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SPEAKERS

Suzanne Anderson, Ron Bradley, Brian Nunes, Deborah Bell, Jack Valinski, Brian Bradley



00:08

spring out of the winter and spring into summer during KPFT seven days Spring Drive starting on March 25. through March 31 KPFT will be needing volunteers to help answer our pledge lines. So sprang on over to the phone and call us at 526 4000 and sign up to answer the pledge lines during your favorite show.



00:29

[No Closet by Jamie Anderson plays]



Jack Valinski 01:42

From Pacifica's KPFT in Houston. This is the March 18 edition of lesbian and gay voices a show for and about the gay and lesbian community. This is Jack Valinski



Deborah Bell 01:52

and this is Deborah Bell and welcome to the spring time. Tonight on lesbian and gay voices. We'll have a feature with Dr. Gary Bruton. He's from the Organizing Committee for the sixth annual Houston conference on AIDS in America.



Jack Valinski 02:07

We'll also have a report from this way out on the National Gay and Lesbian taskforce annual statistical survey of violence committed against lesbians and gays in the United States.



- D** Deborah Bell 02:17
We'll also have a report from Melody Blake on people's reaction to the Healing the Hurt Conference on Homophobia, along
- J** Jack Valinski 02:24
with our weekly features, including music, even though Mary Helen has gone to Kansas and will still be playing the tunes.
- D** Deborah Bell 02:32
We'll have news wrapped from this way out in our calendar of events. And we have to say a special goodbye to one of our listeners. Robert Paula Latimer. He died of AIDS at the age of 29.
- J** Jack Valinski 02:35
We also have to say goodbye to Frankie, Ray Hill's mother goodbye. And saw something in the news today about Dan Quayle. He's going to be writing a weekly column in for newspapers, and it was quoted by I guess one of the editors saying that it's the he's the most articulate person coming out of the Reagan era right says something
- D** Deborah Bell 03:07
scary stuff. You know, there are some people that we'd like to say goodbye to Dan Quayle being one of them and Oliver North being another half.
- J** Jack Valinski 03:15
Well, let's say hello,
- D** Deborah Bell 03:17
let's say hello to Suzanne Anderson and Brian Bradley here to speak out.
- S** Suzanne Anderson 03:23
This is Suzanne Anderson.
- B** Brian Bradley 03:25
And I'm Brian Bradley.

S

Suzanne Anderson 03:26

We are speaking out for lesbian and gay voices

B

Brian Bradley 03:29

with less time this week. So I guess we better just jump right into it. Hit it. Okay, I've got a fax here from the good Reverend Fred Phelps who says another filthy media fag has died of AIDS and split hell wide open. Randy Shields have and the band played on fame.

S

Suzanne Anderson 03:47

He keeps saying those nasty things. He's gonna find out what Hell's all about on a first person basis?

B

Brian Bradley 03:52

Well, as a matter of fact, I had a Pentecostal minister asked me mixed last week, would I be willing to drive you to pika to protest this man? I said I would go to the end of the world to do it. Yes, he and a group of folks got on the plane in Topeka spent 1000s of dollars flew to Los Angeles, San Francisco for Randy's funeral. And we're there less than one minute after I crowd of 100 or more gays and lesbians pelted them with eggs and rotten bananas and such. So I'm hoping got some frequent flyer miles out of it at least Hey, man,

S

Suzanne Anderson 04:23

thank you, Jesus.

B

Brian Bradley 04:27

It's a mess. It's a mess.

S

Suzanne Anderson 04:29

Women are still treated as second class citizens by the security in industry, according to a recent study. What a surprise. According to the findings, male investors are more extensively interviewed as to their goals and objectives. The range of available investments are more thoroughly discussed with men and male visitors are six times as likely as women to be invited to open an account. The survey brokers 79% of whom were white males felt that women would be can views by explanations of finance. Well, now let's listen to some statistics. Women can

pose 37% of the nation's shareholders account for 44% of individuals who control more than \$500,000 in assets, and they own 30% of small businesses. The bias spread, the biased brokers might have missed out on a few very hefty commissions.

B

Brian Bradley 05:26

Well, I guess, Susannah Anderson properties won't be contacting him anytime soon. Well,

S

Suzanne Anderson 05:32

absolutely not. Okay, listeners who has the largest gay parade in the world?

B

Brian Bradley 05:41

Australia.

S

Suzanne Anderson 05:42

You knew Sydney, Australia. That's right. 500,000 led by dykes on bikes. Anyway, I thought this was kind of interesting. The Mardi Gras gay parade began in 1978 as a protest against the oppression of homosexuals and Australia. The parade caps a month long series of Mardi Gras events, which organizers say bring \$28.4 million dollars into Sydney

R

Ron Bradley 06:11

now listening Colorado. Listening Florida. Sounds good. Sounds good. Talking about the power of gay people. It seems as if the new governor of Virginia and George Allen is opposed to making it easier for low income Virginians to get housing loans because he says that the changes would encourage homosexual and unmarried couples to live together. In a letter Alan has argued that the plan would change long standing policy in Virginia as it relates to the definition of family. They still stuck on that family thing. But we know that the majority of this money for these housing projects for the states come through HUD and I've heard it in person and had Roberta Achtenberg back me up. When we had our little hope of funds here dispersed. They will allow us to define who families are. And so this is all a bunch of hot air. So I would imagine all of those needy gays and lesbians in Virginia will be flocking to the housing office sometime next week. And once again, it's another good reason why we elected President Clinton.

S

Suzanne Anderson 07:15

Speaking of hot air I can't think of a better introduction to this next article. Rush Limbaugh. We aren't the only ones that are boycotting orange juice. The National Federation of business and professional women's club has also called for a boycott of Florida citrus. The reason being Limbaugh ridicules women.

R

Ron Bradley 07:38

Well, since we're on the subject of hot air, let's just stay there. For the second time in two weeks. The Pope John Paul the second has urged the rejection of a February 8 resolution by the European Parliament calling on member nations to extend legal marriage rights to same sex couples and allow them to adopt children. Once again we have a celibate 70 something year old man telling gays and lesbians straight outta married people good to have you know, jobs that don't live in a palace, how to run their lives. When are we going to get rid of this character?

S

Suzanne Anderson 08:12

Our teens really celibate I don't think anybody's really celibate we just don't know who he's whatever.

B

Brian Bradley 08:18

I doubt anyone sleeping with him. You think? I mean he can't even keep his feet out to him of his skirt.

S

Suzanne Anderson 08:26

And new national magazine for people infected with the virus HIV virus is featuring Senator Barry Goldwater's grandson as an HIV positive sex symbol. Ty Ross 31 of Scottsdale, Arizona was photographed naked and talk frankly about his HIV status and an interview for the debut issue of pause. That's capital P capital O capital Z.

B

Brian Bradley 08:54

Come on. Never got to do any media like that. It may be too late. I always put my clothes on don't take them off.

S

Suzanne Anderson 09:00

Okay, now this was a surprise to me. Probably the rest of you homosexuals are very aware of this, but I didn't know that. David Brock, remember him? He says thought conservative who first broke the troopergate story involving President Clinton's alleged extramarital affairs in Arkansas is a homosexual? Well, surprise, surprise, I didn't know that. I guess everybody else did. He apparently went to a convention and talked. Obviously not about his homosexuality, but also there was a researcher by the name of Paul Cameron. And let me tell you a little bit about Paul Cameron. He told The Washington Post that gays by definition, cannot lead productive lives economically or sexually. Because of this, he said Brock should have stayed in the closet.

Furthermore, he says that the average life span of gays is 39 years 37% of gays engage in sadomasochism. Gays perpetrate between a third and half of all child molestations and 17% of gays ingest human feces. Where did this all we

B

Brian Bradley 10:19

got that from Pat Robertson 700 club. That's tight number 424. That is such money might be right about one thing, the average guy doesn't want to live past 39.

