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Thu, Sep 28, 2023 9:26AM 1:00:06

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

gay, lesbian, patrol, law, men, country, including, week, marriage, community, news, montrose, center, crimestoppers, netherlands, homosexuality, radio, july, years, state

SPEAKERS

Glenn Holt, Joan Devlin, Cindy Friedman, Greg Gordon



00:00

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Glenn Holt 00:13

Well, good evening and welcome to lesbian and gay voices for July 23. I'm Glen Holt. Wait, am I gonna turn your mic on here? Okay, now,



Joan Devlin 00:21

I'm Joan Devlin. Still not sounding like myself, but getting closer. And we're in the studio right now with Tim Brookover, who's going to be talking to us a little bit later about what's going on at the community center.



Glenn Holt 00:32

And you're going to have to do the stretch thing while I cue up the tape.



Joan Devlin 00:36

Okay, well, we can talk to Tim about some other things that are going on. Like for instance, the fact that he's here tonight as a penance for watching too many Betty Davis movies.



00:44

It's true, Joan, yes.

J

Joan Devlin 00:47

You will always be a Betty Davis fan. I try so hard. So hard to be a positive influence on your life and make your Joan Crawford

o

00:54

do but you know, jessieville now voyage or double bail on Saturday who could resist?

J

Joan Devlin 00:58

I can? No, actually, I love those two movies. And speaking of Betty Davis, we might as well announced this her Oscar sold for \$450,000 The Oscar she received in 1938 for decibel, you obviously did not buy it?

o

01:13

No, not quite enough in the checking account.

J

Joan Devlin 01:15

Yeah. When did the bidding stop for you about \$2. But that was quite an auction. Actually, the auction off quite a few of our personal effects. I think it made close to a million dollars.

o

01:27

Wow. Exciting. And Hollywood.

G

Glenn Holt 01:31

And coming up a little bit later in the program. We're going to have stuff that machines take off by themselves sometimes. Coming up later in the program. We're going to have Chris Aronson from Q patrol, he's going to be on to talk about some unfortunate stuff that's been happening in the community and all the more reason to support Q patrol.

J

Joan Devlin 01:50

Ray Hill is also going to stop by and discuss something about that.

G

Glenn Holt 01:51

And then this is the fourth Monday of the month, which means that it's time for our special queer music heritage segment, which will be in the second hour. And this week, JD Doyle has interviews with suede, Margie, Adam and candy cane, as well as featuring music by those performers, including such hits as built for comfort. The ones who aren't here, Sr. And he's got Dusty Springfield, beautiful soul, and candy cane. Hey, mister, she was fight baby last night, and many more. Good. I'm

J Joan Devlin 02:32

looking forward to that. Okay, well,

G Glenn Holt 02:34

the tape was queued up, and now it miscued because it took off by itself, so let's just go right to it.

G Greg Gordon 02:40

I'm Greg Gordon. And I'm Cindy Friedman with Newsround a summary of some of the news in or affecting the lesbian and gay community for the week ending July 21 2001. Germany's new registered partnerships for gay and lesbian couples will go into effect August 1, as the Federal Constitutional Court this week rejected the move to block them by the states of Bavaria and Saxony. In a five to three ruling, the justices refused to issue an emergency order against the new law, but they won't decide until later this year. Whether partnerships violate the special status of marriage under Germany's Constitution as those states have contended. The so called Life partnerships confer a number of spousal benefits in areas including immigration, inheritance, health insurance, medical decision making alimony and the right to use a shared surname, but they don't qualify couples to adopt children or receive some tax advantages. Despite the court ruling Bavaria, Saxony and to ringier have indicated they mean not registered partnerships as the law requires, and gay and lesbian activists have promised legal action to force them to do so if necessary. Registry Offices have already reportedly been deluged with requests for applications for life partnerships, including one from openly gay member of parliament Folker back,

C Cindy Friedman 03:55

but in Canada, British Columbia's new provincial government has dropped its predecessors landmark lawsuit seeking marriage rights for gay and lesbian couples. That lawsuit claiming that Canada's heterosexual definition of marriage is unconstitutional had been filed last year by the new Democratic Party's Attorney General Andrew Petter but BCWS Liberal Party swamped the NDP and May elections. And this week, new Attorney General Jeff Plante said there's no reason for the province to be involved in the case. A newly released national poll found that more than 65% of Canadians support gay and lesbian marriage rights. Canada's gay and lesbian couples already enjoy most of the legal benefits and obligations of marriage.

G

Greg Gordon 04:38

Britain's court of appeal this week refused legal recognition to a male to female transsexuals marriage of 20 years. trans woman Elizabeth Bollinger had married her husband Michael before a clerk who did not question that they were a heterosexual couple. But under British law the marriage is not legal because those who undergo sex reassignment surgery are not issued. New Birth certificates done lunges attorney argued that the laws 30 year old definitions of gender are outdated and that Elizabeth Bollinger has in fact always been female. But like the trial court before them, two of the three appellate justices held that any change in the law must come from the parliament. The court did express sympathy for balancer and other transsexuals, and concern that British law appears to conflict with findings of European courts that volunteers are expected to appeal to the House of Lords.

