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SPEAKERS

Kay Harper

K

Kay Harper 00:03

Can you tell me a little bit about what's happening in your community and your response as

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00:06

a black lesbian to what's been happening in the last few days?

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00:09

Well, what's happening in my community is a tremendous sense of overwhelm. I think people expected a reaction. I don't think anyone expected as intense reaction is actually happened. And I think what these days have been about is a real clear signal that everyone has to take it very personally, that things are not working in the system

♀

00:35

that was lesbian activist and performer. I have Femi for Lion who spoke with this way as Josie Kataria. While the ruins still smoldered around her in an occupied South Central LA. In the aftermath of the uprising that sparked worldwide response. Gays and lesbians are among the city's many constituencies wondering who will lead the way to substantive change? What can be expected for example, from the incoming police chief, Philadelphia's Willie Williams will be LA's first African American police chief. And he will also be the first chief in LA to have been chosen from outside the department in many, many years. Greg Gordon as this way, our correspondent while and in Philadelphia to describe Chief Williams record with the gay and lesbian community, their

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01:19

relationship has been good. Williams is I think, a wonderful politician for the type of position that he's in. Because he manages to hit the issues in the right places for the right people at the right time. You can put his handling of the riot that took place here on September 12 when President Bush visited the city, and the police attacked ACT UP members and anyone that they perceived to be gay, viciously. And there was such an outcry from the community that he allowed a commission to be set up independent of the police force that would look into the allegations. And they actually did condemn the police that were involved in this action and the city ended up paying.



02:03

Did Williams have any public comments on the Commission's ruling,



02:06

he did backup the commission. And he did say that, you know, the police were in the wrong but to be fair, he was fair, even according to the commission, a very small number of police officers actually were brutal. I don't know about other cities that the Fraternal Order of Police here really is very strong. He went so far as to buck the FOP over the September 12 incident and allowed the independent citizens commission to be set up. The Philadelphia police force has been recruiting openly gay people. For at least four years. They set up a table outside of Giovanni's Room the gay and lesbian bookstore here, and we're openly recruiting gay and lesbian police officers, all the major television stations showed up. I don't know of any letter on the force at this point. But they they have tried, Robert



03:00

now how does Willie Williams departure for Los Angeles affect you folks in Philadelphia,



03:05

I think it'll be much better. Mayor Ed Rendell has been a good friend of the gay community for many, many years. To the point that he hosted the Philadelphia gay news lambda awards this year as mayor, I'm sure that he will pick someone who is very gay friendly, and that will get some of the things that we've been looking for such as the high level of training that we need around gay and lesbian issues. Willie Williams inherited a police force that has come a long way since the Rizzo years when the Philadelphia police force was looked upon as Storm Troopers, similar to what you've got out in LA. And Williams, inherited a lot of really good programs that had already been put in place. It's not to say that he wasn't good. But I think the interesting thing is going to be seeing whether he can come in fresh and start these programs brand new and a city that just was in riot.



04:03

The Liaison Group that will be working with incoming chief Willie Williams is the Los Angeles

gay and lesbian police Advisory Task Force. Lucia Chapelle as co chair John Fairey about developments in police community relations and what he expects in the future.



04:18

In the past year, we've seen a marked improvement in LAPD attitudes towards us mostly related to the seven gay and lesbian officers that came out last year during Christmas Street West. The sort of language and the sort of attitudes that are displayed, at least in front of these officers has been very much controlled. They are walking on eggshells around these particular offices to not alienate them, and as a result, jeopardize their own careers. There still is significant distrust of police officers by many gays and lesbians. And as a result, many hate crimes do not get reported to the police and one of the focuses Our task force is to try and convince the gay and lesbian public that they must report all hate crimes, we must give the police the tools that they need to respond to these hate crimes. And then if they do not take appropriate action, we will go to work. Half of LAPD has less than five years. This is not the previous two generations. This is the current generation. This is a group of people that in many cases have grown up around cultural diversity. Many are black, many are Hispanic, many are women. Many are Asian. And many of these people simply don't care what we do in private. And of course, we also know as they do that there are at least three four or 500 Gay and Lesbian officers on the force already.



05:43

The taskforce also had a meeting with our incoming police chief Willie Williams, can you tell us some about that?



