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SPEAKERS

Glenn Holt, Jack Valinski, Joan Devlin



Glenn Holt 00:00

The world is heard on 90.1 FM KPFT in Houston. Coming up next lesbian and gay voices.



00:08

Commercial Free and listener sponsored Houston's 90.1 KPFT the sound of Texas KPFT Houston que yo s College Station A mad imagine this, you're late for a meeting, you're driving your car, the radios turned on and you're really not paying much attention, then a red light. That moment something happens. The story on the radio, the description of the story is so overwhelming. It stopped you right there. The red light did help, of course, but the story took you there and taught you something new. That's what KPFT is about taking you there. Whether it's through our news programs like the BBC News, our the world Democracy Now, the Civic and network news or any of our other news and information programs. It's about independent radio Houston is 90.1 KPFT, the sound of Texas.



Jack Valinski 01:06

Welcome to another edition of lesbian and gay voices. This is Jack Valinski.



Joan Devlin 01:10

And I'm Joan Devlin. Glenn Holt,



Jack Valinski 01:13

and the weather's broke. The what? Weather? Oh, it's out there. 95 every day? That's right. It's the low 90s or high 80s.

J Joan Devlin 01:23

That's right. Boy, can you feel that Chris, New England air?

J Jack Valinski 01:26

Well, it's just the right time to get out there and do some block walking. Absolutely. We are getting to critical mass, we got 7370 days or 10 weeks left before the election. And it'll be here before you know it. And pretty sure there's going to be a referendum, ballot initiative, charter amendment, whatever those things are called. And we need your help. The community needs your help. You need your help for yourself. And you can do that by getting involved with pro with progressive voters and action PVA. And they are working on this referendum. They are knocking on doors, they're paying people, you know making phone calls, et cetera, et cetera. They're having all types of get togethers and going and I know this weekend, they're going to be working like 9am to 9pm. So you may be you know, miss church or happy hour or whatever. But it's really important cause and you can call them at 515137135217161. or email them pro voter at l c o n n.com. Right here website is [www. Vote pva.org](http://www.vote-pva.org). That's right. So that's going on. There's a whole bunch of other stuff going on. Yeah,

J Joan Devlin 02:34

the caucus endorsements came out.

J Jack Valinski 02:36

It was really incredible. I, I was there because I'm a member. And you know, when they actually do this, voting on endorsing candidates, it's a closed meeting. But if you're a member, and if you're a member for 30 days, you get to participate in we actually get participated with your member for 30 days or more you actually get to vote on it. It was it was very good. Well, and we'll talk about who got the endorsements. And I have to really give an incredible amount of credit to Deborah Rodgers. Yes. So just became the president sort of took over the caucus when it wasn't in its best shape. And she just did a wonderful meeting. And of course, I was telling you how great Ray was doing as parliamentarian. Oh, yes, I heard about that, too. So that's going on. And we have a lot of stuff going on who we have on tonight.

J Joan Devlin 03:18

Well, of course, our old friend David Elliot is going to be calling in here shortly to update us on what's going on on the national gay scene, and he's got a new job. So he'll probably tell us a little bit about that,

J Jack Valinski 03:28

which still involves Texas very much. Oh, yes,



Joan Devlin 03:31

of course. And then the men's group will be on at 830 to talk about an upcoming event that they'll be having. And at nine o'clock we're doing something very special. We're going to have a sampling of the poetry reading that's going to be taking place at Lobo bookstore this Sunday night, Donna Garrett will be in Michael lock will be in and they're going to be reading some poetry and talking about what they hope to to see happen at Lobo, the 16th



Jack Valinski 03:55

all that in more combat and more lesbian and gay voices. But first, let's listen to news wrap from this way out.



04:07

I'm Kelly Blanchfield.



04:09

And I'm Christopher Gaul



04:10

with news wrap. A summary of some of the news in are affecting the lesbian and gay community for the week ending September 8 2001. Gay and lesbian couples officially registered their partnerships in the UK for the first time this week. Although the city of London's new registry has no legal standing, it's hoped that it may support couples when issues arise in areas such as tenancy pensions, inheritance and immigration. London mayor Ken Livingstone, who made good on his campaign promise to create the registry, attended the ceremony and presented a bouquet to the first couple to register. They are Ian Burford and Alexandra canal who have been together for 38 years. They were followed by the first lesbian couple to register Linda Wilkinson and Carol Budd who've been together for 16 years. The London partnership register is also open to heterosexual couples registry at London's Town Hall comm As at a cost of 85 pounds.



05:02

Although the London registry is Britain's first it's clear it won't be the last similar registries have already been proposed in the cities of Manchester, Liverpool, Brighton and Hove. The Manchester bill is supported by all political parties in the city council and is expected to win final approval before the year is out the Liverpool bill this week and was sent to committee without discussion and is expected to die there. That was surprising because the Liverpool City Council is controlled by the Liberal Democrats who have been vocal advocates at the national

level for legal recognition of gay and lesbian couples. But openly gay Liverpool Councillor Paul Brandt promised that his Labour Party would continue to press for the registry. bills to recognize same gender couples will be introduced in the British Parliament in October. This week, the Lord Chancellor's Department announced that its plans to distribute 5 million pounds in grants for couples counseling include services for gay and lesbian couples.



05:55

Australia's senate last week passed a resolution agreeing in principle on the need for national laws to prohibit discrimination against gays and lesbians. The urgency motion by openly gay Australian Democrat Brian Gregg of West Australia read given the recent public statement from both Prime Minister John Howard and Opposition Leader Kim Beazley expressing their opposition to discrimination against gay and lesbian people and noting the absence of comprehensive Commonwealth laws to redress this, thus the necessity for parliament to enact national laws against sexuality discrimination. The opposition Labour Party Australian Democrats and greens passed the motion over the objections of the ruling coalition. Greg called the resolutions passage the first expression of explicit support for gay and lesbian rights reform to pass the Senate since the sexual Privacy Act of 1994. The political discussion has federal elections campaigns Gear Up has centered on equal treatment of same gender couples, which the national government opposes. West Australia state government last week introduced a sweeping reform bill against discrimination against gays, lesbians and same gender couples.



07:00

Australia's High Court this week heard oral arguments on access to fertility treatment for lesbians and other women not in relationships with men. The ruling is not expected for some months. The issue has made headlines for months since a federal court struck down Victoria's state law prohibiting fertility treatment for women not in relationships with men finding the state law in violation of the federal Sex Discrimination Act. The federal attorney general made a controversial decision to allow Australia's Catholic bishops to challenge the federal court ruling in the nation's highest court. The High Court justices were unusually critical of the Attorney General's actions in the case. One justice accused him of acting for political pressure groups rather than the public interest, while another suggested he was out to undermine the Federal Judicial structure. The Australian family association was another recognized party in the case against equal access to fertility treatment. Its submissions included extensive references to discredited anti gay research by the US religious right regarding sexually transmitted diseases, copper philia and Beast reality. Openly gay justice Michael Kirby was not alone in finding this material, both disgusting and irrelevant. And once the family Association's lead attorney had actually read the affidavit himself, he made a formal apology to the court. The National Human Rights and Equal Opportunities Commission and the women's electoral lobby appeared in defense of equal access.



08:22

The government of the Australian state of Tasmania has adopted a unique 20 year plan to combat homophobia. Veteran gay activist Rodney Croom said, this is the first time any community anywhere in the world has set itself the goal of eliminating abuse in harrassment on

the grounds of sexuality. The plan called Tasmania together also targets other human rights issues, population poverty and the environment. It's modeled after efforts in Ireland and the US state of Oregon, but neither of those explicitly tackled homophobia. One key element in the broad plan is for all of Tasmania's teachers to undergo anti homophobia training by the year 2020. Another specific target is reduction of the percentage of gays and lesbians experiencing anti gay abuse from the 44%, found in 2000 to 3% in 2020. targets will be used in developing state budgets.



09:12

Europe took further steps this week to require four nations seeking European Union membership to reform their laws toward equal treatment of gays and lesbians. In its annual review of EU applicants, the European Parliament passed resolutions calling on Bulgaria, Cyprus, Hungary and Romania, to eliminate provisions in the penal code that discriminate against homosexual men and lesbian women. Also, the EU enlargement Commissioner, I'm going to refer Hagen told the European Parliament that I want to make it crystal clear that the Commission will continue to press in the enlargement negotiations for full observance of human rights and the rights of minorities. This includes a ban on any discrimination based on age, gender, sexual orientation or religious conviction. All four countries have discriminatory ages of consent, in addition to other discriminatory Criminal Code sections.



10:02

There were notable demonstrations this week in Turkey in Belarus and at the United Nations World Conference against racism. As Turkey's minister for Women's Affairs and the family. Hassan gmecc made an early morning tour of Istanbul's nightlife district to review the situation of street children. A group of transgender sex workers attacked his entourage. The minister and journalist fled into a hotel as the transgender is attacked with fists, feet, rocks and bottles. Istanbul is transgenders have a long history of poverty, official neglect, social rejection and police abuse. At least three of the protesters were detained by police,



10:35

but in Minsk baileigh Rousses first ever transgender festival is going ahead in the wake of a gay and lesbian Pride March that was successful, despite its lack of official permission, while last year's minst Pride event was broken up by police. This week, some 300 costume demonstrators marched down the main street and rallied in front of the home of the Baylor museum president. Some observers believe it was the general election pending just two days later, that led officials to tolerate the parade.



11:02

The UN's anti racism conference in Durban South Africa has been deeply divided on many issues since before it convened and homophobia is one of them. The full name of the meeting is the World Conference against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other related intolerances. Gay and Lesbian activists had sought recognition of homophobia as one of those

related intolerances, noting in particular that homophobia aggravates racism. Some European nations are continuing to seek a denunciation of homophobic hate crimes in the conference action plan. And an HIV AIDS program Chief Peter po called on the conference to challenge anti gay discrimination. But the international lesbian and gay association was excluded from the official participation in the meeting, and members of that group and others staged what was called a small but noisy protest outside the conference center this week. One focus of the protest was the murders of 400 transgendered people in Argentina,



11:57

North America's first gay and lesbian TV channel, Toronto based pride vision began telecasting this week. Unfortunately, only the few Canadians with digital cable converters can access it, along with some US residents with satellite reception. For Ontario and points east there's a free three month trial period. But Shaw the only cable carrier for points west has refused to participate. Pride vision will produce only one original weekly public affairs program for its first season, filling out its schedule with films and shows from elsewhere in Canada, the US and UK.



