

[MUSIC PLAYING]

(SINGING) After Hours. After Hours.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yes, you tuned in to *After Hours*, a continuing tradition on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of *After Hours* is ready to bring you news, interviews, and music geared for gay and lesbian people. Here at *After Hours*, we may be diverse, but we have one thing in common. We are out of the closet and urge everyone to come out of their closets.

That means standing up for yourself, taking responsibility for your own life, and being proud of who you are. Realistically, we know not everyone can do that because of age, job, or frame of mind. That's OK. We're here for you too. So sit back, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of *After Hours*.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

JEWEL GRAY: Ooh, you found *After Hours*. I love that intro. I like that better than any of the ones we fought over before.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Whoa!

JEWEL GRAY: Whoa, hey, I think that's a winner. It's a compromise, and it's a winner.

JIMMY CARPER: Thank you. Thank you.

JEWEL GRAY: I think I want to talk about compromise later. We were just talking about compromise. I do want to talk about some compromise later.

This is Jewel Gray. You've joined us here at *After Hours*. Jimmy Carper is here. Sarah is here. I hope Matt's going to be here to answer the telephones.

JIMMY CARPER: Matt will be here.

JEWEL GRAY: And, well, I'm waiting for some people to show up. We'll see if they do. You know how it is, guys.

It's Saturday night. It's always easy to find someplace better to be than *After Hours*.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, but--

JEWEL GRAY: It's disappointing.

JIMMY CARPER: --it's probably not as much fun.

JEWEL GRAY: It's disappointing how easy it is for you to find someplace to be on a Saturday night than coming down here and talking with us sometimes.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, let me tell you--

JEWEL GRAY: We've lost some good interviews.

JIMMY CARPER: I've been coming down here every Saturday nights for, I don't know, how many years.

JEWEL GRAY: If you think it's important you're here, right?

JIMMY CARPER: As a matter of fact, tonight is an anniversary.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. It sure is. Which one? Five? Three?

JIMMY CARPER: 350th show tonight of *After Hours*.

JEWEL GRAY: 350th show. You know what that means? That means we could have been on for a full year, every single night.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, every single-- whoa-- yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, did you think about that? Every single night.

JIMMY CARPER: Boy, that's scary.

JEWEL GRAY: That's a lot of shows here.

JIMMY CARPER: That sure is.

JEWEL GRAY: And then couples a lot of hosts. That was Buddy, and that was Bruce. And--

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, and there was a-- Buddy had a co-host when I first started here back in May of '88, March of '88. And I forget her name. And then--

JEWEL GRAY: Didn't Debra do this a little bit in the beginning? Wasn't she on with Bruce just a little bit in the beginning. Wasn't it Deborah and Bruce?

JIMMY CARPER: She--

JEWEL GRAY: And then she was called away to Washington for the big job.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, that's what that was.

JEWEL GRAY: And then Judy took over. I'm sorry, Judy, if you happen to be listening for just one flash of a second, your name slipped my mind. But I know who you are. And that's when Judy came in. And you guys started looking around.

And somebody asked me if I would be interested? And I said, yeah. So that's where I came in. Is there somebody here?

JIMMY CARPER: There's someone coming up. Yes, there's been a whole bunch of people that have helped out with the show.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. All the people in the background, all the people in the dungeon. You know where we send Sarah?

JIMMY CARPER: Over the years, probably a couple of hundred people that have contributed to this show.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, and I'd like to take a moment and thank every single one of them. We'll start with Bill and Mike and John and Susan and Karen. And well, we'll share a couple of those tonight. Looks like our guests might have shown up.

I'd be so tickled if they did. But we'll talk about some things. We got some interesting stuff. Channel 8 is looking at us. And we want to tell you just a little bit about that.

JIMMY CARPER: We want to tell you about that one.

JEWEL GRAY: We did a live call in show following *Silver Lake Life*. That's right. And it was a real big success.

