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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

gay, year, pagan, family, lesbian, tradition, case, jose, halloween, miguel, paganism, aclu, song, day, sound, ran, democrat, support, nambla, court

## SPEAKERS

Gigi, Jack Valinski, Cindy Friedman, Joan Devlin

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J Jack Valinski 00:13

Welcome to another edition of lesbian and gay voices. This is Jack Valinski. Devlin and as we get the microphones on I'm rusty of course yeah

J Joan Devlin 00:23

Jack is taken over for Glenn Holt tonight poor who's ill that's what well don't want to say I'll because that's kind of like he always is. He's He's physically

J Jack Valinski 00:34

now Joan you said that not i Please he

J Joan Devlin 00:37

says worse things about me.

J Jack Valinski 00:39

Oh we all say worse things about you. Well there

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Yes. So we have JGS gonna come on and talk about paganism. That's

J

Joan Devlin 00:48

right and then Jeremy quarry is going to come on actually Judy is going to talk about salan are the true meaning of Halloween, because it is the day before Halloween. And then Jeremy Cory is going to come on and talk about paganism. Jeremy, Jeremy, as you know, is head of the Eastern fairy circle. Okay, so we have a little interesting Halloween segment tonight. And then of course, JD Doyle be doing the second hour?

J

Jack Valinski 01:09

Yes. And I got to preview it while I was waiting here. And it sounds wonderful. As usual. Yeah. JD puts this thing together, unlike us who is live and we don't know where we're going sometimes. And, you know, of course, tomorrow's Halloween, which is sort of like the Big Gay holiday because it was years ago. That was like the only time we can dress up and be who we are. We're we're in effect. But I want to talk about a few things that happened this week. We had a wonderful article in Easton press about Ray Hill. Oh, yes. Oh, yes. Wonderful article. Really nice. And Saturday was Eastern women's festival. That was a really good. And of course, I get to be a lesbian at that festival.

J

Joan Devlin 01:49

Like you're not always lesbian, right? But no, it

J

Jack Valinski 01:52

was really wonderful. There was a big crowd there. Music was really good music type that I like, of course, and a lot of boots, community boots and stuff like that. Earlier in the day. There was a reception for a woman who was a city council person from Tel Aviv, an open lesbian, right? And her name is Mike Michael. And she was talking to the community center and very, very, very nice to hear the differences about cultures and stuff like that. And she was

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Joan Devlin 02:20

the first openly lesbian or openly gay person appointed. Yes, right. Well, she

J

Jack Valinski 02:25

was actually elected and she is now running for the Knesset, which is their sort of House of Representatives. So she's over here sort of drumming up support and patrolling the area. And she went to the women's festival for a while too, and I think she had a good time.

J

Joan Devlin 02:38

Speaking of drumming up support a week from tomorrow is election day. That's right, very



02:44

important that we all get out there. Or can we still, Is there still time to vote early?



J Jack Valinski 02:49

Yes, you have until Friday. And you can check the Harris County website. And you can just do a look in your search engine for Harris County, Texas. And once you get to the main page, there's the County Clerk's page, which I've got to say it's very, very well done, you can click there, and it will tell you that hours for early well actually, it's called early voting not absentee voting, because early voting because you can either leave no reason to go there, except that you want to vote early. And there are 29 locations throughout the county. And I'm sure there's other ones in other counties in the surrounding area. But I gotta admit that Harris County really has their act together in this. And then if you want to vote Election Day, there you put in your precinct number, and it will show you where the voting place is.



J Joan Devlin 03:35

And if you're early voting, and you are registered in Harris County, you can vote anywhere in Harris County, right strictly for early voting, right? Anyone vote on the seventh, you have to go. And one,



03:47

it also makes things a whole lot easier if you have your card with you.



J Jack Valinski 03:51

But your your you can use your you can use any form of identification. But you're right, if you have your card, it makes it a little bit easier, because then they can actually, you know, click it in a lot easier. The one of the locations in this area is 1475, West gray, which is the Metropolitan multi service center. And I also would suggest, you know, the hours get longer as the week as we get towards the end of the week. So you have a variety there. But I understand there have been some crowds even when I went there on Friday morning, around nine o'clock. It wasn't real crowded. But it was busier than in the old days when used to go in there was just people sitting around knitting. So I would suggest you do that. Of course you can vote election day also. But the nice thing about early voting is you get it over with and then no matter what happens on election day, you're so busy, you're at work or something you've already done it.



J Joan Devlin 04:38

Right. It kind of gives you peace of mind too. Because you know Election Day is a Tuesday most people have to work on a Tuesday. Everybody's understanding by letting you write and yeah, or if you you know you try to rush out of work or, you know, worst case you try to go early in the

morning and there's you know, several 100 people there and it's going to take you an hour and you're you know panicking about you know you're going to be really late to work So this way, you know, you go you do it, it took me five minutes. For those of you listening in Katy the voter, the place to early vote is at Cimarron and hidden Canyon, which is the MVD. And and it took five minutes. Two

J

Jack Valinski 05:14

questions there. One is to find another arena. And the other one is for the Olympics in 2012 1214, or 1212 12. Well, yeah. Which I personally think is a big waste of money. But that's my personal opinion. Right.

J

Joan Devlin 05:30

But that's the point. When you vote, you get to express your personal opinion, you know, the people who want to gripe and moan and cry, and then don't vote, why don't want to hear from you?

J

Jack Valinski 05:39

Well, and we're going to be talking next week to David Elliot, probably for a long, extended segment about voting. And Tuesday night, I had checked with the caucus to see if they're having a party afterwards. I haven't heard back from them. I also understand wouldn't be invited in well, that's probably true. But I also understand that they are in for my understanding, I haven't gotten this confirmed, because they haven't gotten back to me that they're not mailing out the cards this year. So you can pick them up at the community center. And I'm sure they're at places around the community. And they posted on the Internet somewhere. Well, they're posted on Hanah. They do not have a website.

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06:13

I do know in the voice, they had an article about it, as well as some of their pics.

J

Jack Valinski 06:18

Okay, that's in the voice. And I don't know if it's really easy to clip out. And I think

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06:22

it's not it's an article, right, okay to clip out then you can take to the poll with you.

