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## SPEAKERS

Greg Gordon, Jack Valinski, Joan Devlin, Cindy Friedman, Glenn Holt

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J Jack Valinski 00:05

Welcome to another edition of lesbian and gay voices. This is Jack Wolinsky,

G Glenn Holt 00:09

and I'm playing hold.

J Joan Devlin 00:10

And I'm Joan Devlin.

J Jack Valinski 00:11

And of course tonight it is fundraising time. So we're going to have a lot of fun times tonight. But at the same time, we're going to be asking you to call us here at 7135265738713526 KPFT. But then again, we do have a lot of things to discuss tonight. We have a couple guests coming on tonight.

J Joan Devlin 00:30

Yes, Timothy Brookover, from the community center.

J Jack Valinski 00:32

And also we're gonna be talking to Alex Mora, from progressive voters and some important stuff that's going to be happening down at City Hall This Week. So besides that, we will also have our parts from this way out which includes news wran and a couple of features of things

have our parts from this way out, which includes news wrap and a couple of features of things going on. So we're asking you now to make that phone call so that we can get right into our show.



Glenn Holt 00:53

And we also, of course, I have the news that I do coming up in the second hour. And the top news story is that Bill Gates, his foundation, has pledged a huge amount of money to support a new AIDS vaccine trial that's going to be held to support an egg's AIDS vaccine to be used in Africa.



Jack Valinski 01:11

So that means I'm gonna have to like windows for it. So okay, so let's Well, actually, we're supposed to talk for the while, aren't we? Oh, no, it's



01:20

okay. Okay.



Jack Valinski 01:21

Well, let's listen for news wrap to news wrap from this way out.



01:30

I'm Jay Shelton, and I'm Cindy Friedman with



01:31

news wrap a summary of some of the news in or affecting the lesbian and gay community for the week ending January 27 2001. One of the world's highest ranking gays Peter Mandelson this week resigned from his post as Britain secretary for Northern Ireland at the behest of Prime Minister Tony Blair, at issue was a brief phone call he'd made in mid 1998 regarding a possible re application for a passport by billionaire sera Shan Hinduja. At the time, Mandelson was in charge of developing the Millennium Dome, and Hinduja and his brother were in the process of making a million pound contribution to support it. The Hindus are brothers are now under investigation in their native India for arms dealing violations. Mandelson insists the call was a simple inquiry about procedure and that he in no way exerted influence on the Hindus behalf. But when reporters raised the issue a few days before the resignation, Mandelson failed to immediately supply complete and accurate information to Blair's office that embarrassed the government as it unwittingly gave false information to reporters and in the case of openly gay culture Secretary Chris Smith to the parliament. Perhaps the situation might have been repaired if Mandelson had not already been forced to leave the cabinet under a cloud in 1998.

At that time, he was in the more powerful position of Secretary for trade and industry, but it was discovered that he had not disclosed accepting a large home loan from a fellow cabinet member his department was investigating. Many people including members of the Labour Party felt he should not have returned to the cabinet after that, but after less than a year he was appointed to the Northern Ireland post.

c

Cindy Friedman 03:11

Mandelson has long been Blair's closest ally and advisor, but now they've parted ways. Considered a master's spin. Dr. Mendelsohn is universally recognized as the chief architect of Labour's 1997 landslide victory after years of Conservative Party rule. He'd already been appointed to co lead the campaign for this year's elections, but now he's lost that role. He will continue on the backbench as Member of Parliament for Hartlepool and has said he will run for re election although many of his constituents are unhappy about the latest scandal. His glamorous life of partying with the rich and famous may be diminished. Now his salaries been cut and have many for see tremendous opportunities for him in the private sector, including a possible seven figure book deal. But in his resignation statement, Mandelson complained that there must be more to politics than the constant media pressure and exposure that has dogged me over the last five or so years. I want to remove myself from the countless stories of controversy of feuds and divisions and all the rest. I want, in other words, to lead a more normal life, both in politics and in the future outside.

o

04:21

A nominee for US President Bush's cabinet Christian conservative Senator John Ashcroft continued to be targeted by opponents for his attitudes towards gays and lesbians. This week, two men came forward to contradict the would be Attorney General's testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee. When pressed about his role in blocking the nomination of open gay James Hormel to serve as ambassador to Luxembourg, Ashcroft proclaimed emphatically that he never had and never would use sexual orientation as a consideration for employment. But Paul offner, a non gay Democrat who in 1985, applied to head up Missouri's Department of Social Well services said that then Governor Ashcroft began his interview with the question, Mr. offner Do you have the same sexual preference as most men Hormel himself held a press conference where he pointed out that then Senator Ashcroft had denied his multiple requests for a meeting, a courtesy that Senators typically extend to all nominees. Hormel said that he was concerned that Mr. Ashcroft will use the power of his office to impose his beliefs upon others, and to deny equal protection of the laws to those Americans who don't share his personal and political beliefs. Despite the growing opposition, it's believed that Ashcroft has the Senate votes to win confirmation.

c

Cindy Friedman 05:40

In the US Congress Democrats this week introduced two bills of interest to gays and lesbians. One is a major package called the protecting civil rights for all Americans Act, which includes the language of two long sought measures which have been known as ENDA, the employment non discrimination act and H CPA the hate crimes prevention act, and act meant would mean the first ever federal protections for gays and lesbians from discrimination and hate crimes.



06:08

Openly gay Massachusetts Representative Barney Frank filed a bill to repeal a section of the so called Defense of Marriage Act or DOMA, which was passed by overwhelming margins in 1996. That law is best known for allowing states to deny legal recognition to gay and lesbian marriages another state may someday perform, but it also prohibits the federal government from extending any form of recognition to same gender couples. Frank says the latter provision denies the states the choice to grant full marriage rights to same gender couples. He's throwing down the gauntlet to Vice President Dick Cheney, who said during the vice presidential debates, that it should be up to each state to determine how to deal with gay and lesbian relationships. Cheney's daughter Mary is a lesbian in a long term relationship.



C Cindy Friedman 06:55

recognition as a family was denied to a bi national gay couple by a British judge this week. Irish born Londoner Nigel McCollum was appealing the home office's 1998 refusal to allow his Brazilian partner Renato Lozano to reenter Britain after the two had been traveling abroad. But columns attorneys tried to use European law to force British authorities to recognize a right that doesn't exist under UK statutes. They argued that keeping Lozano out of the UK interfered with my columns European right to freedom of movement and the couple's right under the European Convention on Human Rights to respect for private and family life. But the judge ruled that the European laws did not apply because Lozano is not part of the European community and declared that Lozano had no right to be treated as a family member or spouse. However, the judge added that lasagna when McCollum would not actually be prevented from living together in Britain, only that lasagna would have to be cleared for entry by the same process as any other non european



07:58

fears of legal gay and lesbian marriage in Guyana have apparently blocked what would have been the first constitutional civil rights protections for gays and lesbians in the Caribbean region. In early January, Guyana's National Assembly had unanimously passed a measure that would have added 13 categories including sexual orientation to the Constitutions ban on discrimination. The package had been recommended by the constitutional reform commission, a body that included representatives of Guyana's major religious groups in its lengthy deliberations. Yet somehow it was only after the Assembly vote that some religious leaders particularly that guy on a council of churches, and evangelical Christian groups, later joined by Islamic groups began to consider possible implications of the move. They feared it would force churches to perform same gender marriages strike down the sodomy law open military service to gays and lesbians, and generally destroy the moral fabric of the nation. The first one president Barack Dale's promise to delay his assent to the bill while they lobbied the political parties. This week, Jagdeo held a meeting of the religious protesters and three political parties. He emerged stating that he would not assent to the bill but would instead return it to the assembly, stressing that any changes would be made by the Assembly and not by him. The parties all appear ready to drop the sexual orientation clause. There may be a procedural issue

though since according to one expert, there is no precedent for dealing with a bill which is returned by the President and is subsequently amended. However everyone concerned is eager to enact the other constitutional reforms before March 19 elections.

 Cindy Friedman 09:39

In Australia, Melbourne's 13th annual mid summer festival is now winding up it's three weeks packed with more than 125 widely assorted entertainment and educational events. The festival was marred by religious protests, including a bomb threat against a staging of Corpus Christi award winning gay playwriting. inspect Natalie's gay recasting of the story of Jesus. The highlight was the city's sixth annual Pride March. Since this year marks the 100th anniversary of Australia's Federation 18 marchers carried poles bearing giant photo cubes with 72 pictures of people, places and events of the last century with significance for the gay and lesbian community. While police estimated 30 to 35,000 marchers, other observers pegged it as high as 50,000. The difference might be that unlike Sydney's parade, Melbourne's event is a walk, meaning anyone can join in. And they did.

