

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

WOMAN 1: Let's just rehearse it once.

WOMAN 2: OK.

ALL: We're the Five Lesbian Brothers, and when we're in Houston, we listen to *After Hours* on KPFT Houston.
[INAUDIBLE]
[MUSIC PLAYING]

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yes. You've tuned in to *After Hours*, a continuing tradition on KPFT at Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of *After Hours* is ready to bring you news, interviews, and music geared for gay and lesbian people. Here at *After Hours*, we may be diverse, but we have one thing in common, we are out of the closet and urge everyone to come out of their closets. That means standing up for yourself, taking responsibility for your own life, and being proud of who you are.

Realistically, we know not everyone can do that because of age, job, or frame of mind. That's OK. We're here for you too. So sit back, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of *After Hours*. Hello, Houston. You've tuned in to *After Hours*, a continuing tradition on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM, but you know that because you're already listening.

I'm Jimmy, and with me tonight, Sara Gutierrez, the big Sara S--

SARA I don't think--
GUTIERREZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Sara G. Sara G. Sara G.

SARA And Michael Crawford.
GUTIERREZ:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh. I thought you were Michael Cooper.

MICHAEL Well, it's hard to tell us apart.
CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Ah.

MICHAEL Yeah.
CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, what's up?

MICHAEL Well, I'm here for a couple of reasons, other than the fact that I--
CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, this is not your night. What's the deal?

MICHAEL Well, I'm going out to Numbers, and I thought I'd stop by for a couple of reasons. Well, first of all, I wanted to play
CRAWFORD: my current favorite song besides the song "Regulate," which if anybody who watches MTV jams, has heard before.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah.

MICHAEL So I wanted to play the new Sonic Youth single. And also, I wanted to talk about the new queer boy. He's going to
CRAWFORD: be on the upcoming season of *The Real World*, which was taped in San Francisco.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh!

MICHAEL Yep.
CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh. You want to talk about that now, or you to wait till after?

MICHAEL Oh, OK. I can talk about it now.
CRAWFORD:

[LAUGHS]

OK.

JIMMY CARPER: Sure, why not? I mean, we want to tease the people or just give it to them.

MICHAEL OK, picture this.
CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

MICHAEL And everybody who's anybody should know that *The Real World* is when MTV takes seven people, puts them in
CRAWFORD: the same location. They live together for 5 months, and MTV tapes them 24 hours a day.

JIMMY CARPER: Right.

MICHAEL The first season took place in New York, and so far, it's been the best. Last season took place in LA. The
CRAWFORD: upcoming season takes place in San Francisco, and next year's season takes place in London.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

MICHAEL OK. But the good part is there is a queer. His name is Pedro Zamora. He's really cute and he's 22, and he's an
CRAWFORD: AIDS educator from Miami. And he's Cuban. He came over during the Mariel Boat Lift in 1980 when he was but 8. He's openly HIV positive, and he and his boyfriend make out and hug and all that cool stuff in front of everybody.

JIMMY CARPER: No!

MICHAEL Yes.
CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: I mean, we have actual touching, kissing. Whoa!

MICHAEL OK. And the coolest part I thought was that five weeks into the season, his boyfriend proposes marriage to him.
CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Aw.

MICHAEL Yeah, kind of sweet, huh? OK.
CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: It's actually kind of sappy, but, hey, that's what I thought. OK.

MICHAEL But it's good because it opens up a discussion of queer relationships. And at one point, Pedro is talking to the
CRAWFORD: sister of one of the other people who live in the house, and he's talking about questioning whether or not he even wants to be married. I mean, he's all for showing that fags and dykes can form long lasting bonds and all that kind of stuff, but he's not quite sure he wants to imitate a heterosexual marriage.

JIMMY CARPER: Understandable.

MICHAEL So. But, I mean, and that's pretty cool. I mean, it's pretty cool that he's on the show because it opens up a whole
CRAWFORD: lot of areas that have not really been talked about before. We don't see a whole lot of queer Latinos on TV.

JIMMY CARPER: That's true.

MICHAEL OK, so that's number one.
CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: That's true.

MICHAEL We don't see a whole lot of HIV positive people on TV.
CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: We sure don't.

MICHAEL OK, we don't see a whole lot of Latino HIV positive people on TV.
CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Even less than the other two, yes.

MICHAEL Exactly. We don't see queer boys on television who are young, know what they want, and know that what they
CRAWFORD: want is each other, talking about queer sex, safer sex, and this, that, and the other, and I thought that was really cool.

JIMMY CARPER: That is cool.