12:30

And finally, it's hard to imagine any gay friendly organization honoring a military body but it happened this week in New Zealand Auckland's Equal Employment Opportunities trust gave its innovation award to the New Zealand Navy's sexual orientation support and training program, which started activities aboard ships in December. The trust called it a first for any Navy in the world that openly gay consultant Eugene Moore lived and worked alongside seagoing personnel, raising their awareness and breaking down barriers. Although officially New Zealand's ban on military service by open gays and lesbians ended in 1993, the Navy realized its leaders had continued to maintain an unofficial ban. Now with the full commitment of senior officers the program is hoped to improve staff retention, morale and social interactions.



13:15

That's news wrap for the week ending September 8 2001. Written by Cindy Friedman, and recorded at the studios of KPFK Los Angeles



13:23

follow the news in your area. An informed community is a strong community. For this way out. I'm Kelly Blanchfield. And



13:28

I'm Christopher gall.



13:30



13:50

Are you troubled by someone's drinking? You're not alone. In Al Anon there is hope and help. Make the connection. Al Anon confidential and anonymous. Your community resource for families and friends of alcoholics. It's only a phone call away. For meeting information call toll free 8884 allanon Why be alone?



Glenn Holt 14:00

You are listening to lesbian and gay voices.



Jack Valinski 14:04

Well, we have our favorite guests on the phone line right now. And I guess he's back from his vacation.



Joan Devlin 14:12

Yes, David show off your Tam.



14:14

Well, I have just got a great tan. I wish y'all could see it. Well. I do too.



Joan Devlin 14:20

Yeah, now Yeah. Pull it pull the breeze down so we can see the tan line here.



14:24

Oh, a well, okay. It's not a perfect candidate. Tan Okay. Mine is.



Jack Valinski 14:31


Well, I would bet David, you are probably also doing some reading and studying and getting up on all the issues also.



14:37

Jack, we have some breaking political news out of Washington DC tonight.



 Glenn Holt 14:41

Why don't we go ahead. Go ahead. We're waiting. Well,

 14:46

this just moved a little while ago Dimmick, Democrat Congressman David bowyer. I hope I'm pronouncing his name right on your Bonnier, who is the current Democratic man nordy whip in the House of Representatives will be announcing his resignation tomorrow to run for governor of Michigan. Now, that was not unexpected. We expected that to come down, although perhaps a couple of weeks later than than it's going to. What's really amazing is the race to succeed. Congressman Bonner is between a centrist Democrat from Maryland and a liberal Democrat named Nancy Pelosi from California, it looks like Congresswoman Pelosi as the lead, and will become the first a minority or majority whip of any advisor party, which will put her in a very good position to become House Speaker. If and when the Democrats regain the house. And if and when dip get Gephardt moves on to other things.

 Jack Valinski 15:52

Well, that's great. She represents parts of San Francisco. That's true.

 15:56

And she's poised for a leadership position. She is a, an excellent, outstanding fundraiser for Democratic candidates throughout the country. And she has an impeccable record on issues of importance to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community.

 Joan Devlin 16:16

That's wonderful. Well, that's good news, then.

 16:18

And that's just one one bit of breaking news that I have for you. We have a very important special election going on in Massachusetts tomorrow. This election is for a seat in Congress. It's to fill the seat that was left vacant by the death earlier this year of Congressman Joe Moakley, a Democrat, and it's in a district that takes in part of Boston and part of the suburbs of Boston. And the reason that we're keeping a very, very close eye on the selection is one of the leading candidates is an open openly lesbian candidate by the name of Sheryl jock that spelled J A C K, excuse me, a CQUE S. And when she announced about two months ago, she was 26 points down in the polls. There are six serious candidates in the race five progressive Democrats, one centrist Democrat. So the progressives have, or are splitting, splitting the vote. What's happened since then has been nothing short of miraculous. progressives have been lining up behind her candidacy, she got the endorsement of the Boston Globe, a very, very strongly worded endorsement. The latest poll that came out two weeks ago, showed her six points behind but surging. And although it's going to be a very, very close finish tomorrow night, I


think she might prevail, although the final outcome is going to be probably within one percentage point. Now, Massachusetts, election law has no runoff election. And there aren't really any Republicans to speak of in this district. So whoever wins tomorrow's election will be seated in Congress. And Cheryl Jock could become the second openly lesbian member of Congress and the fourth current openly gay or lesbian person.

 Jack Valinski 18:18

Great. Wonderful. Yeah. And of course, you know, we have some news down here.

 18:22

Well, you'd be referring to Mr. Graham, I believe?

 Jack Valinski 18:25

Well, one of the issues definitely. And it was interesting how the rumors were flying, that they thought that he would resign before the end of his term, and that the governor may be able to, you know, appoint some Republicans so that when it became an election time, that person would be an incumbent. But I guess that's not going to we don't know, what do you think?

 18:43

Well, we don't know. And I've been following the rumors very closely. If Graham were to step down, and Governor Perry were to pick his replacement, it would give the Republicans a very, very strong advantage in the November 2002, election, but I've dealt with Graham's up close and personal. And I think his ego is simply too large to step down. I think he's gonna see this thing out. Yes. With Phil Gramm. It's not all about Texas. It's not all about the Republican Party. It's all about Phil Gramm. And, you know, both Republicans and Democrats are just coming out of the woodwork talking about running for a seat. You know, on the Republican side, probably. The front runner has to be David du Hurst, the multimillionaire Land Commissioner. But also you can't count out incumbent Attorney General John Cornyn, and if cornering runs that win, and I understand he's going to announce on Wednesday, that would be good news for Austin Mayor Kirk Watson, who's going to be seeking the Democratic nomination for attorney general because if Watson gets the Democratic nomination, which he will, he then would not have to run against a Republican incumbent. Now, on the Democratic side, you have such names as Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk, thinking about running, you've got a former US Senate candidate, Victor Morales, you've got former Texas Attorney General Dan Morales thinking about running. Now, if Dan Morales runs, he'll probably get the Democratic nomination, which, you know, wouldn't be a great thing for progressives in Texas because Dan Morales is hardly a progressive. But it would set up the interesting phenomena of handing to Hispanics at the very top of the Democratic ticket, because the gubernatorial nominee likely will be Hispanic. Well,

 Jack Valinski 20:43

Yeah, there's a lot of things there. But no matter what goes on in any of these equations, it's

year, there's a lot of things there. But no matter what goes on in any of these equations, it's tougher democratic to get elected and a statewide office here, because you know, we don't have any right now.



20:55

Well, that's true. But you've got to look carefully at the numbers. And in fact, the Democratic National Committee over the next couple of weeks is going to be doing some internal polling in Texas to look at various matchups, and they're going to be making some funding decisions based on what their polling shows. Texas is a lot like Virginia, Virginia, it used to be completely democratic, 10 years ago, eight years ago, now it's completely Republican. But if you look at the numbers, and you look at party identification, in Texas, just like in Virginia, the Republicans really don't have an advantage. And this fact is borne out even more so in Texas than in Virginia. When you look at local office holders, the overwhelming majority of county wide office holders in the state of Texas are democratic. And yet you look at the most recent elections dating back to 1994. And you say, Oh, this is a Republican state, but it honestly is not monolithically. So, and it's starting to look like 2002 might be a very good year for the Democrats. Oh, I hope so. Especially, unfortunately, with the very latest economic indicators that we've gotten, you know, I read a memo today that's being circulated by A, the the Chief Executive Officer of the Knight Ridder newspaper chain. Do you know that in the past three months, Knight Ridder newspapers have had a 40% drop off in Help Wanted classified advertising,



Jack Valinski 22:27

it is just incredibly scary. Just scarily as yet,



22:30

the Houston Chronicle just announced a 5% Yes, reduction in workforce now,



Joan Devlin 22:36

actually not hurting as much as most other major cities right now.



Jack Valinski 22:40

Right. And some of these job cuts are somewhat the greedy corporations, you know, trying to make more profit, but a lot of it is because business is down?



22:48

Well through and you know, especially in some of these industries, like the newspaper industry, you've got sharp increases in the cost of newsprint, and you've got sharp increases in energy costs

costs,

J

Jack Valinski 22:59

right. And there's less readers reading newspapers these days, which is really unfortunate. I'm getting a little bit closer to home, of course, there is this referendum coming up. And what was supposed to happen the next couple of days is progressive voters were supposed to look over these petitions, but apparently, they won't be ready until the weekend. So they're going to be coming a mass storm of volunteers looking at this entering stuff into the computer, so they can see if they're, you know, if they if it's worth challenging this petition drive or not?



23:35

Well, that's gonna be an interesting process to look at. And my hope, Jack, is that, you know, regardless of whether a challenge to the petition drive goes forward, is that the community is preparing for the induced assuming that an election is inevitable, oftentimes, and we're seeing this happen right now, all across the United States, in many communities and states that are facing these types of challenges. Oftentimes, our side tries to defeat these things in the court. And at the same time, that they're trying to, you know, submit these legal challenges. They're not doing the important, grassroots voter identification work that's necessary to actually win elections. And, you know, I know about PVA and the work that they're doing down there. And it's an outstanding group. In fact, it's one of the best groups doing this type of work in the United States right now.

