

[MUSIC PLAYING]

JIMMY CARPER: Oh yes, it's time for the *After Hours News and Views* with Chris. And I'm going to be hopping in there too. I've got a couple of things. Well, maybe if I gave you some volume. How's that?

CHRIS ARASIN: Yeah, yeah, I would appreciate that. It's not enough I'm talking for 20 minutes, but it'd be nice if the microphones on when I do it.

JIMMY CARPER: Jackie Thorne was here earlier and had to leave, but she had something. She wrote it down for me, because it's really good news from the Royal Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star. They gave out the male line titles tonight at Chance's Wesley Stewart. We had talked about this every week, that he had been in the hospital with heart problems, and we talked about his progression, and now he's out.

And he was able to attend. Of course, he has to. He's the emperor. And although he's still weak from being in the hospital, he is doing very well. The male line titles are-- and I want to say, she had too many cocktails, so she couldn't remember everybody.

But the Imperial Prince Royal is John Dye, better known as Bubbles, maybe not now that he's Imperial Prince right now. I don't know. The Imperial Prince is Ronnie Siebert. Grand Duke is James Fulton, hey, hey, hey, JJ.

And other titles that Jackie didn't get went to Larry Wittek, Billy-- here we go, Villa Bardet, Dan Lindquist. Well, he's the town crier, I believe, royal crier; and Sandy Oliphant.

So congratulations on the male line members of the Royal Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star, and we are really, really happy that Dan is out of the hospital. Considering that, we do have bad news.

CHRIS ARASIN: Yes, it's going to be sad hearing a little bit. We have some not so happy news with the Sovereign Court.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, go ahead.

CHRIS ARASIN: But we're going to start off with a little bit better news. The grand marshals for the 2001 Gay and Lesbian Pride parade have been announced.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh boy, oh yeah.

CHRIS ARASIN: Michell Contain, Dalia Stokes, Blake and Gordon Weisner, and PFLAG Houston will be the grand marshals. Michell Contain is a Houston lawyer who is currently representing two men challenging the Texas homosexual conduct statute in cooperation with this Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

Dalia Stokes will serve as female grand marshal, is a lawyer with the firm of Bayliss and Stokes. She founded the River Oaks Democratic Women, a group that supports advancing equality for all, especially gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender people. The honorary grand marshals, Blake and Gordon Wiesner, are longtime members of PFLAG Houston and have been active with the PFLAG HATCH Youth Scholarship Foundation.

JIMMY CARPER: Now, those are the honorary grand marshals.

CHRIS ARASIN: Honorary grand marshals.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, and in that--

CHRIS ARASIN: Give it to the token straights.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, straight people, people not of our community who have worked to help our community.

CHRIS ARASIN: And then following that up, PFLAG Houston will be the honorary organizational grand marshal.

JIMMY CARPER: It's not their first time, but they certainly are deserving of it.

CHRIS ARASIN: Oh yeah, especially with this past year. The publicity received from the billboard campaign has gone up all over the Gulf Coast area.

JIMMY CARPER: And actually, there were so many people and organizations nominated, and every single one was deserving.

CHRIS ARASIN: Oh yeah, I've seen the list on there.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, it was incredible, just incredible. It was very difficult voting.

CHRIS ARASIN: But don't forget, the Pride Parade will be occurring on Saturday, June 23rd at 8:45.

JIMMY CARPER: Mm-hmm.

CHRIS ARASIN: Also, there'll be a Pride kickoff party on June 1st and many Pride events throughout June which we'll be bringing to you as soon as we get a list on that. For more information on any of the Pride events or to try and schedule a Pride event, you can contact the Houston Pride committee at 7135296979, or check out their website, pridehouston.org.

JIMMY CARPER: The Gay and Lesbian Switchboard is always looking for volunteers. And for those of you who remember the old switchboard, well, it has changed. We are under new management under the umbrella of the Montrose Counseling Center, and we're looking for you. If you've been a phone volunteer in the past, we urge you to re-up. We've got openings.

