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stonewall, day, gay, people, door, police, cop, houston, pine, bar, street, gay bars, pride, june, pm, started, night, call, riots, community

SPEAKERS

Roy, Sarah DePalma

 R Roy 00:01

As building construction party building prides and that's co sponsored by outrage, and the pride community of Houston. And it's going to be at the hangar at 3301 Robert Street. Now that's the Houston's warehouse district. And it's going to be from 10 o'clock at night to three in the morning. Tickets are \$25 in advance 35 at the door. And for more information, call them at 713-706-2508. That's 713-706-2508.

 00:36

Okay, the unified and diversified professional at 17. Well, Fairview presents our pride month Lecture Series, the 17 for Fairview. That's the ground floor courtyard entrance. And for additional information, you're supposed to contest the presenters. And I'll give you that one number in a minute. And donations at the door are accepted to benefit the Houston fry committee. Now a little bit about what these things are, let me tell you about three of them. I am never upset for the reason I've been trying to understand why my weapons get pushed in one rack the way I do, that's going to be June 15, at 7pm. On June 17, at seven, tapping your inner resources, and that's about the use of hypnosis and visualization in mind, body healing, really does work for the people. And then on June 22, listen to me like you really care. And it's really it's called communication with one on one. And that again, June 22 or 7pm. So they will at 7pm. And the number to call for more information is area code 71524 1771. That's 524 1771

 R Roy 01:58

and is going to be more coming up.

 02:01

Oh yes, I just did three can do three.

R

Roy 02:06

Okay, now I want to mention that there's an upcoming lesbian and gay Pride health fest 98. And that's going to be the subtitle for that one is glowing with health. And again, that's going to be next Saturday for that so much stuff happening Saturday,



02:22

obviously is pride month or whatever side corner

R

Roy 02:26

anyway, okay. This is from 10am to 4pm at the Edwin Hornberger Conference Center at a Texas Medical Center. And this is going to be with fitness instructions in the largest health fitness and nutrition Fair of the Houston gay and lesbian community. There's going to be health education, medical nutrition and fitness experts there and is going to be healthy food tasting. And let's see what else there's going to be people there to answer questions, because that's health screening, you're going to be presenting a bodybuilding demonstration and a fitness fashion show. And they're also going to be holding different medical seminars. And there's also going to be a mini book fair hosted by Lobo. And there's also going to be a giveaway of a round trip airplane ticket to anywhere in the continental United States, courtesy of uniglobe First Choice travel. And let's see, it also says here and my information that helps us 98 will be held. Again, like I said June 20, from 10am to 4pm. And admission to the event is free of charge and there will be free parking for the first 500 cars. So make sure you get there early.



03:49

Okay, this coming, not this Sunday, but next Sunday, June 21. At 5pm. At the sixth floor, another word and Shannon, Reverend, Dr. Malphite, will present so forth and so forth through the program illustrating the principles by non violent change, as taught by Gandhi, and Martin Luther King Jr. We invite all who seek justice to attend this information and move in lecture, which will show were videos of Gandhi infinite work. That's the one that I'm going to be it's from I got to step in the mail and it's fine. From what I'm seeing. It's fantastic. So document one is going to be there and they'll be there during the day. But at 5pm The keynote speech is going to be fantastic. If you can go

R

Roy 04:46

no others is going to be hosting a Hispanic Night Fever and anyone can go again it's going to be Friday, June 26 1998 from 8pm to 1:30am. is going to be up in the medical center again at the Edwin harbor Hornberger conference center. There's going to be an open door point \$5 advanced donation \$35 door donation and they're encouraging people to come in 70s attire and black tie is optional. And again, all proceeds here will benefit at ease.



