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bisexual, people, san francisco, montrose, houston, gay, community, years, michelle, groups, afford, silicon valley, meeting, nonprofit organization, parties, project, big, feel, remember, bay area

SPEAKERS

Michelle Meyers, Roy, Gigi



00:02

My website is [www dot credit union Project dot samen](http://www.creditunionproject.samen.com) which is [s ai m i n.net](http://saiamin.net). And my email is [cm e r r i t t](mailto:cmerritt@freeweb.com) at [free www eb.com](http://freeweb.com). All right.



00:27

We had a caller who asked asked, wants more information about individuals joining?



00:33

Well, all in a bit, this is what maybe we weren't actually clear on this individuals will be joining the way that they are eligible, the credit union has to have a well defined Field of Membership. And so just gets aids for everybody. Right, exactly. So the way we are defining our Field of Membership is by the nonprofit organizations that serve the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community that will be in the charter, but the members of those organizations which will be individuals will actually be joining the credit union. Say you're a member of the gay and lesbian Political Caucus, you will join the credit union because you are a member of that organization.



Gigi 01:11

So MCC er Yeah, neither church.



01:15

Yes. Church. Right. switchboard? Yes, any Montrose softball league could join game as chorus. Yes, any nonprofit organization, basically, they do have to have a couple of there are a couple of requirements there. They need a little bit of structure. Basically, they need regular meetings

at least once a year. And they need to have some definition of their membership, whatever their group is for. And that's pretty much it.



01:45

Well, then you get the Lone Star nudists, all kinds of different groups and really get the ball rolling Lee



01:51

Yes, the more the merrier. And we



01:55

you know, we certainly have a lot of groups, we have a lot of religious organizations, so it's easy to be a member of any one of them. Exactly.



02:05

Yes. I mean, there's quite a list any I mean, the some of the University of Houston gay and lesbian organization should be in it and Houston outdoor group just as long as their members are part of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community and they are a nonprofit organization, and they have a little structure, then they're pretty much eligible to be in there. Right.



Gigi 02:29

Okay, that makes all their members eligible. Exactly, exactly.



02:35

That's wonderful. I can't wait. Good luck. I can't wait to put all my money in the credit. Thank you for joining us on after hours. Thank you. Since it's our 11th anniversary, I'm gonna play a song that actually used to be our theme song for a little while. It's a song that came out in the very early 80s by Jimmy Somerville and it was like almost the first real openly gay dance song called small town boy, and you're hearing it on after hours queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston, and ke o s College Station. Ah, yes. small town boy by Jimmy Somerville that came out in the very early 80s. It's been a staple in gay clubs. It was for many years a gay anthem. And because there weren't that many openly gay performers and you know, 15 or so more years ago, but now we have so many more out of the closet. And we love bringing that music to you. I'll be bringing a lot more because I'm getting new music. Whoa. Getting new music through the internet. Like, like I got, like the earlier one of Mark waggles. Gigi is here.



Gigi 04:08

Yeah. And I have Michelle with me from San Francisco. Hi. It's great



04:14

to be here.



04:16

Yes, I used to be on the show a lot. Yeah, I used



Michelle Meyers 04:19

to be on the show every month thumb with Gigi until I moved off to California. And ever since then. I've been well, not on the show since well, right. I suppose two years ago.



04:30

I just can't believe it's been that long. Yeah.



Michelle Meyers 04:34

Like this just like whoosh, it's gone.



04:37

Gone. You look right. Oh, thank you. So San Francisco. agrees with you. More or less? Yeah, yeah. So what's life like? Tell us the real story about what life is like in San Francisco?



Michelle Meyers 04:49

Well, I don't really live in San Francisco. I live. If I lived in San Francisco, my life might be very different. But I live in Silicon Valley, which is about 30 miles. It was about 35 miles south of San Francisco. Okay.



05:02

You know, I've heard Silicon Valley, but I've never really known what that what that means.