Next full training class won't be until May, I believe, but we have different kinds of training now. A lot of the training is on video. And you can come to the Center, and watch that during the day, or rent it out for the evening, or whatever.

But the number to call to volunteer for the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard is the Montrose Counseling Center number of 7135290037. And for the switchboard, look for option number 4, and Rebecca will call you back.

CHRIS ARASIN: Some transgender news we have in here. A Houston man dressed as a woman was killed on this past weekend. Houston police found the body of a man dressed in women's clothing early Sunday morning. Police discovered the body about 4:30 in the morning at 7844 Avenue E in downtown.

29-year-old Francisco Javier Luna suffered several gunshot wounds, including one to the face, stomach, and shoulder. Residents reported the gunshots and called police. When the police arrived, they found his body lying beside a maroon 1994 Dodge Dynasty with paper dealer plates.

If anyone has any information on this crime, please contact the HPD Homicide Division at 7133083600 or Crime Stoppers at 713222-TIPS. Don't forget, the Unity Banquet is coming up on March 24th.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, it is.

CHRIS ARASIN: The transgender community's 9th annual Unity Banquet will feature food, drink, and awards. The West Chase Hilton is renowned for its stunning cuisine, and you won't be disappointed.

It's from 7:00 PM on till whenever. It's at the West Chase Hilton Hotel, 9999 Westheimer on March 24th, 2001. And you can pick up your tickets for most of the transgender organizations or over at Jewel's on Taft.

JIMMY CARPER: That's right.

CHRIS ARASIN: And if you need information with that, you can call us after the news segment, and we'll give you some contact numbers directly where you can call people up and pick up these tickets.

JIMMY CARPER: I know there's a lot going on April 1st. Oh, you have some more?

CHRIS ARASIN: I have one more on the transgender news.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh OK, I'm sorry.

CHRIS ARASIN: Bear County Texas Sheriff Ralph Lopez plans to publicly discuss the male deputy who is going to undergo a sex change operation. On a news conference on Monday, the sheriff said that the Americans with Disabilities Act requires him to accommodate Lieutenant Brian Loehnen.

Lopez also said that he personally supports the officer, his constitutional right to make individual choices. That is his official position as the sheriff. The church group from Kansas demonstrated-- that's Old Freddy family and friends.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, I guess he wants to be transgender too.

CHRIS ARASIN: It's nice to see he's an equal opportunity bigot. "Thou shall not liable mankind with womankind. That is an abomination that will take your soul to hell," Fred Phelps said, with several members of the Westboro Baptist Church. Other signs included, "if you believe in the Lord and have faith, you know that the Lord is a God of love." Oh I'm sorry, maybe it was from a good person. "And you can't worship Mr. Peanut and expect to go to heaven if you die."

JIMMY CARPER: What?

CHRIS ARASIN: You can't worship Mr. Peanut and expect to go to heaven when you die?

JIMMY CARPER: What in the hell is that supposed to mean?

CHRIS ARASIN: You got to love it. One interesting thing with this, if you want to find out what people in San Antonio feel on this, you can go to www.clickonsa.com-- that's Channel 12 KSAT over in San Antonio-- and go to their community forums board, and it's under hot topics.

There's a lot of interesting postings on there by average citizens who have different opinions on it. And from what I read on there, there was a lot more support going on there than what you'd see of the anti-transgender movement in there.

JIMMY CARPER: April 1st, there's a lot of things going on in this town April 1st, but we want you to put this on your agenda.

Sunday, Sunday, Sunday, Sunday, April 1st at 7:00 PM, Rosy Cheeks, the one and only, would like to invite you to attend the spectacle of Rosy's April Fools. Come see sick and twisted imaginations in full gear. That is scary. That's going to happen at Mary's. And this is benefiting the Gulf Coast archives for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender history.

Speaking of the archives, they're going full force, soon to have a Montrose location. Yes, we're just right to the point of signing the lease now. And it'll be a small place, but it'll be in the Montrose. And if you'd like to help or even become a member, you can call and talk to the Secretary, Judy Reeves, at 7132275973. That's 7132275973.

