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SPEAKERS

Mike Miesch, Jack Valinski

J Jack Valinski 00:00

Hey y'all glad to be gay. Happy this way. Hey. Y'all glad to be gay? Saying hi baby. This name of the show is Wilde 'n' Stein, named after Oscar Wilde and Gertrude Stein. Our aim is to bring a better understanding within the gay and lesbian community. This is Jack Valinski, along with Mike Miesch asking you to join us for the next 90 minutes. Good Thursday evening, Mike, how you doing? All right. All right. Okay. We've got a lot of things going on this show. We're gonna be talking about the HTLV3 tests that is going to be given at the Montrose clinic on the top of the hour. Also, Mike, you're gonna be doing an interview with Clayton longer.

M Mike Miesch 00:57

Yes, the walk for unity, which was a really successful first time effort last year, and they're going to be doing it again.

J Jack Valinski 01:05

And I will be talking to Nick from the Montrose Sports Association. They have a lot of things going on to Saturday. And we're exactly one week away from Gay Pride week to start a game, which is 10 days long. Of course, we sort of cheat there at the end there to have a little bit more time. We have announcements, I have a few news items. Unfortunately, I'm not completely recovered from my recent illness. So we don't have a full newscast put together but I will be talking about a few things. And I got a real special strange song coming up shortly. So let's start off with announcements.

M Mike Miesch 01:38

On Rosen Stein's announcements for this evening. And I'd like to remind any listener and a member of an organization or person who has announcements on Wilde 'n' Stein to please drop us a note. Wilde 'n' Stein care KPFT 419 Lovett Boulevard Houston Texas 77006 If we

incorrectly made announcement Are you are not meeting or any such correction? Please give us a note. Just an organization a bar owners haobo will be having a pre Gay Pride Week party June 14. can check area businesses. Or you can call to gay switchboard at 5293211. Parents PFLAG meets 2pm June 16 at the Presbyterian center 41 elk Dale parents Friends of Lesbians and gays can be contacted by calling 4646663. The gay Political Caucus meets at 3217 Ben June 19th at 7:30pm. For more information you can call 521 1000. Some telephone numbers to keep in mind to KSA its foundation may be reached at 5243247 Montrose Clinic at 5285531 and Montrose Counseling Center five to 90031 a couple of announcements of interest to women. a guided tour under the hood of your car, a woman space workshop. A look to happen to them preventative tips and maintenance will be held from 9am to 12 noon at YWCA Masterson branch parking lot. That's 3615 Millea. For more information you can call 5233563. Also, the women's group of the First Unitarian Church sponsors a work party to do yard work maintenance and such that's 50 to 10 fennan from 9am to 12 Noon. For more information you can call our resize more at 5294774. On Monday, women in theater made set 6pm relocation information you can call Shelly fists at 8682419 And those announcements for Wilde 'n' Stein tonight. But right now we'll have a brief rundown of Gay Pride Week. 1985 alive with pride and 85. Thursday June 20 is the kickoff day at Kindred Spirits at 8pm. Friday, June 21, a salute to business greater Montrose business skills we'll have a reception at the tower theater lobby, brass hammer II oh come between seven and 10pm. And then of course the sixth commemoration of the raid on Mary's can get arrested for the misdemeanor of your choice. Bring a friend to bail you out. That's 8pm Mary's natural. Saturday June 25. Is Sky Sports Day, with a wide variety of events going on throughout the day and games going on throughout the day. Also on the 22nd the Metropolitan Community Church for the rest of erection we'll be having a benefit dinner patrol feature router Armistead Malton at 7pm at Western oaks Galleria. Sunday, the 23rd fought for unity, and appeared in the gay switchboard, the Montrose clinic in the Montrose Counseling Center. The five mile fundraising walk through Montrose begins at 1pm at Cherry Hearst Park. Later in the evening to Obeah DJ spin off at Kindred Spirits at for Monday the 24th to Montrose art Alliance. Fifth Annual men and women together 7:30pm fieldstone Gallery, which is 1776 Montrose Tuesday, June 25th is theater live and at this time it has yet to be scheduled. But stay tuned to Weldon Stein, and you'll hear more about it. On Wednesday, the 26th is Texas, gay Rodeo Association day with events throughout the days at different establishments. So called the switchboard get a hold of your February publication and find out more about these upcoming events. And Thursday the 27th this National Day of Remembrance at 7:30pm at the MCCR which is 1990 indicator. Friday the 28th is gay Hispanic Caucus ballet at five at 8pm Your chair lidea ballroom, which is 2106 North May and then Saturday, June 29, the Montrose symphonic band with George Grineas narrating Aaron Copeland's a Lincoln portrait, Sunday, June 30, of course, Gay Pride Week parade at 5:30pm. And I'd like to stress here the new route at the parade. From Bagby to wall crests from lower Westheimer going out to wall crests. And you can follow the parade all the way to the rally which will later be at spots Park, gay Political Caucus 10th anniversary climax rally and fireworks following the parade. If you'd like more information on at these events, I'd suggest you either call the gay switchboard at 5293211. Get a hold of one of the local Publications at the bottom voice or this week in Texas. And find out more about all the events going on in Gay Pride Week.