MICHAEL Yeah. Which is why when I'm in New York next week--
CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: You're going to New York? Oh, Michael, are you going to New York?

MICHAEL I've been talking about it for a week, OK?
CRAWFORD:

[LAUGHS]

I'm going to go up and not knock on MTV's doors and say thank you.

JIMMY CARPER: Ah. Speaking of knocking on people's doors and saying thank you, did you watch Channel 8 tonight?

MICHAEL I was at work.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: I see. OK, well, that's it. POV was on at 10:30, and we talked about this last week and the week before. One Nation Under God, it's the queer answer to the homosexual agenda, and it was fabulous. If you heard it and you want to talk about it, we may be taking some calls later on that. But we sure do want to thank Channel 8 for presenting that and we hope-- don't they have this Friday night encore thing?

SARA Yes.

GUTIERREZ:

MICHAEL Well, I think it's on Saturday nights now.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Whatever.

MICHAEL Yeah, and--

CRAWFORD:

[LAUGHTER]

Basically, they have this--

JIMMY CARPER: I don't do TV a lot. Have you noticed?

MAN: It's on right now.

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

MICHAEL OK.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Why don't we call in? I mean, this was really excellent.

MICHAEL Well, do you have their number?

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: This needs to be repeated.

MICHAEL We need to find the encore number because there was a special--

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, that's right because the only number I have is from New York.

MICHAEL OK, so Sara is running to get the phone book.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: That's the way she is. And in the meantime, we've got some other things going. We've got some Stonewall stuff we want to present tonight. We've got what we lovingly call the Old Farts Tape. That's Ray Hill and I interviewing people in the community who were around in the 1969 and aware. Come on. Come on, say it. Say it. Say it.

MICHAEL Admittedly, that was an insult against people of my age group range, wasn't it?

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: No!

MICHAEL OK.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: What?

MICHAEL Nothing. Nothing.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: And then I've got something else that I want to do because we're doing kind of older things tonight maybe, in that vein.

MICHAEL OK, no comment.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: I'm 46, give me a break. I can do this.

MICHAEL OK, I was going to say something like that, but--

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, OK.

MICHAEL --I didn't want to converse.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, you're right. That's all right. Yes, we've got a little piece of tape tonight about homosexual in our society, and that was done 36 years ago. So it'd be interesting to see how people thought about themselves then.

MICHAEL OK.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Don't you think?

MICHAEL Oh, OK.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: We have music. We have Kevin here tonight, and he's going to tell us about something we're looking forward to. Town meeting 2. Yes! Kevin's on the organizing committee of town meeting 2, and we're going to talk about that and everything that goes on with that, OK?

MICHAEL All right.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: And of course, we're going to start out with your music.

MICHAEL OK.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

MICHAEL Great. And this is "Bull in the Heather."

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Huh?

MICHAEL "Bull in the Heather."

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, this is the name of the song?

MICHAEL Right.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, OK.

MICHAEL In the video-- I'm sure it's a buzz clip.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Uh-huh.

MICHAEL It has Hanna from Bikini Kill.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Mm-hmm. Oh, no kidding.

MICHAEL Yeah, she's dancing around while Sonic Youth performs. And my favorite part is when she kisses Kim. Well. not

CRAWFORD: on the lips, but on the cheek. But it's a nice really good passionate kiss.

JIMMY CARPER: And we have done Bikini Kill.

MICHAEL OK.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: We have played everything that's playable.

MICHAEL Oh, wait, we may want to make sure I put that on the right side.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: And what side is it?

MICHAEL One.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: One? Right side. Are you trying to say that there's maybe non-airable music here?

MICHAEL No, this whole album is great.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh!

MICHAEL I mean, it's not like the new Stone Temple Pilot's song that I want to play, which I have to go into the editing

CRAWFORD: room and kind of chop up a bit.

JIMMY CARPER: I see.

MICHAEL That word blank keeps popping up quite a bit. Oh, well.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: OK. The name of the song again?

MICHAEL "Bull in the Heather" by Sonic Youth.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Cool.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MICHAEL OK, that was "Bull in the Heather" from Sonic Youth.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Whoa!

MICHAEL From the album--

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: [INAUDIBLE]

MICHAEL OK. OK. OK. "Experimental Jet Set," "Trash" and "No Star."

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Sounds like my life. That was very much like a Bikini Kill or 7 Year Bitch, actually.

MICHAEL Well, 7 Year Bitch is coming and they were coming to Goats Head Soup, but Goat Head Soup burned down.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Right into her house.

MICHAEL So I'm not--

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Noticeably, yes.