J

Jack Valinski 06:26

And the basic things what we'll talk about them a little bit later. But basic thing is, of course, they're endorsing Gore for president, Senate and railroad commissioner is the Green Party. Mostly other ones are Democrats. There's a few Republicans in there, but mostly, it's Democrats, with the Greens where the Democrats really don't have anybody running. So that's very important to go and vote and I hope you're registered. If you're not, you know, if you're old enough to vote, you're not registered. What can I say? So let's get on with the show. Anything else we need to talk about? Well, I did see your your banner, the movie. And unfortunately, it left on Thursday. I just, you know, I just got to see it was a really interesting movie. It was based around urban folk tales. And I really liked the way they were sort of flashing back and forth from the past and the present. I'm sure it'll be on video soon. Because it was an independent film. It was like a winner at Sundance.

J

Joan Devlin 07:24

Right and Billy Elliot started this Friday. And of course, Billy Elliot is the story of the young man who wants to be a ballerina, much to his father and brothers chagrin is supposed to be a very good movie. It won several awards at Sundance. And so far, I have not seen it yet. But I know a couple of people who have seen it and they found it quite entertaining.

J

Jack Valinski 07:44

The previous look very good. I certainly Miss Sarah talking. Yes,

J

Joan Devlin 07:49

I Miss Sarah, we have to well, I'll call Mr. Oh, call somewhere called somewhere. Okay, or dissing the yards. I want to see two family house also. But that's just because I have New York Italian family.

J

Jack Valinski 08:01

And I saw dancer in the dark. And boy, that is a powerful movie very hard. It's very bizarre. It is well, yes. It's very bizarre. Is it based on a true story? No. But it could very well be a true story the way it's written. So let's listen to our news from this way out news wrap.

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08:25

I'm Shay Schultz. And I'm Cindy Friedman with news wrap a summary of some of the news in or affecting the lesbian and gay community for the week ending October 28th 2000. Ireland has established strong new protections from sexual orientation discrimination, as Justice Minister John O'Donoghue, signed the Equal Status Act into law this week. Now both private and government entities are barred from discrimination against nine protected categories in the provision of accommodations, goods and services. This includes membership in private clubs, education and government health services. Those who feel they've experienced discrimination can file a complaint with the director of equality investigations, a government agency which

can issue orders to be enforced by the courts. The Equal Status Act approved by the parliament in April is the latest in a series of measures designed to give Ireland what O'Donoghue called one of the most modern anti discrimination codes in the world. The previous step was the employment Equity Act, which went into effect last year, giving broad workplace protections to the same nine categories including sexual orientation. The next will be a Disabilities Bill to be published next year. O'Donoghue said the Equal Status Act is based on the principle that everyone has an equal right to participate in our society. We have put in place what many commentators regard as the most comprehensive and progressive anti discrimination legislation in the European Union.

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Cindy Friedman 09:53

Schools in Britain may become a little safer in the wake of a landmark legal decision this week, and unnamed student was awarded 1500 pounds about 2150 US dollars for his claim that his school and school district failed to protect him from homophobic harrassment by his peers. It's believed to be the first such claim to succeed based solely on verbal abuse. 18 months of verbal harrassment that began when the student was 12 culminated in his sexual assault by two of his tour mentors, but Manchester County Court Judge Richard Holman found that staff had sailed grammar school could not have foreseen that Judge Holman also had nothing but praise for three teachers who testified, finding only that the school had fallen down in carrying out procedures to protect the plaintiff. Judge Holman said, bullying is a fact of life, it can never be eliminated and no school however hard it tries can guarantee that a child in its care will not be subjected to it. A school must, however, take reasonable steps to minimize it and to address problems in a positive manner. Even before the sexual assault drove that traumatized student to leave school altogether for two years, that continuing harrassment had taken a toll. Initially a confident and popular form captain, he became withdrawn and lost weight, he required psychiatric treatment and was given antidepressants. Research has indicated that one out of eight schoolchildren in Britain may experience some form of harrassment and that homophobic bullying is more psychologically damaging to its targets than other types. But this plaintiff five years after the abuse began, has made a good recovery, resumed his education at a different school and performed exceptionally well on standard achievement tests.

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11:40

There's good news too, for Miguel Washington, the 10 year old California boy whose grandfather abducted him from the only family he's ever known his gay uncle and his uncle's male partner, grandfather, Paul Washington senior was supposed to be taking Miguel on a fishing trip, but instead shipped him off to a cousin's family in Pennsylvania, where he was not allowed to use the phone. The grandfather's attorney sent Miguel's Uncle Paul Washington Jr. and his partner Timothy Forrester, a letter alleging they were actively promoting or influencing a gay lifestyle for Miguel failing to expose him to healthy relationships with heterosexual females and sending him to what the letter called gay art class and ballet instead of baseball. And to court hearings, Miguel's uncle and partner were able to obtain temporary custody over the grandfather's objections, and an order was issued for Miguel's return. Two weeks after his abduction Miguel was surrendered to authorities in Pennsylvania, and two days after that he was returned to his gay dads. Miguel said his grandfather told him that I should have a life with a brother and sister and mom and dad. I wanted to come home. Miguel and his dads were

happy and relieved to be together again. A further court hearing in December will determine permanent custody for Miguel. Authorities are considering filing criminal charges against the grandfather.

c

Cindy Friedman 13:02

The head of a regional council of the Boy Scouts of America has been suspended from his job after coming out. Len Lanzi rose at a meeting of the Santa Barbara County Commission to speak in defense of the scouts when the county's Human Rights Commission had recommended severing official ties with them because of their policy excluding gays. While extolling the scouts work with children lands he felt he had to make his first ever public declaration that he is a gay man. Because his credibility might be questioned otherwise, he was put on paid leave a few days later. Lindsay has been Executive Director of the Los Padres council for three years and an employee for a total of 14 years. He's won praise from parents Scout masters and heads of affiliated organizations. He is believed to be the highest ranking Scout to come out since the US Supreme Court ruled in June that state anti discrimination laws can't stop the Boy Scouts of America from excluding gays from membership and volunteer leadership roles. Attorneys are divided in their opinions as to whether that ruling would also extend to excluding gays from paid positions like Lindsay's. The Los Padres Council is under some pressure to renounce the national organizations policy.