C

Cindy Friedman 05:29

The race for leadership of Britain's Conservative Party has driven Michael Portillo off the party's front bench, before mounting his political comeback from defeat in the labour landslide of 1997 Portillo told The London Times in 1999 that he'd had gay affairs before his marriage. This year, Portillo had called for the party to moderate its stance on social issues and become more tolerant of gays and lesbians. This week, he was knocked out of the Tories leadership race by Kenneth Clark and in Duncan Smith, both right wing opponents of gay and lesbian civil rights. Portillo responded by saying, I don't intend ever to be on the front bench again. And for the avoidance of doubt, I'm not interested in the leadership. I think the time has come for me to seek other things to do. Those other things include work in business, the arts and media. At least four other moderate conservatives have followed Portillo and leaving the party's front line, as have at least a couple of right wingers.

G

Greg Gordon 06:30

Republican US President George Bush's plan to fund religious groups to provide social services passed the House of Representatives this week with its clause to exempt those groups from state and local employment anti discrimination laws intact. The exemption is intended to allow religious groups objecting to homosexuality to refuse to hire gays and lesbians with their proposed government funds. A democratic amendment to remove that exemption was defeated 234 295 Before the so called Community Solutions bill itself was passed 223 to 198 in a vote largely along party lines, while Republicans are urging a quick vote in the Senate. The new Democratic majority there is in no hurry. Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle has so far refused to set a date objecting specifically to the Civil Rights exemption saying I can't imagine that we could pass any bill that would tolerate slipping back into a level of tolerance that would be unacceptable in today's society.

C

Cindy Friedman 07:29

Rhode Island last week became the second US state to explicitly protect transgendered people under its civil rights laws. Republican governor Lincoln Ullman allowed the bill to become law without his signature. Having said he would not veto it lest he be viewed as an enemy of civil rights. The new law adds gender identity or expression to categories protected from

discrimination in employment, housing, credit and public accommodations. A similar clause had been dropped from the bill that added sexual orientation to the Rhode Island civil rights law in 1995. Minnesota enacted the first US state transgender rights bill in 1993.

G

Greg Gordon 08:08

But Maryland's new state law against discrimination based on sexual orientation will be challenged at the polls in November 2002. This week, state officials certified that the group takeback Maryland had collected enough valid signatures to place a repeal initiative on the next statewide ballot. Democratic governor Parris Glendenning, whose personal efforts helped push through the Civil Rights Bill after a decade of lobbying believes that the repeal measure will fail. Maryland has been only the 12th state to ban sexual orientation discrimination.

C

Cindy Friedman 08:40

In West Virginia. One suspect is pleaded guilty and been sentenced in a high profile murder many believed to have been bias motivated. The victim in the very brutal bashing a year ago was Jr Warren, a 26 year old African American gay man with mental and physical disabilities. His murder triggered a series of demonstrations and was mentioned in unsuccessful lobbying for a federal hate crimes law including homophobic attacks. David Parker pleaded guilty to first degree murder and was sentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole after 15 years. A second suspect Jared Wilson is scheduled for trial in August, Parker who was 17 when he attacked Warren claimed that the two had some 30 sexual encounters since he was 12 years old, and that he was enraged at learning that Warren had told others of their relationship.

G

Greg Gordon 09:33

A somewhat similar story is part of the reported confession of a suspect in the brutal stabbing death of a notable gay couple in Fiji. Victim John Scott was head of Fiji's Red Cross and became a national hero as the one man allowed to bring supplies to hostages during a political coup attempt last year. He and his partner of 22 years Greg Scrivener were murdered in early July. Suspect a pet a case out this week was found psychologically caught And to stay on trial. The notably homophobic Fiji police said Chi Sao told them he was avenging his sexual exploitation by the couple. The victims families vehemently deny Casals allegations that they were involved in sexual exploitation, pedophilia and drugs.

C

Cindy Friedman 10:16

trial began this week in Egypt for 52 men arrested in a Mae police raid on a Nile party boat catering to gays. Although homosexual acts per se are not illegal in Egypt, most of the men face morals charges that could result in up to five years imprisonment at hard labor, and there's no possibility of appeal from the State Security court where they're being tried. Police barred the men's families from the courtroom resulting in some scuffles their families believe

the men have been tortured while in custody, where they've been held since their arrest May 11. All the men entered not guilty pleas. The case was adjourned until mid August to give the defense more time to prepare.

 Greg Gordon 10:58

In Hungary Budapest district mayor has failed to bar gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and feminist groups from participating in Pepsi Island, Europe's biggest music festival. Mayor Carlos had inserted a clause in the festival's contract with the city to prohibit any homosexual education programs, ostensibly for the protection of young visitors. But protests from Hungarian and international gay and lesbian activists forced Talos to back down from a position violating the national constitution. Although we did so regretfully, a spokesperson for the Hungarian group habeas corpus said it really feels like the Hungarian movement of sexual minorities has won its first victory. He added that the group would call for Carlos' resignation and might take legal action against him. Although festival organizers supported the gay protest, none of its major sponsors took a position.

 Cindy Friedman 11:51

And finally, the world's largest arts festival may have taken gay chic advertising to a new height. The Edinburgh Festival Fringe commissioned a 19-second film of two women kissing passionately in a park and distributed it by email in the hope that recipients would forward it widely. The caption plugged the festival's already very successful promotion deal for its performances, saying to for the price of one on all your favorite Thespians.