—

M

Michelle Meyers 05:08

Yeah, neither does anyone else. It's kind of a vague area.

05:12

So I'm not alone in

M

Michelle Meyers 05:15

most of the area like south of San Francisco on the on the peninsula. I don't know if anyone knows anything about the geography that was a peninsula. Yeah. San Francisco is like the northern tip of a peninsula. And the peninsula kind of comes down and the places that are south of San Francisco, a lot of that area is considered Silicon Valley. San Jose, is considered like the kind of the center ah,

05:36

oh, okay. I've heard of San Jose.

M

Michelle Meyers 05:39

Yeah. Big City. Yeah. Is it really? Oh, yeah. Senate. Well, not compared to Houston. But I mean, it's a fairly big city. It's maybe it's bigger than San Francisco. It's maybe a million people. No. Oh, yeah. Yeah. I

G

Gigi 05:53

went to Bennett meeting there. When I was up there.

05:56

Yeah, there are less than a million people in San Francisco.

M

Michelle Meyers 05:59

Yeah, there's only about I think six or 700,000 people in San Francisco. San Francisco is a tiny city in area wise. I mean, San Francisco is maybe seven miles by six or seven miles.

06:10

Yeah. And that's like, contained. So it can't get much bigger,



Michelle Meyers 06:13

right. I mean, the Bay Area in total has maybe six or 7 million people, but they're all scattered around like San Francisco, Berkeley, Oakland, you know, all of the peninsula. San Jose.



06:23

Okay, so. So living in San Francisco proper is probably pretty pricey.



06:29

Oh, extremely pricey.



Gigi 06:31

I couldn't and it's going up.



Michelle Meyers 06:33

I mean, I'm a computer programmer, and I make a fairly decent salary. And I can't there's no way I could afford to live in San Francisco. I mean, it's so expensive.



06:41

You were telling me this incredible story about some apartment that came up? Vacant and they were like they were auctioning it off.



Michelle Meyers 06:49

Oh, yeah. This turned out to be quite an industry in San Francisco. It's gotten really nuts. I mean, people like they'll start out. I remember some of my friends were looking for an apartment in San Francisco. And I guess it was a it was a three bedroom apartment. And they were asking 2000 for it, which is like a bargain in San Francisco. Wow. And, and 50 people showed up and they started auctioning the place off. You know, they just they had the owner said okay, we're going to auction the place off and whoever was willing to pay the most for it. We'll get it. Yeah. And they think they ended up going for about 28 or 2900 a month. I mean, for a three bedroom apartment. That wasn't even that big.



Gigi 07:24

Wow. And that amaze three



07:28

month rent. Right?



Gigi 07:33

That's an include parking



07:36

that I just realized, you know, I'd moved there and



07:38

\$36,000 a year.



07:42

Yes, yes.



07:44

Of course, people. Most people don't make that much in a year. Gross.



Gigi 07:52

Just it's incredible and amazing.



07:54

Yes, it is. It is. I have to stop for just a second and let people know that. I don't want to let people know that.



08:06

Texas KPFT Houston, of Pacifica radio network station 90.1 FM 89.1k EOS College Station.
That's



08:14

right. We are the queer sound of Texas you're listening to after hours. I'm Jimmy Carper. And Gigi is here with Michelle from San Francisco. We're talking.



Michelle Meyers 08:24

We've got like a recording there. And we don't have to say that anymore. I just remember every month being here. This is KPFT 19 point 2.1. Coming back, I remember I remember doing the show.



Gigi 08:41

When Michelle first meet there. She was having too much fun going to parties going to the BiNet meet. I mean, they're



Michelle Meyers 08:51

they're really Oh, yeah, there's actually quite a few bisexual organizations there. Oh, there's more than 101. And there's one in Berkeley that meets. There's one in Berkeley that meets every month. There's one in San Francisco that meets every month. There's one in San Jose that meets every week. Wow. And then there's one up north suburban areas. Get together to get together more than you know far away from San Francisco.