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14:15

A French politician is suing a gay magazine for outing him John Luc Romero RPR party representative for the int'l de France region is furious with e mail magazine. Romero said I am not ashamed of who I am, but it's up to me and me alone to decide whether to reveal my homosexuality. I had planned to come out but on my own terms, and after having informed my family, he said that what email had done is unheard of in this country, and noted that even act up Paris had declined last year to out a gay politician who attended an anti gay rally. Email had suggested that a right wing politician was trying to woo the gay vote in Paris's fourth district by packing his electoral list with gay and gay supportive candidates and suggested Romero might be on that list. Romero says he's received many panicky phone calls sense from closeted gay politicians.

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Cindy Friedman 15:10

Gay British millionaire Ivan Massa out announced this week that his mass our financial services is merging with its competitor rainbow finance to form the mass out rainbow group valued at 20 million pounds. Massa will hold up 40% interest and serve as chair while rainbow founder Lewis LeTourneau will handle day to day operations as managing director. both agree that the gay and lesbian community will continue to be their core business. Mass House plan is to set up pension plans for gay and lesbian couples, which he believes can eventually represent 5% of that market.

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15:46

Gay US software magnate Tim Gill announced this week that he's leaving the firm he founded

Buy us software magnate Tim Gill announced this week that he's leaving the firm he founded cork Incorporated, and plans to give away most of the proceeds from sale of his 50% interest in the firm. In a classic high tech success story, Gil founded cork in 1981. With \$2,000 He borrowed from his parents, and thanks to his Quark Express software, it's now a multinational with about \$500 million dollars in sales each year. But when Colorado passed its anti gay ballot initiative amendment to in 1992, Gil felt he had to take positive action to counter it. In 1994, he established the gill foundation right where amendment two began in Colorado Springs Colorado, with a mission to promote justice and equality. While building awareness of the contributions gay men and lesbians make to American society. It's now giving away a total of \$19 million to non discriminatory charities in Colorado, and to gay and lesbian causes nationwide including this way out. Gil became increasingly interested in philanthropy and gave it more and more of his time until now it seduced him away from business altogether. The foundation ended 1999 with \$163 million in its endowment. Just the first piece of Gil's Quark sale is expected to increase the foundation's giving in the coming year by more than 1/3.

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Cindy Friedman 17:09

And finally, a Halloween story about those who find diversity scary. Religious Right groups in Virginia called a boycott against a pumpkin farm this year because it displayed rainbow flags. Cox farm owners Eric Cox and Gina Richard put the flags up many years ago just to brighten up the pumpkin patch for the 10s of 1000s of visitors who come each year for the firm's Fall Festival. It was only later that they learned the flags or a banner of gay and lesbian pride. But since their son Aaron Cox, Richard came out in 1995. They were pleased to keep the flags as a symbol of diversity. But this year, local preachers urged their congregations to boycott the farm and canceled traditional school field trips there. Then PFLAG parents, families and friends of lesbians and Gays issued an action alert calling on members to visit the farm. Gay and lesbian groups began to do the same to articles in The Washington Post spread the word farther, people began driving long distances to buy pumpkins from the Coxes. As an endorsement, even leaders of some conservative local churches showed support. The bottom line is that the boycott has actually served to increase business.

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18:25

That's news wrap for the week ending October 28 2000. Written by Cindy Friedman, and recorded at the studios of KPFK, Los Angeles solid the

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Cindy Friedman 18:32

news in your area and informed community is a strong community. For this way out. I'm Cindy Friedman.

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18:39

And I'm Jay Sheltie.

J

JACK VAIINSKI 18:41

You're listening to lesbian and gay voices. And I just wanted to give you that website for the Harris County for voter information. And that's for early voting, and also for voting that day. It's [www.sceeto.harris.tx.us/cclerk/slashelect.htm](http://www.sceeto.harris.tx.us/cclerk/slashelect.htm). And if you just go to [www.sceeto.harris.tx.us](http://www.sceeto.harris.tx.us), it will there's a button there to go to the election information. You're listening to lesbian gay voices, and later on the show, we will read the gRPC endorsement card.

J

Joan Devlin 19:21

Good evening you're listening to KPFT is lesbian and gay voices. And I have in studio, Gigi. Fine. And you just want to talk to us a little bit about Halloween because as you know, you know anybody who lives in Texas or anywhere south, you know, Halloween is surrounded by controversy. For instance, one of the women I work with came up to me today and said her son was just heartbroken because the school had voted not to allow the kids to wear costumes tomorrow, and he was just so disappointed. We're having a celebration at my workplace for the first time in a while. And there's about five of us on the committee and every one of us on the committee has had At least one person come up to us and express a concern and say that they're rather offended by the fact that we're doing something, quote unquote, for Halloween. So, you know, there's just a lot of myth surrounding it. And and it also, I think, to points out a broader, a broader problem, which JD and I were talking about during the break, which is a very large yet intolerant attitude toward pagans and paganism and other religion. Yeah, I'm basically any non Christian religion, right. Although I would say that Judaism gets gets a little less of it. Yeah, probably than like paganism because, you know, there's just this automatic attitude, right, that pagans are Satanist,

G

Gigi 20:44

that and we're sacrificing babies and all kinds of nerds.

J

Joan Devlin 20:50

Right? So yeah, why don't you? Why don't you pardon the pun, straighten some of our audience about exactly what what Halloween is

G

Gigi 20:58

actually the roots of Halloween, what annoys called Halloween, it's called souren, which is the third harvest. The first harvest is the NASA which is August 1, then may bond is the second harvest which is on the a tunnel Equinox. And then sound is the third and final harvest. Basically, sound is a time when the veil between the the material world and the spirit realm is the thinness. It's also time for that the ancients to to kind of give homage to their ancestors who had passed away. And in ancient times, they would actually set a dinner plate at the table for family members who had died in the past and honor them. Basically, it's the time when all the final crops in the field had been brought in. Death is settling into the land. And we're preparing for winter. It's a time for to begin the period of introspective introspection, and kind of looking deep within because it's a time when the plants and the land goes to rest for a

J

Joan Devlin 22:26

while. Now how is sellin celebrate it?