And I was real happy to hear all the calls. And so we've got another opportunity to do something like that. And we're going to look into it. And Jimmy has pointed out an interview that we'll share a little bit about from Leah Delaria.

JIMMY CARPER: Leah Delaria.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. The hilarious Delaria.

JIMMY CARPER: Dyke comic.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. And Sarah pointed out on an interview with Melissa Etheridge. And we'll talk a little bit about that and some other things. You know how we are down here. You got some music. So I can go and pump up the volume.

JIMMY CARPER: And this is to pump up the whole community.

JEWEL GRAY: All right, let's get some really peppy stuff.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, it's stuff that you've heard before, and you liked it. And you're going to hear it again.

JEWEL GRAY: All right.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

JIMMY CARPER: Here we are. Yes, they're not on yet, but we are.

JEWEL GRAY: But we are.

JIMMY CARPER: Hey.

JEWEL GRAY: Hey, we're back.

JIMMY CARPER: And we're back.

JEWEL GRAY: And we're back. Jim got here. Jim and Matt are here.

MATT: Ta-da, Matt's here, folks. You can start calling now. That's 526-5738.

JEWEL GRAY: The phones are lighting up. The phones are lighting up. Where did these headphones come from?

MATT: I don't know. But hang on to them.

JEWEL GRAY: They're not working.

- They're not working because you got to plug them in.

JEWEL GRAY: I got to plug them in? They are plugged in, but I'm not hearing anything. Oh, excuse me.

- It's maybe because of the way I through them in the closet.

JEWEL GRAY: Oh, see the phones are lighting up as we speak. Hey, you got a gripe. I want to hear about it. You know, I've got a couple of gripes tonight.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah. Yeah. I've been watching the GLPC, the Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus. This could get us in big trouble here.

JIMMY CARPER: What-- what again?

JEWEL GRAY: And I am really, really upset with what's going on over there. And--

JIMMY CARPER: What is going on? It changes from week to week.

JEWEL GRAY: The truth is the details don't matter. The fact is nobody is getting together on anything.

JIMMY CARPER: That's it.

JEWEL GRAY: And what is this group except supposed to get out and somehow one voice representing a community about things. And they can't even agree on tiny things within the organization. I told you the last time I went to a GLPC meeting was the night they interviewed Chief Nuchia which was a real fiasco.

JIMMY CARPER: Ho-ho!

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Whoa!

JEWEL GRAY: There was ugliness before he got there about allowing him to be there in the first place. There was ugliness when he got there, as he entered the room-- I mean, ugliness.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, really?

JEWEL GRAY: There was shouting. There was booing, hissing. And I thought, my goodness. I don't have a problem. I really I do have a serious problem with Chief Nuchia. But I think that us becoming children and uncivilized and those kind of manners where some people think that's important to bring him there, others thought it was an insult. OK. So the others, let's get together and bring somebody that's not an insult. This is a group-- is that for me?

JIMMY CARPER: Or if you think it's an insult, don't go.

JEWEL GRAY: Exactly. Exactly. But if we're not willing to listen to all sides of the issues out there, how can we expect anybody to listen to all sides of our issues.

JIMMY CARPER: That's exactly right.

JEWEL GRAY: And if we can't act like that amongst our-- if we can't act better amongst ourselves, who the hell do we think is going to look at us with any different regard than they do now?

JIMMY CARPER: I know.

CREW: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: I know.

JEWEL GRAY: And if we don't straighten--

JIMMY CARPER: And let's face it.

JEWEL GRAY: --up out act, we're going to bury ourselves in a hole we haven't been in four years.

JIMMY CARPER: We are in-- we are a unique minority in that we cover all spectrums of society. So we're not going to agree on anything--

JEWEL GRAY: That's right.

JIMMY CARPER: --amongst ourselves.

JEWEL GRAY: It's OK to disagree.

JIMMY CARPER: That's right.

JEWEL GRAY: It's not OK--

JIMMY CARPER: Everybody has their own truth about everything.

JEWEL GRAY: It's not OK to make a public spectacle of it.