S

Suzanne Anderson 10:32

Okay, and a really, really good article this week that Molly Ivan's wrote, remember we talked a couple of weeks ago about state rep State Representative Warren Chisholm of Pampa, he is at well known a crusader against homosexuality, who also happens to be an investor in death futures. According to Molly, he told the Houston Post last month that profits on death futures were up to 27% a rate of return which apparently covers all of his Christian scruples, Chisholm now owns life insurance policies on six, eight victims a \$200,000 investment. According to him, he said, My Gamble is that it'll make won't that it'll make less than 17% that it will not make less than 17% and sometimes considerably better. If they die in a month. You know, you do really good. Chism has voted in case y'all have forgotten against in fanning foster care for babies with AIDS and has a variety of other programs to help aids victims. He even oppose the hate crimes bill because it would cover gays and he oppose sex education because most sex education they're trying to teach about a homosexual lifestyle. I thought the best comment she made was her last comment when she said different Christians have different standards. Of course for myself, I'd rather die of AIDS and report to my maker after doing what Warren Chisholm is doing.

R

Ron Bradley 11:59


All right, Good golly, Miss Molly. One more time. Well, today is the day after St. Patrick's Day, and I'm wearing green today because it didn't wear it yesterday, I was in protest of all the cities that won't allow gays and lesbians to participate in their St. Patrick's Day March. sad to report the city of Boston, probably one of the most Irish cities in America will not be having a parade whatsoever this year. And the reason is a group of gay and lesbians up applied to the Supreme Court Supreme Court Justice David Souter, can you say in the closet clear. And he backed him up saying that a fundamental right to free speech and expression would be abridged if they were not allowed in the parade? So the Hibernians and the other organizers of Boston pride said, well, in that case, we'll just cancel it. So another American tradition bites the desk because they don't want us there. So maybe next year, we'll have a gay and lesbian St. Patty's Day Parade and we won't let them in.


S


Suzanne Anderson 12:56


You know, what I find apples? Absolutely fascinating is there's a pecking order with minorities and oppressed people, you know that. It hasn't been that many years ago that the Irish were the oppressed people, you know that they were, they were drunks. They were not, you know,


they were lazy. That was the the perception they have come out of that and now they can step on people. I'm not impressed. This is Suzanne Anderson.


 **Brian Bradley** 13:23
And Brian Bradley.


 **Suzanne Anderson** 13:24
We are speaking out for gay and lesbian voices.

 **Jack Valinski** 13:42
Romanovsky and Phillips, from the emotional roller coaster CD living with AIDS. It's so nice to have CDs. Dr. Gary Bruton is with us this evening. And if you were listening to our show a few weeks ago, when Juan Palomo was interviewing de masback are in Dallas for the National Gay and Lesbian journalist Association. And her opening speech talked about this young medical student a few years back

 **Deborah Bell** 14:10
medical school nerd was the phrase I believe she used. Okay, you can get away with it. Who inspired her to come out?

 **Jack Valinski** 14:19
And none other but Dr. Gary Rutan, and, but

 **Deborah Bell** 14:23
that's not it's only claim to fame.

 **Jack Valinski** 14:25
Yes. Dr. Gary, as I call him, has been involved in aids for many years. Going back from being a medical student, basically, isn't it true gearing right. And you came by you did your residency in Houston?


 14:39
That's right at Baylor affiliated hospitals in the medical center.

 Jack Valinski 14:43


So I guess fortunately for us, unfortunately for the unfortunately there is AIDS but fortunately for us, that you've really known this disease from the very, very beginning and been working with it and how is it To be able to, you know, put in so much of your your professional career on something like this? Well,

 15:07

it's very hard work, but I love what I'm doing. And I feel very gratified by what I'm doing. And it's very important, I get to be very close to a lot of people very important times in their life and can't imagine doing anything else. You along

 Jack Valinski 15:23


with a number of other doctors sort of put together this group that is putting on this conference. Now, this is the sixth conference, sixth annual one. That's right, and the incredible thing that's free. That's right.

 Deborah Bell 15:36

How is it funded if it's if there's no registration fee?

 15:41

Well, over the years, our conferences grown and developed a good reputation so that we've been able to get sponsorships from a variety of different home health care companies, different drug companies, we also receive this very substantial support of 12 oaks Hospital, which is generously supported us over the year. And also, we contribute to a substantial portion from our own practices. It's a way that we have giving back to the community. So there's


 Deborah Bell 16:11


a real commitment here. How did it originate six years ago, who was involved. The real


 16:17


impetus for organizing this conference is adding Rios my partner, who has also been involved with AIDS work from the very beginning. And we've been practicing together with Gordon crowfoot, and Jorge Posada to the four of us together make up on call Medical Associates, that's the name of our group practice.


 Jack Valinski 16:38
And who is this conference geared towards? Really,


 16:42
it serves a mixed audience, we're trying to reach both people who are affected by this in their daily lives, members of the community, their families and friends. But we also maintain a certain technical excellence in the presentations that we give so that it's very useful also, for people who are doing research, and for health professionals in their daily work.

 Deborah Bell 17:05
And there's an international and national conferences on aid, why Houston conference?

 17:11
I think the biggest reason is that a lot of people are not able to go to the national and international conferences. As you know, the conference this year in August is in Japan. And it's quite expensive to go there. And we also want to celebrate some of the expertise that we have here in Houston, because there are actually a lot of people doing work here. And it's a way for us to bring them together.

 Jack Valinski 17:35
Is some of this research starting to happen here in Houston. I mean, here we have this world famous Medical Center, probably one of the best in the world. And yet it was my understanding that Houston was sort of lacking. I'm doing some research.

 17:47
That's because of homophobia in the medical institutions in the medical center. We had a large, federally funded program that was sponsored by MD Anderson Hospital, one of the original AIDS treatment evaluation units. And when the Institute for immunological disorders, which was the AIDS hospital closed, that grant was returned. And the reason it was returned is that no one no institution was willing to pick up the ball and go with it. Not at Baylor not at UT Not at MD Anderson. Not at any of those institutions. It's a real sad, sad,

 Jack Valinski 18:29
well, is it just a metal community? Or is it the whole atmosphere here in Houston with the political,



18:34

I think the political reality in the atmosphere sort of dictates the behavior of some of these institutions? There was always a rumor going around MD Anderson, that some of the wealthy people who contribute to their excellent excellent cancer programs would complain about the gay people who were in the hospital, they're getting treated for AIDS. So I have to blame that on homophobia.



Jack Valinski 19:01

Wow. What about the hospitals that you work with in the caregiving to patients? Is it generally is there homophobia in there or is or is a real compassion for working with people? Well,



19:15

it's a mixed bag. And of course, we would only work at a place where the environment was supportive. And unfortunately, there are more and more environments where this is good. And there are a number of hospitals where very good care is given to people with HIV. My partners and I practice at 12 oaks hospital, and we've been able to put together a team of nurses and with the full support of the hospital administration and also the full support of the medical staff there to have an excellent program and we have a special floor as is also the case at Park Plaza hospital, and we believe that we are able to overcome a lot of that fear and homophobia with our staff.



Deborah Bell 19:58

It really seems to me this There is excellent work being done among healthcare professionals. But this conference isn't just for the healthcare professional, is it?



20:09

You're right. In fact, we try to achieve a balance among the different speakers so that there'll be something there for everyone. In fact, perhaps the highlight of the conferences going to come on Saturday afternoon at four o'clock when Martin Delaney talks, you may recognize his name as the founding director of Project and form in San Francisco. Martin Delaney is a phenomenal speaker. He has a way of conveying to people with very little medical background, accurate and up to the minute information about new aids treatments, and he doesn't talk down to the audiences at all. And the information that he has is first class,



Deborah Bell 20:49

you said New Age treatments, new way, what are we saying when we say that?