Gigi 09:16

But just about every weekend, there's a party. My party. Yeah. And I went to one of those and oh, did I was talking to the San Francisco or



Michelle Meyers 09:28

Gigi I mean in San Francisco, you'd be pretty mundane. I'm sorry. 1000 People like



09:38

I wish wishes was TV. So





09:43


I remember one time I




Gigi 09:47


 Gigi 09:47
was noticed in San Francisco.

 09:50
He's trying to defend himself.

 Michelle Meyers 09:53
I realized that things were different. Even there stood out little. The first the first week I was in Berkeley. I was walking down telegraph, which is the street that has, it's pretty close to the university. And there's lots of like little funky shops, and like street vendors and things and I was walking down the street. And I saw this guy who was walking down the street, he's wearing this like pink clown suit. He had these like puffy pink things on his feet. And this purple wig and, and the suit that was just totally outrageous looking. I wish I could remember it. But he had like these buttons on at these like purple buttons on this pink suit looking totally crazy. And no one gave him a second class. It's like he's walking down the street, I'm kind of looking and looking at everyone else. And no one's even paying attention to this guy. And I'm like, Okay, I know, I'm not in Houston anymore.

 10:45
Oh, that's incredible.

 Gigi 10:50
But what is the bisexual life like in San Francisco?

 Michelle Meyers 10:55
Um, well, the groups are a lot different. I found the the groups in San Francisco in the Bay Area are a lot more casual. I guess a lot of people are, don't have this, like a lot of people who I remember came to find it Houston were very scared. And they were you know, they were just coming out. And they were uncomfortable with the idea of being bisexual. Whereas in the Bay Area, it's not seen as that big a deal, really. So the groups are a lot more informal. It's like you go to a group and it just kind of like, you know, 20 people 20 or 30 people, maybe 40 getting together for coffee or something. And it's not. It's funny, one thing that I've really noticed that's odd, differently different about the bisexual groups there is no one ever talks about being bisexual. It's sort of like, you know, no one has any issues with it. It's just sort of a way for like a people in common. They kind of talk about their jobs or their work or just just a way for people in common to get together. And

 11:46
then I think because, like, I mean, you would have different problems, a gay person at work

then I think because, like, I mean, you would have different problems, a gay person at work would have different problems and a straight person because of where we're coming from. And so you would want to talk it over with gay people. So it's the same kind of thing. That's really

M

Michelle Meyers 12:03

it just becomes a non issue. It's like people are there just kind of to meet other bisexual people, but they don't really just just to see like minded people. I mean, yeah, just kind of like a social thing.

⦿

12:13

That's amazing. And here, it's it's a matter of coming out and people are scared and, and there's all kinds of issues. Oh, my God, that's incredible. And not only that,

G

Gigi 12:24

it's you know, where do we fit in? And Houston, you know, where's in California? It's not an issue to try to fit in. I just can't imagine that. I mean, I would love to imagine. Yeah. Yeah,

M

Michelle Meyers 12:41

there's a downside to it, however, that I found. And the downside is that there isn't nearly the same sense of family in the queer community in the Bay Area as there is here, really, because people just it's sort of like, here, it's almost feels like if you're queer, you're part of this family or against the world, you know, people are against us, we have to keep together. And whereas there, it's like, oh, yeah, we're gay, whatever, who cares? And you know, and no one people don't feel the same sense of affiliation for other queer people as they do.

⦿

13:10

You know, I've been reading I've been reading more and more about that, in the press, of people who feel that way even hear that. They feel like, well, a lot of that. We want marriage, we want this and we want to be like everybody else, and that we're losing. We're losing our community. We're losing our identity, even. And, actually, yes, that happens. Because I have friends in Amsterdam, where, you know, it's no big deal. And, you know, there is no Montrose in Amsterdam, because you can live anywhere. It's no big deal.

