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SPEAKERS

Glenn Holt, Jack Valinski, Joan Devlin, Greg Gordon



00:01

Houston is 90.1 KPFT, the sound of Texas at Pacifica network station KPFT Houston.



Jack Valinski 00:16

Welcome to another edition of lesbian and gay voices. This is Jack Valinski. And I'm



Joan Devlin 00:20

John Devlin.



Glenn Holt 00:21

And I'm Glen Holt.



Jack Valinski 00:22

And it's Pride Month. That's right. It's already started. It's already going.



Glenn Holt 00:26

Yep, yep, yep. Yep.



Jack Valinski 00:27

We had a kickoff party on Friday. And then Saturday was Gay Day, GLBT day at AstroWorld.

we had a kickoff party on Friday. And then Saturday was Gay Day, GLBT day at AstroWorld. And there was close to 1000 people. That's 1000 people we knew about there's other people that season passes. I was there. You were there. I was naked. I had to work that day at the pride office. Tell me tell me how it was. It was

G

Glenn Holt 00:47

crowded. You know how they always seem to manage to put Gay Day and Christian fundamentalist day or something like that together. So yeah, there were a few of those. And they had a gun show going on at the Astro Arena. So parking was miserable.

J

Jack Valinski 01:02

I heard they actually did have protesters to really Yeah,

G

Glenn Holt 01:05

well, I didn't see any but I was there with a couple of good friends. We saw other friends of ours.

J

Jack Valinski 01:11

Did you see the concert?

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Glenn Holt 01:13

No. Didn't see the concert heard. It

J

Jack Valinski 01:14

was pretty good, even though none of them were probably the original people. Right. Right. Because they'd all been walkers now. That's fine. I'm not that far from it either. So

G

Glenn Holt 01:24

right, right. Right. The the crowd was good. It was pleasant. I mean, we didn't run into any problems there. No heckling or close on. Legal? Yeah, unfortunately. Because you have to even wear a shirt there. So okay. Yeah. But most of the rides were fun. A few of the rides that that we wanted to go on, were closed for maintenance. And of course, you know, when you're standing at the end of a long line, and you see the cars going through the ride with people in them, that's a good sign that you may as well just walk away and go do something else. Because having problems

J Jack Valinski 02:00

well, I can tell you a story about driving up to a Dairy Queen that wasn't open. That was closed for probably months. Oh, but that's a whole nother story. Last week, we talked about the pride book this week, we're going to talk about arts outsmart it's a got a fabulous pride. And it's not just because, you know, it's pride Committee. It has really nothing to do about the pride committee. The Greg Chu did a wonderful job, just covering pride covering the stuff about pride, the grand Marshalls, everything. It's just a fabulous publication. It's very thick, very colorful. And I have to congratulate them over there for doing a great job. Tonight. What do we have on tonight?

J Joan Devlin 02:35

Well, Glenn's got an interview for us tonight.

G Glenn Holt 02:38

First up, we have the actors theatre of Houston and their production of Mr. Bundy.

J Joan Devlin 02:43

And of course, David Elliot will be calling in to tell us what's going on nationally. And

J Jack Valinski 02:47

this is actually an official a pride event. So if you're listening to this radio show, it is a pride event. We have from the names project we have, are we talking about that, and also about the fun run that's happening on Saturday. But the names project which deals with people with AIDS. Today is the 20th anniversary of the first medical report of AIDS. And their stories all over there was story in The Chronicle on Sunday. In New York Times today, some you know, the fact that it's been 20 years ago, and we've lost 1000s and 1000s of people in New York, there's like 75,000 people that are no longer with us because of AIDS in Houston. I think it's about 20,000. So, as much as we're celebrating, we still have to remember and be safe.

G Glenn Holt 03:34

That's right. And we do have some about that in the news coming up later. We don't have this way out like we normally do.

J Jack Valinski 03:41

Yes. And I hope it's not a I hope it was just a mistake here at KPFT. Because when we look into computer what came down the satellite, I couldn't find it there either. So I hope it wasn't canceled. You know, there's that concern that they really can't raise money on air. And they're

canceled. You know, there's that concern that they really can't raise money on air. And they're sort of a, you know, put together organization that do a wonderful job. In fact, they even take some stuff from Houston and Joan's stuff and JD Doyle stuff. So I hope it's just that we didn't get it this week and that it's still around.

G

Glenn Holt 04:10

I hope so too. Well, anyway, what we're going to do here first is play a piece of music, which JD Doyle provided to us. While we get you guys out of the studio and set up for our first interview. You're listening to lesbian and gay voices. This is lesbian and gay voices. On Friday, May 18, which by the way, is my sister and her brother in law's wedding anniversary. Friday, May 18 2001. The actress theatre of Houston will be opening the Houston premiere of Mr. Bundy by Jane Martin. This is described as an intense and thought provoking drama focusing on issues of forgiveness, and the right to privacy will she imagine that I don't like that any of us can can can associate with that. Tickets for the gala opening are \$25 and include a champagne toast and reception following the show at the Tortuga coastal cantina on Kirby drive at South Boulevard. The show continues through the end of June playing Friday and Saturday nights at 8am. On Sunday afternoons they have a matinee at two tickets are \$14 for regular admission and \$10 for students and seniors and reservations for all performances are recommended and can be made by calling 713-529-6606 which is the number for the actor's theatre of Houston. And joining me from the actors theatre of Houston, we have two of the actors in Mr. Bundy we have Jill Geils playing the part of Catherine Giles. Okay, Jill and me McCorry Amy McCorry. Yeah, okay, playing the part of Tiana



05:56

Tiana Tiana. Okay. Let us run this interview here.

G

Glenn Holt 06:02

Okay, so what is it? What is Mr. Mr. Bundy and why is it described as being so intense?



06:09

Well, Mr. Bundy is the name of the pivotal character wouldn't really call him the main character, but certainly the person that has the most focus, he is an older gentleman who lives next door to my character, I play the role of Catherine, child psychologist with a young daughter. And we come to find out that this Mr. Bundy who is an older man in his 70s, has been convicted of child molestation. And so it's a very intense because of the controversy of whether he deserves his right to privacy or whether he should be dragged through the mud for crime which he committed and paid for. And it's a very, it's an hour and a half. It's a very intense show, because we certainly go over both sides of the issue and every which way.



07:02

Yeah, I think that what's interesting is that you get a there's several things happening at the

same time. And I think, for me, as an actor, I always hope to bring something to the audience that they leave with, and that they ponder and think about, and I think this play does that because Mr. Bundy is truly about several things, but certainly child notification notification of child molesters. And what it what happens when that lack of notification is there. And how something as horrible as a child that is raped and murdered, how it tears apart of family and what measures they go to, to come to terms with the guilt they feel for having allowed their child in the vicinity of this child offender. And molester and certainly also, so it is the guilt they feel and how they cope with that guilt. And I think at the same time, Katherine and Robert Ferebee are dealing with also issues of guilt and and how they come to terms with the fact that Robert has had an affair. And Catherine has left him and then returned and trying to reconcile a marriage. You have Tiana Tiana and and Jimmy why bosun who are coming as an evangelistic character into as a catalyst into the their neighborhood to apprise them of a sex offender that's in the neighborhood that lives next door to them. And how all of this impacts everybody's lives. Tiana and and Jimmy white essentially have taken the law into their own hands and said, Look, if the police if the if the community is not aware of these things, if the community if the local police are not letting you know, we're going to take it in our own hands to let you know, because we are not going to let one more child experience what our child experienced, which is quite I mean, it's it. It's fairly graphic what the child has been gone through. And so it just brings up so many issues that we deal with in the here and now today. Things that are going on in Corpus Christi, I think you probably are aware of what this judge that mandated that you can put a sign in a sex offenders lawn, but if you've ever gone through anything like that where someone is ripped out of your life and by someone like this Mr. Bundy to forgive is a very difficult thing and how you come to terms with that injustice in your life and that hole in your heart is really difficult and this play deals with that a lot, I think. Yeah, and



09:59

of course Amy Speaking from her character's point of view, because Mr. Bundy from her character's point of view is, is a violent, dangerous man. But the character that I play who is often called the voice of reason, looks at his previous offenses, which were not violent offenses. And he did serve time and in the opinion of my character, really deserves a break and certainly should not be put through hell, because of a crime but one that was not as violent as raping a child violently. And so that's that's where the controversy comes is that you have these two sides where there's someone that has experienced a terrible thing happening to their child, and then another woman who is trying to balance off this excitement that Tiana is telling her about what could happen to her child, and then just understanding about forgiveness about people serving time and, and paying for the crime and then being able to lead normal lives. And there's a great line that I have where I say that you can't run a society with life sentences for every crime. And so that's really what the issue is, is what when can we forgive? And how do we do that? And what is the best way to you know, examine these issues?



Glenn Holt 11:28

And so if if Tiana is the fundamentalist, yes. Evangelist coming through the community, yes. Pointing to them sex offenders? Was Was it Diana's child who was molested in the story? Yes, it was China's child. And what was the child molested by Bundy now? Okay. And so how long ago did Bundy do his crime story he



11:55

was released 13 years. So you would, with doesn't say specifically how, how long he was in prison, but it was at least 13 if not longer, depending on what his his sentence was. So, and you also, you know, you find out throughout the course of the play, all of the all of the many times that he had been moved out, shamed, had horrible things done to him personally. So that he never had has ever had any piece. And so I think you can



12:31

see that she really was into. And he said to her, let me say something here. The only thing that I would say is that what is very interesting is that we have a very strong cast, it moves not only the audience, but the actors. Each time that we we do the play, we perform each of us I know you know, I open another vessel in my life, it just, it just expands and and opens me to other possibilities. One other thing that happens in the play is that Catherine is affected by Tiana and Tiana is affected by Katherine and Robert and Jimmy RIGHT? It isn't as though these characters depart the play or depart the scene without having been affected by each other. But it is really an evocative play because it it not only it, it's done in the in the way of a town hall meeting, so the actors are actually sitting in the audience. And we conduct the play as though this were a town hall meeting. And we rise up out of the audience, and speak directly to the audience about the issues that we are all dealing with. So the audience is truly part of the play. And and it's just really neat, because because it allows you to draw from the audience a great deal of energy and react to what they're giving you as well.



Glenn Holt 14:06

Well, you just covered my next question. Very nicely. Thank you. And guess what you've already alluded to you guys personally. Do you buy into the opinions of the characters that you play? Or do you have any different feelings?



