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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

gay, lesbian, business, called, people, woman, talk, wear, song, polo, store, wanted, felt, pet shop boys, jimmy, support, heard, rings, listening, houston

SPEAKERS

Speaker 7, Speaker 6, Speaker 4, [Introduction], Speaker 2, Speaker 1, Speaker 5

[Introduction] 00:07

The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature, which may be considered objectionable by some listener discretion is advised.

Speaker 2 00:30

Okay, are we over that song yet? Anybody? Can we take a vote?

Speaker 1 00:35

I'm over that song.

Speaker 2 00:36


Okay. I mean, Scott and I have been talking about months for like changing the theme song for After Hours and well, when you count on Scott for anything, you're never getting done.


Speaker 4 00:45


Yeah, here's your new theme song, bitch.


Speaker 5 00:52


Hey, welcome to After Hours. This is Diane Williams, and you're listening to After Hours on KPFT.


 Speaker 6 01:00
This is Jimmy Carper.


 Speaker 5 01:01
Thank you.


 Speaker 6 01:02
Hey.


 Speaker 5 01:03
Hi, Jimmy.


 Speaker 6 01:04
Hi, Diane.

 Speaker 5 01:05
How are you doing tonight?

 Speaker 6 01:06
I'm great. How are you doing?

 Speaker 5 01:07
I'm feeling good. I'm feeling really good. You know--

 Speaker 6 01:09
Getting close to Christmas.

 Speaker 5 01:11
Getting to feel a lot like Christmas. I'm wild.

S Speaker 6 01:16

I know that's right.

S Speaker 5 01:18

I heard the song and I'm feeling wild. Like as of this moment, as of right now. I'm feeling wild. And I'm about as out as you can probably get, I don't know how much more out I can be. So I think the theme song works. It's new for me, folks. If you haven't noticed, I just heard it. It's a little wild. I like I like the the techno pop kind of thing. Okay. You know, the cat and queens are here to stay. I suppose. That works.

S Speaker 6 01:42

The coming out song that I really liked on Coming Out Day.

S Speaker 5 01:46

Yeah, I like it a lot.

S Speaker 6 01:48

New theme song.

S Speaker 5 01:49

New theme song. What do you think? We like it. So we're here. It's midnight on a Saturday night or a little after? And we're out. We're gay. We're queer. We're here. What else are we?

S Speaker 6 02:01

And you're listening to After Hours, A continuing tradition.

S Speaker 5 02:06

On KPFT 90.1. KPFT. Houston, ABFT, Houston, 90.1. World Radio for the people. Anything else? Okay. Nothing else we can add on there.

S Speaker 6 02:16

Well. let's see. What do we not doing tonight?

Well, let's see. What do we get going tonight.

S

Speaker 5 02:19

Oh, we get a lot of cool things happen. And we have some guests coming in. We're going to talk briefly about gays and lesbians in business. And the reason I'm bringing this up is because the new edition of the Houston gay and lesbian Yellowpages is out. And I just want to bring people's attention to the fact that we're advertising the word gay and lesbian business people. And what a treat that we're able to do that and how, how it's enabled us to help our businesses.

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Speaker 6 02:49

How about the responsibility we as gay and lesbian people have?

S

Speaker 5 02:53

That's right.

S

Speaker 6 02:53

For lesbian business plans.

S

Speaker 5 02:54

That's right. And we need to make sure our money counts. We need to you know, I hate to say it, but we need to take care of our own.

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Speaker 6 03:02

Oh, yeah.

S

Speaker 5 03:03

Yeah, we really do. Because it matters. It matters. It makes a big difference. We're going to be talking to some guests in the studio this evening. We've got some information about Christmas. Hot happenings coming up. We've got Christmas carols, I know you just can't wait.

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Speaker 6 03:20

Dyke the halls and I'll be a homo for Christmas.

S

Speaker 5 03:24

I think that unless I'm sadly mistaken. We have the singing dogs, the dogs singing. The singing dogs are in the house. Singing dogs are gonna bark their jingle bell--

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Speaker 6 03:38

Until you want to scream.

