

- (SINGING) Dashing through the snow in a one-horse open sleigh. [LAUGHS] Hi. It's me, Pee-Wee Herman. Hey, seriously, everybody, during this holiday season, please don't drink and drive. Duh.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- After Hours radio, celebrating life from the heart of Montrose, 90.1 FM, KPFT. We're here.

- And we're queer.

- Yeah.

- Hey, Pickles. How are you?

- How you all doing?

- We're doing fine, baby. Hey, we're talking to Pickles down at Mary's, which is a Texas tradition, naturally.

- The Houston institution.

- And if you--

- Well, it's the national bar of Texas.

- It certainly is. And if you drive down Westheimer right now, girl, there's a big Christmas tree on top of that bar down there. What's going on?

- Whoa.

- Well, it's going to be lit tomorrow night at 6 o'clock. Debra Danburg is going to do a little speech. And she's going to plug it in.

- All right. All right.

- Debra Danburg, our state representative, is going to be here. And she's going to plug that thing in?

- Yeah, and well, the tree has been a tradition with Mary's for, God, at least 11 or 12 years.

- Oh, yeah.

- Before that, it was inside. But now it's been for, like, 11 or 12 years. I'm not that old, excuse me.

- But that's OK.

[LAUGHTER]

- It's [INAUDIBLE].

- Right, girl.

- [INAUDIBLE] and it is a dedication to the community and the love from us to everybody.

- And it's a wonderful tree too. It's always huge with thousands of lights.

- Oh, wait till you see it lit up tomorrow night because at 6 o'clock when it goes on, it is going to knock your lights out. Plus the decorations around it-- all of the employees and a lot of the customers have worked their butts off. It's [INAUDIBLE] damn tree [? loaded ?] a ton.

[LAUGHTER]

[INAUDIBLE]

- Girl, how did those queens get that tree on top of the bar?

- Well, it's called put it in a truck and [INAUDIBLE]. And people shove from the bottom and pull from the top.

- Oh.

- Well, we know that it's--

- Sounds like fun.

- Sounds a little kinky, huh?

- Yeah.

- We finally got it up on the roof. And I'll tell you what, I ran [INAUDIBLE] when they tried to stand it up because when they stood it up downstairs, down in the parking lot, damn thing fell over and knocked me into a car.

[LAUGHTER]

[INAUDIBLE].

- Well, Pickles--

- Well, it isn't Christmas in Montrose till that tree is lit.

- Pickles, you know that--

- Tomorrow night it is going to be quite-- and you will love the tree. I saw a preview of it Thursday night as they were double checking to check for holes and whatever. And honey, it's going to [INAUDIBLE].

- And this is going to be at 6 o'clock?

- 6 o'clock.

- Tonight. That's Sunday.

- [INAUDIBLE] is going to be here. I don't know who else. But--

- That's tonight, right? Sunday night?

- [INAUDIBLE]

- OK.

- And y'all better be here.

- Listen--

- You bet.

- Oh, baby.

- All of your listeners could be here because it is going to be [? a ticket, ?] honey.

- Baby, I cannot have Christmas in Houston without being at the tree-lighting ceremony in Montrose on top of Mary's. It happens every year.

- The tree's been in papers and magazines almost every year since we've been doing it because it is a Montrose tradition now.

- It certainly is. Listen, Pickles from Mary's, thanks for talking to us, baby. And we'll see you tonight at the tree-lighting ceremony, the Montrose Christmas tree, going to light it up. So Debra Danburg is going to plug that thing in at 6 o'clock.

- Woo.

- Yeah, and well, she's going to do a little speech, and then she's going to plug it in.

- OK. We'll see you there tonight.

- All right. [INAUDIBLE]

- Thanks for talking to us. Thanks, baby. We love you.

- Thank you very much. Love you, too.

- You betcha.

[MUSIC - BRENDA LEE, "ROCKIN' AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE"]

- Girl, they're going to light that Christmas tree on top of Mary's.

