

[MUSIC PLAYING]

KIM SEVIER: Hi. I'm Kim Sevier.

SUZANNE And I'm Suzanne Anderson.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: And welcome to the season premiere of *TV Montrose*.

SUZANNE Hey, it's great to be back. Nine months.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: It certainly is. I can't believe it, Suzanne. We've put up with each other for nine months.

SUZANNE We could've had a baby. But no, we did *TV Montrose*.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: And tonight is an extra special bonus prize, because we are coming at you from Baba Yega where we taped our very first show nine months ago.

SUZANNE And we've got a whole crowd here that wants to say hi to *TV Montrose*. So--

ANDERSON:

AUDIENCE: *TV Montrose*.

SUZANNE Hello.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: I like that. I like that very much.

SUZANNE And in JR's Bar and Grill, they're going to have their TV sets setting up all over, and they're going to watch *TV*

ANDERSON: *Montrose*.

KIM SEVIER: And following *TV Montrose* will be the new hit sitcom, *Will and Grace*.

SUZANNE So if you want to watch *TV Montrose*, do it at JR's Bar and Grill.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: First off, we have a music video that will recap our first eight months just in case you missed a show or two along the way.

SUZANNE This will just help you understand a little bit about what we did the first nine months of our show.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: That's right. So put your seat belts on and get ready for a fast paced ride through some of the 103 stories that aired during our first season.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

SUZANNE That was a ride.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: You're telling me. It sure was. And in our new season, expect to see our camera capturing life in the hood on television as never before possible.

SUZANNE And speaking of our new season, how about a taste of one of our new show segment.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: OK. Which one?

SUZANNE How about a peek at our new Community Mic.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: All right. That's where people in our community get to talk about issues and topics of interest to us.

SUZANNE That's right. And you know our community has something to say about everything.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: Well, yeah, We're not exactly known for keeping our mouths shut.

SUZANNE No. And there's lots of people here Baba Yega. So let's throw a topic out, and let's see what they think.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: Let's rock.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

JASON VINCICK: Hi. This is Jason Vincik with *TV Montrose*, and we are here at Baba Yega's for our kickoff party for our next season. We are here with a new show called, Community Mic. And we have a couple of questions to ask our community. What kind of impact do you think that *TV Montrose* would have on our community here and how important do you think it is to our community?

WOMAN 1: Well, I think it's really important to have a gay TV station. Because I think that the broader community really needs to know what gay people are doing and the kinds of activities that we're involved in, and also, just to celebrate our lifestyle.

JASON VINCICK: Good.

WOMAN 2: I think it's really important because a lot of us are often isolated, and it's a good way to feel part of a bigger community even if you're not surrounded by one where you live. So I think it's really important to help people in the coming out process to know that they're not alone.

JASON VINCICK: Right. And we're not alone.

MAN: Well, as a new convert, I think it's important that we know there's something out there that's for us that can give us information about what's going on in the community and issues. And so I think it's really great. I'm glad to be part of it.

JASON VINCICK: Great. And how important do you think it is to come out into the community and to your family and friends?

WOMAN 1: Well, I can't speak for everybody. But I just know that for myself, coming out is really important. And I'm out at work. I teach at Rice University, and it's really important for me to be out not just for myself, but also as a role model for my students. I really believe in the importance of being able to be yourself and to also not take for granted all of the struggles of the people who came before me, especially the lesbians and gay men.

JASON VINCICK: Sure. It's very, very important.

WOMAN 2: I think it's an individual decision, because sometimes we're in unsafe situations where it's not always OK to come out. So people really need to make this decision on their own. But once I came out to my mother, I could come out to anybody else. So I'm just out to everybody.

MAN: Well, I'm coming out right now. This is my coming out.

JASON VINCICK: Right. And I came out yesterday. It's all about that orange color.

MAN: That's it. I'm in agreement. I think it's an individual choice. I think it's an important choice, but one that has to be made when the timing is right. And having been out for over 20 years, I see young people around who are a little bit nervous here and there. But I think if those of us who are out who have found that life goes on and people will accept you for the person you are.