14:25

Oh, I'm absolutely 100% has



14:29

and question of a doubt and Tiana and absolutely believe 100% 100% In what she's saying. And as a matter of fact, so much that I have gone into it's it's brought my attention. I'm on the board of child advocates in Houston. And interestingly enough it before I was going to do this interview with you, my daughter you brought to my attention that she said Mom, don't you know about Megan's Law? And I said, No, I don't know about the Megan's Law. She said, Well, let me show you. Let's go on the internet. And I'll show you. So I actually brought with me a lot of information that I pulled off the internet that is about notification of sex offenders and child abusers that actually was put into law in the state of New Jersey 19, I think it was 1994 1996. And I think all the other states have followed suit, or as many as 26 states have follow suit, where you actually have to register with the state police. And there's actually an internet site

on the Texas Department of Public Safety that you can search. And I went in and searched and actually have some sex offenders in my neighborhood that I'm gonna take off to my daughter and let her know about when I get home. Anyway,

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Glenn Holt 15:43

I was surprised when I went to that website a couple of years ago when I first heard about it, because there's one on my street as well.

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15:49

Yeah, I mean, it really kind of freaked me out, because there are several in my neighborhood. So then again,

G

Glenn Holt 15:55

it depends really on the courts interpretation of what a sex offender is, because I don't think it gives details. In the website, when it names the people, I think it's just

U

16:07

that level there are three levels, there's the I think there is the level, there is a high risk, moderate risk and low risk. And I think only the high and the moderate risk have to register or, or actually have to register with the communities. And in the case of the high risk and moderate risk, the courts have to have jurisdiction, and they then let the local communities now in the local communities do have to let the residents know. But I think in the case of a low risk, that the courts do not have to let the communities know that a low risk offender is in the neighborhood. But there are three levels. And they're actually three levels that if you go to the Texas Department of Public Safety site on sex offenders, you find out some but they don't tell you. You're right. I don't know if Joe Blow here on my list. But the story is, they will give you the aliases, what these people have done.

G

Glenn Holt 17:02

Well, back to back to the play, though, if you're if you're doing this, this play where the actors stand up in the audience, so that you have this virtual town hall meeting. What do you do if some of the other people in the audience stand up spontaneously and join him? I mean, can you handle that? Well, now

U

17:19

you suggested that we're probably going to have to deal with that yet. What would you say, Joe? What would you do? Well,



17:29

I this is my third show. And I have to say that I've already had that happen. And



17:39

you never know with live audience. Oh, yeah. You just have to fall off that bridge when you get to it. And just hope that you know, you can make the best of it. But I would say for the most part that the audience is educated enough to to realize what their boundaries are. This upcoming weekend. Thank you. Which we want to deal with it.



Glenn Holt 18:01

All right. Well, we have been talking about what's your



18:05

tell you? I just think that the only thing I want to say is that



Glenn Holt 18:10

we're out of time, but that's okay.



18:13

That actually is just a professional caliber theatre that's in its 16th year of production. It's in its 16th season, and we do evocative plays. And we're be thrilled to have people come and see and support us because because we'd like that



Glenn Holt 18:32

professional level but you our volunteers.



18:34

You bring that up. Yes, we are. And we love it. And we do it because



Glenn Holt 18:40

well, which isn't Yeah, which has nothing to say anything bad about the theater because I know some of the best theaters are all volunteer. I mean, like the Little Theatre in Ottawa Morogoro

fantastic productions, and they're all volunteer, right? You know, the cast crew, everybody. So



18:55

there's a small stipend but you could pretty much call it volunteering.



Glenn Holt 19:01

enough to cover the parking All right. Well, we have been talking with say your name, because I'm gonna get it wrong again. Yell child. Okay. And Amy McCrory. All right to have the actors in. Mr. Bundy, which is going to be well, it's already showing, isn't it? Yes. Okay. At the actors theatre of Houston, which is located where



19:26

2506 South Boulevard,



19:28

that South Boulevard right off of Kirby Kirby at 59.



Glenn Holt 19:32

Oh, okay. Okay. Yeah. And for more information, a number to call 713-529-6606. And there's a website here it looks like in tiny print. K, G, E o r g b@flash.net.



19:54

Yeah, we're actually you can just reach it by going to actors theater. I think there's, there's there's a way



Glenn Holt 20:00

Oh good. Yeah. Okay website for actors theater. Yes. Easy enough to find just go to Google and interactive theater and you'll find it. He was done. Yes. It'll be in there somewhere. And then also, this season, you're going to be doing Macbeth and sin and eyes for Dracula and the Baltimore wolves. So



20:14

the next thing that's coming up is Elizabeth one.



20:16

Okay. That's actually the close of RC.



Glenn Holt 20:20

Yeah. Okay. So you have done Macbeth. So you were supposed to be on here a lot earlier than



20:29

thrilled you had us on the seat. Yes. Thank you.



Glenn Holt 20:31

Oh, you're quite welcome. And when we look forward to having you on again, for the beginning of your next season, we can talk about all of the things coming up that help you great, great, thank you. You're listening to lesbian and gay voices.



20:45

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Glenn Holt 21:46


This is lesbian and gay voices. And I think we've got everybody stirred back into their right positions now. Yes. And I'm





Joan Devlin 21:54


talking to Wally of progressive forum. He's a bad influence.


—


 Glenn Holt 21:59
Well, I'm safely back behind the board. And let's let's turn Jack's mic on.


 Jack Valinski 22:04
Joan is just trying to cover up that she wasn't paying attention.


 Joan Devlin 22:06
Yeah, that's it. Glenn just purposely ended the interview and he'd saw my back was turned.

 Glenn Holt 22:11
That's right. One of those quick outs for no warning. And finally. Well, we do have somebody on the line waiting with bated breath.


 Joan Devlin 22:20
Hey, David.

 22:21
Hi there. How are you? Fine. How are you? Oh, pretty good. Thank you.

 Jack Valinski 22:24
Is this gonna be your pride report?

 22:27
Not exactly. Okay.

 Joan Devlin 22:29
Well, why aren't you going to tell us about George W. Bush's Pride Month profit? Actually, yes.

 Jack Valinski 22:34
That's that's a very interesting thing. Are you aware of that, David?



22:37

Oh, yes. The President Bush's declined to follow the Clinton tradition of honoring our pride month.



Jack Valinski 22:46

And I don't know if the list was actually supplied by Houston for mailing it out to all the different pride committees around the country actually was around the world.



22:55

Well, you know, I've been getting calls about this all day long. And when I'm kind of saying is, is this a big surprise to?



Jack Valinski 23:03

Well, exactly. And in fact, at the pride convention, in Atlanta last October, Julian Potter, that's her name, right? She was down talking to us all. And she says, you know, if we lose the White House, my office is probably going to go to the NRA. And you know, it was sort of a joke back then. But unfortunately, it probably has.



23:24

Well, yeah, her office has ceased to exist, basically.



Jack Valinski 23:29

And it's amazing because he does write letters to other minority groups. But I guess he just doesn't consider us at all.



Joan Devlin 23:37

Well, I think some of it too, is he's recently come under attack by the right wing for not being as hard on us as they would like to see. So refusing to declare June gay and lesbian GLBT pride month was a bone for him to throw to them, which was the other half of it?



23:56

Well, you know, that's true. But it's important that we keep an eye on what's going on. Over in terms of the state and local level. We have Texas and Hawaii getting ready to enact hate crimes laws. Maryland just became the 11th state to pass a civil rights law in New York might

follow in the next two weeks, which would make Trump states you know, the past month since I last joined lesbian gay voices has been a really, really eventful month. I mean, my organization, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. We've gotten a new executive director. Our country has gotten a new United States Senate and our nation and our world has marked the 20th anniversary of the first diagnosed HIV case.

 Jack Valinski 24:51

Yes, we were just talking about that earlier. It's, ya know, that's a real sad sort of milestone here

 24:58

in your tank. There's a lot of, I guess, speculation out there talked about how we beaten aids, right. You know, AIDS is now a chronic, and you know, manageable disease. But the fact is actually, we are losing the battle against AIDS. I mean, yes. Thurmond, who was the AIDS czar under President Clinton called AIDS, quote, an epidemic, the likes of which humankind has never seen. You know, the numbers are just incredible. In the US alone, 450,000 lives have been lost across the world. 22 million people have died. In some African nations 20% of the adult population is HIV positive. And 40 million children are going to be orphaned during the next decade. 40 million children. That's equivalent to the number of children in the United States east of the Mississippi River.

 Joan Devlin 26:01

Incredible and no end in sight.

 26:04

Oh, no, we haven't even crested yet. We haven't seen the worst yet.

 Joan Devlin 26:09

And unfortunately, it's on the rise again, with, I guess, people who are sort of tired of the whole safe sex message?

 26:18

Well, you know, people aren't needed, the CDC report came out last week. And people do not yet do not understand how dramatic this report is. A survey of 2942 gay men ages 23 to 29 found that 4.4% were becoming infected with the HIV virus each year. Now, if you extrapolate that, and consider the age group 23 to 29, and carry it out over six years, you're talking about

infection rates of 40 to 50%. Over that period, unless behavior changes, and the pace of new infections among people of color is incredible. among African American gay men, ages 23 to 29, of 14.7% infection rate in one year, one year, this is horrifying.

 Joan Devlin 27:19

And, you know, and it's kind of scary, too, because, I mean, what more can we do? You know, the message is out there. You know, honestly, what more can be done? That's a, you know, honest question, how do we make people understand that this is not glamorous, this is not manageable illness that, you know, doesn't particularly affect you, even the people. You know, Jimmy Carter sat in here one day and, you know, broke down the routine, he goes through, you know, with how many pills he has to take, how many times a day he has to take them what the side effects are, you know, this is not just like, Oh, I'm sick. I'm gonna take a pill every morning now, and it's no big deal.

 27:55

Well, dude, here's the deal. Um, you said the message is out there. But in fact, among younger people, the message isn't out there. And the messages that they're hearing are extremely, extremely complicated. And I'll give you an example, among young, African American gay men there hearing about homophobia, they're hearing about racism. They're hearing about homophobia within their community, a lot of them are estranged from their families, their families are rejecting them. They're hearing about poverty. They're hearing that their neighborhoods don't count, and are no good. They're hearing that their schools are no good. They're hearing that their families are no good. And all of these factors come together to create a dynamic that makes it more difficult for them to practice safe sex, and for safe sex counselors and practitioners to get through to them. So it's not just a It's not the same type of message we're dealing with, that we dealt with in the 1980s and 1990s. When we were trying to educate, you know, middle income gay white men to practice safe sex. It's a more complicated dynamic.


 Joan Devlin 29:25


I want to mention too, because the the other thing I found out was that herpes is very much on the rise in our community. And you don't hear about that as often. It's not fatal, as far as we know. But you know, the numbers are going from one in four to one in three. And this is something that you know, you also have to be aware of AIDS is not the only thing that's out there.