S

Speaker 5 03:41

They're in the house. And we have them caged in the back room. And when you call JAM KPFT and tell us you want to hear him we're gonna let them out just for you. Bark barking dogs. There they come now shaking that case. Okay, well, we like I said, we have some guests in the audience and we'll get to them shortly. I'd love to introduce them to you. And next we've got some music coming up. Are you letting the dogs out? Are you what do you do?

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Speaker 6 04:10

We got somebody else that's gonna stop by.

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Speaker 5 04:12

Yes, we do. Would you like to talk about that?

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Speaker 6 04:15

That's maybe if, I, I suppose I could do that. Yes. Anthony Rios is gonna stop by and tell you about a hot and happening thing to do on New Year's Eve. And, you know, Anthony was here last week as a matter of fact.

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Speaker 5 04:34

I wasn't here though.



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Speaker 6 04:35

We just made him work last week. He had to work it we he was doing the phone business because we were just doing call ins like you wouldn't believe. Well, you do your part here at KPFT. Let me tell you, I got this great letter this week.

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Speaker 5 04:50

-  Speaker 5 04:50
That letter was wonderful. And that was from Wayne. Thank you, Wayne. We read it. We loved it. And we're saying hi to you.
-  Speaker 6 04:57
That's exactly the way I felt.
-  Speaker 5 04:59
It was how I felt too. Wayne wrote us a letter saying that the first time he heard KPFT it felt like, you know, that's the radio station he wanted to listen to. And a little off guard, perhaps avant garde, perhaps. We're a little off our rockers at that time.
-  Speaker 6 05:17
Just a little bit different.
-  Speaker 5 05:18
But we've been here a long time since. Gosh, how long has it been now?
-  Speaker 6 05:22
After Hours has been on the air since September 6 1988.
-  Speaker 5 05:28
88.
-  Speaker 6 05:28
'870 oh my God! It was 87.
-  Speaker 5 05:34
So does this mean you're an old queen?
-  Speaker 6 05:36
Yeah. I joined in March of 88. That's

S

Speaker 5 05:40

oOkay. Oops. 87.

S

Speaker 6 05:42

September 6th. Everybody out there. Remember that? Because you know, having a party shows you might be able to win valuable prizes. You know, September sixth 1987.

S

Speaker 5 05:53

One more time. Ladies, gentlemen, September 6 1987. Okay, so, like I said, we've got Anthony Rios coming down here. Anthony, if you're listening, come on down.

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Speaker 6 06:09

Come on down. Anthony.

S

Speaker 5 06:11

I think we have a couple of business owners here to talk about their ad in gay and lesbian, Yellow Pages and what it meant to them and putting it in there. And if they had to make decisions regarding whether or not they're going to put it in their employees. They, they have some life histories, I'm sure to tell you that we won't take too long, but I'm sure it'll be pretty interesting. I know some of these people. So you never can tell what might pop up on the radio.

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Speaker 6 06:39

We've got all kinds of diverse music that we're going to play

S


Speaker 5 06:41


and the QMZ is here. The QMZ is here to stay boys and girls. And we have the queer music zone with Jimmy for you later on in the show. Yes. The queer quickly--


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Speaker 6 06:53


Starting off, I've got a piece of music that I want to play that came to us via Polo.


 Speaker 5 07:03
And we love you Polo.


 Speaker 6 07:04
Take a look at it for a second here because I forgot this woman's name. Okay.


 Speaker 5 07:09
So Jimmy's running across the room and I'm filling space.


 Speaker 6 07:14
Okay, yeah, Von field Drake.

 Speaker 5 07:17
Doesn't that sound like you know, perfume or something? Yeah. Font or color for wallpaper, fun fields, right? Not not making fun of you here Faun.


 Speaker 6 07:27
Drake wrote and is performing a song called one day and it's in Polo's movie.


 Speaker 5 07:37
The red ribbon, the red and the Red Ribbon is AIDS awareness. And living with AIDS is the Robert foundations.


 Speaker 6 07:43
Right. And it's beautifully put together film about different people, from all walks of life talking about what the AIDS ribbon means to them, it runs about 20 minutes. Polo, Polo did it himself. He got some music through reflections by the Supremes he was given to put in this movie.