 10:38

And finally interested in buying a poster of two women and underwear engaged in a kiss. For this one, you'll need a really big wall. It's more than 20 meters long. It's the billboard caption thank God for women that British website queer company.com has been using in its advertising campaign. It caused quite a flurry of complaints when it went up in the west end but was ultimately cleared by the Advertising Standards Authority. And now there are 10 others. The original currently has a For Sale sticker slapped on it because queer company is auctioning it off for charity. Half the proceeds will go to the British lobby group Stonewall and the other half to lesbian gay arts projects. A final auction will be held live at the end of March but interested parties can put in bids. Now by email. It's up to the winning bidder whether to take the entire intact poster or a cut down version framed by queer company. That's nice

 Cindy Friedman 11:30

wrap for the week ending January 27 2001. Follow news in your area and then forms community is a strong community

 11:39

news wrap is written by Cindy Friedman, and recorded at the studios of KPFK Los Angeles for this way out. I'm Jay Shelton. And

 Glenn Holt 11:46

I'm Cindy Friedman. And you are listening to lesbian and gay voices on KPFT. Jack,

J

Jack Valinski 11:53

yes, it is time it is time to ring those phones. We're asking you to call us at 713526 KPFT 713-526-5738 queers focus not on tonight's you know, this is really the only thing that's going on the fact that we're able to do two hours worth of local programming every week here on KPFT, at 8pm. And the fact that KPFT has to gay and lesbian, transsexual, Transgender, Bisexual, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera, shows. And we're probably one of the very few stations that has that luxury of being able to do this stuff locally. We also have access to this way out, which is a national program, which you just heard the new segment from. And that's been going on for quite a while now. And we be able, we're able to get that show every week, hot off the satellite, right onto our dat machine to be able to play back to the same evening that we get it down. And there's lots of neat things that we're able to do here. But to be able to do that we're asking you to make a pledge here to this radio station, this radio station where we don't run commercials, we basically are on our own here to be able to prove to the station to the community that we can do this year after year and week after week and stuff like that, we have lots of little neat things that we can give you if you pledge to us. And the basic membership starts at \$35. And it goes on up. But hopefully you'll be calling us because you really support this type of programming. You know, I really liked that show west wing that I watch on, on NBC on Wednesdays. And you know, I've been taping it the past couple of weeks. And, you know, when you play it back, you know, there must be a good you know, almost a quarter of the time that that show was on is either promotions or commercials or stuff like that. So we don't do that we you know, a couple times a year, we come to you and ask you to help support us so that we can continue on and do programming and do very positive programming here on this radio station. I mean, we have lots of of stuff. In fact, an interview that Joan did a couple of weeks ago went on to this way out because they thought it was such a great interview.

J

Joan Devlin 13:57

Well, if Glenn will turn my microphone on, thank you. I'm sitting there reading your book, while I was waiting for Jack to finish that could take off. The other thing is, you know, KPFT has been around forever. And in days gone by which Jack Welch remembers because he's been around here for quite some time. We were considered so subversive, we were actually bombed off the air, and we're currently facing a political climate that is not exactly gay supportive. So you're probably going to be seeing fewer and fewer things like this and fewer and fewer stations like KPFT that will actually give a voice to the gay community coming along in the next four years. So you need to support the ones you have which is KPFT

G

Glenn Holt 14:35

and the way that you do that is you call 713-526-5738 That's the phone number.

J

Jack Valinski 14:43

Actually we you know we may not be able to get through we think that our our phone lines are down. So we're asking you that if you are trying to call just keep on trying and hopefully everything will get fixed. We just love our phone company. And and we know about it We're

doing everything we can. So let's go back to regular programming. And if you are trying to call, please do continue. And we will be here to answer it

G

Glenn Holt 15:15

was just a shock, tracing and after some bloke who was mad, that that was the original theme song from the original Queer as Folk, from the CD by the title of the same name, though the whole love thing sorted, and that's available at a local bookstore as well as others. And Joan, you're listening to lesbian and gay voices take it away.

J

Joan Devlin 15:38

That's right. And we are in the studio with Tim Brookover, who is the director of the gay and lesbian community center. Hi, Joe. Hi. And I wanted to talk to you a little bit because there's been some changes at the center lately.

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15:50

Yes, we have a lot of activity going on. Were you thinking of something in particular?

J

Joan Devlin 15:57

Now just to update us what's going on with the Center for 2001?

Ω

16:00

Well, 2000, one's an exciting year at the Houston lesbian and gay community center. We continue to go great guns at 803 Hawthorne at Stanford and hope, everyone who hasn't come by will come by. It's a very exciting year, we had a new board elected in November, I was elected president after having served on the board for one year. Fortunately, Maria Micucci, who is the previous president decided to remain on the board. Much to my delight, she continues as program director, and it's doing a great job programming has always been a strength of ours. I think. In the coming year, we want to continue along three paths, continues serving the community by providing a meeting place for groups, and also programming that meets a variety of needs. build our volunteer base, because volunteers are the lifeblood of the community center and of our community. And in third, of course, in order to keep the center open and all of our programming going. Samantha financial base of the center.

J

Joan Devlin 17:08

Now what how are those goals progressing so

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17:11

far? Well, they're progressing, I think pretty well. The programming at the center, as I mentioned earlier, has always been a great strength of ours, thanks to Maria and the other volunteers and people in the community who keep the programming going. We provide meeting space for a number of groups, we also rent office space at a nominal cost, we think, to eight community organizations, we have great relationships with those groups and plan to continue that in the new year. So that the first is going quite well. The second, rebuilding our volunteer base is very exciting. I think it's going very well did Murphy, our Vice President is our volunteer director, and she and her Volunteer Task Force are working very hard to encourage new volunteers, and also a welcome people to welcome people back who may have volunteered in the past, and might want to come back and join us, as well as of course, support and encourage our wonderful group that comes every week and mans the phones and cleans up and helps with special events and things like that.



J Joan Devlin 18:24

Do you need any special skills to be a volunteer at the community center?



18:27

No, you don't. We have all kinds of opportunities for volunteers that can require all kinds of different skills and talents. They range from answering the phone. We are opened for public hours. Currently, from six to nine. Every weeknight and from noon to four on Saturday. As we get more volunteers involved. We hope to open more hours because that's, I think, an important role for the community center to perform. So that's the sort of the frontline people who answered the phone and can answer questions and direct people to other resources in the community. There are many other opportunities, as I mentioned before working on special events, working on programming. Cleaning the center, taking care of the center, taking care of the yard, are just being an ambassador for the center. One of the things we want to do in the coming year is get more out in the community sort of honor one on one basis to other groups in the community to promote the center and just talk about the center.



J Joan Devlin 19:37

And how are you going on your third goal.



19:39

Our third goal as anyone who's involved in a nonprofit in the community, and I know everybody in this room can identify and a lot of your listeners can as well is a big challenge. I think we're doing very well considering we're a small, small nonprofit. We've received some very encouraging grants in the last year. yourself from the Elliot Matthews Foundation, the John Keller Foundation has invited us to apply again, we consistently receive money from bunnies on the bio. And we are the first we received money from Houston black tie, which was a great honor this year. And we are a beneficiary this year for the human race, which is the 5k,

organized by the Holocaust Museum. So we've had some great success. We've also received in many generous individual gifts from people in the community, and in Congress, from businesses and individuals. But it's an ongoing challenge.

J Joan Devlin 20:36

Well, I also wanted to comment on something too, as well as the community supporting the community center. The community center also supports the community. And I think you've done a wonderful job of getting very diverse groups of people together, probably one of the few organizations of your con to have done that. And I want you to tell us a little bit about just some of the organizations that occupied the community center,

20:58

I would love to jump because that's something that I'm very proud of. And I know that most of us involved in the center take great pride in. First of all, I want to mention our tenant partners, who have many of whom have been with us since we moved into 803, Hawthorne, and we could not have made it this far without them. Those are the pride committee of Houston, the Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, the Houston gay and lesbian Political Caucus hatch, Texas Human Rights Foundation, black lesbian and gay coalition, common ground and Cuba troll. We are very honored to have those people on board with us, and could not as I said, could not have made this far without them. We also work with a number of organizations that meet regularly at the center, including a bi net of Houston, the bisexual network that has three discussion meetings during the month. Lesbian film Night, which has been one of our great successes, meets on the fourth Friday of the month and has resumed after having taken a hiatus. But then we also have some other groups that perhaps don't meet regularly, but we welcome. We have just this past Saturday, a group called the gay Broadcasting Network, which is an internet startup trying to get started providing gay and lesbian, bisexual transgender programming run by a couple of African American talented individuals. And we work encourage a lot of these groups that are smaller, because that's one of our missions. Recently, we're very happy to begin working with glisten, the Gay Lesbian education straight network, I probably didn't get that right. But many of you are familiar with that a group that promotes tolerance in the schools. The Houston chapter is very small. There's a large national organization, the Houston chapter is very small and trying to get on its feet and basically needed a mailing address. They were having trouble even for f 14 post office box. And so we have formed a collaboration with them, whereby they will provide some in kind support for us. So we can help them get on their feet and work together. And we're very excited about that. Because they, they really needed a place in the community. And they sort of felt that they couldn't work something out with the community center, they just weren't going to be able to keep going.

J Joan Devlin 23:35

I also admire the fact that Maria Mina coochies dialogues on racism have continued on Yes, she's done a fantastic job. Of course, it's not just Maria, you know, Reverend Carolyn Mobley is involved. And there's there's many, many people involved in that. But that was an idea that just sort of took hold. And you know, they've been having regular dialogues. Now they have another

one scheduled to hear in the next month or so. And, I mean, this is doing wonderful things for the community. And if we had not had a community center, things like this never would have happened.



24:03

I agree. Thank you for mentioning that. That has just been a tremendous, I think benefit to the community and also to the center. It was a great idea. Maria really got behind it, along with as you mentioned a number of other people in groups, including Carolyn Mobley at MCC and the wonderful social justice ministry at that church, progressive voters and action. Many other groups. The first I attended the first meeting, which was one of the most thrilling nights at the center. I haven't seen that many people at a meeting at the center will rarely have I seen that many people at a meeting at the center. And it's continued, as you say. And it's just doing I think some wonderful work in the on the issue of racism and cultural bias in the GLBT community. And I think as I said, I think it's also been great for the center It's really brought a very important and vital energy to the center. It's it's very important work.



J Joan Devlin 25:07

I think also it shows that the center is a very safe place for the community. It's not just there for certain segments of the community. It's an open space, everyone's welcome. And yes, you can kind of dare to go where no one has gone before, to, you know, not just do the little, you know, regular meeting type thing, right?



25:26

Well, as a matter of fact, I mean, speaking of you know, where no one's dare to go before the brotherhood of pain, which is a social organization recently contacted us about having a social dinner there. And I said, Sure, that's, that's great. We would love to have you. And the gentleman who actually called from Dallas to talk to me about it said, well, one of the reasons they want it to be at the center was to help the center by promoting the center as a venue for meetings for clubs, but also because it was a place where their members could come and wear anything they wanted. Right? And I said, you definitely can wear anything you want at the Houston black, lesbian, gay community center.