 29:54


Oh, sure. It's gonna be it's syphilis. It's hepatitis, sexual transmitted. Did sexually transmitted diseases across the board are on their way up?


 Ioan Devlin 30:05

 Joan Devlin 30:32
You know, and, you know, I'm at a loss. I mean, I don't know. And like you said, there's so many mixed messages because you have, you know, unfortunately now a congress and senate, hopefully not a Senate anymore that wants to walk around and talk about abstinence, abstinence, abstinence, abstinence. Well, you know, that's all I heard, when I was growing up, and it didn't stop me. I mean, flat out, I went to Catholic school, so we never heard about anything but abstinence.


 30:32
Well, you know, we know about those Catholic girls. Yeah, exactly.


 Joan Devlin 30:36
But you know, I'm serious. You know, even even the public schools, though, when I was coming up, I mean, they just, I mean, all you heard about, essentially was, oh, you know, you shouldn't have sex outside of marriage. And I graduated with girls that were pregnant. So obviously, it didn't really get through to them either. So I mean, we really have to come up with some reasonable, logical ways to communicate this. But how do you do it when you have, you know, a government that's completely hostile to both the message and the messengers?

 31:07
Well, it goes back to the tenets of democracy. What are we going to do in 2002? In November, what are we going to do in 2004? Are we going to vote these people out? We're going to reelect

 Jack Valinski 31:17
gore. Yeah.

 Joan Devlin 31:19
Well, that's the problem. We thought we voted him out.

 31:23
Well, you know, there were 49 states, and then there was Florida.

 Jack Valinski 31:28
There's also the Supreme Court.

 Joan Devlin 31:30

Yeah. All right. So tell us a few things that are going to be helpful to us when the Senate turns over tomorrow?

 31:39

Well, you know, let's, let's keep this transmission of power in perspective, okay. It's not that a lot of good things are gonna happen because of the change. It said, a lot of bad things won't happen. The Senate will be a break on the house and on the White House. Many of George W. Bush's more radical nominees won't be able to get through, we're going to see a sea change in committee chairs. We're gonna see, Edward Kennedy, a dear friend of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community, become Chair of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. We're gonna see Senator Joe Biden, replace Jesse Helms. As Chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, you know, we're gonna see Patrick Leahy, replace Orrin Hatch, as Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee. These are very, very big changes. And this is going to mean that the Senate is going to be the break on the more radical proposals coming from the White House and the house. But what is remember that the Senate can't do anything by itself. So just as the Senate is going to be a break on the house in the White House, the House and the White House are going to be a break on the US Senate. So people should kind of restrain their jubilation, people should keep in mind that, you know, this is not a hugely great thing, it's just an important thing to mean, that a lot of bad things are gonna happen to us over the next two years.

 Joan Devlin 33:25

And the other thing I wanted to mention, you talked about civil rights laws coming in, and of course, the hate crimes laws. What's being done on the transgendered front? Because a lot of the complaints you commonly hear is that, you know, these laws do not include transgendered people. What's being done to change that? Right, you know, what steps are being taken in that direction?

 33:49

Right? Well, you know, we recently had lobby days by a couple of different national transgender organizations lobbying Congress. But the fact of the matter is that the progress that we're making is at the state level. California recently, the California Assembly recently passed a bill that I think is either headed for the Senate or for the governor's desk, I can't remember which, which is going to make it easier for transgender people to try to change their driver's licenses and their their means of identification, which goes to the Littleton case in Texas basically allows transgender people more of an opportunity to define their gender identity instead of the state identifying it for them. Another thing that's happened is the Rhode Island House of Representatives has passed a bill amending that state's civil rights law. Now keep in mind Rhode Island is one of the 11 states that has a civil rights law excuse me, 12 states with Maryland, covering sexual orientation. Now Rhode Island has gone back in their house of representatives, has amended that law to cover gender identity, meaning to make it gender

trans inclusive. And we're waiting to see what's going to happen in the Rhode Island Senate with that. So the bottom line is the progress continues to be made at the state level, we're not going to see unfortunately, progress in Congress.

 Joan Devlin 35:24

And what else do you have to tell us tonight, David?

 35:28

Well, godly, a lot of people are talking about Jesse Helms amendment in the US Senate, the Boy Scouts, the Boy Scout amendment that would ban federal funding to any school district that cuts out the Boy Scouts that denies the Boy Scouts access because of their discriminatory bigoted policies.

 Jack Valinski 35:48

And these are the people that want to keep government out of everything. Right.

 35:52

Exactly, exactly. That's the deal. These Republican conservatives who are backing this amendment are the ones who on any other day are preaching local control. Well, local control only means to them local control when it suits their political agenda.

 Joan Devlin 36:12

What is the chance of that amendment going through? I know it's attached to the education bill.

 36:18

It's passed the house already. We're waiting to see what's going to happen in the Senate. It's a really dicey thing. We're going to have to wait and see.

 Joan Devlin 36:29

And so anything else of importance going on that we should keep our ears open for?

 36:33

Well, we in Washington, DC are getting ready to celebrate Capitol pride this next weekend.



Jack Valinski 36:38

Yes, yes. That happens earlier in Washington, because New York is such a big event. Well, you know, we're



36:45

expecting a couple of 100,000 people. And it's going to be quite a festival.



Jack Valinski 36:52

That's great. That's great. We're going to have well, you know, this is going to be the first year for our festival in a number of years, because we were concentrating on the night Parade, which has just grown so big.



37:02

That is exciting. Now that's in August check. No, no, no, no,



Jack Valinski 37:05

you're thinking to Dallas, no, our parade is on the same day. It's on Saturday, actually, of Pride weekend, you know, when the all the other major cities do it. And last year, we had 150,000 People at the parade.



37:16

That's gonna be quite a show. I was showing us down there. Yes, well, you're gonna



Jack Valinski 37:19

have to get that expense account fixed a little bit to come down here for one of these.



37:23

I'd love to



Jack Valinski 37:26

talk to your new boss

talk to your new boss.



37:29

And check out you know, I can't go into this, but I want to tease you a little bit. Okay. Next time. I'm on the show a month from now. We will have some very big news involving the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and something that will be going on in the fall in Houston.



Jack Valinski 37:46

Oh, okay. Well, of course, you know, and glTF will be represented in the parade. Oh, yes, absolutely.



Joan Devlin 37:53

Absolutely. Well, this thing that's going to happen in Houston doesn't mean you will be here.



37:58

Who knows? I wish I could be I know somebody from my organization preps or Executive Director prep. Some other folks will be there. But I don't know yet. My travel plans for November.



Jack Valinski 38:12

Well, David, thank you very much for joining us. David Elliot is communications director for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and Happy pride will thank you and



38:19

Happy pride to you and best wishes to the listeners of lesbian and gay voices.



Jack Valinski 38:23

You're listening to Kpf TS lesbian and gay voices.



Greg Gordon 38:27

Hey, guys, when you were a child, did you have an imaginary friend? Did you ever consider making love with him? This way out, Steve pride found out that's not as weird as it may sound, when he sat down with model turned author Brad Gooch to discuss his latest book finding the boyfriend with him.



38:48

In the first few pages of your book, you mentioned several times that you're good looking, how good looking, are you? This is Radio. So I have to ask questions.



38:57

Did I really do that? I've heard that I've done that. I know. I haven't gone by? I don't know I don't have the answer to that.



39:06

Well, that brings us right to this. You're an acclaimed writer, former high fashion model, you've been in GQ. You can't find a boyfriend should the rest of us just go out and play in traffic?



39:16

Well, I didn't say that I couldn't find a boyfriend. But this is about finding the boyfriend within and then also feeling that the search for the boyfriend was driving people crazy. And that seemed to indicate that something was wrong with this picture. So it's true. I've sat around tables with myself and different kinds of guys who are successful and interesting and intelligent. And then and then they all have this conversation like why can't I find a boyfriend a certain point? I asked just what you do, which is what this must not be what you want or what is wrong with this picture or what is it that you're really looking for. That led me then to this notion of chilling out and finding these qualities in yourself that you claim to be wanting to find other people, it doesn't mean that you can't be in a relationship and have the same need to chill out and get in touch with yourself.



40:09

So you can have an actual boyfriend and a boyfriend with that. Yes, actually helps. We've totally lost confused anyone who hasn't read the book. So let's backtrack. And tell me what is the boyfriend within



40:21

this is simple ancient concept that happiness comes from within that self respect, validation all come from within yourself that no one else can give those to. And it's just a gay spin on that because it seemed to me that the activity that charges that up the most for for gay people is this idea of finding a boyfriend. And that this someone out there is going to give you those feelings.



40:48

Well walk us through the process of finding your inner boyfriend because I got really confused right at the beginning when you insisted he needed his own pencil. So what are the steps in finding your inner boyfriend? Right?



41:00

I mean, for me, the process began partly when I was at a friend's house and an agent from LA who I knew came up to me with his new boyfriend of six months, his new boyfriend said to me, Oh, you're Brad Gooch, I wanted to meet you. I read one of your books. And some friends were talking about you at dinner. And I said, Oh, thanks. And he said, but do you have a boyfriend now? And I said, well, not at the moment. No. And he said, Well, then I guess it's all worth nothing. And Kai and I sort of stopped for a minute and then blurted out, well, what about the boyfriend within? Having never really thought of that? And he said, oh, people say things like that, but I never believed them. Then he kind of walked away, being not really Betty Davis like but spastic kind of in saying what people always think, I think. So from that I began mulling over in my head of this notion and what I really meant by it. And then one night, I came home to my unmade bed and to the times was spread all over it, there was a like us cereal bowl in between the pillows and the shade was up. And I just turn off the lights and tried to go to sleep and was lying there anxiously and thought, well, what if someone was coming over? If you were having a date? What would you do? And I thought, well, first thing I would do, would be to clean up. So I got up, made my bed, lit a candle made hot milk and nutmeg, and then a half hour later was sound asleep. So in a way that was the what I then thought of as my first date with the boyfriend within. And from that experience, then I started trying to kind of expanded a little bit. And then the expanding I started asking realize that I had these kinds of questions about relationships in life and love and who to have dinner with. And one day I just sat down and started writing out what these questions were. And like sort of paused for a little bit and then realized that I kind of had these answers to the questions. So I then kind of instinctively used another pen and wrote down the answers. from that came the single I call it procedure in the book for finding the boyfriend within where you sit down with a tablet, ask yourself these questions that you are interested in finding the answers and they can be big, like, What does sex mean? What do relationships mean? Or they can be should I go out with this person tonight? Do I really want to go to the movies. And somehow by having another pen, it seemed to slow down the process to getting to this kind of voice that comes most meaningfully from within or from the heart. Tell us about some of the awareness exercises you listed on a book. This is really this notion of dating yourself the first time that I did that I was having dinner, so that making dinner for my boyfriend with it. And it was the same idea that I realized, if I was going on a date with someone, I would make this kind of cool dinner for them or we would go out to a restaurant. If I was having dinner by myself I would sit in front of CNN and have a salad from the Korean deli. So same question Well, why would I go through all this for someone who I hardly know. But when it comes to eating by myself, I do this other fast track. So from that, then I had this whole night of having chicken and then listening to music and being by myself in an enjoyable way and and then began doing other things, going to restaurants by myself going on walks going to the movies. So it was really the idea that find that the boyfriend within isn't just a concept like the child within under something that it's that it's something you do. And if you make dates with yourself, you need to set time make plans and then if you do that, that's that's how you This all starts making sense and not just being some crazy title.