G

Gigi 22:31

Basically, it's a ritual that? Well, it depends on what pagan tradition you're following. I mean, there's so many different ones out there, you've got the weekends, then you've got Celtic, and you've got Egyptian mythology, and just faith. So pagan faiths, from all around the world. Different ones have different systems of kind of observing sound. Basically, it's just a time to prepare for the upcoming winter. It's a time to prepare oneself for this time of introspection. It's also a celebration time. It's also a time to look at, you know, the sun has died, and is preparing for rebirth in the spring. So it's kind of a time when everything is slowing down to time to party and celebrate, for bringing in the final harvest. It's a time to be with people and pay respect to one another and to the ancestors that helped bring us to where we are today.

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23:48

Something that you said, Yeah, I know that's practice in Spanish, or the Hispanic cultures is the day of the dad, which is November 1, right? And that's where that came from, isn't it? Yeah.

G

Gigi 23:59

It all kind of ties in together. And like I say, you know, you take any one. What it's always amazed me about pagan faith is that from any culture around the world, you find in another culture, a lot of parallels. And there's so much consistency, even in the ancient days when there wasn't much travel. It's just uncanny how the whole world kind of came into agreement on how to celebrate different parts of the year. And paganism is basically an earth based religion. It's looking at nature, it's following you know, before the times of clocks all they had was stars and Sun and Moon to kind of tell them when the seasons were right for planting for when it was right to harvest when it was right to let the fields lay fallow. So there's a lot more kinship nature than we have in our present day culture.

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25:04

To celebrate Salem, is there any special props or any special things you do?

G

Gigi 25:10

For me? One of the things well, I just got back from a huge pagan celebration, celebrating sound. And one of the things we did out there was hung up and ancestral web, showing the interconnections between the whole family of humanity, how we all are interconnected. And so we created this huge giant spiderweb, from the top of about a 20 foot pole, that came out in

eight different directions representing the eight positions at the Wheel of the Year, the Wheel of the Year. And those are the times sound is one of those stations of the year. So it was made down as your inbox, a star, a star, they're all different stations of the year. It's divided into eight parts. And sound is one of those eight parts. It's kind of the, like I say, it's the third and final harvest. So it's time to look at what we've accomplished this past year. What we've reaped from our works. And so it's kind of a celebration of that too.

J Joan Devlin 26:36

Now, what are some of the sound traditions that have been incorporated into the modern day Halloween?

G Gigi 26:45

One of the traditions is to scare away unfriendly spirits. And the ancients used to make loud noises or clapping of hands and yelling and screaming.

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So that's where the tradition of noisy neighborhood kids yelling trick or treat came from,

G Gigi 27:04

partly, and also the wearing a mask was supposed to make one either unrecognizable to the dead, unfriendly spirits, and or fool them into thinking that they were spirits and not to be concerned with them as human beings by hand mask. So it's kind of an interesting I mean, some magic that was kind of washed down from the original holiday when it got transformed into Halloween.

J Joan Devlin 27:42

But Halloween, Falun whatever it was originally was never evil. Oh, no. It's never a time for people to do evil or to celebrate evil or anything like

G Gigi 27:53

that. And actually, all paganism predates any form of devil or, or seitan figurehead that came with the beginning of the Judeo Christian Era. Before that, devils did not exist. What the Christians termed as the devil was the horned one, which is a mythological figure in paganism, is it pan in some traditions that would be pan and others it would be just this horn figure that would come about the horned God and the goddess being the Earth or the main the horned when was very tied into that being part of nature being part of the wild animals, the great

hunts when they went after antelope and deer. It was never seen as an evil creature that it was later licked on by Christians as being an evil creature because that was the only thing that could remotely tie evil to and paganism says kind of an interesting slant.

J Joan Devlin 29:26

So will there be any kind of celebrations going on around town for sellin?

G Gigi 29:31

No none around town that I'm familiar with right now. I know that we just finished having a large silane celebration last week with a lot of pagans but that was in Central Texas. Know that? This next weekend? I'm going to be going up to San Francisco and we'll be doing great spiral dance Oh wow, over 1000 people. So it's one big huge dance is kind of orchestrated into this huge spiral dance with many, many people and it's about a, from what I understand. I've never been to one, but I've heard about them. It's about a four or five hour dance Wow. Restaurant. So it's really spectacular.

J Joan Devlin 30:23

Well, GG I want to thank you for being on tonight. Clear us up about sourin and pain and myths and superstitions and traditions. You're listening to KPFT lesbian and gay voices. And now we'll listen to another segment from this way out.

J Jack Valinski 30:38

Yes, we will listen very shortly but first I do want to read the endorsement card from the Houston galas main Political Caucus. President's endorsement is Al Gore Democrat US Senate done Doug center, Green Party, the House of Representatives number seven Jeff shell sell as he II Democrat house number nine US Nick Lampson and of course district 18 would be Sheila Jackson Lee Democrat district 25 would be Ken Benson and district 29 Jean green, Texas Railroad commissioners the unexpired term is Charlie M A uch. I'm reading across the room here at Green Party. And then for the full term is Gary Duggar Green Party, Texas Supreme Court place one Ben levy Green Party and then for the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. That is Bill Vance Democrat and then Texas court criminal's appeal place to William Bard. And then for state senate districts. 15 is John Whitmire. Democrat State House districts 130 is friend one green 132 is Scott Hochberg. 134 is Michael skeldon. 137 of course is Deborah Dannenberg 138. Ken Yarborough 140 Kevin Bailey 143 Joe Marone 144 Donald slipped below 145 A rich Noriega 148 granite Coleman 147 Jessica far those are all state district House members and those are all Democrat as we go to state district judge 337 is Grant Hardaway Democrat, Texas first Court of Criminal Appeals. Mary Thompson Democrat Harris County District Attorney Jim Donnelly Democrat Texas county tax assessor John Webb Democrat Texas County constable Darrell the Ella Republican, Texas County constable Perry wooden Democrat and then Harris County School Treasurer John Buchanan Republican and that's the GLP see list. If you'd like more information about the Euston gay and lesbian Political Caucus, you can call them at 52713521 1000.