- Uh huh. We'll be rocking around it tomorrow at 6:00 or today at 6:00.

- I want to thank Pickles. I want to thank Pickles for talking to us because that was short notice.

- Yeah.

- We just called down to the club and said, hey.

- Talk to us girl.

- Talk to me, girlfriend.

- She said, well, what do you want me to say? Can you believe the damn tree fell on her in the parking lot?

[LAUGHTER]

- Yes, I can.

- Well, we got to get Miss Pickles out from under that tree. Girl. Anyway, this is After Hours Radio, celebrating life from the heart of Montrose. [? Murray, ?] you look like you're going to sleep.

- I know it. It's been-- I'm tired.

- I know that's right. Usually, it's the other way around.

- I know it. Well, I went to Dickens Festival.

- Dickens on the Strand.

- Yeah.

- Did you see any Dickens down there?

- Did I? Oh, honey.

- Did you bring your [INAUDIBLE]?

- It was all over the place. It's wonderful.

- Well, tell me about it, baby. Come here. Tell me about it.

[MUSIC - ROD STEWART, "THE MOTOWN SONG"]

- After Hours Radio, celebrating life from the heart of Montrose. We're here.

- And we're queer.

- Christ, we're running out of things to do.

[LAUGHTER]

- It's almost time to go home, though, thank God.

- [INAUDIBLE] coming up at 4:00.

- Yeah, listen to this.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- She wanted Christmas music from The Roaches?

- Yeah, Angela called.

- Girl, we didn't bring that CD.

- No, we didn't.

- But we will next week. In fact, it's one of the better Christmas recordings out this year. It's really good.

- Oh, really?

- Yeah, and they do a lot of songs.

- Well, I didn't see it. Anyway, we'll stay in that Christmas sort of frame of mind because this is a little Christmas ditty that you won't hear anywhere else. You ready?

- Yeah.

- Oh, people like us.

- That's right. What do they know about people like us?

- What the hell do they know?

- Well, we got a new mayor.

- Oh.

- I just hope we don't have to do any hateful After Hours shows about him.

- Oh, I look forward to it.

[LAUGHTER]

- Oh, god. Somebody asked me if I was worried about a new mayor, whether it would have been Lanier or Turner, and I said no because Perry Watkins was in the army for 14 years and applied for a security clearance hundreds of times and was granted it.

- Yeah.

- And one day he got a new boss that didn't like him, and he said, well, since you're queer, we're not going to give you one, and we're just going to kick you out of the army. And they did. And he sued. And they went to the Supreme Court, and the Supreme Court said, no, no, Nanette.

- That's right.

- You can't do that.

- You can't do that. You can't change in midstream.

- So the police department hired me openly gay in 1990. And I don't think they're going to be giving me any problems. I really don't. I only look for good things to happen with Bob Lanier. I really do. It's time for a change in the city, and Bob Lanier met with Queer Nation from the very beginning, when Sylvester Turner would not.

- That's exactly-- that's right. He did.

- So we'll just have to see what happens.

- Brian was on here last week talking about that.

- That's right. We'll see.

- We will.

- We will.

- Say it so they can hear you in the capital. For love and for life, we're not going back. For love and for life, we're not going back. For love and for life, we're not going back. For love and for life, we're not going back.

I want you to savor this next moment. I have the proud task of telling you that the official count of the Lesbian and Gay Rights March, the official count, is over 500,000 strong.

[CHEERING]

- We must destroy the myths, once and for all, shatter them. We must continue to speak out, and most importantly, most importantly, every gay person must come out.

[CHEERING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- As president of the board--

- [INAUDIBLE]

- As president of the board of supervisors, it's my duty to make this announcement. Both Mayor Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk have been shot and killed.

- Toto, I've a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore.

- They've got to understand something. They've got to understand something. We are not talking about [? white ?] politics. This is not a movement from the waist down. We are talking about our right to love and to choose and to live. And I don't care about straight politics. And I don't care about straight understanding. You gotta hear me in Washington. We are demanding. We are demanding our civil rights.

