

[MUSIC PLAYING]

BUDDY Still working for the police department in Houston, Texas, which is not really the best place to be, everybody says
JOHNSTON: it's redneck. The letter we got from Alan that we read earlier in the show. 60 years old, can you believe that?

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

BUDDY Where's that letter?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: That just is so wonderful.

BUDDY Let me read this letter to you again, just in case you didn't hear it. This is June 20, 1989. "Dear friends, last week

JOHNSTON: I was visiting Houston. I turned on the radio at 3:00 AM.

And to my amazement, I heard your program recalling the history of gay liberation. That voice of enlightenment in a city famous for its homophobia. And it was very thrilling for me. You have my highest praise for your courage.

I've now reached the age of 60. And my early years were grim, hopeless, and suicidal. If people like you had dared to speak out as role models, my life would have been positive and creative.

Please, do not give way to despair or burnout. Believe in our cause and keep working. It is so important for those who are out there that haven't yet found their voice. My thanks and love, from Alan."

Alan, I wish you were here because I'd love to hug you. He's now 60 years old. And his early years were grim, hopeless, and suicidal. Now I'm only 35 years old, but the last few years have been super grim, super hopeless--

JIMMY CARPER: [CHUCKLES] Oh, come on!

BUDDY --and many times suicidal. Two years ago, I went to the Gay Pride Parade with dark glasses and a hat on to keep

JOHNSTON: from being recognized. In June or in September of '87, we started doing a radio program called *After Hours*. Still working for the police.

In the beginning of the show, I just told people I worked for the city, I didn't tell them I worked for the police department. But on the way home one night after listening to Harvey Milk, I told Roger, my roommate, I said, you know, I've got to tell the people that I work for the police department. I have to be honest.

And you can't feed anybody a line of crap at this hour in the morning. It just don't work. You've got to be honest. So we told you the truth.

Last year, still working for the police department, still doing this radio show, and leaving here at 4:00 and going to work at 5:30, I still wanted to go to the parade. I called in sick, which could have cost me my job because on the radio that morning, I said come March in the parade with us. And a lot of our listeners came down and they marched with me side by side, arm in arm.

And we threw rubbers and beads at people on the sides of the street, including some of the police who knew who I was. Who knew that I had called in sick. Who knew that I was risking my job by being there. But it didn't matter.

All that mattered was walking down Westheimer. When the parade started at Woodhead and Westheimer. I was so afraid because right there at the beginning there are always like 15 dozen cops all looking and trying to figure out where we're going and what we're going to be doing, and so on and so forth. And we started playing a tape.

And the first thing the tape was a promo for the show where I said something like, psst, you want to hear a secret? (WHISPERS) My name is Buddy and I work as a dispatcher for the Houston Police Department. So here we go down to Westheimer playing this tape and they're probably 10 or 15 people on each side of the street, it's no big crowd.

But when we turn the corner, what is called the curve, some of you here in Montrose the curve, I saw between 20 and 30,000 gay and lesbian people on the streets. And they begin to cheer. And as we walk down the street, the cheers got louder and louder and louder. And the smile's got bigger and bigger and bigger.

And, honey, by the time we got to Mary's, you couldn't stop us. There's no way. I want you to be with us tomorrow if you can. You can turn the radio on and listen if you can't be there in person. But if there's any way at all that you can come and you want to March with this, do it for yourself and just see what happens.

I can guarantee you, it will be the most rewarding experience of your life this week. How's that? Roger DeSantis sent a note that said two friends from the Bear Creek area are going to March in the parade with us tomorrow.

JIMMY CARPER: All right, Bear Creek!

BUDDY So it's going to be fun. It's going to be flawless. I really can't use the added adjectives I want to use because the
JOHNSTON: FCC won't let us.

JIMMY CARPER: That's right.

[CHUCKLING]

BUDDY But it will be fun. And we want to encourage you to come down and March with us tomorrow, today, and be a
JOHNSTON: part of it. Are they ready with the news?

JIMMY CARPER: They're ready.

BUDDY They're ready with the news? OK, we'll play this. And we'll see you here in a few minutes. Hang on, listen to these
JOHNSTON: guys. They've got some great information for you. And then get ready to call us and win. We got cassettes to give away.

And we want to hear from you. We want to know what you're thinking about the show tonight and Stonewall and what you've been doing for the last 20 years. And we want to know if you're going to be here to March in the parade with us. And we especially want to hear from you if you have a lot of hair on your body.

JIMMY CARPER: [CHUCKLES]

BUDDY Right? OK. We'll see you in a minute.
JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Men only.

BUDDY Yeah.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: [LAUGHS]

BUDDY We might want some hairy women.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Who are you?

BUDDY You never know. We'll be back in a minute after this card recuse. [CHUCKLES] Isn't that cute?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: An uncued cart.