G

Gigi 13:50

And, unfortunately, one of the things I'm seeing in Montrose is how, you know prices are skyrocketing. And on property. And here, yeah. Oh, my God. Yeah. And, you know, it's like, the queers are moving to hell, right. I can't afford to live here. Yeah.

M

Michelle Meyers 14:06

That's what's happening in San Francisco as well, is that the queer people are, in many cases being forced out by what's happening in San Francisco is that Silicon Valley has gotten red hot. And all of the computer computer programmers who are the only people who make like very, very good salaries down there, are moving into San Francisco because they think, oh, San Francisco is cool. And the South Bay is well just kind of boring. So they're moving into San Francisco and they're taking over all the apartments and they're willing to pay these just you know, incredible rents, because they can afford to so a lot of the queer people a lot of the poor people like a lot of the flavor of San Francisco like in the mission for instance, with all these you know, you have all the poor Hispanics and various different little cultures in the mission. And they're starting to steadily get destroyed because the the computer engineers are just, you know, buying up everything and just it's becoming almost a bedroom coming Ready for Silicon Valley in a lot of ways.

G

Gigi 15:02

And, you know, it's in some degree that's happening in Montrose . I say



15:08

yes, to some degree. It's not I had a story, which is not a very good story. We had been discussing this over time about all of these three storey two and \$300,000 townhouses that are going up. On the kind of the the yuppies moving in straight yuppies. Yeah. Moving in and how it's kind of affecting the Montrose as an area as a whole because all of a sudden, Montrose has been discovered as a cool place to live because it's close to everything. You don't have to drive all over, you know, you're not caught in traffic jams. Exactly. Exactly. But and it's a neat place to live. Yeah,

G

Gigi 15:53

you got the museum district and the grandeur district,




15:56

but a lot of a more conservative types are moving into these \$300,000 townhouses and they want to change the fabric of the community. Yeah, they want it more more woodland See, than than the Montrose type. And I, you know, I've been hearing this and I thought, yeah, yeah, yeah. And that kind of it hit home the other day, I was at, at Kroger. And there was a woman, nicely dressed woman with her daughter in front of me. And she had a few things in her basket. And I had a few things in mind. And evidently, she just forgot something. And so she turned around to me, and she said, Oh, I forgot something. And she pushed her basket aside, and she said, Go ahead of me, if you must. I thought, well, that was an odd way of putting it. And then she started walking off, she turned around and asked her daughter to come with her. And I thought, Okay, that's a little odd. So, as it turns out, she was going for a while I moved my basket. I didn't move it at all. In fact, the checker, you know, grabbed my basket and started.

And just as I was paying, and getting change, the woman came back with whatever she had forgotten. And she put it in her basket, and she was looking into her checkbook. And I said, Well, you didn't lose any time at all. I mean, you know, the timing was great. And she looked up and just gave me a go to hell look. And I thought, what? Except looking obviously gay. Yeah. And so I can see where we're going to have problem arise.

 Gigi 17:55


And that's, you know, I think that's part of what by nets about it's because bisexuals don't even have a community here. Right. You know? And I think that's what struck me so about the Bay Area is how strong the community is. You know, used to tell me a little bit about it how they be a big part of the gay pride and

 Michelle Meyers 18:24

oh, yeah, I mean, the the bisexual float in the gay pride for and not only we didn't have a float, we just had a contingent in the parade, and it would make it would get between 80 and 130. People. Wow. Which tomorrow? Tomorrow? Yeah. And you know, there'll be

 18:42

you can't get that much to come to a BiNet meeting. That's private.

 Michelle Meyers 18:50


Oh, yeah. Even had a bisexual Film Festival, actually. Oh, in June, unfortunately, didn't go to it. I was out of town. But I heard it was really good. And they had a lot of meeting.