20:54

Well, there's a variety of different experimental approaches which are being pursued. Right now, in terms of antiviral therapies, most of what we have is, is somewhat limited. But there are new classes of drugs which are coming out, which hopefully will do a better job of inhibiting the AIDS virus, and allowing people to live a normal life. Moreover, we also need treatments which will rebuild the immune system of people who have been affected by HIV for a long time. And right now, we don't have good treatments that could do that. But interestingly, we do have a speaker talking on Friday morning at eight o'clock, Dr. Daniel Lucy, who is coming to us from Dr. Gene shears lab at the National Institutes of Health, and they've done some very interesting, groundbreaking work on rejuvenating the immune response and building it back in a more favorable way, at least in the laboratory. It hasn't been tested in people yet. Does every



Deborah Bell 21:53

year bring new developments, new information that's useful?



21:57

Yes, it's a real challenge to stay on top of all of this. And there are a lot of very valuable resources which the community can get to read about this project. And form publishes briefing papers on a regular basis. You can also subscribe to the AIDS treatment news publication by John James, which comes out of San Francisco and they have an 800 listing, if you want to call them up, that's a very valuable resource that's published twice.



Jack Valinski 22:26

So this compares to what we see in the newspapers, which loads sometimes it's like stuff that comes out before the studies are really finished. And you know, there's sometimes they just flashing that thing that new, something new was found, but really it isn't, hasn't been.



22:39

Yes. And the other problem with the light press is that I say the lay press I mean, the the mainstream press is that you don't have as good of a sense of perspective about what these new treatments mean. This is where some of the special publications like AIDS treatment news really helped put things in a better perspective.




Deborah Bell 23:02

What are the humanitarian awards all about and who decides the recipients? Well, that's put together



23:08

by the Organising Committee every year to recognize individuals who've made a particular contribution to the people who have been affected by AIDS. And this year's honorees include several people, there's Paul Bo burning who's receiving the medical award. He's the director of the AIDS program at San Francisco General Hospital, and has been involved with AIDS from the beginning. We also have an organizational Award, which is going to over the hill, which has done a lot of important work here in Houston working people with people who are substance abusers, and my team bathe is getting an award on behalf of that very valuable organization.

 Deborah Bell 23:53

And while you don't charge a fee for people to attend, they are encouraged to make a donation to the selected humanitarian organizations, which is over the hill Incorporated.

 24:02


Yes, because they're a nonprofit organization to and we're asking people to bring a variety of non perishable goods and toiletries. And if they can make a cash contribution to over the hill, that's also good.

 Jack Valinski 24:15

Now I would, am I correct in that. Part of the reason for this conference is to try to get to health professionals from the surrounding areas, not just Houston but surrounding areas who may not have that much direct involvement with AIDS. And as we know how this disease is going all over the country, not just in the metropolitan areas. How do you outreach to get doctors and allied health professionals from outside of the Center City?

 24:42

Part of that is by word of mouth part of it. As I said, since this is our sixth year, we've built up an extensive mailing list and we send out brochures in advance of the meeting to let people know who've attended in past years, and they frequently tell their friends, I believe at this point that we're We're getting close to 500 people registered for the conference already, so it's a big success.

 Deborah Bell 25:05

Tell me a little bit about Dr. H. Clifford Layne, who's the Clinical Director of the National Institute of allergies and Infectious Diseases at the National Institute of Health.

 25:15

Cliff lane is part of the group which has done some work with a naturally occurring hormone called interleukin two, which previously was called T cell growth. Now, does that sound like ..

something that would be good if you had HIV? We tried some interleukin two in earlier studies a few years ago, but didn't get good results. But that sounds



Deborah Bell 25:37

like one of those games they played in Lillehammer the interleukin.



25:42

But Cliff Cliff has found some unique ways of giving this along with his co workers. And they've seen some big increases in T cells and people who've received this treatment. The problem is that very often that the increase in T cells only lasts relatively as long as they're getting the medication, but they may be on to something here. So he'll tell us about some of those treatments.



Jack Valinski 26:06

We hear a lot about AZT. I mean, almost every other day in the paper, there's different stories about its effectiveness, you know, shouldn't be started earlier. I guess there's no simple answer is there?



26:19

No, there I guess there isn't a simple answer. In fact, there was a study in this.



26:34

recognized as being AIDS related in that part of the definition was changed about 15 months ago.



Deborah Bell 26:40

And Dr. H. Clifford Lane, the clinical director at the National Institute of allergies and infectious diseases, that's an awful is going to be the guest speaker at the human humanitarian awards ceremony. That's right. And so they'll be an interesting speakers




26:59

at seven o'clock on Friday.



Jack Valinski 27:02


We're talking to Dr. Gary Bruton, who is one of the sponsors of the AIDS in America conference being held here in Houston as the sixth annual it's March 25, and 26th. at the Ramada hotel Astrodome, formerly the Marriott Astrodome Hotel. If you'd like more information, it's 9650566. That's 9650566. And it is free.

 Deborah Bell 27:27

And people should registered in advance, all they have to do is call up, is that correct?

 27:31


Yes, you can register any day next week, you can even register at the meeting. But if you wait to the last minute, there's always a risk that we may not have a place for you in the hall. The fire marshal says that's it, we can't let any more people in

 Deborah Bell 27:47


exactly. Legal issues are also going to be addressed as well as medical.

 27:52

That's right. And this is one area where I really have to give credit to the doctor and Rios, my colleague who's the organizer of this conference over the last six years, I really appreciate the unique perspective that he has, as a heterosexual person, appreciating the social aspects of this disease and the importance of homophobia. And this is where we need lawyers to help us change the laws and to protect us from discrimination. So every year we have some important contribution here. In fact, three of the honorees in our 1994 individual human humanitarian awards this year are attorneys, Michel Katyn, Donald Skipwith and John Paul barnidge. All of whom deserve our great thanks and appreciation for the contributions that they've made over the years.

 Deborah Bell 28:46

You will you Dr. Bruton deserve our great thanks and appreciation not only for being with us on lesbian gay voices tonight, but for the important work that you're doing and much luck with the conference. Yes,

 Jack Valinski 28:57

so the conference is March 25 and 26th at the Ramada hotel Astrodome to get more information or to register which is free. It's 96505669650566. Thank you, Gary, for being with us. Thanks



29:13

for having me. Is



Deborah Bell 29:13

there anything that we didn't give you a chance to say that you really would like to say, I want



29:18

to tell the masback right don't wear a pocket protector



Deborah Bell 29:24

right but you do have safe pockets right.



Jack Valinski 29:47

I don't know if I ever thought I'd be announcing Bruce Springsteen in a song on lesbian and gay voices. That's the streets of Philadelphia, performed in written by Bruce Springsteen, the title song of the movie Philadelphia and it was a very good song when they're showing all these scenes of the different parts of the city in the neighborhoods and, and and I can't say that's my hometown because it really isn't but it's very close. It's the big city state, same state right same state of despair of my thing and it was very nicely done. And before that, we listened to romanovski and Phillips and no false hope from there. The political not polite, which is a great title for an album.



Deborah Bell 30:31

And we're going to be have coming up Meg and Chris at Carnegie Hall with their song for the ones Wait a minute, I can't I can't remember the name of it Jack and I can't see well enough to read it, the ones who aren't here and we're dedicating that to Frankie Hill. yes to life by Heather Bishop from her old new borrowed blue CD. This is Deborah Bell, along with Jack Valinski. And this says lesbian and gay voices. We have a tape from this way out concerning the violence against gays and lesbians in the United States. It seems to be on the decline according to the 1993 studies done by the National lesbian and gay Task Force, but there's an apparent increase in the severity of the attacks. Now we go to this report from this way out



31:36

area professionals and Mental Health Social Work counseling education.



31:45



31:45

In a report issued March eighth, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force released its annual statistical survey of violence committed against lesbians and gay men in the United States. The numbers for 1993 showed an apparent decline of anti queer violence in the five major cities surveyed. But for many reasons the report was far from celebratory, with contributions from Bill McCullough and semi Lee Webster Woon. This way, as John say, anchors these reports. The Task Force Survey documents 1813 anti gay incidents in Boston, Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Paul, New York City and San Francisco. That represents a 14% decrease over an all time high of 2103 incidents reported in 1992 a downturn that's the first in nine years of such surveys. That's still in the taskforces words, a dramatic prevalence of anti gay hate crimes. But those numbers do not reflect the real story. Author of the survey entitled anti gay lesbian violence, victimization and defamation Martin Harada.