45:04

So you're actually coding yourself. Yeah, exactly. And in fact, you didn't even sleep with your boyfriend within intro page 94



45:13

Well, we're going slowly at first, getting to know each



45:17

other smart smile. You can do it for a while. It fades just like the settings it's at nighttime. When you're home alone in bed, defended being with someone having



Greg Gordon 45:33

I was this way I was tried in conversation with Greg Gooch, whose latest book finding the boyfriend within is published by Simon and Schuster. And



Glenn Holt 45:45

and that was from the lesbian and gay voices archive and the boyfriend within from the third of January of the year 2000. From this way out. This is lesbian and gay voices and taking a look now at what's been happening in the news. An international organization that represents and memorializes gays and lesbians executed during World War Two will get more than \$500,000. From a fund dedicated to helping survivors of Nazi persecution and to preserving their history. The pink triangle coalition made up of eight advocacy organizations in Europe, Israel and the United States will distribute the grant money to projects in Germany and the United States dedicated to the public education about the Nazi persecution of gays and lesbians. For nearly 60 years GLBT advocacy groups have fought for official recognition of the Nazi persecution of gays and lesbians. Until now with limited success. Julie Dorf, one of the founders of the pink triangle coalition, and former director of the International gay and lesbian Human Rights Commission said quote, this grant finally validates that the Nazi persecution happened and shows that it was wrong and should never happen again anywhere in the world. Ralph dos of Berlin's Magnus Hirschfeld society, added quote, this grant also underscores how little has been done by a number of governments particularly Germany, we are still waiting for the German government to even consider true reparations for the gay victims of the Nazi period. The grant comes from the US portion of the International Nazi persecutor key Relief Fund. The governments of 23 countries created the fund in 1997, partly from gold that the Nazis looted from occupied countries. This isn't the first time that money from the fund has gone to gays and lesbians. In 2000, the US portion of the relief fund gave \$70,000 to the pink triangle Coalition, which distributed part of it to seven gay European survivors of Nazi persecution and use the rest to fund a project searching for more survivors. One of the seven survivors who benefited from last year's disbursement, a 78 year old Polish man wrote to the pink triangle coalition saying quote, all my efforts to be recognized as a survivor of Nazi persecution, and to get a compensation have been turned down by the German government. I am overwhelmed

now to receive such a sign of recognition. The financial assistance given to me so unexpectedly was a gift from heaven. The new grant will be used to honor the Nazis, gay and lesbian victims by creating a CD ROM, a website and a related exhibit at the gay Museum in Berlin. Another project will publish a memorial book listing the names of gay and lesbian Berliners killed by the Nazis. A third project will promote the distribution of paragraph 175, a documentary about the Nazi persecution of gays. The film's title refers to the sodomy provision in the German Penal Code. From 1933 to 1945. More than 100,000 men were arrested for homosexuality by the Nazis under paragraph 175. As many as 15,000 were sent to concentration camps, and only about a third survived internment. Because paragraph 175 remained on the books until the 1960s. Many of those gay men who survived their wartime internment, remained in prison for years afterwards. Although the Nazis also persecuted lesbians the German laws against homosexuality did not apply to women, and therefore few were arrested or in turn explicitly for being lesbian. However, the vibrant pre war lesbian subcultures in Germany and Nazi occupied countries were destroyed, and many women were sent to prison as political prisoners or as degenerates rather than as lesbian. Since in November 2000, the German government for the first time officially apologized for the Nazi persecution of gays and lesbians. Bill what cut who fought for months to have Regina Mayor Pat fiato declare heterosexual Pride Day, we'll spend a day in a courtroom instead of a park. What caught the director of Christian truth activists has been charged with unlawfully distributing anti abortion literature on the University of Regina property. That's Regina, Saskatchewan, which is located in the heart of Canada's prairie provinces. What cuts trial is to begin June 18, the same day fiato declared to be heterosexual Pride Day. What God is well known in Regina for what activists say are his homophobic and anti abortion views. The university out there has free speech for its Lenin, Trotsky or the homosexuals. But the humanity of the unborn child is a no go wild caught said. What caught his kids said to heterosexual pride day we'll go ahead without him in his self penned proclamation. What cut wrote quote, When monogamy is practiced the husbands and wives who enjoy sexual relations in the confines of their heterosexual marriage, have no reason to worry about STDs, AIDS or broken hearts. A city by law authorizes the mayor to approve proclamations submitted by groups or individuals provided that they do not contain inflammatory, obscene or libelous statements, or promote hatred of any person or class of persons. The proclamation was rubber stamped by the mayor and released last week to a storm of criticism from gay and lesbian groups. Cathleen Hewitt, Executive Director of the gay and lesbian community of Regina complained that what cuts proclamation quote discriminates against anyone who is not white, straight Christian and a member of a nuclear family. The gay and lesbian community is holding a social on June 18, the same day as heterosexual family pride day. And at the same time, the Christian truth activists are planning a rally outside the courthouse in support of what cut an Airforce Captain discharged after he told his supervisor a superior officer that he is gay will have to repay the service more than \$70,000 for his medical education. According to a court ruling US District Judge William Alsop's may 29 ruling said Dr. John Han Sala, a psychiatrist presumably understood that violating the military's Don't Ask Don't Tell policy would mean his discharge and thus prevent him from fulfilling his obligation of four years active service. Quote, It is not unreasonable to infer that one intends the probable and foreseeable consequences of deliberate conduct. I'll subset in his decision, but has hella said the Don't Ask Don't Tell policy, still new and largely untested when he made his 1994 admission indicated that exceptions could be made to allow out gays to serve. He said he did not come out to shirk active duty, but for his professional psychiatric integrity and personal mental health. And Sala began his military funded medical training at Northwestern University in 1986, two years before he realized that he was gay. After graduation, he received two deferments of service, one for a three year residency at Yale University and the other for a two year fellowship in child psychiatry at the University of California. And Salah learned in December 1994 that his service commitment would begin at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois the next summer. With his lawyer's

advice he wrote to his superior, saying that he thought that they should know that he is gay, and that it would not affect his ability to serve as a child psychiatrist. The USA F began an investigation and found quote, strong evidence that Captain Han Salah made the homosexual statement, hoping to trigger separation and avoid his active duty commitment. He was discharged in November of 1997 and ordered to repay the costs of his tuition, books, supplies, equipment, and and board home borne by the military. The decision was upheld and appeals by the military chain and Han Solo filed suit in civilian court in May of 2000. Clyde Wadsworth and Salas lawyer told The Associated Press that he and Han Solo were deeply disappointed with all subs ruling and planned an appeal. Meanwhile, a panel established by the National Institute of Military Justice says the Pentagon should eliminate the armed services sodomy law. The seventh member commission on the fifth anniversary of 50th anniversary of the Uniform Code of Military Justice released its review of the UCMJ on Wednesday. Among its recommendations was the repeal of the military's sodomy statute, also known as article 125. The commissioners report said quote, all of the topics that appeared on the Commission's long list of possible areas for consideration, the issue of persecuting consensual sex offenders offenses attracted the greatest number of responses from both individuals and organizations. The Commission concurs with the majority of these assessments and recommending that consensual sodomy and adultery be eliminated as separate offenses in the UCMJ and the Marshall manual for courts martial. The panel headed by a retired federal appellate judge Walter T. Cox, the third found that prosecutions of the current military laws on adultery and sodomy, quote, are treated in an arbitrary even vindictive matter. They suggest that the adoption of a comprehensive criminal sexual conduct statute similar to laws passed in recent years by state legislatures. Quote, The Commission is appropriately urging Congress to step into the present and do right by our men and women in uniform. The military's sodomy law is antiquated and should be repealed, said see Dixon Osborn, Executive Director of the service members Legal Defense Network, as LDN submitted written comments to the commission, supporting a receipt of repeal of article 125. Sherif E. Greer SLD NS Legal Director testified before the commission at a public hearing earlier this year. Quote, article 125 is a throwback to English common law that has long since been abandoned by the militaries of the original NATO countries, including Great Britain, on whose laws ours relies said Greer, the commission's report has been forwarded to the Secretary of Defense Mr. Donald Rumsfeld, who is currently overseeing a comprehensive review of Pentagon personnel policies. The chairpersons and ranking members of the Senate and House Committees on armed services, as well as the code committee on military justice will also receive copies. And finally, a Minnesota Court has struck down that state sodomy law as an unconstitutional invasion of personal privacy happened in county judge Delilah F. Pierce granted a summary judgment requests from seven individual plaintiffs and the lavender Bar Association, declaring the statute unconstitutional, quote, as applied to private, consensual, non commercial acts of sodomy, by consenting adults because it violates the right of privacy guaranteed by the Minnesota Constitution. This is a tremendous victory because of what sodomy laws do, but also because of what they say said Matt Coles, director of the American Civil Liberties Union's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, which along with the ACLU of Minnesota state affiliate filed doe et al vs. Governor Jesse Ventura at AI last summer. Quote, a society's laws are at its core, a statement of right and wrong. sodomy laws because they are understood primarily to apply to lesbians and gay men, marginalize gay people for their pursuit of equal citizenships had coals any hearing before Pierce on April 19. attorneys representing the plaintiffs argued that the existence of the law on the state's books impacted their lives, even though none of them had actually been arrested for or charged with acts of sodomy. We will have more news later in our program, you are listening to lesbian and gay voices at 90.1 FM This is KPFT in Houston, the sound of Texas and now more of lesbian and gay voices.

 Joan Devlin 59:03

Good evening, I'm Joan Devlin, and I'm in the studio with Alexis Aikens. And she's going to be telling us about, well, something it's the gay and lesbian switchboard and also the Montorse counseling center that is doing a project. Can you tell us a little bit about that?

 59:16

We are working on a any violence project and specifically to address domestic violence and sexual assault and hate crimes and the gay lesbian, bisexual, transgendered community.

