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SPEAKERS

Greg Gordon, Jack Valinski, Joan Devlin, Glenn Holt, Shirley Knight



00:00

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Jack Valinski 00:12

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



Joan Devlin 00:16

And I'm John Devlin.



Glenn Holt 00:18

And I'm Glenn Holt.



Jack Valinski 00:19

And we want to thank everybody for pledging the last couple of weeks. And the station did very, very, very well. And, but doesn't do very well, unless you,



Joan Devlin 00:28

you know, you're filling up to actually fulfill your pledge can't sell and flooded and things look



Jack Valinski 00:32

good and lesbian and gay voices raised about 50% more than our goal. So we're very appreciative to our listeners.

J Joan Devlin 00:38
We appreciate it very much. Thank you all.

J Jack Valinski 00:40
But now we turn our minds to a whole nother thing. The elections coming up. In fact, early voting is already happening.

J Joan Devlin 00:46
Yes, I voted this weekend.

J Jack Valinski 00:48
And it's no on to No on Proposition two.

J Joan Devlin 00:51
And there's electronic voting now. Yes, yes. for early voting. Very cool.

J Jack Valinski 00:56
Yes. For early voting. There's electronic voting, and I think in select precincts for the election, there will be electronic voting. They're just rolling that out. So that's happening. This weekend is a women's festival on Saturday, not Sunday, Saturday, Saturday, and surely night should be with us shortly. The Westheimer street festival in exile happened this weekend. But I understand it was not a very big crowd because they were charging for the first time ever.

J Joan Devlin 01:19
Wow. And also well, you know, the Renaissance Festival is going on? Yeah, well, that

J Jack Valinski 01:23
always happens. It always happens at the same time.



Glenn Holt 01:25

So speaking of bias on the ballot, there's an article about that. Coming up on this way out later in the program.



Jack Valinski 01:31

Yes. From Houston. Yes, great. So all that stuff coming up at first, of course. JD don't forget. JD. He's nice, right.



Glenn Holt 01:39

It's a JD night.



Jack Valinski 01:40

It's a JD JD night. So, but first, let's listen to news from this way out.



01:51

I'm Cindy Friedman.



Greg Gordon 01:52

And I'm Greg Gordon, with



01:53

news wrap a summary of some of the news in or affecting the lesbian and gay community for the weekend in October 20 2001. The US Navy has issued a rare apology to the nation's gays and lesbians. Last week, the Associated Press distributed a photo of a bomb earmarked for Afghanistan, which clearly showed graffiti reading hijack this fags sparking protests from gay and lesbian groups in the US and Britain. This week, Rear Admiral Steven Pietro Paoli wrote a letter to the Human Rights Campaign, the largest gay lesbian group in the US with a handwritten postscript I appreciate your help and letting folks know our regret on this. Describing the graffiti as an inappropriate comment. He wrote that Navy leaders understood and shared HRCs concerned about it. When the photo came to their attention. He said we immediately notified Navy commanders to ensure steps were taken to prevent a recurrence of this unfortunate incident they have done so. He went on to say that the US Navy does not tolerate discrimination of any kind and describe the graffiti as an isolated incident. He also wrote that there is no written Defense Department guidance governing spontaneous acts of penmanship by our fighting forces. Although the Navy expects oversight and leadership on the scene to ensure such actions are appropriate.



Greg Gordon 03:18

California has domestic partnership registry will confer about a dozen significant legal rights after January 1, thanks to Democratic Governor Gray Davis his signature this past week. Although California's new law is far narrower than Vermont's civil unions activist note that it was adopted entirely through the political process without the lawsuits and judicial rulings that forced recognition of gay and lesbian couples by state lawmakers in Vermont and Hawaii. Hawaii's pioneering reciprocal beneficiaries law has since expired. Davis who last year vetoed three much less sweeping domestic partner bills signed this one saying this bill is about responsibility, respect and most of all family and it's about time he acted despite intense lobbying against the measure by California's religious right. Those opponents included many of the groups which succeeded in amending the state constitution to restrict marriage to heterosexual couples with a landslide popular vote last year. The California



04:18

bill by San Francisco's openly lesbian Democratic State Assembly Member Carol Mignon recognizes registered partners as equivalent to legally married spouses with respect to a number of issues relating to death and disability, standing to sue for wrongful death and negligent infliction of emotional distress, standing to make medical and financial decisions for an incapacitated partner, including filing for state disability benefits. The right to use sick leave to care for an ailing partner or partner's child and the right to use the state standard welfare bequests and to administer a partner's estate. domestic partner health benefits will no longer be taxed as income by the state as they are by the federal government. State unemployment benefits will be available to those who lose their jobs when relocating with a partner. Very significantly, registered partners will be able to adopt their partner's biological children through the same simple expedited process by which married spouses become legal step parents. California's domestic partner registry is open to same gender couples of all ages, but only to those unmarried heterosexual couples over age 62.



Greg Gordon 05:26

And while the California law will ease step parent adoptions, it was revealed this week that a Delaware court has authorized that state's first adoption of an unrelated child by both members of a gay male couple. In fact, the Court granted the couple adoption of two brothers in June. But the unusual written opinion in the confidential proceedings was only published this week. One member of the couple, who have been together for more than 20 years, had adopted one boy in 1999, and his brother in 2000. And the other partner then applied to become a second legal parent to both the legal representative appointed for the boys said the men provided them with a loving and a stable environment. And the judge wrote that the fact that the men are gay in and of itself is of no concern to the court. The boys age six and one had been labeled difficult to place because they were born both premature and cocaine addicted, but they have thrived in the gay couples care.



06:22

In Canada for lesbian co parents are suing the Province of Manitoba to legally co adopt their

partner's biological children. Although Manitoba granted gay and lesbian couples equal standing under 10 provincial laws earlier this year, adoption rights were among 70 Other discriminatory laws set aside for further study. The Lesbian couples are hoping they can spur faster action by the provincial government without having to go through a lengthy court action. Legislation is not likely to come for several months. But Manitoba is Justice Minister Gord McIntosh has said he'll ask his legal review committee to deliver their report before its planned December completion.

G

Greg Gordon 07:02

Finland's Supreme Court this week awarded custody of two children to their non biological lesbian co parent, rather than their biological father in the wake of their lesbian mother's death. The high court's ruling overturned lower court rulings and marked its first award of custody to someone with no blood relation in preference to blood kin that children aged 12 and 14 had been living with their mother and her partner since 1993, and wanted to remain with the partner. Their father has been living outside Finland through those years, and the court said the children could not be forced to join him against their wishes. A spokesperson for the High Court said the ruling reflected his children's wishes rather than their step mother's sexual orientation. While the finish gay and lesbian group Sita agreed. They also believe it reflects a change in public attitudes, saying that a decade ago, no lesbian co parent would have even tried to contest the father's custody. Finland's Parliament enacted legal registered partnerships only last month. Check gays



08:02

and lesbians and their supporters turned out 400 Strong last week to demonstrate for partnership rights. The colorful gathering and Prague's domestic meeru square included the government's Human Rights Commissioner and a leading social democrat as well as several celebrities. The Czech parliament will soon be debating the government's bill to create registered partnerships,

G

Greg Gordon 08:24

Australia's transsexuals are celebrating a landmark legal decision affirming the validity of a marriage between a trans man and a woman. Although the trans man known as Kevin had obtained a revised birth certificate a year before his wedding to Jennifer, Australia's Attorney General disputed the birth certificate and claimed the marriage was illegal because Kevin was not considered a male at birth. But Sydney Family Court Justice Richard Chisholm upheld the marriage, maintaining that contemporary thinking about gender should override guidelines based on 30 year old British precedent. Kevin has been living as a male for seven years and underwent sex reassignment surgery three years ago, although without having male organs constructed. He and Jennifer already have one child with medical assistance and are beginning treatment for another.