05:22

Okay, hey court. Tomorrow is the last day of their summer sweet fast, where they take all the people in the community and run them around from bar to borrow from a party from one Chinese auction to a platter of food, etc, etc. The stone soup one run by the club 45 will benefit this week. We can launch events that is finishing up tomorrow. Shall we still get in there I think for inflammation for every person 136810820681020 point there's a lot of good, fantastic fundraising and



Roy 06:13

a lot of very needed fundraising. Also want to mention that the men of color together Houston would like to invite all men interested in exploring interracial and multicultural relationship and dating for our monthly meeting. And their potluck social meeting is going to be held this Sunday that's tomorrow at noon, and will travel to AstroWorld at 2pm for the gate Friday. For more information, you can call them at area code 713-869-2197 or 281-493-1777.



06:51

I just had to wake me up and he tells us out over time, I don't care



06:57

why now did you get it all in the theater stuff? Are you Crisco would always like gray?



07:05

Say? Yes.



Roy 07:10

We did another announcement on the on the out this way out. We got it all.



07:17

What about TV Montrose



07:18

on TV, my trash is on every Monday at 8pm. And on Warner Cable before, right



07:26



07:26

I talked with Steve Baker last night at the kickoff party for Pride Week. And I said you know hey, you know, what's the deal? Because I tune in on Tuesday. That's my night because I got something going on Monday and something on Wednesday. He said, Oh, well, we dropped



07:42

Tuesday. Oh, I didn't know they talked to us. Yeah, that's the problem when you don't have cable day.



07:47

So it's on Monday and Wednesday now and in the future. They're going to drop one of those two nights and just have it on once a week. Oh, I heard I think they're working on a longer program. He wouldn't say he would you confirm it. But I think they're working on a one hour program.



08:06

Well, I talked to him about a week and a half ago. We're trying to get him to come out. Well, he's trying to get us have a cubicle and he wants to drive around with the same walk around with me. Cool. Hopefully we'll do that on the Fourth of July.



Roy 08:19

You know, of course, I watched them every week. And this past Monday, they had an announcement on there that there's going to be a second show coming up.



08:29

Ah, that's it. So there's



Roy 08:32

going so the may be their regular Monday night show.



08:36

And a different shell Wednesday and a



Roy 08:39

different show Wednesday. I don't have a different show Tuesday or who knows what's going on. But



08:46

this man works. Great editing that program. It's



08:52

expanding. Yeah. Oh, and then one of the other things we mentioned is with the Texas Association for transactional support. Next meeting, which is July 11, will be at the community center and will be open for the community.



09:06

Wow.



Sarah DePalma 09:07

That's a great idea. Michelle, I really liked it. Great idea.



09:11

Anybody in the community who feels they need the services of the Texas Association for transfer for support English, dropping anywhere from three o'clock to seven o'clock on Saturday afternoon. Share some food with us and talk with us. And I think we'll do that at least once a quarter.



Sarah DePalma 09:31

Let's agree. Great idea. I'm really in favor, though.



Roy 09:33

And one final note before before we turn off tonight. Yes, I do want to say that I didn't actually finish already gotten calls for the PWA coalition.



09:43

I didn't finish with TV Montrose .



09:46

I'm sorry. My sorry. Oh,



09:52

that's okay. No, but what I was what I was saying I was talking to Steve Baker. He said he was putting together his So as far month, I mean, they've been on the air for months. He said sometimes it felt it felt like four years. But he wanted to put together a little montage. Everybody who they interviewed, and he couldn't do it, because when he when he went back and looked at all of the programs 400 People have been interviewed have talked into a mic on that show. already. Yes, already. Yes. Isn't that amazing? So those folks get around, yay to T V. Montrose. And they'll probably have they're gonna have a lot of pride. Info and I mean, because they're at every event, taking pictures. They were there last night at the pride opening of which Mayor Brown attended. He was there to give the proclamation. I have a whole roll of pictures being developed?



Roy 11:03

Well, the debt show has really, really developed since it first started back in March.



11:09

Yeah, I know. That is exciting. One more thing.



11:14

Okay. Wow,



11:16

I bet you don't have this one.




11:19

High for ABA. Aba, ABA



11:24

eight alliance of the Bay Area.

 Sarah DePalma 11:28

Thank God, it's not the news.

