deal with problems that arise in the leather community, like abuse.

JIMMY CARPER: That's so important because you have to get out there because there's all this bugaboo about the whole leather community.

DOUG DECKER: Well, I mean, you get-- in the leather community, there's a fine line between play and abuse. And to the police department, when something goes wrong, it's all, well because you're into that then. And then they have the domestic violence program, and they have six out of the 12 fliers already available. And if people are interested in that in Houston, they can get hold of the local chapter, or they could get hold of me. And my phone number is everywhere. My email is everywhere. I'll give that out before I leave.

JIMMY CARPER: Please.

DOUG DECKER: And what was their other-- domestic violence, LIL, and the--

JIMMY CARPER: The educational.

DOUG DECKER: The education. Oh, and they're going to do a-- It's called the-- it's called a Legal Law Project. And they're going to put out a CD-ROM, and it'll have national law on it in regards to what you can wear in public, where you can wear it, what you can do, what you can own, what you cannot own. And then it will come down. Each chapter's responsible for providing their local laws to the project as well.

JIMMY CARPER: But isn't that going to change from community to community?

DOUG DECKER: Well, all that will be on there. So let's say I'm going to travel from Houston to Chicago--

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, I see. OK.

DOUG DECKER: Oh, can I wear my chaps with a codpiece? Oh no, not in Chicago. You can't show your butt.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, OK.

DOUG DECKER: In Dallas, you have to have a half inch strap going up your butt if you're going to go bare ass.

JIMMY CARPER: Here too.

DOUG DECKER: Here, it's a quarter inch, not that I've ever seen a police officer out on the street with a ruler. But if they want--

JIMMY CARPER: Wait a minute, it's a quarter inch here, but it's--

DOUG DECKER: It's a quarter inch here. It's a half inch in Dallas.

JIMMY CARPER: That means they've got bigger holes in Dallas, I guess.

[LAUGHTER]

DOUG DECKER: I mean, there's other things-- there's other things too. In Houston, you can't own dildos that look like a penis.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, I know.

DOUG DECKER: And in the state of Texas, you can only own eight. Because if you own more than eight-- if you own more than that, it's possession with intent to sell or distribute.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, and I have more than eight.

DOUG DECKER: And in Austin--

JIMMY CARPER: Hello, come arrest me. I have more than eight dildos.

DOUG DECKER: And if you live in Austin, you can buy them, but they have to be called marital aids. And you can buy them in Dallas, but they're called educational aids.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, well, that makes more sense than marital aids because what if you're not married?

DOUG DECKER: Well, you know.

[LAUGHTER]

So various cities, even within the state of Texas, have different laws. And so you need to-- especially if you travel, a lot of people go to Chicago for IMO, or they go to Washington DC in January for Mid-Atlantic leather weekend, or you go to Folsom Street in San Francisco.

JIMMY CARPER: I see your point. So it's--

DOUG DECKER: And so you need to know what you can-- basically, what you can get away with without getting arrested, especially with regards to getting to the airports these days with security.

JIMMY CARPER: That's true.

DOUG DECKER: If they're going to be going through your bags-- remember, these people are-- I picked up some friends at the airport. There's police officers down there. The National Guard people just give you funny looks. But the police officers are there, and if you pull out something that's not legal in your region, then you could be arrested at the airport or detained and not allowed on your plane.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, the electric wand things--

DOUG DECKER: So you need to know all this if you're going to be into the leather scene.

JIMMY CARPER: You bet. You bet.

DOUG DECKER: So that was one of their other projects.

JIMMY CARPER: That's a terrific idea.

DOUG DECKER: It'll take a while to accomplish. But the domestic violence program took probably close to six or eight years to compile the literature for it. And the Legal Law Project took three or four years, or the video project took three or four years.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, it takes it. But it's worth it because now you have a basis to build on and to get that out there.

DOUG DECKER: And NLA International is to promote education more than anything else.

JIMMY CARPER: And this is to promote education, not just for GLBT people either because there are more-- well--

DOUG DECKER: Well, they cover-- they cover-- like with the Legal Law Project, it would be fetishes as well. So they would even classify people who cross dressed or even transgendered people who have not had their change or completely gone through their change yet.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, pre-op.

DOUG DECKER: So therefore, they get classified as a cross-dresser. Or if they were picked up by the police-- so you have to know what's legal in your area.

JIMMY CARPER: It's true.