 Greg Gordon 12:21

and that's news wrap for the week ending July 21, 2001. Written by Cindy Friedman and recorded at the studios of KPFK Los Angeles following

 Cindy Friedman 12:29

the news in your area, an informed community is a strong community. With this way out. I'm Cindy Friedman.

 Greg Gordon 12:35

And I'm Greg Gordon.

 12:46

Give to you box vision.



12:49

Saturday, July 28 8pm, Willis Allen Ramsey, Ray Wylie Hubbard, Tom Russell and Andrew Hardin swapped songs at the historic Crighton Theatre in beautiful downtown Conroe. Opening will be Terry Hendricks and Lloyd Maines. Get there early and see Kelly Clark perform a free show in front of the theater starting at 6:30pm. Tickets for the Texas songwriters show are available by calling 936-539-4167 brought to you by the friends of Conroe and KPFT. The sound of Texas



13:24

grow old and never mind what the old folks said. Just keep an angel on your shoulder and never throw your dreams away.



G Glenn Holt 13:40

You are listening to lesbian and gay voices.



J Joan Devlin 13:42

Okay, well, we have a full house in here all of a sudden are in that this way out segment and right Hill is here and we're gonna interrupt our regularly scheduled program for a moment because Ray has some rather important news about a very serious thing that happened this weekend.



13:55

Well, there was a homicide. Have I got a mic? There was a homicide in actually it deals with Laura Montrose but in Westheimer district but but the homicide itself the body was found in an apartment out on post oak. The victim and this is we're just now been able to release his name is Juan Manuel M i y a is the spelling that I got from detective Alim homicide division. One was in Laura Westheimer going from bar to bar with his friends this past Saturday evening, and about one o'clock he carried his friend who lives elsewhere in Montrose home and then went to presumably back to his house by way of law Westheimer he was driving and not a 2001 expedition. Big Black expedition the license no number is five t j em 61, five t j m 61. I would be very helpful if anybody saw that car around closing time in lower Westheimer. Especially if you saw anyone getting into that vehicle with Mr. Maya, Mr. Maya was then went home to his apartment and was murdered with the knife his knife to death. And then the apartment was set fire, which means that the bar department came. And we knew about the homicide very early. I mean, these these assailants have real clever, you know, we want you to know about this right away. So we'll try to set fire to the apartment and do that the car was found parked off of North Sheppard, in the vicinity of Eighth Street. And that was reported to the detective to be kind of a frequent gay Lovers Lane on weekend nights. And I thought I knew where all of those were. But I had not yet discovered this one, why the ones you didn't get taken? I'll be checking it out for sure. Because I want to know who goes there, and whose cars they may be driving to park and leave there because the car was parked there and left. This is a very serious matter. Can Chris

join the conversation because because Chris of cute patrol, I of course, did my civic duty. And one of the first groups that I notified was cute patrol as soon as I found out about the homicide. And Chris responded that that he was aware of other incidents. Yeah,

16:46

almost we want to call this past weekend, a bloody weekend, we've had not only this murder, we had a mugging reported to Q patrol. And I've learned of now two other assaults, another one involving a knife. And it's it's strange that it's happened this weekend, this past weekend, it was all the murder and a mugging on Friday. And one of the assaults was on Saturday, and I'm not sure when the other assault was, as well. But we're talking for serious crimes in 24 hour period, no deal at

17:26

least a 36 hour period at least in 36 hours. And my concern about all of that is that that is not as surprising as you might think it is because right now we've got an awful lot of rhetoric going on about Dave Wilson getting getting frustrated for his lack of getting signatures for his petition. And so that's going to generate some hate speech. The vote on the ordinance which will be this Wednesday, before City Council is going to generate a flood of hate speech, some of which has already begun. I received, I received an email from our Savior Lutheran Church. And normally the Lutherans are pretty mainstream about that. But but apparently there's a Lutheran congregation up on North Bammel that is really putting out some serious hate speech. And you understand that speech does not kill and I'm certainly I'm not going to interfere with anybody's First Amendment rights of freedom to practice their religion or freedom to say what they want to say. But you we've also got to alert people that it creates a permissive environment. One of the things that we have learned from researching John byes and the assault on and murder of Paul Broussard is that there was a permissive atmosphere that was created at McCullough High School, that could have predicted that students coming from that environment had a high likelihood of violence against gay people. And we have Pride Week, we're very much in the media, we're very happy and pleased with that, that upset some people to no end. And that is followed by hate speech, over the referendum and over the ordinance. And so all of these things kind of multiply and poor sexually engender confused individuals who are very vulnerable to have to prove their masculinity then become potential assailants in our community. And we have to be aware of that. I mean, and the let me tell you, I know you're tuned in Dan lesbian voices because you care about these issues. Let me tell you, the most important thing that you can do right now to help is to step forward and show up for work for cube patrol.

19:50

Yeah, I mean, I saw on the I forgot if it was the voice of the triangle this past weekend, there was an article someone wrote about how the all these organisms Asians that are trying to put down the gay initiatives, whether it's end, whether it's domestic partnerships or that their slogan is take back the streets. And I don't know if I can say that this early in the night, I can say it on after hours, but dammit, we need you to take back the streets. People can damage anytime



20:20

you want to. And that's not one of the Seven Deadly words. For radio purposes, those of you are going to become radio stars that are seven words that you cannot say. And you can think of at least a dozen, don't say any of it.



