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SPEAKERS

Jack Valinski, Ron Bradley, Deborah Bell



00:05

[inaudible] once said everybody's got the blues. I know I have. You would have it too if you tune into KPFT every Friday night for the opposite block blue show from eight to 10pm Whether you like BB King, Eric Clapton, Albert King, Elmore James Stevie Ray Vaughan are local talent. This is a show for you. In addition to music, teacher interviews with local, regional and national artists, as well as specialists in some of the blues greats. Remember, it's every Friday night at 8pm for two hours of down and dirty blues on 1.1 FM KPFT Houston.



Deborah Bell 01:16

[No Closet by Jamie Anderson plays]



Jack Valinski 02:01

From Pacifica's KPFT in Houston. This is lesbian gay voices, a show of for and about the gay and lesbian community. This is Jack Valinski.



Deborah Bell 02:08

And I'm Deborah Bell, Today is September 9. And this is our membership drive time,



Jack Valinski 02:13

absolutely beautiful day out. So it's a nice day to sit on your radio and give some money to support this radio station.



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Deborah Bell 02:21

There's supposed to be a very lovely crescent moon and star configuration in the Scott and I get to maybe tonight, it'll be clear enough. It's what I call a magic moon. And if you tuned in last week, you heard nothing, because the lights were off and the phones were off and like the power was off. Usually when storms hit, they hit our transmitter. But this time they hit the station. So we were here in the dark and unable to be with you for the evening. But I was singing. And it was That's a sad, sad thing. But we're here with you tonight. And we hope you appreciate that. And we'll show your support by calling in and pledging those magic numbers for calling in five to six KPFT 5265738. And of course, what we're going to try to do is present our slick and professional format, as usual, not quoted by us and just have you show your support by calling in and the interim. So we have, among other things tonight, maybe a few surprises as well. But one of the things that we have scheduled is playwright Gary Laird, he's the author of last splash playing through this weekend at Khumba house.

J

Jack Valinski 03:37

Also our regular features include music with Mary Helen, our news, rap, and this way out. And a bunch of calendar of events. A lot of things are going on this month and next month, and I'm tired

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Deborah Bell 03:48

just looking at the calendar of events. And of course we have not Suzanne tonight, but Brian's here. Ron Bradley, speaking out

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Ron Bradley 03:59

that afternoon. All right. Well, the first thing I wanted to do was ask you to get your pens and lie down another number. I'm sure the radio station has been given you their number all day long for the pledge drive. However, I've got one equally important for you. And that is 1-800-768-2221. This number will get you into the Senate, the Capitol in Washington. At that point you need to ask for Senator Jesse Helms is 800 line. He is installed an 800 line at his campaign expense for voters in the state of North Carolina to call in and tell him how good of a job he is doing in the US Senate. Well, one way to get this to backfire on him is for us to call him and tell him how we feel about it since he seems to affect legislation all across the country so much and let the 10 cents be on him this time. You can call as many times You want to as often as you want to ingest or pay for each and every time,

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Deborah Bell 05:04

there's no harassment that's still like,

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Ron Bradley 05:06

oh, I shouldn't let that message out last night about the bowels of hell. That's 1-800-768-2221

Harvard University study concludes that sexual orientation isn't simply a question of being gay or straight. There was search to be published in the Archives of Sexual Behavior suggests that nearly one in five Americans had been attracted to someone of the same sex at some time, since the age of 15. Interviewer spoke with more than 1200 Man and nearly 700 women, they found, they found that between 6% and 20% of the man, and between 3% and 80% of the women could be considered incidentally, homosexual. The range and the numbers depends on whether you're talking about same sex behavior during the last five years, or since the age of 15. Research defining the size of the homosexual community is being put to political uses. Yes, we saw last year where we have all of a sudden went from being 10 to 15% of the population down to 1% of the population out of have a question, what the hell difference does it make if we're talking about terms of justice and discrimination? If you do it against one person, or 1 million? What is the difference?

J

Jack Valinski 06:24

Have you seen the story about the gay neighborhoods in the Chronicle? actually talk about that. It's a New York Times story. And it's very interesting, because it talks about how a lot of people that fled the cities, they moved into the suburbs, but yet many gays and lesbians, probably gays more so because of the money that they make, moved into certain parts of the city and took taken over neighborhoods. And now a lot of these cities realize that this is a very valuable population because it's a tax base that they can't afford to lose.

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Ron Bradley 06:52

Once again, we get used for our talents and not credited with being in existence.

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Jack Valinski 06:58

And we are time story. There's a picture of Montrose. Yes, actually, I

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Ron Bradley 07:01

have the New York Times story here. And among other things, it says as cities around the country continue to shrink. Urban planners say that neighborhoods molded by gay people in recent years are taking on a new important against bastions of further decay. Although they had no statistics to track the migration of gay people to various urban neighborhoods, the presence of gay men and lesbians. And with it, their economic power has been become increasingly visible. It mentions the Capitol Hill area in Seattle, it does mention Montrose.