33:13

The American Civil Liberties Union is actively involved in a number of current cases involving gay and lesbian issues. One case in particular, however, is destined to raise eyebrows even among some people the organization hopes to defend this way out Lucia Chapelle has the story.



33:30

The North American Man Boy love association or Nambla is being sued by the parents of a murdered Massachusetts child. This week some 3000 emails allegedly between Nambla and one of the two men convicted of torturing mutilating and killing 10 year old Jeffrey Curley were submitted to the court, along with literature from the organization confiscated by the police during the investigation. It promises to be an explosive case, one that many progressives will want to stay as far away from as possible. I asked Eric Ferriero, public education director of the American Civil Liberties Union's lesbian and gay rights project, why the ACLU is going where others fear to tread.



34:13

The ACLU of Massachusetts has agreed to represent the North American Man Boy love Association, a very small group of adult men who advocate having sex with underage boys. In short, two men were convicted of brutally killing a 10 year old boy in Massachusetts, they were convicted sentenced to prison for life. Now, the parents of the little boy who was killed are suing Nambla, the organization for a huge sum of money in a civil action. The ACLU of Massachusetts on free speech grounds is representing them because we believe that individuals are responsible for criminal acts, and that holding a group responsible for two individuals acts is a very, very dangerous and very slippery slope to go on to. Eric,



35:05

how would you compare that position with the notion of, for example, hate crimes legislation, where we do say, of course, that rhetoric from different organizations does contribute to violence? Why in this case is that different?



35:21

You know, legally speaking, and politically speaking, the ACLU position on hate crime legislation has always been to support it, but not support provisions that make an Oregon organizational membership a factor in prosecution. We don't think that if you convict if you're being accused of a hate crime, evidence should be brought in that you happen to be a member of, let's say Aryan Nations, that kind of organizational membership is a free speech activity. And that once we started to infringe on that it's a very dangerous precedent for all of us. You know that the Nambla case is troubling for a lot of us in the gay community, because Nambla itself is

troubling for a lot of us and has been for decades in our community. But the principles that are at stake in this case, are some of the strongest tools that we have to fight for lesbian and gay equality. And this just happens to be a rather troubling venue. But it doesn't mean you don't stay on there and fight for those principles you have to and that's why we are



36:23

certainly the ACLU has been in hot water before on issues like this the Skokie case, Nazis marching in Skokie, other cases like that. And in many instances, it's hurt the support for the ACLU from more liberal parts of the community. Do you feel that this could in fact, have some kind of negative impact on ACL use work? In your work for gay and lesbian rights?



36:51

It's always a concern. And it certainly isn't this case, it's important to point out that the Skokie situation defending the Nazis, right to march in a highly Jewish immigrant town, in the short term cost us an awful lot of support. In the long term, it gave us additional support, because what happened was after the heat of the moment, and as time went on, people looked at that and thought, you know what this organization is so willing to stand up and fight for these principles, wherever that fight may take us that they've earned our support. And that took years and years. And so I think that the nameless situation is not going to be as extreme at all. But whatever support we do kind of lose in the immediate short term here, A, we don't make decisions based on that, ever. But be that support will come back to us two or three fold. Like it's it was Skokie, as this goes on. And people say this is really a fight that has got to be fun. You know, that



37:47

was kind of articulated to by the Father involved in the case who had been himself defended by ACLU because he didn't want to go to a diversity training session. Is that correct?



37:57

Yeah, he felt that he was going to be he was a state employee. And he felt that he will be forced to parrot back language during that training that he didn't believe in. And so we took the position that one cannot be forced to say things that one does not believe, especially a state, a state funded employee and that sort of thing. And I think what that story demonstrated was that the ACLU is really here to fight for all



38:20

of us. What other issues are you working on right now,



38:22

30:23

we have a lot of great cases going on. We'll be in court in Louisville, trying to again, get rid of the lawsuit that a Southern Baptist doctor has brought to try to strike down and on discrimination law in Louisville, Kentucky. And that's the the case that for the first time ever, the Clinton administration for the first time a federal presidential administration, came through and filed a brief on behalf of the gay rights position. And we're very, very proud of that. And that took months of work to secure that. And we think that that'll be thrown out. We're hopeful. We have our case, and then New York City against a university. They're a huge institution, Yeshiva University, which is a big institution in Manhattan. And they're discriminating against same sex couples and campus housing. And about half of the colleges in America do that still. And this is the first case ever to go in to make it into a courtroom, to set the precedent to say no, you can't do that. If you're going to allow straight couples to live together in subsidized campus housing, you have to allow gay couples to to we're taking that to the Court of Appeals, the highest court in New York State and again, the New York State Attorney General, filed a brief on the gay rights perspective of that too, which was also the product of months and months and months of hard work. And so those two cases are moving forward right now. We have another case in Kentucky involving the lesbian who was fired from the children's home, the state funded children's home there, that's going to be a big one these next two months in particular in the presidential election because both Bush and Gore so The Port giving increased federal money to churches to do social work. And the cost of that is what happened to Alicia Pedrera in Kentucky where she got fired, because she was working for adapt Baptist employer that got a huge amount of its funding from the state. And so that's a, it's a difficult issue to put into 10 seconds time. But it's a hugely important issue for our community. And it's no matter who wins the election. It's going to be an increasing issue in these next four years. And this is against the first case to ever take this on in history. And so it's a very important case for all of us.

40:36

That was ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project public education director Eric Ferriero. For this way out, I'm Lucia Chappelle.

J 40:44

Good evening, you're listening to KPFT lesbian and gay voices. And in our second half of our Halloween show, we have Jeremy quarry in the studio, Jeremy is the head of the Euston fairy circle. And Jeremy, what I want to talk to you about GG kind of covered sound for us. But I want to get to talk to us a little bit about being a pagan in a very non pagan part of the country. Some of the things you've had to face. You know, just some of the myths, the lies, you know, blatant lies, discrimination, and things of that nature that you have to deal with on a daily basis.

41:18

Well, I think like anything else, we have closets, dirt, and we call them broom closets. And at some point, you have to come out of your blue broom closet, just like you come out of your sexual orientation closet. People are frequently very surprised or shocked to hear people have

selves pagans, or witches or whichever other non non mainstream faith tradition you might follow. And I think it's almost as difficult in the gay community as it is anywhere else. Which surprised me a little bit.