J Jack Valinski 09:34

And that was the announcements for this week here on KPFT. And I noticed they've got a bunch of promos here for the week of Gay Pride Week. They say June 17 through the 23rd which is KPFT special programming on Monday, June 17. The German roots of gay liberation, it's a

Pacific Pacific red tape special, ongoing 100 years of struggle of German gays on Tuesday. Then we've got G 40. Plus, a group of gays discussing homosexual experience in their 1940s and 50s. Men discuss individual response to collective pressures of the time. On Thursday, June 28 que KPFT is Mike Miesch and Ray Hill. bring you a live historic perspective of Houston's history of Gay Pride Week 1978 through 1985. Tune in on Friday, June 1 Cherry Wolf and pokey Anderson the breakthrough folks bring you a special live show from the lesbian feminist perspective 12 noon, is that include also the regular Showtime, but I guess that's a

M

Mike Miesch 10:38

stitching, well, it's in addition, they will not be on during an hour of 11 to noon because of two other programs that are the movies and noon

J

Jack Valinski 10:51

dimension. Okay, but they will be on their regular 815 to 11am show, and they don't have here on Sunday, June 30. We will be broadcasting the parade live here on KPFT. And Ray Hill has also relinquished his time from 3pm on the prison show. So we'll be going from 3pm I believe till about 7pm of the programming is special events and the parade will be coming live. From in front of the Liberty bank. We'll be doing a live broadcast, I will be joined with pokey Anderson and Sherry wolf will be running the controls out there and Mike leach will be running the controls in here. So we hope to be doing an awful lot of interviewing and talking to different people in the community. A few items in the paper unfortunately, I haven't been able to go through the three papers every day like I usually do. The Reverend Julian rush a self avowed homosexual has been reappointed as associate pastor of Denver's St. Paul's United Methodist Church. The announcement was made earlier this week by Roy Santo Santos refuses to discuss the decision. He's a bishop. Church rules call for reappointment every two years of any minister who is in good shape. Rush age 48 is one of the only openly gay practicing Methodist minister in the USA. He was the center of the 1984 national church debate resulting in a referendum barring homosexuals from orientation and appointment to the Church's position. Rush who is divorced has been at St. Paul since 1981. His congregation of about 100 is predominantly gay. Last week to Denver Methodist ministers filed a grievance against rush, which could prompt further church review of his qualifications. He's also director of the Colorado AIDS Project, Rush said he is not seeking controversy, but vows to fight for being ousted. The work we are doing here is an important valid ministry. He says somebody's got to do it. Also this week, about the H POA case. The police charged Sergeant a Police Chief Lee Brown has recommended that daily was the one that has admitted shooting the H POA offices that he'd be fired. And there's probably an awful lot of people in the community that do agree with it. But if this dramatic gentleman does have a drinking problem, I don't think fire him is the solution because he will still have a drinking problem. Unfortunately, there doesn't seem as far as my notice my understanding to be any type of program to rehabilitate people through our AAA or any other type of program and see if these people are willing to to go along and try to better themselves. I think that would be a much better solution to the problem than just firing the person. Also, some of the other people with him on one of them was demoted. And the three other people were giving were given suspension of either 15 or 30 days. So just firing the person is an easy way of dealing with it, but not necessarily the best way I feel of dealing with it. Next week, we hope to have some more news here on Wilde 'N' Stein, you're listening to KPFT Pacifica radio here in Houston. It's going on quarter day eight right now. And we certainly do appreciate all

you people who've donated money through the last marathon and keeping this station alive and this program alive. This station is primarily funded through the people who subscribe to our station, we get very little money from the government itself. Approximately 85% of our money comes from you listeners. The pledges now amounted to \$94,454 We're hoping for \$100,000 but didn't quite make it but we need people to make your payments if you made your pledge. Recently I got a copy of a song which is real strange. I want to listen to it closely. And then you can certainly give your opinions on it.



14:48

Mine in it they are paella Joe aka Alia hula nine Hey Marriott kiomoi Sal Giga thinking buddy



Mike Miesch 15:09

All right,



Jack Valinski 15:10

that was a perfect piece of trash.



Mike Miesch 15:12

Oh crud you dig that one.



Jack Valinski 15:15

I, I won't tell you where the source is. If you go to Record Rack, you will probably be able to find a copy of that or they'll be able to tell you where you can find it. It's not, you know, we don't necessarily like every once in awhile, play some songs that are a little bit controversial. Just like sometimes I subjects a little bit controversial, just like this interview is going to be a little bit controversial. Today well, first of all, I better tell you this is KPFT Pacifica Houston, a community sponsored radio station, you're listening to the Wilde 'N' Stein show. My name is Jack Lewinsky and with me tonight, or as the evening is rolling on here, Nick Adams, who is chair of the board of the Montrose clinic. And tonight we're going to be talking about the HTLV three test, which is basically simply known as sort of the AIDS test. Okay. There's a lot of controversy over this test. Basically, most people community have been very much for the test for blood screening. We had first of all, through Mr. Teague talked about asking our people or anybody who was an active person in the gay community X sexually active not to give blood. And in fact, before this came about, I used to give blood on a regular basis, almost to the day of the eight week period. And once I was asked not to give blood I stopped giving completely due to just that they felt that it would be better so that there would be no problems in the blood supply and the blood supply remains relatively very safe. In fact, the chances of getting AIDS through the blood supply are all I believe one in 2 million, if I'm not mistaken, are a slight, very slight. And it was my understanding is it was felt that some people might even though asking people not to do it

might go take in donate blood, just so that they can find I'll be three tests. So my understanding is that what that is why the clinic got involved in giving this test as an alternate site.



17:14

That's one of the primary reasons the clinic had been discussing this at its board meetings for the past several months. In these deliberations in the board, we immediately identified three major areas of concern. One, regardless of clinic actions, one or more alternate test sites would be established. The blood banks are currently being inundated with with requests for the tests, and the ability of independent labs to purchase the test directly from manufacturers must be considered. Second, as well as the community. The clinic itself was deeply concerned with patient confidentiality assured by not keeping lists or other patient information associated with test results. Okay,



Jack Valinski 17:57

let's discuss that the confidentiality, how do you go about keeping it confidential that a person name doesn't go back to the city or government?



18:06

First of all, we're not recording patient name. Okay, we are using a separate code number that is not tied in, either with the patient's previous clinic record if they had been a previous patient, or in the clinic numbering system at all. Okay, separate unique number. Basically, it's the patient's date of birth. And the visit they had for HTLV three whether they were the first person that came in the second or the third, okay, as the only information that's transmitted to the Health Department. It's the only information we get back with test results,



Jack Valinski 18:43

okay, just a clinic have the name No. Okay. So no matter how you were subpoenaed for records in a later date from the federal government or right you will you do not have a list of names



18:53

we not only will not have a list of names, we also will not have any test results. Okay. The test results are returned from the city lab. The patient who came in the individual who came in for the test is scheduled in the following week, he is given the test results. We do not maintain any record of his being there other than we had so many patients in coming into take the chance there were so many positives, so many negatives.