32:50

Here people are reporting fewer people who are reporting incidents are reporting multiple, victimizing acts being committed against her



33:01

and Los Angeles, which showed a near doubling of reports was not included in the task force numbers.



33:07

A report released by the Los Angeles gay and lesbian community shows the number of reported assaults in the county rose from 107 in 1992, to 217 in 1993. The same report claims and almost 50% increase in physical attacks during the same period.



33:24

Angeles is a different situation than the nationwide trend as it were. And that's something that's quite alarming.



33:32

Why is it Kollek is a lawyer for the anti violence project at the center. While the Los Angeles study does not include a breakdown of incidence by gender khaolak believes that the center does not adequately reach out to lesbians who are victims of sex bias assault,



33:45

I find just in general, in the work that I'm doing here the anti violence project is that we don't serve the number of women that I know are dealing with these bias violence issues out in the

community. I have a background in rape crisis work and women tend to generally turn to other types of organizations which are traditionally centered and focused in the women's community.



34:08

Additionally, five other cities surveyed reported an average 59.2% increase in anti gay incidents, while four others showed only a 38% decrease in such offences, regardless of which figures used the seriousness of homophobic harm was underscored by two guests at the taskforce invited to the reports release Brenda and Wanda Hinson of the beleaguered sister spirit in ovett Mississippi, one day hence the



34:35

intimidation we face. Many across this country in our struggle for life, am Emperor equality under the law, we should have the right to live in peace on our car Are they?



35:04

Oh that the 250 person town were camped sister spirit is located is in one of the most conservative corners of Mississippi. The town has no police department or city hall of its own. Just a general store and a post office. Hunting is one of the town's primary occupation. Local right wing organizations have banded together under the name Mississippians for family values and an attempt to force the camp out. The camp established as a feminist retreat and Education Center has been under attack over the past three months. Random gunshots bomb threats, and recently the placing of a dead female dog on top of the camps mailbox along with two sanitary napkins.



35:43

Like a watershed. What happens here if these people are allowed to be driven off their land? It'll be like Open Season lesbians. It'll really boost the Christian Right.



35:52

LISA deadener, a member of Lesbian Avengers and the Women's Action Coalition



35:57

support also a women who are willing to be outspoken about being feminist who are clearly saying we don't need men. And that's a threat to the men down there. I mean, there have been statements made such as well, you're going to drive up our divorce rate.



36:12

11 36:13

Officials, along with a sometimes hostile response from the local officials allows the harassment and intimidation to escalate.

36:24

We are not but people down here. We're just trying to raise our family and a little community in in a little peace and quiet.

36:36

Tahini Hendry, a longtime resident of the town, and wife of the founder of Mississippians, her family values, dismissed the charges that residents of the camp were in any danger.

36:48

We're going to bake kale Big Shot, they would have been shot 100 times over. We don't need a bunch of radical people coming in here and say and they are facing the side wall. They are the ones that get up and she's drunk when I hear gunshot. They run and they shoot their gun in that direction. They climb my feet up in the air. But who knows. One of these days I'm afraid there's no one to kill the person. Now no one is going to shoot those landmines.

37:23

We need our state and local governments to protect us. And if they fail to protect us, or they participate in efforts to limit our rights. We need our federal government to ensure that our safety and basic rights as citizens work be protected.

37:46

Think about in the 60s the way law enforcement laid off and hid when there was mob activity against black activists that were looking for civil rights. This is the same kind of thing. Dennis Cunningham, an attorney with the National Lawyers Guild law has to be enforced if the local authorities aren't going to do it that's when the federal authorities have to step in

38:08

Linda Henson and Wanda value support from the task force and a few of it residents Brenda Hinson.

38:16

reinvasion lesbian community and people don't know the definition and then the preachers

make the definition. And then people who are undereducated take that information and go with it. I mean, come by the driveway turning doughnuts in the driveway blowing off the guns, hoop and holler and Colin is clear. I mean, like, it's the sages upon us. But then also the misinformation. The other thing too is that we have other people in the community who are equally afraid of these people that come by the end of the driveway to say, we support your right to be here. One man told us that he was 77 years old, and that he'd fought in World War Two and by God he fought for everybody's rights, and that he didn't approve of what was happening as someone who said, Did you go to the meeting and tell him that he said, God no, I'd have been dead for I got home.



39:04

Window and wander hints of Yvette Mississippi, helping the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force released its latest report on violence against gay men, lesbians and bisexuals. For this way out.



39:15

This is Sammy Lee Webster Wouk Dermacolor Los Angeles I'm John



39:19

ze in Washington DC.



39:21

In our homes and on street corners we have been condemned to die. We were murdered in the Holocaust by this lies, we will not deny our freedom or our sexuality.



39:37

We will



39:43

go oh lord the auditory Joe's marching.



Jack Valinski 40:19

On and that was from this way out the news magazine show that comes from KPFK in Los Angeles. We're now going to take a little station break here on KPFT Houston you're listening to lesbian and gay voices.



40:44

90.1 FM is World Radio Morning News. Getting your day started with the only in depth comprehensive news in Houston. Here's just a sample of what you'll hear every weekday from six to 8am.



40:55

Warner Cable fully supports first and then liberties. But we also realize that community standards can affect those rights. You know,



41:04

who lives in the village, first of all, they're not minority. But when you go to court to see who's getting the tickets at night, the Orientals or Hispanics or blacks.



41:14

Among the proponents of zoning, there's a lot of desire to push low income people away from their neighborhoods,



41:20

there's not a lot of opposition to zoning in Houston. There are a few people who don't want any kind of government will put very client in that category.



41:29

Don't think you can look at those times and determine rather than IQ to by the numbers.



41:35

Hi, I'm Kyle Huggins. Join me for Houston news with a global view, the World Radio Morning News six to 8am weekdays on 90.1 FM KPFT.




41:46


Suppose my voice were HIV and you could get infected by listening. Oh, you wouldn't listen, you don't want to hear that. You change your station. But if I took a latex condom like this one and put it on the microphone you couldn't hear me right? You were protected from HIV. So the deal is sex without a latex condom isn't always safe and listening to me. It won't affect you, but it could protect you call one 800 342 aids for a free brochure. Do the right thing. Peace.

 Jack Valinski 42:21

From Pacifica's KPFT in Houston. This is the final hour of lesbian and gay voices for March 18 1994. This is Jack Valinski

 Deborah Bell 42:30


and Deborah bell. And in this hour we'll have a report from melody Blake on people's reaction to the healing the hurt conference on hope of homophobia, which she attended last week was sponsored by PFLAG Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays and it was a really exciting conference I'm looking forward to hearing.

 Brian Nunes 43:00

But it should be useful for rental contracts and bank loans, as well as inheritance insurance and social security claims. A Basque activist group is lobbying for similar registries in the other two Spanish Basque city halls. The registry was promoted by Victoria's Mayor Jose unhealth where the of the Basque Nationalist Party P N. V, who acknowledged that the measure breaks through established moral values, and said it will ensure social economic and judicial protection for couples formed outside of marriage and serve as a first step toward dignity and equality for all people independent of their sexual orientation. On March 4, the Madrid Assembly passed a resolution asking the Spanish National Government to give social rights to both heterosexual and same gender couples. Surprisingly, most of the members of the conservative pee pee People's Party supported the resolution with only three out of 47 opposing it

 44:00

see them holding hands

 Deborah Bell 44:08

and that sound right there close up I'm actually gonna go much in love lesbian have bought the flirtations live audiences clapping they're they're out on the road CD. And of course, that was with Michael Callen. flirtations are featured on the cover of the new issue. The April March 15, through April 15 issue of outsmart magazine what

 Jack Valinski 44:30

a segue and they're coming to town in April, up smart is to search their second issue and it looks really smart.