DOUG DECKER: Or, if you're going to travel. So what if you were a man in a dress waiting for your appointment for the doctor. And I understand those take a good couple of years to get an appointment. So you're waiting a couple of years, but you want to travel to I don't know, Idaho. Lord knows why.

JIMMY CARPER: I can't imagine.

DOUG DECKER: But you want to travel there, and maybe it's illegal there for you to be-- there's just some strange laws in strange places.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, there are.

DOUG DECKER: And you just never know. You just need to be ready for what-- you just need to know what to expect from the local authorities should something happen.

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

DOUG DECKER: So that's NLA International.

JIMMY CARPER: So tell me about the toy drive because--

DOUG DECKER: Oh, God.

JIMMY CARPER: We love to promote, and we can never start too early.

DOUG DECKER: They had a show last week at Chances. The court did one last week. And then Rosy--

JIMMY CARPER: Rosy Cheeks?

DOUG DECKER: Rosy Cheeks did one at Mary's already. I don't remember if it was the last-- it was second to last Sunday in September. So there's already been two shows. And there are six more coming up.

JIMMY CARPER: Good.

DOUG DECKER: So starting tomorrow--

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, tomorrow, Sunday, Sunday, Sunday.

DOUG DECKER: NLA will be bartending on the patio at Mary's. But the show starts at 6:00 PM.

JIMMY CARPER: At Mary's.

DOUG DECKER: It's Miss Mary's 2001 and Mr. Lone Star Drummer 2002. And the show is Big Knows and Broomsticks.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh my.

DOUG DECKER: Anything to pervert Disney.

[LAUGHTER]

And then November 11th, at Mary's is MJ Summer Show. And November 18 is-- this is tentative on the 18th of November-- I don't have it confirmed yet because the Cult 45s have an event too, but it's at the PRB, and it's The Whorehouse Girls. That is not one to be missed.

JIMMY CARPER: You bet. You bet. That is a terrific show. You would pay money to go see this.

DOUG DECKER: There's an online calendar you can check out at-- there's a link on www.bulldawgpro.com. B-U-L-L-D-A-W-G-P-R-O dot com, or you can go to NLA Houston's website.

JIMMY CARPER: Bulldawg pro?

DOUG DECKER: Yeah, pro is short for productions.

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

DOUG DECKER: Or promotions.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, gotcha. I see. Yeah, because it's on the back of the calendar.

DOUG DECKER: Because productions is way too long.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, you're right. www.bulldawgpro.com.

DOUG DECKER: And you can check there. The calendar is updated frequently this time of year to make sure that all the shows are there and correct. And December 15, the Court is doing another show at Chance's. On the 16th, the Sunday, Sambuca Sisters at Decades.

JIMMY CARPER: Whoa.

DOUG DECKER: That's December 16. That's at 6:00 PM. And then the Colt 45s are doing one of 8:30 at the PRB that same night.

JIMMY CARPER: And that's about the cutoff because you got to get the--

DOUG DECKER: You got to get all the toys. Anybody who has toys, they need to be new toys, and you bring them unwrapped so that they can see what they are.

JIMMY CARPER: If boy, girl.

DOUG DECKER: I understand that they wrap them before they give them to the children. And if you come the show and you don't want to give toys, you're welcome to give money. They always take money. And the money goes to Camp Hope.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, not only that, but a lot of the money goes to buy things that are not donated, like Pampers and all kinds of stuff like that that the children need.

DOUG DECKER: And some of it's going to support Camp Hope that AIDS Foundation runs. And is it September, I think, they do the week. And they bring a under-privileged children from around the country who are affected by AIDS. Maybe they themselves might not have AIDS, but their parents have AIDS.

JIMMY CARPER: Right, infected or affected.

DOUG DECKER: They usually live in poverty level, and they buy them clothes. And so these kids get off the plane, and they whisk them off to wherever-- Walmart or-- and they get them hygiene products and teach them better ways to take care of themselves. And give them some confidence--

JIMMY CARPER: Great, great organization.

DOUG DECKER: And they give them some-- give them clothes, and give them food for a week. And take them out, and it's a campground, and they have a lot of fun with them. And so it's a little bit of break from reality of what's going on.

JIMMY CARPER: And that could be pretty bleak to a child either who has AIDS or is--

DOUG DECKER: It's pretty bleak to adults too.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, yeah, tell me. Tell me about it.