09:13

Back in the US transsexuals are protected by Massachusetts civil rights law. The state's

Back in the US transgenders are protected by Massachusetts civil rights law. The state's Commission against discrimination has decided although neither the state law nor the legislature has yet dealt explicitly with the question, the commission has the authority to interpret and apply the civil rights law. And in two decisions last week it accepted transgender discrimination complaints for investigation.

G

Greg Gordon 09:37

In Florida Broward County civil rights protections for gays and lesbians appeared to have escaped a voter challenge for the second time. The group equal rights not special rights have sought to place a repeal initiative on a special ballot and had apparently turned in more than the number of signatures required. But civil rights supporters in the group and power Broward challenge the validity of the signature is an unofficial review throughout more than 12,000 of them. According to unofficial reports this week, that would leave the petitions nearly 8000 signatures short of the minimum to qualify the repeal measure. Repeal, advocates say they'll examine the rejected signatures and vowed to continue their efforts.

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10:17

And finally, New York City's Republican mayor Rudy Giuliani gave New York City one of the strongest domestic partnership ordinances in the US, and he stood firmly behind the gay and lesbian victims and survivors of the September 11 attack on the World Trade Center. In fact, he's gone way beyond the call of duty to support them. He's agreed to make a drag appearance on the Showtime cable TV series Queer as Folk. That fundraising idea came from one member of the gay couple he's roomed with since moving out of the mayor's mansion in the course of his divorce, and Giuliani responded if it means more money for relief funds. Sure. The group Empire State pride agenda has raised almost all of the targeted \$200,000 To put Giuliani on the show. queers folk producers are said to be excited at the prospect and a script will be developed to include the mayor's drag cameo without him having to visit Toronto for the filming. We hope that Queer as Folk staff will do a better job of outfitting the mayor than he had for his 1997 Drag debut at a local press dinner. That pink dress just wasn't right for him.

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Greg Gordon 11:27

And that's news wrap for the week ending October 20 2001. Written by Cindy Friedman, and recorded at the studios of KPFK. Los Angeles

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11:34

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

G

Greg Gordon 11:41

I'm Greg Gordon.



11:42

Are you troubled by someone's drinking? You're not alone. In Al Anon there is hope and help. Make the connection. Al Anon confidential and anonymous. Your community resource for families and friends of alcoholics. It's only a phone call away. For meeting information call toll free 8884 allanon Why be alone?



Glenn Holt 12:13

You're listening to lesbian and gay voices.



Jack Valinski 12:17

It is that time of the year. It's that time of year when the weather is just really nice and hot. All the well. It's hot, but it's not as hot. Yeah, it's not like real, real hot. That time of year when all the festivals happen. In fact, we're talking a little bit earlier about the Westheimer street festival in exile. And I understand it turnout wasn't all that good because for the first time they charged and understandably it costs money to put things on. But this weekend and moving to Saturday rather than Sunday is the seventh annual Houston women's Festival, and Charlie Unitas with us to talk to talk to us about it.



Shirley Knight 12:52

Hello, hi for having me. Thank you. Yes.



Joan Devlin 12:56

So what new and exciting things do you have for us? And what traditions are you keeping for this year,



Shirley Knight 13:01

a new and exciting thing is this year we have another stage. So we're actually going to have three stages. And the third stage is going to be in the marketplace. And we're setting it up as a coffee house type of atmosphere. So we'll have tables and chairs and a tent and it'll be by the food vendors and, and the beverages and we'll have quite a few local artists there. And so you'll be able to just sit at a table and eat drink and listen to some some good music. And of course, we still have the art stage which is mainly poetry and performance art. We have a dance troupe there. And of course the mainstage still in the old part of the courtyard, the garden in the heights and big name artists will be there. So we're very excited. Should be a really



J Joan Devlin 13:39
good weekend to who are some of the big name artists.

S Shirley Knight 13:41
We've got Patrice pike from Austin and she's toured nationally, she's been on AirSTAR Records label and she's had a song in the top 20 And she's got lots of fans from Austin who I understand some of them are going to be caravanning down here for our event and one person who's not that well known by just her individual name, it's Susan Gibson, she was with a band called the groupies and she wrote a song called Wide open spaces, which was recorded by the Dixie Chicks and one country music award. Song of the Year in 1999. So she's an excellent songwriter and looking forward to her and read is a legend Actually, she's had 12 recordings and she hasn't been to Houston all that many times but I know she's got a very loyal following and very excited about having her down here

J Joan Devlin 14:27
and it's raising going to make it this year not are then that's crazy

S Shirley Knight 14:30
this year, next year, they should have a new album. They're going to be going into the studio hopefully this winter and so definitely hope to have them back next year with the new album.

J Joan Devlin 14:37
Yeah, cuz I know they're a crowd favorite. And they've come down here, I guess a couple of times now.

S Shirley Knight 14:41
Padam three times are so nice. They are they're great people and moving into

J Jack Valinski 14:46
Saturday. Well, actually, we've

S Shirley Knight 14:47
always been on Saturday, then maybe it's me. It's the pride committee. That's on Sunday. That's right.

J Jack Valinski 14:59

And then there's luck. So things are happening in the marketplace.

S Shirley Knight 15:01

Yeah, that's always been really exciting to see the vendors come in and set up their little booths. And they sell candles and woodwork and all kinds of crafts and art, and you know, homemade soap and incense and therapeutic oils. And, of course, a lot of community information, which I think is really good, because it's a way for people to actually find the community. And I know, the pride committees usually there and you know, the Human Rights Campaign and the lesbian Health Initiative. And also social groups hatch, I think, is really an important group in our community. And, of course, for teenagers coming out, and also some sports teams and that kind of thing. So pretty much whatever people want to find, you know, they can hook up with that at the festival.

J Jack Valinski 15:42

We'll talk a little bit about putting this event on, I mean, you work probably all year doing this.

S Shirley Knight 15:47

It's mainly six months of pretty intense work, because we start the booking in the spring, booking the the artists, and it just proceeds from there. And of course, June is big month for us with the parade. And we've been involved in the parade now for two years. And that's really, really fun to have a float in the parade. And so we start serious publicity in June and have everybody booked by then. And certainly there's lots of organizational details. But we do have a really good foundation and a good group of people that helps us every year, a good core group of volunteers, and how big is that core group? Our steering committee is what we call them. And I would say that it's probably maybe about 20, people kind of fluctuates, we're not real organized, we don't have a whole lot of structure and meetings and that kind of thing. But they show up when they need to and they do the work. And that's what makes the best will happen.

J Jack Valinski 16:35

And a lot of people do, they just want to volunteer, they want to be going to meetings and Robert's rules and all that type of stuff and and you pretty much do your mission of bringing you know the talent into Houston for for people who's you know, that don't have another outlet to see at some times or don't want to go to a club with all the smoking and the you know, and to be outdoors and usually very nice weather.

S Shirley Knight 16:55

Let's try it and it is hard and Houston actually to find venues, places. And I mean, besides the

lucky dog, which is a great club and you know, maybe the satellite lounge, there's really not a whole lot of live music that actually books on gay lesbian or women performers. And so these people really, the artists definitely want to come to Houston. And it's nice to be able to provide that for them.