20:32

Well, I'm just working after midnight, where the rules are a little fuzzier. The blue haired biddies aren't out that light. But everyone, we need people to come out and we need people walk the streets. It's one of these things that, you know, I mean, we were I was just here. This is the second time I've been on lesbian gay voices this month, I was promoting a candlelight vigil for the 10th anniversary of the murder of Paul Broussard. We had a tremendous



20:59

turnout, a good turnout had a wonderful evening of remembering that actually, one of the assailants almost but didn't quite have enough courage to join us will join us in the future. And so we've come full circle on that. But let me tell you something, you can go spend all weekend at the bar, finish up go home alone, make it a trip back to Montrose to see if anything's left on the street that you might want to take on the beaches have been a lot of danger. Or you can cruise the streets with cute patrol and actually accomplish something, oh, whether you go home alone or not, you will have accomplished something in the process. You know, we're laughing and we're having good time. Because I mean, after all, that's when they call us gay. And we do that. But I am gravely concerned that we have a responsibility. I got a call from John Nachman of the Stonewall loggers guild this afternoon, he and his companion have called and committed themselves to come March it was cute patrol this weekend. I would get out there and do it myself. But I look awfully silly, while everybody was trying to nurse me down the street with a bad foot and a peg leg. So I'm not likely to be out there. But you're you're healthier. You're younger than I am or you're older than I am. And you can get over there and you can do the bounty. Let me tell you, our being there may well prevent someone else getting assaulted.



J Joan Devlin 22:18

Yes, it's very difficult to attack someone when there's three or four or five or six people with cute patrol and acute withdrawal identified with radios. You know, just up the road from where you want to do your business. Yeah.



22:29

And that's the greatest preventative measure that we can possibly make. You know, there's a big proposal before city council to go to permit parking in the streets. All that means is people are going to park further and further away from the bars, which they need to socialize with people that know love and understand them. You know, I wish that we had institutions other

than bars that fill that vacuum but sit until we do. We need to protect the people that go to those places for the very good reasons of needing companionship. My appeal to you is to listen up now. There's going to be a news conference Wednesday. It may be Wednesday morning in conjunction with the Crime Stoppers in a trending stoppers and HPD or if Crimestoppers HPD has already invited us but if Crimestoppers does not concur, then we'll have a news conference Wednesday afternoon because this community needs to speak up and stand for its own defense in its own safety. Hopefully, we'll all be able to do that at the same time. If you have any connections in the media, tell them send them a heads up to pay attention to that. And I want to thank the listeners of gay and lesbian voices some of the best informed people in the community for taking this to heart again, the young man's name and if you know anything about him or his habits, certainly on last Friday night, Saturday morning, his name is Juan Manuel Maya M i y A and if you can help us in any way that and of course he was driving a brand new expedition. Please let us know if you saw that vehicle or any activity involving that vehicle in the early morning hours of Saturday.

24:26

And if you can't help out here patrol of our information to get a hold of us you can call us a voicemail 713528 Safe at 7233 or you can email us at Q patrol i n c@aol.com If you can't walk we have vehicles we go out we drive in you can ride along with someone you can get on a bicycle you can get on a roller blade, if you want to pogo stick through the through the Montrose we'll we'll take you out there we want. We want people to be out there and keep an eye on For your fellow citizens,

25:01

if you have information concerning the assailant or the victim that evening, you can call me at home 713-523-6969 That's a hard number to forget 713-523-6969 or call crimestoppers if you know the identity of this person, call crimestoppers. And you deserve a reward for assisting in the identification of somebody who constitutes a danger to the health and safety of members of this community. You know, and it's not a gay thing, because I don't think these assailants sit around and worry about who's gay and who's not gay, they don't have a due process or a probable cause chapter and they think everyone is vulnerable. This is about everyone's safety. And if you have information that can lead us to this assailant, call crimestoppers right away.

25:51

And if you need the Crimestoppers number, it's 713222 Ti PS. I don't know what if you if you can't spell that? Well, I don't know the numbers.

26:01

If you can count better than you can spell you're enjoying it.

Ioan Devlin 26:04

You're listening to lesbian and gay voices.



26:07

Earlier this year, Holland became the first country to open its existing marriage law to include gays and lesbians. So there are no special provisions or restrictions to separate them from heterosexual the married couples, Dutch lawyer and gay rights lobbyists to case Valdai played a major role in getting same gender marriage is legalized. He tells Chris chambers of Radio Netherlands, how his country came to be the world's leader in gay equality, especially regarding the recognition of same gender couples,



26:36

the nettles is a very open society in that it has had sort of trade relations, dominating the national culture for a long time with any country, which was happy to trade with us. And also, it's a small country. And, and that sort of compares to to Scandinavia, and states like Vermont or Hawaii, the small American states are quicker in this respect and the bigger ones. And you could probably say that a small country has more of a national debate about things and they argue things and then more easily get to new insights than larger countries. So that may have played a role. Also, surveys suggest that we are the most secular the Netherlands is the most secular society in the world, that the majority of people claim not to believe in God or belong to a church. So the religious element was absent, or at least very weak in the whole debate about recognizing same sex couples. And that's combined very well with the legal system where we have only a secular marriage, in churches, you cannot marry in this country. You can go to church after your secular wedding to have a blessed, but churches cannot perform a marriage ceremony. So it was a very secular debate. And also it could build on a long history of gradually recognizing of gay people. In the 60s, most countries in Europe still had a complete ban on homosexual activity, or at least different age levels. The Netherlands was the first to equalize the ages of consent, they did that in 1971, their homosexual age of consent went down to 16, which was for heterosexual son, which still is the age and gradually over the 70s and 80s, all kinds of fields of law, where homosexual individuals and homosexual couples tended to be discriminated, were dealt with by Parliament and by administer measures etc. Okay, well, let's



28:29

look at yourself case, you're an open gay man. I am and what age were you when you, as it's called, came out?