J

Jack Valinski 24:35

Well, and you're right about that. I mean, there is some incredible work that's being done by a number of people. And there's a number of people in the community who are helping out in the ways that they know best how to do it. But there's also you know, a lot of apathy within the community and certainly, you know, Jonah and I know about that because of the Hanged netlist, which is a Yahoo groups list, right? That you know, people are just saying we ought to do this without do that yet. They're not doing anything themselves. And, you know, I know, you know, I'm doing some work behind the scenes. And I know Joan is and and I'm sure Glen is going to be doing some soon or we're going to make them do some. But well, and we're doing this to also informing the public here on this show that, you know, we're 70 days away from this election. And there's an awful lot of work that has to be done, including raising money and calling people and voter ID in which is the basic grassroots type of stuff,

J

Joan Devlin 25:27

motivating people to actually vote. Yeah, because it doesn't matter if we have all the support in the world and nobody decides to go to the polls. Today.

J


Jack Valinski 25:35

The whole Yeah, the whole thing about doing voter ID is find these people who are habitual

voters like me, and as opposed to Cheney who didn't vote, like, you know, voted twice in the past 14 years, that, you know, those are the people that you have to make sure that they're going out to vote. And hopefully, they know your side of the story, that we're seeing people because compared to the other side, sometimes, and that they'll get out and vote.

 26:01


Right. It's all about self empowerment. And the way that you empower yourself is by showing up and making sure that your voice is heard. Now, there is some good news down there. I honestly feel that airside is going to be more organized than the other side in this ballot initiative. I mean, you know, the religious right itself has written off this Kook who managed to get this thing on the ballot, or apparently he did. He doesn't have unified support from even the Republicans in Houston. The other side is splintered. They're they're fractured. And there's a real chance, there is a real chance that on November 6, Houston can make national headlines by defeating this thing.

 Jack Valinski 26:44

Yes. And the mayor and Les Brown, who is also running for reelection is, you know, working very hard towards this, along with a nice Parker, who really doesn't even have any opposition at this point. And so, you know, it looks good, but it's not a sure thing. You know, elections are never a sure thing. Until after all the votes are counted.

 27:07

Right now, Jack wood wood is Amir Browns opposition like to see a very organized opposition. Well,

 Jack Valinski 27:13

there are two sitting, sitting council people who are running against him. One is Hispanic Sanchez. And one is a white, you know, of course, we don't have liberals anymore. But you know, not not to the right, you know, Chris Bell, who, you know, has a lot of good issues. And you know, some of their issues is they think that city hall should be run a little bit more efficiently. And some of that is legitimate, of course, but you know, Lea Lee Brown, this will be his last time he can run for election and he has done some fabulous work. He has opened up City Hall to a lot of people, he works very closely with a nice Parker, and a nice is definitely supporting him. And but you know, there's it's an election and you you can never be sure,

 27:54

right. Right. But it sounds like the situation is favourable.

 Jack Valinski 28:01

 Jack Valinski 28:01

Well, yes. And it's not like all the crazies are coming out and screaming at Mayor Brown, because he's, you know, supporting us on this, although I'm sure there are some of them. And, you know, it's also, you know, the fact that there's only you know, those races, the City Hall races are upright Now, a couple of measures. It also looks like there'll be a metro issue on the ballot, I think, whether we should, you know, continue to build that light rail system or not. So that's basically all it's there. So, you know, a lot of people are not really excited about this election.

 28:35

Well, I hope people just come to realize what's at stake, and that everybody has to turn out, everybody. It's the difference between our being first class citizens or second class citizens.

 Jack Valinski 28:49

Well, and so let's talk a little bit about you. And what were you off to?

 28:55

Well, Jack, I have four more days at the National Gay Lesbian Task Force, Friday will be my last day. And then next Monday, I start as communications coordinator for the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, which, as you know, coming from Texas is an issue that's very near and dear to my heart.

 Jack Valinski 29:15

Yes, especially since Harris County is like the capital of executions in the country.

 29:20

Absolutely. And, you know, just recently, I believe the Harris County District Attorney's Office announced that it was going to be seeking the death penalty over you against the women who the woman who is accused of of killing her five children, I

 Joan Devlin 29:36

believe, Andrea Yates,

 Jack Valinski 29:37

yes. And we had Deborah Bell on last week who was president of Texas now talking about that.



29:44

Well, you know, it's it's really incredible, that we're talking about basing our entire criminal justice system on retribution. Instead of reparations. It's really incredible that we don't talk about what constitutes healing or what the American Friends Service Committee recently termed mending of the bones. And, you know, as this thing comes to trial, and this case develops, I really hope that we can take a good hard look at ourselves as a society and what our goals are, and how we really create a criminal justice system with the emphasis on justice, and not on criminal.



Jack Valinski 30:34

Absolutely, absolutely. And just because you're leaving and gITF, I know you're leaving it on good terms. And I know you wish the best for them, as we all do, because it's such an important grassroots national organization that we all need in our movements. And we still want you to continue to call us and talk to us about the national issues and the things that you're involved in because one guests for sure.



31:01

Well, you know, I'll be on the show, as often as you want me, I do have to tell you that even though I'm leaving in gITF, I am not leaving the movement. In fact, I just found myself placed on the Public Relations Committee for the statewide group in Maryland, which is called Maryland free state justice. And so I'll be doing you know, pro bono work, helping them write press releases and making pitch calls to the media and getting stories placed in Maryland. And you know, I'm just doing that because they're in my backyard. But Texas is very near and dear to my heart. Houston is a progressive, activist community, a place where a lot of things are happening, and I want to be a part of Houston subject, you know, as long as you don't want me on the show. I'm there. I'm yours. So



Jack Valinski 31:54

you have the best of both worlds. I mean, you you can help the Houston by talking to us and you don't have to live here with the pollution as there was a good feature story this morning, morning edition from John Burnett about the pollution here. So but the best of luck, David, and we'll be talking to you soon.



32:11

Thank you. Well, thank you, Joan. Thank you, Jack. And y'all take care and have a good evening. You're listening to lesbian and gay



Jack Valinski 32:17

voices.



32:20

Weekends on KPFT or Well, anything but when not miss you'll hear a variety of music including Cajun Texas, bluegrass, blues, jazz world and so much more weekends are specialized KPFT. For a complete schedule log on to kpft.org Make your weekends anything but monotonous. Houston's naughty boy one KPFT the sound of Texas



32:50

the city of Tampa Florida is reconsidering its government pension rules. Now that the widow of a lesbian police officer killed in the line of duty is fighting for her benefits. As this way outs Randy Zimmerman reports. The surviving partner who is also a police woman may have to carry her argument all the way to the state legislature.



33:10

Tampa detective Mickey Mashburn is seeking the pension benefits she believes she is owed. As the 10 year life partner of slain Tampa Police Officer Lois Marrero allegations that Moraira had an affair will not deter Mashburn. Today, mash burns, requests for benefits has been denied by the eight member police and firefighter Pension Board. At a press conference before the pension board's decision. Mashburn explained that she's fighting for a higher cause. And you would hope



33:39

that with the support of the community and the nation at this point, that they will help us get it through the local and state laws. Hopefully, I just want the pension to to look at everything. Try to look at it as a couple that was married and that lived together and have the same understanding that they would any other couple.



34:07

On July 6 Officer Moraira was shot and killed during an attempted bank robbery. She was the first woman in the Tampa Police force to be killed in the line of duty. Moraira did not leave a will but did name Mickey Mashburn as the beneficiary of her city life insurance policy. Mashburn additionally contends that her relationship with Moraira was like a marriage, and she should be entitled to death benefits as any other widow, a sum that would pay Mashburn \$28,000 a year for the rest of her life. In Tampa, as in the rest of Florida. Only people in legally recognized marriages are considered spouses. The law is clear, setting up house sharing household expenses and exchanging vows of commitment in front of friends and relatives don't count. If you're in a gay or lesbian relationship. Marrero and Mashburn held a commitment ceremony 10

years ago are proud act is common in the lesbian and gay community because marriage is not an option. Mashburn is attorney Karen Dearing explains how the existing Tampa pension plan violates the Florida Civil Rights Act.



35:11

The Florida Civil Rights Act requires that an employer not discriminate against its employees based on marital status, among other categories. The pension plan, as currently constituted, provides a greater benefit for married employees than it does to its employees who are either unmarried or in relationships that are not currently recognized. So from a legal perspective as well, the city pension plan needs to be changed to fully comply with the Florida Civil Rights Act.



35:50

Maria rose family and Mashburn sat together at Lois his funeral which received full police honors. However, Moraira has family says Lois would not have wanted Mashburn to receive the benefits because Lois was seeing another woman living in Texas. Mesh burns motives have also been questioned. At the moment she's on limited duty because of an injury she sustained off duty two years ago. If Mashburn cannot pass the minimum physical requirements for a police officer. She could be fired. Karen Dearing says none of these charges have any bearing on the case



36:23

that has no relevance to the case. And what this is about is Nikki and Lois his relationships and the fact that they were married, they were committed to each other and that this is what Lois would have wanted.



36:39

While not dealing directly with the issue of gay and lesbian relationships, a special committee is now studying whether or not to change the way the pension provision is written. With a pension benefits read widow or widower The committee will now consider allowing police officers and firefighters to name a specific beneficiary. The involved unions would have to approve the change. Then the full city council and finally, the state legislature. I'm Randy Zimmerman in Tampa, Florida, where this way out



Glenn Holt 37:12

you are listening to lesbian and gay voices and coming up in our next hour. Michael Barmah. Michael lock and Donna Garrett for a my poetry reading to be happening at Lobos. And before that Daryl Fitzgerald and Robert Lewis from the men's gathering, but first this is crazy. The song appropriately titled come out, everybody. That was crazy. And you're listening to lesbian and gay voices.



Joan Devlin 37:48

Good evening. I'm Joan Devlin, and I'm in the studio with Robert Lewis and Daryl Fitzgerald. And we are here to talk about the men's gathering. And you guys have quite a bit coming up with the men's gathering, including an event that you're going to be doing in October, which is just coming up here next month.



38:05

Yes, it's called our black explosion weekend. That's October 5 through the seventh. On Friday night, we'll be having kind of like a club, like a club tour. You know, part of our clubs will be EJ is club Calypsos Nick's club illusions, Nick incognito. And what are we doing on Saturday, Darrell?