 Joan Devlin 59:32

And how has it been? Did this just start Have you had any response yet? Or have you not officially rolled it out yet?

 59:38

Well, something new that we adopted was the gay and lesbian switchboard and it's a hotline set up for the community that can give information referrals assistance, and connect the person to the center and how we can set them up with an intake. Something new that we've been doing is I'm assisting people shelter that are in abusive situations. So that's something new. And we like to get the information to the community, because many times people don't realize that they're in an abusive situation. And there is support and help available to the community.

 Joan Devlin 1:00:22

And I'd like to talk about that a little bit too, because a lot of people consider abuse as hitting physical violence, which of course, is abuse. But there's also mental abuse, emotional abuse, he tell us a little bit about those two, because I would say those are probably far more prevalent than people actually being hit,

 1:00:42

is there's many forms of intimate partner abuse. And some of those, in addition to, to what you mentioned, are economic abuse, property destruction, threats, intimidation. Many times, people are caught in a, in a relationship where they are intimidated to act being threatened, or outed. And many people have fear about that. Because they're not out to their family or their friends. And so maybe their support system is very limited. Their sexual abuse, in addition to the physical beings, and I think many times when people are in abusive situations, you know, and they talk with a friend, the friend is annoys, they might try to say that the relationship is

 1:01:47

1:02:17

well, they might not really direct the person to services, they might just say, well, you need to get out of that relationship, or the reason why you're having problems is because you're in a relationship that's gay or lesbian, or transgender. And that was the reason for the problem. And so there's really not the support out there available to help many of the people the community is not aware of, so if people get referred to the center, they can get assistance, they have a person who's a specialist that can work with the individual through counseling, advocacy, assistance with falling protective orders, if needed, assistance at the police department. So there, there is help available. And so we just want the community to be aware of it.

J Joan Devlin 1:02:32

And that's the thing too, because sometimes, you know, people just don't know what to do. And, you know, and, and it's scary, because there's probably a lot of people listening right now that are going to say, Oh, I would never get in an abusive relationship. But sometimes you don't realize, because these people are very manipulative. And I've known more than one person who's met this great guy, or, you know, a woman, quote, unquote, and the minute you know, they kind of move in together, or they get serious, that person undergoes this drastic change in personality or even over time, you know, it's very manipulative, manipulative, and it's very gradual, or so that within six months, you are being controlled, but they've done it so gradually that you don't quite, you know, catch it,

1:03:18

right. And there's usually the relationship escalates. With the abuse, in terms of physical intimidation, it might start off at small things. Maybe in terms of jealousy, or, I do that because I love you type of situation, many times the, the, one of the partners will sabotage the other partners relationships, and, you know, trying to isolate them so that they don't, they have a smaller and smaller support system. So eventually, you're, you end up totally relying on that partner. So and it's a form of control. And yet many times it is gradual.

J Joan Devlin 1:04:01

Well, the other thing, too, I mean, sometimes it can be as simple as, you know, you're with a person and they display a temper, right? And you find yourself kind of doing things that you wouldn't normally do, because you just don't want to deal with them throwing a fit, you know, and I know somebody who's in that type of relationship, you know, her whole world revolves around keeping her partner from going

1:04:23

off, right, walking on eggshells, exactly afraid to do something in a way to set that person's temper off, or even sometimes

J Joan Devlin 1:04:31

afraid, you know, if she hears certain things on the news or something, because it's like, oh, you know, if they hear this, it's going to take them off. And then they're going to rant and rave all night, where I, you know, and it's kind of scary to think of somebody like living their whole life, trying to keep this other person in this little cocoon, so that they don't go off



1:04:52

and trying to adjust their environment to always make the other person happy. And you can only do it once, right and many times As you lose, you lose yourself in the relationship. Because you're constantly focused on the behavior, or how's that person going to act? And, you know, what are they doing? Right?



Joan Devlin 1:05:12

So when you find yourself saying things like, Oh, I hope George Bush doesn't win the presidential election, or I'll never hear the end of it. I mean, you can't control that. Or, you know, oh, I hope, you know, we're going to sleep in the Saturday and I hope one of the kids doesn't come, you know, doesn't turn the TV on too loud, or get a phone call from a friend before we're up, or I'll never all here abandoned all weekend, you can't control that, right? So when you're stressing out over factors, you have absolutely no control over because you're so scared, this person is going to lose it. I mean, that's, that's a frightening way to live, it is frightening,



1:05:49

and especially when you have been isolated by a partner, and you have nowhere else to turn, you know, you don't know where to go for help. And it's sometimes your person, right, and your self esteem has been eroded by the other person, you know, because that partner might blame blame you for everything that happens, or this is your fault. You know, I wouldn't be this way if you didn't make me do this. And so many people will take that on. And you know, as a result, they won't seek help, and they need it, but they, you don't, no one deserves abuse now.



Joan Devlin 1:06:24

And because you're gay, does not or lesbian or bisexual, transgendered. You know, it does not mean you deserve abuse. And I get very tired of hearing people talk about, you know, well, I'm 40 something years old, and I'm 60 pounds overweight, and who else would have me that that's ridiculous to sit there and say you're going to put up with being abused, because it's better than being alone. That's, that's just insane.



1:06:49

And you don't have to be alone.

 Joan Devlin 1:06:52

No, but I mean, even if you do have to be alone, for a short time to heal, or to whatever, I mean, that there is nothing wrong with being alone. It is, to me, it is far better to be lonely, than to be living with someone who is constantly belittling you, and just making your life a living hell.

 1:07:13

That's true. And I think that, you know, over time when a situation is gradual, gradual, I think that people forget about that there are people out there that they can reach out to and talk to about this. And although they might be alone, in terms of not being in a relationship, they still do not have to be alone, because there is support in the community for that. I think that's part of the good thing about the switchboard and that you can call get assistance, you can talk to somebody, it's there 24 hours, so you can reach the Montrose counseling center or switchboard after hours. And there's somebody there that you can talk to about it, even just to get information. If you're curious, and you don't know, if you're in an abusive situation, you're not sure and you have questions, you can always call the center, switchboard and talk with somebody there.

 Joan Devlin 1:08:05

Well, that's the other thing, because unfortunately, people who are abused, get their information from the person who's abusing them, right? Because I've heard things like, Oh, I can't leave, they'll take my kids, they'll take my house, they'll, you know, sue me, and I'll have to pay them all kinds of money for whatever, you know, because they really are. It's it's very, it's really scary when someone has the kind of control over you to where they can tell you almost anything, you know, to keep you with them. And you you believe it? Yeah. You know that, you know, for instance, a partner that you've been with for two years, can take your children away from you. I mean, it doesn't happen. And you know what people believe it you know, I have a friend right now who had owned her home for five years before she met her current partner. And the partner said, Well, you know, if you ever kick me out, I can take your house because we're common law married? Well, hello, no, you're not. But she firmly believes that she's terrified. She's firmly convinced that you know, she's gonna lose her house. And really, you really need the voice of reason in there somewhere.

 1:09:18

Right? And sometimes it's, it's why it's good that you reach out and get some talk to somebody who might have an objective opinion and is not vested in that relationship. And, you know, can help and that's why we want to get the information out to the community so that people know that there is services out there people who do care and do want to listen, that they have somebody they can talk to,

 Joan Devlin 1:09:45

and what did they have to call to get this?

and what did they have to call to get this:



1:09:47

The number the switchboard is 713-529-3211



Joan Devlin 1:09:53

and there'll be somebody there 24 hours she said, Yes,



1:09:55

they provide information and knowledge they provide on judgmental support crisis intervention, and were served referral services for the city's gay and lesbian, bisexual and transgender community.



Joan Devlin 1:10:07

Well, that's great because sometimes too, you just need somebody who's not close to the situation, right to look at it because unfortunately, like you said, your friends will just look at you and say, we'll go wet, you know, move in with me or kick them out or, and sometimes you're just not physically up to doing that. Right. Well, great. Well, I want to thank you so much. We've been talking to Alexis Aikens who's been talking to us about a joint project between the gay and lesbian switchboard and the Montrose Counseling Center. And you are currently listening and will be listening for the next hour or so to lesbian and gay voices we have



Glenn Holt 1:10:38

vasos making you listen. Yes, you have to put your headphones on for this. They have is making your Listen Yes.



Joan Devlin 1:10:46

Well, maybe you do.



Glenn Holt 1:10:48

Well, actually, considering that you had a rather heavy and profound subject there I thought that we would now lighten things up a little bit okay. There any therapists



1:10:58

Have you all been making decisions about the environment to the extent that the... I need to see to

here are all going where do you ask? I never went to therapists actually, I used to go to confession. I probably would still be going to confession if they gave gas. A nice little tank of helium outside is going hey



1:11:21

let me ask you this. Do you think it's alright to lend out your codependency books



1:11:35

I'm actually writing my own book on codependency who isn't big. All I have is a title so far. And it's called Hey, I was just trying to be nice.



1:11:52

Okay, I'll try my new country western codependent song on you. It's called if you leave me Can I come to



1:12:04

you leave me. Are there any music therapists here? I don't know what they do. But I liked the idea of it. Near as I can figure you go in explain your problems. And as you're talking, she's going through her record collection. Keep talking to her. I hear show tunes. I love that idea. I should go to a music therapist. Because I was raised Catholic, pre Vatican two. And so I don't understand the words to songs. I mean, if it's not in Latin, and if it's faster than Gregorian chant, I really can't understand it



1:12:46

I should go to a music therapist. I hate movie musicals. I mean, they always think it the worst times Yentl almost killed me. Oh, she's gonna sing but it's gonna be to herself but we're going to know about it. Sounded music made me a little grumpy. How many of you are recovering Catholics? See this? Oh, we got a group. They raised their hands. Catholics raise their hands were obedient Unitarians will not respond. Unitarians think to themselves? Yes, I'm a Unitarian. I pray to the unit. So what the Jewish people are looking at me going Oh, here she goes with the Catholics. But I believe that Jews are co Catholics



1:13:37

Catholics or CO Jews. What goes around comes around and where they meet that's Italian.



1:13:48

Catholics are exempted. Catholics are the most exempt. Catholics are the most exempt.

Catholics are so weird. Catholics are the worst singers. It's true. We are the worst singers. Catholics are the only people I know who can sing and breathe in at the same time. You can go by a Catholic church going full tilt boogie on a Sunday morning and you cannot hear a thing. They're all in they're gone and they lose.



1:14:12

But what's the thing



1:14:13

about this is an organization run by an old guy who wears a Malita filter on



1:14:18

his head that was lesbian feminist humorist cake Clinton from her publishing Mills audio book. Don't get me started. The arrival of an American task



1:14:32

force the latest news from the world's hotspots. Last night's rally in Tel Aviv, timely interviews and authoritative analysis Beijing has been stoking up such warnings for the past. That's news our I'm Robin Lustig with the global resources of the BBC. We put you at the center of international events. It's a comprehensive view of your day in the world on news.