J

Joan Devlin 41:58

Really, that is surprising.

👤

42:00

Well, let me give you an example. I started out, I grew up in a Christian tradition, and really rejected the whole thing after I came out and began choosing my own spiritual paths. And at some point, many years down the road, I went to a Metropolitan Community Church service, because we had heard such good things about this particular congregation and the pastor, and had some friends who went there. And so I went, just to see what is going to be like, and that particular service, the, I think she was called a deacon got up and read the Scripture that was supposed to set the tone for the whole service. And the scripture was from Exodus 22, verse 18, thou shalt not suffer a witch to live. And there was sitting in the in the congregation going, does that mean you're supposed to kill me now? Or what?

J

Joan Devlin 43:00

That's, that's kind of bizarre, because that's, you know, to me, because they throw Exodus up in our face, too. And, you know, and there's so many things in Exodus that, you know, we're in blended fabric eating pork, you know, touching, yeah, touching a woman when she's on her period, for instance, that people do every single day. And I don't think anybody in their right mind would get up in a church and say, oh, you know, you shall not eat pork, you shall not wear blended fabric, but they have no problem. You know, slamming you know, this thing about witchcraft or, you know, gay people are just their little particular pet peeves.

👤

43:39

What is the difference between a Wiccan and a pagan? What are they? I'm kind of confused on all that.

👤

43:45

Okay. Well, as Gigi said, pagan, really means any. Any faith tradition that falls outside of the Judeo Christian and branched religions, so that actually includes the high and Muslim as being not pagan, because they all came from the same Middle Eastern origin. So, in other words, pretty much everything from Africa, everything from Asia, everything from Northwest Europe. And any Native American traditions are technically pagan. But because we live in a society that has its roots in northwest Europe, and especially in Great Britain, most often when you hear people talk about something that is pagan, they're talking about Northwest European traditions of paganism, pre Christian spiritual traditions in northwest Europe. And with and from the

British Isles, and especially Northwest France. There are quite a few traditions Wiccan would be one of them, and that has word roots in common with which. And actually, I believe the correct pronunciation is supposed to be weecha rather than Wicca but there's also more Celtic traditions, there's Druidic traditions, druids, and many, many others. And they all have a lot of things very much in common. A belief in a masculine and a feminine supernatural power, some call it Goddess and the God. As Gigi said, you know, the horned God is probably common to any of them. And the earth goddess, or the moon goddess, would be common to any of them.

J

Joan Devlin 45:47

And the other thing too, about a lot of pagan religions is that it's very non patriarchal. Yes. Because I've spoken to a lot of women who actually became pagans strictly because in the Judeo Christian tradition, they were so limited, and what the inner they felt like their spirituality was shackled, almost because they were so limited as far as now, you cannot attain you cannot rise beyond this point, was in the pagan tradition, there are no limits, there's no your limits are not based on your gender at all.

Ω

46:18

That's right, because, you know, the highest level you reach is god or goddess, and one isn't higher than the other. They're both aspects of the same spiritual, true spiritual energy, masculine and feminine.

Ω

46:35

So how does one celebrate or worship in the pagan faith? Religion?

Ω

46:40

Well, it's remarkably similar to any other tradition or religion, which sometimes feels a little makes me feel like it's not as unique as I'd really like it to be. We have ritual. And the appearance of the ritual is very different than, say, a Catholic mass. But the structure isn't really so different. We gathered together, we consecrate a holy space, we invoke certain energies, or directions, or gods or goddesses depending on what we're celebrating, or what we're, what tradition we're in. And we usually have a part of the tradition, part of the ritual that is performed by whoever's leading the ritual. And then there's a part of that that is interactive, where the other people in the gathering, participate in some way. And there's often sharing of beverage and food. We don't call a sacrament, we don't eat Christ's body, and we don't drink Christ's blood. We share the bounty that Mother Earth provides us. So the spin on it's very different. But a lot of times, there's a lot of similarities between what the actual activities are.

J

Joan Devlin 48:07

Now if someone's interested in joining the Euston fairy circle, what would they have to do?



48:12

Well, they would just have to call me and I'm actually a coordinator, not a leader. Fairy tradition is very non structured, non hierarchical. And I tried to keep away from being the leader of the Houston fairy circle, because I don't want it to be Jeremy's group of fairy friends. I want it to be a Houston fairy circle. And Gigi is a part of it. And we have a website and email address and my phone number. And



J Joan Devlin 48:46

yeah, or the website.



48:48

Okay. The email address is my email, which is Jeremy at gay guides.com. And that's just g AYGU ide s.com. And our website is www dot gae guides.com/houston. Fairies, and you need to remember that we spell fairy funny. How do you spell it? It's f a e r i e a s



J Joan Devlin 49:14

well. Great. Well, thank you so much for being on the show this evening. We've been talking to Jeremy Cory, who is the coordinator for the Eastern fairy circle. You're listening to lesbian and gay voices and we're going to now go to JD Doyle.



49:28

It was probably inevitable that the success of Will and Grace would bring more gay themed TV sitcoms into America's living rooms. However, the Odyssey of our show debuting on the Fox network this week proves that it may not be as easy as it looks. Normal Ohio starring John Goodman as a gay dad returning home to reconnect with his family has been through major changes since its inception. Some critics have their doubts about the results but Bonnie and Terry Turner the writing and producing team behind the hit shows Third Rock from the Sun and that 70 Show Tell This way out, Steve, probably what makes normal so funny.



50:07

They say you can never go home again, especially when you've come out of the closet. Today I'm on the set of a new half hour situation comedy called a normal Ohio. in it. John Goodman plays Bush, a rugged, competent, good natured guy, who after coming out of the closet to his ex wife, son and family, left his small Midwestern community for the greener and more tolerant pastures of Los Angeles. But after four years of being away from the people he loves most Butch returns to his Ohio hometown, and as they say, hilarity ensues.



50:47

But, honey, tonight, when we get to the party, there going to be a lot of people there that you haven't seen for a while. And well, I may not have told them the exact reason you left.



51:04

You couldn't just tell him I was gay.



51:10

I could not tell them that you weren't. You don't have to whisper it. We should just face facts. Our son is a trapeze artist. I know and it's probably all my fault.



