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SPEAKERS

Michelle Meyers, Jimmy Carper, Roy, Sarah DePalma

M Michelle Meyers 00:01

They have places to park and reasonably close to the ankles. So that'd be.

R Roy 00:07

And this This event is being sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, in the DRC and aids commission.

M Michelle Meyers 00:16

Okay, I'd like to also mention that since we're talking coming out that clap is having a thing tomorrow, Community Center, loud and queer. And it's poetry reading from seven o'clock till nine.

R Roy 00:40

Wow,

M Michelle Meyers 00:41

what kind of poetry? Any kind of poetry? You can come and read your own poetry? It's open mind. Open night. Well, yeah, so they have some of their own stuff that they're going to perform. I know Michael Crawford is going to be there. And Travis meter and all the all seven of the people I think far from class, that's the queer artists collective. And you just lay your blanket out on the on the back glass, scratch at the mosquitoes and listen to angst.



R

Roy 01:16

And you know, Michelle, you know, Michael Crawford used to be a regular here on after hours. Yeah, I know. It seems like so many of our regulars from after hours, and those from a lesbian and gay voices have really gone on to greater things. I guess there's, there's hope for us, Michelle. I mean, we've got one eye who wound up with the as a liaison and mayor's officer City Council Persons Office. Right. He's a liaison with a nice park or Juden bone and one of the kids. And he's Parker, right. What's her name? Suzanne Anderson. Are you Montrose? Yeah, you know, lesbian, gay voices. And she would occasionally do spins here on after hours. There is hope for us. Anyways, there's a

M

Michelle Meyers 02:18

before before you mentioned that, can I just mention real quickly that for those people, and we said before, about coming out the gate with a support group, the Gulf Coast transgender community, you want to contact them, their number is 7804282. If you want to contact tats, you can call 5246349. And both of those are Area code 713. And also, if you just want to come and talk and sit around with a support network, helping cross dressers anonymous, although it doesn't have a phone line, it meets every Tuesday at seven o'clock at Susan Anderson properties, which is located at 239 Westheimer. So you have something else Oh, I saw something. There's a whole bunch of organizations that are getting no body positive stone soup particularly. And we mentioned PFLAG before and the pride committee right is getting having a sponsored party.

R

Roy 03:24

Well, later on today at Rich's on center Central. Third, the great party is going to be having party and their party is going to be benefiting the stone soup body positive PFLAG and the pride committee of Houston, that it's going to start at six o'clock and lasts until midnight. And all are welcome to come also at Rich's and that's coming up. Later on in the month they're going to have well outrage is going to present the horrors of Hollywood. And it's going to be their 15th annual Halloween party. And it's going to be held on Saturday, October 24. From 7pm to midnight. And they're asking you to get your tickets in advance in advance it's \$20 \$25 at the door. And the proceeds are going to be benefiting Milan house Stevens house and the assistance fund.

M

Michelle Meyers 04:21

Okay, so all could pick up anywhere in Canada.

R

Roy 04:24

Right? And so and you can get your tickets at Lobos basic brothers, custom valet cleaners, and I imagine also at the averages. Now finally, before we wrap up this, I just do want to make a final coming out the comment and that's for directly mainly to all of our young listeners out there and those that are not so young. You get a lot of positive input from the game media here and from after hours and hours. I get a lot of positive input and a lot of support and to help you

come out, and eventually the day comes in which you do come out and you decide to finally come out to your parents. And you're all built up, you're all really psyched up and all energy up and also feel great. And you come out to your parents only to have their reaction, not quite what you expect. And it's a big letdown. Well, you don't I want our young listeners to understand that when you're coming out to your parents, your parents are coming out then to you bad. All the issues that you had to deal with. Now they have to deal with, and then some

M

Michelle Meyers 05:45

not. So if it took you months and months and months to come to yours or yours.