JIMMY CARPER: Mm-hmm.

JEWEL GRAY: And then people are saying, you know, those queers, they don't know what their butt from a hole in the ground.

JIMMY CARPER: And that's the way it looks.

JEWEL GRAY: And it really does look like that--

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: --Even though these people who are doing this are-- I was going to say very-- I think maybe "vaguely intelligent" would do. [LAUGHS] No, these people who are doing this kind of thing are intelligent, committed, passionate people. They're not bad people.

JIMMY CARPER: That's right.

JEWEL GRAY: They just are angry that they're not getting their way. Let's get a little more mature. I don't care what issue it is. I'm not talking about any specific details. I'm talking about a lot of things.

JIMMY CARPER: Especially when you're dealing with politics. The whole thing with politics is diplomacy--

JEWEL GRAY: That's right.

JIMMY CARPER: --and everyone listen to--

JEWEL GRAY: Civilized diplomacy.

JIMMY CARPER: --every party on the side. Yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: When you start booing and hissing each other at a meeting and you're supposed to be there for some one focused goal, then something's wrong with your group.

JIMMY CARPER: I think so.

JEWEL GRAY: And it's time to pick it up by its bootstraps and give it a good kick. Let me tell you how many colloquially can I slip in here.

JIMMY CARPER: And it's not the first time. I remember when Terry Richardson was first elected to fill out the term.

JEWEL GRAY: Mm-hmm.

JIMMY CARPER: And the poor woman just-- she had it after about three months because they--

JEWEL GRAY: There's an election. OK, so you didn't vote for this person. That person is elected. It is because-- you paid-- when you voted, you said to those people, OK, I will accept the outcome of this voting.

JIMMY CARPER: That's exactly right.

JEWEL GRAY: When you participate in that group and you vote, you accept the responsibility of accepting who was elected, whether it was the person you voted for or not. And I believe that you should give that person the credit due for being the representative of the majority voice there, rather than start stepping on them. I can follow that very thing from there all the way up to the way our big politics works, our country's politics--

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, absolutely.

JEWEL GRAY: --the personal vendettas, the personal-- hey, you stepped on my toe. I'm going to screw your agricultural bill. You slighted me at a dinner party. You're not going to get your appropriations for this.

JIMMY CARPER: Isn't that incredible stuff?

JEWEL GRAY: And something's got to stop. We're going to kill each other we're drowning in the muck out there. And I--

JIMMY CARPER: I think--

JEWEL GRAY: --think if we don't do something, we're going to be-- I really believe we're going to start backsliding because the apathy out there is growing. People are discouraged, and they're apathetic about our organizations.

JIMMY CARPER: Our leaders are drowning in their own ego.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. And it's got to stop. And if you want to say something about that, you call us here and I'll put you on the air. Well, watch our language, but I'll put you on the air.

JIMMY CARPER: That's 526-5738.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. Now you got some music I want to get these people their coffee hats on.

JIMMY CARPER: Whoa! Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa!

JEWEL GRAY: We'll talk to them a little bit.

JIMMY CARPER: I got some music. What music?

JEWEL GRAY: Oh. Oh, I really put him on the spot here. OK.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, I do have some music as a matter of fact.

JEWEL GRAY: Give Matt an earful. Tell him out there what you think about this kind of infighting going on. If you've been stepped on in an organization because you have a different idea, call me and let me know.

JIMMY CARPER: OK. And until then, listen to this.

NARRATOR: Disorders began with a routine police raid on a homosexual bar, The Stonewall on Christopher Street in the heart of the West Village.

(CROWD CHANTING) Say it loud! Gay and proud!

[MUSIC PLAYING]

PROTESTER 1: Say it so they can hear you in the Capitol! For love and for life, we're not going back! For love and for life, we're not going back! For love and for life, we're not going back! For love and for life, we're not going back!

PROTESTER 2: I want you to savor this next moment. I have the proud task of telling you that the official count of the Lesbian and Gay Rights March, the official count is over 500,000 strong!