DOUG DECKER: It's got to be much-- it's got to be much worse for-- I can't imagine being a kid and having to live with your parents in that situation. I've had a couple of lovers over the years, and that's bad enough dealing with that as an adult. I can't imagine as a kid. That's just unreal. So I understand this year they had-- I don't know how many kids they brought in, maybe 30, 40 kids. But the money pays for all their expenses.

JIMMY CARPER: Good.

DOUG DECKER: If you need information on that, you can always call the AIDS Foundation. And I believe you can ask for Mark Cohen, and he has all the information on that. But we're really hoping to pick up more on the toy drive stuff. So I mean, it is Christmas.

JIMMY CARPER: It is. And you want to make it a Merry Christmas for those kids.

DOUG DECKER: And those are the kids usually not covered by Toys for Tots. And they're usually left out.

JIMMY CARPER: You're right. Doug, I want to thank you.

DOUG DECKER: Well, thank you.

JIMMY CARPER: And we might see you next month?

DOUG DECKER: I hope so.

JIMMY CARPER: OK. OK. I hope you do.

DOUG DECKER: I'll bring someone next month so you don't have to listen to me babble the whole--

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, it was good babbling.

DOUG DECKER: Are you kidding?

JIMMY CARPER: So now, even though my clock says 2:45, it's really 1:45. And normally, it would be 2:45.

DOUG DECKER: I'm wide awake. I had that tea. Either that or it was the [? twit ?] cup.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, it's probably the [? twit ?] cup that did it. We've got "News and Views" coming up. We've got-- Tracy is still here with Hunter and Patrick and--

DOUG DECKER: A bullwhip.

JIMMY CARPER: And a bullwhip, which is getting a lot of use. I'm hearing it in the background-- and lots more music, music by some guys just for right now. This is Michael Zarn, and he's got a little EP, so we'll be listening to that. And then a little bit of the news. You're listening to it all on KPFT, Houston and KEOS, College Station.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Oh, and with the music of Deuce in the background from their CD *Windjammer*, two women who play a variety of instruments on this wonderful jazz CD, I bring you "After Hours News and Views."

ROY: I'd like to welcome everyone to this week's edition of "After Hours News and Views." I'm Big Roy, with me tonight is Chris. And we want to give a shout out, a very special shout out to Nguyen out in New York, who is listening to us. In fact, he started listening to us when he lived here in Houston, and now he listens to us on the web. And I want to give a shout out to Randy out there in Rosharon.

CHRIS: And Randy in Huntsville.

ROY: And Randy in Huntsville and to Tony. And to--

CHRIS: Junior.

ROY: And junior. And to Stephen and a whole plethora of people.

CHRIS: Oh, God. Don't tell me someone bought you the word of the day calendar.

ROY: No, I was just thinking of Kurt, who used to be here. That was one of his favorite words, a plethora. And well, we've got a bunch of stuff to-- do you have any shout out to give there, Chris?

CHRIS: OK, Keith, if you're listening, [? Froy, ?] Blaze. I guess that's it. And JD, who is still the only one who sends us dirty pictures now. Did you get the latest?

ROY: Yes, I did. Goodness gracious.

CHRIS: I sent an email back to JD. I said this one's too-- he said it was too good to-- he couldn't-- he felt that he had to share it. I go, well, it's too good. I think I can't share it with Roy. But I still sent it to him.

ROY: Anyhoo, I want to start off this new segment with of course, the domestic partnership proposition, again, urging everyone to vote no on city proposition number two. What city proposition number two would do would be to prohibit the city of Houston from offering same-sex domestic partner benefits to city employees.

CHRIS: Forever.

ROY: Forever.

CHRIS: This will be changing the city charter.

ROY: And we are afraid that a low voter turnout could just jeopardize the domestic partner plan. And much has been written and spoken of here at the station in the past weeks about proposition two. And city prop two is a referendum that has been placed on ballots of those voters voting inside the city of Houston in the upcoming November election, which is only something like 10 days away.

And it simply reads that shall the Charter of the city of Houston be amended to deny health care and other employment benefits to same-sex domestic partners of the city employees and to address other matters of city employment and contracting practices based on sexual orientation. And a large number of Houston's leading social justice organizations have formally gone on record urging a vote against discrimination and against city proposition two.

The Houston Chronicle in the last couple of days, has come out against Proposition Two. And according to No on City Proposition Two campaign manager, Grant Martin, each of these organizations recognizes that passage of City Prop Two would single out gay and lesbian city employees for discrimination by denying their families the same access to health care benefits available to families of other city employees.