 Speaker 5 08:07
That's great.


 Speaker 6 08:08


 Speaker 6 08:08
And we'll be giving out that information later. Because you can, for a donation of five bucks, you can have a copy for your own self.

 Speaker 5 08:18
Of the video, right?


 Speaker 6 08:20
I mean, there's no big, there's no profit here. This is just something that Polo wanted to do to get the message out.


 Speaker 5 08:28
Awareness.

 Speaker 6 08:28
So we're more than happy to help him along with that. And so we're gonna go to that song.

 Speaker 5 08:35
And if you're calling on the phones right now, just keep on calling. We'll be right with you. Somebody will be there to answer your phone. The lines are tied up at the moment. So we'll be right with you. We're gonna play this song from fawn field Drake and it's in the new AIDS awareness movie by Polo. And it's called one day and we're back that was pretty cool song. I like that a lot. Well, we're here the friend Patty Oreo, and Patty is the owner of Unique Boutique and on Montrose. Right? New location?

 Speaker 7 09:16
Montrose in Richmond, right at the corner. All right.

 Speaker 6 09:19
Well, we're glad you could stop by tonight.

 Speaker 7 09:21
One thing to get across to my microphone. Okay. Much better.

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Speaker 5 09:27

Patti, the reason I wanted to ask you in tonight is to talk a little bit about the Gay Lesbian Yellow Pages. And what I want to know how you were approached by them or if you knew some of the people involved or

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Speaker 7 09:42

Not actually what happened at first was I saw the gay and lesbian Yellow Pages a year ago, and I knew that I wanted my business to be placed there. And I just missed the the first ad that day, right The deadline and so I had to wait for the next issue, but I made sure that I was in it for the next time.

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Speaker 5 10:05

Well, that's great. Tell me about your business. What? How did you get involved with being a business owner?

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Speaker 7 10:12

I come from a family where we had family business on the side always. And I started off just selling out of my desk at my office. Actually, everybody always liked what I had. And it just it grew. I did--

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Speaker 5 10:27

Shop merchandise?

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Speaker 7 10:27

Yes, shop merchandise, imports, I knew some people that were traveling and I could always get really unusual things.

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Speaker 5 10:34

All right. Well, okay, let's be, let's do the dying question. The dying question is you're coming out story. Have you always known you're a lesbian? Or do you consider yourself a gay woman? Or what's the end political correct phrase to use at the moment?

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Speaker 7 10:51

Well, I consider myself a woman and I'm gay. And, yes, it's always been inside me. I can't say

well, I consider myself a woman and I'm gay. And, yes, it's always been inside me. I can't say that I, you know, laid awake nights going, Oh, I'm gay. I'm gay. I was married before. And I have a daughter. And so it really was a coming out for me?

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Speaker 5 11:11

Is it been pretty recent?

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Speaker 7 11:13

About three years ago? Yeah.

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Speaker 5 11:15

So how do you feel is it been a big change, or is it been pretty much as usual, except gender replacement or

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Speaker 7 11:21

Well, pretty much my life has been the same. And that's how I told my daughter about it, I'm still going to tell you to pick up your clothes off the floor, and you know, they're gonna get mad if you talk on the phone too long, I'm the same Mom, just just a little bit different now. Now that, you know, it feels good, it feels good to be free and, and to be out in business and have my name out there. You know, I'm proud to be gay, I'm proud to be a business owner and be gay. And it helps educate other people as well. Because they, they can come into business meetings with me or they come into the store as a customer. And maybe they've never shopped in a gay establishment before. And it's a new experience for them to see that it's, you know, it's very comfortable. And it's very normal.

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Speaker 5 12:07

So you didn't have any doubts about wanting to put your ad in the gay and lesbian Yellow Pages?

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Speaker 7 12:09

I didn't even think a minute about it.

S

Speaker 5 12:13

That's great. Have you experienced any negativity at all? Or do you think it's helped? Specifically by I mean, have you had people come in and said, Oh, I knew that you were gay person. So I wanted to come in and shop in your store? or what have, have you you gotten any?