51:27

Mom. It's not all your fault. It's daddy's



51:34

I knew we should not send them to that wrestling camp.



51:45

Emmy Award winners Bonnie and Terry Turner are the creators, writers and producers of normal Ohio to have been married and writing comedy together for over 20 years. Their successes include the film's The Brady Bunch Wayne's World, and Tommy Boy on television, they brought us Third Rock from the Sun and that 70s show, the pilot for normal Ohio was called Don't ask and it was set in Los Angeles. But before that version made it to the air, the show was retooled, recast, renamed and reset in rural Ohio.



52:20

I am Terry Turner, I'm Bonnie Turner. Everyone says you spend the first half of your life getting away from your home, the second half of your life coming back to it and connecting reconnecting. There was an article that was a Newsweek magazine called gay in America today. And we noticed that as we were reading it that none of the stories took place on either coast. They took place in Vermont, they took place in Michigan, Mississippi, Illinois. And we began to realize that the story of gay in America today is taking place in smaller communities. So we changed our mind about the story we're going to tell and set it in a smaller town because we thought there was more also to be discovered on how families friends had to come to terms with



53:05

the thing we write about best thing we like to do is write about family, the aliens in third rocker family and human condition and the human condition. And the 70 show is a family in a different time. And this show normal Ohio is about a family and one member of the family is gay. And when he comes back from Los Angeles where he went after he came out, he wanted to come home, you know if I if I if I can't be gay at home, where can I be gay? Well, the answer is obvious. She can't be gay. Last place you could that people would accept some well, some families would accept honesty. And it's a story of a man who's come to terms with himself, the truth comes home and the truth comes out. It's very disruptive to have a family member come home who has gone through any kind of a self realization that is so profound, that it absolutely changes their lives, you know, whether it is sexual orientation or a near death experience, whatever whatever it is, if when when that honest element walks in to a family that is in denial, and there are different degrees of denial, different styles of denial, but then on the law nonetheless, you know, this John Goodman, this giant truth walks into the center of a family and wreaks havoc,



54:29

but you have to wonder on Will and Grace will Truman sets home most Saturday nights. So what are the chances of an aging overweight gay man finding love and TVs version of rural Ohio?



54:41

We think that the first thing everyone has to react to when they when they meet anyone who is gay, the first thing they react to is that they are gay, and that's what the family has to react to. They all have to cut next to that and understand. And then the second thing that happens in those scenarios is when you meet the person with another person and Then now there's the physical evidence of it. And there's a second sort of wave, if you will, of, of dealing with it. So we're spending about the first seven or eight shows dealing with just his sexual orientation. And then eventually we're going to see that he is dating. We're bringing his ex back from Los Angeles, someone who was very serious about for while



55:19

new sitcoms to paraphrase Dorothy Gale, come and go so quickly around here, only time will tell if normal, Ohio is a hit or miss. But according to Barney and Terry Turner,



55:31

I think that comedy has to be about people. I think that's the first thing. I think you can make a lot of points you can get your view out there, whatever you want to say, as long as it is that people, people, it's honest. And it's funny, and I think that's the key to most comedy. That sounds like, you know, what we've tried to do with other shows and what we're trying to do with the show as well.



55:53

Laughter is acceptance. You know, I love comedy. I wouldn't live another life without it. So I'll go Butch. Is it true that you run away in Los Angeles because you're gay?



56:08

That's not true. I ran away to Santa Monica. Uncle Bush, what do you like? Kiss Guys



56:22

can you picture me kissing guys? Die cats.



56:42

This has been a conversation with Barney and Terry Turner. Normal Ohio airs Wednesday nights on the Fox network. This is Steve pride. Thanks for listening. Okay.



57:00

Camera Action



57:08

at 90.1 FM This is KPFT in Houston, the sound of Texas



57:19

and now more of lesbian and gay voices.



Jack Valinski 57:25

You are listening to KPFT Euston, a Pacifica foundation station. And I'd like to give you that website one more time for information on voting it's [www.sceeto.harris.tx.us/c](http://www.sceeto.harris.tx.us/c) Klerk slash elect dot htm and now we are going to our monthly feature. JD Doyle's Queer music heritage saying



58:05

any



58:11

time



58:20

Welcome to lesbian and gay voices on KPFT. And this segment is called queer music heritage. I'm JD Doyle and I'm here on the fourth Monday of each month to bring you an hour devoted to our culture's music. I plan to cover a lot of territory in terms of years and types of music. Mostly, I just don't think gay and lesbian music of the past should be forgotten. And I try to give a little information about the music and artists as I go. I also slip in songs for the present as well. Pay introduced this segment with the song gay spirit by Charlie Murphy. From the 1979 album walls to roses. It's one of my favorite games. Here's just a little more of it



59:25

guys



59:34

Okay, moving



59:49

on I'm starting off Tonight Show with two songs from a compilation album from 1980 called gay and straight together. The collection was Produced by Jimmy Clemens and was first released on a very small Chicago label called Open Door Records. The album was quickly picked up by folkways, which also relates to that year. Some of the other artists on the compilation are Charlie Murphy and Malvina Reynolds. Starting off is Kristen limbs singing how nice followed by Tala wala which would surprise a tender on dried feely



1:00:37

Christian lives also released the song how night on her own album in 1980 called in the outdoor and Paula wala Woods included surprise on a cassette called last night at school street in 1990. Since there will be so many obscurities heard on this show, I thought those of you on the internet would like to be able to see photos of the artists and recordings and view the playlist. So I've set up a special web page just for the show. It's at http colon, slash. Slash hometown.aol.com/q M heritage and our PTS address in a few minutes. Next up, we're going back to the San Francisco of around 1962, the world of Jose Saria. You've probably never heard of Surya. But he was one of the main drag queen activists of that time. In the late 40s. He started doing drag shows that a club called the Black Cat, one of the most famous gay bars of that era, his signature piece was a tune with which he would not be closed the bar via sing along with the bars patrons. Together they would sing God save us Nelly queens, if you've seen

the 1978 documentary word is out. You may recall one of the men named George telling about the singing of that song, and how it became a song of pride against the police harassment and oppression of that time. From the film. Here is George's memory of it, followed by Jose leading a group singing that song taken from the 1985 documentary before Stonewall.