Among the organizations of other city employees-- I mean, among the organizations now endorsing a no vote on City Prop Two are the American Jewish Committee, the Houston Area Women's Center, the Baptist Ministers Association of Houston and Vicinity, the Holocaust Museum of Houston, the Houston Area Urban League, the Human Rights Campaign, the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund Houston, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and the Parents Reconciling Network.

And if you'd like to vote, you can do early voting, which started on the 20th of this month, and it will continue through November 2nd. Election day is November 6th. For more information about early voting locations nearest you, access www.co.harris.tx.us/ccclerk/elect.htm

CHRIS: Just basically remember, you can abbreviate this County, Harris, Texas, US. And that's county clerk, slash elect. That's what all those letters mean.

ROY: Oh, OK. And folks, we really need your vote to vote against City Proposition number two. And everybody wants the Olympics to come here to Houston. And folks, if City Prop Two passes, it could seriously jeopardize-- and I do mean, seriously jeopardize-- our chances for getting the Olympics ever, ever in Houston.

The Olympic Committee is-- the International Olympic Committee is very much against discrimination. And they look at all these things. Your top Fortune 500 companies, including the company that I work for, offer domestic partner benefits.

It is time for the city to come out of the Dark Ages. The city of New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and other cities offer same-sex domestic partner benefits to their city employees. And folks, quite frankly, it is nobody's business who we sign up for as far as health care benefits and things of that nature. It really isn't. It's a personal decision.

CHRIS: And when you buy it in bulk actually, with more people being into it, the cost will be able to go a little cheaper possibly, in the future. And it's-- I mean, for the amount of the city actually kicks into this stuff, it's really not that big of a thing that you're going to be seeing. So go ahead. You've got those propositions here in Houston. You've got one and three, which are confusing-- they're opposites-- all the city bonds.

And the important part of the issue, you've also got your Mayor races and city council races. I unfortunately, can't vote for Prop-- for or against prop two-- since I'm outside, they haven't--

ROY: We haven't annexed you. Dang.

CHRIS: They haven't hijacked me yet. But make sure you do get out and vote, ladies and gentlemen. And you've got early voting now. You've got plenty of time to do that.

ROY: We need to get Mayor Bob back. We'll get you.

CHRIS: Well, yeah. Well, yeah, because he's opposed-- he's in favor of Prop two.

ROY: Oh, he is?

CHRIS: Yes.

ROY: Bob Lanier is in favor of Prop two?

CHRIS: Bob Lanier, a couple of weeks ago, came out saying that he supported the ban on it. So he's in favor of it. But another group that isn't is clergy. Nearly 100 religious leaders have stepped up against City Prop Two. Coming forward as supporting equal rights in employment for all people, a large group of Houston spiritual leaders have voiced opposition to the anti-gay ballot measure that goes before voters on November 6th. Clergy for a Fair Houston was formed earlier this year and now offers a supportive religious response to the situation of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people. according to literature from the group.

Now one of the interesting things is when you read the list of the clergy, you see a lot of what you would expect. There are the Universal Methodist Church, who is fairly supportive, Presbyterian churches, a lot of Jewish temples. And I only see one Catholic Church in this list so far who is signed aboard.

ROY: I thought there was more than one.

CHRIS: Well, I came across the one. I looked through it, and I didn't see-- I saw the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. And I didn't see-- but it's one of those things. I mean, the Catholic Church has always been-- the closest I've seen of a positive look on the Catholic Church is the one church that has a pink triangle in it. And that's part of their Holocaust Memorial that they have in their church. But here, we even have, like I said, 100 clergy who are stepping up. And that's always the first weapon that's pulled against in something like this is it's not religiously sound.

JIMMY CARPER: You're listening to "After Hours, Queer Radio with Attitude" on KPFT, Houston and KEOS, College Station.

ROY: And I also want to point out that many of these ministers are going to be preaching that over the pulpit tomorrow.

CHRIS: Oh, yeah, that's another big part. They're going to be preaching it from the pulpit, unlike other ones who are preaching in support of it or just basically taking Freddy's or Pat's or Jerry's speech and just regurgitating it.