 11:31

They're having they were here last week and they're having a fundraiser on June the 29th. At the Galveston grand at 94. Opera House 7pm. That's located at 21st and post office. Since it's a fundraiser, tickets are 25 bucks. You can get them at Ticketmaster and there it's gonna be an extravaganza. You can give them a call for more information at 281-388-2339 wanted to get that. Okay, more news.

 Sarah DePalma 12:12

When you say you want to do some music.

 Roy 12:14

You'll have to pardon me tonight. I don't have I don't have my headphones with me. Yes, I

 12:18

know. I'm actually

 12:19

gonna be waiting for

 12:20

him to hear. And if I walk on somebody's Beat, I'm sorry. Yes, go ahead there.


 Roy 12:23


Okay. Again, we've already gotten calls on this. And I do want to bring out this information again. That PWA coalition desperately need dishes, silverware, pots, pans, sheets, towels, dresses, dinettes, coffee tables, sofas, loveseats. And small appliances. They are available for pickups Please call right or Carrie at area code 713-522-5428. Well, hello, I'm


 12:53


available for a pickup. You always

 Sarah DePalma 13:00
know come in.


 13:01
So I think that's all I think that's it. Thanks. Thanks, Roy. Thanks, Michelle.

 13:07
Can I do good?

 13:26
The sound of Texas KPFT Houston of Pacifica radio network station 90.1 FM 89.1 ke O 's college station

 13:40
uses 90.1 KPFT the sound detectors and they use impression by you to attend the 1998 Houston press Music Awards showcase on June 14, it would be one night featuring 55 bands and held at the shepherd Plaza and nearby venues such as the blue Guana Instant Karma, the velvet Elvis ZZ lounge, the Reiner room cue after two McElroy Sentani and the big one saloon admission will be by wristband only for a nominal fee and available at Cactus music and video and also take venues that do 14th From 4pm to 10pm and 55 in Houston especial for band and artists together for one night and check out the band's you voted for the Houston press Music Awards showcase is presented by Cactus music and video and made possible by Doc Martin Martin music and uses 90.1 KPFT the sound of Texas

 14:41
Hi, this is Pat Rosie's night sounds

 14:44
we're on from midnight to 5am on Monday mornings considered by Sunday the Sunday night.

 14:49
We're here so wake up a friend and join us that's always our burning question. We really do want to know is there anybody listening for our mix of rock poking, tell Big music along with

special performances from local musicians.



15:06

We've got some of the finest local artists playing their own original musical live. Especially for those who tune in to patent Rosen tonight down. We're on from midnight to 5am on Monday mornings also thought of it Sunday night.



15:21

The bad roses Knightstown KPFT 9.1 FM in Houston, Texas. Isn't everybody



15:29

out there



15:37

Yeah, Pat versus night sounds heard tomorrow night in the same time slot.



Sarah DePalma 15:45

This is from the New York Daily News, July 6 1969. And the headline reads, hormone Nast rated queen bees are stinking mad. I remember that headline. She sat there with your legs crossed the lashes of her mascara coated eyes beating like the wings of a hummingbird. She She was angry. She was so upset she hadn't bothered to shave a day oldstable was beginning to push through the pancake makeup. She was a he's a queen of Christopher Street. Last weekend Queens it turned commandos and stood bra strap the bra strap against invasion of the helmeted tactical patrol for the elite police squad had shut down one of their private gay bars the Stonewall Inn at 57 Christopher Street in the heart of a three block homosexual community in Greenwich Village, only three blocks. We may have lost the battle Suites but the war is far from over list and unofficial lady in waiting from the court of the Queen's we've had all we can take from the Gestapo, the spokesman or spokesperson continue. Sounds like this could have been written by Jerry Springer, really. We're putting your foot down once and for all before it was like he'll have According to reports, the Stonewall in a two story structure with a sand painted brick and opaque glass facade was a mecca for the homosexual elements in a village and wanted nothing but a private little place where they could congregate, drink, dance and do whatever little girls do when they get together. The sixth glass shut out the outside world of the street inside the Stonewall bays and wild bright psychedelic lights. Walk the patrons bride to the sounds of a jukebox on square dance floors round a booth in tables. And it goes on and on none.