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Speaker 7 12:28

Both sides of the question. It has been good, I have had people come in to seek out the business because they want to support a gay owned business. And they want to shop in an atmosphere where they're comfortable in. The negative, it really isn't negative for me, I do get some people come into the store and, you know, have gay and lesbian cards and Gay Games, T shirts and things like that. And they don't know they're in a gay owned business. And they come into the store and they browse around, they see the cards and things and I hear some, you know, snickering sometimes or some comments that, yeah, it really isn't a problem.

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Speaker 5 13:06

Well, I personally think that it's pretty good that you're in an establishment that where you where you can put a T shirt like that, or, you know, a two female symbol together ring or something like that, somewhere where people can see it. Maybe they weren't expecting to see it.

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Speaker 7 13:20

They weren't. And I understand that some people would be surprised. And the way that I approach them, usually they're embarrassed, you know, I'm not. And I tell them that this is a store that has something for everyone. And we're very open, and we're very diverse. And if they have a special need, and I'm sure we have something for them, too.

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Speaker 5 13:41

Well, I was wondering a little bit about something we could tell our younger listeners, I know, we have a lot of young listeners out there that you know, I don't know, I know that when I was growing up, I heard a lot of bad things about gay people. You know, I heard that, you know, all gay people were this way or all gay people were that way or they all looked alike, or they all whatever. And maybe not when I was younger, but when I started to, when I started to express my own feelings about being gay. Did you have any of that negativity put into your head before you realized your own sexuality or did you have any connotations of how you're supposed to look or what you're supposed to dress like now that all of a sudden you realize you're gay? I know that I went through an identity crisis, you know, a little bit of a, okay, do I have to wear denim and flannel? Or do I have to have a short haircut? Or do I have to do this or do I have to do that?

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Speaker 7 14:36

I did a bit I think of following role models to me, either gay women, you want to fit in just like when you're a kid, you know, socially. You have to wear the right shoes and the right shirt and stuff. I was just, you know, a little inhibited at first but I'm fairly comfortable anyway with myself and I kind of found my own niche, you know, as a gay woman with my own style. But I

can relate to the other aspect as well with the young people at my daughter 17. And when I told her I had, the way I talked to her about it was I had several other friends, gay women and gay men that she didn't know were gay. And she had somewhat of a preconceived idea too. And, you know, I didn't know they were gay, you know, they don't look gay. Well, what's a gay person look like? And it was good for us. Because we had that conversation about stereotyping people. And the more people that she came to find out, you know, people that were in positions of a school counselor, a nurse, a lawyer, a doctor, that

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Speaker 5 15:43

Regular old people, just like everyone else.

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Speaker 7 15:46

That's right. And really, you know, a lot of young people be surprised, and I'm sure a lot of them feel like, well, they're the only ones with these feelings, she thought she was the only person in her entire school with the gay parent. And, and I had, I had expressed some of those feelings I felt, at the beginning that perhaps I was the only gay woman with a teenage daughter, you know, until I started to meet people and talk with them. And there is strength and associating with people that have something in common with you.

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Speaker 5 16:15

I know that MCCR has a group, Metropolitan Community Church has a group of they have what's called Fun Night, and it's family unity night. And it's a whole group of parents, male and female, with their children, and with their parents, you know, their own parents, or grandparents of their children that come out. And they get together and they go see movies and play putt putt, and they do all that kind of good stuff. And it helps them to know that there are gay and lesbian people of every age, and of every color, and of every economic status. I know that was real important to me, because I didn't think there was any poor gay people, the only gay people I saw when I was growing up, were, you know, people in almost what I consider a higher caste. It's hard to describe that, but I come, I've come to realize that we are indeed everywhere. I wanted to ask you a little bit about what you do. Socially, how you express the differences between being in business, and being professional and being being gay, I know that I've had a lot of people tell me that you shouldn't express your sexuality at work, and you shouldn't talk about anything that is too personal or too intimate to you at work, and that your sexuality was part of that. How do you feel about reconciling your person as a whole and being a gay, having a gay identity?