Jack Valinski 19:21

Okay, so that answers one very important question about confidentiality, which was a concern. We're gonna continue on with



19:30

okay. The third major area of concern was the quality of counseling provided to individuals seeking the test, both prior to taking the test and following this. The receipt of test results was of importance. First area identified of the test now there are five of them that have been approved by FDA will sell the test kits to virtually anyone who wants to buy them. Oh, really there's nothing to say that some private individual require lab a private doctor, someone living in the house across the street from you could decide to purchase the test kits put up large banners that say HTLV three testing given here, with no concern for the individual who may be coming in to take the test.



Jack Valinski 20:16

And in fact, there are a lot of put false positive and false negative results on this test.



20:21

The depending on the manufacturer, the test results can vary in their false positive false negatives to anywhere from 3% to 10%.



Jack Valinski 20:32

Now, it's my understanding that the blood center, if they get a positive, they'll retest the blood. That's correct. Is that the same with the clinic,



20:40

the information we have received from the city health department is that they will only retest those specimens that come up positive right, they will test a second time to see if there is a repeat positive if so that will then be recorded as a positive test result. Okay.



21:03

The clinic had been concerned with as well as Bill taking the blood center with protecting the nation's blood supply. Bill had indicated to the clinic that there were a number of individuals who were calling the blood center requesting information about the test, wanting to go to a blood collection center to have the tests done. This was posing problems for the blood center, they have no means of just drawing blood for a specific last and to blood collection. However,



Jack Valinski 21:40

 Jack Valinski 21:40

however, my understanding is that if a person is working with a corporation, and it's suspected that blood, that there is a form that he can fill out, very confidentiality very confidential, just say I do not want my blood used, except for a person, if he's giving blood through a corporation, where they expect him to give blood that's correct. But we but that's, that's a sort of a different story. It's just protecting the blood supply. But as you're saying, the blood but to give the HTLV three people who want to

 22:13


concern the blood center hand because of the low percentage, but still significant amount of results, there is the cost will then be sent into the there is a problem Iran. So this is doing is trying to maintain the safety of the blood supply.

 Jack Valinski 22:33

Okay. And why did the clinic decide to do it because they felt that it's the most accessible place for the community is that one of the reasons

 22:42

one of the reasons we had was the concern for the the member the clinic, volunteer staff and the board itself are memoji are not members of the gay community, we have a very broad spectrum of individuals who volunteer their time and services at the clinic. All of us, however, share these common concerns. The HTLV three antibody test is not a test for AIDS. The intention of the test when it was developed was merely to protect the nation's blood supply. That is all it was designed to do. It's being used for blood collection centers and is also being used in approved AIDS research projects of one type or another throughout the country. At this present time, there has been nothing coming out in the literate medical literature to indicate that has any diagnostic value in predicting whether or not an individual currently has the AIDS virus if his test is positive, or if he will, in fact, come down with AIDS at some point in time if his test is positive.


 Jack Valinski 23:45

Okay, and my understanding is the city's administrating. Most of this

 23:49

city is administering this. Several weeks ago, the health department had contacted the clinic. The city health department had been notified by the Texas Department of Health that grant monies had been received by the state to set up alternate test sites in various parts of the state for HTLV three testing. In this memorandum to the city, the State Department of Health had suggested that they contact the Montrose clinic as an alternate test site. On might have this came as a surprise to the clinic we had been in have had fairly close relations with the

State Department of Health, but we're not aware that something of this magnitude will be coming down the line. We've had many negotiate negotiating sessions with Dr. Hodgins office. Several of our concerns were voiced immediately. There were several that took some time to resolve the position of the clinic was that we would not participate as an alternate test site unless we could be assured of patient confidentiality. OD and second that the proper pretest and post test counseling would occur.

 Jack Valinski 25:05

Okay, we are talking to Nick Adams who is chairman of the board of the Montrose clinic. Speaking about counseling, why don't you tell me a little bit about if a person comes up with a positive result

 25:18

test a one on one face to face. The individual is called in on his appointment staff coming over and assisting the clinic inpatient counseling will first go over what the test does or does not do. Second, we'll explain that it is just a test for the antibody, it is not a test for AIDS, it is not a test for the AIDS virus. All it does is test whether or not you as an individual have been exposed to the AIDS virus and have produced antibodies to that. It is not really a diagnostic test, you can't use it as a as a valid predictor of someone's current health status or future health status. Because of the numbers of false positives and false negatives, there may also be a question as to whether or not the test result coming back is a true and accurate picture. If the individual is for whatever reason, is then insistent upon having the test done, yes, we will go ahead, draw the blood sample, send it to the city lab for processing, and ask the individual to return in one week. The turnaround time is generally 48 hours to run the test itself. But in the event that there was a positive test, they would then have to spend another two days or so to rerun the test to make sure that the first result was not a marginal or a false positive. Okay, when the patient is comes back for his return visit, regardless of whether the patient's test results are positive or negative, he will still have a counseling, even if it's negative, that's correct. One to indicate that probably is a negative. But that does not mean he has not been exposed to the AIDS virus in the recent past, it could indicate that he was negative at that stage, he took the test, he may have been exposed to the AIDS virus recently, and his body has not made the antibodies, which would then show up on this test. It could also be a false negative, it could still be a false positive. And if the test is positive, the patient would then be counseled as far as what a positive test means, at this point. What does it mean? It means basically, that his body has been in contact with the AIDS virus and has built up antibodies to it, it virtually means no more than that. We can't say well, you're going to be coming down with AIDS or pre aids syndrome within the next few months. It doesn't mean that at all. We can't say that he's been exposed to the AIDS virus, his body built up antibodies, and he's fought it off. We can't say that.

 Jack Valinski 28:08

Basically, you keep coming back to the idea that this test was just set up to test the blood. That's correct. But it is an alternative site that persons can if they really feel they need the knowledge of having the test taken, they can come to the



28:21

clinic and have it taken.