G Glenn Holt 26:04

Oh, no, wait a minute. That sounds like an invitation. You said brotherhood of pain. I saw Glenn's like ears perk up over there. Well, that and the idea of being able to wear anything that you want. I mean,



26:15

Furlan, anything you want.

J

Joan Devlin 26:18

He's gonna show up in a pair of shoes.

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26:22

We shouldn't put out flyers beforehand.

G

Glenn Holt 26:25

I was thinking you probably wouldn't complain too much, but

J

Joan Devlin 26:29

I will. He wouldn't.

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26:31

Well, they're meeting on the 10th slot. So February 10. But it's Dallas, they're coming? Well, it's actually the Houston it's actually the Houston group. But uh, I'm not quite sure why the guys call me from Dallas. But it's just it's, it's that kind of thing. It tickled me actually. Because it's just the kind of call I haven't gotten in a while. But I thought, well, yes, you can, you can wear anything you want at the center, and, you know, carry on goodness knows those of us who are there regularly carry on in all kinds of ways. So I think it is a very safe place. It's a very welcoming place. We are, we had a meeting in November to talk about the possibility of moving to a larger space sometime in the future, not in the next year. And one of the exercises that the facilitator walked us through was identifying aspects of the center that we liked. And the first was location. Much to our surprise, the second was the actual facility itself. People kept going back to it feels like a home. Right? And it feels comfortable. We can relax. And we were surprised by that. Because it's not the most beautiful our modern building, we thought people might say, Oh, it's you know, it's sort of dowdy, it's old, it's outdated, but, but people will like it for those reasons. It's very comfortable.

J

Joan Devlin 27:59

And it's also big enough that you can have good parties there. We had Ray Hills event there. I know, there's been several other events there. I actually it's a wonderful space for that it is

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28:07

rice party was great. I did debelle had a birthday party there. I actually had my big four Oh, birthday party there. And it was great. It really lent itself to a party and you know, dresses up real nice, you know, with some candles and indirect lighting, to flatter those of us who they're a

certain age but and that's one of the things that we're seeing more that people want to use the center more for parties. We had a young man who reserved it for a New Year's Eve party. And then also a couple of women who contacted us recently, separately to different couples about reserving the Center for commitment ceremonies, and reception, your yard is perfect for that we have a nice big yard. And coming in the spring. We have a very dedicated volunteer actually one of our straight allies, who has a green thumb, and has offered to get in the yard with some other volunteers and spruce it up even more. So look for some blooming color at the center in the spring.

J Joan Devlin 29:10

Oh, where do you hope to see the gay and lesbian community center five years from now?

29:14

Well, that's interesting question. We actually have a board retreat on Saturday. And that's one of the agenda items is where would you like to see it in a year? Where would you like to see it in five years, I would like to see the community center performing much the same role that it does now. I think it will have to be in a different location. We're going to need more space, in part because one of the ways honestly that we make the money to support the center and keep it open is renting office space to other organizations and we don't have any more space to rent and we have other organizations that would like to be at the center. So I think we'll have to be in a larger space. But I hope it's a similarly comfortable space that welcomes people. And I hope we're performing some of the same services, but just more of them open more hours, perhaps even every day, and every night, have a very vital and active phone bank that people can call and get information. We help in partnership with the gay and lesbian switchboard of Houston, which is one of our newer tenants. And just provide a place for other organizations to come and meet and provide services, provide programs and continue providing some of our own programming, such as the racism series, which we do in collaboration with other groups, and then movie nights, and the women's writing group and the women's game night and the new men's group that meets third Friday of the month. So some of the things that we also do on our own. But I think our most important role is to provide a place for other groups and individuals in the community to come and serve the community and help others and while they help themselves, and hopefully enjoy volunteering and getting involved.

J Joan Devlin 31:06

Well, I mean, I remember when we had some I can't remember their names now, but we had some people in, it's been a couple of years now. And they had a plan for a community center in Houston. And some people had kind of the skeptical reaction. I'll you know, been there done. Sure. And it's just been amazing to see how well this Community Center has taken hold. It's taken root, it's been supported. It's been supportive. And I mean, I just can't wait to see where you go from here.

31:33

Thanks John. Well we've had some just tremendous support from as of course foundations

THANKS, JOHN. WELL, WE'VE HAD SOME JUST tremendous support from us, of course, foundations that I mentioned earlier, and I'm sure I'll have some out. But then most important, individuals in the community. A lot of that support, of course, some of that support has been financial, which we always encourage. But I think even more important, a lot of it has just been real moral support. People calling the center and using the center, and then people out in the community, who we on the board made and just even social situation. So you guys were doing a great job, or I saw you did set this inside, and I couldn't come but I wanted to. You know, thanks for doing that. That just really keeps us going. It's very exciting.

J Joan Devlin 32:21

Well, that's great. And if people want to call to volunteer, what did I have to do?

32:25

It's very easy. Just call us at 713-524-3818. That's the community center number. And if you call between six and nine, during the week, you will most likely get a live voice or noon before on Saturday. But if not, feel free to leave a message. And we always check our call notes frequently and someone will call you back. More likely than not did Murphy who's the volunteer coordinator?

J Joan Devlin 32:53

Great. Well, we've been talking to timber cover president of the of the Eastern gay and lesbian community center. And speaking of phone numbers, Jack, how's it going out in the lobby,

J Jack Valinski 33:02

our phones are fixed. So we now have dial tone. So now you can pick it up and call us at 713-526-5738. And you know, it's 40 minutes into the show. So we got some time to make up. We certainly appreciate the patience of all of our listeners who who do support us and call us in you know, only about 1/10 of listeners actually do pledge. So you know, 90% of people get this for free. And we're asking you to pay your part to keep this public radio station, not only public radio station, but this is a community radio station, meaning that they let people like us come in and do some of the programming occasionally. And that's really nice, because where else can you get the viewpoints of this community, but from people who are part of this community. So we're very appreciative of the fact that KPFT lets us do this. In fact, usually when we come in the staff leaves. So we pretty much have run at this place. And we appreciate it. So we're asking you, though, to help support us help support the fact that it does cost money to keep this radio station on the air. The fact that it costs money for the transmitter here, we have to keep it cool. You know, even more so the US the people inside the transmitter has to keep cool, but it also takes up a lot of electricity. And we all know the stories about how the prices of everything is going up utilities and stuff like that. But, you know, we're also a very basic radio station. I mean, nothing here is real fancy. I mean, we got new carpeting recently, in the past couple months, whereas KK UHF got a whole new building, multimillion dollar building, we're happy just to have new carpeting and we're happy to when it doesn't leak in the ceiling to keep our equipment safe. So we do that type of stuff. We're here we do local type of programming.

We talked to people around the community. And we're really love to do that because that's really where things are changing and the importance of what's going on. It is really neat to be able to talk to some of the People who are volunteers in the community, people who have stories of, you know, doing things that really make change for what's happening. And this is local programming. I mean, if you go across the dial here in Houston, most of these radio stations are owned by a couple of different corporations, probably about three or four were independently owned in Houston. We're part of the Pacifica Foundation which is the mother of community radio in this country, which has been on the air for 50 years KPFT are Houston has been on the air for more than 30 years. And the odds were against us all those years to be on the air. I mean, every year I mean, I remember when we used to have these red alerts and one summer we had a marathon that went on for five weeks. And finally they had to stop it because nobody was calling but things have gotten better but for them to continue to get better for us to keep up to date. We're asking for your help help support the Free Speech radio here in Houston KPFT 713526573871352 6k P F T

G

Greg Gordon 36:04

during his last day in office, to have over 100 pardons and prison sentence commutations issued by outgoing US President Bill Clinton were granted to lesbian political activists. Linda Sue Evans had been serving a 40 year sentence for using false identification to buy firearms and for harboring a fugitive plus five years for eight bombings including one at the Capitol Building to protest the US invasion of Grenada. Susan Rosenberg had served 16 years of a 58 year sentence for possession of 740 pounds of explosives, a submachine gun and false identification, all of which she admitted were to have been used in politically motivated bombings, under normal circumstances say Rosenberg's lawyers, her crime would have drawn a five year term, but for years she'd been an activist against the Vietnam War and a strong supporter of African American and Puerto Rican liberation struggles, and it was a crime that Rosenberg contends she did not commit, and for which he was never tried that caused the New York media to vilify her and city officials to mount strong opposition to her release. In 1981, a group of radicals held up a Brinks armored car in Nanuet New York. During the botched robbery, a garden to police officers were shot to death. Rosenberg says that although she was politically associated with some of the people charged in the Bronx case, she was not involved in that crime. Reporter Amy Goodman spoke with Rosenberg who's now 45 years old, and with her attorney Mary, oh, Melanie, just a few days after the woman's release,



37:29

talk about these 16 years in prison, where were you first jailed?



37:36

I spent the first 11 years in prison in maximum security conditions in isolation units or in the hall. In segregation. I wasn't in a normal prisons, at least for the first the first decade. I was in small units that were created for people with, you know, high profile crime and political associations. And I spent the last five years at Danbury, which is the Federal Women's Prison in this region, where I was for the first time in my sentence in general population.