PROTESTER 3: We must destroy the myths once and for all, shatter them. We must continue to speak out and most importantly, most importantly every gay person must come out.

[CROWD CHEERING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MAN: We're queer.

(CROWD CHANTING) When do we want it? Now! What do we want? Gay right!

WOMAN: As president of the Board-- as president of the Board of Supervisors, it's my duty to make this announcement. Both Mayor Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk have been shot and killed.

WOMAN: They've got to understand something! They've got to understand something! We are not talking about [? white ?] politics. This is not a movement from the waist down. We're talking about our right to love, and to choose, and to live. And I don't care about straight tolerance. And I don't care about straight understanding You gotta hear me in Washington. We are demanding-- we are demanding our civil right.

MAN: And I ask-- I ask people all over this country to do one thing. We must destroy the myths once and for all, shatter them. We must continue to speak out. And most importantly, most importantly, every gay person must come out.

MAN: Harvey, do you have a few words for KPFA?

HARVEY MILK: Come on out. Join us. Difficult as it is, you must tell your immediate family, you must tell your relatives, you must tell your friends if indeed they are your friends, you must tell your neighbors, you must tell the people you work with, you must tell the people in the stores you shop in, you--

[CROWD CHEERING]

Once they realize that we are indeed their children and we are indeed everywhere, every myth, every lie, every innuendo will be destroyed once and for all. And I ask-- I ask people all over this country to do one thing-- come out, come out, America! Come out!

(CROWD CHANTING) What do we want? Gay When do we want it? Now! What do we want? Gay right? When do we want it? Now!

JEWEL GRAY: OK, we're back. I just got the finger from Jimmy. And we're back.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, well.

JEWEL GRAY: Well. I love that. Tell me what that is again.

JIMMY CARPER: That is Pamela Stanley's version of "Coming Out of Hiding." that's the special Buddy Johnson mix.

JEWEL GRAY: The Buddy Johnson mix.

JIMMY CARPER: And it's got all kinds of Harvey Milk stuff and little excerpts from the March on Washington 1987. And just kind of--

JEWEL GRAY: It's exciting.

JIMMY CARPER: --lot of--

JEWEL GRAY: It's moving.

JIMMY CARPER: --gay history right in there.

JEWEL GRAY: Do we have that-- sounds like I'm blaring. Maybe it's my headphones.

JIMMY CARPER: You really don't have to move that mic. Yeah, I've got them set up, so you can just kind of talk and we can hear everybody.

JEWEL GRAY: OK, cool. What was I saying? About, Harvey Milk? Oh? Do we have that tape that we play around Gay Pride Week?

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: Are we going to play that this year?

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, we sure are. Yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: Good because I sure love listening to it. It's--

JIMMY CARPER: Stonewall thing.

JEWEL GRAY: --invigorating. Yeah. Well, I'm looking forward to that. And--

JIMMY CARPER: We can even play what we call the Old Farts Tape.

JEWEL GRAY: Oh, yeah, I like that tape. You did that, didn't you?

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah. When Ray Hill and I interviewed older gay and lesbian people.

JEWEL GRAY: Yes. That were more prominent in the community--

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

JEWEL GRAY: --people that you might recognize. And--

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: --it's a great tape.

JIMMY CARPER: Very prominent people. And then we took and asked the same questions of a 20-year-old activist.

JEWEL GRAY: Right.

JIMMY CARPER: And it's amazing the differences in answers.

JEWEL GRAY: Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: What are we doing here?

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, well, I can't wait to hear that one.

JIMMY CARPER: Who are these women you have with you tonight?

JEWEL GRAY: I have the women who are representing-- are we representing this one, or this one, or are we going to be this one or this one or-- no, OK. Well, does this fall under this?

GUEST: No. [INAUDIBLE].

JEWEL GRAY: OK. So OK, it's separate. Cool. OK, so now I'm straight.

JIMMY CARPER: Excuse me.

GUEST: He doesn't like.