05:49

Yes. A few days after Mr. Williams came to town, he requested a meeting with us with the task force. And all of the right things were said at the meeting. And we're very hopeful that he will actually make good on all of the all the promises. The first thing and he said is that his basic policy is one of inclusion. With respect to us, he did not understand why there was a problem in having a basic recruiting effort at an event such as CSW, he was willing to assign one person in the department to handle all complaints regarding discrimination against gay and lesbian officers, he did indicate that he's very much in support of those types of policies.



06:33

And with your connection with the police commission, you'd be able to put a little pressure there to make sure that some of those promises come through.



06:44

Well, I think our attitude will be that we will work with this man, this particular person in our view does seem to be a good choice, he'll bring a fresh perspective into the department. And we think that he will act in good faith. However, we did make it very clear during the meeting

WE THINK THAT HE WILL ACT IN GOOD FAITH. HOWEVER, WE DID MAKE IT VERY CLEAR DURING THE MEETING that we will be watching that we expect him to act in good faith, and that we will take action through the police commission if he does not implement the kind of policies that we feel are fair for everyone.



07:35

The civil unrest in LA and other major cities bespeaks the need for more than peace, and certainly more than improved law enforcement. I offend me for Lyon reflects on the fundamental need to work together toward justice for all, and the gay and lesbian communities roll with Josie kotoge to



07:52

just like after at one on one, I mean, people are trying to look for how to bring the communities together. And for me, what's important is that there really be a long term commitment to change. Because I think what we see so often is that there's energy, there's a response things foment and build up, and then it just fizzles away. How about the cleanup campaign? I think that a lot of different organizations have really pulled together in terms of doing the cleanup, I think that's been really exciting to see. I've also seen a lot of volunteers because not only are people being left homeless and jobless by the destruction, I mean, the electrical power has been out, street lights have been interrupted. And I've seen volunteers, you know, coordinating traffic, I've seen volunteers physically doing cleanup work. And that's really encouraging because that's a real, concrete, practical level. And I think that's been important for me to see because one of the things in the first few hours of this was I heard a comment from another activist in the gay lesbian community said, Well, I don't feel comfortable being around the straight African American community. And I want to be around people that I feel comfortable with, you know, and it's like, I was really concerned that people were going to pull in sort of individual personal kinds of responses. And I'm really glad to see people pulling together and to community wide responses. The issue here is responding to the lack of justice in our judicial system, in beginning to think about community responses for creating change, and looking at long term strategies for rebuilding our community. This has permanently changed the landscape of Los Angeles not just physically in terms of the burned out buildings, but emotionally and spiritually if we don't really pay attention to what's changed in this environment, and really pull together around it. We're going to be lost



09:47

thanks for tuning into this way out the international lesbian and gay radio magazine this week, Cindy Friedman, Mark sock Amano. John D. Keith brand Josie Guiteau Geo and Keith Clark contributed program material Thanks also to John ferry, Bert violin. I our family for Lyon rose Gordon and magic media services.



10:06

Annie Lennox, Tom Petty and Sweet Honey in the Rock performed some of the music you heard, and Kim Wilson composed and performed our theme music.



10:14

This way out is brought to you each week by a staff of community volunteers and a sustained by financial support from the community. Funding for satellite distribution and some expenses has been provided by the Paul Rapoport Foundation and the funding exchange.



10:26

audio cassettes of this way out programs are available by mail individually or by subscription. Write to us for more information.



10:33

Of course, we'd also like to hear from you with any comments, suggestions or questions you might have or just to let us know you're listening right to this way out. Post Office Box 38327 Los Angeles, California 90038. And be sure to include this station you hear us on. This way out is produced by Greg Gordon and Alicia Chapelle and we thank you for listening on K O S. Olympia, CJ M Windsor and WBA New York City among others and for supporting your local community radio station,



11:02

y'all please stay tuned.



Kay Harper 11:07

And we're back. And this is long distance, dedication. Time. Sure is almost that somebody who used to work with after hours is in Memphis, Tennessee, who's calling to say hello. Hey, Kevin. Are you there? Hey, Kevin,



11:29

can you hear me?



Kay Harper 11:30

Yeah, there you are. How are you?