38:26

Saturday, we'll be meeting at Hawthorn Inn and Suites. It's at 4020 Southwest Freeway. And we have a day of seminars and poetry reading. Starting at one o'clock. From one to two we'd have poetry reading with Aaron Coleman from the men's gathering and AJ boy from sisters as well as many others. from two to three, we're having empowerment and Spirituality of Imperfection with Paul Guillory, three to four we have in financial planning overview with Lovera twine from American Express financial, from four to five, we're doing HIV in the black community. And that's what John Humphries from the WAM Foundation, and 545 to 9pm. We're having a regular men's gathering meeting, which is a closed meeting meeting for black, gay bisexual men, and that's going to be held at the community Gospel Church.



39:26

Yes, on Sunday, we're also going to be going to service at resurrection MCC, and you can go to either the 9am service or the 11am service. And 230 to seven o'clock is going to be our picnic. It's going to be our second annual picnic at to the Tom bass Park. And tickets right now are on sale for \$15.



Joan Devlin 39:53

So it sounds like you're gonna have a pretty JAM PACKED weekend that weekend. It's



39:56

gonna be a very busy weekend. Yeah,



39:58

it's gonna be a lot of fun. Looking forward to it very much.



Joan Devlin 40:01

So is this the first time you've had such an event? Or is this



40:05

this is going to be our second? Our second annual picnic? The first one. We were kind of looking to get our feet wet. And it was really a success. And so we thought we would do it again. That's great.



Joan Devlin 40:17

And what do you what are you hoping to accomplish with the weekend? What are you hoping to see?



40:24

Just a lot of black gay men and their friends having fun. That's what it comes down to say just



40:28

to meet some new new people. The Picnic itself is open. You can bring your family friends. It's an open picnic. Bring your \$15



Joan Devlin 40:43

That sounds good. It's gonna be some good food there.



40:45

Yeah, yeah, we're having the food catered in. It's gonna be by the same people we did for the first year. And there's going to be a lot of eating, that's going to be a lot of good times by the games to good music. Absolutely.



Joan Devlin 40:58

Now, what are some other things a men's gathering is currently doing you have another meeting coming up here shortly?



41:04



41:04

Yes, we do. We're just gonna, you know, have a discussion about some of the issues that we've survived in our own lives. And also, we're also looking to maybe open up and do some more activities, such as Paul Guillory, who is the facilitator and I have discussed possibly possibly a Christmas party even.



Joan Devlin 41:27

Oh, that's great. So is the men's gathering as a group has that also been expanding as time has gone on?



41:33

Oh, very much. So. The men's Gathering Online, we've expanded a lot to members all over the country, and even in some other countries as well.



Joan Devlin 41:47

And you know, what has the response been right here in Houston? Have you seen it growing?



41:52

We've we've seen the group's fluctuate from week to week, but we're normally averaging about 40 to 45 Min. Each meeting. We have now started a Sunday meeting also that's on our off off week. And it's a little smaller. It's more intimate, though. It's an open meeting. You can gay, straight, black, white, whatever, just friends and family of gays. So it's it has it's been expanding really well.



Joan Devlin 42:24

Now, where can people if they want attend these meetings, where are they held?



42:27

The meetings are currently held at Community Gospel Church. I don't know the address right offhand. But



42:36

it's in the heights on Lilium.





42:39

Lillian Thomas does.



42:43

But we're looking to maybe find another meeting spot.



Joan Devlin 42:49

That's great. And the community center has an office, timber governor's listening, so I had to give him a no, but really, any ideas? Are you thinking of moving because you're kind of outgrowing where you are now, which would be really good news.



43:04

Um, yes. Plus, we've had some trouble with the air conditioner. And that's not for Houston. So we are, I'm going to be contacting some people that resurrection MCC and seeing if we can maybe use their facilities.



Joan Devlin 43:20

Well, that's great. Well, it sounds like you guys are moving right along. Now. How long has the men's gathering been around?



43:26

Oh, I've been a member for two years. I've been coming for two years. I believe it's it's been three years or over. How about you, Darrell.



43:35

I've only been a member for about a year. I believe. I talked to Paul like online a couple of years ago. And before I ever actually joined the meeting, I was you know, read a lot of good things about it online. So it's been around for a while. And Paul's very dedicated anybody that knows him knows that he's dedicated to this group and getting us adequate information and everything. So he's a real good guy.



Joan Devlin 44:03

Yeah. Where's he isn't he in Colorado or something? today?





44:06

He's in Biloxi, Mississippi.



Joan Devlin 44:09

Okay, I was gonna be jealous if he was in Colorado. jealous of him being a Mississippi. Poor guy. I know he has to travel a lot for his show.



44:18

Definitely.



Joan Devlin 44:20

So I want to thank you very much for coming out. Once again, if people want to attend the men's gathering meetings, where are they held? When and then of course, remind us about the picnic and everything else that's coming up.



44:30

Okay. Well, the meetings are right now we're being held at the community Gospel Church on Lilian right now. I am going to contact some people at resurrection seat, opening up their facilities and our black Explosion. Explosion weekend is October 5 through seventh and you can get in contact with Paul Guillory at the men's gathering@yahoo.com for information regarding the picnic and I happen to be the treasurer, so Um, I will be selling tickets as well. Everyone else would be



Joan Devlin 45:03

great. And tickets, how do you get tickets?



45:06

You can contact at the men's gathering@yahoo.com Or you can get in contact with. His name is Aaron Coleman. His number is area code 513 Excuse me. 713-529-7978.



Joan Devlin 45:21

Great. Well, thank you so much for being on. Good luck. Thank you keep us posted. And we'll be talking to you again next month.



45:26

Absolutely. Thank you for having us.



Joan Devlin 45:28

We've been talking to Daryl Fitzgerald and Robert Lewis of the men's gathering and you're listening to lesbian and gay voices.



Glenn Holt 45:36

And coming up in our next hour, we have Michael Bolin, Michael lock and Donna Garrett. All poets and they will be previewing their poetry reading session coming up at Lobo. But first, this is Ken Clark. His boss said on that Kim Clark Palomino rode from his album inside out. And you were listening to lesbian and gay voices.



Jack Valinski 46:06

It's a nice fall day here. You know in Houston. A couple of things I wanted to talk about one of the things is that the all over the guy is playing at landmarks Greenway theater. All over the guy all over the guy is a story about probably 20 something or early 30 something for people to gay man and a straight man and a straight woman and the others a gay man and straight woman as far as friends. And then the gay man and straight man is France and then they both become couples and their trials and tribulations of doing that. It was pretty funny. The jokes were you know, typical gay chat type jokes. You know how we how we are sometimes nice mood is you know, to see if you get a chance Greenway River Greenway. Landmark theatres in Greenway. Hedrick is also there. They moved that from River Oaks down to the Greenway Plaza theater. So that's good. Couple of things. Other than that, I wanted to talk about I don't know if you saw this? Well, he's not listening right now. But things coming up, the Dallas parade is coming up on the 23rd of September on a Sunday 3pm down the center of our community in Dallas. It's always sort of a nice parade. Then want to talk a little bit about the endorsements. And the caucus, which of course we'll be talking about as the weeks go on to the election, but probably the most controversial controversial. I'm on the air endorsements is in Kansas City Council District. D. Edwards was endorsed by the Political Caucus, and has been Political Caucus. And of course, at large number one, and he's Parker, who really didn't have any opposition. And I don't know if you saw this, Glenn, but this study that came out today about child sexual



Glenn Holt 48:04

Oh, yes, yes. Yeah, I was gonna mention that, actually, to David Elliot, because he mentioned something about I forget what the topic was. But



Jack Valinski 48:15

this, there was a study, and it was done by the University of Pennsylvania, which is located just

outside of Philadelphia, and that based on field research, interviews and surveys from 288 federal and local agencies, the study estimated that between 304 100,000 children in America are victims of sexual experts being exported each year that it's about one out of every 100 children in the country, and evenly spread between males and females. And that most of these people are from families that have money. And I guess overwhelmingly it is white children. And it is pretty, you know, that a country like this, that this this stuff happens.

G

Glenn Holt 49:02

And it also said that the perpetrators, in most cases are married men. Who are family members. Yes, yes. And what I was going to ask David Elliot, when he was talking about our justice system, being so oriented towards retribution, is it would be one thing if there were a small handful of people who were responsible for this sort of thing, but when this problem is systemic to the whole society, what does that say about what is wrong in our society? And then also, what should be done about it? That does not include locking up all of the offenders because clearly, first of all, we don't have enough prison space. And secondly, obviously, that's not the solution.

J

Jack Valinski 49:45

Well, it's pretty interesting. I just want to give you if you'd like this study was done on the US Mexico and Canada. If you'd like some more information online, you can go to CastorCAS.tersw.upenn.edu/articles/CS_Ec.htm. But there was also an interesting op ed piece in Sunday's New York Times by Dan Savage about, you know, adopting children the fact that is it better to let these children not be adopted than letting gay or lesbian couples adopt the children? Right, you know, so

G

Glenn Holt 50:25

and in other societies, they recognize that part of the purpose for gay and lesbian people is to be foster parents. Yes, that's a natural purpose. Yes.

J

Jack Valinski 50:34

Because well, I mean, raise an example. He took over his siblings, children when that when that person died in a car crash. And I mean, that's happened, just as a lot of us take care of our parents.