 Gigi 18:58

And I think that's one of the things it's really you know, I'd love to see that here in Houston. No kidding. Yeah. You know, we're we have a sense of it bisexual community and some bisexual events going on. Yeah, that's partly why I wanted to do this conference

 19:15

or Yeah, bisexual community sponsored something. Yeah. Yeah. For this feeling of community because I know that. I know. When Jim went to his first meeting, it was like a revelation as I come home. And there's just not that many places in Houston to do that. People are afraid of coming out as bisexual. Oh, yeah. I don't know why. Well, I guess I do know why

 Michelle Meyers 19:44

people are afraid of losing their jobs. They're afraid of the usual things that people are afraid of. Yeah, I know. It's gonna like me. I'm not



19:52

actually it's not only not only the things that that we're afraid of, but double A with bisexuals who are married and they have children, so I can understand that. But still, you know they're buying that is a place to go you don't it's not an open. I mean, it's not an open thing, it's your pictures are gonna be in the paper, because we went to a bind net meeting?



20:22

No, we don't.



Gigi 20:26

In fact, we have some people that show up and use the same names. And that's cool with that. But, you know, I also wanted to kind of touch on some of the wildness of California,



20:40

and wellness. Yeah, just



Gigi 20:44

things that you, you're telling me a little bit about some of your experiences at some of the parties and how, how much more open things were there?



Michelle Meyers 20:55

Um, well, I don't know about necessarily, things that are more open. One thing, one thing I found was that a lot of the, the parties, I have gotten to actually a lot of parties in the, you know, a lot of the circles of like, kind of like the computer type people. And in a lot of this parties, I mean, there's a lot of very open bisexual activity, it's like, it's very common for people. You know, there's lots of bi people there. And it's, it's not a big deal. It's just sort of, you know, people, you know, men will, will cruise men and women will cruise women. And it's not, it's like people are not, they don't tend to have a very bisexual identity. It's like, they're just like, oh, and by so and they don't even think of it as something to identify with. They don't usually like, you know, a lot of people don't go to groups and things like that, because they just, it's just sort of like no big deal. It's taken for granted. Which, you know, is very different, I think, then then in Houston. I mean, you wouldn't go to like a generic party and, and go hit on some of the same sex here in Houston. Right? You'd be afraid of that. Whereas there you could I mean, you would, you know, ask them or, you know, you could, you know, you wouldn't know

for sure whether they were interested or not, but you could and it wouldn't be, you know, they might say, Well, I'm not into that, but you know, they're not going to be like horribly offended or anything like that either.



22:10

Okay, okay. That's that's kind of the way sexuality ought to be, don't you think? Oh? Gosh, so how long do you here for?



Michelle Meyers 22:22

I'm probably here for another few days. Plenty leave on Thursday.



22:26

Okay. Are you planning on doing anything while you're here? And



22:29

I'm not sure. We've done some party Friday. That's fine.



22:35

Yes. Vehicle going to Galveston maybe?



Michelle Meyers 22:40

I don't know. Maybe I'm kind of just seeing a nice brown water. I'd like to go visit rice again. I've been there and that's right. Yeah. Right. Yeah. Graduated from rice and 96. So hi to everyone from rice. Wow. Who remembers me? I don't know if anyone does or not



22:56

all the loans yet? Oh, no. Sorry.



Michelle Meyers 23:01

It's like they're sending me bills every month. So if you guys are out there the check is in the mail.



23:07

They're used to hearing back from you dear. But, but you look like you're happy?



Michelle Meyers 23:14

Yeah, more or less. I have my ups and downs. But yeah, I'm pretty happy. Yeah.



23:18

Yeah. You haven't more together and and all that kind of stuff.



23:26

I was saying I wasn't very together a couple years ago.



23:30

Wow. So I can remember incidents but you know, a lot of pressure on you at that time. Okay. But but but now that school is over and you know, you're when you have to worry about getting a loan to continue school and yeah, when



Michelle Meyers 23:48

you're like worrying about like, God, can I afford to buy some ramen to eat? It's kind of



23:55

and you're through with that and now you're starting life?