1:02:09

It was the beginning of my awareness that I was not only a gay person, but that I should come out of my person and be in a broader sense, aware of other gay people in their rights to because Jose would say, Let's unite, you know, we must realize that the Vice Squad is here that there used to at that time, they used to park there, the vice squad in the 50s used to park their police cars outside of gay bars, there were only two or three gay bars in town at that time. And they used to take down the names of people when they entered. They used to come in and stand around, and just generally intimidate people and make people feel that they were less than human. And it was a it was a frightening period. So I'm very stirred by this because at that time, there was nowhere to go for your freedom. And you were very much aware that there was no freedom that your freedom was in the gay bar. But when you got out on the streets, you had to be Mr. Straight or miss straight. At that time. This was a this was strictly a men's bar. There were no women in the bar, as I recall. And but Jose would make these political comments about our rights as homosexuals. And at the end of them at the end of every concert, he would have everybody in the room stand. And we would we'd put our arms around each other. And we would

1:03:46

we would sing God save us Nellie queens. emotional about this. And it sounds very silly. But if you lived at that time, and you were aware of the oppression coming down from the police department and from society, and that there was nowhere to turn, to be able to put your arms around other gay men and be able to stand up and say God save us daily queens. We were really not saying God save us nearly queens. We were saying we have our rights to is what we're really saying. Let us all stand up for one more time.

1:04:40

Taking activism to his limit. In 1961. Surya ran has the first openly gay candidate for public office, predating Harvey Milk's ran for city supervisor by 16 years. He came in last a large slate of candidates, but his 5600 votes demonstrated that there was a sizable vocal gay community in San Francisco in 1965, Jose and various gay bar owners established the Taborn guild to combat the police harassment, and they sponsored San Francisco's first large public drag ball. Over 500 gay men and lesbians bravely crossed police lines, floodlights, and pleased photographers to attend the event at which Jose was named Queen to the ball, and he soon proclaimed himself Empress of San Francisco. Out of the activities held with a tavern guild, Jose developed the bylaws and functions of the Imperial Court of San Francisco. The royal court system that revolved around Jose has been described as kind of a Shriners club for drag queens, where funny hats are replaced by fabulous gowns, big hair, and flamboyant makeup add titles. From the start, the system began raising money for various gay charities through benefit drag performances. This court system has eventually spread over the country to include

a chapter in Houston. Today, Jose is still busy with Imperial Court activities. He had a cameo in the movie to Wong foo and his biography the Emperor says a man was published in 1998. Around 1960, Jose Syria released a very rare drag album called no camping. You're going to hear him do a little monologue, and then his own version of a good man is hard to find.

1:06:26

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen.

1:06:36

From the San Francisco drag bars for the 60s, we're going to go back to the New York nightclub scene of 1939 for a song by a singer simply called spy V. Spy B had a large repertoire of songs, many of them poking fun at the bloods a Cafe Society of New York and they loved her forte. She entertained nightly at her own club called spy viz roof through the 40s and author that era described her as follows. This was Barbie, her hair was combed and lacquered into a pointed pop a dog with a white streak running through it, and she often wore a black dress with shoulder pads and sequined lapels. Spidey was squat, it looked like a bulldog. We used to call her the Bulldog Bulldog. In the 50s, she went on to run nightclubs in Rome, Paris in London, and worked as a character actress on Broadway and in such films as The Manchurian Candidate and Requiem for a heavyweight, and on televisions Alfred Hitchcock Presents, she retired in 1967, and died in 1971. At age 64. In the song you're going to hear, please allow for a little surface noise as it was copied from an old 78 She talks about Oscar Wilde. It's called I brought culture to Buffalo in the 90s.

1:07:51

It's a bit memories of buffalo in the 90s.

1:08:02

Okay, as promised, here's that website address again for this show, where you'll see photos of Jose Saria. Spidey, and all the artists heard tonight. HTTP colon, slash slash [hometown.aol.com/qm](http://hometown.aol.com/qm) heritage. Now we're going to bring things up to date with three queer country songs. First is Jamie Anderson singing Wynona why not? It's from her 1993 CD, bad hair day. And it's followed by Jeff Miller seen a little on the leather side, which we own his upcoming CD. The last will be Doug Stephens in the Outback and doing get while the getting's good. That's from their 1993 CD out in the country.

1:08:59

Once again, that was Jamie Anderson, Jeff Miller and Doug Stevens. This would be a good time to remind you that you are listening to queer music heritage, a part of lesbian and gay voices on KPFT ustun. Also, be sure to listen to KPFT every Saturday night at midnight for after hours with Jimmy Carper. It's queer radio with attitude. There have been few events in our recent gay

history that had been so moving and have had as much impact as the tragic death of Matthew Shepard. That happened in October of 1998. I'm honoring Matthew and my spotlight segment tonight by playing some of the songs that he inspired his death as moved many songwriters to write their own tributes. They were written with a variety of emotions, ranging from anger, to questioning that senselessness to promising not to give in to the hatred. I could have filled the whole hour with just two songs in my collection. The first one I'm playing is from this year by new group called stained glass with vocals by Stephen Carey. From the album family values, it's called Matthew 2122. And it's followed by a song Not yet commercially released. It's from the mp3 website of Greg climber, and it's called human like you.



1:10:28

Next is a song by Garen Benfield called what you're hiding. It was nominated for a glamour award last spring. In the category of out recording, it lost the song that follows it. That one is the most well known to the songs about Matthew Shepard. It is called scarecrow by Melissa Etheridge from her breakdown album.



1:11:00

I want to thank you for listening in to queer music heritage. If you have questions or comments about any of the music is featured, including maybe where to track them down. I'd be glad to help. So please email me at QM heritage@aol.com this is JD Doyle for lesbian and gay voices on KPFT in Houston, and I'll be back on the fourth Monday of next month with another installment of queer music heritage. For my last song, I'm playing one more tribute song which alludes to the deaths of Matthew Shepard and others by hate crimes. It's how many candles by Mark and D from their album man of my dreams



1:11:48

Houston's 90.1 KPFT the sound of Texas a Pacific and network station KPFT Houston