Deborah Bell 44:37

D Deborah Bell 44:37

And it is produced by Nancy Ford, written by Nancy Ford, edited by Nancy Ford, starring Nancy Ford. I think she who sweeps the floors. I think that to know, Greg Zhu and Nancy Ford and the crew over there at outsmart do a great job within their second issue is just as good as the first issue.

J Jack Valinski 44:58

And while we're joking about Nancy for it is in the masthead here, wherever they call that thing with all the names and directors and Ted is spelt the right term. Her name is mentioned four times there. But I was looking here at the letters and this is a great letter, just a note to make the point, although I think your publication is a class act, and certainly much needed addition to Houston large game lesbian community, I'm a bit concerned about the implications with the name of the new publication in choosing a catchy phrase like outsmart for your title. I hope you're not implying that those of us who are not out and shouting about our homosexuality, ie cramming it down everybody's throat are not as intelligent or as worthy of respect as basic human rights of those who are making all the fuss and it's signed not out but certainly smart name withheld by request.

D Deborah Bell 45:52

Well, I think it's smarter to be out I don't I don't think that anyone should be denied their basic human rights and you know, it takes people making a fuss sometimes. Just a little bit of a follow up to the story about violence against gays and lesbians. And the happenings in ovett, Mississippi, two of the neighbors of the camp sister spirit have actually filed a lawsuit against a US Attorney General Janet Reno, because they claimed that she didn't have a right to intervene in the activities that were going on down there. When when the Hansen's asked for mediators, and a spokesperson from the US Department of Justice, has said that the Community Relations Service, which is the meeting at an organization, they have mediated in things such as conflicts over nuclear power, the anniversary of the 1970 Kent State University shootings and tax disputes concerning the Christian, the Church of Scientology, and he says we fully believe that cigar is has appropriate and legal authority to mediate this bilateral community conflict. Render Hansen called the lawsuit ludicrous. They're showing by the suit that they really don't want to resolve this, she said. So that's one of the things still going on. There's another Mississippian Congress. Man who says that he thinks Reno should apologize to the Reverend the representative is Mike Parker, a Democrat from Mississippi, he actually sent a letter to Reno asking for the apology on behalf of Yvette and Mississippi Yvette lives in Parker's district.

J Jack Valinski 47:48

There was also a story about a school where a principal was talking against interracial dating. Wasn't that like in Mississippi?

D Deborah Bell 47:57

That was in Alabama, the sister state I'm I'm afraid to have that being the state of my birth. And what happened there was he more or less said that any one who had an interracial

And what happened there was he more or less said that any one who had an interracial relationship or date for plan for the prom should just consider not going if he found out that there were people in that situation, he would call off the prom. And one young woman out he said, Are there any questions? And this one young woman said Well, what about me because she's mixed race? And he said, well, that's just it, your parents made a mistake. And and no child should be a mistake. Every child should be a choice. And, you know, I happen to believe he was totally out of line. But there's been a lot of support for him. Of course in Mississippi TOS where they're having all the stuff about a prayer in the school. Yes, that's another issue. But you know, it's not that far away from Texas. And it's I

J Jack Valinski 48:52
think his drive is that what they say today's drive from here was the

D Deborah Bell 48:55
day's drive through Texas, the sun has risen, the sun has set and we ain't

J Jack Valinski 49:00
Reagan slogan for how far it is from Central America. I say, you know, closer than Washington,

D Deborah Bell 49:07
right? And you know, sometimes I think listening to this program, you must just wonder

J Jack Valinski 49:11
at the world. And I wonder sometimes I've seen this program as well,

D Deborah Bell 49:15
the craziness of everything that we're faced with. I mean, we always try to talk about all the wonderful, clever things out there. And then there's all those sad things and then there's the wacky things and just how can in 1994 there still be so many issues involving create almost create the craziness of homophobia and then how that affects people. Oh, well hang in there because we have more for you on lesbian and gay voices.

J Jack Valinski 49:46
Some of the calendar items gay and lesbian Americans, gay and lesbian Americans GLA have used to will conduct a public forum and strategizing session this Sunday, March 28 at 7:30pm at diverse work To Artspace and that's 1170 East freeway. The meeting will focus on how to

bring out passages of local ordinances banning discrimination based on sexual orientation.

D Deborah Bell 50:12

The Metropolitan Community Church of the resurrection 1919 Decatur here in Houston Texas has a lot of things planned over the next several months and one of them is the beginning of their Easter celebration. So if you're a queer and you're into the Christian religion, that's a place for you. You can go to the church on Sunday mornings at 9019 Decatur or you can just give them a call to find out more information at 861 91 449

J Jack Valinski 50:42

I'm not sure if you have something to do with this. The on the 20th which is Sunday many well the Miss camp America Foundation third annual W Na is supposed to be Deborah you not all or Debbie, not Debbie has nothing to do with jackets Rest assured, okay, to introduce new members, it's from 4:30pm to 7pm at Rich's 2401 San Jacinto for further information call 520 Star what an appropriate number. You know, Ms. Camp America puts on that big festive occasion. wonderful

D Deborah Bell 51:13

show. It

J Jack Valinski 51:14

is just excellent, really neat. And you know, I guess it's would be stars.

D Deborah Bell 51:19

And it certainly is. Well, speaking

J Jack Valinski 51:22

of big starring events, though, we also got to mention that tomorrow is the big M for benefit concert featuring Liza Minnelli with who is the mistress of ceremonies, I actually yeah, Ramsbury 8pm at the Arena Theatre, and that's outside the loop on 59.

D Deborah Bell 51:40

And the Mini, the mini down.



J Jack Valinski 51:43

And it's a rather pricey thing, but it's for a good cause. But

D Deborah Bell 51:46

if somebody wants to give me free tickets, they can.

J Jack Valinski 51:50

We're not going we're not going the information numbers 988 1020.

D Deborah Bell 51:55

Last time I saw advisor she was reading names at the quilt in October of 92. And she has little tiny feet. I wouldn't know that except that was very close. And I was going good grief. She has tiny feet. You know, one of the things that we've talked about a number of times is that the Stonewall Rebellion in 1969 happened at the time of the day of the funeral of Judy Garland, of course who was lies Emily's mother. And this week on channel eight on PBS. They're doing their fun drive. And we know how hard that is to do those fun drives. But they did this wonderful retrospective of Judy Garland. And it just I just can't help but love her. And you know, I understand why our community had an affinity for her. And a lot of carries on to this day.

J Jack Valinski 52:52

A lot of the women actresses, strong actresses, you know, back in the 50s and 60s.

D Deborah Bell 52:58

And you know, just the Wizard of Oz alone and the term friends of Dorothy. So much of the fantasy and I think I think that's one of the reasons that we related to you know, if little bluebirds can fly with a rainbow and be happy then why can't we and that's all we ever asked for. So I really enjoyed that.

J Jack Valinski 53:21

You got tears coming? Oh, Misty here. It'd be so philosophical. I

D Deborah Bell 53:25

have a public service announcement. The month of March is Women's month or Women's History Month and the American theatrical ensemble incorporated presents a women's Month celebration, a music festival and more to benefit Musical Theater Workshop for children at the

Kaplan theatre at the Jewish Community Center. 3601 Soft brace would Sunday March 20 2pm and 11:30pm Come and see comedy religious folk music spirituals blues classical to honto Mexican ballads vaudeville, Jazz Pop Ragtime dance fashions, poetry, storytelling, the 21st century art exposition and panel discussion with an open forum women's Month celebration for more information you can call 713626 35 of seven and asked to speak to war ally.

J Jack Valinski 54:22

There is a garage sale and two DJs this Saturday and Sunday. And you know those garage sale hours are real early, benefiting a number of different local community organizations. I guess they're out there selling their wares in tears. And EJ is

D Deborah Bell 54:37

is our wares and tears.