BUDDY I know, I want to leave a nasty note for the staff. There we go. Now we push this button, and it'll start.

JOHNSTON:

[MUSIC PLAYING]

ADVERTISER: 20 years after Stonewall, Houstonians continue to celebrate Gay and Lesbian Pride. KPFT will broadcast live from the Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade, Sunday, June 25 from 3:00 to 7:00 PM. Join Jack Falinski, Mary Helen, and Alex Colvin as they interview parade participants and spectators prior to the parade and describe the procession live from the roof of Mary's. Be listening Sunday, June 25 from 3:00 to 7:00 PM for KPFT's live coverage of Houston's Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MIKE LEONE: Good morning and welcome to The Gay News here on KPFT. God, these things are loud. No wonder.

OK. We're going to start tonight with a important-- Oh, my name is Mike Leone. I'm here with Kevin Harrell. And we're here for the news.

We've got a couple of stories out of the Twit. We're going to hear from Kay. And we've got the final part of the gay four-part series on Stonewall in Gay History.

We're going to start with the story on the PWA apartment unit here in Houston. The plan to convert two apartment buildings in the 1700 block of Norfolk into housing for indigent AIDS patients was put on hold last Friday when district Judge Lewis Moore delayed action on the matter until a hearing can be held. That hearing will be on July 10th he said.

The delay was prompted when 18 residents of the Montrose neighborhood filed a lawsuit on June 15, seeking a temporary restraining order to stop the sale of the two units to AIDS Foundation Houston or AFH. The proceeding day had found about a dozen residents at Houston City Council unsuccessfully pleading their case.

But it was all an effort in futility as Houston City Council said their decision would stand to grant \$494,000 to AFH to purchase the two 2-story apartments on opposite sides of the street with space to house about 30 PWAs. John Paul Barnich, chairman of the AFH board, also echoed calm and reason when he reminded neighbors that AFH intended to fix up the units, would make sure all PWA residents were able to care for themselves, and would not tolerate the use of any illegal drugs by residents.

Added to all this is a legal hitch. It seems the sale will be caught in a time warp as the deal was expected to be closed on or before June 30, some 10 days before the judge's hearing. So we'll be waiting to hear what happens with that. Kevin.

KEVIN HARRELL: From Dallas, by a resounding 4 to 1 margin, the membership of the city's Oak Lawn United Methodist Church voted down a series of resolutions to include gays, lesbians, and other minorities in church participation. These actions were taken on June 11 during a historic conference organized through the efforts of gay and lesbian members as a result of recent anti-gay activities by the Oakland United Methodist Church board of directors and the Church pastor earlier in the year.

This included passage of a resolution prohibiting avowed homosexuals from serving on the church's board, a conferee told Twit News. Gay and lesbian members were further angered by the refusal of the church to allow Affirmation, a gay and lesbian Methodist group, the use of meeting facilities within the church. We feel like second-class citizens, stated Tim Tyner, one of the organizers of the church conference. The board is telling us that they will accept our money and accept our hard work, but they won't allow us to be full members of the church.

The 115-year-old Methodist congregation is located within the heart of the Dallas gay community at Oak Lawn and Cedar Springs. It has an active membership of 250 to 300 people. The majority of these being over the age of 65.

Unlike other churches in the Oak Lawn neighborhood, the church currently has no programs or outreach activities for patients with AIDS, a fact that has caused continued alienation for church members who are living with the disease. Opinions are mixed about the future of the church. While many gay and lesbian members have stated that they will seek out more progressive churches in the area, other members, like Oak Land resident John Calhoun, have decided to continue the struggle for full acceptance by the church.

MIKE LEONE: OK. And now we're going to hear a little bit from Kay Harper, this week's community bulletin board.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

KAY HARPER: Hi, this is Kay Harper with the community bulletin board. Because of the many events around Pride Week and the parade this evening at 5:00, there's not a whole lot going on of a one-night stand variety this week. So I thought I'd let you know about some of the many groups who are part of our community.

The Colt 45s are a charitable and social country and western group who meet on the second Monday of the month. Their next meeting is July 10 at 7:30 in the BRB meeting room. They also sponsor a skate night on the third Tuesday of each month at the carousel skating rink. And that starts at 8:00. Their next skate night is on July 18.

The Gay and Lesbian Student Association at U of H meets each week on Wednesday at 3:30 on the second floor of the University Center. That meeting is open to anyone who's available to go visit at that time. HeartSong is a women singing group that meets on Monday nights from 7:30 to 9:30. It's for any woman who enjoys singing, regardless of her ability. And their second annual concert is Saturday, July 15 at 7:30 at Hammond Hall on the Rice Campus.