JEWEL GRAY: Excuse me. I have in my studio with me some ladies who are going to talk to us about their venture over at Bering Church at the-- I almost said care center-- at the Bering Church over in the Montrose. It's the Methodist Memorial. Isn't that it?

GUEST: Bering United.

JEWEL GRAY: Bering United Memorial-- see, nobody knows.

GUEST: Bering Memorial.

JEWEL GRAY: Bering Memorial United Methodist Church.

GUEST: You got it.

JEWEL GRAY: Got it.

GUEST: Very good.

JEWEL GRAY: You wouldn't believe that I worked there [CHUCKLES] right next door. And you guys have started a coffeehouse over there. And somebody tell me how to pronounce that because I want to hear you guys say it before I go for it.

GUEST: Das Coffeehouse.

JEWEL GRAY: Das coffeehouse, which is German for the coffeehouse. So it's a coffeehouse. And it's for teens and young adults, right?

GUEST: Right.

JEWEL GRAY: And you are Betty Berkeley. You're with the teen group there.

GUEST: Yeah, I'm with the coffeehouse.

JEWEL GRAY: The coffeehouse. And Connie, and Cindy.

GUEST: Yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: And you guys have come down to talk about the coffeehouse. And the 20-something group of Houston, a group for young adults, ages 20 to 29, addressing issues concerning bisexual, lesbians and gay. So that pretty much covers the gamut here, especially in the local neighborhood. Tell me a little about the Coffeehouse.

I used to go over there when Dignity had a coffeehouse over there. And we'd play games. It was an alternative to the bars. And I've never been a big bar person. So I would go over there on Friday nights and play dominoes, or they'd have a movie or something. Is that kind of what goes on at your coffeehouse?

GUEST: Basically right now, we're doing the games and the coffee and all that kind of stuff. But what we're hoping to do is have an outlet for the young people to come, perform, show they're visual artists-- the visual artists, we've built a wall for them to hang whatever their photography, their paintings, whatever they've done.

And we really want it to be an alternative-- actually, Connie's asked me to read the purpose of the Coffeehouse as they wrote it out so that it will be clear.

JEWEL GRAY: OK, go for it.

GUEST: It says, "Our purpose will be to provide a safe and positive outlet for teens and young adults as an alternative to other potentially harmful activities, to encourage artistic expression and promote responsible social behavior in an accepting, nurturing environment. Grounded on Christian principles, the Coffeehouse is not meant to be a barrier to those who would not ordinarily be attached to religious commitment. The objective is to give you the chance to survive and blossom."

JEWEL GRAY: Mm, I like that.

GUEST: I like it, too. I didn't write it. That's why I say, you know. But the object for us is to give these kids a place to go and alternative to the bars because it's not real safe for them there, as we know. And we've got a core group of, what, about 12, I think? 12 young people that have really been coming quite regularly since we opened. And we're trying to reach the other young people in the community, which is part of the reason why we're here because we know that they all listen to you.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, right.

GUEST: That's the deal.

JEWEL GRAY: Well, they do, actually.

GUEST: Yeah, they do.

JEWEL GRAY: We're really impressed with our crowd of youngsters, who listen, young people--

GUEST: Yeah, don't say youngsters.

JEWEL GRAY: --who listen. Yes, yes. One of the words that struck me about this that I really-- one of the things that struck me about this that I'd really like you to go a little bit more into because I've always felt that this was something that we were strongly lacking, especially in the gay community. But I'm finding it more and more in every community-- the teaching responsible social behavior.

I think we're losing that in every community. And certainly, it's been hard to pass on those kind of things from the older generation to the younger generation in the gay community because people were always conscious of having young people around gay people. And it used to be that if you were around a young person who was gay, it was your fault.

GUEST: Exactly.

JEWEL GRAY: And so gay people have naturally kind of shied away from people who were underage because it's just too easy in the past, to have gotten caught in a legal situation, it contributing to delinquency, some parent gets upset, almost any kind of-- so I really like this. Can you tell me a little bit more about, what does that mean, promoting responsible social behavior? How do you do that?