11:33

Fine. Can you hear me? Okay? Yeah, I'm on my mobile phone. I come in and clear.

K

Kay Harper 11:38

Yeah, you're coming in clear. A mobile phone.

∅

11:41

You sound very, very good on the air. Okay.

K

Kay Harper 11:44

Thank you.

∅

11:45

What a second. Hang on. So hear me. Yes. I

K

Kay Harper 11:48

can still hear, you

∅

11:50

know, after hours after hours. sounds real good.

K

Kay Harper 11:53

It's reaching all the way to Memphis now. Well,

∅

11:57

now it's a big cellular link. Yeah, we're gonna struggle. Really, after hours. sounds real good. And you guys sound real good. I just wanted to say hello to Houston and to Kay Harper, and to

K

Kay Harper 12:11

Jim O'Brien, Joe

∅

12:12

Gray, and to all the wonderful people that are putting after hours on today, because they're probably lots of young kids sitting at home in the dark going, God, I wish I could come out and be strong and, and one day, we'll too. Right?

Kay Harper 12:26

Yeah, right.

12:29

So what's going on with after hours these days?

Kay Harper 12:33

Oh, we're doing lots of things tonight. We're doing lesbians and safer sex and HIV. Imagine? Hey, I'd like to Yeah. He's gone. Well, he went away somewhere. I don't know. cellular phones in Tennessee just died.

12:55

Some homophobe and Tennessee just cut off everything so he can talk to us.

Kay Harper 13:01

Well, hey, I lived in Tennessee in Memphis for a couple of years. I'm willing to believe that buki Did you live in Memphis or West Memphis? I lived in Memphis Memphis. I went to school right across the street from the park where they have like green polar bears. Office alive Tell me. I don't know. Is that office really live.

13:19

I thought everybody from Memphis knew. Hey grid only Memphis Memphis. Sonian snow.

Kay Harper 13:24

I lived in Memphis for two years and drove forgot to call you know, I drove by the Gates of Graceland once when we got lost going to a movie theater. That's how I find it. Yeah. Don't call we love the king. We are only kidding. We love that King. You're not sorry. We're just not used to you. Yeah, yeah, that's okay. Yeah, when I get lost I always seem to end up in Port Arthur or someplace so I like I like your idea that much better. That's lost. You can only get one one

degree more lost. That's orange, Texas. You know, they're all kind of the same thing. Yeah, really? Beaumont or sport author? They're all Niederlande or something? I don't know. K What do you have here?



14:09

outerwear? I love this. I love these double these women's boxer shorts here with lesbian symbols on a girl's model. Hey, yeah, and models here.



Kay Harper 14:20

Well, I wasn't here last week I went away. And I and had a great time at God. I had a wonderful time at the Texas lesbian conference. And And where was it? It was in Dallas at the Southland satellite Park Hotel or something? I don't know it was in the middle of downtown don't have a conference in the middle of downtown on a weekend. Yeah, there's no place to eat. If you don't like hotel food, you're stuck. They make nasty comments when you order pizza. But one of the things that that I did was collected lots and lots of pieces of paper which I now have spread all over the control room, but we like it, huh? But we like it. I was looking at this going through this catalog during this way out and it was amazing. I love it. It's like a T shirt catalog and it's called outerwear and it's outerwear for the discriminating lesbian try who who likes her T shirts?



15:22

Yes for these are fine to use. Oh yeah. Clothes with the statement we're wearing them are.



Kay Harper 15:28

Yes, yes they are page to the top right when I got on this page three four times here. Yeah, they've got like a nice shirt with two naked women sleeping together. It's it's nice. In a sexual embrace. I noticed my eyebrows did go up. I didn't notice. And you know, just a t shirt with a labyrinth and a pink triangle and a woman symbol. And one says we're everywhere. Yeah, there's there's lots of neat stuff. And if you're interested in finding out more about that, we can give you the address. So if you call we can give you the address. And Kevin came back mobile phones work in Memphis skin. Phone. The phones work this button. This button. Are you there? Yeah. Oh you're staticky. Now. Can you hear me? You're a real staticky.