JASON VINCICK: At the end, and why are you supporting *TV Montrose* and what kind of impact do you think would have on our community?

WOMAN: Oh, I think it's definitely having an impact right now. I'm supporting it because I believe we need something like this. We had KPFT, the radio station. We need something. It's power. We need to see the power we have out here.

JASON VINCICK: Right.

WOMAN: Yeah. Besides, I like being on it.

JASON VINCICK: All right. And how important is it to come out in our community?

WOMAN: Well, speaking for myself like everybody else does, I feel it's very important to be out. I was out to-- I'm out to my kids. I'm out to everybody. If you got tattoos like mine, you've got to be out. You need the tattoos to go with the makeup.

JASON VINCICK: I'm afraid to get a tattoo myself.

WOMAN: Oh, come on. Anyway, I think it's very, very important to be out. And frankly, it gives you a sense of power of knowing that you must never apologize or act embarrassed or ashamed. Be strong about it. If you're not happy in being out and being what you are, then something's wrong.

JASON VINCICK: Were you afraid to come out to your friends and family?

WOMAN: No.

JASON VINCICK: Not at all.

WOMAN: I thought it was a great thing. I thought I was very lucky. And I thought once you're a lesbian, why would you want to be anything else? These people who want to change you, they must be crazy. Why would you want to change from that?

JASON VINCICK: Sure. You should never have to change yourself for anybody.

WOMAN: Oh, no.

JASON VINCICK: And I understand that you guys are from out of town. What are you doing in our gay community? What's going on here?

WOMAN 2: Well, we're relocating to Houston. We're moving down in December. And we were really lucky. We right away wanted to go to a gay and lesbian business. And so we discovered Suzanne Anderson and Debra Brashiers. And it's been great. Because when you go to gay owned businesses, it's not only getting a service that you're paying for, but they helped us discover the community. It's because of Suzanne Anderson realtors and Debra Brashiers that we came out today and discovered *TV Montrose*.

JASON VINCICK: You weren't paid for saying this.

WOMAN 2: No. I wasn't. I swear.

JASON VINCICK: No. I agree. Suzanne is a wonderful woman. I'm sure she can hook you up with a wonderful place to live in. A great shack, girl.

WOMAN 2: She already has.

JASON VINCICK: She already has. Good. And well, where are you all from?

WOMAN 2: We're coming from New York and Connecticut.

JASON VINCICK: New York and Connecticut down to the Houston ranch.

WOMAN 2: Yeah. Well, it's supposed to be all happening down South.

JASON VINCICK: It's not all horses, is it?

WOMAN 2: No, no, no, no, no.

JASON VINCICK: Good. Well, we're glad you came. And you'll be a nice addition to our gay community here.

WOMAN 2: Thank you.

JASON VINCICK: For *TV Montrose* and for Community Mic, I'm Jason Vincik.

SUZANNE ANDERSON: Who doesn't have an opinion and loves to tell the world about? I've been known to do that a couple of times myself.

KIM SEVIER: You're telling me. Oh, well, next up is one of the original segments of the show that was so popular, it is now part of our new season.

SUZANNE That's got to be our trip to the moon.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: You bet. *TV Montrose* at the movies is back.

SUZANNE And now showing at the Landmark Greenway is an Italian film entitled *Life is Beautiful*.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: I love anything Italian. Mafia movies, anything Italian. And this movie happened to win the Italian Oscar awards for Best Picture, Best Director, Best Actor, and Best Screenplay.

SUZANNE And Tom Hanks wasn't in it?

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: Forget about it. Let's roll it.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

NARRATOR: Meet a real life prince charming. Since he moved to Tuscany, every day has been a beautiful day. And he's just met the woman of his dreams. There's just one small problem. She's getting married to someone else. Now, he'll do everything in his power to sweep her off her feet.

Carry her off into the sunset and build a dream house. Five years later, his fairy tale life takes a serious turn. To protect his family, this loving father has to think fast on his feet to turn the hard truth into a simple game.