28:39

Well, I'm pretty sure I was almost 13, when I came out to myself as is in realizing that the word homosexual applied to what I felt and what I was. And then, a year or so later,



28:52

I told my parents, which I later came to realize was a pretty young age. And I was going to say, 14 is very young to tell your parents and to come out what was their reaction?



29:04

Well, my mother's reaction was, well, you're very young, and there's no need to worry about it yet. But they both made very explicit that they would not be against it morally, or religiously, or whatever. So that was comforting to hear. And it was very vile, even before I told them that I was pretty confident that there would not be a negative reaction, since they were a very progressive, liberal, tolerant people. Well educated they were both child's help psychologists throughout the 60s in the Netherlands, both in religion, so there were famous priests who would do radio commentaries and say positive things about homosexuality. Similarly, in medical and academic circles, there were people who either were gay themselves or very tolerant towards it, who played an important role in sort of spreading the word that homosexuality was nothing special and something good. Through the sort of the more liberal media that reached my parents household, I was able to, at a very young age to to have part of that and feel more confident about it.



30:12

This was a period when gay rights gay issues were becoming much more politicized. The Stonewall riots in New York occurred in 1969. So it wasn't too long after that. So did you feel during the 70s, and as you were growing to adulthood, that you felt that the whole issue was becoming politicized and you were going along with it.



30:33

I don't remember it as something political, in my teens. And even when I went to university, and joined a gay youth group there, I became slightly more aware of political things around it. But that was mostly things in America, there was a need to Bryan's who was setting up a campaign to make it illegal to employ teachers who were gay. And that caused an outcry in the Netherlands. But it was something foreign. Also, I then started to travel to Britain a lot on holiday, and I liked the country. And there, I picked up much more of awareness that it was a political issue, and especially a legal issue that there were laws against it. The theory I could have been prosecuted for doing things there, which are perfectly legal here. And what I also liked about Britain Well, when I was 1718, as my first holidays in Britain, I discovered gay news, the legendary gay periodical, there was so much in it, not just about criminal things we don't but cultural things. It always it made homosexuality more interesting for me. So in the Netherlands, it was almost slightly boring was just something you were



31:40

okay, so we're sitting in your living room here in Amsterdam, and I see there's one wall there filled completely with books, there are many on the subject of homosexuality, you have one by the American academic John Boswell called the marriage of likeness. Now he writes about same

sex unions. And he says that marriages were actually relatively commonplace 500 years ago or so? Well, he



32:05

certainly comes up with lots of examples of same sex partnership ceremonies being performed throughout the Middle Ages, in various corners of Europe, in Christian churches. He suggests that these are examples of more general trends. Other people suggest that it may not have been so general then. But at least what it shows is that there has been evidence of same sex couples throughout history. And also in all wealth literature, you find examples of two men or sometimes even two women having close relationship and being somewhat recognized in a ceremony or as very close friends being buried together. And there's the Bible. There's David and Jonathan, there is Achilles and Patroclus in Homer. And then Boswell finds less known historical couples, in first 1500 years after Christ. So it is not not something new. Almost all the issues around homosexuality, you can either analyze as it's something about freedom, or it is something about equality, to de penalize homosexual activity has to do with the most intimate freedom to express love that you feel the trend in almost all European countries, it's the same direction, gradually, almost never a one goal. But gradually, homosexual rights are being recognized. Over the last 30 or 40 years, there's hardly any country where the legislation relating to homosexuality has gone backwards, it always either at a standstill or goes forward.



33:36

Could you foresee a time when things could deteriorate and could go backwards? Or do you foresee the time when homosexuality just isn't an issue? Well, for



33:46

some reason, it will always remain an issue because there will be people who have been growing up in a society where most people are a heterosexual. And then they discover that they have a different preference. For them, it will be an issue. For parents, it will be a small or big shock to realize that gets our it will be less of an issue, but it will still be an issue. Whether or not Well, the thing will go backwards, I don't know. It is, of course, very possible that certain social attitudes and thereby also legal norms will change. The issue of homosexuality is somewhat different from other issues, because the coming out mechanism works against it. The more legal and social recognition homosexuality there is, the easier it is for people to come out. And if you come out as homosexual to other people, they also, although not homosexual, themselves will be less inclined to do negative things. And the proportion of people now coming out as gay or lesbian is increasing all the time. And I suppose Netherlands is also leading the way in that respect. I don't have fingers on that, but it seems that almost everyone now starts to come out if you're gay or lesbian, some bit earlier, so a bit later in life but they too, if that happens, it becomes very difficult for others to clamp down on it again. But you'd never know.