16:25

Oh, God, can you hear me at all? Yeah, I can hear you. Okay, right. It's really right to say that, you know, you guys are doing a great job. Jim tells me that you guys are wonderful. And it sounds like it. And I'm doing a very, very different kind of work here in Memphis. And Jim will tell you about it. I don't think we can mention it off the air or on the air, I should say. But in the work I'm doing, we use the word when things are really great. We say that they're strong. And we said that they're positive. And let me tell you, okay, and I mean this from the bottom of my heart, after our sounds real strong. Well, thank you. It really does.



Kay Harper 17:07

So before you go away, tell me about gay life in Memphis when I lived there. I wasn't out.



17:13

to MSU I'm going to MSU State University. Oh,



Kay Harper 17:16

no, I went to well, it's now Rhodes. I went to Southwestern at Memphis.



17:20

Okay, I went to the well, emotionally that you were going to miss the state. But anyway, yeah, there's a there's a very nice bookstore owned by two women called meristem, if you can imagine, like an all female logo, or Inklings mass then is that different papers that are published here, won by the Game Loot lesbian student organization and Memphis state. There's one called Tristar, there's one called UniStar. And there's one called the triangle news. It's very informative. The gay people here stay very, very on top of what's going on in politics, all over the world. And it's really very impressive because leaving Houston such a small, such a large, cosmopolitan city coming to such a small one, I was very skeptical about you know, how on top people would be Yeah, and I really are. Well, that's



Kay Harper 18:15

good. I'm glad to hear that. Yeah. I mean, Memphis was a fun city to live in.



18:20

Yeah. But it's not a place to stay all your life kind of thing.



Kay Harper 18:24

And know, a place with green polar bears in the zoo is not a place to live.



18:28

Yeah. Well, I just wanted to say I love you guys. And I miss you all and take care and, and listen to after hours and support. KPFT Houston.

K

Kay Harper 18:37

Thank you much. You take care of calling. Love you too. Bye. Bye. All right, so great. Yeah, that was fun. Now, what's

O

18:47

the story here? I used to do a program or used to work here for after hours.

K

Kay Harper 18:51

Well, he worked for after hours. And then he did a program called beat box. And then he went to Memphis

O

18:58

and probably trying to do something in Memphis

K

Kay Harper 19:02

education, I'm willing to bet that he's going to be doing something and he's working at Memphis state are not working in Memphis state but going to Memphis state and sounds like he's involved in lots of things.

O

19:13

Just was gonna be lucky to have him as an addition now. Oh, yeah.

K

Kay Harper 19:17

So young man with lots of energy.

O

19:20

We got some things to, to read some announcements and stuff. Are we going to? Yeah, some of that. One of

K

Kay Harper 19:27

the things that Kevin mentioned was the fact that after hours is listened to by a lot of young people and now I can't find my phone number that I wanted to give out. Oh, that was a little

piece. Yeah, it was a little piece of paper. A lot of pink paper here. This one lots of pink paper, but I found it. There's a group in Austin called Out Youth and they are very similar to smile and to hatch here in Houston. Although they they're a little different in that they've got a space, the wider view CCA has donated space for them to meet. And they also have a line that is strictly for youth from like 15 to 20. And it's an 800 number. Great 800 Number. Yeah, we'll pay for it. Yeah, that means you don't pay for it and that we can call them. Yeah, we can call Houston. Great. Yeah. And it's I know that that switchboard sometimes when I, when I'm on the phones at switchboard, I feel kind of lost, talking to young gay people, because I didn't come out until I was past being a young gay person. I think that's a nice way of saying I was 24. And I just I don't, I don't understand. But there is no average age to come out. Come out at 15 like I did, or you can come out at 20 or 30, or 50 or 67. And I know people who've come out that late, but it's nice to be able to talk to someone who is your age? Who knows what it's like to be gay and in high school.



21:06

Yeah. High School. Yeah. God,



Kay Harper 21:09

that I was taken to the principal's office for writing the double female symbols everywhere on walls, and specifically on an all wood trophy case in permanent purple marker. Oh, it was me my principal. It's,



21:24

hey, that's wonderful. We always do.