28:23

Now one of the interesting things we've just started this test as of yesterday, we're doing scheduling appointments once a week. There are a number of individuals who had called for the test inquiring about it, who themselves were not a part of the gay community. They were parts of the other high risk groups identified. We've had female sexual partners of IV drug abusers. For example, or so as they have indicated, the individuals coming in are not those from what I understand who would normally be seeing or coming in contact with the gay press and the information that's been coming out from the Kshs foundation from the clinic from other organizations regarding the validity of the test and what it does and does not do. There are a lot of people calling in who are what are considered in the worried well category. Their lovers may have had AIDS or may have AIDS, and they are concerned about their current health status.



Jack Valinski 29:25

Is there any limit to who you will let take the test? No, no, it's open to everybody. That's correct. Okay. Now, I'm gonna ask you another question, but I sort of don't want you to answer it. Unfortunately, because we're community radio station Pacific station. You can't measure cost. However, I'm going to ask you the question of cost. Does it cost something to take the test



29:47

during the initial grant period that we're working with with the city on this, which will go through the end of July? There is no cost to the individual. Okay. Now Whether or not the clinic will decide to continue offering the test after the end of this grant period, that will again will have to be decided by our clinic board and also working out details with the City Health Department. The purpose of the grant period was to fund the initial startup costs. By my dad, the clinic is receiving no direct funds from this the only support we are getting through this grant is the supply of needles, the syringes, the test tubes for blood collection, the time of some of the city personnel for counseling, and the costs that the city incurs in administering the test itself and doing the testing process. Okay, so this is not a money making business, not a money making venture. We have been discussing the details of administering the test with Dr. Hans office, we have not discussed finances. We don't expect to receive any finances. If someone else they would like to give some to the clinic as they would to KPFT, we're more than be willing to accept it. We have not asked for direct funding for this from the city through the grant project or for any other time. The city during this time is also trying to determine what its costs are for running the laboratory tests. I really can't even come up with a ballpark figure right now of how much it costs to do an HTLV three test, or for the counseling.



Jack Valinski 31:27

 Jack Valinski 31:37

Right. And the kit itself is probably just a small part of the cost correct as what it would cost for all the other administrative costs. The

 31:45

test kit itself, I understand is relatively inexpensive. What does cost is the lab technicians time and running through the test. The time in preparing the specimen for going through the test for counseling the patient for going through post test counseling with them and if indicated referrals to another physician for follow up.

 Jack Valinski 32:09

Now I'm I'm sure it's too early to say anything about the yesterday was first day gave the test. It's too early to say anything about how it's going, is it?

 32:19

I really hesitate to say okay, first, right. Okay, that's the numbers are relatively small out of, I believe 22 individuals who would call in to schedule appointments. There were 13, who actually came in requesting the test of those 13. They were two individuals, I understand who after the pretest counseling elected not to take the test. I understand in talking with Tom Odette, the clinic manager this morning, that there is only one person who is scheduled an appointment for next Wednesday. But again, I don't know whether what percentage of these people are coming from the gay community or from other designated high risk populations.

 Jack Valinski 33:07

Okay, if a person wants more information and wants to schedule an appointment, how do they do that?

 33:12

They should call the Montrose clinic at 5285535. Monday through Friday from nine to

 Jack Valinski 33:19

five. Okay, let's give that number one more time and time.

 33:22

Okay, it's 5285535. Monday through Friday from nine to five.

 Jack Valinski 33:27

And I'm sure that information is also available to the gay switchboard. That's correct. Okay. Is there any part of this discussion that we haven't talked about yet? We pretty much covered

 33:38

I think we've pretty much covered it. Okay. I'm sure there are going to be a number of questions raised in the community. As time progresses, I might also state that the clinic will try to answer to the best of its ability, any questions posed by individual? We certainly can't anticipate every question that might be posed.

 Jack Valinski 34:01

But we're learning about the HTML of the alternative site testing after Montrose clinic. And if you feel it does, there's any more information forthcoming that you need that you'd like to spread to our audience. You're welcome back. Thank you very much.

 Mike Miesch 34:26

All right, and that was Tom Robinson with truth. One of my favorites with me is Clayton Munger, who's chairperson of the walk for unity, which is having their second annual event second annual Walk for unity. And to start off with let's talk about the concept of block for unity.

 34:49

Okay, first of all, Mike, I'd like to thank you for the opportunity to be able to come on the show and give our folks out in the community a little information about our event. As you mentioned, this is our second annual last year, when we first held the event, we wanted to come up with something that would be a meaningful event for a part of Gay Pride Week. And it is an official event of Gay Pride Week, and also at the same time serve as a major fundraiser for this reorganizations who were involved in it, and that's the gay switchboard and the Montrose clinic in the Montrose Counseling Center. Those agencies are the ones who are providing the volunteer staff to to plan it and which is actively going on currently, the concept is that it will be a walk through the community of five miles in in duration, we will be starting at Cherry Horse Park. And for those people who don't know where Cherry Hills Park is, it is about two blocks north of the 1500 block of Westheimer. And that will be on Sunday, the 23rd of June. And the registration for the event will start at one o'clock. And then The walk itself we'll start it to

 Mike Miesch 36:16

our right. You had mentioned when we're talking before going on there about possible confusion about just what is a sponsorship and there's several different kinds of sponsorship the sponsorship of the event and sponsorship of the walkers.