J Joan Devlin 17:16

That was gonna be my next question. And if you're just tuning in, you're listening to KPFT is lesbian and gay voices. And we're talking to Shirley Knight about the Eastern women's Festival, which is happening this Saturday. And going on that was my question, how hard is it to get the performers to come to Houston? How hard is it to book people to fill the slots for the music festival.

S Shirley Knight 17:36

It's actually not very hard at all now, which is really nice, because we have a good reputation. And a lot of that is just built up over time. And word of mouth between the artists because they'll tell their friends that this is a good event, they're treated well. They have a good audience and people listen to the music and appreciate the music. And we actually get a lot of submissions just unsolicited. And, you know, unfortunately, I do have to return a lot of CDs and in BIOS and things like that, but it's nice, you know that people do want to come here. So we don't have a problem with that at

J Joan Devlin 18:09

all. And have you gotten because I know in years past, there's been some flak about, you know, the whole women's quote unquote, festival. Have you forgotten?

S Shirley Knight 18:20

You know, there was a lot of women's festivals that probably started 25 years ago, Michigan Women's festival now is 26 years old. And it was a very different time, I think 25 years ago, and those serve different purposes, perhaps those festivals, it was, you know, understand the need a safe space for women. And there was, you know, girls growing up today, I think, you know, they didn't face some of the same pressures or, or bias that, that maybe the predecessors did. So Arvind has always been open to all. And you know, we have gay guys out there working. And we have straight people out there. And we have seniors and children and everybody in between. So ours is just a one day event. It's not a camping in the woods kind of thing. And that's also one thing that makes it different from other women's festivals. But, you know, mainly, we just want to have a celebration, we want to have fun. And that's what it's about for us.

J Jack Valinski 19:10

Yeah, I like that you can strive there and see the festival and then drive home, you know.

J Joan Devlin 19:16
So how much are tickets? And how do people get them,

S Shirley Knight 19:18
they're \$10 in advance, and they can get them at the cheese garden, or Tracy's retreat and or the \$12 at the door, and volunteers getting free and we do still have a few volunteers spots open. And a whole lot more information is available on our website at WWW dot h w festival.org. Yeah, I

J Jack Valinski 19:35
was very surprised you had even where all the booths are gonna be on the website.

S Shirley Knight 19:40
The web is a wonderful thing. Yes, really helped. Because, you know, limits phone calls and people can get all kinds of information about tickets, directions, and maps and all kinds of things.

J Joan Devlin 19:51
What kind of crowd do you think you're going to have?

S Shirley Knight 19:53
We're really hoping for would be great if we had over 1500 tickets sold. In addition to the ticket sales we always have have about 200 people there as vendors and volunteers and artists and musicians and guests and VIPs and press and that kind of thing. So in addition to, you know, the last three years, we've averaged, I think over 1100 people. So it's definitely a good crowd.

J Joan Devlin 20:16
And just out of curiosity, where does the money go? Does it go to charities? Or does it go into producing the next woman's festival? Or how does that work? That's

S Shirley Knight 20:24
a good question. The festival was produced by the Athena art project, which is a 501 C three nonprofit organization. And so all the money's returned there, nobody gets paid. It's all

volunteer organization. And except for the sound crew, we had to pay them. But we produce other events. Sometimes during the year, we've had some readings for people who've written books and art shows, and mainly just makes the festival bigger and better every year. So we don't have to put our money up.

J Joan Devlin 20:51

We actually have that's a valid use to me. That sounds great.

S Shirley Knight 20:55

That's right, the festival has been growing, and it's been successful every year. And so we're able to bring bigger name artists and attract, you know, pay them when they need to be paid. So we can definitely get, you know, artists with national prominence.

J Joan Devlin 21:11

And I guess to close out, maybe give us a little history. How did this all start? You know why Houston Houston? Houston is an amazing city. But I wouldn't say it's known as like the bastion of women's festivals or something. So how did Houston end up with this event every year?

S Shirley Knight 21:24

Well, my friend Nancy Rose and I, we went to the High School for Performing and Visual Arts and we had friends who were musicians, and moved to Austin, because we used to didn't offer them that much. And two of those people were Sarah Hickman and Gretchen Phillips, who have, you know, gone on to really good music careers, and they wanted to come back to Houston and play. Yeah, they wanted a place to play. And we figured it was time for Houston to have a festival and we might as well be the ones to start it. And so there were three of us initially, and we just jumped in, and what year was that? That was 9590 95. Okay, so

J Joan Devlin 21:59


the festival is it's this is the sixth one, this will be the seventh seventh one. Okay. So, um, that's great. I mean, to see where it's gone in seven years. I mean, that's amazing. It's been

S Shirley Knight 22:09

very rewarding. And one thing that's really nice is the visual artists. We do have a, an art exhibit there. And it's really helped some of them along the way. They've been able to sell their paintings and get their name out there and be appreciated in the art community and it's just really rewarding to see. See, it actually helped the

 Joan Devlin 22:26

artists. Well, that's great and once again, let people know where they can get tickets.

 Shirley Knight 22:31


Lucci has garden and Tracy's retreat. And the LifeWorks center on 19th Street in the heights is a new outlet for us. And also they can buy them at the door.

 Jack Valinski 22:41

And garden heights is at 3926 Fagan off of wall drive in the near heights just over the bridge, so you can't really miss it.

 Joan Devlin 22:48

And the festival goes from one to one 1pm to midnight. Okay, so you got plenty of time to get out there and have a good time. That's right. You're listening to KPFT is lesbian and gay voices.

 Glenn Holt 22:58

And coming up in the second hour of lesbian and gay voices, queer music heritage featuring interviews with Trent phire And the three Mary's if you go down to the Cappella from their 1998 album at the gates of heaven, this is lesbian and gay voices

 Greg Gordon 23:25

stand openly gay interim Berlin Mayor cause Varvara was elected to a full term on October 21 by a landslide, with about 30% of the vote. By variety, a Social Democrat became mayor in June when his conservative predecessor was ousted by the Social Democrats, greens and ex communists. He came out shortly before getting his party's nomination for the interim post when a leading newspaper was about to take the matter out of his hands. Volvo right called his election by the voters at large a signal that Berlin is a tolerant city and international city. And it doesn't matter which skin color or religion or life orientation a person has. local elections are also coming up in the US and in Michigan and Texas, lesbian and gay rights and the opposition to them are in the spotlight. We'll hear from activists waging those campaigns. But first, there's more news out of Germany. It was a milestone when the German government agreed to add gay victims of Nazi persecution to the list of minorities eligible for compensation. But now there's a major obstacle standing in the way of the distribution of those funds. As this way out solution Chappelle reports, officials are appealing to the international gay and lesbian community for help.

 24:41

The problem is finding new Holocaust survivors. That's why the International Organization for

The problem is finding gay Holocaust survivors. That's why the International Organization for Migration or IOM, the group that administers the Swiss bank and German compensation programs is launching a global information campaign to solicit the support of gay and lesbian organizations at On October 16, press conference IOM Director of Compensation Programs Dr. Winter called for international community networking to help get the information to the people who need it.