35:07

That was Dutch gay activist and lawyer case Valdai speaking with Radio Netherlands, Chris Chambers



35:13

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



G Glenn Holt 35:56

the Stonewall Lawyers Association of Greater Houston invites everyone to a luncheon this Wednesday, July 25, from 11:30am to 1pm. At Blue Agave restaurant that's at the corner of West grey and Wha The topic is HIV AIDS health law update on the 20th anniversary of the discovery of HIV AIDS. The speaker is Professor Mary and bubinski, one of the most respected specialists on health law in the country, and the director of the U of H Health Law and Policy Institute. One our continuing education credit has been approved, and the cost of the luncheon is \$10, which includes lunch, drink, gratuity and the program. For more information, contact John nachtmann. At 71365005707136500570. You're listening to lesbian and gay voices.



J Joan Devlin 36:54

Yes, hello, I'm Joan Devlin. And we're now we're going back to our originally scheduled program, which is timbered over and he's going to be telling us about some things that are going on at the community center. And I also wanted to mention that at the end of this month, you will have some space for rent.



37:09

Yes, we will, Joan, thanks very much. We currently have an office for rent. And at the end of the month, we will have two offices available. The Chamber of Commerce is evolving and exciting ways and have has decided to move on. If anyone is interested in office space, I encourage them to call the center and leave a message or get my number off the recording and call me at the office. And we also encourage organizations to think about sharing space. There may be organizations out there that feel they don't need a space full time, but might want to share it with one or more organizations and have a home and also cut down on costs. Just to be practical.



J Joan Devlin 37:57

And wonder some of the events coming up in the center. Now that we're in the post pride season.



38:03

Well, we're actually pretty busy at the center. We had a great pride month, like most folks did, and decided to try to relax a little bit but it turns out we have a lot of activities. Right now we're very excited about our media training workshop on Saturday, July 28. From one to four presented by an educator from the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. Regan Ryan, who's based in New York, and is originally from Texas is coming down to hold the three hour workshop, which is hosted by the community center and the pride committee of Houston. It's free. And we encourage organizations and individuals for that matter who might like some more information or help in dealing with the media to come join us. Reagan will talk about a number of issues, including producing effective media releases and working with media professionals. Preparing a comprehensive media campaign and then of course, troubleshooting, and then shall also wrap up with sort of some advice on dealing with the electronic media, particularly television, which is scary for some of us. All participants will receive materials from GLAAD, which of course is a great national organization and will receive a CD ROM with information courtesy of the pride committee. So we hope everyone will call the center and register for this wonderful workshop on Saturday.



J Joan Devlin 39:29

And what are some of the other things that you have coming out?



39:32

Well, on Sunday, July 29, sisters and the men's gathering are hosting a discussion and followed by a screening of Marlon Riggs final film, black is black eight. Many people will know Marlon Riggs from his film Tongues Untied. This is his final film, actually that was released after his death in 1994. There'll be discussion, the screening more discussion, some Polish two readings that should be very exciting that Sunday on July 29, the center. Then on August 2, we have another installment in our what lesbians do sex workshop that's hosted by lesbian health educator and activist Deborah bell at seven o'clock. Then on August 4, we're very excited that we're starting up a regular poetry night that is hosted by the GLBT interest group of the Texas Library Association. It's at 7:30pm. And there'll be readings of poems by GLBT authors, people are encouraged to bring poems they might want to read or have read. And then there will also be a period for open mic reading. So all of you experienced and aspiring poets come by the Center on August 4 for the poetry night.



J Joan Devlin 40:50

Now, if somebody wants to schedule an event at the center, what do they have to do?



40:53

Just call the center 713-524-3818. And leave a message. We have volunteers there in the evening, if you want to speak to a live person or you can call anytime during the day and leave

a message. And either I will call you back or someone else will call you back. And we will definitely find a way to get you scheduled and at a convenient time for you.

J

Joan Devlin 41:16

And the center at the addresses.

○

41:18

That Community Center is located at 803 Hawthorne at Stanford, where two blocks east of Montrose Boulevard near the intersection of Montrose and Westheimer. And if you haven't been there, we encourage you to come by and take a look.

J

Joan Devlin 41:33

Great. Well, thank you so much for taking the time to be on the show tonight.

○

41:36

Thank you, Joan.

J

Joan Devlin 41:37

Thanks for having the community center open and available to all of us. We appreciate it very much. And you're listening to lesbian and gay voices,

○

41:45

elves, but harmonies, confessional compositions, and a pair of country Kiwis as we open this month's audio file

○

41:58

bank account and wish themselves Good luck. We sold our knickknacks on the street. The rest we're on our way to Nashville because we don't have time because we don't have time per second. But as we're still we're still happy. Just how small but we're just as

○

42:30

with some folks would call our music country. Others would call it folk music. It's a little bit of both of those things, especially on this CD as most of the stuff has kind of a country kind of traditional maybe 50s and 60s country field. I'd say it's has a variety fields. It's American music.

G

Glenn Holt 42:51

Playing in sample period. Stop. That's it.

♂

42:55

The group y'all brings homespun harmonies and humor with a gay touch to their new album called The Hey y'all soundtrack. Hi, I'm Chris Wilson.