Miramax Films is proud to present an extraordinary new motion picture written, directed by, and starring Italy's national treasure, Roberto Benigni, in the story that proves love, family, and imagination conquer all. *Life is Beautiful*.

KIM SEVIER: Well, Suzanne, I have a bit of an announcement to make.

SUZANNE What?

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: This may very well be my last *TV Montrose* to co-host. And I'm going to miss you very much, but I've gotten so much work-- thank you very much. That I'm going to focus on other things I have going on. And I won't be a regular co-host for next season. But maybe if you or Dan need a day off here and there, I could fill in for you.

SUZANNE That would be really hard. This has been great fun working with you.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: Hasn't it? I've enjoyed myself so much.

SUZANNE Yeah I'll miss you a lot.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: I'll miss everyone. Thank you so much for watching. It's been great fun and stick around for the new season, because it just gets better and better every week.

SUZANNE Let's hear from the advertisers that make *TV Montrose* possible.

ANDERSON:

LEE P. BROWN: I'm Mayor Lee Brown, and you're watching *TV Montrose*.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

WOMAN: Baba Yega, a Montrose tradition. Two lush patios and a spectacular waterfall make dining at Baba Yega peaceful experience. The only thing better than the atmosphere is the food. With a wide variety of fine entrees, there's something for everyone's taste including a veggie menu. The Jasmine Room is perfect for business or social meetings. Also, visit the Wild Earth Herb Shop next door. Excellent food, superb staff, tranquil surroundings, and moderate prices make Baba Yega the complete dining experience.

MAN: The Texas Triangle is a free weekly newspaper reaching over 60,000 readers every week available every Thursday throughout Houston, Austin, San Antonio, and Dallas and 20 other Texas cities. The Triangle offers the best in news, features, and entertainment. A six-time award winner, it's the only gay newspaper to receive an outstanding journalism award from the National Gay and Lesbian Journalists Association.

The Houston Press writes, for gay and lesbian news, by far, the best is the Texas triangle. So pick up The Triangle every week. Quality makes a difference.

MAN: Lobo Bookshop and Cafe, Houston's only exclusively gay and lesbian bookstore. Serving the gay and lesbian community for 25 years. Lobo carries a full spectrum of fiction and nonfiction books, including the largest selection of used books in Houston, and also, the largest selection of theatrical movies and other videos of interest to gays and lesbians. Lobo offers a wide selection of cards for any occasion and plenty of merchandise to select gifts for others or yourself.

And there's nothing better than a cup of fresh brewed coffee at the Lobo Cafe. Select from 40 flavors and a menu of specialty coffees. The Lobo Cafe also carries fresh made sandwiches and a wide assortment of desserts including cheesecakes and cookies. For videos, magazines, and merchandise exclusively of interest to the gay and lesbian community, there is no other place like Lobo Bookshop and Cafe.

SUZANNE Don't even think about buying or selling the home without hiring a professional. A home is the biggest financial

ANDERSON: investment that you will ever make. And I am always amazed at how casually people select a realtor. They'll call the name off of a sign or take the name of a friend of a friend. To be a good realtor, you have to be a good listener. And I listen to my clients, and I customize my services to fit your needs. We listen, present creative solutions, and help you make decisions in buying or selling a home.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MAN: Celebrating 15 years, it's Houston's premiere alternative dance club. Rich's has the hottest music hits, the largest dance floor, four huge bars, and the wildest themed parties. Rich's is the place to be for fun and action. The only New York style dance club for the gay and lesbian scene. Rich's is where the real world ends and your imagination begins. Be a part of the fun at Rich's this week. Rich's, where you can always be yourself.

DAYNA STEELE: Hi, I'm Dayna Steele from 97 Talk, and you are watching *TV Montrose*.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

SUZANNE It's time now for our feature story of the week.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: We've all heard about the brutal murder of Matthew Shepard in Wyoming last month. While *TV Montrose* prefers to not report news and events that are widely covered by other media, this story has an emotional Houston connection that only television can convey.