J Jack Valinski 54:42

Good thing I make these things up as we go. It's at Ralph just off of Westheimer which is, you know, just before Shepard,


D Deborah Bell 54:50

I gotta get me some of those. Well, more public service announcements. So this is really exciting, something I wish I had known about prior to tonight. I pass on or bookstores hosting a two day socialist educational conference to celebrate Women's History Month. On Saturday, March 19. There will be a forum at 730 entitled women in the Cuban Revolution given by Elizabeth stone editor of the Pathfinder book by the same name, there will be a reception at 6pm And on Sunday, March 20, at 11am will on day go Gerard will talk on a classic perspective on women's issue in the US today to Rod is a garment worker who is a member of the Amalgamated Clothing and textile workers union and the Socialist Workers Party as well as a leading activist defending for all Florida abortion clinics. Both classes will be held at the Pathfinder bookstore 6969. Gov freeway suite 250. There is a donation, you can call for more information at 6449066. I'm not a socialist, and I don't always agree with things presupposed by the Socialist Party. But it's very interesting to find out what all the perspectives are so that we can make our own decisions about them. Right. And we also didn't win the lottery. There's also you know, there's often truth and, and many things that we need to examine and educate ourselves about. Jun Jordan, who is a poet, essayist, playwright and political activist, she I think she's speaking at lib next week. She's also she's on the one. Yes. And she's speaking at lib next Friday night. But she's also going to be at the Houston Community College, central auditorium. 1300 Holman at 7pm. On Saturday, March 26, it's free admission and you can call 866 8166. For more information,

J Jack Valinski 56:57

the lesbians ever see 50 meets this Sunday from two to 4pm. And they meet at the


the lesbians over age 50 meets this Sunday, from two to 4pm. And they meet at the Metropolitan multiservice center 1475 West Gray, if you'd like more information at 661 1482

 Deborah Bell 57:11


Good, great for being out doing stuff again. I you know, if I could to be 50 I'm not gonna be able to keep up with those women. Well, the South by Southwest Music Conference is going on in Austin, even as we speak. I think our very own nursery nursery is there as well as some

 Jack Valinski 57:26


security and fresh air. Terry Gross had a wonderful interview yesterday night, I honestly can't remember the person she interviewed.

 Deborah Bell 57:35

Well, apparently this is a very big deal. And in this week's issue of the Texas triangle, they feature gay and lesbian artists that are performing they're really neat. And yeah, it really is and very exciting that that's going on and I think that off the clock will be on tonight after lesbian gay voices, but Nury won't be there. I think he's got a sub tonight.

 Jack Valinski 58:00

Okay, so it will be the clock is still I don't know, whatever ticking away. Let's take a little break here. And we have some more stuff coming up for you.


 Deborah Bell 58:10

We'll be back with lesbian and gay voices with that report from melody Blake on healing the hurt. Hi. I'm not home right now. But if you want learning is for life. Would you like to greet the sunrise in a hot air balloon? Want to learn another language? Or how to decorate your home or train your dog interested in career or personal development? Leisure learning has a class for you. Leisure learning Unlimited is a nonprofit educational organization, offering hundreds of leisure time classes and activities. Leisure learnings instructors are experts, professionals and hobbyists who have skills and knowledge to share. Leisure learning even has two social clubs. So whether it's calligraphy or computers, pottery or pizza making, hitting a tennis ball or hitting the town leisure learnings got it? Just call 8771981 for a free schedule. Start your lifetime of learning today call 877 1981.


 59:36

spring out of the winter and spring into summer during KPFT seven days Spring Drive starting on March 25. through March 31 KPFT. We'll be needing volunteers to help answer our pledge lines. So spring on over to the phone and call us at 526 4000 and sign up to answer the pledge

lines during your favorite show.

 Jack Valinski 1:00:00

Well, and he was spraying around there.

 Deborah Bell 1:00:02

Yeah, that and he's he's always spraying around answering the phones. And you know what we need some folks to come in and spring around answering those phones during our little mini fun drive. We get tons of phone calls. That's right. And we need more volunteers to help with the station anyway to answer the phones and to take pledges we get lonely sometimes. That's true. That's true. We get very lonely and we need you to come help us. So think about it and call us during business hours call Annie. She'll spring on over to the phone to answer it at five to six 4000 during regular business hours or business hours here at KPFT. nine four. Yes, time Yes. noonish I guess. Right, right. So they had this magnificent conference sponsored by Parents and Friends of Lesbians and gays. It was for professionals and family members and all kinds of folks. I think over 400 people attended. It was the first time they've ever done anything like this and it was a huge success. And we are going to report by our ACE reporter melody Blake to get some people's reaction to the conference.

 1:01:10

Area professionals and mental health, social work counseling, education, religion and law enforcement. Along with area lesbians, gays, parents, families and friends met at the University of Houston helped me conference center Friday, March 11 1994. To learn about homophobia. Healing the heard a conference on homophobia was the first event of its kind to be held in Houston. The one day symposium was organized and presented by the Houston chapter of PFLAG, or parents, families and friends of lesbians and gays. According to Gail Rickey, co president of the Houston chapter of PFLAG the conference was designed to provide a basis of understanding for persons in helping professions and touch the lives of countless 1000s of others. The conference featured a series of workshops on subjects of mental health, religion, civil rights, legislation, youth, families, and factual information about homosexuality. More than 20 presenters led the 12 workshops, with participants choosing a morning and an afternoon session to keynote addresses. And a question and answer plenary highlighted the day. I interviewed some participants and organizers at the conference.

 1:02:39

I've got John Chrisman here with me. And we're at the PFLAG conference. And this is after the luncheon keynote speech. So John, how have you been enjoying this conference?

 1:02:53

I think that if I had died, without being here, that I would have missed something that was very important to me, that the information not only information, but the energy, that being together

important to me, that the information not only information, but the energy, that being together with people who are healing, as well as giving and receiving information. It's just very powerful. It's a very powerful experience, as I am so glad that I came in sight. Like if I had missed this would have been like a really deep, you know, like, like emptiness inside of me.



1:03:28

It's very exciting to be in Houston, Texas today.



1:03:31

Yes, it is. And there are people from so many places and all over the country. And if from different walks of life and parents of of gay and lesbians and friends and, and gay and lesbian people here and we're all sharing with each other. We're all it's like creating community as the day goes on. It's there's this feeling of community and belonging to each other spin real powerful.



1:03:56

I'm with Carol Miller, who is special projects coordinator for PFLAG. And we're here at the conference and kill. Tell me about what you're thinking today and what you're feeling today about how it's going here.



1:04:11

This is one of the more exciting days of my life. I've been on the planning committee from the very beginning of this conference and involved in once a month and sometimes twice a month and many, many phone calls for the past year. And to finally see it to fruition and know that there are over 400 people here is fantastic. It really is much more exciting. For me personally, it's more than it's more than I expected. I thought maybe we have about 200 That was my personal my personal goal. And we were way beyond that walking into today and we had about 425 at lunch so



1:04:49

have you been getting a lot of feedback from the participants?



1:04:53

Somewhat the people I had lunch with really enjoyed the morning sessions they thought that they were very good they thought we would Very organized. So we're very proud of that, because we work real hard to keep it organized. And it just seems to be running very smoothly so far.



1:05:08

I'm here with Lane Lewis lane.



1:05:12

It's a very good conference. It's a very good turnout. I am very pleased to see so many active parents making a political statement simply by being here. I'm very excited. And hopefully they'll continue becoming involved in coming out and supporting their queer kids.



1:05:30

I'm with a nice Parker, a nice, what do you think of this conference so far?



1:05:34

It's wonderful conference, I'm amazed at the turnout. And just from a presenter standpoint, this is one of the best organized, best run conferences I've ever attended. It's just going incredibly smoothly. It's a big surprise



1:05:47

for us as activists in the community to see what they've done with this, isn't it?



1:05:52

It is and to see and to see new faces and new people and see so many parents here.