GUEST: Well, it means basically we discourage the use of alcohol, drugs. We are trying to teach them to get along amongst themselves, giving them a chance to get along amongst themselves and to learn what it's like to go out and not have to be blasted to communicate with each other. And that's a problem with young people today because that's all they know, that's all they see. So it's really-- we've got a good group of adult people who are working real hard on this.

GUEST: Well, I think one of the things that we really have to offer is that we do have some really good role models. And I guess-- kind of being the token straight person around--

GUEST: Every group's got to have one.

GUEST: Yeah. [LAUGHS] I think that was one of the things that I really-- when I began to get involved in a lot of the things that Bering was doing, that was one of the things that I thought was sort of a missing link. It seemed to me like the people that were hanging around and that I was getting to meet were people that were excellent role models.

And I guess I've worked with youth enough in my lifetime to know that all we really have to give our youth is who we are. And when you're comfortable with who you are, when you understand who that is, you really have a lot to share it with somebody that's growing up and trying to figure that out.

So I think that that's the strongest point. And we don't really-- I mean, we don't have any forum for teaching anybody anything. We just have an open opportunity for youth and young adults to come and be around people who've been around and who behave responsibly. And hopefully, we can-- some of that will rub off.

JEWEL GRAY: Well, that's what I was kind of hoping you would talk about was role models because that's one thing that I think that Bering has an abundance of. I've noticed-- yeah, I'll talk. Yeah. That has abundance of-- sorry, we had some inner production room communications here-- abundance-- I don't go to church. I don't go in any form of public worship.

But I know a lot of people who do being that I work right there. And that's something I've seen around at Bering. There's a lot of good role models. And I was wondering if that was what you were talking about promoting responsible social because that's what we're lacking. We're not-- our parents aren't home enough to give good role models. So what you're offering is role models and a drug-free, alcohol-free environment to meet and gather and enjoy an evening.

GUEST: Right. And we're not really promoting our church. That's not the deal.

JEWEL GRAY: Right.

GUEST: It's just it's a coffeehouse that happens to be in a church basement, basically.

JEWEL GRAY: Well, I can't think of a better place for one.

GUEST: The church has been real supportive in giving us the use of hall.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah.

GUEST: So that's really been great. One of the things that we're really anxious to do is to get a lot of these young people involved so that ultimately our role will just be to sit back and let them run this.

JEWEL GRAY: Right.

GUEST: And we'll be their safety net, so to speak if they get into trouble or if they have a problem. But we want it to be theirs.

JEWEL GRAY: And you say you had 12 people. And have you been over to-- talk to the-- have you put any notices up? I mean, what kind of publicity are you doing to get people come in?

GUEST: Oh, Betty's been really good about that, especially when we first started. She's gotten press releases that-- we had notices in every paper in town. And she's just sent press releases everywhere.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, I've seen them.

GUEST: And we put flyers out.

GUEST: Well, where have we put flyers out?

GUEST: Everywhere. There's been flyers in every place that we could possibly think of that young people might be--

GUEST: Sent them all to the stores.

GUEST: --the record stores. We sent them to the schools. We've--

JEWEL GRAY: [INAUDIBLE]

GUEST: --put them in the various restaurants around town. And I don't know. Lord knows they've been put up in a lot of places.

JEWEL GRAY: So somebody listening surely might have run across an ad or something that they were kind of curious about. And I just--

GUEST: It's entirely possible.

JEWEL GRAY: Right. So I was just wondering how far you'd reached out. So you probably reached the boundaries of the city with the way [INAUDIBLE].

GUEST: Pretty close.

GUEST: We've gone all over the city.

GUEST: We've had people come having read the little notice in the press. We've had people come in from Rosenberg. We have one kid who comes from the Woodlands.

GUEST: The one from Missouri City.