CHRIS ARASIN: And it certainly helps that you're doing the air phone for this.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, that's the only way you can remember it. GCAM, it's your museum. And we're going to, of course, have another special event for Pride Week.

CHRIS ARASIN: OK, a little bit of religious news here, Cincinnati's diocese for the Catholics is making an effort to make its parishes more open and welcoming to homosexuals. The archdiocese of Cincinnati is one of a growing number of US dioceses to establish a ministry for gay and lesbian Catholics.

"But the Ministry hasn't been easy. It is rejected on one hand by people who don't want us to welcome homosexuals in our midst, and on the other hand it's rejected by homosexuals who don't think the church is going far enough in its teachings," said Cincinnati auxiliary bishop Carr Modell.

"The church calls the homosexual person to be chaste the same way it calls heterosexuals to be chaste." So it's interesting to see how that is going to be developing on in Cincinnati and to see if maybe that's going to be spreading down here to the Houston area.

In Presbyterian news, Presbyterian ministers and elders in four of Texas's five denominational districts called presbyteries have voted by a narrow margin to reject a change in church law that would prohibit same-sex marriages in the Presbyterian Church USA.

The Houston area, though, did vote for the ban. So far, 53 of the denominations Presbyterians have voted in favor of the ban. 78 have voted against it. 87 is the number that must be reached for it to pass in the Presbytery USA.

Are you gay and Jewish? Jewish Family Services is sponsoring an organizational meeting for Jewish gays' and lesbians' parents, friends, and family to discuss programs and/or services that will be most useful to Jewish people on Sunday--

JIMMY CARPER: Sunday, Sunday, Sunday.

CHRIS ARASIN: --March 11th at 10:30 AM at the Jewish Family Services, 4131 South Brayswood. Park and enter through the rear door. For more information, you can-- as soon as I said--

JIMMY CARPER: Well, isn't that apropos?

CHRIS ARASIN: Well concerning the fact I've got a brother who drives through the Montrose area because he really wants a sign that says, park in rear, and he figured the Montrose is the area, he'll pick one up.

JIMMY CARPER: No, because they're stolen all the time.

CHRIS ARASIN: Yeah, the only one I've seen is it's painted on a brick down over at-- is it Mandel and Westheimer?

JIMMY CARPER: So you can't, yeah, right.

CHRIS ARASIN: So gay and Jewish park in the rear, and contact Toby Newman for more information at 7136679336. As we said, we had some somber news here from the Royal and Sovereign Imperial Court of the Single Star. It's with heavy heart that the Court of Houston announces the passing of one of its true treasures, Julian Glass, AKA ImperialPrincessRoyale14, FeliciaFleshEater.

Although he was not in the best of health for the past year, Julian's death this past Saturday night came quite unexpected to us and is a shock to all of the Houston community. His absence will leave a big void in many of our hearts. In addition to the court, Julian was also a member and past officer of the Colt 45s Houston and the Garden Party.

There will not be a Memorial service or a celebration of life for Felicia. Since there were no final expenses to take care of, they will hold a show in her memory that will benefit Rain 17 and their designated charities, the Assistance Fund and the Montrose Clinic Women's Program. The show will be held on Sunday, March 18th--

JIMMY CARPER: Sunday, Sunday, Sunday, yes, that's next Sunday.

CHRIS ARASIN: Next Sunday--

JIMMY CARPER: Not tomorrow.

CHRIS ARASIN: --at the BRB and will begin at 8:30. For any who wish to remember Felicia, please join us for When Pigs Fly. This is what she wanted, and we want to make her proud. Therefore, no weepy songs. Let's keep it up and happy and remember the good times.

JIMMY CARPER: That would be great, because I remember Felicia vividly. And somebody had a fundraiser. She was there. And she did a couple of fundraisers for the gay Gulf Coast archives and museum, just a real trooper, a real trooper. It is a loss. It is a loss because of her talent.