MICHAEL Yeah, so I'm not quite sure where they're coming.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: In fact, there was a rant on about that last night from Big Jesus, who was talking about Italian guys who were seen hanging around the place.

MICHAEL We're not going to say mafia.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

MICHAEL OK. And also, concert-wise, Lollapalooza tickets went on sale today.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah?

MICHAEL Yeah, and it's featuring who? The Beastie Boys, L7, Green Day, A Tribe Called Quest, George Clinton and the P-

CRAWFORD: Funk All Stars.

JIMMY CARPER: Mm-hmm. I read that.

MICHAEL Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds, and a whole bunch of other people.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: A whole bunch of other people. But L7. L7. L7.

MICHAEL Oh, and the World Cup soccer games is going on now. The US tied-- Yay! --with the Swiss, which means they get a

CRAWFORD: point. And I've decided to become a soccer fan.

JIMMY CARPER: Soccer?

MICHAEL Soccer.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, OK. What's the deal? It's because their shorts and they're muscular and--

MICHAEL Well, there's one particular guy who is on the cover of Newsweek right now.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: You're into buff now? OK.

MICHAEL No, I'm not into buff. He's just really, really cute. His name is Cobi Jones.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Uh-huh.

MICHAEL He has dreadlocks, and he's really cute. He's 24. He's a midfielder, and he's on the US team. Go USA.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Cool, cool, cool. Oh, so you're probably wondering what I'm doing right now.

MICHAEL No, I'm kind of wondering how I can make my graceful exit.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Well, we're going to go to another song.

MICHAEL OK.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: And it's not particularly a gay song, but it certainly is a First Amendment song. I can't even tell you who sings it because I don't know. It came to me by hook or crook, and it's just a clever little ditty.

MICHAEL OK, and one more little tidbit before we go to this song.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

MICHAEL Today's question is, what prominent AIDS activists were seen hanging out by the atrium trying to pick up a

CRAWFORD: hustler boy and being turned down.

JIMMY CARPER: Whoa! Is he involved with this show?

MICHAEL No, it wasn't Scott.

CRAWFORD:

[LAUGHS]

JIMMY CARPER: Did he used to be involved with this show?

MICHAEL I'm not saying the person's name, but mere minutes ago, when I was walking past the atrium, I saw him.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: I see.

MICHAEL OK, so are we going to play the song now?

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: We're ready.

MICHAEL What's the name of it?

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: It's "Polka Dot Panties."

MICHAEL All right.

CRAWFORD:

[MUSIC PLAYING]

JIMMY CARPER: Whoa! OK. "Polka Dot Undies" by the unknown artist, and that's for the community. That's kind of a First Amendment thing. With us tonight, we have Kevin White. Hi, Kevin.

KEVIN WHITE: How are you doing?

JIMMY CARPER: Great, great.

KEVIN WHITE: Great.

JIMMY CARPER: You are with a group that's promoting--

KEVIN WHITE: Town Meeting 2.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, we had a Town Meeting 1.

KEVIN WHITE: Right.

JIMMY CARPER: I remember that I've heard about this. I didn't go to it, but it was like years ago.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: And it's like every gay group in the world was formed after this.

KEVIN WHITE: Right.

JIMMY CARPER: It's like it put us on the map as a community.

KEVIN WHITE: Right, I think there were like 4,000 people that actually attended back in 1978. And the Montrose Counseling Center, what we know now is Q-Patrol.

JIMMY CARPER: Uh-huh.

KEVIN WHITE: I think the Thomas Street clinic. A lot of things like that really came out of it, and was a really good--

JIMMY CARPER: I think even HGOPC came out of that.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: And I know that the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard came out of it later.

KEVIN WHITE: Right, it was a real boost for the gay community in Houston. And that was 1978, and here we are in 1994. And we're having Town Meeting 2.

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

KEVIN WHITE: Actually, it'll be in 1995. We're looking at it as a kickoff for Gay Pride next June.

JIMMY CARPER: Uh-huh.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, so we had all of these groups come out of Town Meeting 1. What do we expect out of Town Meeting 2?

KEVIN WHITE: Well, this time, what we're hoping to do is to get information to the community at large. We have community officials that need to understand what the gay and lesbian community in Houston is all about, and what they need as a community to improve the lifestyle for the Houston gay and lesbian people. Then we have the corporate world. IKEA has just started a major campaign.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah. Isn't that great?

KEVIN WHITE: And AT&T as well. And we need to open the eyes of the corporate world as well. So we're trying to get information out to the corporate world about the buying power of the gay community and let them know that there's a very mainstream--

JIMMY CARPER: Fact they don't know it already.