Kay Harper 21:27

That's a spin and forward. It's and which school was this? No, I'm just interested in Houston in Houston. Okay. But anyway, um, the talk line, which is what they call their, their line for people to call in on is 1-800-969-6884. And if you can like spell on the telephone, which I don't do very well. But if you can do that it's one 896 youth. And they're there from 530 to 930. Every day. And if you are hearing impaired, they also have a TTY machine. Yeah, great. That's all right. They're like, way up.



22:14

Very, that's exciting.



Kay Harper 22:17

For young folks, yes. Um, and I just got a note that somebody else went to the outdoor concert

tonight. His name is Ralph. And he said he went to the ultra sore concert tonight and loved it. It was a wonderful concert. I also have discovered a new band here in town that I like, which is all men, surprisingly enough, but they're, they're fantastic. And they're nice. vientos. They play it to rascals and they've all lives beyond. No, no. Run it by me. You know, los viendo los via dos. I



22:51

thought, let's be honest.



Kay Harper 22:53

No, no, they were all guys heard about. But they they played all sorts of very interesting instruments. I mean, you know, a comb and a cool, and a gourd kind of thing. Yeah. And this like, it looks like a bitty tiny guitar on the front, I guess a ukulele excise kind of thing. But the back was an armadillo shell. Cool. It was incredible instruments. But did you dance? No. Actually, we did dance to the wedding. That was next door. They had some great music. So we were dancing in the



23:25

lobby, great music and free food. I love weddings.



Kay Harper 23:29

We didn't get married doesn't matter. I'm the guy who didn't go in. We just danced in the lobby confused the constables who are out there protecting us. So what else is going on? You've got things that are highlighted. Could you please do me a favor and wrestle? Wrestle some paper form? Here



23:47

we go with the wrestling paper.



Kay Harper 23:49

That just sounds so intelligent. I just love that on the radio. Hey.



23:53

I wanted to say that we talked to Keith Patro earlier and I promised cute patrol that we would talk about their organization and give you a number for to call for. If you want to volunteer you want to help donate or something. You can call Keith Stewart at 5245110 or mark Gardner at five Excuse me 6455252 Or you can write Q patrol at peal box 66973 Sweet 1017 Houston,

Texas 77266. So if you're interested in patrolling, I think he said it was once a month. I think they do five hour shift once a month. If you're interested in patrolling, get all the people queued patrol, they'll give you some training. And you'll get a t shirt and you can be out on the streets in no time. In no time. Yeah. And you can see you can see we froze for have a different perspective if if you haven't been down there in not a partying mood, this is a different perspective. You could see the streets at night downtown in Montrose. So come on down and join Q Patrol and give them a help patrolling our playgrounds out here.

K

Kay Harper 24:56

Yeah, get involved with that community spirit. It's a lot of fun to go in a group of people and literally walk the streets of your town. I mean, it really fills you with a sense of pride and empowerment. So participation, participation.

Ω

25:35

Great, great stuff.

K

Kay Harper 25:37

I still want to know how a Pio box has a suite in it.

Ω

25:40

Yeah, I wondered that myself. You know, I've

K

Kay Harper 25:42

got one and it's like big enough for for three or four letters about decks of cards. Yeah, but you couldn't put a whole suite in Right? Right. That's

Ω

25:51

pretty interesting. I don't know how they do it. But you know, these guys that Q Patrol can do almost there.

K

Kay Harper 25:55

They're talented people over nation. Yes, they can.

Ω

25:59

There were a couple other things we wanted to tell people about. We wanted to talk to people little about the Crossroads is going to be where's my information on crossroads? I'm

Kay Harper 26:08

not sure what they're probably doing a grand opening. I've been it's night now. We're thinking of two different things. Oh, I've been to Crossroads market. So it's a new bookstore, or Yeah, it's a lot of fun. Yeah, in there. They've got in my incense for much cheaper than Whole Foods. So I'm all in favor, cheaper than Whole Foods, cheaper than Whole Foods that's