The Lambda Center is at 1214 Joannie. And is where gay and lesbian AA and Al-Anon meetings are held. Meetings start as early as 8:30 in the morning and go until 8:30 at night. And their phone number is 521-9772. And that line is answered 24 hours a day.

As always, if you want to know what's going on in our community or if you just need someone to listen, call the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard at 529-3211. There's someone there from 4:30-ish till midnight, seven days a week. This has been Kay Harper with the community bulletin board. And you all take care.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

KEVIN Thanks, Kay.

HARRELL:

MIKE LEONE: Yeah, thank you very much. And now we're going to have the last part of the four-part series commemorating this June's 20th anniversary of the gay rights movement. There is some music there somewhere.

This is called the World's Last Best Hope. The Mattachine Society-- now isn't that a hell of a name for a gay organization. Mattachines were medieval court jesters who could, in jest, speak the truth with impunity even in the presence of the king. But considering the year in 1949, in which Henry Hay started the organization, the obtuse name is understandable. It was from this tiny organization that all the others descended.

KEVIN But with the Stonewall Rebellion, it was a time for gay organizations to adopt an upfront name and become more aggressive. Within days after the riots, a splinter group broke from Mattachine and formed the Gay Liberation Front, a group devoted to confronting political candidates, demonstrations, and consciousness-raising. A group that had insisted that the word homosexuals was no longer acceptable.

HARRELL:

We were to be known as gay. Homosexuals are those who marry thinking that heterosexual sex in a home in the suburbs will be 2.3 children and a dog named Spot will cure them. When it doesn't, they tried denial, religion, and psychiatry, and sometimes they are arrested on their knees in public restrooms. Even here, they insist they are not really that way.

MIKE LEONE: Gays, on the other hand, are those who are very happy with their sexual orientation. Without having to play games, they have more time and energy to devote to their mates, children, jobs, spiritual beliefs, health, and friends. It is such people that infuriate the religious bigots.

There was a time when the word homosexual was found only in medical journals. In polite society, such people simply didn't exist. Indeed, for decades the media had been able to ignore the Mattachine Society. But with gay liberation fronts confrontations and demonstrations, the media no longer could.

KEVIN In October 1969, *Time* ran a seven-page cover story on the homosexual. Newly visible, newly understood, *Life*
HARRELL: featured a gay couple in a 1971 issue. TV, newspapers, and magazines suddenly began covering gay issues. They found it made good copy. Gay organizations-- political, social, religious, athletic-- began springing up all over America. With widespread organization, gays began using their political and financial clout.

MIKE LEONE: This scared the hell out of Anita Bryant.

KEVIN [CHUCKLES]
HARRELL:

MIKE LEONE: What if the gay and lesbian lifestyle became an acceptable alternative? The idea was totally repugnant to her religious beliefs. So in 1977, she began a campaign to repeal recently one gay civil rights laws by deliberately provoking hysteria. Homosexuals cannot procreate, therefore they recruit from the young, she said.

KEVIN Homosexuals have a vigorous campaign to enact laws that would allow them to have sex with a three-year-old
HARRELL: child and establish gay clubs in junior high schools and high schools just like the Boy or Girl Scouts, Bryant maintained. It worked. The orange juice lady was victorious in city after city.

But adversity works in strange ways. It activates the apathetic. Thousands of gay men and lesbians left their confining closets to fight for gay civil rights. And they are more active today than ever before. But whatever happened to Anita?

MIKE LEONE: When the Supreme Court reversed the Hardwick case concerning consenting sex acts among adults in private and when it refused to hear the Don Baker 2106 appeal, many bigots gleefully proclaimed that this was a setback of such magnitude that the gay rights movement would never recover. Wrong.

The adverse decision expanded the gay movement. Half a million people marched on the nation's capital in 1987. And even more will be there next time. As long as we accept ourselves, Supreme Court decisions and bigots cannot stop us.

KEVIN When word of a new disease that mostly affects gay men began appearing in the media, gay leaders feared the
HARRELL: bigots would make a political issue of a health problem. They were right. But never in the history of the world has such a small community with such limited resources worked so hard to educate everyone, not just gays, as to the dangers of unsafe sex. Never before has a community responded with time, food, shelter, money, effort, and love to take care of all people with AIDS, not just gays.

MIKE LEONE: Our community has responded so well that the rate of new infections is declining among gay men in some cities and will eventually peak out, much to the displeasure of bigots, who had joyfully proclaimed that AIDS was sent by God as punishment. And never mind that lesbians are the AIDS safest group of all. We've grieved for those who have fallen to the disease and cried while sewing quilt panels, but is that enough? To those who've died and to those who will, we must pledge to march, write letters, vote, demonstrate, whatever it takes to get our creaky government bureaucracy off its duff. Otherwise, our friends and lovers will have died in vain.