GUEST: Pasadena. We really have--

JEWEL GRAY: So tell me what goes on there? What do you do? It's a coffeehouse, so must have coffee.

GUEST: We had-- well--

GUEST: We've had one band there playing one night. It's a young man from the Woodlands and his band. And they're going to be back again tonight, he told me in four weeks. I'm not sure what that means because I think that means he doesn't think they're quite ready yet. But we have coffee and tea and soft drinks and--

GUEST: And I just learned how to make that good foam on the cappuccino.

GUEST: And Connie--

JEWEL GRAY: Oh, cool.

GUEST: --just got nominated to be the cappuccino maker. She just doesn't know that yet. And the coffee, tea, and lemonade-- and what else are free of charge? I think that's about it.

GUEST: That's about as far as our budget stretches.

GUEST: And there's soda and bottled waters.

JEWEL GRAY: Do you have--

GUEST: We put popcorns on the table.

GUEST: We put popcorn and pretzels on the table and then there are other little snacks that they can buy. And they're all at a nominal fee, just basically enough to cover so we can keep replacing them.

JEWEL GRAY: Well, that's great. There was a place like that when I went to school. I went away to school once, and there was a place like that. And that's where all the students gathered, and it had a real nice feeling. It was not like a big student center at a college. It was very small kind of like a snack bar. And we gathered there. And it was real neat. And I'm sure that what's going on at the Das Coffeehouse is of the same nature.

GUEST: Well, the thing about the name. Let me explain the name because that's a part of the history of the Church. Bering was formed as a German-speaking church. And we had to come up with a name before we had anybody there because we needed to get the publicity out and stuff. So we just decided to go with the German coffeehouse simply because of the heritage of the church.

JEWEL GRAY: I think it's a great name. I mean, everybody knows what it is.

GUEST: Kind of easy to remember.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, it sure is. It sure is.

GUEST: If not easy to say.

GUEST: Yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: So when are you open?

GUEST: From 8:00-- on Saturdays from 8:00 to 1:00.

JEWEL GRAY: 8:00 in the evening--

GUEST: To 1:00 in the morning.

JEWEL GRAY: --to 1:00 in the morning. And that's the only day you're open on Saturdays?

GUEST: That's the only day we're open.

GUEST: However--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JEWEL GRAY: However if you get more-- yeah, OK.

GUEST: However, if there's an interest, I mean, we could probably go to Friday night or whatever.

GUEST: Whatever's necessary.

GUEST: But it'll be up to the kids.

GUEST: We're right now basically looking for young people who really are interested in performing also. I guess that I can say if they are listening, they're interested in performing, they can call 521-1549 and leave a message, and somebody will call them back.

JEWEL GRAY: Cool.

GUEST: And we definitely want as many people-- if they do photography, if they paint, if they do watercolors, we want them, too, because we've built those--

JEWEL GRAY: Anyone with talents or skills.

GUEST: Anything. We also in-- what is it-- two weeks we decided we're going to have a tag night, kind of for our new wall, and let the kids come in and paint and do graffiti and do whatever they want to on one side of it. So that will be two weeks from tonight whatever that date it is.

JEWEL GRAY: Oh, two weeks from now. I think it's the 11th.

GUEST: Yeah, 11th I think is right.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, it's the 11th.

GUEST: So we'd like to see as many kids out there doing that because it's going to be a long while. We're going to need a lot of people with a lot of clever things to say.

JEWEL GRAY: Well, you say it's for teens and young adults. What is that mean?

GUEST: It means basically high school age to--

GUEST: Its-- we're--

GUEST: --teens to young adults. And--

GUEST: Whenever that--

JEWEL GRAY: Well, I have some young adult friends who are past 40.

GUEST: Well, that's true.

GUEST: Yes, I do, too.

JEWEL GRAY: So you're really looking for those who are 20, 21 and under?

GUEST: Well, probably. Well, actually--

GUEST: We had a couple.

GUEST: --speaking of 20s,

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah.