36:36

Right. As far as the the the people are, we're we've been fortunate enough to get to do our underwriting. Those are the the groups that are listed on our publicity materials, which incidentally are available in a good number of the bars and and businesses in the community. The major underwriting for our operating expenses for the walk. We were very fortunate again this year to to be underwritten by the Diana Foundation. And of course everyone's familiar with the good work that they do. In addition, the co sponsors that we have, who are also helping us with, with underwriting our Alcon light crafts appearances and the barn Brazzers river bottom, the briar patch, C E. G, J enterprises, critters G rod investments, the house of Coleman, kindred spirits, marries the ripcord and Bruce Smith, DDS I would like to publicly thank these folks for because without them, we would not be able to bring off the event the because of the initial operating expenses involved. Now, the sponsorship itself that that the walkers are involved with is a form that we have, as I say, available in in the bars. And if someone was interested in helping us with the event, they would pick up a sponsorship form. And with that sponsor form, you would you know, collect money from friends and, and Associates and so forth. And on that form is a place to list the names of those parties who have who have sponsored you in the five mile walk. And so I think that, that that that sponsor form is the main one that we're dealing with at this point. And that is the one that the proceeds from this will benefit the three agencies involved.



Mike Miesch 38:39

All right, and those beneficiaries, those groups that we all benefit from this wall are like a switchboard of Houston, the Montrose clinic and the Montrose Counseling Center as it was last year. Let me see, I once again, let's go through the dates and time that Sunday the 23rd.



39:10

Okay, if I could, I'd like to just give some some information on how it how it works the day and what we're planning for the day. Again, we've had a year of history of the walk under our belts. So we've, we've learned a few things from last year. So I think we're We're planning an even better event than we had last year there will there will be a lot more festivities. The thing I'd like to emphasize is that the event is a lot of fun. It is an opportunity for people to actually participate themselves in an event by doing the walk, it's locked and and that's the time when the walkers would assemble at Chez hearse Park. And they would bring with them the sponsor form and the money that they have collected from from their friends and they would area So, you will have afterwards Well, actually we have afterwards for the for the walk, we will be presenting prizes. But, but actually, when the people come to register, the one thing I think I need to make clear concerning the sponsorships is that we will be we will be awarding prizes after the event for the individual who has raised the most money. So, we will be giving a pride organization as a group that has raised the most money, so that on the sponsor form the a walker should indicate whether or not he is walking on behalf So, half of an organization because, you know, the the prizes will be awarded in those two categories. So that when when the person signs in, he should, he should make that indication, we do have a place on the sponsor form for that indication if he is if he is signing up on behalf of an organization now that

organization is and one of my clear is not the switchboard, the Counseling Center or the CLI, but an organization that that particular Walker is a member of and wants to walk is as a group, together with with the other members of his organization



Mike Miesch 41:17

said with the sponsorship by an organization, would that include a business



41:25

for example? Yes, it would any any group of people who who were in



Mike Miesch 41:31

wondered if there is some distinction between the two,



41:34

the businesses and the organization? Yeah, no, not really,



Mike Miesch 41:37

because I found in different marathon work fundraising work that challenges work real well, a great deal of the time and like I noticed in advertisement that Mary's is challenging other business, we certainly solicit



41:54

challenges among groups to try to raise more money than the other you're saying. And we're going to be giving a commemorative plaque to the organization that does that does raise the most as an organization. In addition, any Walker who brings a sponsorship of total of greater than \$20 will be given a free walk for unity t shirt at the time of registration. And those folks who were involved last year will remember that we we waited till after the walk to give out the T shirts this year, we're going to have them at the time of registration, so that they will be able to when they walk in which which I think will kind of bring us all year we had a lot of fun on the walk. I do caution folks to dress appropriately for the web. It was warm and I presume it will be warm again again this year. And so if there's if someone would like to have a parasol or something to cover your head, that would probably be a good idea.



Mike Miesch 42:56

For from what I took about bring your marathon This may be done rain or shine.



43:03

That's correct. If it's raining, we're gonna we're gonna have the event or if it's sunshiny and hot Google will surely have the event. Also to it like to point out after registration we will have entertainment, we will have music provided and we are also very fortunate that the Montrose cloggers will be performing during the registration period at two o'clock then we will have a few opening remarks and then we will send the walkers on their way on the five mile walk through through Montrose. Along the way we're going to have about four rest stops with refreshments will be provided because you'll certainly need them to to kind of slow down and and get some rest. Those will be provided by organizations or businesses along the route and some of whom are our underwriting sponsors as well. As with last year, we will be escorted by officers from the Houston Police Department. And we were very very pleased last year that they chose to walk along with us and we will be walking along the sidewalk areas along the route rather than in the street. So so it's it was a rather easy thing to get through the with a walk route but very very verbose, fun as well.



Mike Miesch 44:29

So what else do we need to cover? Well,



44:32

yeah, I just I would like to say that at it. After the walk we we will have as I said a prizes will be awarded and the prize for the largest individual donation will be a weekend for to Lyles deck on South Padre Island, as well as the airfare will also be included. We will also for all walkers will be eligible for drawing prizes, and we have surprises such as dinner. For two at the River Cafe and Eddington's and we have some gift certificates from Union Jack and from Blue me's for flowers and, and an astrological chart as well as eyes on it. As well as things like portable radios and that type of thing. So, so I think that that's certainly seven standards for folks to get out and really, really, you know, get the sponsorships and and help the three social service organizations that that will be benefiting from the from the walk.



Mike Miesch 45:33

Well, it seems to me, this walk is anywhere near as successful as the last walk, you'll be having a good time and raising money for three very worthy organizations. Yes, that's true. That's true. All right, claim. Thank you for dropping by. And right now we'll go back to Jack in the control room.



Jack Valinski 46:05

And sort of a strange thing, because they thought mostly that gay people were a bunch of sissies and but it seems real strange. I think there's an awful lot, probably a higher proportion of gay people involved in sports, and being healthy, especially nowadays. And whether they're running or playing baseball or being just just go out to bars and being Macho. And that's sort of

our subject that we're talking about right now. Week is on set, and it's called G'day. And with us tonight we have Nick X. Do you better say that because I know I messed that up again, Nick Escobedo Escobedo. Okay, and he is president of the Montrose Association. And he was explaining to me that the Montrose sports association isn't inclusive of the whole day of all the different events that are going on. But Nick is in charge of these events. And he has taken that on for Gay Pride Week. Why don't you tell us a little bit about exactly what get what gay Sports Day is?