ROY: OK, moving on to a totally different venue here. The Community Awareness for Transgendered Support, also known as CATS, would like to let you know that there will be an awards dinner Wednesday, November 7th at 7:00 PM at La Strada Restaurant, which is located at 322 Westheimer. And they're going to honor and give thanks to Phyllis Frye, Ray Hill, and to Q-Patrol for their long years of service to our community. And their efforts have significantly contributed to the reduction of hate crime directed toward the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community.

And please help honor their efforts as November is the month that is set aside to remember those who were targeted and subsequently murdered because their self-expression violated cultural gender stereotypes. And they would like to take an evening to also remember those who have dedicated themselves to end the violence directed at the community. And if you'd like further information regarding this event or information about quote, remembering our dead, you can contact CATS at tghelp-- that's TGhelp@TGhelp.org. Or you can call them on the landline at 281-585-8089. And CATS website is TGhelp.org.

CHRIS: The parent of Home and Garden Television and the Food Network is dropping its United Way of America corporate contribution to the Boy Scouts of America over the scout's policy towards gays. Knoxville based Scripps network, which owns and produces HGTV, the Food Network, and the DIY, do it yourself cable channels, gives about \$10,000 annually to the United Way of greater Knoxville. The local United Way last year gave away \$234,210 to the scouts Great Smoky Mountains Council, which serves some 19,000 scouts in 21 counties in Eastern Tennessee.

Last year, the US Supreme Court ruled that because it's a private association, the Boy Scouts of America doesn't have to hire gays as scout leaders or accept them as members. "This is an issue the Boy Scouts understood they were taking on and that everyone who participates in the United Way has to understand what they're taking on," Scripps network spokeswoman Cindy [? McConkle ?] said. "For us, it has to do with our core values. As a company, diversity is at the top of the list, and diversity means no discrimination."

This decision does not affect the parent company of Scripps network, which is EW Scripps or other Scripps properties, including newspapers. And the Scripps network will not prevent employees from making personal United Way contributions to the scouts or volunteering with the organization. But this is three very large stations that, let's face it, Home and Garden Television, Food Network, and the Do it Yourself Cable Channels, they're probably two, three, and four underneath Lifetime for gay networks that we have out there.

I mean, I watch the Food Network religiously. Home and Garden Television, I actually watch all their home improvement shows, even though I live in an apartment. And do it yourself-- so these are three stations you definitely need to keep an eye out and watch for. I know two of them are basic cable. I think DIY, I don't know if we even get that on digital here in Houston. But kudos to a station who's-- a network conglomerate that's willing to stand up to them.

ROY: OK, now, this is branching out a little bit here from Houston. Going to go to San Antonio for this little interesting bit of news. And the *Houston Voice* this week is reporting that Latin pop artist, Jade Esteban Estrada, whose music we do play here on "After Hours" plans to returned to his hometown of San Antonio to lead the San Antonio pride 2002 parade as grand marshal in June. And he's been asked by many cities to perform the grand marshal role in 2002, but they had to be the selective. And we're pleased so far with San Antonio agreement, said Adam Salazar of Vicarious Records.

Estrada has received significant recognition from the International Gay and Lesbian Media for his debut album, *Angel*, released in February. And the work has topped the Latin charts on *Out Voice* since August. He is currently featured in the October issue of *QV* and *Instinct* magazine. And San Antonio is one of 88 cities where Estrada will stop during next year's passion tour to promote his second album, *Passions*. And you can be sure Jimmy will be playing cuts from that as well.

JIMMY CARPER: You got it, as soon as I get it.

ROY: Because Jimmy is right on top of all this stuff.

CHRIS: Well, you saw the picture. I think most of us wouldn't mind being on top of that either.

ROY: I wouldn't mind having him on top of me.

CHRIS: Going even further out here, a mass killer-- I brought this into Roy, and he thinks this is intriguing. A mass killer fights for porn in jail. This is from England. Mass murderer, Dennis Nielsen, today, sent his lawyers to court funded by legal aid to claim the right to have homosexual porn magazines delivered to him in his cell untampered. Nielsen is serving life for killing 12 men and subscribes to *Vulcan*, *Soft Porn Magazine*.

But prison officials cut out some photographs and articles before it reaches him. Apparently, they are too cheap to buy their own subscription.

JIMMY CARPER: I guess so. They want them for their very own.

CHRIS: His barrister, Flo Krauss, told the high court today that *Vulcan* was the equivalent of heterosexual porn magazines *Razzle* and *Escort*, which are freely available intact in prison. I believe *Razzle*--