26:30

really reaching. Well, we're looking for the two of the crossroad

Kay Harper 26:33

things we're looking for is a story about this year's Crossroads events. It's an event that was held last year at Bell park, to memorialize people who've gone on before passed away due to HIV and AIDS. And it's, it was a symbolic kind of remembrance. Last year, some people got together and wrote names on crosses, and dark David's and other assorted symbols, and their loved ones and the people that were there to remember them donated like \$5 to the charity and went and put their name and their symbol on the ground. And when you looked across at all the people's names and symbols, it was just an amazing statement. There was there was singing and music and a couple people spoke. And it was a very, very wonderful event. There was some there was some problem in the community from I believe it was Stan Sanders and the American gay atheists. Right and Left we Perez and I and Leslie pres, that's right, Leslie was is obviously well, Leslie's an atheist. And she was very upset that people's names were put on crosses, she was worried that maybe the people didn't choose that themselves. In other words, if you are a gay atheist, man who died of AIDS and your Christian mother came along and wanted to remember you, then she could buy a cross and put your name on the cross and, and you would be remembered on a cross. And yet you were a gay person. And you were an atheist. And you wouldn't want that. Well, basically, I'm not sure exactly how that ties in to this year's story, but there is a bit of controversy over it. And I'm assured that, you know, you would be remembered in the way that your loved ones wish to show their memory of you

28:47

that that's going to be the Crossroads is observed this time to coincide with the 11th anniversary of the first AIDS diagnosis in the Houston area. So that's, that's why they pick this time. It'll be 7pm. Bell park at the corner of Montrose and banks. And there is a small feed to help defray the cost of putting this together. If you're interested in volunteering. You can call Oh, God. Somebody with a name? Yes. Claire Codsall. Okay, at 5221810. So if you're interested, what day is this? It's Friday, the fifth Friday the fifth. So that's coming out. Yeah, pretty soon. And it's going to be one of those things that we'll be talking about around here for months after. Yeah. So over so if you're interested in participating in a big community event, this would be a good time to come out and participate and get involved with something that's real

important in the community. There'll be lots of ways religious and nonreligious to express remembrance of someone you knew or someone that you loved. So come on out and, and participate in this either volunteer or just come out and participate that evening. I know I'll be there and and a lot of my friends will be. Yeah. So come on out and participate. There was something else that was really interesting this week.

 K Kay Harper 30:23

Well, let me let somebody else talk for a second. Okay, wait a second. What are we doing here? You can make button students

 30:49

know it's not Godzilla. It's big Jesus trash can with the dumpster Monday night or Tuesday morning at midnight, whatever. Five and a half hours of everything from classic cover songs to all outwardness That's Tuesday morning on the only station with a guts enough to give big Jesus his own program KPFT Houston. Hey, man, you can eat that

 31:24

listeners should be aware that the following program contains language and audio images which may be found disturbing and may not be suitable for your snotty nose little brat who probably causes like a sailor behind your back anyway. Parental discretion is advised.

 K Kay Harper 31:52

Okay, push a button and nothing happens. That's story of my life this week.

 31:57

All eyes go big.

 K Kay Harper 32:00

It's like, but

 32:03

didn't you go to the lesbian festival in Dallas?

 K Kay Harper 32:06

Well, it was a conference. But yes, I went. Actually I spent more time I think in the exhibitors office. It was very festive. It was very fun. 700 people came to here Kate Clinton. Friend of mine, Jasmine. Sorry, I keep forgetting where three is Mike. Yeah, it's this Menasha TOS sort of Yes. All my member those my sudden shouldn't have a problem remembering all those myself. Just you know, you're not sure what goes. Thank you. Thank you. I have I haven't a clue as to what I was gonna say. Something about jazz who went? Yeah, my friend Jasmine. And she just said six or 700 lesbian women, all of them, you know, right there right in front of you. You can't beat it. It just she had a great time. For everyone that I've talked to when Yeah, it was it was lots of fun. Met some very interesting people like this. I'm going to be sending a tape of this show. To Oh God, a woman I met up there who? Yes, I didn't remember to tuck her card in my pocket. Her name is ILA Davies. And she works with the women's health project up in Dallas. And good work. Thank you. Lots of neat stuff.



33:25

told her I'm the only card you came back with cake. Something Oh, no, I forgot you're married. I forgot. I forgot. I'm married. But I



Kay Harper 33:33

came home with lots more cards than that of say, k. I've known you long enough to know that I'm supposed to pick up a few of these things. Did your woman of choice go with you? Oh, yeah. Oh, that's important that spouses do that kind of stuff together. Yeah, it was lots of fun. Well, we kind of count that as an anniversary because we we got together last year at the TLC so great. It, it's an anniversary. I have now forever.