47:05

Well, in the past, it was Montrose sports association day since we were the major sports organization. But now with the different sports organizations in this city covering a variety of sports. We've changed the name to gay sports day to include the various sports organizations, which also includes women includes women, yes, also. To start off the day, we have a tennis tournament with the Houston tennis club and the Oak Lawn Tennis Association. They are going to have their fifth annual Texas Cup Tennis challenge. They switch off year, every other year in the different cities this year happens to be Houston. So we coordinated to land on June 22, for gay Sports Day. The second event we have planned for that day is the Sunbelt singles Championship, which is the first of its kind. We are bringing the five best bowlers of all the gay leagues in Texas and New Orleans. I mean in Louisiana, great to compete for the best of the Southwest as we're coining it. Where is that going to be at it's going to be at postal plains on South post oak. And that will start at 11 o'clock. And that has been sponsored by Montrose Sports Association at no cost to any of the players wonderful choices. We inviting them to participate in our in our gay sports day there. The next event that we have planned is the front runners are going to have their third annual bar to bar Fun Run. There'll be starting at The Guardian at noon, and they're going to make it to all the bars they did in the past year. So I think it's proven to be a fun time for the runners and the bar is getting involved in the general public gets to see some of the athletes all right, the athletes are coming to them instead of them having to go to the different functions. And so there'll be doing that at 12 at 315. We start the softball games the Montrose softball league, and the women's softball league will be hosting the Oaklawn softball Association, all stars and the Houston all stars. The men's women's games will be first at 315 and there'll be playing at levy field on east side, east side at Richmond for 15 will be the men's All Stars The next game of women's All Stars will be 515 And then the last game of men's all stars at 615.



Jack Valinski 49:45


In case some of these times are going a little too fast for some of our audience. You can of course call the guy switchboard at five to 930 to 11. And they have all these events listed. We're just basically going over to provide information to all you but if you need to know exact particular times call a switchboard they're very helpful.



50:03

The last event that we have planned for that day is the fun and the dark doubles. No tap. It's fit to D and T. Explain that. To me, that is a Bowling Tournament that we've our Thursday night bowling league has started. On Saturday, the first Saturday of every month, a no tap

tournament, which means if you knock nine pins down, you count it as a strike. So at last month's tournament, we had our first 300 game. The The best thing about that though, was the majority of those were actual strikes, they weren't like nine pins. So we're doing that again, for this gay Sports Day. And also it's in the dark, we turn the lights off in the lanes and all you can see are the pins and where the people are sitting. So it makes it interesting because in bowling, you have to use marks, basically to guide your ball down the lane and you can't see the mark. So it's, it's a free for all. Some of the worst bowlers can have the best scores, and maybe I had to try our tournaments on those nights or cash tournaments with, you know, we have a minimal fee of \$10.

 Jack Valinski 51:09

Unfortunately, we can't mention these amounts of money here on the station, because we are a public station, but there is a charge and killed those are returned as awards. Okay. Most almost all these events, there is no charge for for watching.

 51:24

None at all.

 Jack Valinski 51:24

None at all. Okay, none of these events have any charge for people who are open to the public. Okay, it's good. It's a pretty packed day, though. Early in the morning 11am To the Wow.

 51:36

That'd be playing at the homer for tennis center at McGregor Park.

 Jack Valinski 51:40

Okay. And where's that? That's on toward the

 51:44

University of Houston. Okay.

 Jack Valinski 51:47

Okay. And of course, the switchboard has all those things listed in the exact place where these things, these places these things take take place, right. It's really strange how the not strange, but it's really amazing how the community has expanded so much. You look at this roster for what's going on in sports day, and all the different types of events. And if you look back a few

years ago, and I guess, maybe 10 years ago, and there was almost very few organizations within the community. Now there's probably close to 70 organizations. Why do you think people got gay people got so interested in sports, leagues and events.



52:26

Because the gay community is made up of all kinds of people interested, their interests are varied, and they do normal things. And one of the things that, that normal people like to do or human people like to do are play sports. And just because you're gay doesn't mean that you can't compete. And that gave the gay sports day doesn't actually involve all the case, sports, we also have volleyball, basketball, and billiards, that we just felt we couldn't fit that into that day, and still have our members be able to participate as well as they'd like to. So we sort of cut it, you know, cut it down a little bit, because most of the bigger players are, some are in bowling. And you know, they can compete that way.



Jack Valinski 53:10

That's really interesting, especially since the sort of stereotype of a gay person and in high school grade school, is the person that gets picked last at sports. And I was I was one of those people. And as I come out and get involved in sports, I've run five miles a day now, which is, which is a complete change from high school. Do you think that's that a lot of your people have been like that, that they've been, maybe when they were able to come to terms with themselves and being able to get involved in sports and involve in each other and become sort of a community?



53:44

Exactly. The formation of Montrose Sports Association has an interesting story to it. We went to a conference, some members of the gay Political Caucus, went to a conference in San Antonio back in 1976. On the way back, the founder of the gay Political Caucus, the founder of the Texas Human Rights Foundation, the founder of the Montrose Activity Center, and the director of the National gay Task Force, and myself, were in the car. Naturally, they were talking about the gay movement. And when they turned to me and said, Well, Nick, what are you interested in? I said, Well, sports, I guess, and I said, we'll do something about it. So I said, Well, I guess I will. When I got back to Houston. I talked to a couple of friends and asked them if they were I was interested in volleyball myself. I asked them if they want to play volleyball, so they said, Sure, why not? We borrowed it from the chair, rehearse Park, on a Tuesday afternoon, set it up. And there were about four or five of us out there. We took a cooler of drinks and just started playing. People rode by on their bicycles. They stopped in played, we put a couple of little blurbs and TW T and people started coming Now, before we knew it, we have 3030 to 40 people playing on a Tuesday afternoon. And from that day, to this point, we have had continuous sports.



Jack Valinski 55:10

How many think how many people you think you've got involved now, just in the Montreux Sports Association

Sports Association,



55:15

we have our membership is about 500 500.



Jack Valinski 55:19

Wow, that's pretty incredible.