CHRIS ARASIN: The Montrose Counseling Center's Bringing in the Green will be happening on Friday, March 16th, 2001, from 5:30 to 8:00 at 502 Hawthorne. A \$25 donation will bring you entertainment by Jerry Atwood, featuring Sharon Montgomery.

JIMMY CARPER: Ooh, that is good entertainment.

CHRIS ARASIN: There'll be a silent auction and complementary valet parking. The celebrity bartenders are from the Four Seasons Club, and it's hosted by John Danielson. This is the 13th Annual St Patrick's Day celebration of Bringing in the Green for the Montrose Counseling Center.

Some other groups that are meeting at the Montrose Counseling Center are the Men's Network will be meeting on March 13th. The topic is, *Finding the Boyfriend Within*, a discussion based on the book of that title written by Brad Gooch. The discussion will focus on learning to love and establish a relationship with ourselves. Participation in the discussion does not require reading the book.

The next day, the Women's Network will be meeting on the 14th in celebration of Women's History month. Share your stories and the video last call at Maude's. That evening, they'll invite participants, especially middle age and old lesbians, to share your stories about your lives as lesbians. We'll also watch the documentary about the world's longest running lesbian bar, San Francisco's Maud's, which was a thriving and popular meeting place until it closed its doors in 1989.

This film interweaves extremely rare archives of the hot gay bar scene in the '40s, the frightening vice raids of the '50s, the colorful gay counterculture of the '60s, together with a provocative personal stories of coming out, politics, and humorous adventures.

Once again, it's all with the Montrose Counseling Center located at 701 Richmond. It's at room 15. The Men's Network is on Tuesday of the 13th. Women's Network is on Wednesday the 14th. For more information on the Men's and Women's Network or bringing in the green, contact the Montrose Counseling Center at 7135290037.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, and Beth has something she wants to talk about.

BETH: The Compact Plus, Compact Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay, and Transgender Workforce Networking Association recently elected their executive board. From Houston, we have Jen Mecklenburg, Beth Richard, Derek Shotwell, Kenneth Llewellyn, Bob Kennan, and Bob Hughes. And in Massachusetts, we have Megan Gentry. Thank you.

JIMMY CARPER: Nice, nice, nice. Tell me about this group.

BETH: Oh, we've been in existence as part of Digital for about 15 years, as part of Tandem for about eight years, and as part of Compact in Houston, Compact Classic, only for about three and a half years. And we are the networking group that is where all the social activities between the LGBT community in Compact workforce, whether they're employees, contractors, or temps.

We're putting together right now a pretty big event in June. Looks like we're going to have for our speaker local and regional impact Maria Minacucchi come and speak for about a half an hour. And following that, we're going to have for our speaker of national and global impact, Lynn Conway.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh yes, if you read the Advocate a couple of weeks ago, she's in it.

BETH: She's been in the Advocate, the LA Times, Scientific American. The list goes on and on.

JIMMY CARPER: Wow.

BETH: If you're not familiar with her story, she is a true pioneer of computer architecture. And when she came out as being transgender at IBM, they didn't know exactly what to make of that. And so the order went all the way up to the corporate chair, Thomas J. Watson, who said, fire her.

JIMMY CARPER: But this was in the '70s, wasn't it?

BETH: This was in '67.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, '67, OK.

BETH: So this is early discrimination, and then she had to basically start her career over from ground zero and work her way up from a contract programmer to somebody who'd made just as equally mindblowing contributions to VLSI, the process by which all chips are made these days, just an incredible woman.

We're also, and this is really preliminary, so I can't say for sure that it'll happen, but we're trying to get a public speaking engagement as well as simply within Compact speaking for her. And she might even end up on this show.

JIMMY CARPER: Great, I've got some music that you said you got a request for it and when we end this segment.

CHRIS ARASIN: OK, I just got one more little bit here. The PFLAG HATCH Youth Scholarship Foundation is holding their third annual spring fling at the Warwick Hotel, 5701 Maine, on Friday, March 30th. 7 o'clock, social; 8 o'clock dinner. Tickets for \$75 each, and additional contributions will be very much appreciated.