25:11

Let me begin by Iowans responsibilities under the Holocaust victim Assets Program. Anyone is under that program one of the implementing organizations together with the conference on Jewish material claims against Germany and with the claims resolution tribunal. Under this settlement, IOM is in particular responsible to compensate non Jewish persons who were persecuted by the Nazi regime. And the Holocaust victim assets program focuses in particular, on groups minority groups that were targeted by the Nazi regime. That is, in the case of IOM, Roma, Jehovah's Witnesses, physically or mentally handicapped people, and homosexual victims. Let me briefly list those homosexual victims who can be compensated who can file a claim with IOM under a holocaust victim Assets Program, first of all homosexuals who perform slave labor for German companies or for the Nazi regime. Secondly, homosexual victims who were denied entry into Switzerland, or were mistreated there as refugees, and there is a partial list of names posted on the internet. And thirdly, homosexuals as any other victims who perform slave labor for certain Swiss companies and their affiliates. Extending this briefly to an other compensation program. IOM is an implementing partner for which is the the German forced labor compensation program. And I stress that this is a different program that some of the claimants or the victims can apply to IOM for both programs for the German forced labor compensation program can be compensated by or through IOM, for homosexuals who were detained in a concentration camp for homosexuals who were deported to Germany or to German occupied territory, and were subjected to forced labor and were held under extremely harsh living conditions. homosexuals who suffered medical experiments are a severe health damage in connection with Nazi wrongs for homosexuals who suffered property loss with the direct participation of German industry and not as a result of military activities. Those are the victims again specified to the category of homosexuals that can file a claim with IOM under the German forced labor compensation program. The filing deadline for both these programs expires on the 31st of December 2001. heirs are only entitled to claim if the victim died on or after the 16th of February 99. And if a homosexual victim who filed a claim dies, the heirs have six months to assert their rights with IOM six months after the death of the victim. Now I come to my last point or my appeal, as I call it. 10s of 1000s of homosexuals have been sentenced to imprisonment by the Nazi regime for their sexual orientation, and several 1000s have been sent to concentration camps, only few of those homosexual inmates of concentration camps have survived. The purpose of this press conference is precisely to reach those survivors and to encourage them to file a claim with IOM, we realize that they might be hard to locate, but through the information campaign, we want to reach out and to reach individuals in a targeted way. And we hope that this press conference will have a snowball effect. We hope that gay and lesbian associations will help us in disseminating information. We have that kind of cooperation with other groups of victims with other minority groups. And we are very much looking forward to that kind of cooperation. Of course, I'm speaking here in Berlin. But again, I hope that this effect that this will reach worldwide, and countries such as the United States, Canada, Australia, but also European countries, the Netherlands, the Scandinavian countries, the UK, in those countries Ireland feels that it's very important that this message goes out to homosexual victims of the Nazi regime.



29:42

That was International Organization for Migration, Director of Compensation Programs Director winter, IOM officials believe that there may only be about 100 Surviving gay Nazi victims. They note that gay slave and forced laborers suffered the harshest treatment and had the highest death rate, about 60%. Those who survived the war were still considered criminals under the law and hardly able to be open about the reason for their incarceration by the Nazis. And of course, any gay victims who are still alive today would be quite advanced in years. Again, the deadline for filing claims is December 31. For more information contact the International Organization for Migration in Geneva, Switzerland, or visit their website@www.io M dot i n t. For this way out. I'm Lucia Chapelle.



Greg Gordon 30:37

Hi, this is Greg again and you're listening to this way out the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. Lesbian Gay rights are being challenged on the ballot this November 6 in for US cities, Houston, Texas, and in Huntington Woods Kalamazoo and Traverse City, Michigan. The stakes are high according to local activists who addressed the press this week in a teleconference arranged by the National Gay and Lesbian lobbying group, the Human Rights Campaign. My name is



31:05

Grant Martin. I'm the campaign manager for the no on city prop two campaign a joint effort of people for a fair Houston and progressive voters in action, which is usually known by its acronym PV A. The ballot measure that we're facing would amend our city charter. It's kind of like amending the constitution to forbid city council and the mayor from ever passing domestic partner health benefits. This was put on the ballot through a petition drive by an organization called Houstonians for family values, which is run by a pretty extreme far right wing nut by the name of Dave Wilson. And interestingly enough, Dave Wilson is so extreme that our sort of establishment Republicans have been associated themselves from him. They're not taking a position either way on this. In part, that's because he has been advocating that gay and lesbian people be quarantined to an island, where they can all die out of AIDS. He's passing out a book now at senior centers, and churches called answers to the gay deception. Which first time I've seen it was put out by Dallas company called International Christian media. And it's essentially a rehash of the Gay Agenda videotapes from the last decade. Our polling indicates that if we can do enough mass voter communication, Dan turnout our base that we have a shot at defeating this thing.



32:52

My name is Mira Cooper and I am the campaign manager for Huntington Woods our group is called fair of Huntington woods, the acronym is there and informed residents. Our community is very small. We have 4800 voters. We are in terms of our location in the Detroit metropolitan area. We are on the south east and Oakland County. Our initiative is essentially to get a yes vote to pass the Elliott Larsen human civil rights act with the same language that the state of

Michigan has, with the exception of adding sexual orientation to the ordinance. We originally had our City Commission cast on a unanimous vote and then of course, the American Family Association, came in with paid petitioners and can't be placed on the ballot or returned at our City Commission decided to place it on the ballot. Our surrounding communities were woke and Ferndale hospital had similar ballot initiatives last year that were defeated. And so we're kind of like the next Domino, more or less here. We've tried it to do the right thing campaigns and essentially have addressed the concerns that the community has about why why are the origins was coming up for a vote anyway. How did the American family get in the fourth ballot, it's a kind of an outsider versus insider fight. And here it's resonating. It did not resonate Royal Oak and I don't believe it resonated in Ferndale.



34:31

My name is Robert Dempsey. I'm the campaign manager for Kalamazoo against discrimination. In Kalamazoo. About a year and a half ago, the city manager extended same sex DEP benefits to city employees and that brought in the American families Association headed by Gary Cohen here in the state. What they're trying to do now is pass an amendment to the city charter, which would prevent the city legislature from ever passing any legislation Send legal protection to members of the game lesbian community. We're trying to appeal to people's basic sense of fairness and common sense, been trying to defeat this proposal and to not change the city charter.



35:12

I'm Paul Heaton,



35:14

co chair of the Traverse City campaign against discrimination. We have identical question to Kalamazoo on our ballot, it is an amendment to our city charter that would prevent any protections based on actually its homosexual lesbian and bisexual orientation is their wording, which is a little bizarre. So they are specifically singling out gay people, it's not a sexual orientation question. And our message to is to say no to discrimination. The Outsider issue is very strong up here, because it's clear that this is a downstate group that is trying to do this. My perspective is that we do not have three individual campaigns here, what we have is one man in Midland, who is trying to build a political machine, a statewide political machine on the backs of gay people. And he's doing that one city at a time. Right now he's in Huntington woods, Traverse City and Kalamazoo and he's going to Ypsilanti Max and some others,



36:13

this is best to share. I'm the president of Michigan equality, which is a statewide political organization working to end discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. We have an organization in the state that's able to institute a cookie cutter approach in any local community very easily, they find a local person that's willing to put their name to a registered organization, distributed petitions, they have money they have backing at the national level,

and they've picked Michigan for their particular message. We believe that the problem here is not going to end with three local ballot initiatives that this is going to escalate and that we hope that after two consecutive losses, that this November 6, we're going to see success on our side. And we're going to be able to demonstrate that this might not be so profitable, a subject matter for the organization that's targeting our community to continue to pursue.