G

Glenn Holt 50:46

That's right. And there's absolutely no evidence and all of the sedated studies that have been done to say that gay and lesbian people are less able to parent than than straight people. And there's, in fact, there's some evidence the other way that says that they may make more loving and caring,

J Jack Valinski 51:05
exactly. Well, that's about it for

G Glenn Holt 51:10
there's one thing that I've noticed, though, and I've mentioned this to several people, and I wanted to get your opinion on it in all of the years, and I won't say how many that I've been going out to meet people. I've sort of kept a running tally of a few things in the back of my mind. One of them is, and anybody who knows me has probably heard this. I've done kind of an unscientific survey. And I found that most men at least, and usually, this usually applies to women as well. For most men anyway, who come from a family where there are four or more siblings. If one of them is gay, chances are another one's going to be gay. Yeah. And if you come from a family of six, for example, then chances are real high. That is going to be more than just one. Yeah. And also, most gay men have a gay uncle on their mother's side

J Jack Valinski 52:05
that I didn't know. This is your scientific research? Yeah, it's

G Glenn Holt 52:09
just an informal sort of a survey. But I mean, you know, I mean, the evidence has been piling up over the years, because this is just too consistent patterns that I find in the people that are

J Jack Valinski 52:18
definitely the sibling thing. I mean, I, you know, noticed that over the years, too, and probably more years going out than you.

G Glenn Holt 52:25
Neither one of us would care to say, yes. And the other thing that I've noticed is, there's a disproportionate number of deaf people in the gay community, and a disproportionate lack of blind people. Now, I think that there's a correlation there between the fact that you don't find so many blind from birth congenitally blind, gay people. And the fact that gay people are usually associated with things visual. You know, we're always sort of color oriented and fashion oriented and doing jobs like architecture and interior design and haircutting and computer programming and things very visual.

J Jack Valinski 53:07
Well, I think we completely blown the University of Pennsylvania study.

G Glenn Holt 53:10
Okay. Anyway, that was Sebaceans. You know, I mean, I say,

J Joan Devlin 53:14
what are you sure they're deaf and not

G Glenn Holt 53:15
ignoring you? Say that again?

J Joan Devlin 53:18
Are you sure they're deaf and not just ignoring you?

G Glenn Holt 53:20
I'm turning your mic back off.

J Jack Valinski 53:23
This was on amis. msn.com If you want to look up the study,

G Glenn Holt 53:29
okay. And the other thing that you were talking about can easily be looked up through Google or a search engine like that. And what was the topic again? What was I talking about earlier? The movie? Yeah, the movie.

J Jack Valinski 53:39
Oh, the movie. You can look under landmarks. website. It's all over the guy.

G Glenn Holt 53:44
Okay, so just do a search on all over the guy and you'll you'll probably come up with some interesting things. Yeah, some interesting things. At 90.1 FM, this is KPFT in Houston, the sound of Texas and now more of lesbian and gay voices.

 Joan Devlin 54:22

That noise you heard, while Jack was trying to speak was myself getting organized with a group of wonderful poets that we've been privileged to have on the show tonight for our second hour. We've got Mike Bolin. We've got Michael Locke, and we've got Donna Garrett. And they're going to be part of a poetry night that's happening this coming Sunday the 16th at Lobo bookstore. So I wanted to kind of do like a roundtable and have a little discussion with them about their work and then they're going to give everybody in our listening audience a sample of what you're going to be hearing this coming Sunday if you get out to Lobo and we'll go ahead and start with Michael Locke. You know, subprime has been out now what about a month a month? And how has it been going with subprime?

 55:06

The sales have been very good. And in fact, the thing has really taken off. And October actually October 13, and 14th. There's a dance group that's taking some of my work in adapting to dance and music. So it will be it will be called Sun primed, a theatrical production of dance music inverse. That's fantastic for Main Street Theater.

 Joan Devlin 55:27

Well, the only bad thing about that is we can get them in the studio to dance, but it's not the same.

 55:33

Over radio, no, it's not the same. So well, we'll

 Joan Devlin 55:36

have you do some poetry.

 55:37

And the other good thing is, it's it's nice when you connect with people, and that's what's happening with the book. A lady came up to me, I think I may have mentioned this to you. She said, I really like seeing the world through your eyes. And so when you connect with people, that's what this is about. It's about connecting with people and making a difference.

 Joan Devlin 55:56

And now we have Mike Bolin and you have something coming out. It's called more morning, Mo, you are n ing contagious beauty. So tell us a little about that. It's a journey of poetry. They've

called it a journey. So what is this covering?



56:11

Well, actually, Michael watt called it a journey. Mike actually introduced me to the whole poetry scene. Through Lobo, I met him, he invited me to a reading that he was doing. I was very nervous, but I loved it. And then I decided I'd been at Lobo for a while. I wanted to have my own venue. So the reading that will be on Sunday is the fourth reading that we've done. And Mike's been a part of every one of them. My book is being published under a consortium press, who is Mike's publishing company? And I'm really excited about it nervous and excited.



56:52

And actually, we have 14 portrait readings last year. And my participated in a great number.



57:00

I missed like three of them, I think or something like that.



Joan Devlin 57:03

Well, that's great, because we're looking forward to your book. Thank you. So that that should be excellent. And then of course, Donna Garrett, who is an old old friend here on lesbian and gay voices, and Donna, you know, I'm really excited to have you included in this because, you know, we hadn't heard from you in a little while. It's been a while and ready, you know, ready for some Dawn and Garrett stuff here.



57:25

A lot of things have been happening. By the way, you'll be able to get my book at crossroads. Donna Garrett, they got the spoken touch poetic expressions by Donna Gara. So all of you that have been wondering where you can pick it up, go back Crossroads if they don't have a give him give him heck about it. Okay, I'm real pleased to be participating in this poetry reading. This will be my first out at Lobos in so I'm looking forward to his title is it sounds all sounds so very exciting. I've got a lot of projects going on, got a couple of things going on. I like to talk about Sure. I'm doing a thing on the let's see, this is going to be women works presents family matters at the Midtown Art Center, which is located home and another branch. And this is going to take place October the 26th to 27th and the 28th. On the 28th it will be at 3pm. So we want to get everybody to come on down and check it out. Women were does real good work in the community deformation called 713-523-2802. And so between Lobos and midtown Art Center,



58:41

and some practice, Don is also participating in that on the 13th and 14th.



58:45

Yes, so we just we got to stay busy.



Joan Devlin 58:48

Well, that's good, but then it gets it gets the Poetry Out out there too. And, you know, local poetry, you know, Euston got a lot of talent here got a lot of talent in this room. So it's really exciting to me, to know that the city's taken advantage of that talent and not just, you know, because, you know, unfortunately, poetry is probably the one of the most underappreciated forms of literature, there seems to be this impression that anybody can just sit down and write, write poetry. And that's not the case. And for instance, I wanted to talk to Michael Locke, a lot of the poetry you shared in subprime. I mean, this was over a long period of time, you just didn't wake up one morning and write a whole bunch of stuff and say, Okay, this is my book,



59:30

right? Some of the some of the poetry in that book is about 20 years old. And I've been writing for, you know, I've got a creative writing degree. And I've been writing for 20 years. And and you study poetry, and you study why things work. It's just like putting music together. It's the same sort of way of putting pieces down on paper for portraits.



Joan Devlin 59:51

And now for my Bolin. How long have you been writing poetry?



59:55

I've actually I've been writing since like, 1987. Just like Get the book, which actually I didn't mention it, it's going to be available, it's going to make its debut on the reading Sunday. And hopefully people can see, for me it was getting something out that I couldn't get out, you know, hopefully people can see that. It's kind of dark. And I've always had like a little inner problem with that, because I'm not sure how people are going to relate to that. But I think that if people read it, and they're open to it, they'll also see that there's also there's always been a sense of me know, something else out there working with me. And, you know, it's just, it's a gift, definitely, by any margin. And you're right, you just don't wake up one day and say, Hey, I'm going to be a poet, you know, it's something in your heart, and I'm so glad to see this happen in Houston. Uh, you know, a lot of my influences have been like jewel, and, you know, these big celebrities, you know, but who's to say that, you know, we're not celebrities in our own little, you know, minds or hearts, and you know, that we can get something out there and just touch one person, it makes it all worth it for me.



Joan Devlin 1:01:11

 Joan Devlin 1:01:11

And that Donna Garrett, you've been writing poetry for quite some time as well.

 1:01:16

BUTCHER for years, I want to start to document my poetry seriously in about 94. And, and since and since that time, I've had a lot of great venues, we've done poetry readings, we've done different shows, we've done the job we've done, just a lot of things, have had a lot of fun with it, you know, and we're going to take it to another level, we'll you know, support us here. It's what's happening. So, and didn't have a lot of fun with it. And, and then inviting the community to come on out to Lobos and let's just do this. Let's do it for the fun of it. Yes.

 Joan Devlin 1:01:56

Now, you're all been Houston for a while. What changes have you seen in the Houston arena, as far as things like poetry readings, because, you know, usually when you talk, poetry reading, Houston is not the place that comes to the forefront of your mind. So how have you seen the whole cultural,

 1:02:14

it's hot? It's what and what amazes me is that young people are taking this, like they would go to a movie or a concert has become a hot venue for entertainment. So I really have seen a big change. It's not like when I was a kid poetry was an St. Vincent Malay and stuff that no one really cared about this. This is very hot. And it's it's a hot topic these days.

 1:02:41

I actually just think to that, like with the spiritual growth of like the world and everything, people are less afraid to share a piece of themselves with other people. You know, just word of mouth, you mentioned, you know, there's some poetry reading at Lobo, you know, and flyers go out the door, and people seem really interested. And I think it's about wanting to relate to something, you know, somebody and kind of just that human connection that poetry really does for people.

 Joan Devlin 1:03:12

I also wanted to ask him, we'll go roundtable again. We'll start with Donna, this time, we'll switch it around a bit. But I want to talk about the overall response to your poetry thus far.

 1:03:29

Oh, the overall response to my poetry has been great. And never could have come as far as I have. If I didn't have a fan base and audience base, and I get such a warm welcome. It does me good to make them feel what I'm feeling. And that's what I strive to do. When I'm doing my

good to make them feel what I'm feeling. And that's what I strive to do. When I'm doing my posts. I want you to feel me when I'm talking to you. So I get this response from people and it's great. There are a lot of influences, that I that things that are happening. Poetry alone. Hip Hop, to me has been very instrumental in getting Porcha out there in the mainstream, lonely of hip hop. You know, so but people are listening, and they're paying attention. Haven't had a problem at all, not Donna Garrett.

 Joan Devlin 1:04:16

Okay, and how about you might bola.