KEVIN WHITE: Exactly.

JIMMY CARPER: Just ask Levi.

[LAUGHS]

KEVIN WHITE: Right, right. As a matter of fact, maybe we can get Levi for sponsorship.

JIMMY CARPER: No kidding.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: No kidding.

KEVIN WHITE: Right now, we've been meeting for a few months as an informal group. We've been working practically every other day on some issue to try to pull it off. We've had one formal meeting where we pulled together part of the board. We still have four board positions to go.

JIMMY CARPER: Mm-hmm.

KEVIN WHITE: We need people to get involved. We're having our second meeting on July the 11th at the Montrose branch library at 7:00 PM.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, July 11?

KEVIN WHITE: July the 11th at the Montrose branch library.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, that's right over here on Montrose?

KEVIN WHITE: Exactly.

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

KEVIN WHITE: Exactly. And we hope that we'll be able to draw more people in. At that time, we're going to announce a-- well, hell, I'll announce it now.

JIMMY CARPER: Well.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah, why not? We're going to have a contest to design the logo for Town Meeting 2.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, good.

KEVIN WHITE: And we're hoping that we can get some creative types in that can help us with the logo design. And hopefully, they'll have enough interest to stay in, and they can help us with other creative aspects of the festivities.

JIMMY CARPER: So you're setting up an organization. It sounds like it's very much like a Pride Week organization or something. Just as an organizational thing to help get it going?

KEVIN WHITE: Right now we're trying to get everything formed. We have three major events that have to be planned. We have the Town Meeting itself, which is where people in the community can talk about the issues and what they need to see and create resolutions that we can then document and then hand out to the various organizations. It's necessary. So that's one group. The next group is the Business Expo. We're hoping to show the corporate world by having a Business Expo where gay and gay-friendly businesses have booths set up so that people in the community can go look around at the businesses and see what they're all about.

JIMMY CARPER: And say, hey, this is gay-friendly.

KEVIN WHITE: Exactly.

JIMMY CARPER: That's used a lot in San Francisco, I know. So my last trip there, everywhere you look there are rainbow flags hanging from businesses, and it's got to be that, hey, we want gay and lesbian dollars.

KEVIN WHITE: Exactly. We're trying to open the eyes of the community, wake them up, let them know that there's a large group of people here.

JIMMY CARPER: Mm-hmm.

KEVIN WHITE: And there's also a lot of people in the community that really don't get involved. They stay out in the suburbs and they live their life, they have their lover, they're in the suburbs.

JIMMY CARPER: Sure.

KEVIN WHITE: And this way they can come in and participate in a more mainstream event than they probably wouldn't come in for otherwise. And along with that, then we have the concert. So--

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, a concert?

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Some entertainment here, OK.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah, entertainment.

JIMMY CARPER: Cool.

KEVIN WHITE: We're hoping to bring in some big name gay artists.

JIMMY CARPER: Mm-hmm.

KEVIN WHITE: We have actually talked to a couple of talent agents for various people and we can and we can't talk.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah! On the tip of my tongue here.

KEVIN WHITE: I know it. I know it. Just have to wait and see.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh!

KEVIN WHITE: Oh, no!

[LAUGHS]

But yeah, we're planning this as a very big event for Houston. We're hoping that it will help enhance the pride of the community here, and then we can carry the momentum right into the Pride Week festivities.

JIMMY CARPER: Ooh, nice.

KEVIN WHITE: And the Pride committee can tack on to that and build from the momentum and go forward with that. We're hoping to make this as an annual event. We're in the process of trying to raise money to incorporate as a non-profit organization, and we need money to put down on the facilities to hold this event.

JIMMY CARPER: Sure.

KEVIN WHITE: We're hoping to bring in 10,000 people to the event.

JIMMY CARPER: Good.

KEVIN WHITE: That's really what we're hoping to do.

JIMMY CARPER: Now wait a minute. This is like this is not just a Houston thing? You're talking about bringing people in, what do you mean by bringing people in, like from all over the state or just from the suburbs?

KEVIN WHITE: No, we're talking Houston Metropolitan area.

JIMMY CARPER: Ah, OK.

KEVIN WHITE: And that goes a long way when you really look at it.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, actually, it does, yeah.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Like to Galveston.

KEVIN WHITE: Exactly. Exactly.

JIMMY CARPER: And just make that big circle around there.

KEVIN WHITE: Right.

JIMMY CARPER: We're a big city.

KEVIN WHITE: We're open to anyone who wants to attend.