SUZANNE Last month, a candlelight vigil was held in memory of Matthew Shepard and to awaken our community about the

ANDERSON: presence of hate crimes against gays and lesbians.

KIM SEVIER: No one in Houston knew Matthew Shepard personally, but we all felt close to him when we learned why he was so brutally murdered.

SUZANNE Let's go to our feature story of the week and see how Matthew's murder affected his brothers and sisters here in

ANDERSON: Houston's lesbian and gay community.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

KAREN MOBLEY: We are a gentle, angry people and we are singing, singing for our lives. We are broken, grieving people. We are a broken, grieving people, and we are singing, singing for our lives. We are a broken, grieving people, and we are singing, singing for our lives. A justice seeking people.

We are a justice seeking people, and we are singing, singing for our lives. We are a justice seeking people, and we are singing, singing for our lives.

JASON VINCICK: It was a rainy night at the Rothko Chapel, but they did not stop the masses of people who came out to show their support for Matthew Shepard. We heard from many people tonight. We heard from Annise Parker and several reverends, people in our community who were trying to make a difference toward hate crimes. People came out tonight and left flowers and candles and lots of things to show their support in our community.

MAN: May the memory of Matthew Shepard and all like him who have suffered at the hands of others be a reminder of the work we have yet to accomplish.

[SPEAKING HEBREW]

May the source of peace and peace to all who mourn and comfort to the bereaved among us. And let us together say, amen.

JASON VINCICK: I understand that you're from PFLAG. Is that correct?

JEANNE EDMONDS: Yes, PFLAG Houston. And I'm representing over 325 members made up of parents, family, and friends of gays and lesbians, as well as gays and lesbians themselves.

JASON VINCICK: What do you think parents could do-- possibly do to avoid situations like this for their own children?

JEANNE To speak out about human rights and the worth of their own children and the love that they feel for their own children. Speaking from the heart is the most powerful message that we can do in our communities.

JASON VINKIK: It was Annise Parker who said that it was time to realize what's happening around us. That it's not exactly a gay issue, but it's a larger issue on a grander scale. It is something that we all need to work on. Hate crimes need to be abolished. We also heard from Sheila Jackson Lee tonight, congresswoman, who said that we need to confirm our humanity, that we deserve dignity, that we should not ever be ashamed of who we are.

And I believe that many people here tonight looked at this congresswoman and saw a political figure who was trying to make a difference in our community. Can you tell me what brings you out to the vigil tonight?

MIKE I just think that watching a travesty like that, having a young man's life destroyed for what he is and to have them not only destroyed but hung up so that the world can see. They're proud of their little prize that they did, and it's just disgusting. It's just disgusting.

JASON VINKIK: What kind of impact do you think this will have on our gay community here?

MIKE I hope that it solidifies and brings the gay community together, wakes the gay community up and say, there's some real dangers out there.

JEW DON And on behalf of the mayor, and I'm sure on behalf of all of the colleagues that represent you on city council, we want to share our condolences and our prayers and heartfelt sympathy for the family of Matthew Shepard. **BONEY:** Words are always inadequate at these moments. Actions I think mean far more. But words are important, because it expresses what we feel inside our soul.

JASON VINKIK: As I looked around tonight with the masses of people who were here for Matthew Shepard's service, I saw pain, and I saw tears, and also people who were very concerned about their own lives. People who wanted to make a difference in the community, people that were not afraid to stand up and make a difference. Many people did come tonight. That is true. But we would only hope that a service like this did not have to happen altogether.

We'd only hope that crimes like this did not happen or occur in any city or any state or in our world at all. We also heard from Reverend Karen Mobley tonight, who led us into a beautiful song in remembrance of Matthew Shepard, which was followed by a prayer, a beautiful prayer. The crowd joined in the singing, and it was a joyous occasion. We all remembered at that moment that there is love out there, that there is something for all of us to be proud about, that we do have our dignity.