R

Roy 05:51

Don't expect your parents always say, oh, that's just so great Johnny, on 15 minutes, it's not going to happen. And even more so for those of you that may feel that you're transgendered, or transsexual, or transgender and transsexual people have to deal with a heck of a lot more issues in a gay or lesbian person. Oh, yeah.



06:14

Yeah. It is tough. It is very tough. Yeah. Sarah covered that.

M

Michelle Meyers 06:20

Yeah, I'm not sure it's, it's different series, the different issues, but um, they are difficult. But I don't think he I don't think there's any way to say which is, which is worse. Because I mean, I saw a show once where, where there. There was a female to male transsexual, and they were talking to the Father and the Father said of his new son, who used to be his daughter. Well, at least she's not gay. So I think all this depends on individual circumstances. Yeah. I don't know that it's any harder. All I know, is it's very, very hard to come out to anyone to give it a lot of thought. And the transgendered do have special circumstances that are hard, much more difficult to find the help on.

R

Roy 07:25

And well, like I said, whatever, however difficult it was for you, it will be difficult for the parents.

M

Michelle Meyers 07:33

Yes. And it'll take them time. And so please,



07:38

don't expect your folks to all of a sudden say, Oh, this is just great. Jen. Janet or Roy, this just fantastic. I'm suffering. It's not gonna happen. And that's all for this week with after hours noon. Wagon.



07:54

You know me I always jump in here at the last minute. Okay. Did you talk about I'm sure you did. About Scott Kennedy.



Michelle Meyers 08:02

Oh, well. You had mentioned Scott candy before. Yes. But he's going to be at the last stop. tomorrow, Sunday at 730. Right. And if you need to make reservation, you can call area code 713-524-2333. And it's his it's a big Coming Out Day celebration. Yes, it



08:30

is. And a portion of the ticket sales will benefit the Houston lesbian and gay community center. That's correct. That's cool, isn't it? Yeah. And the one more thing you know me? Yeah, the Gay Men's Chorus of Houston that that I love these guys. The Gay Men's Chorus is performing with the ambient Brass Quintet on Sunday, October 25, at 7pm at Northwoods Presbyterian church that's located at 3320 FM 1960, West between Stuber stooping their airline and Kirkland doll. Now, that's quite a bit out of the Montrose and out of the loop, isn't it? That's, that's good. That's doing so technically, yes, it is. But I mean, it's getting it's getting our image out there to the public. The event is the Presbyterian HIV AIDS benefit concert, our reception will follow and a fee will of offering will be taken, which will benefit the bearing Community Services foundation. So here is a Presbyterian Church out in where is it FM 1960 doing a benefit show for bearing? I think that's pretty damn good. Really. Everybody is invited. No tickets are being sold for more information, contact Dave Vandermeer. He is the Minister of music at at The Northwoods Presbyterian Church, it's 28144488619



Roy 10:10

That's really fantastic. You know, October 25 a church group way out there.



Jimmy Carper 10:16

I know it. Isn't that incredible. accepting us. I know. Well, actually, they were going to have the Gay Men's Chorus on the show. Not the chorus. But I think. I don't think so. Because he just said two or three guys.



Roy 10:33

They sing or I think yeah, oh, God.



Jimmy Carper 10:36

They're gonna be here for jewels show next month. Third Saturday, so you can find out about Gay Men's Chorus of Houston. And they'll be talking about their holiday concert. And they have a CD out and you know, maybe a new ones on its way. That would be great. Anyway, that's it.