38:20

I wanted to ask Mary Oh Malvani this question your attorney of the the politicians and the law enforcement, people who are coming out now and condemning Bill Clinton's executive clemency for Susan Rosenberg, they are citing the brinks robbery of 1981. Susan was charged in the case she pleaded innocent in the case, she insisted on going to trial in the case to prove her innocence. And instead of allowing her to do that, and putting the allegations against her before a jury and a judge, Giuliani's prosecutors dismissed the charges, actually dismissed them without Susan's knowledge and sort of in the dark of night and then went to trial against other defendants, afterwards, and we should be clear that Mayor Giuliani was US attorney at the time. Yes, he was. And it was his office that made the decision that they did not want to test these allegations in front of a jury. So they dismissed the charges and yet, they turn around and insist that she's guilty. That's not the way our system is supposed to work. People are entitled to a trial. They are entitled to the presumption of innocence and if the government had believed that she was guilty, I insist to you and I know Giuliani knows this. They would have tried her. The tragedy here was that she served time in jail, treated as though she was guilty of those charges and when she was denied parole in 1998 I was at the parole hearing with her. And I heard the examiner say, if it wasn't for these allegations, I would let you out in July of this year. That's 1998 and her co defendant was released in March of 1997. So even from the parole Commission's point of view, whatever sentence seemed appropriate for the charges, in that she was tried and convicted of the explosives and weapons possession charges, that was over in 1998, and the parole commission was making her serve 15 additional years for these on fried, unproven allegations about Brinks. And it's a total violation of due process. And I believe that is one of the central reasons that President Clinton had the courage to grant clemency.



40:50

Susan Rosenberg, what was it like to observe the outside world, you went to prison under President Reagan, for this 16 years from behind bars,



41:01

prison is about total control, repression and isolation. It's a denial of your humanity, and whatever parts of your life that you want to keep going, you have to fight every second of every day to do but I watched the world, it's a very strange relationship to the world. I, in some, for many years, I couldn't keep in touch with what happened in the world. For example, I missed the entire gay liberation movement. I didn't. I mean, I saw it on images on television and magazines. And I knew people who were, you know, gay and lesbian activist, but I missed that. The whole first wave of people in opposition to and in resistance to HIV and AIDS. A lot of people that I knew when I went to prison died in the first wave of people who were affected by the epidemic. So I but I wasn't there to really see it, although then the epidemic in enter prison in an obviously an enormous way, and has had an incredible impact on life in prison and the population in prison. So I, I saw the world through a series of sort of captured images. When I got to Danbury, I got to alternative radio. And frankly, it saved my life, in terms of having some further link to the world. But the other thing in terms of my relationship to the world was that I have been always lucky. And I consider myself incredibly lucky. Because I've had a lot of support because I was political and and political. And so my isolation has always been tempered by that. And really, I never felt totally alone, even when I was 2000 miles away, and I

was physically alone. I always felt that there was some connection and I always knew that people who were in solidarity with me and with other political prisoners in this country wouldn't let me die in prison alone or be destroyed and that I that just makes the most critical difference possible.



43:20

What was your first act after you left? Danbury prison? My first act outside just walking outside. You are living now in New York. Yeah,



43:32

yeah. My first I will the first really aside from seeing my family which was truly a marvelous thing to walk into their house and be there was to see the ocean. I went to Coney Island.



Greg Gordon 43:49

Those were excerpts from Amy Goodmans interview with just released us lesbian political prisoners. Susan Rosenberg and her returning Mary Oh Melanie, on Pacifica radio is Democracy Now.



Glenn Holt 44:00

You are listening to lesbian and gay voices on KPFT our phones are working now. So we would like for you to call in and pledge your support to community based programming on KPFT. Our phone number is 713-526-5738 this radio station is kept on the air by your donations and your participation. So give us a call now we have operators standing by at 713-526-5738 You're listening to lesbian and gay voices and Jackie like that. Loops. There we go try doing a smooth jazz now. Actually, that's a salute to technology bytes. That was a MIDI file that I played off my computer.



Jack Valinski 44:50

Okay. Yes, the technology bytes is on Wednesdays here on KPFT at 8pm. Same slot we are on and they're an actually wonderful We'll show you do need to listen to them, even if you're not a geek. Oh, there you go. Okay,



Glenn Holt 45:05

which mic Are you on anyway? Because I'm getting weird effects here.



Jack Valinski 45:08

Well, you know your bet you're over there. Okay. All right. Well, anyway, technology bytes is a great show. It's on Wednesday nights here on KPFT. So same time slot we're on. And it's a good show, even if you're not a geek.

G

Glenn Holt 45:20

That's right. They were able to give me the the one little missing bit of information that I needed to get my home network going.

J

Jack Valinski 45:27

You only had one missing bit of information. Yes. Okay. Okay. Anyway, we do want to remind you that it is pledge time here at KPFT. And we haven't had any calls yet. And I know earlier, the excuse was our phone lines weren't working, but they are working now. So we're asking you to call us at 7135265738713526 KPFT. Make that pledge now make that pledge for local community oriented radio. We are going to be talking about the political action. Alex Mora is here from progressive voters. And I guess you got a few things going on now.

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46:03

Yeah, thanks for having me. There are a few things going on. It's just unbelievable. There's a lot of really good work ahead of us. Ada Edwards is strongly is considering strongly to run for a running for city council. And she's African American, and she's looking to run in District D. Okay. And right now,

J

Jack Valinski 46:21

that is the Montrose district plus

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46:23

plus, Third Ward McGregor going further south. And, and also an East Parker is running for reelection for a third term. And so we have two wonderful leaders that we're very excited to get behind.

J

Jack Valinski 46:36

Now. Do we expect the districts to be redrawn by election time or no?

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46:41

Now there? So there's already discussion, then in City Hall about redistricting, and that will be finalized by the summer that will take place before the election.

J

Jack Valinski 46:51

Right. But then we usually have a couple court challenges, and really, until like, the day before the election, and even then some yeah, there's

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46:59

a possible there's right. So there, but the with the outcome, prior to court challenges, they're looking to have some kind of decision, at least within the city by the summer.

J

Jack Valinski 47:10

So But isn't there a good bet that Montrose might be back in District See,

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47:14

that's one of the that's one of the options, one of the scenarios that people are talking about that Montrose will be added on to district C, which will change the political complexion of that district. Right. But

J

Jack Valinski 47:25

But worse would be if Montrose was split probably then if it's in either DRC it would really dilute the political clout there. So what is progressive voters doing at this point?

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47:36

Great we are we are a progressive voters action for some of you who don't know who we are progressive voters in action. We're a nonpartisan, non for profit organization. And for us, what we're dedicated to doing over the four years is by 2003, building a list of 100,000 voters who believe in a broad array of progressive issues such as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, civil rights, racial economic justice, gender equality, for example, reproductive freedom, and for us, it's having conversations one on one with voters, whether over the phone, having phone banks, block walks, talking to registered voters at their homes, talking to voters like we did in the last election, out in the 25 precincts throughout the city, talking to voters having a conversation face to face about an issue. Whether it's November of this past election, we talked about non discrimination and in the workplace, and whether people believed that whether gays and lesbians should be part of that non discrimination policy, and people were overwhelmingly in support of including LGBT people in that policy.

J

Jack Valinski 48:41

Now, do you also ask these people if they actually go out and vote?



48:44

Yes, we do. What we do is we actually have the unique kind of work though, the unique style and how we conduct our work is that every voter has an eight digit unique voter ID number. And for us, what we do is we focus on registered voters who vote on a regular basis, and we have conversations with them. And we find if they're in support of the issues that we believe in, if they are we add them to our database.



J Jack Valinski 49:06

Okay. So the fact is that people are registered to vote if they don't actually go out and vote. What's the use of trying to, you know, persuade the direction or the other?



49:14

Exactly, I mean, the amazing thing about the work that we do is that we're able to see that you basically have a million registered voters in the city and out of that population only around 200,000 people vote on a regular basis and out of that, simple majority wins 50% plus one so 100 and 1000. And plus one vote will gain you a simple majority and which is why we're looking to get a simple majority built over the next four years.



J Jack Valinski 49:46

Now you say that the work you do who does this work? Oh,



49:49

a lot of people. I'm just one person there. Grant Martin myself, Grant Martin is nice Parker's campaign manager, myself, co founded this organization. A year and a half ago. And shortly thereafter, Dr. American Solace from University of Houston joined us on our board. And so the three of us really started the organization off the ground. And but we've been very fortunate to have a really good group of people begin to work with us. And in our first year, we had over 430 people volunteer with us. And collectively, they contributed over 1100, our 1100 shifts, which is an average shift is three hours. So Fabien, they contributed 3000 hours of service. And it's great. It's all specific. And the thing that we love about PVA is that it's very, it's all about measurable results. And it's about action. And it's about building power in a very quantifiable way. We're building power by having these conversations with voters. And, and we can track that because with the eight digit voter ID numbers, we can go back and look to see how many of our voters actually voted. We can't tell if they did, but we can tell if they actually went out to vote.



J Jack Valinski 50:56



JACK VALINSKI 50.50

You can't tell how they voted. But you can tell if they voted yes. Right. And that's all public record that you can get from the county voter registration office.



51:03

Exactly. And and a case study is that we are working in can Yarbro State Representative when 38 Can yarborough's District all last year. And it was amazing, because in the last two election cycles in 96, and 98, he won by 500, less than 500 votes, and 154 votes respectively. And so with our work, and we felt we were a part we were a good we contributed to, to the overall success of his campaign. He won by 7000 votes in the last election. And this was a lecture that went Republican. Exactly. And what ended up happening was weird, some polling was that from his campaign was that he actually, among among Democrats, there was a strong turnout among Democrats, but then there's actually split with Republicans and independents that actually voted for a democratic legislator. So I think we were definitely we've definitely played an influential role in talking to voters and districts that can bring them out.



J Jack Valinski 51:56

Fabulous. You're listening to KPFT ustun, a Pacifica foundation station. So I understand there's some stuff that's gonna be going on in City Hall This Wednesday during public session Wednesdays?



52:06

Yeah, well, there's there's a couple things. Councilman, Councilwoman, a nice Parker has that what hap, what's been happening is that there's she's been looking into adding domestic partnership benefits to city employees. The reason being is that every five years, it comes up for a review that with the contract with the city, and she was looking into seeing this would be an opportunity to include benefits for domestic for domestic partners. And and so she was exploring that option. And at this point, there seems to be a majority with there is majority with city council that would support passing domestic partnership benefits to city employees. However, there's been some other couple other council people in particular Councilman Rob Todd, and ORLANDO SANCHEZ, who have come out to say they're looking to looking into the possibility of a referendum. And so what's going to happen is that they're going to bring it up for discussion and city council, but probably in all likelihood, it's probably gonna be a couple of weeks before City Council actually, Pat actually decides to vote on it.