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Speaker 7 17:55

Well, I belong to a lot of business groups I belong to LIB, that's lesbians in business, and also belong to the women's Chamber of Commerce. I belong to women entrepreneurs. Of course, LIB is a you know, a gay organization. The other two are not. And I, I've when I speak with people at a professional business meeting, it takes on a professional town. And we normally, you know, don't discuss a lot of personal issues. But when the socializing does begin at the end

of the meetings, and if it does come up, then it's a very natural response. Just someone says, Well, you're, are you married? Yes. And sometimes it stops there. And sometimes it doesn't. So I'm, I'm, I listen to what is the situation? You know, we call for that time, I don't have a problem saying that I'm gay. But I also do keep things in perspective. You know, I'm at a business meeting,

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Speaker 5 18:55

Do you kind of hesitate? Sometimes, I know that I wear, in my business, I wear the freedom rings, and the rainbow flag and T shirts and all that kind of good identifying gestures, just as as part of a statement, you know, I make that a point to be open wherever I am, especially my place of business. And luckily, my place of business lets me do that. But I had some customer come up to me the other day, who was very, an openly heterosexual person who a man who brought his girlfriend in with them all the time, and was always hugging on her in my store in front of me and everything else. And the guy said, Excuse me, can you tell me what those rings are you wearing around your neck and I hesitated? I felt a brief, you know, breath. And I thought there was a moment of indecision and I thought, well, I'm wearing them for a purpose. And I said, while they're a symbol of unity, and I started thinking really fast. Each, to me, I've always heard that the rings mean that we are everywhere that the gay and lesbian people are in every culture and in every race and in every ethnic and socio economic background and the rings together represent all these communities coming together and being equal and being beautiful together. And I, I said that to him. And he said, Oh, well, I know a lot of homosexual people that wear 'em. I thought it meant you're gay. And I said, well, it could. And, you know,

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Speaker 7 20:24

I had a similar experience with that. I used to, before I had my own business and worked for a large company. And I wore my freedom rings to work. And at that particular time, I was just coming out. And I was really concerned about my job safety at that particular time. And I figured if you know, you know, and if you don't, you don't, I'm just gonna wear them. Many people thought they were for the Olympics, and then one game for those for, you know, what do those mean, and I did tell them, these are a sign of unity and freedom, in support of gay and lesbian people, and I actually had some friends that wanted to wear them. And I was really surprised, and well sure I can get you some, no problem. Just as a support system.

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Speaker 5 21:09

That's wonderful. I have some friends that have, like, the AIDS ribbon with a triangle around it, meaning gay people with AIDS. And, and it says, I support gay people with AIDS. And, you know, there's a whole segment of, of people out there that are, especially there's a group starting in Georgia, that's called Straight but Not Narrow, and they're heterosexuals for equal rights for everyone. So there's a lot of support out there, we just have to recognize it. And a lot of times to recognize it, it means doing something like putting an ad in the gay and lesbian Yellow Pages. You know, it means making a stand where we wouldn't normally think to make a stamp, maybe at our business, perhaps even though our business is not a sexual place, maybe. Well, besides putting the ad, I actually have the gay and lesbian Yellow Pages right at my front door by my [unintelligible]. I have that? And I have, you know, other gay publications as well.

And along with other non gay publications, there's everything. It's available there for everyone. Yeah, your family and friends will supportive of you being in business, being a business woman? Do you spend a lot of time at your business?

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Speaker 7 22:22

I spend a lot of time that my mother's there right now. Wow.

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Speaker 5 22:25

Hi, Mom. Thank you.

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Speaker 7 22:28

You shouldn't be there this late. But with the holiday, she does stay there, like my daughter goes there after school. At first, she was a little uncomfortable with a lot of the gay merchandise that we have. And she does have friends from school shopping. So it's a little bit difficult for her but I really, you know, knew know that if there were more young people that would support each other, it would make it a lot easier. And they have a sense of strength from that support.