JIMMY CARPER: Sure.

KEVIN WHITE: We're not trying to say, you're not part of Houston, you can't attend, because there's a lot of people that are part of Houston. They may not live in the city limits.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, shoot. Yeah, a lot of people may come into the bars, who live out in the suburbs, come into the bars once a month or maybe once a year for Pride Day or something like that, but just live real quiet lives out there, and that's got to be most of us to tell you the truth.

KEVIN WHITE: Exactly.

JIMMY CARPER: It's just we're a minority who live here in the Montrose--

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: --I think. And we've done all of this, and it's time to bring in all our brothers and sisters--

KEVIN WHITE: Right.

JIMMY CARPER: --and get involved.

KEVIN WHITE: And one point I need to make is this is not a political event.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, OK.

KEVIN WHITE: This is an event to basically educate the community to help us build on our own resources, show the gay community how large a resource we really do have, show the corporate world what's out there. Houston itself, they say could have up to 300,000 gay and lesbian people in the city of Houston.

JIMMY CARPER: At least.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: At least. Because let's face it, gays and lesbians kind of leave the small towns, go to the big cities. So I think we're probably more than 10% here in Houston.

KEVIN WHITE: Right.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Now, when you talk about a Town Meeting what does that mean? Does that mean panels and discussions? I didn't go to the first one. I wasn't even out yet.

KEVIN WHITE: Well, I didn't go to the first one either. In the same situation.

JIMMY CARPER: Ah, OK. Is this like a seminar or different meetings?

KEVIN WHITE: In a sense, it's like a political convention without being political.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, OK.

KEVIN WHITE: OK? We're going to have a stage set up with an auditorium setting. So we can have up to 7,500 people in the room where the stage is, and people can come and go through the day as topics of interest are being talked about.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

KEVIN WHITE: And we're going around to all the gay organizations that will listen to us right now.

JIMMY CARPER: Mm-hmm.

KEVIN WHITE: And we've already talked to several groups, and they're really open to the idea. And we're hoping that all the organizations can talk about what their resolution would be to a document that would go out. They can get up and talk about the issues in their aspect of the community, and we'll open the floor up for comments and questions, and just basically hold an open forum as a Town Meeting to talk gay and lesbian issues in Houston Metropolitan area.

JIMMY CARPER: And transgenderal and bisexual and all of us.

KEVIN WHITE: The list goes on and on and on.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, all of us, all of us. I think we need to preface this gay and lesbian thing as this encompasses everyone.

KEVIN WHITE: Right, right. We're not going to exclude anyone from this. This is a community event and we want it to be a community event. And we're hoping that everyone will participate because it is so diverse. We need--

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah.

[LAUGHTER]

Yeah, it's like, what does it mean to be gay?

JIMMY CARPER: I know. We're from every strata. We're from every race. And it's no wonder we never agree on anything.

[LAUGHTER]

KEVIN WHITE: Well, it's good that we don't agree on everything.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, we are the picture of diversity. And if anybody, I guess, needs a Town Meeting, we do because within our own community, we don't understand each other.

KEVIN WHITE: Right, right. And you think about it. A lot of people, they just don't come in and go to the Gay Pride Parade because it's hot. Well, for those guys, this is an indoor event. It's air-conditioned.

JIMMY CARPER: Ah!

KEVIN WHITE: So there's not that excuse anymore.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, OK.

KEVIN WHITE: We're hoping that the Business Expo will draw people because everybody goes to the home shows--

JIMMY CARPER: Sure.

KEVIN WHITE: --or the remodeling shows and all this sort of stuff. And just getting people in and exposing to what the gay world is all about here is going to really boost the community.

JIMMY CARPER: I think so. I think so. And I think people have a kind of warped view of what it means to be gay or lesbian and what it means to live in the Montrose.

KEVIN WHITE: Exactly.

JIMMY CARPER: And I've lived here since the '60s and OK, you pay your rent and you mow the grass and you clean your bathroom, and it's just like if you live anywhere else.

KEVIN WHITE: Right, right.

[LAUGHS]

JIMMY CARPER: This sounds great.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: This sounds great.

KEVIN WHITE: Well, we've really been pulling it together. We're hoping to fill the board and to start having the regular meetings. We have a few fundraisers coming up.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, hey.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: OK. Let's talk about those.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah, July the 10th, there's Monticello Productions is going to release a video, where they interview Ray Hill about Town Meeting 1.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

KEVIN WHITE: And they're hoping to--

JIMMY CARPER: Boy, that's a bit of history, isn't it?