J Jack Valinski 53:08

Right? They can tag something over a couple Exactly. And



53:11

so that's probably what's going to happen now. So it'll probably be two weeks from this Wednesday, where City Council actually votes on it

J

Jack Valinski 53:17

Okay. And it looks like it will go through but then if it goes through, there's a possibility that a red ref a referendum could be started as a petition for referendum? Yes. Okay. And

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53:27

that's, you know, and that's actually we're, why another reason why PVA was created and that were built in power in a concrete and practical way, not only to get wonderful and amazing leaders like a nice Parker into office, and also like a to Edwards, but also for the fact that we've got to protect our rights, and, and what the response is from the other side about, you know, because I don't I don't think it's this is an issue about equal rights, equal pay, and having the same kind of rights that everybody's afforded is currently right now. There are health insurance benefits for unmarried spouses of heterosexual couples who declare themselves married under the Texas common law statute, okay, yes. And so for us, it's about equality and the workplace. And this is just another one that special rights. And so for us building this kind of List of 100,000 voters is really critical. When referendums like these, if they do arise, they come up, we've built we've done the hard work of the of being prudent and doing the hard work ahead of time, and having those conversations with voters who believe in equality for everybody. So, so

J

Jack Valinski 54:30

that the technique, what does a volunteer do? Well, what we do is when they do

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54:35

yes, every every volunteer, we have every shift is three hours. And so what we do is for the first half hour, we're always really good about training volunteers, because we believe that the volunteers are good experience he or she is going to want to return and they're going to bring other people to and so what we do is for the first half hour, we make sure that everybody's on board with the scripts, everybody has a script. They have a list of registered voters that they can call from or talk to. And so we and we train them on how to do that, and we train them on how to record the data. And then they talk to registered voters on different issues or different scripts.

J

Jack Valinski 55:06

Okay, well, besides the phoning, what else do they do?

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55:09

We have block walks, we actually go and we talk to registered voters like with Ken Yarborough last year, we talked to registered voters about gay adoption, because there is an anti gay

adoption bill that was that was up in the Texas Legislature. We're talking to voters about that. We talked to voters about hate crimes legislation, which, you know, has been a hot, a hot topic these past couple years have been, we're still trying it's up again, it's up again. And we're still trying to pass this. And so we talked to voters about those issues. We also talked about parental consent and reproductive rights as well. And so they talk about specific issues, and engage their response on that.

J

Jack Valinski 55:43

So and then you're out at that public events like elections and the pride parade

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55:48

and the pride parade, the Pride Parade is an amazing opportunity. Because again, the thing about it is that we're in such an amazing time, we've got a really diverse, strong group of organizations across US LGBT organizations across the city that we really can tap into pride is one, one example in that there are over 150,000 people who attended the last parade. And it's just an amazing opportunity, if you can imagine bringing out several 100 volunteers and go in with clipboards talking to people who show up and say, These people, either whether they're gay or straight, Allied, should be on our list. These are people who are going to be friendly, at the polls we've got identify who they are, and give them a call so that when referendums, these anti gay referendums come up, if they do come up, we have our bases covered?

J

Jack Valinski 56:34

Well, it's really interesting, because the origination of a list in Houston was done by a guy named Don Rokeby, who basically, you know, that was his life's work of building a list. And this was before you could go in buy a little piece of software off there for \$100 off the shelf. And actually, before personal computers were out. And it's my understanding that Dawn actually had the stuff done on punch cards. And that's how he kept the list in the early days. And it's amazing what the technology has brought us to, but it still takes persistence and a lot of hard work to keep it accurate.

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57:06

You're absolutely right. It's a lot of it's a lot of hard work, and, and if anything out of tonight is that I hope that people who are listening can give us a call at PVA, we're at 713-521-7161, we really could use as much help as we can, because we people want to get involved on I'm talking to voters about domestic partnership benefits, we really need to identify supportive voters.

J

Jack Valinski 57:31

That's really interesting thing, because the last referendum we went through, we basically lost it ourselves. The fact that the community was not behind it, the community was not educated, we allowed the other side to distort the images, exactly. We allowed them to basically lie about

things. And, you know, they were allowed to frame the issue rather than us. And even some of the people in our own community didn't go out and vote that day. A lot of people or no community didn't go out and vote that day. And I know because I lived through a lot of that. And it was really, really sad.



58:06

And I think that what we have the opportunity today in the present in 2001, is that we are at a different point in time where we have so many more resources than people had 1516 years ago, and I were just in a completely different time. It doesn't mean that this is going to be an easy fight by any stretch of the imagination. It's going to cost money and it's going to cost a lot of money. Should this should this become a real fight should they actually decide to pass to decide to push a referendum through. But what I do believe is that we have we have amazing leaders, we have amazing people, we've got the resources, I'll be it in terms of LGBT money. Grant Martin with a nice Parker has raised over five \$550,000 over the course of over two campaigns. And so we've got we've got knowledge that we've built up over the past few years. We've got resources, technological resources to begin to utilize this information in a very concrete practical way. Dave Fleischer from the Gay Lesbian Taskforce. Interestingly, the IRS had an opinion on an op ed piece. And it was specifically about the main referendum were just quote him where he says, What did he say? He said, and how did the Christian coalition turn out its supporters when we couldn't they prepare for the election by starting to identify their voters well in advance. Eight months before election day, the Christian coalition gathered 58,000 petition signatures to call the February 1998 election, they began the campaign with the name, address and phone number of 58,000 voters who they could turn out to vote. And that's just a crucial thing again, what we have in place now is PVA an organization that's, that's already doing some of those steps now to we've already got a database of close to 20,000 voters. Our goal for this year is to add 30,000 people who believe in these progressive issues and add them to our database. So again, it's like we've got to start. We've we've already we are approved prudent, but we got to even do more given that there is a possibility for a referendum looming on the horizon.



J Jack Valinski 1:00:05

Okay. So what would you suggest people do with this coming up on Wednesday? Do you expect people? Would you suggest they go down to City Hall and talk about the issue?



1:00:16

Well, there's a couple of things. I think there are a few things that people can do. I think, first of all, they should give the council Councilman and his Parker a call because I think that she's done a great job and she needs all the support that she can get. So and Councilman Denise Parker's office number is 713-247-2014. You can also email her at eight Parker at sea in I.ci dot Houston, the whole world dot txt tx.us. And so email her and so the more the more messages phone, mail, message, phone, phone, voicemail, email, the more messages that come into downtown to City Hall, that there are people who support this, the better. Also people who live in southwest Houston, Councilman Mark Goldberg is coming out. He's, uh, he at this point refuses to commit either way. And so people I know there are a lot of gay people who live in

Maryland who live out in Willow bend, who live in southwest Houston, they need to give their council person a call. I mean, the thing is, is that there are so many gay people all over the city, not just Montrose, we need to call all our council people and let them know that we support this. And so that's what we've got to do. And so that's one thing. Anything that you got to do is a call PVA, we've got nine phone lines, and we're running phone banks now, six days a week, and we run phone banks Mondays through Wednesdays, from six to 9pm. On Saturday mornings, 9am to 12. And on Sundays, we're kicking off our Sunday phone banks now from six to 9pm. There are a lot of different times, you know, people have busy schedules, but we have phone banks almost every day now this week that people can get involved with. And the thing about it is if we plan ahead, and we prepare, and we're diligent, and we have a plan of action, which you do, this is not going to pass this anti gay referendum if it should pass. And I think that the thing about it is, again, prudent, and just being prudent and building power in a very concrete way.

J

Jack Valinski 1:02:08

Well, fabulous, great, the great work, certainly appreciate what PVA is doing for this community, and and people who are helping making this happen, because it just doesn't happen. And you can volunteer. Alex, thank you very much for coming by. You're listening to lesbian and gay voices. And where do we go from here, Glenn?

G

Glenn Holt 1:02:25

Well, I suppose first of all, let's take a listen to the lobby out there and it's dead quiet. There's there's no phone, no phones ringing. So let's go ahead and mention that phone number again.

J

Jack Valinski 1:02:37

The magic phone number is 71352657387135 to 6k p f t, the number hasn't changed. It's been the same number for years and years and years. We're in the same location we've been for a long time, are asking you to do your part here on KPFT helped make things happen. And social change doesn't happen without people taking action. So give us a call and we'll be right back.

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1:03:05

KPFT was founded in 1970 as part of the Pacifica radio network. For nearly three decades. KPFT has served the needs of the Houston community by providing innovative music, invigorating dialogue and informative public affairs and news programming. KPFT a nonprofit non commercial community radio station is listener sponsored KPFT is broadcast promotes Cultural Diversity Advocates freedom of the press serves as a forum for various viewpoints and maintains an independent funding base. The programming here on any point one of them has never been sponsored by commercial interests. All of the programming is funded by the listener. Never in the history of this station have we used advertising to help fund programming. All that you hear is uncompromised by commercial concerns. In addition to financial support Houstonians provide volunteer support for KPFT over 100 volunteers work at the station in various capacities. The programmers for the music, public affairs and new shows

are all volunteers. They give generously of their time and talent. Coming from all walks of life and all segments of Houston. These individuals collectively make the voice of KPFT what it is today, a resonant mix of sounds and ideas unmatched in any local medium. Their commitment to community broadcasting is the essence of KPFT Pacifica radio. Please support it now by making your pledge of support and calling 713-526-5738 Become a member call 71352 6k P F T

G

Greg Gordon 1:04:52

much like a tornado looking for a trailer park and following sold out shows in New York and San Francisco cabaret performer varla Jean merman is taking the rest of the US by storm. You can check her website Varroa online.com To find out if she'll be appearing in a city near you. But in the meantime, this way out, Steve pride gets up close and personal with both the lady and the legend.