17:44

I want to add to that that every gay bar in the United States at that time, and that ended up in the 60s in the late 60s were painted black. It wasn't until the mid 70s that a bar in San Francisco put in plate glass windows where the patrons could be viewed that and I saw that last night on Casper

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Sarah DePalma 18:13

well and you're talking about the psychedelic life. Hell it was 1969 I mean that was psychedelic clothes bars. Everything you know

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18:27

that was sensationalism at its best. Was that from the

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Sarah DePalma 18:31

that was from the 1969 your your scars. I pulled one of the things I promised I wanted to I said I wanted to do was there's a sec a piece that I pulled off here. This is an eyewitness account from inside the Stonewall bars. Yes, yes. Yeah. Now let me set this up. Many some of you may have heard of a folk singer from the 60s. His name was Dave Van Ronk. He will use fairly well known east coast. The ironic part of his story is that he was a rabid homophobe. No, it was openly so. But he performed in the crisper Street area but he was a homophobe, a folk singer just happened. So talk about the irony here. Guy just happened to be the wrong place the wrong time and get stuff inside the Stonewall bar with the New York City police who are barricaded inside okay. So obviously the police can't tell gay prostrate, interesting irony to this story. Also inside with them unknown to the police was a reporter for The Village Voice That's right, the village boys and there's an account that takes place here of what goes on inside the bar and inspect your pine is see more see more pine in his seven officers are trapped in this bar. Okay, and here's what happens inside. Inside we hear the shattering of Windows followed by what we imagined to be bricks pounding on the door. Voices yelling the floor shutters at each blow. Aren't you guys scared? I say this is the reporter talking. No the police respond, but they look uneasy. The door crashes open. Beer cans and bottles curl in Pine in his troops rushed to shut it. At that point, the only uniformed cop among them gets hit with something under his eye turns out to be beer key and he hollers in his hand turns Scarlet. It looks a lot more serious than it really is. There there is a mob at the door. Suddenly a hail of coins. A few European glances off instead, Inspector Smith's head. Inspector pine leaps out into the Meili and someone grabs someone from around the waist, pulling him downward and back into the doorway in the fall. Pine redeems hold and drags the elected protester inside by the hair. The door slams again, angry cops converge on the gay releasing their anger of this and in this sample of the mob. Ironically, the victim is a straight folk singer named Dave Van Ronk. There's this the cop who was cut is incensed. yell something like so you're the one who hit me. And while the other cops help he slaps the prisoner five or six times very hard and finishes with a punch to the mouth. They handcuffed the guy as he passes out. The door is smashed open again, with an approved parking meter by the way, and more objects are thrown in. The detectives locate a fire hose, the idea being to ward off the maddening crowd until reinforcements arrive. They can't see where to aim it. wedging the hose and a crack in the door and it sends out a weak stream. We all start to slip on water and pine says maybe we ought to

stop this. A door over to the side almost give one cop shouts Get away from there or I'll shoot and he starts shaking the front doors completely open. What are the big Pinewood Windows gives it it seems inevitable that the mob will or you know us a kind of tribal adrenaline has grabbed the crowd and they in the police start to take out and check their pistols Romane pine places a few men in each side of the corridor leaning away from the entrance. They aim unwavering at the door. One detective arms himself in addition, with a sawed off baseball bat and yell will shoot the first MF that comes through the door. I can only see one arm at the window and it squirts liquid inside the room. And a glaring match follows. Pine is not more than 10 feet away and he aims his gun at the figures. But he does not fire. The sounds of the sirens can coincides with the wash of flames where the lighter was thrown. The building is now on fire. The first riot lasted 45 minutes. The New York Times claimed that 400 people participated. Gay observers however, say that it couldn't have been less than 2000 people. Now with that many of our listeners have heard Big Boy, they may not be aware that the boy was a participant. It's done wrong. Is it wrong? Why don't you tell them about Stonewall and some of the things that you've told me? You've restarted start you saying that you disagree with someone so we were very sad. Right? I