KEVIN WHITE: Right.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

KEVIN WHITE: It's an interesting discussion. And it was really enlightening to listen to Ray talk about Town Meeting 1. That's going to be previewed on July the 10th at Pacific Street.

JIMMY CARPER: Mm-hmm.

KEVIN WHITE: Then it should air through the month of July on Access Houston.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, good.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Good, good.

KEVIN WHITE: So those dates will be put out in flyers around the community.

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

KEVIN WHITE: Then on August the 9th at the Museum Restaurant on Alabama at 06:55.

JIMMY CARPER: It seems to be the place to go.

KEVIN WHITE: The place to be, yes.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, yes, yes.

KEVIN WHITE: The place to be. That's our next fundraiser. So everybody, put it on your calendars, July the 10th, and then again on August the 9th.

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

KEVIN WHITE: We're hoping to pull in sponsors.

JIMMY CARPER: Mm-hmm.

KEVIN WHITE: We're going to be actively recruiting corporate world for sponsorship. We have five different levels of sponsorship that we'll be talking to people about. We'll be selling booth space at the event. We'll be trying to do whatever we can to raise the money for this event. So if you have any that you want to donate, please do.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: That's the way with gay groups, yes.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah, that's the way it is, yes.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, yes, yes, yes. It sounds great. It sounds great.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah, I'm excited.

JIMMY CARPER: Now, how did you get involved in all of this?

KEVIN WHITE: Well--

JIMMY CARPER: I mean, why you?

KEVIN WHITE: Why me?

JIMMY CARPER: Why are you taking this on?

KEVIN WHITE: Why am I doing it? Well, actually--

JIMMY CARPER: It's a thankless job.

KEVIN WHITE: --actually Alan Bourgeois started this. He was talking with Ray Hill about Town Meeting 1.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, if I know Ray, I mean, he's been pushing for Town Meeting 2 for years now.

KEVIN WHITE: Right.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

KEVIN WHITE: So Alan kind of took the bull by the horns and started working on it. And I had a little extra time that I could dedicate to this.

JIMMY CARPER: Mm-hmm.

KEVIN WHITE: And I really live more of the mainstream kind of-- I'm just outside of the loop, OK?

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

KEVIN WHITE: It's like, I know, I know.

JIMMY CARPER: Get your visa, OK?

KEVIN WHITE: Oh, I know. But I just see that there's a lot of things--

JIMMY CARPER: Are you one of those Bel Air persons?

KEVIN WHITE: No, I'm actually a Garden Oaks person.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

KEVIN WHITE: Yes, I'm one of those.

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

[LAUGHS]

We got middle America here, people, OK?

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah, there's ways to get involved, and I feel a real need to get involved in the community.

JIMMY CARPER: Mm-hmm.

KEVIN WHITE: I'm not a real political kind of person.

JIMMY CARPER: A lot of us are that way.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah, and I just wanted to do something that would benefit a broader scope of people.

JIMMY CARPER: But then again, the personal is the political.

KEVIN WHITE: That's right. That's right. I guess it turns out that--

JIMMY CARPER: It turns out. It's what you are and there it is.

KEVIN WHITE: Right.

JIMMY CARPER: And you're putting together some really good stuff here.

KEVIN WHITE: We're really trying hard. Alan has really put a lot into this. He's basically dedicated almost full time to this.

JIMMY CARPER: Gosh.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah, he's put a lot into it. We have another member, Steve Thomas, who has been involved. And there's been like, let's see, David Cochran, Fred, I don't know Fred's last name, Teddy and a few other people. There's been about 10 or 12 of us that have been really actively working on it.

JIMMY CARPER: Got to be on a project like this.

KEVIN WHITE: And we've just really scratched the surface. We really have, and we need people involved. We need people to show up July the 11th. We need talent. We need people who understand what it takes to be in an organization, and we've got to run this like a business.

JIMMY CARPER: Absolutely.

KEVIN WHITE: We really do.

JIMMY CARPER: Yep.

KEVIN WHITE: We need people with business savvy. We need financial type of people who could understand how to keep the books going for us so that we don't go out do anything too extreme. We need people with legal experience because you know that an event like this the right wing is going to be out to do anything they can to stop it.

JIMMY CARPER: Sure.

KEVIN WHITE: And we have to keep by the book all the way down the line. So we need anybody with any kind of talent that can contribute to join in with us.

JIMMY CARPER: Cool.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Good.

KEVIN WHITE: We also have a few numbers--

JIMMY CARPER: Aha!

KEVIN WHITE: --or a number they could call. And yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: There we go. Get your pencils.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah get your pencils. It's area code 7-1-3 9-4-9--

JIMMY CARPER: 9-4-9.