55:21

But with all the different sports organizations, we have well over, I guess 1500 people actively participating in sports, which is a fairly good organization.



Jack Valinski 55:33

So, you the Montrose Sports Association, so is an umbrella group for some of these events. Exactly. Okay. And is it an organization that basically gets along very well?



55:50

I would think so. Module sports association basically coordinates, the different sports activities, so that we won't have, we could have had gay Sports Day with all the sports starting at nine o'clock, right, and then it would have left everybody, you know, having to make a choice of what they wanted to participate in or what they want to go to. And so MSA sort of like says, Well, okay, if bowling wants to have a tournament on Saturday, or, or so then let's not have volleyball have the same a tournament that same weekend or something, you know, and we issue a newsletter on a monthly basis to our members to sort of inform them of not only what's going on nmsa but of other community activities like the recent symphony in the park, with the Montrose Symphonic Band, and various other activities are included. And we try to give as much information as to about other activities that are happening to our members, so that they can be a part and in some groups,



Jack Valinski 56:53

working group, if somebody wants to get involved behind just participate, or just watching what goes on on the gay Sports Day, which is June 22, Saturday during Gay Pride Week, how did they get in touch with the guests for the Montrose sports association?



57:09

Well, my phone number is 777 1823, they can contact me or in TW T in the listing of organizations we have our various presidents of the different leagues telephones telephone

organizations, we have our various presidents of the different leagues, telephones, telephone numbers there, they can call any one of those and get information on are different.

J Jack Valinski 57:30

Of course, the switchboard must also have those numbers addresses. Okay, Nick, I thank you very much for joining us in explaining some of these things about gay sports 85. And if at any time in the future, you want to come back and talk to our audience, you're more than welcome to. And, you know, we're always interested in what's going on in the community here.

M Mike Miesch 58:00

David cereda with a song crashing.

J Jack Valinski 58:04

And we're coming up to quarter to nine here on KPFT was just starting to get dark out here in the Montrose area. So far, interviews went very good with some of the different people involved in Pride Week, which included last week. And of course, we have things to come on next week talking about it, which is actually the start of Gay Pride Week. And of course, we will be doing it the week after that which will be middle Gay Pride Week. And of course, we talked about the parade in July on the Fourth of July, I probably won't be here but on tape. I'll have hoped to have an interview with the economic response committee and basically wrap up what they have done and the different segments of things going on. I'm gonna do a little editorial here. Might you have something you want to do first? Oh, no. Okay, I can go ahead. I am I'm on the board of gay Political Caucus. And as I was sort of editorializing last week about some of our organizations who are very underfunded, and that includes not only gay Political Caucus, but many of the groups, whether it's the switchboard, whether it was a clinic, whether it's, you know, every every group is important, I happen to be a little bit more closer to gay Political Caucus. This weekend, we're going to be putting together a mailer to people who have been members in the past year and have not renewed and tried to ask people to renew and reasons what we're doing and why we asked to renew. Of course, we had a seat in January, but that doesn't mean we should close up shop and leave Houston. We've got a lot of things to going on here. As we were talking tonight, we've got all these people involved in the sports association. That would not be possible unless we had some type of strong political group if we had a strong have a strong switchboard here, that relays information. We have the CAS aids association here, which is a strong group that is dealing with the AIDS situation the clinic, giving the HTLV three A HTLV three test. And I'm sort of happy to say not too many people are taking it because many people have asked. Many leaders in the community have asked people not to take the test. And I'm here to Wilde 'n' Stein, Shawn also was asking not to take the test, we asked you not to give blood at the blood center. If you really feel that you want the test, take and then go to the clinic and get it taken. But basically, it's felt that the test does not say you have AIDS, we don't know what it says we just are happy that they're giving it for screening blood so that none of the blood goes through the system that may possibly have AIDS contamination in it. So this weekend, we're gonna be putting together a mailer asking people to join gay Political Caucus, whether you can volunteer hours or whether you can give money, it's very important to keep some of these organizations going political organizations and social organizations, because we are a community, we're very much a community and rolling as strong as our members. And if

you're not involved in that, you're hurting yourself and you're also hurting the community in at large. You're hurting yourself because you're depriving yourself of a lot of people who are very dedicated and, and doing things in this community. You're hurting yourself in some of their friends you can have I count being involved in GPC and I've been involved in this show, I count many friends, I count Mike is one of my friends. We don't see him a lot outside the show. But when we're here, we're very, we're very close we work together in our aims are basically the same to provide information and let people know what's going on in the community as best we can. And the only time we sort of argue or or disagree at all is that sometimes we're trying to beat each other and getting some of these things on here, which is, which is a positive competition, rather than a negative competition. And of course, I've been pretty happy with some of the things we've done, but we did on the show, but we're, we're certainly not finished. We got a lot more things to do on this show. In July, hopefully, maybe you get an interview with Derek Dannenberg, who has just recently finished a session at the legislature now I guess Texans are sort of safe because the legislation is in and hopefully get George Gradius, who was constantly in here for Montrose district, see and talk a little bit about some of the things he's done in the past a year and a half. Tried to get him on hopefully, before he announces that he's going to be running again, if and so he does that, although that's probably pretty well taken for granted that he will be running. In fact, there's not any opposition against him. So we have a lot of things coming up on the show. But it's important that you people get involved. Earlier today, as I walked in, Mike told me about, we won't name the person's name. But somebody that has been by the show that has sent phones or answered phones helped us out and was a very good looking young person. Unfortunately, he took his life recently. And it's really a sad note that this person did that. There are so many things that you people can do if you feel depressed. Being gay is not a bad thing. It's what you make of it. A few years ago, I was not comfortable with myself. Moving to Houston. I've made a lot of friends. And I just made a commitment that I will be open and hopefully share my life with some people. And that has helped me tremendously. I recently have taken I work at a radio station recently have applied not actually they sought me out and I'm going to be working for another radio station here in Houston. And one of the things I did say to them nice is I'm gay. Is there any problem with that? He says no, your private life is your private life. So I wouldn't have taken that job if they said yes. Because I don't want to work anywhere where I'm not comfortable at now, maybe some of you keep people cannot make the same statement, unfortunately. But that doesn't mean that you cannot come and become involved in some of these organizations, whether it's licking envelopes, whether it's making calls, whether it's doing some volunteer for