KEVIN HARRELL: There was a time when gay men and lesbians had no history, no culture, and no love for ourselves or for each other. But beginning with Karl Heinrich Ulrichs in 1867 and accelerating with the Stonewall riots of 1969, we have become a community fighting for our rights. And by fighting for our rights, we are, in effect, fighting for everyone's rights because the gay community is male and female, Black and white, Hispanic and Jewish, feeble and strong, old and young ours. Is the only community that contains within it every other community and every other community's issues.

MIKE LEONE: Therefore, you and I have the opportunity, indeed, the responsibility to do something that's never been done before in the history of humanity. That is to create a family that is multi-linguistic, multi-religious or non-religious, and multi-colored. We can provide the seed and the model for the dream that the whole world has always longed for. A world in which there is no more war, no more destruction of the environment, no more mass hunger and overpopulation, and no more hatred.

If we do not succeed, then the world is lost because the gay and lesbian community, being so all-inclusive, is the world's last best hope. And that's the end of the Stonewall tetralogy, which has been a four-part series we've been doing on the History of Gays in America. This is written by historian Phil Johnson from Dallas. And we're going to close now with the story in Twit about the Pride Parade this Sunday.

The glory days of a big pride parade with lavish floats and lots of marching units returns this Sunday afternoon when Houston's Pride Parade moves up Westheimer, the main street of Houston's gay community. The parade is bigger, longer, and more glitzy this year to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion, recognized as the birth of the modern gay rights movement.

KEVIN HARRELL: We have 60 units in your parade this year, said Marion Coleman, Co-Chair of the Houston Gay Lesbian Pride Week Committee. There are 14 big floats, many professionally built, about two dozen marching units, another two dozen vehicles, plus walking contingents, said Tony Vega of the Pride Parade Committee. The Lone Star band of Houston and the Oak Lawn band of Dallas will March as a combined unit, he said.

MIKE LEONE: This year's parade also sees the return of trophy awards for floats. In all, there are seven categories, Coleman told TWT News. The parade will be broadcast live on KPFT FM 90.1-- I've heard of that station before-- said play-by-play announcer Jack Bilinski.

The broadcast starts at 3:00 PM with pre-parade coverage, he told TWT News. Videotape delay on Houston access cable channel 10 is tentatively arranged. The parade starts later this year at 5:00 PM, moving eastward on Westheimer to Montrose Boulevard, where it turns south to funnel into Stonewall Fun Fest in the parking lot next to Quick Copy.

KEVIN HARRELL: The Fun Fest, sponsored by Houston GLPC, that's the gay and lesbian--

MIKE LEONE: --Political Club.

KAY HARPER: Thank you. --features booths, games, DJ music, entertainment, and, of course, lots of food and drinks. It's an outdoor festival of concessions and exhibitors. Visitors coming to Houston for this Sunday's parade were invited to come a day early to make a vacation out of the weekend as there are several key events scheduled for this Saturday, June 24.

MIKE LEONE: But we're going to skip that because June 24 has already happened.

KEVIN That's right.

HARRELL:

MIKE LEONE: Anyway, the parade is just a few short hours from now. About 14 Hours from now. 13 and 1/2 hours from now.

If you want to be part of our *After Hours* marching contingent--

KEVIN We'd love to have you.

HARRELL:

MIKE LEONE: Yes, we certainly would. --give us a call here at 526-4000. Everybody will be here until 4:00 and, in fact, I'll be here until 6:00. So if you want to be a part of that, give us a call here at the station just so we'll know you're coming.

And, otherwise, just meet us tomorrow. I'm not even certain of the exact meeting location, but Buddy knows. And I'm going to get with him and find out what it is.

KEVIN I think it's in front of Lanier Middle School in Westheimer.

HARRELL:

MIKE LEONE: OK, so that's where it was last year.

KEVIN Yeah.

HARRELL:

MIKE LEONE: I think that's the same place we met last year.

KEVIN HISD will love it.

HARRELL:

MIKE LEONE: And we're about--

[CHUCKLING]

--we're about the ninth group up. So that's it really for the gay news for tonight. We had a short edition because of the special Gay Pride edition of *After Hours*.

KEVIN It is Lanier High School,

HARRELL:

MIKE LEONE: Oh, OK, thank you.

KEVIN Right in front. So that's where we need to be.

HARRELL:

MIKE LEONE: OK. And we'll be back next week with more gay news.

[MUMBLING]

Let's just fade this back up. We'll see you next week.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MAN 1: (SINGING) With so many gay men.

MAN 2: (SINGING) And so little time.

BOTH: It never [AUDIO OUT]

What are you laughing at?

BUDDY This is--

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: What are you laughing at?

BUDDY This is just a great song.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: It is.