KEVIN WHITE: --3-1-1-9.

JIMMY CARPER: 3-1-1-9.

KEVIN WHITE: That's a telephone number. Also, we have electronic mail.

JIMMY CARPER: Email!

KEVIN WHITE: Email, yes. Information superhighway.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Wow, we are up town here.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah, the address is townmtg2, it's T-O-W-N-M-T-G-2 @aol.com, C-O-M.

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

KEVIN WHITE: And on the America Online Service in the community events, there's a bulletin board already set up for Houston Town Meeting 2, and we've started getting some replies in there. So anybody that's computer savvy that wants to get in, there's the way to do it. Then the standard address is P.O Box 66128.

JIMMY CARPER: 66128?

KEVIN WHITE: Yes. Houston, Texas, 77266.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, that's the old box number or zip codes.

KEVIN WHITE: That's right.

JIMMY CARPER: 77266, yeah.

KEVIN WHITE: Right, so if anyone has any information they want to share with us, they want to get involved, there's three different ways right there that they can get involved just by passing information on. If anyone works in an organization or works for a major company and they have inroads into the people who would be sponsors, if they can start talking to those people and then let us know who to contact. We need some contacts with the corporate world.

JIMMY CARPER: Sure.

KEVIN WHITE: So there's a lot of ways people can get involved without actually spending all their day doing this. So any little bit helps at this point.

JIMMY CARPER: Sounds great.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: So I wanted to kind of maybe put in a plug for how you came about this and what do you do for a living and all of this kind of stuff.

KEVIN WHITE: What do I do for a living?

[LAUGHTER]

Well, actually, what I do for a living is really more mainstream corporate world kind of stuff.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh!

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah, I've been involved with a company who has done trade shows and I've participated from a technical standpoint. I was pulled in to help give technical information from that standpoint, but I've really been more on the technical side of things dealing with computer networks and other areas like that. I just felt like this is a good opportunity where I can--

JIMMY CARPER: So you've got some savvy yourself?

KEVIN WHITE: I think so, yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

KEVIN WHITE: There's some organizational skills that I can contribute.

JIMMY CARPER: Good.

KEVIN WHITE: And yeah, I have a good strong management background behind me that I can also help the organization or the committee as well. So I have those skills that I can contribute. Naturally, I don't know it all. And we do have people in the community. I talked to somebody last weekend who had pulled together a trade show, him and his brother pulled together a major trade show here in Houston. I think it was a Bride and Formal Show.

JIMMY CARPER: Wow!

KEVIN WHITE: A really big one. And he's not doing that anymore, but he really wants to get involved and help us out. So we know there's people in the community that have the talent that can jump right in and start running and make this happen. And we're recruiting right now.

JIMMY CARPER: We're gay and lesbian people, we can do this.

KEVIN WHITE: Oh, yeah! Very creative.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

KEVIN WHITE: Very creative.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. And so if they want to do this, that next meeting is when again?

KEVIN WHITE: July the 11th 7:00 PM at the Montrose branch library.

JIMMY CARPER: Right up there on Montrose.

KEVIN WHITE: Exactly.

JIMMY CARPER: Between Alabama and Richmond.

KEVIN WHITE: Right.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, yeah, yeah. That's my old stomping grounds.

KEVIN WHITE: Mm.

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

[LAUGHS]

Well, thanks for stopping by.

KEVIN WHITE: Sure.

JIMMY CARPER: Did you want to talk about-- you were going to be on here because of Diane.

KEVIN WHITE: Right.

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

KEVIN WHITE: Right.

JIMMY CARPER: And how do you know her?

KEVIN WHITE: Well, I'm involved with Milam House.

JIMMY CARPER: Aha! OK. OK, Milam House?

KEVIN WHITE: Right, right.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, tell us about Milam House.

KEVIN WHITE: Well, for those that don't know, Milam House is a nonprofit organization. The purpose is to provide indigent people with AIDS residence. It's not necessarily a medical facility, but it is a place that we can-- there's people that have AIDS and they don't have a place to live. The medical expenses are basically eating up their full income and they need somewhere that they can stay. And so that's what we're all about is to provide residence for that. We have one house right now.

We have eight residents in it. We've just opened up our offices over on Westheimer. We have a full board of directors. We have executive director Sally Fox, and Diane is our schedule coordinator, and Felipe. We have a lot of volunteers that participate with that and help give company to the residents and help take care of the house. And we have John Kirkpatrick, the house manager. It's a very, very good organization to be involved in. It's a very rewarding organization.