34:00

It's on record now.



Kay Harper 34:03

But one of the things that that ILA Davies, you know, I told her we were going to be talking about women and lesbians and HIV today. And a subject close to our heart. Yes, very close to our heart, and also told her that we were going to be playing a tape about Harvey Milk and she was all excited because she knew Harvey. Back in San Francisco. She was part of the organizing committee to do the first March, the proposed first march on Washington. So I'm, I'm mentioning that for her and I'm also going to mention the fact that that the women's health project up there is having a women's health fair that's lesbian specific. That will be in Dallas on Saturday, June 27. And if you want more information about that, you can write Pio box 190712 Dallas 75219 And we've got that address if you didn't catch your pencil out in time. And there are people making hand gestures over on the other side of the room, so I guess that means well, I don't blame



35:14



35:14

you. Sign Language.



Kay Harper 35:16

Ooh. Okay, well done then I guess I'll talk about coastal lesbian festivals so that I can like Be a good girl and not pay attention. There are two lesbian festivals, one on each coast. Actually, you could hit both of them if you wanted to the first annual West Coast lesbian festival is going to be happening in Malibu. Very soon, June 5 through seventh. Oh, goodness, and they're performers. I can't pronounce some of the names Alex stop cannot be there. Melanie demore. Sue think Pam Hall, Jun and Jean Millington. The mother tongue feminist theatre collective.



35:56

Oh, boy. I like that one.



Kay Harper 35:57

Yeah, that was a mouthful. I sure. Let's say they have an art gallery. They have all sorts of interesting things. But this is the first one and they're all excited about doing that bright, yellow flyers and I'm excited for them. Yeah. And then a couple of weeks later, the East Coast lesbians are having their festival with some of the same people. I'll Alex stop can sue think Melanie demore. But they're also going to have Marcie Adam and Pam Hall. So basically you could be a groupie for this for this particular group of people and just go from one festival to another if you had lots of money and could afford the airfare



36:45

and we know all of us women have lots of money and can afford airfare course.



Kay Harper 36:49

Let's see. I'm not even sure I'm not even sure where the East Coast festival is going to be held. I would presume somewhere on the East Coast. Well yeah, I'm I'm giving that a pretty good thing. Let's see. Hmm. But if you're interested in going you send money to California last time I checked California Oaks California wasn't the East ah camp location Pennsylvania on the New York Pennsylvania border. I think it's a hoax. Well, I think so. Let's see more paper. Okay, yes. More paper



37:30

these notes just to break your concentration, don't they?

K

Kay Harper 37:33

Well, it just appear out of nowhere. No, they've got a hand attached to them usually been quite capable one it's a guy's head. I don't know how capable he is. But practice I'm willing to believe I've been hearing about the practice for years now. Anyway, East Coast lesbians festival is June 18 through the 21st How about some music We haven't done that. We've been like been real good and doing lots of things. Although switchboard is pushing Houston pride with education and support Nice segue or like, Hey, I'm smooth. Well, that wasn't a UK the wrong stuff at the wrong. That's fine. I mean, switchboard is always an important thing to talk about. And yes,

♂

38:24

it is. We here are very near and dear with the switchboard.

K

Kay Harper 38:27

Well, both you and I have been involved with switchboard and volunteers from switchboard answer phones here, right some nights. And I'm sure everybody has called switchboard once or twice. Yeah, well, I was laughing Dion's flirting with me. I was leaving an opening for Diane to say something and she just was gonna jump in about Pride Week. Pride we Houston Lesbian Gay Pride Week 92 Lesbian Gay are in even years. Really? Yeah. I wondered which was which even yours is lesbian gay odd years is gay lesbian. Okay. Yeah, well, probably doing bar decorations this year. And I was hoping someone else would have this information and could be talking about it while I was. Thank you be looking for that while I was chatting. Well, the way that that switchboard and Pride Week tie in together is very important is very important. Houston has their honorary grand marshals every year.