BUDDY Yeah. I wish some hairy-chested man would call me cause I'm-- can I say horny? They can't say that on the radio,

JOHNSTON: can you?

JIMMY CARPER: Well it depends on what condition your skin is in. You know, if it's real tough--

BUDDY Then they would say we were soliciting sex.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: --I guess you would be horny.

BUDDY We shouldn't say that, should we?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Are we soliciting sex?

BUDDY Not really.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh

BUDDY Let's edit that out.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: OK.

MEN (SINGING): Give me a homosexual.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

MEN: I don't want a--

WOMAN We're going to please, you tease you.
(SINGING):

BUDDY No, no, no.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: This is new.

BUDDY No it's not. This is real old.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: I've not heard it before.

BUDDY That's the Leaping Lesbians, darling.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

BUDDY This is from the Lesbian Concentrate album. It's a lesbian anthology of songs and poems put out several years

JOHNSTON: ago back when Anita Bryant was trying to kick our rear ends all over the place anyway.

JIMMY CARPER: Hmm.

BUDDY KPFT.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Yeah, buddy.

BUDDY Yeah.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Yeah, you said you wanted somebody hairy to call you.

BUDDY Yeah, who's this?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Well--

BUDDY Hang on just a second.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Whoa. This may have to be a personal call.

BUDDY Is this a personal call?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Well, no.

BUDDY Ah rats.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: I want to let you know that the cut that you just played about the men on the ship.

BUDDY Yeah.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

CALLER: The very first time I ever heard that was aboard the Kernel down in Galveston.

BUDDY Are you serious?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: I am serious as a heart attack.

BUDDY You know who does that?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: No.

BUDDY Martin Mull.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Ah-ha.

BUDDY I don't know what the context of that thing-- I don't know where it came from but that's who does it.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: The whole tape is a hoot.

BUDDY It is, isn't it?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Yeah.

BUDDY So you got a lot of hair on your body?

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: Yeah, quite a bit.

JIMMY CARPER: Uh-huh.

BUDDY Hang on just a minute.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: You're in trouble, boy.

BUDDY Hang on.

JOHNSTON:

CALLER: No, I'm not. I got a lover.

BUDDY He's got a lover. Goodbye.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Aw.

BUDDY My, we'll talk to you later.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Thanks for calling.

BUDDY See? They've always got lovers or something. I give up.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, I've got a lover.

BUDDY Yeah, but you don't have any hair on your body.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: He does.

BUDDY He does?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Uh-huh, lots.

BUDDY He's rich too.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: He just doesn't have any on his head.

[BOTH LAUGH]

BUDDY OK, so much for that. I was hoping that he was single and free. I wish we had that song. We don't have that song,

JOHNSTON: do we?

JIMMY CARPER: "Single and Free?"

MAN: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Can you be, kind of like, 50% of that?

BUDDY You can play this.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: I'm not single but I certainly am free.

MAN: No [INAUDIBLE].

JIMMY CARPER: No, I didn't mean that. I didn't mean that.

BUDDY That thing by--

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, I wanted to say-- I wanted to mention we talked about--

MAN: [INAUDIBLE] da-da-da, da-da-da, da-da-da.

JIMMY CARPER: Huh.

BUDDY You I'm talking about.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, no I wanted to mention, you played that "Give me a Homosexual."

BUDDY This is a dedication we want to send out this morning.

JOHNSTON:

[ELECTRONIC MUSIC PLAYING]

[JIMMY LAUGHS]

JIMMY CARPER: Now you're being mean.

MALE VOICE: Hey all you guys, get out.

JIMMY CARPER: Welcome to mindless disco.

BUDDY No, we're not going to do that.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: No, before--

BUDDY What?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Forget this, forget this. OK, before you were playing "Give Me a Homosexual" by Romanovsky and Phillips. And they just completed another wonderful concert here in Houston.

BUDDY Really? Someone said it was great. I didn't get to go.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: I have never seen them give a bad show.

BUDDY I should have called down there and try to get some free tickets, because I was just real short of money. I started

JOHNSTON: a new job. I had to quit my job two, three weeks ago.

JIMMY CARPER: Well not only that, but we don't just walk in here and put this thing on.

BUDDY Well, yeah, it costs money but I--

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: And no, it takes time to put it together.

BUDDY Takes a lot of time, and I had just got a new job. I had quit my job because I needed to be off on Sundays and
JOHNSTON: they wouldn't let me off on Sundays, so I had to quit. That's one of the reasons I left HPD. I was so tired of working Sundays and doing this and go home and do work.

JIMMY CARPER: Darling, I know you were tired.

BUDDY Thank you.

JOHNSTON:

[JIMMY LAUGHS]

Anyway, where are-- we just completely lost it. Is Mojo here? We can just go home now.

JIMMY CARPER: I don't think so.