♂

43:05

And I'm JD Doyle and you're listening to audio files. Y'all is comprised of James Dean Chabert and Steven chez look the Meyer and they confess that they don't really have a TV show. But if they did, this would be the soundtrack when you live in

♂

43:20

the country everybody is named around this one thing you can rely on never ever even say And y'all y'all y'all come y'all come see is when you can

♂

43:45

now find out more about y'all and the Hey y'all soundtrack at WWW.doluckygreen.com

♂

43:57

introspective poet Richard Iceland's CD let it fall his perfect musical company for a solitary day

♂

44:17

do you really quiet night, stay at home, the inward looking songs, kind of thoughtful songs. They really are confessional in a way. Kind of write about my own viewpoint. Really looking back. You know, I'm not a kid anymore. So I suppose in a way, a lot of this is about kind of gay man's midlife crisis.

♂

44:44

Although the CD features mostly original compositions, eyes and also gives us his unique interpretation of this Joni Mitchell favorite



45:02

Is



45:13

that find out more about Richard Eisen on his website at WWW dot clear song.com.



45:45

From New Zealand, the top twins bring us a different kind of country with their latest album, grass highway



46:04

guess



46:20

just recorded a new CD, it's the second CD that we've done. It's called grass highway. We call it Pacific country because we come from down in the Pacific isles and here in New Zealand. It's definitely got a country feel to it. But it's very different because it's from New Zealand. It's not like you know, country in Western. It's really different.



46:38

That was Linda top. She and her sister Jolles have their own TV show in New Zealand that combines comedy characters and original music, often with openly lesbian lyrics.



46:51

That guy the girl says she was born in Nebraska. Sometimes you talk so sudden you can understand. I know what she's thinking.



47:16

For more information about the top twins in grass highway, check out their website at www dot top twins.co.nz That's T O P P T w i n s.co.nz



47:31

And that's it for this edition of audio file. You can write to us at Post Office Box 429 Sunland

And that's it for this edition of audio file. You can write to us at Post Office Box 423 Sunland, California 91041 or online at info at audio file.org That's I N fo at AU di o f i l e dot O R G audio file is produced by Chris Wilson, Christopher David Trenton and JD Doyle. This is Chris Wilson



48:02

and I'm JD Doyle keep listening



48:10

and that's my downfall.



48:28

Thanks for choosing this way out the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. This week Cindy Friedman, Graham Underhill, Chris Ambridge, Brian Nunez, Jason Lynn Rex Wapner and Chris Wilson, JD Doyle and Christopher David Trenton contributed program material. Thanks also to Chris chambers, Luke Lucas and Radio Netherlands, Kim Wilson composed and performed our theme music. Remember, you can also hear this way out anytime online exclusively on planet out, just point your browser to www dot planet out.com and click first on multimedia than our radio. Some this way out our operating expenses are funded through designated contributions by uncommon cloud Visa card holders who have chosen this way out and through direct charitable donations from our listeners around the world. For an urgent message about this way out's critical financial situation please visit our webpage at this way out.org Email us at TW o radio@aol.com Or write to us at Post Office Box 38327 Los Angeles California 90038 USA for coordinating producer Greg Gordon and everyone in this way out. I'm Lucia Chapelle. Thanks for listening on W wh West Hartford, Connecticut to N You are Newcastle New South Wales, K VSC St. Cloud Minnesota and more than 125 other stations around the world, including this community radio station, so y'all stay tuned.



G Glenn Holt 49:55

And this community radio station is 90.1 FM KPFT in Houston. Well we have time for some news before getting into JD Doyle's special music hour coming up at the top of the hour. outrage over the city of Tampa his refusal to grant pension benefits to longtime lesbian partner of a slain police officer has forced the Florida city to reconsider its position. Police Officer Luis Moreno was killed in the line of duty two weeks ago. Under current law her partner of 10 years 48 year old Mickey Mashburn is not eligible to receive Marino's benefits. Marina was shot to death at the age of 40 on July 6, while chasing a bank robbery suspect, the killing shocked Tampa that her partner was denied benefits angered gays and lesbians. Thursday Tampa City Council will raise the question of modifying the city's pension package to encompass same sex unions. Quote, It is tragic that she died and it is very sad that her partner is not able to receive her death benefits, said council member Linda Sol Sena, who promised to ask the city attorney's office for guidance on how the pension might be adjusted. Quote, I think the most straight ahead way to do this would be to allow people to identify the recipient of their death benefits as whomever they want. I would be hard pressed to understand why anyone would have a problem with that. So Sena said she also said that she would support including officer Marino's