1:14:55

That's the BBC News Hour Monday through Friday eight to 9am am on Houston's naughty boy one KPFT this sound of Texas you're listening




Glenn Holt 1:15:05

to lesbian and gay voices. Yeah, we're




Jack Valinski 1:15:07

gonna do a little talk about this up last promo. I mean, it's a little bit off the subject. But starting July 1, the BBC World Service's is no longer going to be doing shortwave broadcast to Canada and America. Wow. So they're cutting the cord. And I guess their rationale is that on most people who listen to the BBC can either pick it up on an FM station like us, although we only play an hour a day of it, or they pick it up on the internet. So shortwave broadcasting has sort of gone out of style.

 Glenn Holt 1:15:38

Yeah, well, a lot of shortwave broadcasting, too, has been taken over by religious fundamentalists.

 Jack Valinski 1:15:45

Yeah, not only shortwave broadcasting, but you know, the non commercial spectrum and the commercial spectrum here in America. There's also a little known fact that on Time Warner Cable, you can pick up the BBC on channel 95. Audio side, if you don't have digital, if you have digital, it's secretly hidden on a&e channel 23 in the SAP channel. You tell me I don't have a life. Really. So it's there, although it's not quite as clear as it is when you're listening to on KPFT and KPFT. You don't need the Internet to listen to.

 Glenn Holt 1:16:19


But it's a whole lot clearer than it ever used to be on shortwave.

 Jack Valinski 1:16:23

Yes. Well, in the old days before KPFT had some money. We used to rebroadcast it off the shortwave.

 Glenn Holt 1:16:29


Yeah, I can remember doing that in college. Yeah, it was pretty


 Jack Valinski 1:16:32


bad, though. But anyway, you're listening to lesbian and gay voice just to get back on subject of it is Pride Month. And we're spotlighting a number of events. I wish we can spotlight them all. But we just don't have the time, because we ramble on a lot to talk about all the events, but one of the I think probably big events, or very important events is the names project. And Alex Soto is here and he is chair of the board. And why don't you tell us what you're all doing?


 1:17:01

Well, for this month, what we're providing is an exhibition of actually aids Memorial Quilt Blocks. And these are 12 by 12 blocks of the AIDS Memorial Quilt of Houston residents. And these will be displayed, three blocks will be displayed each week, for four weeks, throughout the month of June. Okay, and


 Jack Valinski 1:17:25
where are they going to be displayed?


 1:17:26
They're going to be these displayed at the names project workshop, which is located at 4617, Montrose and the Chelsea Market Center.


 Jack Valinski 1:17:33
That's a nice center.


 1:17:34
Yes, it is very,

 Jack Valinski 1:17:35
what's nice about it is it's out there in France. Yes. You know, the main area of the shopping center and you have a workshop there?

 1:17:43
Yes, we do. Yes, we do. It's basically a learning center and a workshop because people we actually come in to ask questions about the quilt, identify people that they know who have a panel and to also learn how to make a panel.

 Jack Valinski 1:17:57
And even though this is this is art, it really has a very personal touch to a lot of people

 1:18:02
Oh, most definitely, most definitely. It's truly made up of mementos of people's lives. And these are personal mementos, things that actually people wore, or people used, or, you know, pieces of clothing, things that loved ones remembered the most about them.

 Jack Valinski 1:18:22
It is incredible. If anybody hasn't seen some of these panels, it's just you know, even somebody who never cries, you cry. And I know certainly of seeing it in Houston and a few other places

when it's been out of having the tissue boxes around when you do some of those major displays. It is really incredible. And how you all sort of bring this to different venues and to be able to bring it out. You were telling me about taking up to Conroe.



1:18:48

Right, we recently had a display at the Northwoods aids Coalition, which was it's an it's a paid service organization located in Conroe. That primarily services, the rural areas outside Harris County, and I believe, services, seven different counties, and providing pantry services and AIDS and education and things of that nature. And basically, they had a, quote display there. And that was introduced by the mayor as well as talked about and viewed by the community of Conroe. So I think it was definitely well, I know it was definitely well received. It was on the front page of their paper and it had the mayor speaking so what else could you It's pretty



Jack Valinski 1:19:34

incredible. Yeah. From where we came from, you know, and anybody who's knows about the names project in Houston, always associated so with Pete PD, as we used to call them, Pete Martinez, and unfortunately he's just he passed away recently. Yes, I'm sure your organization has great to, you know, a great gratitude for all the work he's done and how he's, you know, you know, used I always think about this when we to be at Westheimer street festival PD is there like at six o'clock securing that space? You know, you have to fight with him in front of Mary's in his dedication was just absolutely incredible.



1:20:12

Most Most certainly I mean, Pete, as I mentioned earlier in our conversation believed in an idea, a small man with a big heart. Oh, yeah, most definitely. And he believed in this idea, its mission and became part of a movement. But I think what's most important about Pete is that he himself had vision. And with that vision, he built or was a part of the names project that produced many, many of the panels that are currently part of the AIDS quilt. And as I had mentioned earlier, about approximately 10,000 panels of the AIDS quilt are from the Houston area. And that's incredible. It really is. And we've we feel that, you know, the best way to memorialize obviously, PILT is to carry on this, Pete rather, is to carry on the message of the quilt Sure, him being so dedicated to the quilt. And being a part of it. I mean, it's it's synonymous with him. And for such a small person had a big heart, and also moved a lot of people as well. Well, you know, I



Jack Valinski 1:21:18


remember when they used to supposedly bring out the entire quilt, I guess that's it's not feasible these days. That it's just, you know, you just can't do that. No, I



1:21:28

Well, you know, it's just, you know, you just can't do that. No, I

believe now, it is over 44,000 panels are it's made up of 40 over 44,000 panels. And so, which only represent a small fraction or a number of names that have individuals who have actually passed away. And we're really encouraging people not only to come by, but to the workshop and learning center, but also to prepare for our upcoming aids, you know, Memorial dedication on November 30. And to start creating panels for individuals that have that have passed away we recently have received. Currently, now we have four that have been made. And we are putting out requests for people to turn them in, or to make them and today

 Jack Valinski 1:22:10

or is it tomorrow is the 20th anniversary of the first medical report of AIDS. It's actually tomorrow, tomorrow. And the actual medical report was printed in New York Times today. I believe you can download it if you want to look at it. But certainly this thing has changed the face of AIDS. I mean, it was all gay, white men are exactly getting it now. And unfortunately, we're seeing the numbers go up again for gay men and gay men of color. But also other people too. Oh, most definitely. And it's just really sad. How this how the names project has changed the focus on the gay community and their family now to deal with with other people. That must be an also an educational thing, too.

 1:22:57

Yes, most definitely. I've always thought of it more as the as the breaker and healing and healing, you know, it provides not only a way to deal with grief, and it is also a healing mechanism. But it also is the buffer or breaker of individuals who, for some reason or another can't get past the fact that their loved one died of AIDS, rather than focusing on that, that they focus on, that this was somebody it's a testament, it's a living memorial, rather than something hard and etched in stone, it is truly a memorial made up momentos. And people can get through that. And in addition to that, it also is a buffer against communities, communities who have been in denial communities who have cultural and sexual taboos, you know, the them understanding how to make a quilt and and then learning that it is a quilt made up for their loved one takes a whole totally different meaning. And so we see that there are more panels made up of individuals of color and different ethnicities, things of that nature. So well, that's really

 Jack Valinski 1:24:12

interesting. And this is sort of my comment, but you know, our community was sort of made up, it's all about sex. And in a sense, you know, that we were denied this when we were young that the church and the community and the data were all against us. And then when we came out, we just sort of some of us sort of went crazy, whereas some of the other communities is totally in denial that there is sex, and how this is all sort of affected. And you know, the names projects is certainly one element of it. We were also talking earlier about, you know, the anger that we all had when we were in the streets screaming and yelling. And now the survivors of you know, the older age of our community are now involved in the direct process. I mean, Lou Vantage, for example, who's now head of the Ryan White funding mechanism here in this area, and then Karina, I mean, that's, that's a perfect scenario there, that we're now part of the solution. But the unfortunate thing is that education still isn't getting through to the younger people.



1:25:09

Um, I can't agree with you more, I think there's a there's an issue of denial. And there's an also the issue of complacency. And I think that with the numbers going up, it's very possible that there will be a backlash to all of this and for every community. And the names project, Houston, which serves as the repository for the AIDS quilt will, you know, over the last 12 years, have, has seen all these all of these changes. And as a result has basically looked at never changing, obviously, its mission or its goals, but really being there at its various stages, right, in the community, as well as in the whole AIDS epidemic, addressing its various forms and shapes that it's taken out, or, you know, also the various political stance. I mean, I think there have been many, but we've been rather constant. You know, it's about remembering the names. And it's something you can't forget,



Jack Valinski 1:26:12

this is the largest, they were trying to remember the folk art that they call it or art project. Anywhere in the world, I would guess at this point. Yeah.



1:26:22

Yes. It it has been referred to as an in that way. And, and it is truly an artwork, whether it's folk, whether it's quilting, whatever it may be, it is truly, I think, a piece of work that can truly move you from, from panels that are so ornately designed, and to very simple messages.



Jack Valinski 1:26:49

Well, certainly I don't look at the professionalism. I look at, you know, what it represents. And I mean, some of it is incredibly professional, and some of it is is homemade, which is, you know, which has a whole nother element to it. But you know, I mean, you know, being in places like the Capitol, you know, in Austin, a few years ago was just incredible to see that. So if somebody, how can somebody find the names project? Where are you at? Well, we're



1:27:13

located in the Chelsea Market Center, and that is 4670, Montrose Boulevard. It is suite number c 140. And our office hours or the office hours for viewing our Saturday and Sunday from one to five. Now throughout the month of June, we will be open from 530 to nine every Thursday. And as I said earlier, there'll be three different panels every week, or excuse me three different blocks every week. And so the names and the numbers of those blocks will be posted there at the workshop. For those individuals who would like to find out they can call 713-526-2637 they can leave their name and number and I'll be more than glad to give them a call back.



Jack Valinski 1:27:55

 Jack Valinski 1:27:55

Great. Well, Alex, thank you for coming by and talking to us about the names project. And if you want to find out anything about all the events that are going on, you can check out the website pride.houston.org. Under community calendar, you can go to the Texas triangle, which is Tx.triangle.com. They have a complete listing of all the events and this month, just out [outsmart](http://outsmart.com), go to their website, which is [out smart magazine.com](http://outsmartmagazine.com) listing all the events of pride and you can especially find out the information about the names project.