♂

1:05:16

My show is called the very worst of virology Merman, because I find that I'm an optimistic person. My glass is always half not drunk, so I figured that if the best is yet to come, then that means that all this material I've done previously is going to be crap. One day it's perfectly fine today,

♂

1:05:32

internationals on Tues varla. Jean merman has been described as an Margaret on steroids or a bush John Lithgow. But one thing that's as clear as Wonder Woman's invisible aeroplane violet Jean merman is a lady on the cusp of superstardom.

♂

1:05:49

Love its own cabin with a son has never shown like a daughter keeps evolving and a half a cause injury. From the pebble that's how much Golson is in the street sweeping her face and the world isn't like that Apple willing find any space like the sandals and you know with my gosh

♂

1:06:20

her lineage is a source of both pride and pain for this six foot plus redhead

♂

1:06:25

I invited Jean merman and I'm the illegitimate daughter of Ethel Merman and Ernest Borgnine. As many of you probably know, my parents were married for 38 days, and I was born after the marriage. And I try not to refer to myself as illegitimate anymore because my good friend

Deepak Chopra has informed me that in the God's eyes all children are legitimate so that makes me feel so much better.



1:06:46

You're not so get rid of it I



1:07:02

thought she knew. While no longer in touch with their dead mother varla Jean dreams of getting closer to her biological father,



1:07:18

on numerous occasions, I have tried to see my father but they keep removing me from his bedroom, unfortunately, and they told me never to go back inside of his house. So I guess I can say I've never really run into him just his people. Mother I saw many many times from afar. Unfortunately, you know, because she was so busy with her schedule. She wasn't able to actually look at me or talk to me, but I know how it is and show business now I know this business we call show I can see how it can affect you in your personal relationships and you just can't take it personally. When someone like your mother or your father doesn't have time to talk to you it's just don't take it personally.



1:07:51

Oh



1:07:54

days. With the best of yours, crazy days, long days and short time seems like a lifetime. It's pausing ma



1:08:17

Barbra Jean merman has inherited her mother's dramatic range and her father's way with a showtune. But an angel can only fly so high. And for Viola gene, there came a time when getting out of bed on the right side meant not getting out of bed at all because the lady had a monkey on her back. There was a time



1:08:37

in Provincetown, where I found a poor little stray monkey, I guess ran away from an organ grinder from Hyannis, Massachusetts. I took care of little pebbles for a long time. Unfortunately,

people started throwing him the money and not me. And we really had an odd to say creative differences really made him move on. And I hear he's doing very well now in Nicaragua,



1:08:59

then in 1998. The monkey offer back varla Jean merman overcame the dual obstacles of height and age to replace the adorable Olsen twins in the bus and truck tour of Annie turning in a performance that most critics agreed was deeply disturbing. No one cares for you. When you're in



1:09:27

from there, she clawed her way back to the top.



1:09:29

Well, I paid people to claw my way to the top. I tried not to ever be hands on with anything. It's so much easier just to pay people to help you out in many situations.



1:09:39

Sure, there were sacrifices. I paid people to do those to see lost weight.



1:09:44

I went on a very special diet that I actually designed myself. It's sort of Atkins sort of zone. All you're allowed to eat is red meat and coffee. So red meat and coffee really was the way that I was able to lose all the weight and of course, I was lucky enough to get



1:09:58

a tapeworm when it became fashionable. She even embraced motherhood.



1:10:01

I did have a child Velveeta Louise and I haven't really been in contact with her. She actually lived under my bed for many years. I was a great mother but you know, everybody has an opinion and sort of the people at the Social Services Department. And so I really don't know where she is at this point and I'm trying to find her and I don't know if she wants to see me again but Velveeta if you're out there, Mama hugs you Okay.



1:10:27

Curl. Oh, are you Oh,



1:10:38

today despite her hectic schedule as a celebrity she still maintains a vigorous beauty regime  
her secret I



1:10:45

actually have very many beauty secrets most of which I will not let out on the air because we  
can't have everyone looking good can we? Are we would we people be that have to work at it  
so hard. But a few of my art spraying Mitchum, a deodorant actually has aluminum in it. You  
actually spray it onto your face before applying base so that you never ever, ever sweat. It just  
comes out through your feet, but never on the face which is most important. Another beauty  
secret I have is too wide open and until that one. No, not that way. That's the only one I'll give  
away for now. While Jean



1:11:17

may not always have the best musical judgment, but she knows what she likes and likes what  
she knows



1:11:23

how sandwiches



1:11:25

taste better



1:11:27

when heaping with a huge hunk of cheddar. sleepwalk through a Swiss Colony. Dream a Little  
Dream of cheese. Say Kevin bear then rub my rock afford and hug Havarti Santa fetishy or a  
brief dreams



1:12:03

although they are seldom seen together varla has one close friendship not arranged by her  
publicist.



1:12:09

I'm Jeff Roberson and I'm a very good friend of virology. mermans she's a wonderful, wonderful person. She's a little well I don't want to say neurotic that'd be a little harsh. She going to hear this



1:12:20

varla Jean merman now pleased to auditoriums packed tighter than her Capri pants. Sure, sometimes the audience is full of people who have just stumbled in off the street, attracted by the pretty lights, but they quickly discover that varla Jean is much more than a tall girl with a five o'clock shadow. She's a girl with a secret, something she keeps hidden. Tucked away. Viola Jean merman has a really big heart. This has been Steve fried beneath the glamour beyond the glitter and behind the music of varla Jean merman thanks for listening on



1:12:54

a Sunday morning and sad Whoa. Wishing I was



Greg Gordon 1:13:08

thanks for tuning into this way out the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. This week Cindy Friedman che shorty Chris Ambridge, Bram Underhill, Jason Lynn, Brian Nunez, Rex Walker, Matt Alsdorf and Steve pride contributed program material. Thanks also to Amy Goodman and Pacifica Radio's Democracy Now. Kim Wilson composed and performed our theme music. Some this way out our operating expenses are funded by grants from the kicking assets fund of the Tides Foundation and the CPS this Guadalupe fund by planet out.com. From designated contributions by uncommon cog Visa card holders who've chosen this way out and through direct charitable donations from our listeners around the world. Remember, you can also hear this way out anytime online exclusively on planet out. Just point your browser to www dot planet out.com and click first on multimedia then on radio for Alicia Powell and the entire this rail family I'm Greg Gordon. Thanks for listening on five our Woomera South Australia wy EP Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania que RCC Colorado Springs Colorado and more than 125 other stations around the world, including this community radio station, do stay tuned.



Glenn Holt 1:14:14

And this way out is heard every week as part of lesbian and gay voices heard each Monday here on KPFT. Would you



1:14:22

like to become a KPFT donor circle member and the KPFT Sustainer member all at once. Join the KPFT donor circle by supporting KPFT on a monthly basis for \$42 a month. \$42 a month will gain you entry into the leadership level of the donor circle as a monthly supporter, or Sustainer

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G

Glenn Holt 1:15:36

this is lesbian and gay voices and taking a look now at what's been happening in the news. Microsoft founder Bill Gates has pledged \$100 million to help develop an African AIDS vaccine, which could be readily available within five years. Trials of the new vaccine will begin in Kenya in the next few days. According to Seth Berkley, head of the nonprofit making International AIDS Vaccine initiative. News of the vaccine was delivered at the World Economic Forum Meeting in Davos, Switzerland this past weekend. The vaccine which has been tested since August on volunteers in Oxford, England was developed after doctors found that a group of prostitutes in Nairobi never contact contracted HIV despite repeated exposure to infection. It is one of around 25 vaccines being tested on humans around the world. But it is the first to target the a strain of the HIV virus, which is prevalent in Sub Saharan Africa. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the software billionaires charity, said the new \$100 million being provided to Berkeley's group was a challenge grant designed to encourage other backers internet company Yahoo Incorporated, is providing a further \$5 million. In total, the AIDS Vaccine initiative is half is looking for half a billion dollars to fund its development work through 2007. Recent scientific advances make it likely that a vaccine of at least limited efficacy will be readily available within a decade, and it could take as little as four to five years. In a best case scenario. Berkeley's group which is committed to ensuring any AIDS vaccine is made available to developing countries at a reasonable price has now received commitments totaling one quarter billion dollars, including two previous seven figure gifts from the Gates Foundation. Berkeley said a vaccine was the only way to fight AIDS in Africa, where antiretroviral drugs costing about \$15,000 a year were out of reach for most people. But he noted that there was little incentive for commercial companies to develop products for the developing world. The AIDS virus is striking hardest in New York City among black men, a new survey has found with 33% of gay or bisexual black men ages 23 to 29. testing positive for HIV. To put it in another way. 1/3 of all young black men in New York City are now HIV positive. The study was conducted at the city's health department, only 2% of the city's white gay men in the same age group are HIV positive, while 14% of Hispanics were infected. According to the survey, quote, We don't have a solid explanation for that because we don't see the kinds of differences in behavior between black and white men to explain this, said Lucia torium, who directed the study. Meanwhile, in an alarming reversal, the rate of new HIV infections among San Francisco's gay men has more than doubled since 1997, and is climbing steeply according to a comprehensive analysis released Wednesday, a panel of two dozen researchers and aids experts estimates in a draft report that the rate of new HIV infections is 2.2%, up 1% In 1997, the increase comes after years of relative stability in the city's HIV infection rate, a trend that was wrought by strong prevention programs safer sex among the gay population and the advent of powerful drugs. Quote, we are now on the upswing of a rebound epidemic. Although it is not nearly what we were seeing in the late 1970s and 80s, when several 1000 people a year were becoming infected, said we'll McFarland, an epidemiologist for the San Francisco Department of Public Health. Mike Shriver, who is a special adviser to Mayor Willie Brown on AIDS and HIV and who helped organize the panel said quote, profoundly troubled by the panel's findings.