37:14

Kilbourne national field director for the Human Rights Campaign. I completely agree with what that's just said that I think the American Family Association is using the GLBT issues in Michigan as a tool, I think to activate the extreme conservative vote in Michigan, because Michigan is such a battleground state politically and militarily, as we expect these efforts to feed throughout Michigan, I think we from a national perspective, also see a danger of them spreading to other states already, you know, looking into 2002, we most likely will be dealing with a referendum in Maryland to repeal the anti discrimination law that the legislature just passed and the governor just signed. And then in Maine, more than likely, we'll be looking at an initiative to repeal not only the state's domestic partner benefits for state employees, but also any individual cities in Maine who have passed such programs, it would repeal all of those, you'll notice in these initiatives, two of them in Michigan and the one in Houston, we're not just talking about repealing existing law, we're also talking about preventing the city decision makers from ever enacting similar laws in the future, which I think is a very important point.



38:35

In our city, people have been much more direct in their correlation between the activities of the religious right, who are working in opposition to the Human Rights Ordinance, and the activities of the Taliban, our community made a very quick connection between the opponents of the human rights ordinance and these particular issues that are currently in the minds of everybody in this country. However, that doesn't preclude the fact that people are still afraid of the images and the dehumanizing of the gay community, which seems to be the MO of the opposition everywhere I found that if you create a fearful enough image, no matter how much of it is a lie, it seems to



39:24

stick. This was Paul in Traverse City and in Traverse City regards the September 11. What we see is, is what I would describe as a quiet resolve that because of all those events, people feel it's more important to defeat this if it for no other reason to give us a sense of hope that you know, we're not going to let the bad guys get us again. And it's I think when we win on November 6, it's going to be a somewhat cathartic moment for us just because people are looking for something good.



Greg Gordon 39:58

You've been listening to excerpts from our telephone At press conference featuring queer activists involved in election campaigns in Houston, Texas, and in Huntington Woods Kalamazoo and Traverse City. Michigan all four cities will vote on their lesbian and gay rights

Kalamazoo and Traverse City, Michigan, all four cities will vote on their lesbian and gay rights ballot measures on November 6, and this way I will of course, bring you those results. Thanks for choosing this way out the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. This week, Cindy Friedman, Chris Ambridge, Brian Nunez, Jason Lynn, Rex Walker and Graham Underhill contributed program material, Ken Wilson composed and performed our theme music. Remember, you can listen to this way out anytime online exclusively on planet out, just point your browser to [www dot planet out.com](http://www.dot.planetout.com) and click first on multimedia than on radio. Some this way our operating expenses are funded by direct charitable donations from our listeners around the world. For an urgent message about this way outs perilous financial situation, please visit our webpage at [this way. out.org](http://thisway.out.org) Email us at [TW o radio@aol.com](mailto:TWradio@aol.com) Or write to us at Post Office Box 38327 Los Angeles, California 90038 USA for Associate Producer Lucia Chapelle and the entire this way out family I'm Greg Gordon. Thanks for listening on WD FH are sending New York four ZZ Brisbane, Queensland KFA, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Minnesota and more than 125 other stations around the world, including this local community radio station. Everybody's gonna stay tuned.

G

Glenn Holt 41:27

And this radio station is KPFT in Houston, where are you are listening to lesbian and gay voices? What is Q patrol? You've probably heard the name. It's a nonprofit corporation operating a volunteer citizens watch patrol in the greater Montrose area. Our patrols have been a successful deterrent to crime over the past five years. And we'd like to be even more effective. I'm Glen Holt, the president of cue patrol asking you to donate just one night a month to make our community a safer place. Get your exercise walking on foot patrol, rollerblading or bicycling or if you prefer, you can drive or ride in a mobile unit. Q patrol is a great way to do something positive for yourself and your community. Call us at five to wait safe. We need community minded people like you. That's five to eight safe 5287233 Q patrol is affiliated with the Houston Police Department's citizens on patrol program you are listening to lesbian and gay voices and coming up in the second hour queer music heritage by JD Doyle featuring interviews with Trent phire And the three Mary's. can call from well, a long time ago.

J

Jack Valinski 43:06

Yes, very long ago,

J

Joan Devlin 43:08

at least played tenderly since that was the theme from the junk carpet movie Torch Song got. Got to get it. I only have several versions.

G

Glenn Holt 43:18

So did you know that AOL chat rooms can give you an STD?

J

Joan Devlin 43:21

Oh, I didn't. How does that come about?

G

Glenn Holt 43:24

I'm still trying to figure that out. But there is an article here on planet out. That says that amid concern about outbreaks of syphilis linked to online chat rooms. AOL has announced that it is planning a campaign to educate its members about sexually transmitted diseases. The AOL spokesman Andrew Weinstein said, if we can help provide our members with health information that's a valuable service, da. But it's not clear if AOL will specifically target chat rooms. and a high ranking health officials in San Francisco is insisting that clear and blunt warnings be issued to gay men who chat online in his city. Because medical officials there are blaming chat rooms for several outbreaks of syphilis. So be careful with those keyboards,

J

Joan Devlin 44:11

apparently. So I mean, what is this based on them thinking that people are meeting each other through chat rooms? And oh, yeah, yeah. Okay. So somebody that's going to go meet somebody they've only talked to on the internet and immediately have sex with them without finding out whether they're diseased or not, is really going to pay a whole lot of attention to a warning label.

G

Glenn Holt 44:32

Right? Well, you know, a little pop up things that you can get programs that eliminate the pop ups anyway.

J

Joan Devlin 44:36

Well, not only that, but you know, if they're not in the chip, I mean, if people are gonna go out and have sex, they're gonna go out and have sex and I mean, chat rooms have anything to do with it. They'll find another way if the chat rooms not available to them. Really, Syphilis is not new.

J

Jack Valinski 44:52

Okay, I got some important things to talk about. Really, Jack? Yes, the election. It's coming up. And in fact, early voting has already started. It, it started on Saturday and Sunday and will run for about another week and a half. Early voting is in a number of places. And the place near here is 1475. West grey, which is the Metropolitan multi service center. But there are like 28 other sites across the county. That's pretty incredible. And the thing about early voting is that you don't need an excuse you can, as long as you're registered to vote, you could go well, I

J

Joan Devlin 45:30

mean, the dog ate my voter register, you

J Jack Valinski 45:33

know, as in as in the old days of absentee ballots, I know, you used to have to have an excuse, I'm leaving town, the dog ate mice, whatever. But here now you just, you know, it's like, it's not an excuse for it. It's like, this is a convenient thing. And it's open from like eight to seven. We open over the weekends. And they're using the new electronic voting machines.

J Joan Devlin 45:54

I get to watch a little video. It's pretty cool. Yes, I'm

J Jack Valinski 45:57

just another training video. Right? Well,

J Joan Devlin 45:59

but the thing is, too, with early voting, I mean, I went this Saturday, and I went at 330 in the afternoon, and there was nobody else there. And I went in and I watched a little video on I voted, and it took about, you know, from start to finish was, you know, like 1520 minutes, no lines, no muss, no fuss, you know,

J Jack Valinski 46:17

so early voting continues until November 2, which is a Friday before the general election. If you'd like some more information, you can go to [www dot Harris voters.org](http://www.harris.tx.us/clerk) or www.co.harris.tx.us/clerk, or call them at 713-775-6965. If you'd like to have information on who to possibly vote for it, you can go to the caucuses website, which is Hg.lpc.com. And they have their voter card there, if you'd like some information on helping out and they still do need lots of help people for a fair Houston and they can be reached at 713-523-1762 and it's [www dot ferustun.org](http://www.ferustun.org) progressive voters in action, and their number is 713-521-7161. Their website is [www dot Vogt pva.org](http://www.vogtpva.org). And if you want to hear some propaganda from the other side, you can call a Houstonians for a family values. They are at [WWW dot hffv.com](http://WWW.hffv.com). Figured they be a.com. So and we will have we will be covering stuff next week. We will have Alex more off from progressive voters on next week along with Clarence Bagby, from the National Gay Lesbian Taskforce. He's a board member here based in Houston. And also Deborah Rogers, who's a president of the Houston gay and lesbian Political Caucus.