 1:28:29

Exactly. We also have a website of our own, which is www.namesproject.org, which also lists these events.

 Jack Valinski 1:28:38

Great. You're listening to lesbian and gay voices. Continuing with

 Glenn Holt 1:28:42

news, the see the CDC reported Thursday that young gay and bisexual men, especially in the black community, are becoming infected with HIV at rates, like those that these groups had when the AIDS epidemic peaked in the mid 1980s. In a study released to mark the 20th anniversary of the discovery of AIDS, US health experts said that the virus might be poised to make a strong comeback, particularly among gay and bisexual males between the ages of 23 and 29. The CDC said insufficiently targeted health education programs, growing complacency in the wake of successful drug therapies, and the continuing stigma attached to AIDS patients could be responsible for the alarming rise in infection in HIV. The Atlanta based federal agency followed a group of almost 3000 young bisexual and gay men in six US cities from 1998 to 2000, and found that every year an additional 4.4% tested HIV positive. The rate of new infection for blacks in the group was 14.7%, almost six times the 2.5% rate for white members of the same group. These are explosive HIV incident rates, said Dr. Linda Val Roy The CDC epidemiologist who led the study, the CDC admitted that its small sample might not be representative of all gay men, but it described the study's findings as critical a critical public health matter. CDC researchers noted that the new HIV infection rates found among young gay and bisexual black males, who are comparable to rates recorded in parts of Africa, considered the continent hardest hit by AIDS. 1/3 of all US black and gay bisexual males under the age of 30 are HIV positive, according to the CDC, quote, with the exception of Botswana, if you are a black, gay and under the age of 30, in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Detroit, or any other urban area, you are more likely to be HIV positive than if you live in the hardest hit areas of Sub Saharan Africa, said Phil Wilson, Executive Director of the African American AIDS policy and Training Institute, the CDC, which hopes to cut the annual rate of new HIV infections in half within five years, so there was an urgent need to expand HIV prevention programs to young gay men and others at high risk. Federal health officials in Washington said Thursday that rates of the sexually transmitted disease gonorrhea have shown a disturbing increase among gay and bisexual men in the United States. The findings suggests a rise in risky sexual behavior that is also linked with an increase in HIV infection. Researchers from the CDC found that men who have sex with other men are making up a growing percentage of us cases of gonorrhea using data from 29 sexually transmitted disease clinics throughout America. The study found

that gay and bisexual men made up 4.5% of gonorrhea cases in 1992 and 13.2% in 1999. CDC investigator Dr. Kimberly Foxx, who led the study said gonorrhea rates among gay and bisexual men jumped during the 1990s. She said that exact figures on the number of gay and bisexual men with the disease do not exist but worrisome increases were seen in clinics in San Francisco, Chicago, Honolulu, and several other major US cities. The findings were published in the American Journal of Public Health and a special issue focusing on matters relating to gay, bisexual, and transsexual men and women. Quote, The most important implication in seeing increasing gonorrhea among men who have sex with men, is the fact that the men have gonorrhea indicates that they have had risky sexual behaviors, said Fox. She also noted that gonorrhea has been shown biologically to facilitate the transmission of HIV. The use of a condom is highly effective in preventing both gonorrhea and HIV infection. Gonorrhea is a bacterial infection. In men symptoms include pus from the penis and pain during pain and burning sensation during urination. Symptoms of rectal infection include discharge, anal itching, and powerful bowel painful bowel movements with fresh blood on the feces. If untreated, gonorrhea can spread to the reproductive tract or into the bloodstream and affect the joints, heart valves or even the brain. Gonorrhea cases among gay and bisexual men had dropped in the 1980s Thanks to the safe sex campaign aimed at preventing HIV infection experts said overall US gonorrhea rates began to decline during the 1970s and continued to do so through the night through 1997. Before the increase as many as 2 million GLBT youth in the United States are not getting the education that they should, because of the high level of abuse and harassment they are subjected to in their schools, says a respected international human rights monitoring organization. The report titled hatred in the hallways, violence and discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered students in US schools. released Thursday by the Human Rights Watch is the result of two years of interviews with 140 youth and 130 teachers, administrators, counselors and parents in seven states. Quote, The US school system gets a failing grade when it comes to providing a safe place for gay students to get an education. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender kids face a greater risk of bullying than any other students in American high schools. That has to stop. So at Michael butcher neck counsel to the Children's Rights Division of HR w one of the report's authors. According to the study, school officials often refused to either document reports of harassment against gay youth or condemn the perpetrators. Some officials blame GLBT students for being abused, saying they provoke attacks by flaunting their identity, or by not being normal. The report said, too many gay youth spend so much energy at school, plotting how to avoid verbal and physical attacks that they have little energy left to learn the study said some GLBT youth who can't cope with the pressure drop out of school altogether, and others attempt suicide. A 1999 study by the Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network or Gleason showed that more than two thirds of gay youth reported some form of harassment or violence, with nearly 60% saying they did not feel safe at school. Gleason spokesman Jim Anderson said HR W's attention to the issue is particularly significant to the GLBT community. Quote, folks who haven't heard of Gleason will have heard of the Human Rights Watch. There is a history of government bodies taking action when HR double W reports are released. He said recent reports from the organization after investigations into male prison rape and treatment of juveniles in prison led to quick introduction of legislation addressing problems, legislative bodies and decision makers pay attention to them. The report makes clear that we're not talking about simple teasing. This report shows it negatively impacts a student's ability to learn, Anderson said he believes that having Human Rights Watch behind the effort will have a serious impact with policymakers. Anderson praised the HR W's report's authors for recognizing the complexity of the country's school system. Recommendations for teachers, librarians and local school boards accompany those for state and federal legislators. He also noted several recommendations made specifically with transgender students in mind. Too often they are missing from these reports Anderson said recommendations won't be enough to change things Anderson said without the

GLBT community speaking up, quote, state and national legislators on down to the local school board candidates need to hear that this is an issue with their which their constituents care about he said. news organizations all over the country are running stories related to the HR W report. Many of them featured GLBT youth who have taken a stand against the abuse they have suffered. Quote, there are 1000s of kids all over the country who are local heroes daily, but you shouldn't have to be a local hero to get an education he said. And finally the world's largest private sector Oil Company voted against same sex partner benefits and a sexual orientation non discrimination policy at their annual shareholders meeting on July 30. The resolution would have restored benefits terminated at Mobil after its 1999 merger with Exxon. As in past years, Exxon Mobil management opposed the measure. Company chair Lee Raymond said the company's blanket ban on discrimination covered everyone and singling out a particular group for protection was unnecessary. But given that about three quarters of the country's largest companies have explicit sexual orientation anti discrimination policies. quote it seems Exxon Mobil's defiance reflects an unease and discomfort on the issue of sexual orientation, said Kenneth Sylvester, Director of pension policy with the New York City Employees Retirement System. So investors group sponsored and actively lobbied for the resolution 13% of Exxon Mobil Corporation shareholders voted for the proposal, making it the most successful of eight resolutions on environmental and social issues. Other proposals would have made social and environmental performance factors in executive pay required reporting on potential environmental damage of drilling in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and mandated renewable energy development. All eight proposals made the 6% vote requirement that allows them to be reintroduced at the next shareholders meeting. We will be back next year if management does not change its mind said Shelly alperin of Trillium Asset Management of Boston, socially responsible investment group that supported the non discrimination and benefits resolution. And that is our look at what's been happening in the news this week. You're listening to lesbian and gay voices.

 J Joan Devlin 1:39:18

Good evening. This is John Devlin. And I have Michael Luna and BJ almond. And they are members of the Houston Montrose Athletic Association. And they're here to talk about the fun run. So can you tell us about the fun run?

 1:39:31


Yeah, well, if you're a runner or Walker, we have a great way to start your Saturday morning coming up on June 9. It's the fourth annual Houston gay and lesbian pride 5k fun run and walk.


 J Joan Devlin 1:39:42


So 5k How long is that?

 1:39:44


One miles?


 Joan Devlin 1:39:45
That's not so bad. It's


 1:39:46
about same distance run Memorial Park. So it's pretty easy and we do have water out and of course for people we start at 730 in the morning to try to get away from Houston seat. And good luck. Yeah, it's pretty bad. But at the end of the day, Yes, we do have lots of refreshments. We have coffee, we have juices. We have fruit, claw cheese, cinnamon rolls and beer. And we have music. So we have something for everybody.


 Joan Devlin 1:40:09
Wow. At the end of the race, you started seven wonders the rice actually start


 1:40:12
at 730. So rain or shine.

 Joan Devlin 1:40:15
By the time you finish it. It's only like 930 or 10 o'clock. Oh, no,

 1:40:18
let me finish. It's eight o'clock. Oh. That's 12 o'clock somewhere. Yeah. Wow.

 1:40:25
So there's a short party right afterwards. And we'll do some trophy presentations. And we'll also give out door prizes.

 1:40:30
Yeah, we have lots of door prizes this year.

 Joan Devlin 1:40:33
And how does it work? Do you have to get sponsors or anything like that? No, you



1:40:36

don't you get an entry form. We have our entry forms at Crossroads at Lobo page eight of outsmart with gay men on the cover. Sending your club dollars, the entry fee, or you can register packet pickup, which is Lobo on Thursday, this Thursday, from 3/7. And Friday from 11 to seven on race morning from 630 to 730. That's \$12. When you talk dollars, you get to enter the race, you get a really colorful t shirt as you can see, yeah, it's looking really good. Yeah. Oh, it's my chest. But yeah, so that's all you have to know sponsors just be ready to go out there. You don't need to. I mean, if you don't want to walk or run, if you just want to come down and party with us after the race. You're welcome to join us. Okay. And



1:41:24

the race is actually a long Memorial Drive, ask Yeah, where does it start? It starts at Sabine Street, which is the bridge there, it's right by Fondy Recreation Center. And the probably the best place to park would be at lot H as a city parking lot just on the east side of Fondy. You can park there for \$3. If you tell them you're there for the fun run, or you can park on the north side of memorial for free if you use the residential streets and then can use the bridge that crosses it Sabine straight to get over to the right side.



Joan Devlin 1:41:52

And it's 3.1 miles and what is the Houston Montrose Athletic Association.



1:42:00

In the past, we always in order to become 5031, I will three C 13713. C organization. We just formed this organization to put on the fun one every year because we do have people giving us money. And we have to write checks for the T shirts and we don't want to pay taxes and stuff. And so that's what he's done Montrose. It's basically to promote running within the gay community. And is this



Joan Devlin 1:42:23

a benefit of any kind?