 1:04:19

I think, for me, I haven't, you know, just in the last year, I've gotten my stuff out there. I have over 1200 poems.

 Joan Devlin 1:04:27

So we're gonna see more than one book from Yeah,

 1:04:29

take hopefully, you know with Mike cell Mike's been, you know, incredible. And just like people like Mike believing in you. When I read it's generally well accepted. I think that I don't pretend to know everything. I just try to speak my truth and if somebody can relate to that, if it touches somebody then you know that's worth it for me and it feels it just feels great to share something and have something out there.

 Joan Devlin 1:04:58

And how about you Michael lock ins Prime has been doing well, but what's been the overall response to your poetry?

 1:05:04

It's been very good. It's my stuff is not very heavy, because because I'm not, I'm a jokester most of the time, and serious when I sleep. And so I think people really enjoy my work. In fact, I've taken the Bill Cosby approach probably to portray more so than than most, and it's stuff that people can relate to, like the peanut butter and jelly sandwich, Paul.

 Joan Devlin 1:05:27

And that's my next question. Who are some of your influence some of your favorite poets, some of the people would like to end up with on a rainy day?

some of the people you'd like to curl up with on a rainy day?



1:05:35

I like William Carlos Williams, who I studied who was a country doctor and of course there goes that country theme. Yes. I like Maya Angelou. I think William Carlos Williams is was a big influence for me.



Joan Devlin 1:05:53

And now how about you Mike Bolin?



1:05:56

As I mentioned before, definitely, Jewel, you know, just even in her songwriting, she has a lot of humility. Maya Angelou. I love poetic justice. And, you know, I have her collection of poetry, wh Auden, Walt Whitman. Those are some people I like to read and, you know, you take little pieces and keep them with you.



Joan Devlin 1:06:17

And how about you Donna Garrett?



1:06:21

Audrey Lord. I really like Audrey Lord, I've always been shaped by her. Her work and those Renaissance poets not to run a sample. But it was guys up in Boston back in the 20s. Who were they call it the Harlem Renaissance? Renaissance? Right? I mean, they Langston Hughes, all those kids. They were a great influence for me. I mean, just I like popping it like that. So yeah.



Joan Devlin 1:06:48

So now what we're gonna do is we're gonna give our listening audience a hint of just a hint, just a taste of what they can expect at Lobo on this coming Sunday night. And this will happen from six to 8pm at Lobo bookstore, 3939, South Montrose Boulevard. Got a nice little coffee shop at Lobo. So you know, get yourself a drink, kick back and listen to some good poetry. And we're gonna go ahead and start with Donna Garrett. And we'll just go around the table again and share with all of us.



1:07:18

You know, I'm always every time I come here, I'm in that mood, you know, so I'm in that mood tonight. It's no different. Hmm. I can't listen. It is what it is. I deliberately look past your clothes. I could not help it. I could feel when you're so new that I did. Oh, I wanted to. I wanted you. Now

I could not help it. I could feel when you're as new that I did. Oh, I wanted to. I want you. Now you know. Are you angry? Angry that I can feel you angry because you cannot stop the flow. Angry at that feeling in you. Hey, I am a woman. A woman that deals in passion. A woman that you feel will deal with your was angry at you. Are you angry at view? If you knew what I knew you would come to me and come with me to a feeling a supreme feeling of momentarily easing out of yourself. No Labels, just feelings. Oh, do not scrutinize the tantalize so that we may part in peace. No expectations. Just a smile. Just a memory. That may just me come around again.

G

Glenn Holt 1:08:41

Okay. Glen Donna makes me wish I was a lesbian. Just about just about me taking off my clothes.

J

Joan Devlin 1:08:52

That's not hard to do. Okay, now's Mr. Mike Bowens turn.

⦿

1:08:58

This is actually Michael Locke's favorite poem, so I'd actually like to dedicate it for him and all the hard work he's done. helping me get my dream processed and out into the world. That's called when it goes. Where does love go when it goes, does it RESPA need the biggest stars were just too blind to see. Does it slip ever gently through the cracks of skin? We can't decide to keep or give away. Grace bent just before she breaks. The noise has turned to silence again. We are lost and found and forgotten. Hope sitting in the corner feeling ashamed and slightly used? Who hurt us the most? Was it you who made me feel this way? Was it me? Was it God? Who do I blame for the tears that only come when I'm dying? How does love grow when love grows? Is that the glands in a mirror we forget to take? Does it sleep forever pretending not to dream? Does it wake to find it's broken? Words that damaged me are the words that damage me. I'm just this cool kid that's never really played. And what does love know? When love knows? Is it the secret voice that awakens you? The solitude that forces you to have never felt so alone? Or the courage that commits to you? The light that lights the dark in you? Was it you who made me feel this way? Was it me? Was it God? Who can tell me? Where does love go when it goes?

J

Joan Devlin 1:10:33

And now we're gonna have Mr. Michael lock,

⦿

1:10:36

talking about this peanut butter and jelly poem, so I'm going to read it. That's a great poem. Peanut butter and jelly. The sandwich we wanted at home, not at school. At home, mama made it with love and chips and milk. The texture of peanut butter, like having candy that is sanctioned by grandma. The jelly oozing onto one's fingers to be licked later for dessert.

 Joan Devlin 1:11:05

Okay, now I'm really hungry. How is it? How is poetry changed your life? Donna? How has it changed your life?

 1:11:14

portrait has changed my life because it's just exposed me to a side of me that just laid dormant for so many years. Oh, while I was hitting that clock all while I was signing the contract to be there from nine to five. I just did not know that this side of me could exist and flourish. I'm having a bone. I just don't mind telling you. I'm having a ball.

 Joan Devlin 1:11:38

And I'm about you Mike Boland. How has it changed your life?

 1:11:41

You know, it's just it's my truth. You know, it's my escape. You meet people out there, and they're not always ready to hear what you want to say. Maybe because of their own things, maybe because of yours. But it's the place I get to go and hide and you know, not censor myself not be afraid of being who I am. And just letting it all out there and not caring.

 Joan Devlin 1:12:06

How about you, Mike lock.

 1:12:09

This is really my my true journey. I got out of the corporate world to do this. And and it's, it's become a freedom for me because things are falling into place. So I know I'm on the right track. This is my reality. And I ignored it for so long. You know, I was multimillion dollar producer life insurance agent for 15 years. And I was a closet poet and a closeted gay at one time.

 Joan Devlin 1:12:39

So where do you hope to go next? What do you you know, now that sun prime has taken off for you? What do you see in your future?

 1:12:48

Well we've got so we've got the show. I've got a magazine. And a few weeks we'll be launching

Well, we've got so we've got the show, I've got a magazine. And a few weeks we'll be launching the art and literature based, it will be the New Yorker of the South, it's gonna be called consortium. And so we're gonna give people an ability to display the work will be given away for free. It's gonna go online first, and then we'll have the hardcopy right before Thanksgiving. I also plan to just publish books and work with artists that want to get out there and don't have a regular venue to do that. And I want to create that for them.

 Joan Devlin 1:13:20

And how Batchi might volun Where do you see your future at this point?

 1:13:23

Well, it's still early for me. But yeah, I just hope that people are receptive to the book, that they get something. You know, I had a lot of difficulties growing up not to say any more than anyone else. But, you know, like I said, it was my escape. And if someone could pick up the book and relate to it, and get something out of it, and that I can continue to do that on some level. I kind of always felt that that's what my life has been about, you know, I've just been always kind of an open book, you know, pardon the pun. And hopefully I can continue with that and just, you know, keep putting it out there. Hopefully someone will keep getting it. And I think if you do what you love and you know, you give that gift out there. You get those gifts back to you know, people relating to it and all that How about

 Joan Devlin 1:14:18

you Donna Garrett?

 1:14:20

Oh, Donna Gary wants to get this play on the road. I can float after the first of the year. We're busy setting up bookings and hopefully we can get going on that. So but until the first of the year, I just got a couple of local venues here. I've got the thing coming up with women work. So I've got the thing at Lobos, the poetry reading at pub Lobos. I'm just going to try to keep busy until time to to get on the road, you know, to do some do something different.

 Joan Devlin 1:14:50

And how about you before we, you know, leave the audience for the evening. How about we get one more poem from everybody and this time we'll go ahead and start with with Michael All right.


 1:15:01

Well, John says you like the country. Yes, this is for you. And this is a new one. And it's called birds and butterflies. outside looking in, I see birds and butterflies prosper in a Golden Meadow.

I am sure they do not wonder about me and my work. I am probably an experiment to them in this box with Windows, winged creatures, merrily play and eat, fly and couple about my unnatural structure in the meadow. It is strange that I am moving to the wilderness and bringing civilization along. I want so much to enjoy nature with my cafe latte. I alone am responsible for urban sprawl. I become become unhappy when I see my neighbors. They are encroaching upon the birds and butterflies and me.

 Joan Devlin 1:16:02

That's great. And now we'll go to Okay well thank you so much and you're listening to lesbian and gay voices

 Glenn Holt 1:16:12

the to cowboy waltz that was Mark Wagle. And before that, we had Michael Bolin. Michael lock and Donna Garrett, talking about a poetry reading that will be coming up at Lobos. And for more information contact the Lobo bookstore that's going to be happening in October. You're listening to lesbian and gay voices.

 1:16:36

As we discovered on last week's this way out, British activist Peter Tatchell plans to make his third attempt to arrest Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe when the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting, or Chaga gathers in Brisbane, Australia in early October TACHELES controversial direct action demonstrations have become almost as well known around the world as Mugabe's homophobic outbursts. But as John frame of queer radio notes in this interview with Tatchell, the gay human rights campaigners association with the regime in Zimbabwe was not always adversarial.