1:05:59

And so many professionals who are on the inside of what's going on,



1:06:04

and coming to learn more to be better at their professions that this is a teaching conference as much as anything else.



1:06:13

And it is the first in the nation, isn't it?



1:06:16

Well, I was trying to I was thinking about that issue. I know that many, many conferences have a workshop on homophobia, but I have never heard of a homophobia workshop where all of the presentations dealt with homophobia. My particular interest in this one is and I am just ecstatic about the fact that Houston Police Department is one of the co sponsors of this event, and that police officers were allowed to attend and receive education, credit credits for attending. We've come a long way.



1:06:47

I've got Gail Rickey here. She's the CO president of PFLAG. And, Gail, how long has this conference been in the planning stages?



1:06:58

A little over a year, we started planning with a vision of creating something but we weren't sure exactly where we were headed with it. We weren't new, we wanted to offer an educational tool to people who who touch the lives of others.



1:07:16

And in that planning process over the last year, over a year, lots of changes has happened. And now here we are at fruition. Is it everything you wanted it to be?



1:07:29

It's very exciting, because the people that we wanted to communicate with are educators, psychologists, social workers. And those people are here today in great numbers. And we're very excited by that turnout.



1:07:44

I'm real surprised and real excited myself. Seeing your brochure when it first came out was a great joy. It's very professionally done. I want to acknowledge you and your team for everything that you've put into it. And it's expecting that this is going to be acknowledged as a great success for the community.



1:08:09

Thank you so much. It is very important to us. It's come from the hearts of lots and lots of people, our circle of people involved, grew and grew until the very last minutes mobilized a lot of people. And I think that that that was a ripple effect we hadn't expected and that's been

wonderful for our chapter.



1:08:27

I run Montgomery, a presenter and member of PFLAG



1:08:32

wrote an op op conference was great today, I thought we helped a lot of people are educated a lot of people. And I think that we need more of this more parents to come and have their eyes and hearts open to the reality of the situation. And I think that the parents need to come out of the closet. Period.



1:09:01

How can the children assist their parents in getting in touch with PFLAG



1:09:08

beanbags in the phonebook. If they will call PFLAG we'll be happy to take the ball and run with it. But they have to come to us and let us know there's a need first. I enjoyed the conference very much. I thought it was very full. I've learned so much. I've got to go home now and process it and because it's just information overload.



1:09:33

I'm with Alma, again, a vice president of HATCH. Alma, what do you think of the conference?



Suzanne Anderson 1:09:39

I think the attendance has been incredible. I didn't expect this number of people I did not expect the number of organizations I see present here. And there's also a lot of very prominent people within the gay lesbian community, which I think is very good.



1:09:52

And the professionals that are here and the impact that that might have on the community and to our lives.



Suzanne Anderson 1:09:58

I think that the press is Let's have them legitimizes our work in our struggle. It says, you know,

we're not just a bunch of radicals out there demanding some, God only knows what rights. But you know, it gives us a more serious and more credible stance before the community and the society of hope.



1:10:19

So you're glad you're here.



Suzanne Anderson 1:10:20

I'm definitely glad I'm here. And I think that we're addressing a very important topic, which is, homophobia as opposed to homosexuality, you know, it's always been homosexuality and what we do, as opposed to homophobia, and the hatred and the misunderstanding and misinterpretation of our lives. So I'm definitely, you know, enjoying being here and enjoying the topics that are being approached. And I think they're all very important.



1:10:44

I'm talking with Ina Gray, and she presented in the parents conference as a parent.



1:10:53

I just want to say that when we first had the idea of having a conference that was far the straight community, that it was a dream in our minds of having a conference where the community could be educated about the issues regarding the gay and lesbian community in a positive way and presented in a positive way. And it has gone beyond our dreams with a positive video and so much support. And we see so much of a need in the community for this kind of thing in the future. We're very, very pleased with it.



1:11:34

Do you see PFLAG presenting another of its kind in the future?



1:11:39

Well, it took us a year to organize this one. So certainly in the future, I don't know when in the future. We had so many so much wonderful support this time. And surprisingly enough summit support from people that we didn't expect support from. So we definitely are going to pursue this in the future, possibly with specialty conferences, targeting certain professions and that kind of thing to educate the public.



1:12:10

I'm here with Dean, the Trell, publicity director for the conference theme.



1:12:16

Hi, thank you. I was thinking through some of the most poignant parts of the day. I have to say that one of the most moving parts for me was D mosbacher is tape and seeing the fathers talk about their sons. I'm a member of PFLAG, because my parents have had a very difficult time accepting my being gay, and I have not seen them for over seven years, because of the struggle that they've had accepting my homosexuality. So seeing this tape was at once devastating and helpful, devastating, because it reminds me of the sadness I feel for for the loss of that relationship, even though they still live, healing and helpful, because I know there are parents and there are people who are accepting and willing to love and help us to to be the human beings that we need to be and that acceptance is very important to have, as we develop into more complete and loving human beings. So that was one of the most poignant and meaningful parts of the conference for me,



1:13:27

was the conferences success for you?



1:13:30

It has been far more of a success than I could have imagined. We were hoping that we might have 300 people. We have the final tally at something like 415, we're thrilled. We were hopeful that the press would be interested. They're still here interviewing tonight, at a quarter of six. They're interested, they want to know and we're very excited that it's generated that kind of interest. We had police here today, I mean, that were interested wanted to have some programs started in their training that would incorporate sensitivity to sexual orientation. So yes, unequivocally, it was a wonderful success. I would what I would really like to do is quit my day job and travel around the United States, and help people do this, set it up in their communities, or someone gave me an idea too, that it would be fun. If we could take this on the road. Let's say do a road show on the weekend. Take three of these people around and you know, condense it somewhat, but take it to Waco or to Lubbock or some smaller areas that might not have the advantage of the larger city.



1:14:39

Pat, Ricky here with me. He's the CO president of PFLAG Houston, Pat.



1:14:46

All right. I guess what the impressions I have of this conference is just a feeling of euphoria about how so many people have come together and so many people have worked so hard and put so much TJ into it. And it wasn't like one person trying to do all the work, it was just like,

everybody got such a joy out of contributing. And there was such a feeling of, of happiness and togetherness and, and everybody working together to for a common goal during the day that we just just made it a real special event for me.



1:15:23

I know it was in the planning process for a very long time that it come off exactly as you wanted it to.



1:15:31

I guess I'd have to say it was better than my wildest dreams. I thought that surely something would go wrong. And we never done one of these before. And we didn't know what we were doing. And surely we were going to say, Oh, if we'd only done this or that, and it just seems like everything worked. And it was almost magic. I don't know. It's just a great feeling.



1:15:54

So it was a huge success.



1:15:56

I think so I mean, it feels like it to me, and we've gotten nothing but good comments. So yes, I'd have to say it was a huge success.



1:16:04

And do you see this conference as being a prototype for other conferences all over the country?



1:16:09

I hope so. And I think that there's certainly the need, and there seems to be the general support. And I would say if people in other cities do it, people will come out of the woodwork. They're just like they did for us. But I think there's so many people that feel that this is a need. And this is something we need to do that. Yes, I'd say it's, it'll work for



1:16:33

everybody. Reaching a lot of people out there, aren't we?



1:16:37

I think so. Yeah, I think we're, we're on a roll.



1:16:42

Thanks, Pat. Ricky. This is Melody Blake for lesbian and gay voices.



Deborah Bell 1:16:49

It's melody Blake for Lesbian Gay voices. And she's out of there.



Jack Valinski 1:16:52

And we're Parisian.



Deborah Bell 1:16:54

Thank you. Thank you, Melody. That was a wonderful report. Sounds like it was a very exciting event. I think it should go to Lubbock.



Jack Valinski 1:17:02

Yes. It was interesting that both the voice and that both with voice are both the Chronicle in the poll, lots of boys in the triangle had nice long stories on D moss backer.