The youth of HATCH will provide some entertainment and some of their stories. It will be an honor of Gary van-- Jimmy, I'm not sure.

JIMMY CARPER: Gary van Ottingham.

CHRIS ARASIN: Ottingham, OK, I did not want to mess up the name too bad. It'd be great if everyone could show, mingle with the PFLAG moms and dads and others in our community. For more information, you can contact PFLAG at pflaghouston.org.

And one more thing with scholarships there, a recent thing on foxnews.com. "Academic excellence and community service are traditional prerequisites for a college scholarship, but in recent years, a new category has emerged-- sexual preference. But critics say awarding money based on sexuality is a dangerous incentive. There are better ways to get a college education without affirming someone in their deviant sexual behaviors," said Robert Reger of the Washington DC-based Family Research Council.

"By deviant, I mean sex outside marriage," Reger said, "and the money would be better spent educating young people about the dangers of premarital sex. Adding the scholarships based on sexual orientation amount to preferential treatment."

But the debate is over morality, not legality, because these scholarships are privately funded. While the ideal is troubling to organizations trying to steer young people away from homosexuality, gay-friendly philanthropists say that they hope to create an academic environment where homosexual students feel fully accepted.

"A lot of times, we in the gay community feel that we have been deprived from the support of the community," said one of the recipients, Gilberto Salas, who is at South Seattle Community College. So it seems like they don't even want us to go to school now.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, well, TS, and that's not transsexual, either.

CHRIS ARASIN: Bye. If we're going to get crass like that, I believe the old saying was, tough titty, said the kitty, but the milk is still good.

JIMMY CARPER: There you go.

CHRIS ARASIN: We want to thank our sources here for *After Hours News and Views*. It was hamnetclicktwohouston.com. Bye.

BETH: Bye-bye.

CHRIS ARASIN: The Houston Voice and foxnews.com-- it's always good to have the right wingers out here for a whole news story.

JIMMY CARPER: You betcha.

CHRIS ARASIN: If you want to send us news, information, stories, love mail--

JIMMY CARPER: Dirty pictures.

CHRIS ARASIN: --you can email us at afterhourskpft@hotmail.com. And coming up next is the music request we had from College Station.

JIMMY CARPER: Hey, Hey, hey.

CHRIS ARASIN: We love it when you spend your earning money there to call us up and let us know.

JIMMY CARPER: You bet.

CHRIS ARASIN: We've got a lot-- I was commenting, we have had too many nice phone calls tonight. Something is wrong. We've gotten compliments from a person from Midland who's visiting Houston, says she loves the show. She loves the debate, a lot of interesting calls of people showing support for us. And so to help you out there, we're going to give you a homosexual.

JIMMY CARPER: Ah, Romanovsky and Phillips, and a nice surprise after that too. And you're hearing all of this wonderful stuff on *After Hours*, Queer Radio with Attitude, on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station. And tell your friends, especially the ones out of town, because you can reach us on the net at www.kpft.org. Here we go.

Buggery on the high seas, a little something there for our friends in Conroe. And next week, I'll probably try to get something even more outlandish. Right now we have, finally, Francisco Sanchez.

FRANCISCO How long has it been?

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Well, you've been busy.

FRANCISCO Yeah, Sandy's been filling in.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, I guess he didn't show up tonight because he doesn't want to share the mic, huh?

FRANCISCO I guess not. I think it's a sign. It's all or nothing. You give someone a 1:45 AM time slot, and they just--

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: I'm telling you, I'm telling you. When's the last time you got on that 1:45?

FRANCISCO Last time I was on the show.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Sorry, oops, oops. It's time for the Hispanic hour.

FRANCISCO It is.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: And what have you been up to, being out of town and all of that?

FRANCISCO I've been out of town just every second Saturday of the month for the past couple of months. But Sandy's been

SANCHEZ: doing a terrific job, from what I hear.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh yes, yes, yes, he's just wonderful.