Michelle Meyers 23:58

Yeah, no, sorry, life and I have Well, I actually got laid off I don't have a job. But hey, you know, things happen. But I actually I don't have a job and it's okay, there's still I still have money. So it's not like I when I was in college. Wow. I don't have a job I can't eat.



Gigi 24:11

We have to clarify this a little bit. Every time Michelle changes jobs, her salary goes up.



24:17



24:17

Yeah. You mentioned it on the show many times. God I can't imagine what she must be making by now.



G

Gigi 24:25

Oh, no, it's incredible.



M

Michelle Meyers 24:30

That's one thing if you if you're interested in earning some money to get a computer science degree



G

Gigi 24:37

to Silicon Valley.



24:40

Okay, so, but Silicon Valley is not



M

Michelle Meyers 24:44

Oh no, Silicon Valley is Silicon Valley is very different place. It's a very unique place. I've never I've never quite found any place quite like this. It for one thing. It's very different in that there aren't it feels unreal almost because there aren't Any everyone has money. It's like there aren't any poor people. There are no homeless people that you know, the Wow. And all these people all go to San Francisco or to Berkeley, the police are very strict about kicking out all the homeless people. I say, oh, it's that kind of community that kind of place everyone has. I remember I was going to work and you know, my car is not in the best of shape. I have this kind of smashed up Honda Civic, which I always have, I always have and it wouldn't get I wouldn't get a second look here in Houston. But I'm down down there. You know, I drive into work and I have my beautiful Honda Civic. I parked next to five Lexus's. And people just have no conception of not having money. A lot of people there have always had money and they just sort of it's I don't know, I personally do not enjoy that kind of atmosphere.



G

Gigi 25:49

It's just get sterile.



M

Michelle Meyers 25:52

It feels alive. It's like I'm there and something feels wrong. I don't really feel it until I leave

when I leave there. I just sort of feel like



26:00

it's one strata of society. Yes. See it. Like in the Montrose I'm used to all stratas of society living together, you know, from homeless to the a list. We've got 5000 Montrose, where, you know, the cost of the monthly maintenance, I couldn't afford that, you know, even if I gotta afford the apartment, but and then you have the homeless people. And I like that you see more of life? I mean, you get you get different viewpoints.



Michelle Meyers 26:34

Yeah, it feels a lot like it sort of, it feels like an eternal college town in a way it has. People, people in the computer industry, it's very unique phenomenon, because you have people who are making a lot of money, but the property values are so outrageous that even they can't afford a house in most cases. So people live, it's weird. You have people who are making you know, like 7080 \$100,000 a year, who live like college students, they live like a nice houses with three other people without furniture. Oh my god, you always go in. They buy these like super expensive cars because they can't afford a house. So you have like college students who go out to eat all the time and have Lexuses it's very, and the companies have this almost college like atmosphere. People don't like work nine to five, they work like they just go into work at two in the afternoon, stay all night, you know, stay till 2am sleep, go back. And it's very flexible. As long as you get things done. No one cares when you're in.



27:33

Now, that's a good policy. It



Michelle Meyers 27:35

is a good policy. I really like that. But it's a lot like college. It just it makes everything like college, it feels like you're still in college when you're down there.



27:44

But that's still that part is probably okay,



Michelle Meyers 27:46

part is good. I mean, that part, I really do like being able to go into work at whatever time I want. I mean, sometimes I'd go into work at four in the afternoon, and it would be just fine. But um, it's just there's something missing. I don't quite a lot of people have felt that, you know, people who have lived there for two or three years, and then they they're just like, God, I can't take it anymore. Yeah, even though they're like, How can I not like it, you know, I'm making all

this money and they're just they don't understand what's missing in their lives because they feel like wow, I should really feel good since I'm successful and everything but then after a while, they just can't take it anymore. And they just, you know, move on out back to Texas or something.



Gigi 28:22

Which Michelle may be doing.