 1:17:11

You were actually involved in getting Mugabe's party perhaps into power. You were campaigning for liberation from white domination within Zimbabwe. When I

 1:17:21

was a student in London, the 1970s, I was involved in supporting the Zimbabwe freedom struggle against white minority rule in those days, and Smith, was effectively a white dictator. You know, there were incredible human rights abuses going on inside Zimbabwe, in order to preserve white minority rule. I want 100% supported the struggle of black and white Zimbabwean to create a democratic multiracial society where there would be human rights for all. Now, Robert mugabi, in those days stood for those principles. He too, was committed to democracy and human rights. But of course, like so many people, when he came to power, after a honeymoon period radiate a lot of very good positive thing. He very quickly slipped into the routine abuse of human rights. And we saw that with the incredible horrific massacres of

political opponents in McCabe land during the 1980s when up to 20,000 people were massacred by his troop. We've seen it ever since in the suppression of strikes and peaceful protests, the intimidation of journalists and judges, and of course, a whole spate of politically motivated killings and tortures.



1:18:48

Enough people have actually said to me, Well, you know, what her gaming got to do with children, why they're putting their nose in there. And aside from the Maccabi issue, gay men are affected by other issues like human rights issues.



1:19:02

Just recently, the officers of gays and lesbians of Zimbabwe, the main queer rights pressure group, in Harare, were vandalized and dog with graffiti. Members of gals have been threatened with death unless they leave the country. These these are pretty extreme things to do against people who are harming no one and who are simply seeking dignity, respect and human rights. But of course, this is just part of a pattern of wider human rights abuses, where all sections of civil society are under attack by the McGarvey regime. And most of the people victimized were black black Zimbabweans.



1:19:49

Some people may wonder whether you actually have the right to arrest mugabi here in Brisbane, but is there any law that's actually applicable in Australia perhaps that says you can arrest him here



1:20:01

There is no international human rights law against homophobia or which would allow for the arrest of government leaders who persecute lesbians and gay men. But there is a law against torture it the United Nations Convention against Torture 1984 Which Australia, Britain and most other countries have signed, ratified, and pledged to uphold. That's the legal basis on which I'll be seeking to get the Australian authorities to arrest President McGarvey. When he comes to Brisbane for the Commonwealth Summit. I've got the evidence that he has condoned or acquiesced in torture. When presented with that evidence, those signed affidavit I believe the Australian authorities will have an obligation to put him under arrest and put him on trial. I don't know whether they will. But I know that that is what the law says. So I'm coming to Brisbane as the law enforcer. I'm trying to get the Australian government to enforce the law against torture. That is a sign



1:21:17

your style of activism you've written a book in In fact, the art of activism protesters performance, it's obvious it's the way that you feel compelled to work with the world and to achieve change. But it's also what concerns people might who perhaps see what you're doing

achieve change. But it's also what concerns people might who perhaps see what you're doing as being part of making life for people around you dangerous, but you have a situation where I was reading perhaps in gay times that you have to look your house up like a fortress practically, with steel shutters, because you have to be vandalized when you're now not to be home. You have trouble like walking down the street because everyone recognizes you. Anyone who thinks that you deserve a thump is likely to act on that. How do you cope in general with that sort of life?



1:21:59

I think my confrontational style direct action is not a measure of first resort. It's always been a question of last resort. You know, I've tried the calm, moderate way of doing things, negotiating loving letter writing, being polite, being respectable and reasonable. And it's only when that doesn't work. That I've resorted to nonviolent direct action, civil disobedience, to push the case for gay and other human rights. I think, to me, that is part and parcel of the way things have always worked throughout history. Every great movement for social justice has at certain points, had to resort to direct action in order to get their issues on the political agenda. When I began with McGarvey, I didn't start with direct action. I wrote him a polite considered letter. In fact, I wrote him several polite considered letters, I even wrote to some of his colleagues who I'd known from the days of the Liberation War. It was only when they refused to listen, to reason, an argument compassion. It's only then that I resorted to direct action. And you're absolutely right. This has bought on me, you know, a monstrous cycle of violence and intimidation as well. Yeah, my home is a fortress, because I'm subjected to regular targeted attacks by homophobes and neo Nazi terrorist groups, who don't like the fact that I'm standing up for gay rights and black rights and other human rights that they object to. So for me it life is very difficult. And I wouldn't deny for one minute that it does create a lot of personal problems and angst. You know, it's not nice, living under a virtual state of siege, never knowing when you might get the next bomb or bullet, or knife or iron bar as you leave your apartment. But I guess, you know, as much as I dislike living like this, I'm resigned to the fact that it is unnecessary price to pay. In order to push forward the agenda for universal human rights.



1:24:28

You'll attend to the rest earlier this year with Maccabi in Belgium. The footage for that has been replayed on television here in the news of the last couple of weeks. Lots of times. And a good thing is that the I think it's the secretary for the Federal Liberal Party has been calling from the Gobi to be banned from entry to the country. And they've been showing that footage and he's been saying, well, here's an example of how someone who was doing the right thing got horribly abused. But that's just as he says, that's an introduction to what McCobb is about. McGarvey is the sort of person we've done don't want to have in that country, not just because we don't want this sort of violence, but because we don't want him being acknowledged as being a good person. So it has been worthwhile getting that amount of press.



1:25:12

When I went to Brussels to try and arrest him in March. I didn't even know whether I'd get anywhere near him because I was acting on an anonymous tip off about his possible schedule. So I jumped on a plane at 24 hours notice, flew over there. And you did it all. On the hop, you

know, it was all ad lib. But I am pleased because I know that from inside Zimbabwe, although what I did was actually quite insignificant and really merely symbolic. Inside Zimbabwe. The reaction from grassroots people black and white, gay and straight, was so phenomenally positive. It gave people a real psychological boost that someone had taken on this dictator that someone had dared to challenge him to stop him while he was swinging around on the world stage posing as this respectable elder statesman. Now, often, politics and protest is about symbol. And I am gratified that what I did, and you know what inadvertently happened to me being knocked unconscious by his bodyguard, I'm gratified that that did help expose the brutality of his regime and add to the argument, why he is an international pariah and why his regime should be subjected to international sanctions.



1:26:46

If people went to your website will give them your web address.



1:26:50

It's [www dot Peter tatchell.net](http://www.PeterTatchell.net). Niecy Yes, it's [www. Peter Tatchell](http://www.PeterTatchell.net) all one word.net



1:27:01

There are a huge number of issues that are there showing that a queer man really there's a lot more that's important than just who's having sex with there's a lot more that's important to your life.



1:27:11

Yeah, I think what what I've been trying to do is to integrate queer rights into a broader human rights agenda. And in some ways, make the queer agenda, the human rights agenda, and to break down these barriers between gay and straight, to recognize our common humanity. I suppose that's what motivates me in this campaign to have McGarvey arrested. It isn't just his abuses of gay human rights. It is abuse of all human rights. You know, we're all part of the same human family, whatever our sexuality or race, and you know, we have an obligation in the west, to not wash our hands of what is happening in Africa, but to recognize that our African brothers and sisters are part of the same human family. And just as we would want others, to defend us if our human rights were being abused. We have a moral duty to defend those, even in faraway countries, even in different cultures. We have an obligation to defend them and help them and show them solidarity.



1:28:21

That was queer radio's John frame speaking with activist Peter Tatchell in London tach a welcome to the news last week that the Australian Government will not bar President Mugabe from entering the country, saying that the next step should be to arrest Mugabe when he arrives. These Zimbabwe standard reports that Mugabe is beefing up his security force for the

trip. Meanwhile, the Australian gay and lesbian rights group queers against corporate exploitation has announced its intention to bring 200 protesters to join other demonstrators at the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting. Thanks for choosing this way out the international lesbian and gay radio magazine this week Cindy Friedman, Christopher Gaul, Kelly Blanchfield gram Underhill, Chris Ambridge, Brian newness. Jason Lynn Rex Waldner, Randy Zimmerman and John frame contributed program material, Kim Wilson composed and performed our theme music. Remember, you can listen to this way out anytime online exclusively on planet out, just point your browser to [www dot planet out.com](http://www.planetout.com) and click first on multimedia than on radio. Some this way our operating expenses are funded through direct charitable donations from our listeners around the world. For an urgent message about this way outs critical financial situation, please visit our webpage at [this way out.org](http://thiswayout.org) Email us at [T wo radio@aol.com](mailto:TwoRadio@aol.com). Or write to us at Post Office Box 38327 Los Angeles California 90038 USA for coordinating producer Greg Gordon and the entire are this way out family I'm Lucia Chapelle. Thanks for listening on W E are you Blue Hill falls Maine, c f u v Victoria, British Columbia krcl Salt Lake City, Utah, and more than 125 other stations around the world, including this community radio station. Now y'all stay tuned.

G

Glenn Holt 1:30:21

And this community radio station is KPFT in Houston, where you are listening to lesbian and gay voices guess those no use cam Clark can't get used to you losing you from his album inside out. And you are listening to lesbian and gay voices. I thought maybe we were the only station to sounds like it almost done it.

J

Jack Valinski 1:30:53

A couple of things coming up the decadent desserts extract.

J

Joan Devlin 1:30:59

So looking forward,

J

Jack Valinski 1:31:00

I have to go because I was told I have to go. I was the only one who told you though Carol

J

Joan Devlin 1:31:05

Clark told you to

J

Jack Valinski 1:31:07

2306 Genesee at Fairview at media or the new bar. It is a fundraiser for a sister's? Yeah. And it is \$20 in advance and that number is 713-521-4628 or \$25 at the door, free valet parking cash

bar and drink special and lots and lots of chocolates.

G

Glenn Holt 1:31:29

I know. Oh, you know, for me. \$25 would be an awful lot of dessert. But for Joan, it's just getting started. That's right.

J

Jack Valinski 1:31:37

A couple things coming up. Tomorrow is an interest session. Meaning if you have any interest in getting involved in the pride committee, we're going to be at Lobos at seven p Lin is here. I go Lobos. It's Lobo is yes Lobo single at 7pm 3939. Montrose. We're going to be talking about basically propaganda. And a week from tomorrow is the first meeting for the 2002 season general meeting for the pride committee 7pm at the Metropolitan multi Service Center. 1475 West grey

G

Glenn Holt 1:32:13

sand if you haven't been bugged by Jack's pestering email about that yet. Oh, I mean, oh.