FRANCISCO And we were talking actually about the show yesterday and today. And he wanted to talk about

SANCHEZ: straightacting.com and what was going off on that. And he was pretty much assured me that it would be half the show, was him rambling on about straightacting.com. So maybe he's still talking to someone about straightacting.com at the bar, having realized what time it is, or he's not acting very straight right now for someone at the bar.

JIMMY CARPER: As in, give me a homosexual, Paul Phillips says, how straight do they look when they're down on their knees?

FRANCISCO Exactly.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Hello?

FRANCISCO Straight-acting cops looking for. Straight marine? As if there were.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh well. So how have you been?

FRANCISCO Doing good, doing good, keeping busy. What have I been up to? Actually been trying to get a little bit of rest in

SANCHEZ: and then keeping busy with some other organizations and things like that, putting some events together. We've got the 2001 Schwab Awards for the Texas Human Rights Foundation.

JIMMY CARPER: I just saw that, yes, and some wonderful people are getting awards, so it would seem.

FRANCISCO They are, yes. For those who don't know, the Texas Human Rights Foundation, it's an organization that focuses

SANCHEZ: on HIV and AIDS discrimination as well as gay and lesbian discrimination in the workplace and just a whole variety of issues. They're actually the organization that footed the Bill for the Christie Lee Littleton--

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, I didn't know that

FRANCISCO --court challenges. So it was very interesting to be a part of that. And the board is doing a tremendous job. Sarah,

SANCHEZ: who was on the air earlier is actually the vice president to the board.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, is she?

FRANCISCO Yeah.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: She certainly is.

FRANCISCO She is. And we've got some good folks from Houston on the board.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Like you.

FRANCISCO Like me. So if you got your invitation, go. If you haven't gotten your invitation, I'm inviting you now. It's Thursday,

SANCHEZ: March 22nd, this week at 16th Sunset Boulevard right across from Rice, the home of David and Cathy Berg. If all else fails, go because it's a beautiful home when you go to see it.

They've got some great honorees from Houston. We've got the Robert Schwab award as Grant Martin.

JIMMY CARPER: That's amazing, because just last week we were talking to Alejandro of PVA. And he was talking about Grant. And I burst in there, and I said, he is in the background doing a lot of things, and he's not in it for the recognition.

FRANCISCO No, he's not. Grant's been back for it. He's actually been in Houston. He went to California for a while and moved

SANCHEZ: back. And since he moved back, he's been really involved in just a great many things. We're both co-founders of GLPAC, Gay or Lesbian Political Action Committee. He's been on the board of black tie dinner, founded PBA.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, progressive voters.

FRANCISCO And his niece's campaign manager is a consultant in the chair of the campaign that's going to oppose the

SANCHEZ: referendum that Dave Wilson is throwing up, I think. I can't remember the name of the group. That organization, he's also headed up. On the board of Outvote and just keeps busy.

JIMMY CARPER: I know, I know it. I know it.

FRANCISCO In the meantime, I'm sure he tries to make a living somewhere.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, who knew?

FRANCISCO And then Christie Littleton, of course, is our Profile in Courage Award who has done a great job. Jack Valencia, our

SANCHEZ: Community Activist Award is going to him.

JIMMY CARPER: Good, good, good, because Jack has been in there for years, and years, and years. He is part of the gay community. He's just there.

FRANCISCO Well, he's got the list.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: And Christie, here's the story of a housewife for the most part, all of a sudden is thrown into the political arena. And I think she's handled herself very, very well.

FRANCISCO She's done a great job. If you ever met her personally, she's just a very, very warmhearted, wonderful person.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, she's been on the show, yeah, and she just learned a lot in a short period of time about what goes on in the political arena and in the transgender community.

FRANCISCO And she's done a great job of responding to it.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, yes.

FRANCISCO The Pursuit of Justice Award going to Paul Nugent, and then local state representative Garnet Coleman have the

SANCHEZ: Political Leadership Award.