J Joan Devlin 47:56

And let us stress please, all elections are important, it is always important that you vote but this election is especially important, you know, as a nice, Parker said, if our community, you know, site back and try and tell other people to protect our rights when we don't even want to

know, sits back and try and tells other people to protect our rights when we don't even want to get up and go vote and protect them ourselves. I mean, what does that say about our community? We should not there is no excuse for this referendum not to be defeated? Absolutely not.

J Jack Valinski 48:23

Right. And it's prop two. And it's vote no, no on to no one to exactly. So it is a very important election, as John was saying, and probably one of the most important ones that we've had here. And certainly we remember some of us remember 1985 When we were deceived, defeated so badly. Progressive voters and Houston for people for you fair Houston have been doing a great job. But it takes you also to go out and vote.

J Joan Devlin 48:50

The other thing is, and know this too. If the Dave Wilson's of the world when this one, they're not going to stop there. They'll just be charged up and then there'll be an even worse referendum on the next ballot.

J Jack Valinski 49:01

And it's exactly true. I mean, they won so badly in 85. And then they came out with a straight slate right after That's right.

J Joan Devlin 49:08

So I mean, you know, just let's just to quote, to quote Barney, five, let's just nip this in the bud.

G Glenn Holt 49:16

So what do you think would be next? If they won? Would they pass a referendum to take away all women's rights at Houston?

J Joan Devlin 49:21

God only knows. I mean, you know, when you're dealing with the fact that the person who came up with this referendum is so scary that, you know, our normal slate of conservatives don't want anything to do with the man. There's no telling what his next move might be. So I mean, but let's let's just stop it right now.

G Glenn Holt 49:38

Why should that makes a good point, though, because, you know, what's happening with with terrorism and the Taliban, you know, people are are are trying to understand that in terms of

terrorism and the Taliban, you know, people are are trying to understand that in terms of being Muslims and that being not part of being a Muslim. But the problem is that that terrorism and that kind of extreme radicalism kind of go hand in hand. And so if it can happen in the Muslim community, it can happen in a Christian community. And it just happened to happen first in a over there in Afghanistan. But you know, the Christian Taliban could just as easily go down the same road.

J Joan Devlin 50:18

Well, hopefully they won't be going anywhere in Houston but home crying because they lost, here you go.

G Glenn Holt 50:25

And this election actually is the place to put a stop to it,

J Joan Devlin 50:28

this election. And the other thing this will do is it will really take the bet the bitter and bad taste of you know, the 80s, the mid 80s out of everybody's mouths, because I wasn't here yet. Then obviously, I'd come here at three, but then I had left to go to school. But Jack was here, and I was here and it was crashing, I was rushing. And it was emotionally scarring.

J Jack Valinski 50:49

We did live coverage, the election night here on KPFT. And the party will help them wasn't a party, but it was at 2700, Albany, where progressive voters have an office right now. And unfortunately, the building which is the Hollyfield center is has been sold, and they're gonna make it to condos. But it was really sad that night, it's just like to sit there and report on Yes. And how do you cheer up a community when you're so down?

G Glenn Holt 51:14

I also understand that if this referendum were to pass, it would be a really good way for the city to lose the Olympics.

J Joan Devlin 51:19

Yeah, there's that too. Well, that's a whole nother story that is but you know, it's like a nice said when she was on our show couple weeks ago, this is about us. This is about our lives. This is about who we are. And you know, this man should not be allowed to come in and literally tell the city of Houston that you can never, ever, ever offer your employees domestic partner benefits.

G Glenn Holt 51:43

Right. Well, yeah. tying the hands of the of the city council. Okay, well, I guess we've been preaching to the choir on that one. What else was choirs

J Jack Valinski 51:51

here? Yeah. Okay.

G Glenn Holt 51:55

We always have a choir waiting out in the wings ready to say yes,

J Jack Valinski 51:57

yes. Well, I was really, really young. I used to think all that music that came over the radio. There were singers there at the station.

J Joan Devlin 52:04

You know, it was like little people in there it

J Jack Valinski 52:07

this is this is back when you had a wind up the radio, actually, which is a technical you know, right now they have these windup radios and are like high tech. Okay, now they do I mean, it's, it's, uh, you know, the power goes out, you have a hurricane now,

J Joan Devlin 52:21

you'll have to crank your car to Well, well,

J Jack Valinski 52:25

there's also there's two propositions on the ballot also about rail and mass transit.

J Joan Devlin 52:32

Yeah. See, I didn't get a vote on those. That's right.

J Jack Valinski 52:35
Because you don't live it. You didn't You didn't get to vote on those. Because you're not in the city. No, because I'm in Katy. But I thought you're part of MTA.

J Joan Devlin 52:43
Thought I was two I argued about it.

J Jack Valinski 52:46
And I just imagined them sitting on the other side listening to you argue.

G Glenn Holt 52:51
I was wondering, who did the Houston gay and lesbian Political Caucus endorse for mayor? Brown the

J Jack Valinski 52:58
brown? Okay.

G Glenn Holt 53:00
Glad. Where have you been? Well, obviously not paying attention. But you know, I mean,

J Jack Valinski 53:05
district D, of course is in Edwards.

J Joan Devlin 53:07
Okay. You know, and an ease, you know, all these people we've had on the show, right?

J Jack Valinski 53:11
Most incumbents. Yeah, it's on their website. Okay. I'm

J Joan Devlin 53:15
gonna website Oh I

gonna website. Oh, I

G

Glenn Holt 53:16

was just wondering about mayor because I just, you know, I hadn't heard it.

J

Jack Valinski 53:19

Well, a nice works very well with Mayor Brown. Mayor Brown was in the parade. And not that that's a reason to vote for him. But he had enough guts to come out to the parade. And, you know, he's the one who really supported the non discrimination ordinance and he is fighting against this initiative. This charter amendment very much. So Mayor Brown has really stood stood by this community.

G

Glenn Holt 53:42

Okay. Fair enough. And of course,

J

Jack Valinski 53:44

we at KPFT do not endorse candidate we do not we are a nonprofit organization universally. We all have opinions. Well, yeah.

J

Joan Devlin 53:54

Right. Well, yeah, no, but this is us talking. This is not the station talking. All right.

G

Glenn Holt 53:59

And you have one more minute to talk. So say something, okay, something



54:02

something something they're gonna make.

G

Glenn Holt 54:05

We have JD Doyle coming up in the next hour. And as I have been plugging throughout the program here for his October edition of queer music heritage, he is going to have interviews with Trent phire, which I'm hope I'm pronouncing that right. It's a spelled F U R, E, and the three marries and he's going to have pronouncing



Joan Devlin 54:23

that one right. Three Mary's. Got you



Glenn Holt 54:26

so much. Look, I have your chocolate right. This is popcorn. That's right. And I have it here on this side of the glass.



Jack Valinski 54:34

We the community center is going to have I guess almost sort of like an emergency meeting this Thursday at 7pm at the community center, 803 Hawthorne and my understanding is they're going to be talking about finances, which is probably not good. So if you are able to help out or come by or if you want some more information 7pm 803 Hawthorne and I guess the board's going to be there and most of the tenants in any interested at People should certainly come by.