BUDDY 526-4000. 526-KPFT. You don't have to be real hairy. You could just be-- no, never mind.

JOHNSTON:

[JIMMY LAUGHS]

I'm not going to get into trouble with that.

JIMMY CARPER: And he's lowering his standards, boys and girls.

BUDDY Yeah.

JOHNSTON:

[PIANO MUSIC PLAYING]

There's a lot going on today. I wish that I could make you excited enough about it to participate.

WOMEN'S CHOIR (ON TRACK): From the distance, our world looks blue and green, and the snow-capped mountains, white. From a distance, the ocean meets the stream, and the eagle takes to flight. From a distance, the air is harmony. And it echoes through the land. It's the voice of hope. It's the voice of peace. It's the voice of everyone.

BUDDY This is Hart's song under the direction of Lynn Weiner the, Houston Women's Community Chorus, and they're
JOHNSTON: singing for us from the steps of City Hall last year live on KPFT, and the celebration of life, really. I really wish you could have seen it. It was just beautiful.

WOMEN'S CHOIR: There are no guns. No guns, no disease.

WOMAN (ON TRACK): (SPEAKING) Can I talk to you about love? That's why we're here, isn't it?

CHOIR: From a distance, we are--

WOMAN: May I remind you that love is against the law? That love as we know it is a criminal activity? That lovemaking involves illegal acts? We are here because we have committed them.

[CHEERING]

And we enjoyed them enormously.

[CHEERING]

We are an army of lovers. That is a fearful thing. We are the only minority group also that you can join overnight.

[LAUGHTER]

In the twinkling of an eye, in fact.

[APPLAUSE]

CHOIR: Even though we all--

WOMAN: We who have committed the crime of loving. We are freedom with more risks than servitude ever offered. We dared to know pleasure. May I say pleasure, again? I don't think it's been mentioned much today.

[CHEERING]

We had guts enough to love. They tried to cover this with guilt, shame, dishonor. They made it as awful for us as they could. But it was wonderful. It is getting more wonderful. Fellow criminals, never forget your nights in the days of your fighting for their freedom. Remember this experience. It is the tenderest, finest moment of our lives. And in the clamor for our civil rights, always remember that they never granted them nor withdrew them. They only stole them.

[CHEERING]

And remember, most of all, that we have so much more to give them than they have ever taken from us.

[CHEERING]

We have been places. We have known things, seen, suffered, feared, felt, experienced. Ecstasy, hell, wander, all through our illegal acts. They have brought us the full richness of the human experience. Our freedom, finally, when they understand it at last, is theirs. So keep loving, keep making love, and soon there will be enough. Thank you.

CHOIR: We shall go forth.

WOMAN: (SINGING) We shall go forth from this place, proud of the things we've done, sharing the things we've won. We shall not fail. And we shall go forth from this place, willing to open wide, sharing the light inside. We shall not fail. Bringing together all we know for others who are struggling to know. Bringing together all we know, offering those who want to find us a way to find us, a way to see.

HARVEY MILK And I'll tell you what the gay movement's about. After I got elected, I got the phone call I knew I'd eventually get.
(ON TRACK): Got quite a few of them. One was from a 17-year-old child in a small town in Minnesota, and the boy is handicapped. And the boy's parents found out he's gay, and they want to put him in an insane asylum. That boy needs help.

And the gay movement is about the letter I got from Southwest Africa, when he read about a gay person getting elected here, and that person has hope. And that 17-year-old kid in Minnesota has hope. And when we have gay leaders not understanding that and are more worried about their own personal power, they're not gay leaders. They're offensive.

CHOIR: We shall go forth. We shall go forth.

BUDDY That was a rude noise because the cart wasn't queued.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

BUDDY I didn't queue it from last week.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

BUDDY Isn't this pretty?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: This is--

BUDDY Margie Adams. It's called "We Shall Go Forth." And we shall go forth today, from Woodhead in Westheimer to

JOHNSTON: Montrose. And nothing can stop us. So you need to be there and you need to be a part of it.

HARVEY MILK (ON TRACK): Somewhere in Des Moines or San Antonio, there's a young gay person, who all of a sudden realizes that she or he is gay, knows that if the parents find out they'll be tossed out of the house. The classmates would taunt the child, and the Anita Bryant's and John Briggs are doing their bit on TV. And that child had several options--staying in the closet, suicide, and then one day that child might open a paper it says, "Homosexual Elected in San Francisco," and there are two new options. The option is to go to California

[LAUGHTER]

[APPLAUSE]

Or stay in San Antonio, and fight. Two days after I was elected, I got a phone call and the voice was quite young. It was from Altoona, Pennsylvania, and the person said thanks. And you've got to elect gay people so that young child and the thousands upon thousands like that child know that there's hope for a better world. There's hope for a better tomorrow. Without hope, not only gays, but those Blacks, and the Asians, and the disabled, seniors, the us's, the us's. Without hope, the us's give up. I know that you cannot live on hope alone, but without it, life is not worth living. And you, and you, and you got to give them hope. Thank you very much.