Michelle Meyers 10:56

Take me connect Roy tonight. All



Roy 10:59

good. No, hate it



Sarah DePalma 11:10

whoa, whoa, oops. All right. All the Pretty Horses from Minneapolis. Yeah. Was Stephen grand Dell, a very quite openly transgendered lead singer. This group is called All the Pretty Horses. The CD is called What is the name of that Jimmy



11:33

queers and angels,



Sarah DePalma 11:35

the as the CD is not available to the public as yet. In fact, we have the first copy of



11:42

it. It breaks I want a copy. It breaks



Sarah DePalma 11:45

in Minneapolis next week. And so you have heard it here first on KPFT. And I gotta say this group, really rocks they really



11:56

did. That was the classic falling in love again, which was Marlena Dietrich signature piece for

Marlena Dietrich. Yeah, she sung that in the film called the Blue Angel, which was done in Germany in the 30s. Really the early 30s. That was the film that made her a star. And after that she was brought over here and did all our films there. And it's kind of it's a very strange film because it's a it's kind of it's one of those films that's in the transition between silent and talkies. It's that early. Wow. And so there's a lot of silence while the actor is like doing facial things.

S

Sarah DePalma 12:42

We went to go see a movie at the River Oaks called A Touch of Evil. In Marlena Dietrich played a Hispanic Hispanic, madam. The movie takes place along a border town never does say in which state and you have not lived until you've seen Marlena Dietrich play Mexican, madam. Well, why in the movies called A Touch of Evil? Yeah, with Orson Welles and Charlton Heston, and she has a part in there that Marlena Dietrich plays a Mexican madam, on the other side of the border. Very unusual part to say. She came on the movie and I thought, What is she doing? But by the way, the movie is very good. And so our friend Sarah Gish, if you want to patronize this theater, excellent, excellent movie, by the way.



13:38

Sara are the one who can keep sending us movie tickets all the time to give away which of

S

Sarah DePalma 13:42

course we really appreciate. But anyway, you bet that all the Pretty Horses when they finally do make this out into the stores. I'll let you know. Steven Grandville. The lead singer of the group will be the guest on our show next month. Great.

J

Jimmy Carper 13:54

And I don't know that that name is popping up a lot here. We just got a pledge a wonderful pledge from Steven from Oh, yes. On EFT you don't have been talking about EFT electronic funds transfer? Or they just take a little bit out of your check each month.

S

Sarah DePalma 14:15


And if it's the Stephen did I think it is? Thank you.





14:19


I don't know. Yes, it is for you. Well, thank





 Sarah DePalma 14:22
you very much. Thank


 14:23
you. Thank you. Thank you. He likes this show and lesbian and gay voices. He's been donating for a whole year been listening for much longer, I'm sure. And his comment was well, it was pledge time again. So I'm pledging. Yay. Good for you. That is so cool. Thank you, Steven.

 Sarah DePalma 14:41
Good for you. And you know, I realize it's coming up on 2am. But you know, Jimmy one of the things about this show is we talk to an awful lot of people who are leaving the bars. We you know, they're on their way home. And now you've got some loose money in your purse. are in your pocket. Do you ever send it to give it to KPFT? I mean, very honestly, you know we have not only do we have roof that leaks, but it leaks through the floor and it leaks into the studio and we have plastic bags over the equipment. And we have had one adventure to do radio. It is an adventure to do radio here one night we had a fire while well while on the air well on the air. We had a fire while doing here while I

 15:25
had to leave and take care of the fire while you and Ray Hill were talking. We never missed a beat. It was great.

 Sarah DePalma 15:32
We have done shows here. Without air conditioning. We have done shows here whether we've done it with too much heat with fans going into studios where we couldn't hurt ourselves in the headphones. Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls and grownups of all ages, please. \$20 \$30 number is 526-573-8526 KPFT. You know, we we could tell you about the bumper stickers and the T shirts and But Jimmy has a special offer with some CDs. That's right, only for the show

 16:08
only for this show, Robert Urban, which I'm going to play later. And Dave Hall, who you heard previously, buy and play in the man that was such a cool, so I liked that song. Either one of those for \$35 pledge on plastic, and it can be yours

 Sarah DePalma 16:25
and it can be yours. That's right. So you get the usual stuff for \$35 You get the bumper sticker. Plus you get the CDs that Jamie talked about. And you get our thanks.



16:35

Are you sure you certainly do



Sarah DePalma 16:37

and it could very well mean that we don't get rained on our equipment.