The trend also concerns federal health officials who say San Francisco's experience is also starting to show up in data collected from Seattle, Los Angeles, Miami, Chicago and New York. Throughout the epidemic, San Francisco has been a bellwether for the rest of the country. The first signs of a new wave of infections came this summer, when studies showed increases in both unsafe sex and new infections. In August, the health department kicked off a new prevention strategy directed at people who are HIV positive, urging them not to spread the virus to others. But their efforts are coming face to face with the new reality of AIDS and HIV. Because antiretroviral drugs have extended so many lives, there are now more infected people who can pass on the virus to others. And the terror of watching Friends and Lovers and your death has receded. Since the drugs became available in the mid 1990s. Quote, there are people out there who have never seen anyone waste away from HIV. That played a really huge role in motivating people to stay HIV negative. So James Colombo, a UC San Francisco counselor who works with men newly diagnosed with HIV. Another factor he and others said is illegal drugs, especially methamphetamines. 23 year old Jay beany was high on meth a year ago when he contracted the virus from someone who did not disclose that he was HIV positive. I believe that is why I became infected said Bini who was featured in the city's current ad campaign, which is called HIV stops with me. The man who infected him later told me that he didn't bring up anything about HIV because beanie didn't ask. Beating up makes a point of telling his partners that he does have HIV. Sometimes this has led to rejection, which is difficult but worse, he said is the reaction he got from one partner who said he didn't care. He wanted to have sex without a condom. So beanie walked away. quote a term you hear sometimes is you're going to get it anyway Bini said. I don't agree with that, but it is out there. Already more than a quarter of San Francisco's estimated 47,000 gay men are living with HIV. The rate of new infections among gay men who inject drugs is more than twice as high 4.6% According to the draft report, since officials have no way to keep track of exactly how many infections arise each year. The number is an estimate based on the findings from several studies. It is not just local officials who are worried what we are hearing from San Francisco is very concerning, said Robert Jensen, Director of the Division of HIV AIDS prevention at the CDC in Atlanta. He said federal health officials are convening next month to discuss how to respond to these new trends. James Hormel, the country's first openly gay ambassador, joined liberal groups Thursday and questioning the credibility of Attorney General designate John Ashcroft Hormel became a key figure in Ashcroft's Senate confirmation hearings last week, when Democrats alleged that after Ashcroft as Senator had opposed Hormel in 1997 nomination to the ambassador of Luxembourg because Ashcroft disapproved of what he called her Mills gay lifestyle. Ashcroft told a Senate panel that horror Mills sexual orientation had nothing to do with his vote to reject Hormel, who was appointed ambassador during a congressional recess after his nomination was held up by the Senate. Democrats have used the vote to question whether the staunchly conservative Ashcroft as Attorney General will enforce civil rights and hate crimes laws. At a news conference Thursday, Hormel questioned Ashcroft's qualifications to hold the very sensitive post of Attorney General. He also said that Ashcroft in Senate testimony had mischaracterized how well the two men knew one another more than 30 years ago, when both were at the University of Chicago Law School. During during testimony last week before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Ashcroft said he had quote, known Mr. Hormel for a long time, and that Hormel, who was then the school's Dean of Students had recruited him to attend the law school there are metal disputed that saying, quote, I cannot recall ever in my life having had a conversation with Mr. Ashcroft. He said I have absolutely no contact with him and almost 34 years since he left the University of Chicago Law School in 1967. And quote, or Mel was the star speaker at the latest in a series of news news conferences that liberal groups are holding to take advantage of a delay in the committee's vote on Ashcroft's nomination. Democrats asked Wednesday for the week long delay, and Ashcroft is using the time to respond to nearly 400 additional questions, mostly from Democrats or males comments his first since Ashcroft

voted against his nomination to the ambassador in 1997. Followed revelations that Paul offner, a Democrat and healthcare policy specialist, was claiming that Ashcroft had asked about his sexual orientation during a 1985 interview for a state social services job offer. oftener, who is not hired was not hired, said the interview took place in a State Office Building. After Ashcroft was elected as governor of Missouri. Quote, we shook hands we sat down and without any introduction or small talk, he looked at me and said, Mr. Hoffner Do you have the same sexual preference as most men Mindy Tucker Ashcroft spokesman said that Ashcroft does not remember the meeting, nor could he imagine asking such a question. On Thursday the committee assigned an investigator to check out author's claims often or who is married now but was not in 1985 said he never forgot Ashcroft's exact words quote, it has always stuck in my mind. It was not illegal in 1985 for potential employers to ask such questions. offner said he called the committee Monday after reading that Ashcroft said he hadn't used sexual preference as an issue in hiring or firing. liberal groups still face an uphill battle and turning back cash crops nomination. Even Democratic leaders have said that short of a bombshell revelation, it is likely that Ashcroft will be confirmed. In the meantime, liberals are getting in a few more shots against President Bush's most controversial cabinet choice. Senator Tom Daschle said Thursday that he will not support a filibuster of any of Bush's Cabinet nominees. Last week, Senator Edward Kennedy had threatened to filibuster to try to block the Ashcroft nomination.

Republicans are pushing to hold a committee vote on Ashcroft's nomination as soon as Tuesday and a floor vote in the Senate as quickly as Thursday. Quote, I still haven't given up hope that something might happen. That Shakes some of the senators to their very foundation, said Kate Mitchelton, president of the National abortion and reproductive rights action League. While acknowledging that he is Facing insurmountable odds, Representative Barney Frank said Thursday, he will introduce a bill seeking to undo a 1996 federal definition of marriage as an institution between a man and a woman. Frank said his goal is to hold Vice President Dick Cheney's feet to the fire after training stated in October that he would support a state's rights to determine whether to sanction same sex unions. Frank's bill would repeal a portion of the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act overwhelmingly supported by Congress and signed by then President Bill Clinton. To date no state recognizes same sex marriage. Hawaii's attempt to do so was thwarted by opponents who took their case all the way to that state's Supreme Court. Vermont has come closest with its civil union law. Recent polls have shown that a majority of voters still favor non gay marriage exclusively. Frank plans to introduce his bill next week, when Congress returns. If states were to recognize same sex marriage, couples could join, file joint tax returns, as well as qualify for such things as Social Security survivor benefits. Frank offered a similar amendment to the Defense of Marriage Act in 1996. That was harshly defeated, but he thinks he has more support this time. In a debate with Democratic vice presidential nominee Joe Lieberman, last October, Cheney said quote, people should be free to enter into any kind of relationship they want to enter into. I think different states are likely to come to different conclusions and that it's appropriate. I don't think there should be any necessity for a federal policy in this area. Thursday, a spokeswoman for trainee said that he would likely not lobby for the change. The vice president would support President Bush's position. He supports the Defense of Marriage Act as it stands, said press secretary Juliana Glover Weiss. Even in California the battle over the rights of gays and lesbians to marry has been hard fought. Last year voters passed by 61% proposition 22, also known as the night initiative, after its author, State Senator William Pete night. The measure defined marriage as an institution between a man and a woman know on night campaign chairman Mike Marshall, Interim Director of San Francisco's forthcoming gay community center, which is now under construction applauded Frank's efforts to undo what Marshall sees as a discriminatory federal law. Quote, he is exposing the hypocrisy of the Bush administration and the radical right Marshall said. Dozens of people braved rain and cold winds Wednesday morning to protest Santa Clarita, California's failure to extend benefits to the partners of gay and lesbian city

workers. Members of the gay and lesbian association of Santa Clarita and the Democratic Alliance for action waved hand lettered signs denouncing the City Council and its members. As about 100 People from all over Los Angeles County arrived for a city sponsored human relations conference. We believe the Constitution applies to everyone said Scott Edwards, the president of Democratic Alliance and one of the picketers the protesters said that they were also outraged that Councilman Cameron Smyth gave the opening remarks at the diversity 2001 conference staged by the county's human relations mutual assistance Consortium. Before being elected in April to city council, Smyth was Chief of Staff for guests who state senator Pete Knight, the same Senator night Who has long campaigned against equal rights, and the one who sponsored proposition 22. money to provide benefits for both same sex couples and unmarried gay couples was included in a draft of the city's 1999 2000 budget, but was stricken from the final version by the city council in a closed door meeting. In other news, the National Boy Scouts of America is getting tough in enforcing its policy of excluding gays, not only against gays themselves, but also against Scout groups opposed to the policy. Boy Scouts of America has declined to renew the Charters of eight Cub Scout packs because their sponsor, the Council of Parent Teacher organizations of Oak Park, Illinois, could not accept the national policy without rejecting town and school policies and their own values. The parent teacher organizations have sponsored Scout groups for 60 years, the hosted groups which have about 40 members each can rejoin Boy Scouts of America if they find new sponsors willing to discriminate by February 28. Reportedly, oak parks teacher parent organizations are among a few dozen scouting sponsors in the nation to date to repudiate the national policy. When they submitted their renewal applications in November, they included copies of the town's diversity statement and the school district's non discrimination policies, writing that they would abide by those rules rather than the Boy Scouts of America's in any case in which there was a conflict between the two. Boy Scouts of America responded quote, There is therefore an inconsistency between your position and the position of the Boy Scouts of America concerning about homosexuals as scout leaders. For this reason the council rejects that it cannot execute the annual charter agreement. The situation has convinced a number of parents and their sons that they should not be involved in scouting. And sometimes the boys agree. Keith and Egan and her husband sat down with their son Egan, aged 10 To explain the circumstances. She told the Chicago Tribune quote, he looked very sad and then said that stupid. I thought the scouts were nice people. I guess I don't want to be part of a group like that anymore. Well, it's no coincidence that Oak Park was the site of this conflict. It has a proud history of acceptance from being the first city in the US to prohibit racial discrimination in home sales in 1968, to being the first city in Illinois to establish a domestic partners registry for gays and lesbians. Many residents come there or stay there precisely because they value the town's diversity. Meanwhile, Mark LaFontaine is an openly gay accountant in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, who earned Eagle Scout rank in 1983. And now tells the Miami Herald that he's out to quote, prove a point as to how far they will go in their unwillingness to remove this policy. Towards that end, he and openly gay Doug White took news teams with them in September when they applied at the South Florida Council of Boy Scouts of America to become volunteer troop leaders. They were rejected as about homosexuals. LaFontaine has asked for and so far been denied a chance to appeal that decision to the Southern Regional Office. to beef up his resume for that appeal he joined at the 84,000 member National Eagle Scout Association. In closing the required \$25 Check. Eagle Scout Association mission is to promote support and apply scouting ideals through service. He'd written to Nisa previously to protest the Boy Scouts policy excluding gays, so he didn't really expect to be admitted. But in late December, he received a certificate and a form letter advising him that quote, as you were helped by others to become an eagle, you now have much more to offer others in scouting, LaFontaine sent a copy of his certificate to the south Florida Council. A letter received their January 16. On the next day, he received a letter from Lisa's director saying quote, your membership in the National Eagle