[CHEERING]

- And I ask people all over in this country to do one thing.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- We must destroy the myths once and for all, shatter them. We must continue to speak out. And most importantly-- most importantly, every gay person must come out.

[CHEERING]

- Harvey, do you have a few words for KPFA?

- Come on out. [LAUGHS] Join us.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Difficult as it is, you must tell your immediate family. You must tell your relatives. You must tell your friends, if indeed they are your friends. You must tell your neighbors. You must tell the people you work with. You must tell the people at the stores you shop in.

[CHEERING]

Once they realize that we are indeed their children, that we are indeed everywhere, every myth, every lie, every innuendo will be destroyed once and for all. And I ask-- I ask people all over this country to do one thing. Come out. Come out, America. Come out.

- Yeah.

- [? Murray ?] here you go. Right here.

- What?

- Shuttle service, Galvez Mall, I-45 at 61st Street. Port Holiday Mall, [? Strand, ?] and Holiday Drive, Kmart shopping center, 61st Avenue S.

- That's right. Those are the bus services.

- For Dickens on the Strand.

- For Dickens, yeah.

- \$2 a ride. That's not a bad deal.

- Park at Galvez Mall. Then again, we parked about four blocks away.

- All that's from shut out traffic telling us about the--

- It is kind of crowded.

- Telling us about the-- what the hell are they telling us about?

- Dickens on the Strand.

- That's right. My brain is dead. Well, hang on.

- Oh, OK.

[MUSIC - "JEOPARDY" THEME]

- This is the part of the show when we run out of crap to do.

[LAUGHTER]

- Well, we had some crap to do, but she walked out.

[LAUGHTER]

- It's like 526-4000 or 526-KPFT if you want to call us and tell us what you want Santa to bring you.

- Oh.
- So you better hurry because we only got a couple of minutes.
- Well, we got about 10 minutes.
- Keep it clean.
- 526-4000 or 526-KPFT. And Kathleen, come back here.
- Where is Kathleen?
- Get that [INAUDIBLE].
- OK.
- Actually, that's the blues broad. The queen is going out to get the blues broad.
- OK.
- Tell us about that blues thing going on. They're raising money for-- they're raising food? I saw that--
- We're raising food, and we're not even farmers.

[LAUGHTER]

- Whoa!
- What's going on, baby?
- Well, this afternoon starting at 3 o'clock out at Shakespeare's Pub, Kirkwood and Memorial, there's going to be more blues than you can use. Big Roger Collins, the Highway Blues Band, Joe Guitar Hughes, Jabo, everybody. And honey, it's blues. Nobody care what you do, OK? [LAUGHS] You know.
- And they're raising--
- Well, they are, like, 10 blues and zydeco bands at a very fine and classy joint, who has made an arrangement-- they've made an arrangement to anybody who comes and brings non-perishable food items that it's all going directly to the Houston Food Bank.
- Well, that's a good idea, especially here at the holidays.
- Well, yeah. I mean, who cares if they eat the rest of the year, right? [LAUGHS] Pardon me.
- That's my show.
- That was-- that was--
- She's trying to take over our show.
- No, I'm not. No, I'm not. But it's my birthday.
- Hey, don't talk about homelessness.

- Oh, today's your birthday?

- Yes. And I'm always just a paycheck away from homelessness.

- How old are you, like 20 or 21?

- Yes.

- I almost was homeless. Ask Jimmy.

- How many times?

- Back when I quit the police department and Roger was getting ready to throw me out, I almost had to live in the streets because there's no way I would have went home and lived with my mother. Forget it.

- Well--

- And I had no idea where I was going to go. That's what was frightening. I knew I didn't want to be with any friends, and I didn't want to be-- I was going to take care of myself, even if it meant living in the streets.

- Yeah.

- And that was very scary.