Michelle Meyers 28:25

Kind of thinking of moving back to Austin. Yeah.



Gigi 28:28

And then she can come down to do after hours. Each man



28:32

wants to live in Austin. Honestly, everybody, everybody, everybody. It's a wonderful, beautiful town. Well, Michelle, I want to thank you for being here. It's great to be here. Yeah. Good. to have you back. Are we? Yeah. Well, maybe if you do move to Austin. You can? Yeah,



Michelle Meyers 28:50

maybe I'll come down and do the regular. Is it Miss Jean? Yeah, have a good time.



28:56

Okay, well, coming up. We'll be after hours news with big Roy and Michelle in just a little bit.



29:12

Yeah, you're listening to KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station. It's time for after hours news with big Ryan. Michelle.



Roy 29:21

Good evening, Michelle. And good evening to all of you out there and radio land listening in. I'd like to welcome you to this week's edition of KPFT after hours news, and well got going to start off the week with a little bit of bad news here. Sad news. It looks as though TV Montrose may

be on the demise. Maybe on the demise. It's not guaranteed, but it's not looking too good folks. Steve Baker, who's the producer and creator of TV Montrose has said that On the show has been running into problems from lack of advertisers. And he needs to sign up more advertisers people to advertise on the TV show Montrose, which airs on Warner Cable 54 Every Monday evening at 8pm. It needs more advertisers on there to help keep the show afloat. He especially he'd like to have some corporate advertisers. And he was mentioning how that there's a lot of businesses here in the Montrose that gladly accept our gay dollars but yet they won't. They will not buy advertising time on TV Montrose, which is kind of unusual because \$450 That includes production cost, they can get themselves a weekly 32nd commercial spot and that is very competitive with print media and and other contracts a fantastic price. And so but he says that unless he gets more advertising, September 21 will be their final episode of TV Montrose. If there if you know of any interest, three more, maybe unless you get unless you can get more advertisers. So does anybody that's interested in you know, putting your advertising dollars to very good work? Call Steve Baker at area code 713-523-6302 And they will do whatever they can to get your commercial on the air.

M

Michelle Meyers 31:42

Okay. I think most people know that. Back on July 2. Leland, Matt Marsters who was the judge of the 34th precinct for 20 years and the first openly gay judge in Houston. passed away. And the reason we're mentioning that tonight is this Wednesday, at the Christ Church Cathedral Episcopal Church, there is going to be a memorial service for the Marston Marsters, and that's going to be held at 3pm. The church is located at 1117 Texas Avenue. So were a flower formerly and come to the to the surfaces. Okay, what else you got?

R

Roy 32:43

Oh, okay. Project Caesar is bringing back a very popular program called think negative. And think negative is a free form series, designed exclusively for HIV negative gay and bisexual men. It's a five week series and it explores issues such as grief, self esteem, sex and love in the age of AIDS. massages, as many messages as men, massages as gay men and sexual identity and community development. Project Coordinator Philip Knowlton said that HIV negative gay men often find a lack of support and understanding project Cesar recognizes that they are in need of a peer support system that addresses issues directly related to living as gay, or bisexual men in the community, so affected by this epidemic. And I've had colleagues asked me, What is Caesar stand for? Well, Caesar in the name project Caesar stands for community advocates for education, safer sex and risk reduction. If you'd like more information about this program, call area code 713-623-6796 or you can email at education at AIDS. help.org.

M

Michelle Meyers 34:12

Yeah, that's Caesar's legions. They want legions of young men out there helping keep everyone negative. They do fantastic work. They do a lot of outreach in the community and they walk around with the shirts that say think negative. I think that that gets my attention. I think it's really great. Thank you.