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Roy 23:57

definitely disagree. That she said that the Stonewall was not a drag queen, bar transgender drag queen back in 69. The term transgender transsexual wasn't around. So

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Sarah DePalma 24:16

she she pointed that out. And she said at that time, they were all just

R

Roy 24:19

gradually ran. Yes, they were definitely there at the Stonewall. The Stonewall was a hustler bar. It is true that there were rich white folks there but they came here to pick up 18 year old boys like me. I was a male prostitute in those days. And inside the Stonewall you had Hispanic and white and black male prostitutes and you had prostitute drag queens regular transgender people just in there for a drink or what have you. With the night that the right there riots started. I was not inside I live across the street from the Stonewall at Waverly Place in Christopher Street. That's where I lived. And it was my roommate, my boyhood lover, my childhood lover, that I grew up with who was getting ready to go to Columbia University. I was spending the summer with him in New York, and that, okay, and when those rights started, he woke me up. And I go running down the stairs to see what all the commotion when I'm seeing these, you know, our friends getting sent into the paddy wagons and everything in these cops going crazy. And I was one of the people who joined 400 Is that with the New York Times said

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Sarah DePalma 25:54

New York Times said it was 400 people involved?

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Roy 25:57

That is ridiculous. Okay, I got there shortly after the festivities began festivities. I mean, within a matter of moments I imagined because by the time I got there, there was still about there was about 15 or 20 other onlookers or whatnot, that were on the sidelines. And I was one of the ones who came in onto the sidelines to give support. And well, we just started writing and I helped turn over a cop car and set it on fire and then they started beating up my lover. Okay,



26:33

whatever enforcement got there, you mean?

 R

Roy 26:35

Yeah. And I just went ballistic. I mean, when you stop this is a kid who never did any harm to no one. Okay, and you see a cop grabbing him by the hair. And and hitting him with a knife that if it was your, your wife, or your husband or you know, this is your love, this is your heart that you see somebody doing this to and you don't think you just react? And I jumped. I jumped on the cops back and I pulled the nightstick out of his hand and I start hitting the night the cop with that nice day. Next thing I know, bang I get hit in the head. And I'm sprawled out onto the, onto the concrete onto the asphalt. And Sarah, it was for transgendered drag queens. I don't care what label it was the transgender people picked me up and brought me inside somewhere. They brought me down some one of those lower level apartments.



27:43

Yeah, type place. Yeah. Based on apart, right.

 R

Roy 27:46

And they they patched me up. It was four dragons. I mean, one on each leg, and one on each arm. Literally carrying me horizontally. And you know, I told this for you haven't I guess I've been saying this for years and years and years. And it wasn't until just recently, Sarah that I saw the stonewalling movie, and this was just a couple of months ago. And like I was trying to get him ready to tell you before the show. I don't know where that producer got his information who he talked to. But the same extra that they used in that scene of turning over the cop car is the exact same extra and yet the sales department even realizes that they use jumping on the back of a cop hitting the cop with his own nightstick. And then and you know what, this is radio you can see but on the upper left hand section of my head, I got a piece of my skull is missing. And it wound up out there on the on Christmas Street. And in that movie, it shows a cop on horseback coming up behind me hitting me on the left side of my head. And when I saw that, you know, we see something that rings true. And it's like a missing piece. I go oh my god, you know, it's just like fabulous.



29:22

Hold on the sound of Texas KPFT Houston, a Pacifica radio network station 90.1 FM 89.1 ke O 's College Station and



29:32

you are listening to after hours. Queer radio with attitude. We are the queer sound of Texas A Data Challenge me Carper and Sarah dipalma is interviewing our big Roy about Stonewall.