Scout Association is hereby revoked. membership in the National Eagle Scout Association is restricted to those members who are eligible to be registered in the Boy Scouts of America. BSA membership is a privilege and not automatically granted. We reserve the right to refuse membership wherever there was a concern that an individual may not meet the high standards for membership in the Boy Scouts of America. That letter was CCD to the south Florida Council and the Southern Regional Office. LaFontaine believes that the about face reflects internal conflicts at the Boy Scouts of America about its policies. Because he's convinced that those who approved his application were well aware of him and his membership was withdrawn only under pressure. BSA spokesman shields disagrees, noting that the Boy Scouts of America does not investigate neasa applicants and speculating that life on teens admission was essentially a clerical error. Overseas human rights groups demanded a review of English immigration rules Thursday after a British High Court Judge borrowed same sex, a same sex couple from living together in Britain, because they did not constitute a family. Nigel McCollum, a United States worker and his Brazilian partner Renato Lozano had claimed the right to cohabit under EU laws, which allow a foreign spouse to live with a partner from a member state. In a landmark case, lawyers argued that McCollum, who is a British citizen, was deprived of his human rights to freedom of movement and a private life by the refusal to allow Lozano to live with him. But Justice Turner sitting at the High Court in London throughout the claims, saying that there were no grounds under British or EU law for the Brazilian man to be treated as a family member. Gay and Lesbian Advocates condemned the ruling, saying it has made an ass of the law by recognizing a set of rules which apply to non gays, but not to same sex couples. And to think that the conservative right accuses the gay community of wanting special rights. David Ellison, a spokesman for outrage said, quote, If under European law, a British man is allowed to have his foreign wife or family member with him, then why does that not apply to a gay British man? The appearance is that the law has been made to look and asked here. The immigration rules should apply equally regardless of sexuality, and they should be changed when it when that is not the case. The Stonewall immigration group which campaigns for asylum seekers and gay and lesbian immigrants, claimed the interpretation of the European legislation incorporated into UK law was faulty. Matthew Davies, a lawyer for the group said quote, there seems to be little justification for the term family member to apply only to a married spouse or blood relative that does not reflect society. McCollum is a Belfast born development worker for the UN Food Program, who met Lozano, a 28 year old student in 1995. They then live together in London for three years. The couple went abroad in 1998, before returning to Britain last February, to resume living together in southeast London. Immigration officials stopped Lozano from entering Britain, on the grounds that he had not gained entry clearance from his native Brazil before travelling. Under UK immigration rules unmarried couples, whether gay or non gay, can enter Britain if they prove they have been in any relationship for more than two years. But rather than returning to South America to gain clearance and endure what they claimed, was discrimination in a macho Brazilian society, the couple chose to use the EU directive allowing a foreign family member to join a partner already working in Britain or another member state. Stephanie Harris acting for the men told a previous hearing that contemporary attitudes to same sex relationships meant the term family member must apply to a same sex partner. But just as Turner throwing up the application said quote, there is clear authority which demonstrates that the directive in issue in this case cannot be interpreted so as to permit Mr. Lozano to be treated as either a spouse or as a member of the family. This is clear and domestic as well as European law and quote, the judge added that it is still open for Lozano who initially came to Britain in 1994 on a tourist visa, before then staying to complete his studies to return to Brazil to apply through the normal route. Home Office lawyers had accused the Brazilian of attempting to jump the queue. But a source close to the man's case accused the judge of ignoring the reality, saying quote, he has ducked the issues completely. By saying that Mr. Lozano can go and get clearance abroad, it will be very difficult for him to return to

Brazil and explain to them there that he is gay. The Home Office said British immigration rules applied equally to applicants regardless of their sexuality, and denied that the men had fallen afoul of discriminatory legislation. McCollum and Lozano are considering appealing to the Court of Appeal to have the judgment overturned. Also overseas the Royal Navy has exerted the greatest pressure to recognize unmarried couples as having the same rights as their married counterparts, a change now being considered by the British Ministry of Defence. Admiral Sir Peter Spencer's second Sealord described the present situation as one of the Navy's most serious personnel problems and said he wanted the differences abolished, but the most resistance comes from within the Army. When senior Army officer said he was concerned that if the rules were changed, gay or lesbian couples would demand married quarters, and that under European Human Rights legislation, guess what the services would have to cave in. There also may be considerable opposition from the conservative Army Wives clubs. But Lizzie iron a chairman of the Army families Association said opinions among her members were changing. Quote, my impression is now that most people I speak to don't have a problem with the idea of partners being accepted. As long as the relationship is committed. There is still a significant portion who say you If the relationship is committed, then why not marry? Back home a man convicted of indecent conduct following his 1999 arrest at a secluded beach near St. Paul, Minnesota, which by the way is a beach frequented by gay men is entitled to a court hearing on his claim that St. Paul authorities have unfairly targeted gays for arrest. That ruling came from the Minnesota Court of Appeals on Tuesday, the appeals court reversed the conviction of Steven a pink call and ordered a trial court judge to hold a hearing, hearing on pink calls evidence alleging discriminatory enforcement of indecent conduct laws in St. Paul. The evidence includes statistics indicating that two thirds of the indecent conduct citations issued in the past three years in St. Paul went to gay men arrested in the Pfeiffer's beach area on the Mississippi River, said Kyle White an attorney representing pink haul. Pink also offered as evidence statements by a former St. Paul Police officer that non gays are not charged with indecent conduct and similar cases and by people who are heard a St. Paul prosecutor say that gay men convicted of indecent conduct should be compelled to register as sex offenders. A three judge appeals court panel said that pink call presented evidence sufficient to raise a reasonable doubt about discriminatory enforcement of the indecent conduct law, and that he is entitled to a separate hearing on the issue. The appeals court also said that a trial judge erred in allowing a prosecutor to question Pinkel about his religious beliefs, his sexual orientation and HIV status. The cumulative effect of those errors alone however, were not so great as to warrant a new trial, the court said. And finally, President George W. Bush is reviewing whether to keep the White House Office of the National AIDS Policy. White House press secretary Ari Fleischer said that the Office established by former President Bill Clinton, quote, will expire at some point. But he also noted that it serves an important mission. Bush is also reported to be reviewing the status of the Office of the President's initiative for one America. Do you think anyone surprised? Well, that's our look at what's been going on for the past week for LGV news. I'm Glenn Holt and Joan Devlin is out in the lobby.

J

Joan Devlin 1:42:22

Yes, Glenda, we actually do have a pledge. We have a very generous pledge. And I'd like to thank David, David George, who was very generous with his pledge, and we appreciate him taking the time to call in tonight. 713-526-5738. He said he loves us. So that was a compliment. And we do appreciate him. But unfortunately, he's the only pledge we've had tonight. And we're close. But you know, we still haven't made our goal. We need more people to call in to you know, pledge help us out here.

J

Jack Valinski 1:42:50

I guess the thing is, we need people. That's right. That is plural rather than one. Our phones were down earlier. But now's the time now that Glen is taking a breath from his newscast, it is time to call, it's time to call in support community radio. This is a very special thing. You know, community radio isn't in every city, there's just a very few cities that have it. There's only five cities that have Pacifica radio stations, and we're the only one in the south. So we have to do our part to help support this. You know, there's some wonderful programs done here on Pacifica including Democracy Now, which is just incredible. It's on at nine o'clock in the morning. And Amy Goodman, I don't know how she can do all the work she does, because she just is so diligent in the stuff she does. And she does it so well. And it's an honor to be on the same station she is, it's also an honor to be on the station that plays this way out. And shows like after hours, we have an incredible mix of shows for on this station. And the only way they keep on the station is by the support of people who call and about 70% of the money that is generated here have to keep the station going comes from the public comes from you. People who pick up the phone and call us at 7135265738713526 KPFT. We have some giveaways. We asked for \$35 for a basic membership. And you know, we can make it easy for you it can probably be done in about 90 seconds you give us a call. One of our volunteers will take the information and be able to charge it to a credit card. So basically, it's all done for you. And it's a very simple process. You know, we've been here for 30 years, we plan to be here for at least another 30 years. And who knows what's going to be happening in 30 years. I mean, will there even be radio you know, who knows? But there will be some form of KPFT of progressive voice here as long as we can keep it going but it's up to you to do your part.

J

Joan Devlin 1:44:47

That's right. 7135265738713526 KPFT volunteers are standing by

G

Glenn Holt 1:45:00

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 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, lesbian and gay voices credits the following news sources Associated Press Reuters as well as false press, the Independent The Daily Telegraph, the Chicago Star Tribune, the San Francisco Chronicle USA Today, planet out.com, gay financial network@gfn.com and hen net. This is the sound of Texas 90.1 FM KPFT in Houston. for lesbian and gay voices. I'm Glenn old