GUEST: It kind of segues into our 20-something group. Our 20-something group has been really good to volunteer at the coffeehouse and been really helpful in that regard. And I think it's my personal feeling anyway that the teens and the high school students and some of the college students that are still there probably will get more out of hanging around with the 20-somethings. And they certainly will--

JEWEL GRAY: Sure. Sure.

GUEST: That's a fact.

GUEST: Sorry, Betty.

GUEST: Don't be sorry.

GUEST: I know.

JEWEL GRAY: Sure. They know who Kurt Cobain is.

GUEST: Yeah. So do I

GUEST: But that--

GUEST: Forget about that.

GUEST: I know.

JEWEL GRAY: Well, tell me about your 20-something group. I heard about it before I heard about your coffeehouse. And I was real interested in that because that's one of the areas where the community in general is sadly lacking, is for groups and organizations for people in their 20s. I mean, most groups are set up for older people run by older people predominantly older people in them.

And there aren't very many places where people will listen to people who are 20, in their 20s. So this is a place-- this is something I think is sorely needed. So tell me about it. Cindy, it looks like they're like--

GUEST: Yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: --you must be part of this.

GUEST: Cindy's our 20-something.

JEWEL GRAY: The 20 something, huh?

GUEST: I know.

GUEST: I'm the kid of the group.

JEWEL GRAY: The kid of group.

GUEST: 20-something's a group that I was really happy to get to know because when I came back from college is when I came out pretty much to my family and everything. And I really wanted somewhere to go to talk to other people. I had the same situation like you said. There was just nowhere to go. I mean, there's nowhere to find anybody my own age group. And I didn't want to go to the bar scene to pick up these hoodlums on drugs and smoking cigarettes.

JEWEL GRAY: Oh, wait now. Wait. Whoa! Not all of them are like that, not all of them.

GUEST: OK.

GUEST: But I just wanted a place to go that I could socialize with other people in a decent scene to talk and be able to hear them when they do speak. So I happened to just find this flyer somewhere that everybody I think at 27 found it in the same bookstore. But it's a really good group. And they talk about various things.

The first night I was there, they talked about a political-- a guy came in and talked about politics and how he was out at his office and everything like that. And I was very much interested in that. And I really-- I got to know Connie from that. And she got me into Bering in the same situation. But as it went along, I mean, they only met like two days a month.

And I really hated that because I kept waiting and waiting and waiting because I wanted to go around with these people that are just like me and my same age group, talked about the same things. And it's gotten to be a really group-- the people that are there, that do come are very good group of people. And we have these very intellectual discussions that you just don't find in a bar.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah. I've always noticed that you didn't get a lot of intellect at the bars. But there are a lot of people out there who find the bars are very difficult place to meet people because groups like this don't exist or haven't existed before. That was the only outlet. So you have a large group now. I mean, I can imagine there'd be a lot of people.

GUEST: Well, we are having a little problem right now with getting people to come. I think it's more of a conflict in scheduling. You're 20 years old. Of course, you're finally getting a job, a professional job, or anything, and out of college and everything. So right now, we're having a slack in attendance and everything. But we're hoping to get that up this summer, and get it going.

JEWEL GRAY: For some reason, you know, I've noticed that kids these days-- not kids. We are going to be careful here.

GUEST: I'm a kid.

JEWEL GRAY: I've noticed that young people these days do have the feeling that unless you're out with screaming loud music and people who are basically crazy wild and party-all-night kind of fever that you're not really enjoying your life. I think there's this mistaken thing that-- that's how that they've been brainwashed somehow to think that that's the way to live your life.

And it takes a while for it to burn out. And usually, when it starts burning out, it's just about when college is over. And the big dollar-- the big responsibilities start hitting, and they start. So they definitely need some place to go in the interim. I mean, they're not going to Perry Como concerts yet, are they?

[LAUGHTER]

GUEST: I am not going to Perry Como concert.

GUEST: See this young man down here in the studio saying, Perry who?

JEWEL GRAY: Perry who? Right. Perry who?