S

Sarah DePalma 29:47

We were doing a special edition program tonight about the events and stone wall. Earlier in the program. You heard Sylvia Rivera, who was really been highly credited as being one of the key people at the stone All, and we're going to be playing later on, we'll be using a special piece of tape that Jimmy has. That was recorded, I guess what, just right after the Ryan 1987 actually in 1987? Boy, one of the things that I was reading about in the in a couple of different places was the question. I guess there's been about what sparked the riot. Did you see what actually caused it? Do you know? No, but

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Roy 30:25

I do know this. I've heard that there was a lot of there had been a lot of raids on gay bars. Okay. Well, that is all hat. I mean, that that had been going on all the time. for time immemorial.

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Sarah DePalma 30:42

Yes, that's a Soviet they say they would go around the corner, wait for the police to leave the mafia would cut the chain to go back inside and go back to do what they were doing.

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Roy 30:49

Right. So there's nothing new about that. But you have to understand that the mindset of people the social and political mindset, you go back a year before Stonewall. We had lost Martin Luther King Barbic and Bobby Kennedy. And after those two, it's kind of like, our hope for the future was lost. Then came the Chicago convention, the Democratic Convention in Chicago, and the police, right. But people had just had it. The people in the street had just had it. There was a sexual revolution going on. And yet, again, it seemed as if gay and lesbian and transgender people were being excluded or forgotten about, yes, that was true. And we just weren't going to have it no more.

S

Sarah DePalma 31:46

Yeah, Soviet says in the interview, at one point, she said, we had been working for all these other groups and civil rights movements. But that was when we started to do something for us

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Roy 31:55

that that is correct. And the gay and lesbian bisexual transgender community has been all along, off, you know, throughout the century been really strong, especially in the last 50 years or so strong on showing for civil rights. And it was time that we start stood up for ourselves, and the gay liberation, and she talked about it, it was an actual group that formed, the rights actually lasted three days. The initial one was maybe well, 40. Maybe it was 45. I don't know. By that time, I was already getting benefits.

S

Sarah DePalma 32:31

You were busy at the time here a

R

Roy 32:35

few blocks down the road from me, was a part of Washington Square, I think, don't Yeah, I believe that was the name of it. And we were having rallies, the Stonewall Riots actually lasted three days. Yeah,

S

Sarah DePalma 32:54

from what I read, apparently, the second day, some people some accounts of the second day, the second day, say that it was actually more violent than the initial point.

R

Roy 33:03

Yes, it definitely was. And people were running around throughout all the different clubs in Manhattan, yelling out of the, out of the bars into the street out of the bars into the street. And that's what was going on. And this also marked our liberation, not just from official repression, but our liberation from the mafia.

S

Sarah DePalma 33:28

Yeah, that's an interesting part of the story. Because the reason the mafia was there was because there was a vacancy. There were no legitimate bars, or anyone that was legitimate, was afraid to be involved, even though actually is I understand. gay bars were not illegal. But it may but it was nearly impossible to get a liquor license. So gay bars were in the position of having to serve liquor without a license. Oh, sweet them and easy targets B rated it

R

Roy 33:54

was illegal in New York City, it was it was illegal in the state of New York to serve liquor to an

open homosexual. It was they the bar could lose their license. If you if you announced to the bartender or to the to the manager of the club, that you are gay. By law, they could not serve you look. I mean, this is the this is the extent of official repression that we face.

S

Sarah DePalma 34:26

See, I think it's hard for people to fathom this. And I agree with you what you said to the tar pits, you know, there are there are a couple generations of people behind us who were not there in the 60s and they know really very little about it. So let me set this I like to set the stage a little bit about this because like you I had been freed and wider.