- And sometimes that is what it means. I mean, not having a home, do you move in with your kids or your mom or a former lover or Beverley Marie's ex-husband's second cousin's brother.

- No, girl.

- I mean, what do you do? And homelessness and hunger is real. And it is real year-round.

- Yep.

- But there's something in us that allows us at this time of year to feel like it's OK to help the homeless. Christ didn't tell us to change the poor. Christ told us to serve them.

- He did?

- Yeah. He sure did.

- Oh, he did. OK. That's another show.

- Yeah, well, I don't know. But all the religious people, they didn't say help them. They didn't say change them. They said in as much as you have done to the least of these you have done it unto me.

- Well, girl, I didn't know you had all that in you.

- Well, honey, I'm from Texas and I'm a Baptist. I was raised one, anyway.

- Well, praise God anyway.

- And pass the ammunition.

- Your son's coming next weekend?

- Yeah.

- Girl, bring my camera.

- Well, all right [INAUDIBLE].

- Have him wear that little black thing you were talking about.

- God dang.

- Just don't tell him we're looking at him.

- I won't.

[LAUGHTER]

I won't tell him.

- OK. And we got some Christmas music from The Temptations standing by.

- We sure do. We do. And we do have blues coming up. And we do have a food drive today, Shakespeare's Pub, Kirkwood and Memorial.

- Sounds great.

- Lots and lots of blues. Just bring some food for people, non-perishables, please.

- OK, thank you, baby. We'll be listening at 4:00. Blues for you. Now you're laughing. What's so funny?

- I'm laughing at my cell.

- OK.

- And your today's your birthday. You didn't say how old you are. 19, 20? What is it?

- 40 through.

- 40 through?

- Yes. I'm 40 through. It's the first--

- Oh, I like that age. I'm going to be that age for the next thirty years.

- First time in my life I have ever been older than a supreme court justice.

[LAUGHTER]

And it really hurts.

- OK get some blues lined up for us. OK. Mary, what are we going to do? Nobody called to tell us their Christmas--

- Oh, something else.

- --plans.

- Next Sunday--

- Next Sunday we're going to be talking to-- oh, next Sunday what?

- Next Sunday afternoon at the BRB is a fundraiser for the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard.

- Wow.

- Their annual auction.

- Oh, really? Now, that would be fun.

- Now, that's fun to go Christmas shopping.

- Oh, really?

- Yeah.

- Can you get bargains?

- Oh, yeah. You bet. You bet.

- And you actually bid on stuff?

- You bid on stuff. And all the stuff is donated to the Switchboard, so all proceeds go to the Switchboard. And of course, there are no paid staff.

- Well, have we donated anything? Can't we donate something to give away?

- I already have.

- What? No, I'm talking about from the show.

- Oh, from the show?

- Yeah.

- What could we? What could we?

- We could donate, like, a set of Romanovsky and Phillips albums.

- Boy, we sure could, couldn't we?

- Yeah.

- That would be neato.

- You silly queen.

- Of course, we could.

- Next week we're going to be talking to Lou-- to-- oh, god, I forgot her name.

- Lee?
- Lee who? Lee somebody.
- Well, whoever she is-- how embarrassing.
- No, it's not. It's 4:00 in the morning, girl.
- That must be the reason.
- Get a grip. You've been up all day.
- Yes, I have.
- No wonder you look that bad.
- I know it.
- You usually don't look that bad till about 4:15.

[LAUGHTER]

I'm kidding. We're going to be talking about holiday depression and how we get through it. She said, well, what are we going to talk about? I said, well, we'll just talk about how depressed I am, and you can fix it. And speaking of holidays and depression and psychiatrists and [? shrinks, ?] do you know how long-- you know how many therapists it takes to unscrew a light bulb?

- No, how many?
- One.
- Only one?
- It just takes a long time.