R

Roy 34:33

Well, I know that as as a gay man who happens to be negative himself a lot of us like myself, have this survive I don't know if you call it survivor shame or survivor's guilt or Yeah, why why one Why did I survive? Yeah. Why was it may not and not the other people? Why did They catch it and not me, especially knowing how I used to be, you know such a slut. And in the early years I was a prostitute in Times Square and in LA. When I lived in Times Square when I lived in New York City, I was a Time Square hustler in my teens. And then in my early to mid 20s. I was a hustler out there in Southern California. And but after that, it turned into a big flood. And it's just sort of, I'm glad this this thing is around.

M

Michelle Meyers 35:36

Yeah. Let me mention that the caucus is having its 23rd anniversary gala and awards dinner. Saturday, September 19. At the plaza Warwick Hotel. Special honoree will be Mayor Lee Brown, and we'll have some special guests locally. Nice Parker, Houston city council, from the state, Ron Ellis, our state senator, and also a US representative for of Congress, from Washington, Sheila Jackson Lee. And the guest speaker will be Carrie LaBelle. She's the Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, which is celebrating its 25th year of grassroots organizing and advocacy. So if you'd like to get some tickets, you can pick them up at the caucus office, which is at 803 Hawthorne that community center, or you can call area code 713-521-1000. So again, the 23rd Anniversary Gala for the caucus is Saturday, September 19th, at 730.

R

Roy 36:47

Okay, now, there's going to be the one man's story part one at the men's network. And that's going to be this coming Tuesday, September 8. It's and it's going to be held between seven and 9pm. Now this is part one of a two part workshop exploring ideas about the life experiences of gay men, and weighing these ideas against personal experience. Now each part of this two part series may stand alone in case attendance to both parts is not possible. They will look at life stories and experiences and honor them as rich human experiences that they are by reclaiming and celebrating life stories, especially those segments that are connected to love of other men and sexual development. We reclaim a part of ourselves that we may have, consciously or unconsciously to detach from. And you can attend this workshop at the Montrose Counseling Center at 701 Richmond Avenue now that's just four blocks east of Montrose Boulevard. And if you'd like more information, contact Michael McGraw at area code 713-529-0037.

M

Michelle Meyers 38:11

Okay, for those of you who have green Pam or would like to have widen the garden and yard society's next meeting will be this coming Friday, September the 11th at 7pm. So if you want to learn a little bit about gardening and how to design these fabulous gardens that the garden and yard society have put together, you can call area code 713-861-6306. That's 8616306 or area code 713-520-1066. That's 5201066. So if you don't have a green thumb that'll help you make one.

R

Roy 38:56

And so badly my cactus plans die. Oh, wow.

M

Michelle Meyers 39:00

Am I fake plastic plans more than to write to telephone numbers.

R

Roy 39:06

Okay, no time for people to spice up their life. Tickets are now available to the 30th anniversary Miss camp America Pageant, and that's going to be held Saturday September 19 at the Cullen performance hall at the University of Houston and Miss camp America Pageant. This is a 501 C three nonprofit organization Corporation. And the benefits to this will benefit the proceeds will benefit the assistants fun bearing Danto Casa de Esperanza, the Montrose clinic, the Frostbite clinic, the names project PWA holiday charities, Stephens house, and the Texas Children's camp hope and they're going to add their massive ceremony they're going to have direct from San Francisco comedian, Danny Williams. So that's going to be a nighttime Remember, tickets are \$25.45 6500 and \$150. For that's out of me,

M

Michelle Meyers 40:06

okay? The Women's Network, which is part of the Montrose Counseling Center is also holding talks this Wednesday, September 9, at 7pm. And their talk is about changing negative thoughts. This is changing that. That self talk that we have inside ourselves to just continually put ourselves down. There's been talk about people having 60,000 random thoughts in a day. I don't know how you have that many. But of them, they've also measured them and said, you know, there's something like 4000 of the 60,000 are positive thoughts, all the rest are negative, and this is what drags us down. And we're gonna have a workshop on how to identify these irrational thoughts and ways to change them and feel better about yourself. I'd

R

Roy 41:05

like to know how did they