16:42

That would be nice. We would appreciate really, really nice



Sarah DePalma 16:45

no idea how much fun it is to work with electrical equipment. The water dripping I know it. Jimmy years ago, I worked at a radio station in Waterbury, Connecticut. And I was working there and the station got hit by lightning. So boy, and I'm telling you the trance I



16:59

think that's the only thing that hasn't happened to KPFT the transmitter



Sarah DePalma 17:03

was literally right behind me. No, I'm telling you. I couldn't curl Louis couldn't jump. Back I need I will set a world record for how to get out of the studio.



17:20

Okay, well I need to interrupt and tell you this real very quickly.



17:25


The sound of Texas KPFT Houston of Pacifica radio network station 90.1 FM 89.1k e os College Station,



17:35

and then we're going to do a dedication. Oh goodness came in early in the show and you know, you know how long we've just been doing stuff we've been busy it's live radio it's we've been busy but you know I know Ronnie and Baytown is still listening And he wanted this to go out

easy, but you know, I know Ronnie and Baytown is Sam listening. And he wanted this to go out. Ooh, boy. And this is this is perfect for today. Absolutely perfect. He's requesting deli boy by velvet mafia. This song gets requested every week and I I'm happy to play it because it's such a fun great song. It's it's it's yeah, it's it's hot.

 Sarah DePalma 18:14


Okay, go for it. It's

 Jimmy Carper 18:15

hot. And he's and I imagine the dedicatee must be the same. It's dedicated to rooster in Baytown and he's celebrating his coming out party.

 18:27

All right.

 Sarah DePalma 18:28


Remember our number 526-573-8526 KPFT

 18:33

Okay, Rooster This is for you from Ronnie. And it's deli boy

 18:45

song hot song, deli boy by velvet mafia,

 Sarah DePalma 18:51

so you thought you were going to go to bed and not just turn the radio down low and go to sleep with us. Sam Kinison would say wrong is

 19:01

such a fabulous album, there's yeah there's like five or six songs on here that I would play on the air and a couple others that I like but maybe can't play on the air.

 Sarah DePalma 19:11

 Sarah DePalma 19:11

You know, I've noticed that seems to be the case and a lot of these there's a lot of really good music only some of it is usable.

 19:18

I know now this is this is it's a lot of the music that I play may be hard to find the velvet mafia is on Trip records to rip and their ad of a small town in Maine. But if you go to Lobo or you go especially if they're the Lobo ask for it. I saw one there one copy of it about a month ago so I don't know if it's still there if they have another copy a small

 Sarah DePalma 19:49

town in Maine produce this group. Yeah, well, which

 19:53


wherever the heck that I have no idea. Isn't that. Isn't that Isn't that odd?

 Sarah DePalma 19:59

Well, you know, it's no is about 98 times. Nothing else to do

 20:03

I know but you're talking about songs that we can't play on the air. Yeah, there is a new two CD album by Henry Rollins out. It's called Think Tank. And Henry it's a spoken word thing of him him doing spoken word stuff. Live. You know who here New Orleans now

 20:34

I can't explain Henry Rollins, and he is a straight man who has been accused of being gay for a very long time because he's so open about sexuality. Okay. He's this kind of muscley guy with a lot of tattoos and not looking on this. He does a 14 minute 14 minute cut called the gay thing. It is probably the best thing on sexuality. I've heard. Wow. It's great. And it just doesn't cover gays. It covers sexuality in general. And why? It's so dumb. You know, what does it mean? What does it matter?

 Sarah DePalma 21:26

Yeah, really?



21:27

I mean, love is love.



Sarah DePalma 21:28

We get a pledge we



21:30

did from another Steven. All right. Evens are calling in tonight. And another previous member. And he's been he's been given given it to us since 1995.