And as I looked around and watched everybody singing that beautiful song, I too felt in my heart that something good can come out of all of this. I'm Jason Vincik reporting for *TV Montrose*.

KAREN We are a gay and lesbian people, and we are singing, singing for our lives. We are a gay and lesbian people, and we are singing, singing for our lives. Straight and gay together. We are straight and gay together, and we are singing, singing for our lives. We are straight and gay together, and we are singing, singing for our lives.

Gentle, angry people. We are a gentle, angry people, and we are singing, singing for our lives. We are a gentle, angry people, and we are singing, singing for our lives.

KIM SEVIER: What an emotional story, Suzanne.

SUZANNE It really was. The publicity surrounding Matthew's murder will help to educate America about the issues of gay bashing and that it does not belong in American society.

KIM SEVIER: That's right. *TV Montrose* believes that education about gay and lesbian life is the most important goal of our show.

SUZANNE In time, people that are negative in their thinking about the gay community will learn that we're just like any

ANDERSON: other people. And also, they're also going to learn that we're their brothers and their sisters and their mothers and kids.

KIM SEVIER: That's right. *TV Montrose* shows our community as it really is, who we really are, and what our lives are really like. One original segment coming back in our new season is the Community Calendar. It's my personal favorite.

SUZANNE You could be so dramatic sometimes. Up next, a look at several events coming up this next week.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: I like the Community Calendar.

SUZANNE All right, already.

ANDERSON:

JACK VALINSKI: Hi, this is Jack Valinski.

JOAN DEVLIN: And I'm Joan Devlin.

JACK VALINSKI: And we do Lesbian and Gay Voices every Friday evening at 8:00 PM on KPFT 90.1 FM.

JOAN DEVLIN: And now you're about to see the Community Calendar.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

SUZANNE If you have some spare time and you want to be a part of *TV Montrose*, give us a call.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: Definitely. *TV Montrose* is here for you, the Montrose community.

SUZANNE Everyone watching can do something. Everybody's got a story to tell.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: That's right. So join us and make our second season even more successful than our first.

SUZANNE Now, next week, we'll be coming to you from Empower '98 at the George Brown Convention Center.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: That's going to be fun. Come out for a lot of fun and watch another episode of *TV Montrose* being taped.

SUZANNE For *TV Montrose*, I'm Suzanne Anderson.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: And I'm Kim Sevier. Good night.

AUDIENCE: Good night.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

SUZANNE What? What?

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: You start it.

SUZANNE You're OK.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: You're on the wrong page.

SUZANNE Oh, my God. I haven't even looked at this.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: *TV Montrose* is also more visible.

SUZANNE JR's Grill is going to-- is it JR's Grill? I just ruin [BLEEP]. Oh, JR's Bar and Grill.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: That would be a bar and a grill.

SUZANNE I thought they had cocktail. *TV Montrose* is here for you and we want to know--

ANDERSON:

[LAUGHING]

KIM SEVIER: That you're watching.

SUZANNE And we want to know that you're watching. OK. I'm ready.

ANDERSON:

JASON VINCICK: Hi this is Jason Vincik with *TV Montrose*, and we're here at Bobby Ges-- horrible. I wasn't bad as the mascara running down my face.

[LAUGHING]

WOMAN: Good thing you're so cute.

JASON VINCICK: Oh. I'm not keeping makeup running down my face. I'm trying to cover these zits from working on the sun.

SUZANNE That was a ride.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: It sure was.

SUZANNE Yes, oh. I'm just so eager. OK.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: I can't work under these conditions.

[LAUGHING]

MAN: It's the hood.

KIM SEVIER: It's the hood. Shake it off. Shake it off.

MAN: All right.

KIM SEVIER: It's my favorite part.

SUZANNE Oh, gosh. Up next, take a look--

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: It is.

SUZANNE --at several events coming on-- oh, coming-- damn.

ANDERSON:

MAN: That was really good.

SUZANNE That should've been so good.

ANDERSON:

MEN: We're Outrage, and you're watching *TV Montrose*.

[CHEERING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]