U

34:52

I run down run on my older brother was

S

Sarah DePalma 34:55

yeah, I get to I had gone down south I had been very, very involved in anti war movement. I had been with the anti Hoffmann Washington DC when we attempted to levitate the Pentagon. Did you? Yeah. That was a fun experience. Sometime. I'll say about that year. It was a fun experience. But we get we get the hell shit kicked out of us because the police decided that we were using we were a threat to the Pentagon. Yeah, right. I was supposed to be at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago. It didn't get to go because I had mono, which probably turned out to be in my favor considered to happen there. There was flooding the streets literally you have to America, folks, for those of you didn't grew up in the 60s. If you really want to know what the 60s was like, go back and listen to the doors. Yes, go back and listen to set to Steven still writing about some song about some of what was going on in the streets. Go back and take a look at some of the film clips of the Democratic National Convention of Chicago in 1968. With Dan Rather got punched in the stomach on national television and was for you always forget with one of them David Brady who have pulled frankly one of the typical Huntley Brinkley, one got arrested on the floor. It was just incredible what was going on.

R

Roy 36:21

And then and then there was another one who was at the broadcasting booth giving an on air on the nightly news. And millions of Americans saw the Chicago police go in and pull that newsman right off the air, just like it was the Soviet Union or something.

S

Sarah DePalma 36:40

Yeah, it was. It was unbelievable. So there's this incredible feeling on the streets at this time, that it's an us against them sort of thing. And it was it really was and there were some very bloody battles involved in the streets. I know I had my nose broken several times during that year and got maced more times than I can recall. It was a

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Roy 37:00

major now for us. That's all had stuff.

S

Sarah DePalma 37:03

Yeah. But at the time, it was the way it was, you know. And so it's under this backdrop that you've got the situation that takes place in the Stonewall. And people had had enough people who just completely had enough, there had been all this official root repression, regardless of your sexual orientation, right? So one night, the police come in, and they pick the wrong night. The drag queen simply choose not believe,

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Roy 37:30

especially when we just bury Judy.

S

Sarah DePalma 37:33

Judy Garland funeral had been that day 10s of 1000s people had filed by flags are flying in half staff and some of the gay bars. The timing just couldn't have been worse. And the place only sent eight people. And suddenly, there was one account that I read, suggested that somebody said, Wait a minute, there are 400 of us and eight of them. What Why are we running from them in and I can understand how that feeling would have been so because in the 60s, particularly those of us who were involved in the war, anti war movement, there was a tremendous sense of empowerment. We thought we were changing the world

R

Roy 38:16

oh yeah the anti the anti war more time to make

S

Sarah DePalma 38:19

sure in in from what I've read that lot of the Sylvia Rivera is quoted in the book is saying somebody said to her, come on, let's get out of here. And Sylvie responds when saying, Are you nuts? This is the revolution.

R

Roy 38:33

Right? Well. Also up to that time, gay people. And again, people understand when I say gay, I'm very old school and I'm very You mean in an inclusive way? We're very inclusive way and for any of you listeners who don't understand old school people like Sarah and myself, we know

what the term gay means. The new ones today they don't. That's right. I agree. Yeah, it's not just who you sleep with.

S

Sarah DePalma 39:07

Sylvia Rivera says that in the early days gay meant everyone we're all one Yeah.

R

Roy 39:13

Anyways, gay people were We were so obedient. We were just like little lambs to the slaughter. Yeah, there may have been 400 of us but two cops could have led us to our to ourselves. You know, we would have gone to this jail cells with two cops up until that night

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Sarah DePalma 39:33

up until that night. It I guess that was kind of the defining moment it changed everything. The next day I understand where does it what sparked the next the riot the next day? Was it just leftover anger?

R

Roy 39:45

Yeah, oh, definitely was leftover anger. It was a continuation of a. It was an actual continuation of the previous night's activities, festivities, as I like to call it Ah, it was a game, right? And it was important. And we knew, because of the first night, we were really, we really felt empowered. Okay. By the second night, the news media had gotten, we've gotten the news media's attention, and they were there, they've come. And we knew that we had to get the message out. And one thing, people, I want you to understand that oppression. And evil do always works well. Behind closed doors, and in darkness, when you shine a spotlight on it, like we did it, like news media did in Mississippi, like they did in Alabama, like they did in other places in the south, like the news media did in Chicago, like the news media did out in Vietnam, when the spotlight of truth is glaring on it. And the public knows what is really going on. The public, you know, will react favorably to the oppressed. And that's exactly we knew that was going to happen. When those of us that were involved in anti war movements, like myself, and my love. They had we already knew how the how important this stuff was. Now, by this time, my lover had, by the second night, my lover had been taken away by ambulance because he received serious injuries. And his folks told me earlier on in the day, I'm talking about day two, earlier in the day, that this was God's will on our sinful lives.