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Speaker 5 22:56

You know, there are there used to be there's an organization called Fathers First I think that's still happening right now for gay male parents. And there was an organization called the Lesbian Mothers of Houston that don't think that they're still an active group but they've spawned other groups happening right now and I know several people with with kids and it's really important to get the word out, there are lesbian and gay parents actively being parents right now even as you speak telling your kids to go to sleep at you know 12:30 at night on a Saturday night or getting them home from parties or whatever. And we want to tell everybody out there on this Christmas holiday that if you go into Christmas parties tonight, designated driver. Don't drive drunk, call a cab. Designated driver, do whatever you have to do, don't get on the on the roads sloshed, okay? Not even one drink please for us here at After Hours. I hear some dogs barking in the background. I think that they're about ready to do some dog songs for some callers. Anybody has any questions? For Patty about unique boutique on where? Richmond at Montrose?

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Speaker 7 24:11

4317 Montrose, right the corner of Richmond and Montrose.

S

Speaker 5 24:15

And where would that be next to? What's next to it? Give us some landmarks.

S Speaker 7 24:19
Landmark? Well, if you like junk food, Bambolino's is across the street. Circle K. And then right next to me is Cathy's and Gabrielle's restaurant and PJ's coffee shop.

S Speaker 5 24:30
All of them have ads in the Yellow Pages by the way.

S Speaker 7 24:33
They do.

S Speaker 5 24:33
They do and they're all really well supported. I know that my business does not have an ad in it yet, and my business is owned, is a corporate bookstore and it's owned by a heterosexual person. But we carry the gay and lesbian yellow pages out in our entertainment shelves in our in our free publication shelves, and we've had a lot of support. We haven't been able to keep them in stock. As matter of fact, we've kept the back stock of them in the backroom. So we just want to thank a lot to Villa grande for her efforts with the Houston gala has been Yellowpages I know she's on her way to do some more work in, I think she's in Washington DC next, also there in Dallas.


S Speaker 7 25:13
She's been having great success in different states. And I would encourage everyone just pick it up and look through it.


S Speaker 5 25:20
They're available in a lot of places.


S Speaker 7 25:22
A lot of grocery stores. Just look through it and use it.


S Speaker 5 25:26
Yeah, do support your local gay and lesbian business. We've got some music coming up pretty soon. You're listening to after hours on KPFT 90.1. And we have the music man coming back


right now. Hello, Jimmy!


 Speaker 6 25:43
Hello.


 Speaker 5 25:45
What do you have on the on the QMZ for us tonight, Jimmy? Anything good, fun and happening?

 Speaker 6 25:50
Michael Crawford has made a special request of Pet Shop Boys.


 Speaker 5 25:55
Ooh, cool. Love him.

 Speaker 6 25:57
We're playing number six off the orange album.

 Speaker 5 26:01
Cool. You got barking dogs for us--

 Speaker 6 26:04
We got barking dogs coming up with Dyke the Halls and I'll be home over Christmas and many, many more.

 Speaker 5 26:09
Is Anthony Rios coming in this evening?

 Speaker 6 26:11
He is in the house.

S

Speaker 5 26:12

All right. All right So we'll be talking to him shortly about some new year's eve extravaganzas. I happen to know about the LIB New Year's Eve extravaganza you can be going to that, Patty. What are you doing for New Year's Eve?

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Speaker 7 26:24

I'm gonna be there and as as well as a few other places.

S

Speaker 5 26:28

Yeah, you're gonna stop by the Doubletree?

S

Speaker 7 26:30

I'll be there too. Now I have to show up. Everyplace I've already said about me there. I'll be everywhere I swear.

S

Speaker 6 26:37

Busy woman.

S

Speaker 5 26:38

Okay, what's happening next? Music wise.

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Speaker 6 26:41

Listening to the Pet Shop Boys.

S


Speaker 5 26:42

Pet Shop Boys. We're ready. Give us a Pet Shop Boys now and then we'll go to barking dogs later kind of ties in there. Okay, thank you, Patty for being with us. And I mean, we really appreciate you standing out and being a gay owned business and advertising in the Yellow Pages.


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Speaker 7 27:02


Thank you.

 Speaker 5 27:02
Thanks.


 Speaker 6 27:03
And how do we get how do we get to that shop?

 Speaker 5 27:05
We told them already.

 Speaker 7 27:06
By car. By plane by train.

 Speaker 5 27:09
Like one more time.

 Speaker 7 27:11
4317 Montrose at Richmond.

 Speaker 6 27:14
Yes.