Glenn Holt 55:02

Okay, time to stop talking



55:13

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 our cultures 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 from the prisoners. Well, I introduced this segment with the song gay spirit by Charlie Murphy, from the 1979 album close to roses. It's one of my favorite gay anthems and here's just a little more of it.



55:58

Meeting Okay, Spirit moving around. Time.



56:18

I'm starting off Tonight Show with an artist who probably would not approve of being played on the radio. In fact, on the back cover of her 1977 album, it says this album is not for public broadcast, until we control our own airwaves. The artist of Linda shear, and her album was called a lesbian portrait. It was subtitled lesbian music for lesbians only. And she was known at the time for performing lesbian only concerts. Even at the Michigan Women's festival, straight

women and bisexuals who are not allowed at her concert. I want to read a bit of her albums liner notes. This album is a record of the music I wrote from 1972 to 1975. I was encouraged to produce and distribute the record on a national scale by my own needs as a lesbian musician, and by the needs of lesbians who wanted and needed lesbian music. My lover Trina and I started out with a small distribution goal and only pressed 400 records. My concerts then in 1975 were for women only. And most of my audience was lesbians. I learned, however, that to passively allow my concert to be mostly lesbians was just not good enough. When I began to aggressively perform for lesbians only, I experienced just how true that was. The power and energy in the room were huge and uniquely beautiful. I began doing lesbian only concerts early in 1976. We continue the distribution to women only. Now Trina and I can no longer distribute the album to straight women. All of the music and lyrics are for lesbians. In that paragraph, women was spelled w i m m i n. That was written in July of 1977. And she wrote this song for her lover Trina.



58:16

That was called for Trina, you mostly heard about lesbian separatism in the late 70s and early 80s. And Linda sheers album is the most vocal musical presentation I've seen of it. I don't know if Linda shear has changed her viewpoint since 1977. But I do know she's still singing as she appears on a various album benefits Ed called high risk the double CD benefits and lesbian community cancer project in Chicago and features mostly artists from that area. I think the CD is interesting because the first disc as mostly artists from the 80s by Jenny Clemens and Paulo Walla wits, and the other disc is very much up to date with Patricia barber Ellen Rozner in a poke group called \$3 bill in many others. For this CD, Linda shear re recorded one of her early songs here is family of woman looking through future window



59:16

that was Linda shear singing family of woman from the benefit CD high risk. I want to mention a little more lesbian history. One of the very earliest Homophile Movement groups to be organized was the daughters of politesse and 1955 in San Francisco. They took their name from a book by French poet Pierre Luiz called Songs of delight is written in 1894. The book is a glorification of sapphic love. The reason I mentioned this is because I found a very rare album called knights of love in Lesbos. It's subtitled A frankly an image description of a sensuous young girl's lesbian desires. The album is reading from songs of colitis, and I'm quite surprised that it was released in 19 Six She too. Here's a little bit from that album. The love of women is the most beautiful of all that mortal sin



1:00:14

again, that was from the 1962 album, Knights of love in Lesbos. The cover of the album was perhaps a bit exploitive, and you can see a scan of it had my website, along with photos of all the artists and recordings heard on tonight's show, along with the playlist, it's found at www.queer-music-heritage.com



1:00:44

wanted to Is this me too. This is Sonia disappear of beer. And you're listening to queer music heritage on KPFT in Houston. And also be sure to listen every Saturday night at midnight to after hours with Jimmy Carper. It's queer radio with that community. Me too.



1:01:23

Okay, back to the present. This year trip theory released a new album. And it's got lots of critical acclaim. Many of you know about her very public 20 year relationship with Chris Williamson, which ended a couple of years ago. But you may not know the trip theories career goes back to the early 70s. And she's a very respected woman in the music industry. And that can 72 She did the then unthinkable act of playing guitar on Spencer Davis his album mousetrap. It was indeed very rare for a woman to play guitar on a rock album. She released her own album in 1973 and aceso thing that she got get support on it from such artists has Van Dyke Parks and Bonnie Raitt. trentodoc released her second album and toned it at four, this time on a division of Olivia records. She spent the preceding 10 years learning the engineering end of the recording business and became well respected in that area as well. During the 90s, most of her releases were with Chris Williamson. Her new album is our first solo album in 11 years. I belong to an internet game music discussion group called out boys, and it has a website where you can vote for your favorite albums and tracks at www.outvoice.com. On the voice charts. Tourettes album back home has been number one for the last 23 weeks. From it, here's bringing up the girl



1:02:51

that was bringing up the girl by TREF URI. In addition to this show, I'm also co producer of a music segment called audio file that appears on this way out on this station and about 100 others. Earlier this year, we featured Trump's new album and got an interview from her. Here's a clip from that interview where she talks about her music, her breakup with Chris Williamson, and where she sees herself today.



1:03:13

Hi, my name is Trent fury, and I have a new CD out called back home. And it's a CD that takes me back to my roots, the roots of folk music. It's the first acoustic CD I've done in 30 years and the first solo CD I've done in 11 years. And it really is a CD about coming home. Coming back. It's a CD, that is actually a journey about the last two years of my life. Two years have been a great struggle and a great change as I left a 20 year relationship with Chris Williamson to strike out on my own. So there's a lot of depth to this CD, I would say there's a lot of struggle, as I've mentioned. And there's a lot of hope in it. It's a CD that has come out of a difficult time. And it's a time I've gotten through, not so much on my own. But with the help of of so many my audience. My audience is primarily women. And I'm a very out lesbian in that circle of women. And they have watched this transition being a public figure, they have watched me leave a relationship that was actually a relationship that was a role model for a lot of women. Because Chris and I were happy and together for so long. And I've become something else now to those women, I'd say. I think for a lot of them. I've shown that there. It takes a lot of courage to make change. But that change is the essence of our beings. And that change is necessary. And if you are not happy you must make a change in your life and making the change I have though it

upset a tremendous population of women. I think people have come around to the other side with us in this journey and have helped tremendously in offering encouragement and an offering a chance to be to be myself to be who I am. But it wasn't easy, was not an easy decision to make, to personally and professionally leave a relationship that has held me safely for so long. But it was a change that I had to make. And I thank my audience for helping me through that time for encouraging me, encouraging me with email, letters, supporting concerts. You know, I think I think we all face these decisions in our life, men and women. And it takes a great deal of courage. It takes a great deal of faith. And I have that faith, and I see it in others. And that's a wonderful thing. You know, Chris and I were a singular entity for a long time. So it was really hard to make that decision to go. But I needed to find my own music, I needed to find my own soul. And I just want to thank all the audience who has helped me through this very difficult time. So this album really deals with all the changes in my life. All the changes in my love, all the changes in my heart



1:06:20

that was this train from trip furries new album back home. I want to go now to something quite different. Back in the early 70s. David Bowie was it his Ziggy Stardust days, and what we now think of as glam rock was probably at its peak. There was a promoter named Jerry Bryant, who booked the Rolling Stones first American tour, and who manage Carly Simon. He saw a chance to market the American answer to David Bowie, when he discovered a singer named Bruce Wayne Campbell. Campbell had been performing in one of the first cast of hair and in a local band, but a done little else. Brand got him signed to Elektra Records for the then stupendous sum of \$300,000 and the hype began. By this time, Campbell was known as Joe Bryan. His first album just called Joe Bryan at first received considerable praise. But his live show had some stumbling blocks. He was booked in January 1974 for the TV show Midnight Special. But promoters panic when they heard him rehearse his song, take me I'm yours with its line. I'm a slave to your perversity, and the promoters would only allow him to do a much tamer number. That coupled with his being very out. He had announced I'm a true fairy, limited his radio exposure, and the marketing hype quickly lost its steam from his first album, here's a song he wasn't allowed to sing on Midnight Special. Take me I'm yours. Followed by probably his most out lyrically song, I have a man