[LAUGHTER]

- Years, honey.
- To get it unscrewed. That's a little private joke for all of us crazy people. So nobody called to tell us what they want to do when they sit on Santa's lap? Well, I mean--
- Well--
- I think we got those four calls.
- I think a couple of people called, but we couldn't talk about it.

[LAUGHTER]

- Sorry. Jesse Helms is listening. OK, what is that? Give me that.
- Somebody wants to hear "We Are Family."

- "We Are Family."

- OK. Let's sing it.

- (SINGING) We are family.

[LAUGHTER]

- We don't have it.

- We don't have it.

- Really?

- Only on the promo.

- Get Richard in here, and we'll sing it. Come here a minute. What did you say about we get bitched at if we do what now? You were talking earlier.

- This is Jim.

- Yeah, we we get calls that say, oh, you complain too much. And then we get other calls that says, no, you don't complain enough, and you play too much music, and you don't play enough music.

- We're damned if we do and damned if we don't.

- [INAUDIBLE]

- Isn't it wild? No matter what we do we're screwed.

- And what's the best kind of lubricant? Oh, that's another [INAUDIBLE]. That's another question altogether.

- That's another show. Get him out of here.

- It's true. I was in the lobby when that call came in.

- What? Are you serious?

- Yeah.

- Somebody called tonight and ask about what kind of lubricant to use?

- Yeah.

- For what?

- [INAUDIBLE]

- Crisco.

- Call back and--

- That's what Loretta Lynn says, Crisco. It all comes back [INAUDIBLE].

[LAUGHTER]

- If you're still unsure, you can call back and ask the blues broad. She knows.
- OK. I'm going home. I've had it. I got a union meeting in the morning at 11 o'clock. Somebody was actually asking about when the elections were. Maybe I'll get voted out of the damn things. Girl, get me out of there.
- Has it been a year?
- Yes. No, it's been almost two years, baby.
- No, really?
- Those are two-year terms. And I just pray to god that somebody runs against me.
- I'll bet they don't.
- If you're a cop, and you'd like to come out, please call me right now at KPFT, 526-4000. I know you're not going to call, but I keep asking because hopefully maybe one of these days you will. If you're listening and you want to find out about the gay and lesbian community, call--
- The Gay and Lesbian Switchboard at 529-3211, most days from 4:00 till midnight. And coming soon to a Gay and Lesbian Switchboard near you is a new feature that they're going to offer is the gay and lesbian hate crimes reporting.
- Something--
- Oh, yeah.
- Something very important and something our community needs.
- That's true. And next week, we're going to bring you holiday depression, which we bring you every week.

[LAUGHTER]

So what the hell is going to be different about next week?

- This week it's going to be holiday depression.

[LAUGHTER]

- OK. And Christmas carols out the wazoo.
- That's next week. When is that, the 14th?
- Mm-hmm.
- Then the 21st we'll be sharing our fifth Christmas with you. And the 28th, god only knows what's going to happen.
- New Year's.
- Goodbye, Mary. We'll see you next week. Have a beautiful week. These are The Temptations. And it's a little Christmas ditty we're going to play for you on our way out of here.

- OK.

- And until next week, just remember what Harvey Milk said, babies, that rights are not won-- what did he say? He said, Bob Lanier's the mayor. No. Kathy Whitmire is out. No. He said rights are not won--

- On paper.

- They are won only by those who make their voices heard. That's what it's all about. Just keep fighting and keep the faith, please. I don't know if I can if you give up, so we got to work together. Anyway, I'll see you next Sunday.

- I love you, babies.

- Bye.

- And merry, merry, merry, merry Christmas from the Blues Broads on 90.1 FM KPFT in Houston, Texas. And not that I would ever [INAUDIBLE] in my entire life to put myself above Jesus Christ, but it's my birthday.

- Happy birthday.

- Maybe. I mean, Jesus's birthday means a lot.

- Happy birthday, Kathleen.

- Thank you. I have had--

- Happy birthday.

- Happy birthday.

- I have had an extraordinary--