life partner in a pension plan retroactively, though it was uncertain whether that would be possible. The city's pension plan designates an employee's widow or widower as eligible to receive death benefits. State law forbids gay and lesbian couples from marrying. Tampa City Attorney Jim Palmero said modifications to the city's pension plan must be approved by the state legislature. If directed by council members, the city could present a bill for a modified plan to the local legislative delegation. Organizers of a bid to repeal Maryland's gay rights law have collected enough signatures to force a statewide referendum in next year's general election. The law approved by the General Assembly last April would guarantee equal rights for gays and lesbians in housing, employment and places of public accommodation such as restaurants and hotels. I think a lot of the debate will be divisive, said Governor Parris Glendening who made the bill a top priority for the 2001 legislative session. But he said Maryland voters will see the law as a matter of justice and inclusion and predicted that it will prevail. But Republican state senator Alex Mooney said the bill was pushed through the legislature by extremists who wanted to promote a homosexual agenda. The smallest state in the country has become only the second to adopt transgender inclusive language in its non discrimination law. Rhode Island last week joined Minnesota which passed a similar law in 1993, adding the category gender identity or expression to those protected against discrimination in matters of employment, credit, public accommodations and housing. It became law on July 13, without the signature of Republican governor Lincoln Almond, having passed the state's House of Representatives on May 1 and the Senate by concurrence in late June. Quote, The passage of this long overdue bill is a crucial step in the struggle to make clear that discrimination based on gender differences and stereotypes is wrong, said Kate Montenero, the president of the Rhode Island alliance for lesbian and gay civil rights, a statewide political organization that worked for the law. Quote, we're proud of the Rhode Island legislators continuing commitment to assure that all Rhode Islanders are afforded basic human rights and treated with dignity and respect. The legislation defines gender identity or expression to include quote, a person's actual or perceived gender, as well as a person's gender identity, gender related self image, gender related appearance, or gender related expression. Whether or not that gender identity gender related self image, gender related experience, or gender related expression is different from that that is traditionally associated with the person's sex at birth. This effectively creates protection for a broad range of people, who often referred to as transgendered individuals who are transsexual and those who cross dress as well as anyone who does not fit the stereotype of what it means to look like a man or a woman are among those covered by the new law. It will ensure that employers do not take adverse action against an employee simply for being transgender, or intending to undergo sex reassignment surgery. It will also protect a housing applicant who gets denied an apartment because the landlord prefers not to rent to a man who appears feminine or a woman who appears to be masculine. Far too often we have seen courts exclude transgender people from protections under existing laws for unprincipled reasons. No more will this be the case in Rhode Island? So Jennifer Lavie, staff attorney at Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, who was instrumental in helping to draft the language of the bill. In other news, researchers at Massachusetts General Hospital published a study this week's nature, indicating that HIV can mutate key proteins in order to hide from an immune attack. And once these mutations occur, they persist. Quote, The virus is gradually evolving and learning how to evade the immune system. Says the senior author of the study Bruce Walker, MD, of the partners AIDS Research Center at Massachusetts General Hospital, he continued quote, The study shows for the first time that minor mutations in the virus can have a major impact on the ability of the immune system defenses to recognize it. When HIV infects the cell, the cell alerts the immune system that it contains a foreign invader by displaying a viral protein fragment on the cell surface. This is a suicide signal that alerts the immune system to kill the infected cell. The immune response that is generated is dependent on the ability to recognize the displayed HIV fragment. Walker and his colleagues have found that the virus can mutate

these targeted regions, and in doing so evade the attack. Quote, our study indicates that the virus can learn how to evade the immune response in one person, and that it retains this ability even after it is transmitted to the next person, says Philip Golder MD The lead author of the study. When this happens, the immune system is forced to use a second line attack strategy that is less effective in containing the virus within the patients studied. These studies which were performed in HIV infected mothers who transmitted the virus to their infants, show that the infected infants are less able to control the virus because of mutations that occurred in the mothers. The effects of these mutations were particularly apparent in the children since they inherit key elements of their immune systems from the parents, and thus, there is a strong chance that they will be programmed to target the same regions that the mother targeted in mothers in whom mutations had already arisen that children could not target the virus effectively. The authors also examined adults who had recently been infected with HIV by sexual transmission, and found that the viruses presenting being transmitted have already evolved to be able to avoid a number of important immune responses. One of these mutations arise, they do not appear to revert to the original strain, suggesting that escaped mutations are likely to accumulate as the epidemic progresses. The findings have significant implications for vaccines that are already in development, quote, vaccines being tested today are based on strains that were isolated a number of years ago, these vaccines are attempting to induce immune responses to regions of the virus that may have already mutated, and thus the immune responses may be less effective, says Walker, in the same way that influenza virus involves to escape detection by the immune responses, and requires new vaccines to be made on a regular basis. HIV also is evolving. The extent to which this will affect present vaccine candidates is not known. But the present study indicates that this is something that will need to be monitored very closely. And Joan, that is our look at the news. And do you want to say a few words about what's going to be coming up next week?

J Joan Devlin 58:25

Next week? Well, we'll just let that be a surprise.

G Glenn Holt 58:29

Okay, let's go ahead and say thank you to the folks that were on this week.

J Joan Devlin 58:34

Okay, we'd like to thank Timothy Brookover from the lesbian and gay community center, the inimitable Ray Hill, Chris Melanie, from cube patrol, and I think I have covered everybody.

G Glenn Holt 58:46

That's right. And once again, if you want more information about Q patrol or if you are interested in volunteering for Q patrol, the number is 713528. Safe 713528 Safe, or you can send email to Q patrol Inc. That's Q patrol i n c@aol.com. And of course, Q patrol is always looking for more people to volunteer and you don't have to have any special physical abilities or technical requirements just a willingness to serve the community and do something

worthwhile. If you don't feel like walking on a patrol you can ride in a mobile unit. There are also other options available such as bicycling and rollerblading and Q patrol would love to hear from you. At 90.1 FM This is KPFT in Houston, the sound of Texas



59:51

and now



Glenn Holt 59:52

more of lesbian and gay voices