BUDDY Two weeks ago-- was it two weeks ago, Jimmy?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Mm-hmm.

BUDDY I had to quit a job--

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

BUDDY -- working for a gay-owned business because they couldn't give me time off on Sundays to go home and rest

JOHNSTON: after doing this program. We put out a lot of energy here every week and a lot of times, people forget that we're just volunteers. I came to KPFT because I heard Ray Hill talking one night about a program called "Wild and Stein," about how we weren't going to take any crap from the police anymore and we were going to stand up as a community.

And for some reason, I really want to believe that, that that joining together, that coming together of our people will happen someday. It hasn't happened in 20 years. We've seen the death of Harvey Milk. A lot of young gay and lesbian people don't even know who Harvey Milk was. We've seen the deaths of tens of thousands of gay brothers, and sisters, and children, and women to something called AIDS. And our government continues to turn its back on us, and many of us are still dying.

In fact, we talked about Bruce Cook a couple of weeks ago. And we've shared so much pain with you over the last two years. You know, this is the most thankless thing I've ever done. Because I thought, when I started doing this, working for the police department, that it would really be great. And that the community as a whole would think it was wonderful. But I found out that there wasn't any community. What community, there was was so scattered and so splintered and so anxious to start their own little group because this person gets mad at that person, and that person gets mad at this person.

And over the past two years I've yet to understand why we can't be accepted. in that ring of so-called gay leaders in Houston. I don't want to be a leader. But damn it, I do want some recognition for what we've put out here for the last couple of years. In September, this program would have been on the air for two years. And we've given two years of our lives, two years of our money, two years of sleepless Sundays for having to get up and go to work. Last year, we spent several hundred dollars just to be able to March in the parade. All that money comes out of our pocket. Today Jimmy and Roger went around Houston all over the place looking for a generator so that we would have something to play our music on tomorrow as we go down the street.

When Bruce Cook died, I had called Jimmy that day to tell him I wasn't going to do this anymore because I didn't care. And I don't. I don't care about Marion Coleman, or Charles Armstrong, or the bars, or anything else. I care about myself and I care about you. And we're going to be here for you because after almost two years, there's no way we can walk away from you. Believe me, if I could I would. I really, really would. I would juts say to hell with it, I'm never going back.

Two or three weeks ago, I said something about quitting. And when I got home, I had a message on my recorder from a 16-year-old kid that listens to us, that said he had listened for months and how much he enjoyed it. And he said, don't give up because I won't be 16 forever. One of these days, I'll be down there to help you. This week we got a letter from Allen, 60 years old, just reaching out to touch us. You're the only reason that we're here. You're the only reason that we've given up so much. I mean you can't even begin to imagine what we've had to give up. And yeah, I don't want a lot of pats on the back, but goddammit, we do want a little respect from the leadership of this city.

And I don't know what we're going to have to do to get that respect, but we're going to keep slugging away, kids. Maybe one of these days they'll wake up and realize what's going on around them. When we did the Harvey Milk rally last fall, the main reason that I wanted to do that was so that everyone in this community could come forward and take part in it. Because last year, after the parade, I stood in the back of my Jeep in the parking lot across the street from Kroger and waved a rainbow flag while 20,000 gay men and lesbians stood in that parking lot and listened to disco. That's a bunch of crap. We don't need to hear disco after the parade.

We need to tell each other that our lives count and that together, we can make a difference. We need to look around us and ask our brothers and sisters, hey, have you registered to vote? In the upcoming elections this year, can you vote? Can you help make a difference in our lives? We need to encourage our friends that didn't come to the parade, that can't get involved because their jobs. They can't be there because they're afraid their families are going to find out. We need to tell them that it's OK.

Jimmy was talking about losing his family some years ago. And this morning, just this very morning, talking to his sister after so many years. My parents kicked me out of the house when I was 17. I have more brothers and sisters than I can count. And if it wasn't for people like Jim Carper sitting to my left, I couldn't survive now. We do it because we're a family. Yes, you may lose your mother and dad. Yes, you may lose your job. Yes, you may lose your friends. But there are between 20 and 35 million gay and lesbian people in this country. Honey, that's one hell of a family. All I want to tell you right now is the only thing that gets us through it is to hear from you.

You know, we joke a lot-- I kid a lot about wanting hairy-chested men. I really do. I really, really do, because I'm lonely when I lay in bed alone. And sometimes I'm so tired that I can't even go out and try to find anybody. So I thought, well, maybe somebody will call.