JIMMY CARPER: Good.

FRANCISCO Community Activist Award going to Phyllis Frye.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Been in there for over 20 years, 25, 30 years. Because of Phyllis Frye, women can wear fly front pants, and the list goes on and on with Phyllis.

FRANCISCO And then the female version of Ray Hill.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, oh yes, absolutely.

FRANCISCO Just thought of that, but yeah, they're really so much alike. Community Organization Award going to River Oaks

SANCHEZ: Area. Democratic women.

JIMMY CARPER: The ROADie women.

FRANCISCO And it's a terrific group of folks. Talia Stokes is the current chair and has been for a while.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: And the new female grand marshal.

FRANCISCO She is.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

FRANCISCO So she and she just finished up her-- when she was the co-chair of the Human Rights Campaign Dinner that was

SANCHEZ: last week. That's what I was up to I remember now.

JIMMY CARPER: There you go.

FRANCISCO I forget these things.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: So many groups.

FRANCISCO How do you get invitation? It's like, oh, I'm on that board. I should have called them back. But that will teach me

SANCHEZ: never to miss another meeting. I was not there. So I wasn't at the Human Rights Foundation Board Meeting, the last one, so I got designated to make sure the invitations got put together.

JIMMY CARPER: I see.

FRANCISCO Got it printed in, got it. So it's the last time I miss one of those board meetings. But the Human Rights Campaign
SANCHEZ: Dinner was last week. That was great. I think they've raised over \$100,000. I don't think we have the total yet, but those folks did a terrific job.

Dalia was a co-chair. Brett Backus was a co-chair, as well, and we had a great turnout from our elected officials, from city council members and some of our judges, as state representatives and members of Congress. It was an excellent turnout.

JIMMY CARPER: These are the people who affect our lives directly.

FRANCISCO Right.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: There's the national arena where it's just a nebulous thing, but these people, you're going to face a judge in Houston more often than you're going to face the President of the United States. And there's a whole lot of things that come down, don't you think, per community? And community standards and all of that, and we need to make friends with these people.

FRANCISCO All those end up being local issues at some point. And the people here in Houston that are implement those are
SANCHEZ: the ones that are in charge of making sure that it's interpreted in a way that meets what Houston expects. So it's really important.

It was interesting. Over the last couple of days-- it's always difficult to try to coordinate getting elected officials somewhere, so that was a challenge. But it was nice, two days prior to the dinner, getting calls from to this thing. Can I go? Can I still go? I want to go. So it was like, well, all right, if you really want.

But it was interesting. It was interesting to be in a room where the two announced candidates for mayor and one potential candidate for mayor were actually courting our vote, so that was an interesting situation. It was nice.

JIMMY CARPER: And that is such a change from 15, 20 years ago.

FRANCISCO Louie Welch. I wasn't even at high school yet, but I remember that statement.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Suit the couriers.

FRANCISCO That was Houston.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: And now they're looking for our votes.

FRANCISCO Yeah, it's nice.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: It is nice. It is nice.

FRANCISCO Let's see what else has happened. Just in case Danny shows up, we won't talk about straightacting.com yet. I
SANCHEZ: want to give him his room to vent.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, and I bet he can.

FRANCISCO He's probably trying to call in right now, get his two cents in. What did you think of the whole M&M thing, Elton John?
SANCHEZ: John?

JIMMY CARPER: I have said, and I've said on the air, until this thing clears up or I find out what the real reason behind Elton John mixing with that talentless, crude-- I can't say it on the air-- I'm not playing any Elton John on this show. I just think it's unconscionable of what he has done, embracing this guy.

You cannot just go around talking about rape and murder, and then after the song is over, oh, I really didn't mean it. No, that doesn't cut it. You don't have to do that to get your point across, whatever the point he's trying to get across. Satire is one thing, but that, that is hate.

And Chris has joined us on this. You know that name.

CHRIS ARASIN: Well, let me put it this way. Elton John probably was looking at it for a simple reason. Eminem, as long as he doesn't open his mouth, is attractive.