Sarah DePalma 21:43

All right. I love it. And when it goes, Steven, yeah,



21:47

I in fact, I've met this Steven. He's the one with the hot lever. Oh,



21:52

yeah. See, Jimmy always remember is one of the hot lovers. Well, Stephen ain't so bad himself.



Sarah DePalma 22:00

Before we go to the taped interview, there's Beth Pritchard called in Yeah, and she's doing fine. And if you remember, we talked we were talking about coming out earlier. Yes. And that's one of the let people know that the coming out letter that she did for the company she works at is on the web. I remember that. And it's on [www dot gender web.org/~beth](http://www.genderweb.org/~beth). Are Beth are Beth are right. So [www gender web.org/~beth](http://www.genderweb.org/~beth) R. So if you're looking for an excellent, excellent coming out letter, I really recommend that I've read it now before the interview. This needs little introduction. Okay, this interview was actually taped for last month, ya know, when we couldn't get in because we had major transmitter problems. It was underwater. We just We decided not to use this. So at the end, there are some information given out that is no longer accurate because that time has gone by



23:10

Oh, okay. Okay. And the fact that already happened or something Yeah.

S

Sarah DePalma 23:14

But at the the interview is still very, very good. Okay, this features are Diane Hardy Garcia, who is the director of the Lesbian Gay rights lobby. And Clarence Bagby, who is the director of the lesbian, gay, Houston, gay, lesbian, political COC president yes. And now that you know that we go directly to this interview. There's political about the Lesbian Gay rights lobby, and they've heard us talk about the use in gay lesbian Political Caucus. Well, this evening, you're going to have an opportunity to hear from two leaders of that organization. With me tonight is Diane Hardy Garcia, Executive Director of the gay of the Lesbian Gay rights lobby of Texas. And Clarence Bagby, who is the director of the Houston gay lesbian Political Caucus, for eaching and welcome to after hours.



24:05

Like, sir, glad to be here.

S

Sarah DePalma 24:06

Let's start at the beginning on this day, and why don't you explain to people a little bit of the history of the old Jarrell and explain what it is they do.



24:14

The Lesbian Gay rights lobby of Texas lobbies on a statewide level in the Texas legislature on behalf of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. And we lobby on issues like AIDS and HIV funding, hate pet trying to pass stronger hate crime laws. We are working on non discrimination in education. And right now particularly, we're going to be trying to stop a bill that bans lesbians and gays from being able to adopt in the state of Texas,

S

Sarah DePalma 24:42

right. We're going to talk about that in more detail in a few minutes. Clarence tell folks what the Houston gay lesbian Political Caucus is. The title may seem obvious, but there's more to it than that.



24:52

Well, it's a it's an advocacy and lobbying group. We actually have three similar setup to the lobby. We actually have three core corporations we have a political action committee, which actually screens interviews candidates, and and based upon their level of support for issues of importance to the gay lesbian, bisexual transgender community endorses and makes recommendations to the community. And those get out the vote programs. And a lot he has a similar equity pack is what the RS is the caucus political action committee. And then the caucus itself is an educational social welfare lobbying organization. We have anti violence project that we're working on with the anti Defamation League and NAACP and Houston area Women's

Center National Organization for Women in lots of other groups on focusing on hate crimes and, and violence against folks based on bias. And then we have an advocacy roundtable that we're working on, which is bringing together all the groups in the Houston area to talk about common issues and how we can work together to advocate so there's lots of education and advocacy work. And then we actually have a charity, the United Equality Fund, which deals with the more purely educational aspects of what we're doing. That doesn't feel with lobbying, you know, can't because it's a charity. So we're busy group. Lots of it's all volunteer, I'm actually the President's and all unlike the lobby. It's an all volunteer group. So we have a volunteer board and all volunteers, the lobbyists fortunate enough to have Diane's, the paid executive director. And then of course, his staff. They're a small staff that works, whether that's is that what you want to know about? Yeah, that's

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Sarah DePalma 26:36

exactly what I want to know. A lot of our audience, especially young people, young folks who are just in the process of coming out, may find it hard to believe that you could go and talk to political leaders. And I think they'd be interested to know for example, Dan, when you go and talk to legislators, what's the reaction when you go in? And you tell them you're a lesbian, gay rights lobby? Do they cringe? Do they start jumping out of windows? What kind of reaction you get? And this is Texas?