JIMMY CARPER: You know, but--

BUDDY But we're just exhausted so many times.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: We are. But if one person-- if we finish off a show and one person can truly say, I have thrown off the shackles of self-hate that heterosexuals brought me up to believe, it's satisfaction for me.

BUDDY It's all worth it.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: It's worth it.

BUDDY It's all worth it. And we said that in the very beginning, that if just one person gets anything out of this, it's worthwhile. Looking back on the almost two years, I see people like Larry Rodriguez.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

BUDDY I see young people whose lives have been changed so dramatically, not by anything that we did. We're just here, giving you a little push. You have to realize you're doing it all your own. You know, tomorrow-- today rather-- the parade will happen and it will be beautiful, because the spirit of Harvey Milk that has brought us this far will be there.

And as we march down Westheimer, we will march as a family. And even though Mary Ann Coleman wants us all in Adidas-type bike shorts, she fails to understand, if we marched down Westheimer in three-piece suits, society as a whole would not accept us, because they don't like what we do in bed. And they will never accept that until we educate them, until we come out and say, hey, I'm here.

I work beside you every day. I shop in your stores. I spend my money to keep your business going. I pray in your church. I'm the one that saved your children when their ball ran out into the street, and I chased that basketball down to keep those kids from getting run over. I'm the one that ran across the street when your little girl fell and scratched her knee and began to cry, and I'm the one that carried her up to your house. I'm the one that picked up the slack on the job when you weren't feeling quite up to the par that day.

You know I'm the one. And I'm gay, or I'm lesbian. I'm a homosexual. I love getting in bed with men. And tomorrow, as we march down Westheimer, we will march for you. That's the only reason I'll go. Because if it were anything else, I would say to hell with it, but I will go for you. If there's any way at all possible that you can be there, come march with us. Come be a part of one of the greatest days in your life. And like Jimmy said earlier in the program, it won't be the day, it will be the beginning. Come be surrounded by hundreds of thousands, hopefully millions and millions. You never know what's going to happen. Show up and be a part of the 20th anniversary celebration of the Stonewall. And help us write a new page in gay and lesbian history. Together we can make a difference.

If you need to call us, you can call us at 529-4636. The number's 529-4636. Or you can write us at After Hours, KPFT, 419 Lovett Boulevard in Houston, 77006.

Someone said one time, no, I don't want to do that because that's too mushy. It really is. We'll do that some other time. What can we say, Jimmy?

JIMMY CARPER: Let's put them on an up note. This is a happy time.

BUDDY Come out and march with us, today. It's going to be great.

JIMMY CARPER: Or watch us.

BUDDY Yeah.

JOHNSTON:

CHOIR (ON TRACK): All you gay men, come together, stand together, and each other's rights defend.

MALE VOICE: (SINGING) There are ghettos in the cities. Some are black, and some are white. Some you see and some are in, in the shadows of the night. To be gay is to be fighting all the prejudice and lies. The condemners to be running scared and lonely all our lives.

CHOIR: All you gay women, all you gay men, come together, stand together and each other's rights defend. All you gay women, all you gay men, comes together, stand together and each other's rights defend.

FEMALE CHOIR: There are people in the city, and the towns throughout the land, who are saying to themselves this is the time to take a stand. Workers, women, gays and Blacks and white, now opening our eyes. To the need to take control of both our bodies and our lives.

CHOIR: All you gay women, all you gay men, come together, stand together, and each other's rights defend. All you gay women, all you gay men, come together, stand together, and each other's rights defend. All you gay women, all you gay men, come together stand together, and each other's rights defend.

[80'S TECHNO MUSIC OVERLAPPING]

JIMMY CARPER: Do-do-do-do-do-do-do-do. That's our theme.

BUDDY Is that good enough?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

BUDDY Oh, God. I'll be glad when this day is over.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Why?

BUDDY I don't know. Because when you walk down the street and you see all those smiling faces, it just kind of drains

JOHNSTON: the energy out of you.

JIMMY CARPER: I just get turned on.

BUDDY It'll be great.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: I'm not even walking on the street. I'm about a foot above it.

BUDDY Jimmy and I are going to be recording the events as they take place going down Westheimer.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Mm-hmm.

BUDDY So next week we'll have that for you. In the meantime, stay tuned. Mojo's here and Mannish Blues. Coming at

JOHNSTON: you live right here on KPFT, your Pacifica station for the Texas Gulf Coast.

JIMMY CARPER: Good, hot, down and dirty blues.

BUDDY And if it rains, bring your rubbers.

JOHNSTON:

[JIMMY LAUGHS]

JIMMY CARPER: Bring them anyway.

BUDDY We'll see you next week. I love you kids, bye. Say goodbye, Mary.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Bye, Mary.

[80'S TECHNO MUSIC]

KPFT