1:07:55

a second Joe Bryan album called creatures of the street, was released in spring of 1974. But by then, whatever momentum his career had was gone, and the late 70s He eke out an existence hustling on the streets of New York, and singing and piano bars under the name Cole Berlin. He died of AIDS in 1983 at age 37. And the years that followed, he acquired a bit of a cult following, and artists like Morrissey and Neil Tennant of the Pet Shop Boys have voiced their respect for his work. It is of course difficult to say if Joe Bryan career would have taken a different direction had the music industry then been more accepting of an openly gay rocker. Next up is a song by Thelma ustun Most of you will know her from her huge disco hit. Don't leave me this way, which reached number one in 1976. But she also recorded a very gay song that year for the movie, Norman is that you? The movie starred red fox and pro Bailey and the premise was they're finding out that their son was gay. I'm dating a white man. Here's the movies title song called One out of every six out of every six and



1:09:07

that was still my Houston singing one out of every six from the movie, Norman, is that you? In 1992, a lesbian group called Destiny released their cassette simply called destiny. I've played their music before my show, and I think this release was excellent. It did not get the exposure it deserved. The group was from Philadelphia and was made up of Mary Jo parents CEO, Mary apt, and I in a bidding from that album, here's the song called destiny. I really believe



1:09:41

singing lead on that song was Mary Jo Perrin Zeno. I just loved the power of her voice. I played that song for a reason. The group destiny is no more but the two Mary's from that group are now part of a new group called the three Mary's. When I heard about this group, I couldn't wait to get the CD because the group also contains It's a former member of one of my all time favorite gay groups. The flirtations. John Arterton, one of that group's original members is now living in Provincetown. And he is the third member of the three Mary's from their debut album called the three Mary's. Here is a right. Okay, you win 12123 Okay.



1:10:28

In addition to being very pleased about this album, I'm also pleased that the group members gave me an interview. Do I admit that they seem to be having such a good time? It's hard to get a word in.



1:10:38

Hello, this is the three Mary's John here. Mary Jo, Mary. And we are the three Mary's province dance favorite close harmony singing group. And now the world.



1:10:50

Yes, yes. And the name of our CD is the three Mary's



1:10:54

it's a CD with 11 cuts on it. And I would say what about half of them are political in in one way or another? Sure, you're right. We're very out. We sing about our gayness. Do we not? Yes, we



1:11:09

do. We are gay. We are gay.





1:11:12

Our audiences vary from families to straight couples to gay and lesbian couples to bisexual people transgendered. The audiences are definitely a great mix of the world of the culture.



1:11:27

How did you guys become a group?



1:11:29

We, we got started about three years ago. Obviously, we all came with a lot of musical backgrounds, me with a flirtations and Mary and Mary Jo, who've been together for 27 years, by the way, they had wonderful out lesbian group called Destiny based out of Philadelphia. And so it just seemed like a perfect queer marriage for the three of us to be performing together. A lot of people who are not in Provincetown don't quite understand why we're the three Mary's but



1:11:59

because we are the three Mary's you're the biggest Mary I've ever met. It's true.



1:12:02

I am, you are you are. But only in Provincetown. A lot of people don't understand that gay men are called married.



1:12:10

Well, that's true. I had to move to Provincetown. In order to find out that Mary was a boy's name. Imagine my surprise. I've been called Mary all my life walking down the street. Somebody said, Hey, Mary, and there were about 15. Guys, it turned around, I thought, what's up with that? Wait a minute.



1:12:26

How does the new group compare with the two former groups.



1:12:29

As for our musical style, I think it's sort of a melding of our past two groups, the flirtations in Destiny. We do a lot of numbers which are acapella, like the flirtations, and even in those songs where we do use of piano, we're very conscious about keeping the texture very skeletal so that the lyric can really come through in a way that can't be missed. So in some sense, this is a very

similar experience to my singing with the flirtations. In other sense, it's it's very different. flirts really came together to be formed as a singing group. And we didn't know each other before we came together, the three Mary's we became fast friends and dinner partners, long before we ever thought about performing together. And so the flirts had 13 different incarnations, with 11 different singers through the years. And I think our identity is inseparable from from our friendship as the two marries and this other marry in the middle of the interloper, the male of the group, someone's got to bring testosterone to the group besides Mary Jo.



1:13:42

It's a whole new world for us, because in our thinking, living in Philadelphia and forming destiny, it was a lesbian thing, and it was women and we did everything with that kind of mindset. And I don't know you were just a natural addition. John, I



1:14:00

don't I don't know about that. I've always been a Mary, I think you always have been a professional Mary. But there actually aren't too many groups that actually have men and women performing side by side. And our our fans tell us that that's a really powerful part of what we do.



1:14:19

Mary Jo, I love your song homophobic blues, can you tell us about it?



1:14:24

I wrote homophobic blues. For my brother Anthony. I had gone to tell my parents that I had been that I was a lesbian. After being with Mary for eight years, I called a family meeting with my mom and dad and my brother Anthony, and my sister in law and grace, told them I was a lesbian. And the result of it was that my brother called me when I got home and told me that I would never see his children again, among other things. And so this song was inspired by that discussion with my brother Anthony.



1:14:50

Has there been a change of heart? Well,



1:14:53

it's been a bunch of years, because the children were born with marry not being together. So they're in college now but And my brother actually has come to the first concert to see the three Mary's and his first concert. And he called me to tell me that he would like to get to know me and that he loves me. And he came to the concert and heard the song and he wants

everybody to know that that was then and this is now and he's not an Archie Bunker. And so I'm cautiously optimistic. So there you go. Life's journey can sometimes be very fulfilling. You're not my judge, or my jury.



1:15:32

just call us Mathari. Oh, man. It's the three Mary's. It's Mary Jo.



1:15:43

This is Mary app. This is John



1:15:45

and we're the three Mary's in Provincetown. And you're listening to queer music heritage on KPFT in Houston. Yeah.



1:15:57

I want to thank you all for tuning into the show. And I especially want to thank the three Mary's and Tripp theory for the interviews. If you have questions or comments about any of the music I featured, please email me at aol.com This is Jay Doyle for Lesbian 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. I'm closing the show tonight with one more song by the three Mary's. It was originally a flirtation song, and I love both versions. It's become somewhat of an anthem has been recorded by many gay and lesbian courses. I'll let John Arterton introduce the song, something inside so strong.



1:16:39

We end a lot of our shows with the song Something inside so strong, which of course was a flirtation song and it really comes out of the freedom movement in South Africa, I guess we believe that the fight for civil rights that we are engaged in as gay and lesbian people is akin to other people's struggles for civil rights around the world. Hi, are you bail geni?



Glenn Holt 1:17:16

You have been listening to lesbian and gay voices heard each Monday at 8pm here on KPFT. publicly funded Pacifica network station, lesbian and gay voices is produced live in Houston with recorded segments from this way out, which is produced at KPFT in Los Angeles. The executive producer is Jack Wolinsky on air voices are Joan Devlin Glenn Holt JD Doyle and Jack Valinski. JD Doyle's we're music heritage is pre recorded and earned on the fourth Monday of

every month. You can write to us at PO Box 66071 Houston, Texas 77266 or email to LGV news@aol.com. This is the sound of Texas 90.1 FM KPFT in Houston. for lesbian and gay voices, I'm Glenn fault