27:03

Well, we're highly popular. It's mixed. You know, I, I know that so much has changed in the last generation. I know that I know, the first lobbyists, the first person who lobbied on behalf of lesbian and gay Texans and used to go into the Texas Legislature and talk to lawmakers and they certainly had a much rougher time than I have. But there are days you know, there are days and there are people who just despise you know, talking to us and they don't want to talk to us at all. There's some people that feel guilty about talking to us because they know they're not supporting our issues when they should be. And so sometimes they avoid us. But then there are some great people. I mean, there are some great people in Houston like representative Deborah Dannenberg and Representative Scott Hochberg and state representative, granite Coleman and Deanna Davina was great. But it was Senator Alice's general health Senator house, Senator Wittmeyer. And you know, there's so many more people, so many more legislators that are actually really working on our side on many issues. Now, and so I feel very fortunate. And it's, you know, they're like, you know, legislators are people, and they want to know, how issues affect us and the and we need to be able to tell them and talk to them about them. But we also need to know about politics we live in. And I think it's really important that the political time we live in this is difficult on behalf of lesbian, gay rights issues. So you know, we know all that going in, but we have so many more friends than we've ever had before.

S

Sarah DePalma 28:39

See nothing that's really interesting. I know, in my own community, when I talk to people and say, explain to them that no, they don't jump out of windows, they will sit down and talk to you. A lot of times they have a hard time believing that, especially the people just coming out,

they're so involved with their own issues, charge them to understand that. Oh, sure. It's, you know, really, they're not gonna try to slit my wrists, they'll talk to us. It's their



29:01

job, you know, it's their job to listen to us. We pay them to do that we elect them. And it's, you know, it's their job. And so, most of the time, they're very courteous, you know, sometimes they avoid you and I want to talk to you, but most of the time, they're very curious and will hear you out and they're supposed to be sort of, it's sort of a southern thing to Southerners. To your face, it's usually behind your back.



29:26

But it's one of the things that I found that people were so surprised about this, although it's nothing replaces the importance of folks calling and writing their legislators and elected representatives individually. But one of the things that I think is so impressive is the access because of the history of some of these organizations that you know, we're proud and privileged and honored to be a part of the access that Diane can pick up the phone and call the Lieutenant Governor and talked about Bullock about something, you know, the leadership that she needs to talk to Pete Lang me, she can talk to the lady. And there's a relationship established there. And a lot of that is because of the work that Diane's done. And a lot of that is because of the respect of this organization that has existed over a period of many years, has established and the same thing is thankfully true in Houston. You know, when I call the mayor's office, I didn't get an executive assistant, the mayor calls back, then he's not calling back because Clarence Bagon, these call, he's calling back because the president of the Houston gay and lesbian Political Caucus, and there is a certain amount of access. And that's why it's so important to be a part of the lobby, and to be a member of the statewide group and a local group and, and a national group as well, that access that, that that that that group has is so important. And we need to make sure that we're keeping the lights on and Austin and you know, the lobby office and make make sure that we have money to do the important get out the vote programs here in Houston, we're real proud to be coordinating with the lobby, they've been real good about getting funding for phone banking and mailing for the election and voter outreach projects. And we're all excited to be the group in the greater Houston area that's working hand in hand with a lobby to help coordinate that on the local level. But wouldn't be able to do it if the lobby weren't there on a statewide level, working with leadership and making sure the funds are there to put this together, because unfortunately, that's what it boils down to. You got to have members, you got to have money.



Sarah DePalma 31:28

Now I got everything money. The two basic evidence is I call.