1:42:25

I'm glad you asked. Every year we pick an organization that will get a portion of the proceeds. And this year, just like last year, we're going to give the money to a sisters. And that's a volunteer organization that provides in home support and care to lesbian women with chronic illnesses.

 Joan Devlin 1:42:41

And what if you don't want to run but you want to help out in some other way? Could you use people like handout water or do some other things along the race route,

 1:42:48

we can always use volunteers. They can stay that goes hand out water on the course. At the mile one and mile two, we have water, the start and finish we have water when he volunteers at the finish shoots when he volunteers at the food area. Tori and the other people sisters do a really good job. They bring out lots of volunteers. But we could always use more.

 1:43:10

And if you make that effort to come out and help us out on Saturday morning, we'll give you a free T shirt for your volunteer efforts. Plus you get to party with this

 1:43:17

department. That's always a plus.

 Joan Devlin 1:43:19

And what is the response been

 1:43:20

so far? It's been the same as last year as well. All yours all three years, we've had 200 entries. We're hoping to get an increase. That's why we had this ADD and outsmart are hoping to go up to 250 entries this year. But we're right on track or we were here before.

 Joan Devlin 1:43:34

Well, you know it's gay community. They'll they'll do it at the last minute. Yeah. Game Fair amount. Right, exactly.

 1:43:40

And the key thing to remember is if you if you do want to do the run and you haven't already registered, it's this Thursday at Lobo from three to seven or this Friday from 11 to seven we'll be there with packet registration and packet pickup. And if you can't make it each of those days you can come out an hour before the race on Saturday from 630 to 730.



1:43:58

And the race will go on rain or shine last year Tory called us up at four o'clock in the morning because it was coming down buckets. His race canceled no it's not races are never canceled. We will be there. I think we I think it rained a lot in like Clear Lake and the southern part of Sugarland, but Houston it cleared up perfectly just for our race.



Joan Devlin 1:44:16

Yeah, well, you can't go by rain anyway. Because you know Houston five minutes later. It's new weather.



1:44:22

So yeah, so just come on down. We'll be there.



Joan Devlin 1:44:25

Okay, well, great. Well, good luck to you. I hope you get your 250 People can go to Lobo, Thursday, three to seven or Friday 11 to seven. Or they can come an hour before the race and pick up their packet and need volunteers. No one will be turned away I assume.



1:44:41

Or if you have extra money. Just want to give to us. Hey, we'll take that too. Yeah, you don't know



Joan Devlin 1:44:45

just buying a packet doesn't obligate you to walk or run the 3.1 miles.



1:44:50

And if you are planning volunteer we would like to know ahead of time and I have a phone number you can call just to let the race director know and that's 7136618 919 I'll give that to you one more time. 713-661-8919 That's the number you should call if you just want to volunteer to help out with the race



Joan Devlin 1:45:10

and benefiting a sisters



1:45:11

sisters. Yes. Very good group.



Joan Devlin 1:45:14

Well, thank you. Thank you so much. We've been talking to Michael Luna and BJ almond and they're members of the Houston Montrose Athletic Association. And they're talking about the Easton gay and lesbian pride 5k Fun Run, which will be happening this weekend. Saturday, June 9 at 7:30am starts on Memorial Drive near San Juan St. Glenn. What what's next,



Glenn Holt 1:45:37

this is next. Looking at the weather partly cloudy with a 30% chance of showers or thunderstorms this evening. Tuesday and Tuesday night occasional showers and thunderstorms with some heavy rain. Highs we'll be in the 80s with lows in the mid 70s. Wednesday Mostly cloudy with a 50% chance of showers or thunderstorms and highs in the upper 80s. The outlook for the weekend including Thursday and Friday Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms each day with lows in the upper 60s and highs in the upper 70s. It's been a long time since we mentioned anything about the weather, isn't it? Yes. I just I was in the other room and they have our our wire service is actually feeding KPFT weather now, which it wasn't doing for a very long time.



Joan Devlin 1:47:09

So what is the weather? Well, I



Glenn Holt 1:47:10

just did the weather you weren't paying attention or you



Joan Devlin 1:47:12

know, I haven't been paying attention to you all my



Jack Valinski 1:47:14

Well that's true. It's hurricane season.



Joan Devlin 1:47:16

That's right, because you were in closed

J Jack Valinski 1:47:18

and I hurricane season and Pride Month. And speaking of Pride Month, there's a lot of stuff going on. First of all, if you want to be in the parade, you have until Tuesday at 7pm to get your application in and show up at the mandatory meeting at the multipurpose Center, which is 1475 West grade, the mandatory meeting starts at 7pm. If you don't have your application and money in hand, you will not be in the parade. But if you want to watch the parade, you can just show up the day of the parade. The parade starts at 8:45pm on Saturday, June 23 number of things are going on and I probably the best thing upfront is to give you the websites where you can find the official pride calendars. And that it is a singular calendar. But it's on multiple websites and one is including prideuston.org under Community Calendar, TX triangle.com and out smart magazine.com. There is so many wonderful things going on. I wish I can do them all I wish I can do some of them actually, oh, I know.

J Joan Devlin 1:48:19

Every year just expands and expands it seems like

J Jack Valinski 1:48:23

and we're going to be featuring more people on next week of some of the stuff and one of the things that's going on is Ray Hills version of history that is going to be going on unfortunate it's gonna be going on Monday, Monday night on purpose. Between that will be June 18 at the community center, 803 Hawthorne, and you can call them at 5243818. For more information. It's finished in quite a few things for they have a whole bunch of stuff going on the water. You know, of course this show is also one of the pride events. And we're talking about the stuff that the names practice is doing and the fun run that's happening on Saturday. There is even a Buddhist approach to achieving victory over homophobia. That sounds like an interesting thing. And I'm just sort of going to talk you know just ramble on a little bit about these because the actual times and dates are on the website, which is probably the best place to go.

J Joan Devlin 1:49:20

Katz deli is having a parade watching party that benefits the AFA

J Jack Valinski 1:49:25

and the pride committee in the Pride Parade and yes, so if you don't want to be too hot that day, you can go in there the day after the parade, which is Sunday, June 24. We are going to be doing the festival and that's going to be at the garden the heights 3926 Fagan off of wall and it's the first time we're gonna have a festival since 96.

J Joan Devlin 1:49:42

J Joan Devlin 1:49:42

Yeah, and you know, that's that's kind of a big event. Because I mean, for years people have been asking, you know, what happened to the festival? What happened to the festival? And so now we're having like a total Pride weekend this year.

J Jack Valinski 1:49:51

Yes, yes. Well, we have a total Pride Month. The Film Festival is I guess there's a few things going on. But that pretty much the major Part of its over, but some of the films are still running.

J Joan Devlin 1:50:03

And Nico and Danny is still up at Landmark. And I think diverse works is wrapped up. But I want to say that The MFE think there's still a couple of chances to see paragraph 175 and the gray girl.

J Jack Valinski 1:50:17

Well, I understand that diverse works is doing a number of things, although they didn't get it listed in the pride, the official pride calendar,


J Joan Devlin 1:50:24


and ACLU they called in earlier tonight. They are having an annual dinner meeting on the sixth of June, which is Wednesday at 6pm. At going to mispronounce this restaurant name, but I think it's Michelle says how they said it.


G Glenn Holt 1:50:41

There was something that I noticed in the news that didn't make it into our newscast that I know Jack would be interested in hearing to remember the name of Andrew Howard. From from out on the West Coast. No. He was actually one half of the first openly gay couple to host a radio talk show really, and he died suddenly last Monday of a pulmonary embolism. Howard was 34 years old and he began his career with Los Angeles's KF I am radio in 1999 as the co host of the Carol and Andrew show, that's Carol spelled K a r e l. And he created that with his partner of 12 years. And according to the Los Angeles Times, The Daily Show, which aired in the evenings was on hiatus at the time of the death while the station was looking for a new time slot for it. But the Los Angeles Times said that the program defied labels with its mix of news talk humor and banter between the hosts sounds kind of familiar, doesn't it? Probably the most notable moment came in 1999 is Howard and Bulli spoke live to a student who was crouched under her desk talking on a cell phone during the Columbine High School shooting who well quote they were just so different like nothing else on the radio in Los Angeles ever, said David Hall KFR is programming director. The station also carries shows hosted by conservatives such as Laura Schlessinger and Rush Limbaugh so that would have been an interesting mix.


 Jack Valinski 1:52:11
Yeah. KFR has a 50,000 watt am station very powerful,

 Glenn Holt 1:52:15
Clear Channel station.

 Jack Valinski 1:52:16
No, not well, you don't meet No I actually told by Cox but I think it's I don't know if it's clear channel but it's pretty close to it. It's like at 640 or something like that a really good frequency.

 Glenn Holt 1:52:26
Okay. They didn't feel like it was their job to be poster boys for the gay community or to affect social change just because they were the first openly gay hosts who were partners off the air, said I. Peterson, editor of radio and records magazine. Carol was obviously the primary spokesman Andrew was shyder and more cerebral, but he was also very funny. He took things lightly. And also this past week. You know, we've had we've talked about volleyball on here before, right? Unfortunately, this past week, the local gay volleyball league lost one of its young and vibrant members. Chris Washington died, I guess kind of unexpectedly a week ago this evening. He had had hepatitis apparently. And that was I think about a couple of months ago. And then he was admitted to the hospital. Not this past Sunday, but the Sunday before suffering from dehydration and some kind of liver problems, complications from hepatitis and pancreatitis and then passed away the following day though that Monday.

 Jack Valinski 1:53:40
There is also a page story on Maria mana coochie who also passed away recently good friend of ours and the community center they really nice story they wrote up in Houston press.

 Joan Devlin 1:53:51
Yeah, that was very touching story. This week's edition.

 1:53:55
There we go. I had to play

 Glenn Holt 1:53:57



Glenn Holt 1:53:57

with the machine a bit to get it started.



Joan Devlin 1:53:59

Now you're good at playing with things so Oh, I



Glenn Holt 1:54:01

know. Okay, I'm gonna cut you guys off now. You have been listening to lesbian and gay voices heard each Monday at 8pm here on KPFT. publicly funded Pacifica network station. Lesbian and Gay voices is produced live in Houston with recorded segments from this way out which is produced at KPFK in Los Angeles, lesbian and gay voices as executive producer is Jack Valinski . On Air voices are Joan Devlin Glen Holt and Jack Valinski. You can write to us at PO Box 66071, Houston, Texas 77266 or email to LGV news@aol.com. Be sure to listen to KPFT every Saturday night at midnight for after hours with Jimmy Carper. It's queer radio with attitude. This is the sound of Texas 90.1 FM KPFT in Houston. for lesbian and gay voices. I'm Glenn hawk.