Deborah Bell 1:17:12

And you know, we have something coming up. That is at the end of the REI Pro. And I think that what could be at the end of the rainbow is the Texas lesbian conference, and it's going to be in the lovely Alamo City, San Antonio, TLC 94, is scheduled for April 29 through May 1. And among the things going on, there will be the Dr. Ruth of didactum, Joanne Lou LAN, and Linda Villarosa who is one of the editors of Essence magazine. And it's going to be a very exciting conference. But there's been a lot of rumors about the hotel is already all booked up. And we have it from Spa, the conference organizers that that's not true. The Crockett hotel does have rooms available for the Texas lesbian conference. And the phone number there is one 802 Nine to 1050 You do have to say you're in attendee at the Texas lesbian conference, if you want the special rate. And you can also get more information by calling textures bookstore in San Antonio at 210-805-8398.



Jack Valinski 1:18:32

I got a call from somebody in Kansas like last week or so, Helen, no, it wasn't Mary Helen. And she I guess she didn't get up there was a Kansas or one of those states up there. And they were looking for information on starting Community Center. And I had both the work and home

number so I called the work number. And the person answers and says she's not here but her wife is and it just threw me back because you're not used to hearing that when you call you know, business place but I guess it was a lesbian feminist gay bookstore.

D

Deborah Bell 1:19:01

You know, I'm very interested in what's going on in Hawaii. Because does that mean we could fly to Hawaii and get married and then come back to Texas and

J

Jack Valinski 1:19:09

what hasn't actually happened yet?

D

Deborah Bell 1:19:11

Not Yeah. I mean, I think it's definitely the way to go. I mean, there's all kinds of legal things we have to do to protect our relationships

J

Jack Valinski 1:19:19

you can deduct it from your income tax and you have to go I mean, that's the only place you could go to get married

D

Deborah Bell 1:19:24

there's an idea what that what that was clearly Yeah, that really would. And it is about to be spring, I think Sunday sometime around. June No, no. The vernal equinox will be taking place and one of the places to celebrate spring is over at Luci is garden over on Virginia at West Alabama. They have a lot of activities going on if you'd like to find out about growing herbs or spiritual work or all kinds of things going on over there and that has really nothing to do with being lesbian or gay, it's just that I love Liu Chia because she's a person who's brought a lot of magic in my life. And I

J

Jack Valinski 1:20:07

think herbs has a lot to do with being gay. You know, I think we use more in cooking and stuff like that. Well, actually,

D

Deborah Bell 1:20:14

it is all connected. The all of that stuff is she's having a fairy festival. So there you go. It is definitely a place if you're a lesbian or a gay man who appreciates things like flowers and jewelry and books and herbs and things to the checkout.

- J Jack Valinski 1:20:33
Well see, I don't have that because I keep forgetting to water my pets and feeding my plants.
That's just
- D Deborah Bell 1:20:40
a real you always get that confused down to
- J Jack Valinski 1:20:43
Yes, I guess I'm just not working to get you
- D Deborah Bell 1:20:47
boyfriend who knows how to do those things, Jack. So what else is going on?
- J Jack Valinski 1:20:54
Lots of things are going on. Believe me.
- D Deborah Bell 1:20:58
This is kind of scary stuff.
- J Jack Valinski 1:21:00
Lots of things are going on, as you know, because there's always something with spring break.
It's spring break. Except we don't get spring break. Things are going on in the fact that of the
grand marshals
- D Deborah Bell 1:21:13
were selected for pride and who might they are honored to
- J Jack Valinski 1:21:17
grand marshals, Jay Allen, who was owner Pacific Street, female Grand Marshal Cicely Wynne,
who is very well deserved that honor

D Deborah Bell 1:21:26

Very active in [inaudible].

J Jack Valinski 1:21:27

And she is not very probably very well known in the community because she does a lot of work behind the scenes. And the honorary grand marshal is Claire Koepsel, who was very well deserved that she helped her son when he was suffering from AIDS and saw him pass away and she's very active herself in the community. She's on the board of the game has been Political Caucus, I believe there's like five different organizations she's involved in and herself. She's not in the best of health. So but yet she does all this work and the organization that was chosen was cute patrol. Very good. Yes, I thought it was a nice selection.

D Deborah Bell 1:22:08

We're gonna go to a piece of music before we close off this evening, but let's just touch a little bit are you to be reminded where I am. You're listening to lesbian and gay voice on the radio and KPFT 90.1 FM. But with Pride Week, we need to remind folks that it's not going to be at the usual time,

J Jack Valinski 1:22:31

time and location. Pride week starts June 3 and goes through the 12th which is a Sunday do I have those dates right?

D Deborah Bell 1:22:41


It is Ammar with his organizer.

J Jack Valinski 1:22:43


I was right third to the 12 the parade will be on Sunday the 12 starting at 1pm same location. And the reason why we moved it up is because those people in New York I'm going to have a grand celebration


D Deborah Bell 1:22:55


is no in the coming weeks on lesbian gay voices we will have people from the Stonewall organization talking about what local planning is being done. And also folks from Teen Houston to talk about the gay gang so that they meet on


 Jack Valinski 1:23:09
Wednesdays and we had the location of their place but they had moved it to somewhere else. Well let's play some music and then we will come back and give you the location or the number


 Deborah Bell 1:23:20
okay we're going to play Chris Williamson and trip fairy with postcards from Paradise


 1:23:33
ah,

 Deborah Bell 1:23:37
and that was done as close personal friend trip fury along with the other person Chris Williamson. Singing little world spinning blue from their postcards in paradise. C. D, they're they're sitting on the bed on the beach. Just under our umbrella, just you know. So So gazing into each other's eyes.

 Jack Valinski 1:23:59
I just make you spring break.

 Deborah Bell 1:24:00
Yeah, something something about the music lovers make together. It's pretty special. Actually.

 Jack Valinski 1:24:06
I do have the phone number for the Stonewall celebration. They meet every Wednesday their meeting place has been changed. I don't have that. The phone number for more information is 2720656. That's 2720656 We've been

 Deborah Bell 1:24:21
all over the place tonight. You know we had Dr. Gary Bruton on talking about the sixth annual AIDS conference in Houston that is coming up next weekend over at the Astrodome the what is it called? It used to be the Marriott and now it's something else.

 Jack Valinski 1:24:40

J Jack Valinski 1:24:40

It is right here. sheets that we're supposed to know it is at the Ramada hotel Astrodome, which used to be the Marriott Astrodome, and the information number is 9650566. That is next Friday and Saturday and it's free.

D Deborah Bell 1:24:55

And of course we talked about what's going on in the world of the national A gay and lesbian taskforce with their report on violence against gays and lesbians, and some interesting reports about how we're being treated in the world. Of course, we had Suzanne and Brian, of course, we're very, they just come up with all kinds of things, don't they? And of course, we have to think Melody blight for that report, or the first of what I think will be a series of wonderful reports, not only from this conference, but from other things coming along. And melody is one of the trainees that we have right now with lesbian and gay voices that we're expecting great things from, give us some nights off. Do

J Jack Valinski 1:25:36

we also want to acknowledge that very Forbes has been moved to Washington. He is our former General Manager and growing Ganter is acting general manager for the time being.

D Deborah Bell 1:25:49

You didn't garlin let us do coverage of the parade this year?

J Jack Valinski 1:25:53

Well, it's not so much does he? Does he want to are we going to be able to do we have the energy in the volunteer? Do

D Deborah Bell 1:26:00

we really want to maybe we'll just want to march maybe we want to have a lesbian and gay voice. Maybe we

J Jack Valinski 1:26:05

should. We should march the Marty the remote broadcast up and down the parade.

D Deborah Bell 1:26:09

Now there is a thought we haven't tried that. The possibilities are endless. Yeah.



Jack Valinski 1:26:15

Anyway, you're listening to KPFT and this is lesbian gay voices. And we want to thank everybody who helped on the show tonight.



Deborah Bell 1:26:21

And even Mary Helen even though she's not here, she's in Canada. Yes, she did. She did leave us some music. She's welcoming into the world a brand new little nephew.