31:33

That's That's true. But we also need to make sure that people know we know that we are voters, that's very important that if we can prove our community as a voting population, and cares about issues and we'll get to the

cares about issues, and we'll get to the

S

Sarah DePalma 31:46

polls, I know in my own community, apathy is a real problem this time, what I'm hearing from them as well look, this elections essentially over and you're saying but you no matter how you vote for governor, there are two other races and these local races matter. And these be some of these people can do real damage. But I'm having a hard time getting through to that, you know, the

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32:05

governor's race really doesn't mean that much to me at all. And I you know, I hate to say it i i The issue that's much more important in Texas right now is the lieutenant governor, the person with the power and the State Representative races, I mean, those are the ones that affect the legislature. We have a system in Texas where we have a weak Governor politically, actually. And the people who really pass laws are those state senators of state legislators, and Lieutenant Governor. And so our community really, really has a lot at stake this election. I'm afraid, too, though, that people don't know what's at stake. And, and so, you know, we're going to be doing a lot of getting out the vote efforts, because what's at stake right now is that if we let our state be controlled by extreme right wing voices, that want to keep queers criminals in the state of Texas that want to deny HIV funding, that want to make it that we make it so that we don't have custody of our own children are we can adopt, and those proposals are real, they're on the table right now. If the extreme right wing takes over or takes over government and controls government in Texas, those kinds of laws will pass. And I don't think our community knows that right now. This in my mind is the biggest election I've ever witnessed. For gay Texans.

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33:28

We're right on the edge here. You know, in the Houston area, we have a couple of State Route seats that are really right on the edge, and we have a progressive incumbent representative. In one case, Ken Yarborough, who is going to be a pivotable pivotal role in Diane's work in getting the vote she needs are not getting the votes to accomplish what she's just talked about. And we've got to make people realize, you know, in State House races, sometimes you have two or 3000 people vote and that determines who wins and who loses. I

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Sarah DePalma 34:01

know my own community, Sinfonia Thompson is going to retire. And she's been tremendously helpful to our community. Anyone said Tony had gone that's a tough race. If that's replaced by a conservative Republican. That's a huge swing. And that's one of the things I've had a hard time getting people to understand. Is it forget the governor's race? It's the Lieutenant Governor down those are the ones that will do the damage majority. Yeah, maybe we can influence West Texas, but we can influence where you're at.



34:31

Well, particularly Houston in the Houston metropolitan area since the fourth largest city in the country. Houston Can you never really swing out of steak vote. So you know, voting in this area and then the Houston area has a tremendous impact on the rest of the state. You know, there just isn't that many people in east and west Texas, but there are a ton of people in Houston



34:54

who and if you look at it, you know a lot of people think oh, I'll make any difference if I vote or not, when you're talking about three or 4000 votes on some of these State House races, it does make a difference whether you vote and it makes a huge difference of whether we can stave off something and die can get killed in committee, or whether it comes to the floor for a vote and we have that one or two votes that we need to get something passed or to keep something from passing. It's so critical to be out helping. You know, I know in the part of town where you live, we have Kyle Jana who is a right wing, conservative, just extremist, the only I think medical doctor who's a member of the legislature and he is just has a horrible record cost storage



Sarah DePalma 35:39

and unfortunately, I also live in time delays district you they won't even let me in their office. They know who I am.



35:46

And we have a wonderful candidate that's running out there that's been endorsed by the caucus Global Action Committee, Mike Laster, and my could make a real difference in providing leadership that Diane needs in getting these bills passed and keeping the bad stuff from getting passed. And that I guess if we if we wanted to make any point today, it would be go out and get involved with some of those races, go phonebank forum, block, walk forum, pass out yard signs, even if it's just on your blog to raise that visibility of these progressive candidates because we've got to maintain, quote, The progressive majority such as it is in Texas, but it was instrumental in Diane's victory in the last session where the lobby was able to keep the anti gay marriage bill. out of committee what what did y'all have fruitful votes? Where do you fall in?