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Mike Miesch 1:04:02

that, and you're talking about commitment and fundraising and you'll be hearing a lot about fundraising on KPFT organizations we have they they all need and deserve your support. And one thing we haven't done the past two weeks in this program to remind you that marathon is not open until we collect those pledges and and that's very important since we did not get to our \$100,000 goal. And

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Jack Valinski 1:04:33

in fact, this show didn't



M**Mike Miesch 1:04:36**

send in a little extra we'd appreciate it and you might earmark your check down at the bottom Wilde 'n 'stein

J**Jack Valinski 1:04:43**

or if you don't want to, that's fine. Also, the address here is 419 Lovett. Houston, Texas 77006. We're right in the heart of Montrose. And we certainly appreciate all the people who did make pledges to make this show possible, make the station possible. I generally look forward to that. Thursday, it's one of my favorite days. And it's when the show's over, it's sort of like my week is over, even though I do have to go to work on Friday, it's many times it's a lot of hard. It's hard work, but it's enjoyable work. It's something I really enjoy doing. Putting together the news, setting up interviews, chasing all over the community to find out some information about something sometimes people chase around looking for us, which is really interesting. And we really appreciate it that we've got people and speaking us, somebody who has chased us around give us information as Tom Coleman, who is a head of the Texas human rights organization. And on Monday, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans is going to hear the case. Now, I'm not a lawyer, and I can't exactly explain exactly what's going on. But apparently before what happened was just a select. Judges listen to it. This time, the entire panel is going to be I guess all 15 judges who sit on that point, if I find not mistaking will be judging exactly what's going to happen on that 2106 case. And it could decriminalize, again, this Texas 2106 sodomy law or we could become criminals, again, I guess it really depends on what's going on there. Hopefully, the judges will have enough sense to say that these people deserve their privacy. And it's not for us to judge their lifestyle, that they have the right to privacy and the right pursuit of happiness in this country that's supposedly a free country. So we're anxious to see what's going to happen there in that in that court in New Orleans. And of course, Tom will keep us informed if I don't call Tom Tom will certainly call me. So let me know what's going on. And we have a lot of things upcoming in the

M**Mike Miesch 1:06:43**

next week. It's gonna we're gonna be on the edge of our seat as it turns out, we'll be talking to people from MCC AR, as well as their special guests for their banquet. Armistead Multan, who some of you may have read his Tales of the City, tell small tales, brother tales and Baby Cakes. And hopefully he will be here, they're going to rush him here from the airport. I'll be talking to a representative of Texas gay Rodeo Association. And

J**Jack Valinski 1:07:17**

also, I will be talking to Stuart Kane for the National Day of Remembrance, which is the following Thursday. And oh, I also want to tell you that it's 23rd on the John Matthews talk show on 97 rock a nice Parker in myself, we'll be talking about gay, gay in general and also about Gay Pride Week. And we will be accepting calls for from Crystal give you the number to call in there. It's interesting is a liberal listen to this talk show and, and, of course not gonna recruit, but maybe we can give some people some information on that. On the 27th. We will be talking

to people at GPC which they're really planning a big celebration spots party, we'll also be talking about our plans to do the parade live the gay Hispanic Caucus and also talking to people from the band

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Mike Miesch 1:08:05

about their upcoming concert. And on July

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Jack Valinski 1:08:09

4, as we said, I will have a interview on tape from the economic response committee, and you will have the concert

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Mike Miesch 1:08:18

of the 29 then that will be broadcast between 830 and 10. Whatever the time, length of that will be. So we will

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Jack Valinski 1:08:27

have expanded time on that on the Independence Day July 4. And like I said, we have things we have things tentatively scheduled throughout the month of July. And we will be making firm plans through all this. Also, we certainly appreciate everybody who listens to us who supports this station who supports the community because it's all we're all the same people. We come from very many different backgrounds, but yet, we're all gay people. And we all basically interested in the same thing to be free people to have a positive outlook on life, to tell people that there's nothing wrong with us, we just happen to be a little bit different. And we do share in the same concerns of people, whether it be roads, whether it be fair taxation in this community, whether it be good government, and of course we'll be talking an awful lot about good government within the next couple of months because of the announcement of Louie Welsh running against Mayor Kathy Whitmire. Louis Welsh as part of the good old boy system and he was the one who had to Herman short on is police chief and some of the things that went on in the black community during desegregation in these troubled times in this community. And for fortunately, now, we don't have that problem. But it's something definitely too, for people to know about. Unfortunately, there has been a lot of people moving into the community that don't know about some of the things that happened during his administration. Right now the city has been running much more like a business like situation. So it's important And that not only that you registered to vote but that you get all your friends registered to vote and try to inform them about voting. If you need any information on registering to vote, you can call 521 1000. The recording, you'll get a recorded message from the gay Political Caucus but they will be able to send you out a voter registration card and if you wish to be included on their mailing list, which sometimes gives very detailed information on the people who are running for elected office here in this city. So we're about ready to wrap up another Wilde 'n' Stein show here on a Thursday night here on KPFT Pacifica Houston. We appreciate you joining us and supporting us. Good evening. I believe in my end for this week. That's the Wilde 'N' Stein show. Please join Mike Miesch myself, Jack Valinski next Thursday at 7:30pm for another

edition of a Wilde 'N' Steinprogram. This programs aim is to discuss the issues of Houston's gay community. Comments can be sent to the Wilde 'N' Stein collective care of KPFT radio 419 Lovett, Houston 77006 For more information on the aspects of the gay community, call the gay switchboard at five to 930 to 11.



1:11:25

Why'd you see in the shadows of the night, gaze, wretchedness and lies. me running scared and lonely.



Jack Valinski 1:11:43

Wilde 'N' Stein is brought to you through facilities of community radio station KPFT Pacifica Houston