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39:32

And the criteria for that, you know, was we got

K

Kay Harper 39:37

it? Yeah, being gay and lesbian or being being supportive and being gay and being a community. Something to better the community. That's basically it. Yeah. And it's usually a person and this year, the gay and lesbian switchboard is going to be the honorary Grand Marshal. Yeah. Partly, I think to come them right the fact that switchboard has been around for 10 years, right? It's very it's very good organization. The switchboard is been great. What is What are you looking at right here that says, switchboard on it. You want to read that again. I'm saying that switchboard pushes Houston pride with education and support. Talks. It's a an article in the twit that also talks about why their grand marshals and what they do and things like that. For the last nine years switchboard has flourished under the direction of volunteers and has no paid staff. Somebody who likes big words wrote this, didn't they? It still acts as an information network for the community. And people are encouraged to and or people in

organizations are encouraged to send a news of their activities and services. switchboard also does AIDS education, but not a whole lot to to our community. I think most of people in our community



40:57

are pretty much aware by now. The switchboard is a very,



Kay Harper 41:01

very viable means of information for everyone interested in our community because they have like an information line. I mean, you call them when you have a question if you're if you're traveling in Houston, you call the switchboard if you



41:18

we are the pulse of youth, that's right,



Kay Harper 41:20

no and the switchboard has when you know when they've had some lean years through the past, and it's really become a very up to date center of information. And I have nothing but the highest regards for it for especially this year, especially this year, and just recently, making sure that they're always on top of everything. So thanks to the switchboard. Yeah, they they still have lean years, they still use money to do some support. Definitely it's it's one of the most, if you're looking for cost efficient places to donate money. switchboard is one of the most cost efficient, we run an organization on less than \$10,000 a year that does an incredible amount of service. We take



42:04

about 10,000 calls a year. So that's about \$1 a call. Wow. So that



Kay Harper 42:09

that they need volunteers. They always need volunteers, and there's going to be a new training class. Nice segue, if you ever if you ever call the switchboard and no one's there at that particular time. Well, don't complain about it. Get down there and volunteer a couple hours. Right? Yeah. So that's, that's what you need to do. And yes, Hey, she's pointing the microphone at me. That's my clue. Um, volunteer training class, the next training class is going to be the weekend of June 5 through seventh and the 13th and 14th. It's two weekends, because you're being trained to deal with a lot of different things. It's not a real hard training. It's just very intensive. One of the other things that switchboard does is a hate crimes line. They they take a couple of calls a week on the hate crimes line, which is kind of a another way to coordinate

information. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force is collecting information from all over the country. And a lot of people are, you know, questioning the numbers that the city and state authorities give to Congress. So well, they've just recently been allowed to claim that gay bashing and gay baiting and everything else is a hate crime. And I've just recently been allowed that through the legislation that the Political Caucus worked for, right after the Paul Broussard incident last year. So we've just recently had that as an actual statistic. And unless we as citizens jump up and say, you know, Joe hetero blow down the street called me a fag or whatever. And that is a hate crime, and that is against the law, and he can be given a ticket and sent to jail because of his crime against us. Yeah. And we have to report everything so that they do get accurate numbers and it doesn't get overlooked. Yeah, it's real important that that we report crimes so that we so that we get money to provide services for victims of hate crimes phone number there. Yes. And I've got a phone number for the hate crimes line, which is separate from the switchboard although it's it's staffed by the same people, and but the hate crimes number is 5299615. Yeah. We have some other information about the Pride Week in the bar decorations.



44:47

Well, yeah, there's an article in the twit and I mean in the voice the use of the new voice, and I'd like to take a minute to thank the people at the new voice and the twit for letting us read their information prior To Weaver verbatim out there, realizing Thanks for Thanks for putting this together and for us to use his resources. But I noticed something that I thought was really neat to in the in the voice this week about the Gay, Lesbian Gay Pride Week is bringing back the bar decorations. So they're going to give out the trophies for the bar that decorates in the in the manner of the



Kay Harper 45:29

wood most promote pride equals power right



45:31

promote pride equals power so that they're going to have the bars are going to decorate and there'll be a panel of judges who will go around to the bars and they'll judge based on color, creativity and personal touch and then there'll be trophies given away they'll be judging June the 19th. The bars and the judges will make a tour around to the