JIMMY CARPER: So you're not a newcomer to community work here.

KEVIN WHITE: Well, I'm kind of low key. I'm not one of those real active kind of people that's out in the media. And I've been involved with that kind of stuff. I've been doing AIDS education and things like that for a while, and I wanted to branch out a little more. So I got involved with Milam House to continue the AIDS side of things.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

KEVIN WHITE: I got into Town Meeting 2 to get more into the gay community and really enhance the gay community. And that's one thing that one of the members on the board made a comment in the last meeting that it's really nice to have something that deals with the gay community, that's not specifically focused at AIDS.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

KEVIN WHITE: And so--

JIMMY CARPER: That's exactly right.

KEVIN WHITE: --I feel fortunate that I've got both aspects here. Milam House, it's a very good strong board of directors. They've got a good plan behind them to proceed in the future. We're hoping to get other facilities going. We're looking at increasing from just-- right now it's a male residence, we're hoping to get into families and then women, and other groups that basically need community housing.

And one thing that it does for the people that have AIDS is it provides them a little less stress in their life. It gives them a sense of a community. So they feel like they're part of a group, and it should give them enough positive energy so that they will live longer.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, absolutely, yes.

KEVIN WHITE: Worrying about where they're going to live.

JIMMY CARPER: I know some of the guys that hang out at Bering during the day and the care center, sleep under the bridge at night.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah, and it's a sad situation.

JIMMY CARPER: And when you have that stress about where am I living, where am I sleeping tonight, how can you fight an illness?

KEVIN WHITE: Right. And we have caseworkers for these guys that will call us up. We have a waiting list right now for people that really want a place or need, they don't want, they need a place to stay.

JIMMY CARPER: Sure.

KEVIN WHITE: And so it's the same situation. We were looking for any contributions in that area as well. As a matter of fact, I got off the phone tonight with plans to do another fundraiser in August. And we're--

JIMMY CARPER: My, you get into this, OK.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah, I do.

JIMMY CARPER: We've had folks on from Milam House before, and I didn't want to push it, but I also wanted to stress that you're familiar with charity work and community work. And so you're not just kind of popping out from the burbs and coming in.

KEVIN WHITE: Exactly.

JIMMY CARPER: And, oh, I'm going to put together this thing.

KEVIN WHITE: Exactly.

JIMMY CARPER: You got something behind you.

KEVIN WHITE: Well, the people that are working with us on Town Meeting 2, we've got a very diverse group of people and some of them are active with Pet Patrol.

JIMMY CARPER: Great group.

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

KEVIN WHITE: We have another guy, he's come in, that used to be in the film industry in Los Angeles. And so he understands the entertainment and the production environment. So we have some people that have a lot of savvy.

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

KEVIN WHITE: Alan's the president of the group, of course, and he has been in the community for some time, and he's been very active, and he has a lot of connections with a lot of the old timers that have been involved, and they know what it takes to keep things going, and they know the history. And so now we've got a fresh group coming in to start the same thing that went on in '78. And we're hoping that it can be just as successful, if not more than what happened in '78.

JIMMY CARPER: That would really be great, especially to have it as an event, maybe to even open up Pride Week every year.

KEVIN WHITE: Right, that would be wonderful, yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

KEVIN WHITE: And it would give somebody something to look forward to. It's like it could be a good kickoff for Gay Pride.

JIMMY CARPER: Sure.

KEVIN WHITE: The parade comes around, it would fill the streets. It would really help the morale in Houston gay community. Not that it's bad, but it's--

JIMMY CARPER: No, not that it's bad, but I've been in the parade since 1988, and I haven't really seen it grow much.

KEVIN WHITE: Right.

JIMMY CARPER: The entries have grown, but I'm one of those who walks down the middle of the street and every year you gauge. Now, it's grown a little bit, but it really hasn't grown a whole lot.

KEVIN WHITE: And you know the community has just expanded.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes! Yes, yes. So--

KEVIN WHITE: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: --maybe we do need this boost.

KEVIN WHITE: Right.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

KEVIN WHITE: But any little bit will help.

JIMMY CARPER: Sure. Thanks for coming, Kevin.

KEVIN WHITE: Sure. Thanks for having me.

JIMMY CARPER: And we want regular updates on what's going on, and we want to be able to push all your fundraisers.

KEVIN WHITE: Great, we'll keep you posted.

JIMMY CARPER: Great. OK. And coming up right now is a piece of music from a group that you know and love and listen to all the time. It's not what you're hearing on the top 40 stations, but this is something for the community.