S

Sarah DePalma 41:57

How many times have we heard that? Oh.

R

Roy 42:01

And, you know, here I am, got a big ol bandage on my head and everything. But we knew how important the news meeting was. And I was there. I was still in the I was there in the crowd that night. And they had right police. The police on horseback, they had Paddy Wagon squad cars, and God knows what else there. I mean, the lights and sirens and they had I think this is the first time I saw a helicopter being used by the police.

S

Sarah DePalma 42:41

It was it was kind of strange when the only time I ever got booked in during one of the anti war riots was in Boston. I put a flower in the barrel of a National Garden rifle. And government charged me with the facing federal property. And when it got to trial, the guardsman refused to testify against me. As he told the judge he said Well, first of all, there was no ammunition in the gun anyway. He said second, he said I agreed with what they were doing. The only reason I'm in the National Guard is I didn't want to go to Vietnam.

R

Roy 43:20

I was asked why Dan Quayle join the guard. Oh, I didn't say that. I didn't say that. Sorry. Edmondo.

S

Sarah DePalma 43:26

I just I just thought that was so funny. It's so so they couldn't convict me. Well,

R

Roy 43:32

you know, people did get arrested at that at the at the Stonewall Inn riots, which kind of interested people didn't get arrested, arrested, but nobody got charged. And the reason what, nope. Why no one got charged. Because then Mayor, John Lindsay, no relation to our Harris County, our former harris county judge God now. This is a whole different Republican. John Lindsey told the police no charges.

S

Sarah DePalma 43:59

Right. See there have been a change in the mayor in the mayor. And in mayor in John Lindsay was much more it was a liberal

R

Roy 44:06

line publicans liberal. Back in those days, it was liberal Republicans. Yeah,

S

Sarah DePalma 44:10

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he was an old line liberal Republican. And he actually had been in some negotiation with the machine society. And you're right, that was why charges, the charges didn't get pressed. But inspector pine sort of became kind of a folk hero in the press for quite some time to the inspector that was involved. So now that as you look back on it, do you regret being involved in it?

R

Roy 44:39

Absolutely. not. Absolutely not. And I'm very proud of being involved in it. And I'm going to tell you why. That's the day the repression stop. That's like asking somebody if they regretted that they were a member of consenting 76 of Bunker Hill. or one or the other of the American Revolution. This is as important as the American Revolution. And but I have to be honest, and say that the work that was started at Stonewall kind of got the finishing touches put on in San Francisco after Harvey after the convicted killer of Harvey Milk receive eight years and the way that the Gay Lesbian transgender community reacted in there. Can we clean Stonewall and Harvey Milk? While there was a tolerance, a very uneasy tolerance. Okay, many communities. We're still many cities throughout the country. We're still officially we repress oppressing us. And it was still very difficult for us. We were still losing jobs. We were still being evicted. I mean, we really hadn't gained all that much. But after those three days in San Francisco, which I was not there, I was not there. Nowhere near San Francisco. I've never been to Frisco. I lived in Hollywood. For 11 and a half years West Hollywood, California, and I've never been to Frisco. I'm sorry. I'm politically incorrect. But that's me.

S

Sarah DePalma 46:27

Just so the listeners know you're talking about the famous what they call the white knight riots. When the gay community in San Francisco absolutely crazy. After the sentencing, the sentence was handed down to the killer Harvey No. Yeah, you

R

Roy 46:38

gotta you gotta pat on the wrist. Yeah.

S

Sarah DePalma 46:42

The famous Twinkies defense.

R

Roy 46:45

After that, we finally no longer all across the country were discriminated against in rental. Gay politicians are being elected and all this. But again, it's