JIMMY CARPER: That's the only thing I can think of. He's getting something off of him. Elton John is getting some from Eminem, Eminem, or enema, or whatever. That's the only reason I can see.

CHRIS ARASIN: The interesting part was after their little duet, they were supposed to go to this party together, and they were going to be interviewed for MTV. Elton John left before the interview could be conducted.

JIMMY CARPER: Really?

FRANCISCO Interesting.

SANCHEZ:

CHRIS ARASIN: He did not attend. He left unexpected. MTV just had to do the one with Eminem. A week later, Elton John also was there to help present the award to Eminem at the Brit Awards, which is the British equivalent to the Emmys.

JIMMY CARPER: They don't like him over there.

CHRIS ARASIN: Well, yeah, they've had a lot of protests over there. Even wearing his t-shirt on some college campuses are banned because of his message.

JIMMY CARPER: People may not remember 10, 15 years ago, 2 Live Crew?

CHRIS ARASIN: 2 Live Crew.

JIMMY CARPER: 2 Live Crew came out with this type of music, hate music, and there was this big controversy. They sold a lot of stuff, and that was it. They had this one shot, one-hit wonder, and that was it. That's all the talent they had, and I think that's what you're going to see with this guy too.

FRANCISCO Yeah, it'll be interesting to see what happens.

SANCHEZ:

CHRIS ARASIN: Especially if he's sentenced to 14 months in jail for that gun possession charge, which I think is very interesting, because he made the comment that he was in his MTV interview after the Grammys, saying that he was glad that a gay man had his back. But let's see if he has that same statement.

FRANCISCO That should be interesting.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

FRANCISCO Now, and I watched the tape.

SANCHEZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, how do you feel about it?

FRANCISCO I had a question. I think Chris probably followed it there. Did he shoot the bird at the end of the performance?

SANCHEZ:

CHRIS ARASIN: At the end of the--

FRANCISCO OK, he did, all right.

SANCHEZ:

CHRIS ARASIN: --after he hugged Elton, he turned to the crowd and gave a double bird. He explained it later on that basically, he was saying, you called me a homophobe. Here it is. I performed with a gay man. I embraced a gay man. F all of y'all.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh yeah, that's going to endear me to him.

CHRIS ARASIN: And that's what his part was. The song itself, it was sugarcoated. It was a lot sweeter. He changed his words. Not only did CBS censor it. He changed some of his wording so it didn't have to get bleeped all the time.

Now, the interesting part is this. It's played here on the radio not on this station, but there's another station here in Houston that plays that song, Stan, edited all out, and they're probably going to be, once again, the official rock and roll station of the Pride Parade, as they've been numerous years.

And one of their other personalities, which I've been told they don't play the song during the morning, is a big part of the Pride Parade. But I've turned on occasionally, flipped over on the drive on the drive home. I will hear Stan on that other radio station. I'm not going to mention it.

JIMMY CARPER: No, you shouldn't.

CHRIS ARASIN: Their letters sound like a baby's van. And the thing is this. If they want to say it's free speech to play that song, then don't edit it the way you have it. It sounds like it's being sung by Porky Pig. There's so much stuttering in it from the blank spots.

If you want to call it a free speech issue, have enough to stand up and play it without the editing. If you feel it's that strong of an issue of free speech, then take a chance there. Spend the couple hundred thousand dollars you're going to have in a fine.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, this is just not entertainment for me.

FRANCISCO I thought it was very interesting in watching the coverage afterwards. One of my double majors was radio and **SANCHEZ:** television communications. I always just follow these things just because I think it's interesting.

In the coverage afterwards, I was flipping through some of the stations, and you see the Christian Broadcasting Network doing their news show. And they were covering this, and I see a little CBN logo on the side, so I know it's the Christian Broadcasting Network.

And there is a representative from GLAD on the Christian Broadcasting Network. I flipped back just to make sure that was the Christian Broadcasting Network, and there was GLAD, Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation being quoted on TV. And it was just--