J

Joan Devlin 1:32:20

Well, I mean, it's important event. It's the beginning of the preparation for the 24th annual Euston gay pride parade.

J

Jack Valinski 1:32:28

How did you know it was 24th?

J

Joan Devlin 1:32:30

Because I saw your little property.

J

Jack Valinski 1:32:33

I haven't I count it one day and I figured I better write it down.

J

Joan Devlin 1:32:36

You know, the 25th Man, that's gonna be a big event. Yes, it is. But this is for the 24th but you can get your foot in the door now and start on the 24th and then you'll be all prepared for the 25th

G Glenn Holt 1:32:46
What are you gonna do for the special for the 25th? Are you gonna line the streets with tinfoil?

J Jack Valinski 1:32:50
Gotta get through the 24th.

J Joan Devlin 1:32:54
And of course, as we talked tonight to Mike Boland, Michael Lock and Dawn and Garrett Lobo will be having a poetry reading this coming Sunday the 16th from sixth to eighth and that's going to be quite the event. And of course, they are also because there's a coffee bar there. There's refreshments available.

J Jack Valinski 1:33:11
Yes, the stuff it's very good. Their food is very good there.

J Joan Devlin 1:33:15
I know. I love their Italian sodas with cream.

G Glenn Holt 1:33:19
And then of course, you know, if you have to go kind of light on the desserts like I do. They always have different flavors of coffee. They're like tonight was tiramisu. So yeah, so you know if you can't eat the real thing you can at least drink it as a coffee

J Joan Devlin 1:33:34
is that if I go by there after work I'm gonna be up on my

G Glenn Holt 1:33:38
Jeremy so is this sort of I think it's an Italian

J Joan Devlin 1:33:41
decadent Italian dessert. It involves lady fingers soaked in ROM and lots and lots of whipped

decadent Italian dessert. It involves lady fingers soaked in rum and lots and lots of whipped cream cinnamon and

G

Glenn Holt 1:33:48

and it's all layered and it served chilled. And it's just, it's really good. It's a little heavenly delight.

J

Joan Devlin 1:33:54

So yeah, I'm sure they'll have. They'll probably have it at the assistant hers decadent dessert because it definitely qualifies as decadent. Glen, you have to go with us to that dessert thing too.

G

Glenn Holt 1:34:05

Right. Look,

J

Joan Devlin 1:34:09

I'll eat yours.

G

Glenn Holt 1:34:11

Oh, don't say that too loudly.

J

Joan Devlin 1:34:12

Yeah. And then of course the Pagan Pride festival is taking place at garden in the heights on September 23. That will be taking place from 11am till 7pm \$5 donation to get in or you can bring some dog or cat food because a couple of the charities they'll be supporting one of them as citizens for animal protection. And so they will accept a donation for the animals or you can just spend five bucks and you're going to that too. Okay, when is that the 23rd of September exactly a week before the decadent dessert thing.

J

Jack Valinski 1:34:47

No, I'm not. I'll be in Dallas for the parade.

J

Joan Devlin 1:34:49

Oh, God. Jack Why did you schedule the gay pride parade?

J Jack Valinski 1:34:53
I didn't schedule Max.

G Glenn Holt 1:34:54
When is the Dallas gay pride parade

J Jack Valinski 1:34:56
23rd On a Sunday 3pm of September. September. Yes, they used to have it in June like we did, but I think they got tired of competing with us. So they moved it. They knew they couldn't. And things coming up. There's a couple of things coming up in powers happening the 14th of October, which is a Sunday at the George R brown Convention Center. The Westheimer street festival in exile will be happening the 20th and 21st. That weekend in October. And then the women's Festival, which happens at the garden heights is the 28th of October,

J Joan Devlin 1:35:28
and rosy cheeks is having a camp revival for camp hope and Mary's. And I am going to because I just put this into the calendar. And I want to say it's happening on like October 7, but that may not be correct, but it is going to be an event at nerese. Sponsored by rosy cheeks and it's a camp revival for camp hope. And Rosie, if you're listening, call us and tell us exactly when that's going to be


J Jack Valinski 1:35:55
Christmas will be happening the 25th of December.


J Joan Devlin 1:35:58
Oh, are we going to be on the air?


J Jack Valinski 1:36:01
No, we'll be on Christmas Eve.

J Joan Devlin 1:36:03
Okay, because we always have to do a Christmas show. Yes, we do.


 Jack Valinski 1:36:06
And so I guess that means we'll be on New Year's Eve also. Hey, that's good. Although New Year's


 Joan Devlin 1:36:12
Eve 1999, which was really cool, because they were having all that, you know, Millennium madness mania, and we had all these like little instructions and we all melted. Yeah,


 Glenn Holt 1:36:22
that's right. Except for me, because I wasn't here. I was camping. Naked. Yes. Yeah. See that? How did you know? Just a


 Joan Devlin 1:36:30
wild bet?

 Glenn Holt 1:36:31
It was 40 degrees. But

 Joan Devlin 1:36:33
But Glenn was naked.

 Jack Valinski 1:36:35
You are crazy.

 Glenn Holt 1:36:37
Well, no, actually, I discovered southern comfort that weekend. So. Okay.

 Jack Valinski 1:36:42
That was his name.



G**Glenn Holt 1:36:47**

I discovered that that Southern Comfort has a magical way of keeping you warm when it's cold. It's clothing cleansing. It's Southern Conference more fun. Good. Well, you want to talk about some news? Yes, Glenn, what's in the news? Okay, well, you may have heard about this, the the they've been doing experiments, of course, on various kinds of vaccines, various approaches for vaccines. But this one is kind of new, the folks at Yale University have been playing around with a virus that's engineered to carry parts of the AIDS proteins and deliver it into the body so that you expose the immune system to it and let the immune system know that, hey, this, this is something you have to watch out for. We're just kind of how viral vaccines work. And in this case, what they're doing is they've they've come up with this, it's called a viral vector, which apparently is fairly common. It's the one that they're using is called vSv, supposedly normally infects cows, horses and pigs, but can also infect people naturally, with mild flu like symptoms. Now thinking this is going to be a lot easier for the underdeveloped world to use as a vaccine, rather than doing something with direct DNA injection. And in studies that these folks at Yale have done on monkeys, it looks like it's going to work. And so now they're looking for some kind of FDA approval to start clinical trials. But the FDA always gives you a harder time when you're talking about crippled viruses or weakened viruses or something like they have to use in this case as a vector for the AIDS DNA to enter the immune system. And then on a related note, anybody got hepatitis C? No, no. Okay. Are you sure about that? Yes. Okay. Researchers actually found an increasing survival rate among people with AIDS, who actually at the same time also had hepatitis C. Interestingly enough, they haven't been able to find out the exact mechanism of why, but they think that the virus, the two viruses are competing in the body for for the same receptor sites, on the cells. And so they're saying that this is pretty exciting. They don't want people to run out and get hepatitis C just, you know, to ameliorate the effects of AIDS. However, they're thinking that this could be a new route or a new approach to an AIDS treatment. And they're also saying that the timing of the two different infections can be important. So there's really a lot more work to be done here, but it does look kind of interesting. So what else has been going on? Well, there was a British transgendered woman in the midst of having a sex change. She is now suing United Airlines for allegedly being marched off of a flight and forced to dress in men's clothes. Okay, yeah. The the attorney says that her client is a biological male, but that she does present as a female quite often, and that she had on makeup and a wig and a dress. And apparently they didn't like that. And she says she was totally humiliated, of course. And so the result is a lawsuit.

J**Joan Devlin 1:40:32**

So what has United's response to this ban? Because I mean, I think that's just a little extreme and ridiculous to, to sit there and tell somebody that they have to dress in a particular type of clothing.

G**Glenn Holt 1:40:46**

Right? Well, of course, since United is now subject to a lawsuit, they're not really in a position to comment. However, they are being sued for \$50,000. Just a tiny little some. Another quote, another another person here, Cardinal Francis, George, the Archbishop of Chicago, he was refusing to allow priests to give Communion to gays and lesbians in the diocese. And that caught the attention of the rainbow sash movement, which is an activist organization of gay and straight Catholics. They're on Pentecost Sunday, no less, which is June 3, the cardinal

personally refused to give Eucharist to gay Catholics at Chicago's holy name cathedral. And so now the rainbow sash wants to meet with the dear cardinal and have a little discussion about this. And that supposed to be taking place in November and what they're calling an arena of mutual respect. So that will be kind of interesting to watch and see what happens there. And finally, because we're rapidly running out of time, have you heard about the gay Democrat who may try to replace Jesse Helms? Yes, yes. Interesting that Roy Warren, a superior court judge in Charlotte, North Carolina and an openly gay Democrat, is going to consider running against while running for the seat that Jesse Helms is vacating? Thank you in 2002. And he's going to announce his decision in October, whether or not he's going to run. Ironically, his political career began as a Republican working for the deer senator. And the Charlotte Observer reports that well, Warren was in law school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He spent a summer working on the paid staff of Helms office. It's not fun.

J

Joan Devlin 1:42:39

Yeah, well, let's hope he wins next week. Next week, we have the alley theatre so far and I think that's it for right now. So that the let it be a surprise.

G

Glenn Holt 1:42:49

Alrighty, well, you have been listening to lesbian and gay voices heard each Monday at 8pm. On KPFT, a publicly funded Pacifica network station, lesbian and gay voices is produced live in Houston with recorded segments from this way out, which is produced at KPFK in Los Angeles, lesbian and gay voices executive producer is Jack Valinski. On Air voices are Joan Devlin Glenn Holt and Jack Valinski. You can write to us at PO Box 66071 Houston, Texas 77266 or send email to LGV news@aol.com. Be sure to listen to KPFT every Saturday night at midnight for after hours with Jimmy Carper. It's queer radio with attitude. This is the sound of Texas 90.1 FM KPFT in Houston for lesbian and gay voices. I'm Glenn Holt

J

Jack Valinski 1:43:48

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