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Jack Valinski 07:38

Dupont Circle is probably the best example of how a neighborhood has changed

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Ron Bradley 07:42

R Ron Bradley 07:42

over the years. It says that, in the mid 80s, the height of the real estate boom, commercial space went for 25 feet \$25 per square feet in Dupont Circle, the same townhouse that was valued at \$350,000 is now increased to a value of \$750,000. And that's my book Where's like, make and live there. But that's that's pretty good. But it's it's funny how some people have interpreted this one woman who was asked in Washington, DC, about how she felt about this. And she says that the best of times have come to her neighborhood and she now feels uncomfortable. This is Pam Taylor, who works for the Voice of America and lives in Dupont Circle. She's further quoted as saying there are places particularly on 17th Street and P street where heterosexuals avoid walking down those streets because of what they feel is in your face attitude by gays that says that they don't belong here. Well, you know what, maybe she knows how we feel now when we go to every single neighborhood not to say it's right. But that's a little bit of a bit of tough love sensitivity training.

D Deborah Bell 08:53

You know, it's one thing to feel a little uncomfortable. It's another thing to feel unsafe and I bet you anything, she doesn't feel unsafe and DuPont Circle and even commented on that in the article talking about how there's an act of throbbing nightlife going on in that area of the city where everywhere else the sidewalks rolled up much like we do here at 10 o'clock.

R Ron Bradley 09:14

Well, Deborah, you know, I do hate to argue with you you're usually so right like myself, apparently you're not aware of the the roving bands of gay men. That right women all the time. That was a testimony that Donald Aldridge gave in his capital murder, defense and Tyler recently, I had not realized that part of his anger stemmed from the fact that his niece, a minor, was raped by a gang of homosexual men

D Deborah Bell 09:41

always heard that they held you down and did your hair.

R Ron Bradley 09:44

I'm guilty of that. Speaking of being gay or not being gay 1% of the population or 15% population, that incredible. Tom Cruise tells Vanity Fair this month that No he is not gay despite the rumors about his sexuality. And that he doesn't think that there is anything wrong with being gay. Well, thank you Mr. Cruz. He further says that he doesn't care if people are gay or straight bisexual or Martians. This is in a coincidence.

D Deborah Bell 10:14

There's a lot that like being a Martian. Yeah. How about

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Ron Bradley 10:17

being a queer Martian? My Favorite Martian was queer, crunchy knowing well. By the way, Tom Cruise plays a bisexual vampire in his upcoming film Interview with the Vampire. From

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Deborah Bell 10:29

what I've seen so far. He's looking pretty good along with Brad Pitt, who most folks remember this being do eat right. So I think you should be very popular film in our community. I'd

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Ron Bradley 10:42

love to buy his neck. Maybe a little politics now. The George W. Bush campaign clarified some statements or muddied the waters even further as far as I'm concerned last week, when he said that he had adopted a Don't Ask Don't Tell policy in his Texas Republican gubernatorial race toward gays and lesbians. That is, he says that he has never asked anyone applying for a job about their sexual preference. And he doesn't intend to start now. The bureau around this stem from a Bush campaign worker a state senator from East Texas who blast governor and Richards for appointing about an activist homosexuals to state boards and commissions. Bush last week tried to distance himself from the remarks of Senator Bill Ratliff Republican, big surprise Mount Pleasant. And Richard spokesman Chuck McDonald said Bush should take responsibility for the remarks of one of his campaign. It is the absolute height of hypocrisy to have someone or a surrogate for the campaign to raise an issue while you try to distance yourself from it. They go on to point out that over 4000 people have been appointed by Governor Richards to various panels and boards and four of them are openly gay. I think we have taken over Austin, again,

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Jack Valinski 12:04

are blind you knew about the GOP endorsements. The game was from political doors from CSM

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Ron Bradley 12:08

on the endorsement committee screen panels and such. And we did do that Wednesday night. Among other things, we interviewed candidate Fischer. And I am happy to report that we endorsed him out so he didn't come in and just slay everyone and impress them so much with his great sensitivity and his knowledge by did come in, he did come in and he's not Kay kay, kay, Bailey Hutchinson. And he was reminded that if he got our endorsement, that that would be made public and that Mr. Hutchinson may use that against him and his attitude was not Cavalier, but was so bad. He was strongest own the statement that just any form of discrimination, irrespective of where it may go will come from, he could not tolerate being the son of an immigrant who was a street person at age five arrested as a beggar at five and come to America with literally no money whatsoever. He says it all comes back to economic discrimination as far as he's concerned. And he's a businessman. So he actively sought our endorsement. He received it. And he's promised that he would sign on to the anti discrimination bill in employment. Okay, Bailey, Hutchinson has said No, she wouldn't. Sheila Jackson Lee, of

course, now is another person who's running for Congress, who said she would do the same. She said she would co sponsor it. I think we have an opportunity here to get rid of Bob dough, Jr. Phil Gramm and a skirt. Maybe Kay Bailey Hutchinson moved to Kansas, and as Senator Fischer said, be the third senator from that state.

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Jack Valinski 13:59

What about the governor's race? Well,

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Ron Bradley 14:02

Ann Richards is not screened with anyone this year. We're going to submit questions to her and see what responses we get. Of course, she's going to get the endorsement, she'll have the endorsement. I'm a little bit upset about that. I don't think we should give away our endorsement ever without a little bit of interaction with the candidate. Governor waitress felt that it was very important four years ago for her to screw us and she did. And since then we've had a lot of things happen. Her attitude, the last four years has been in a lot of her supporters, I count myself among them has been well, we need her in there for eight years. Two terms. She can't do great, great things for the gay lesbian community during the first term, or she won't have a second one. Well, now she's going into the possibility of her second one. It's time for her to come out with both guns Blanton and stand up and say, This is what I'm going to do. However, I don't think she's going to do that when she made her first to campaign stop in Houston some three months ago, I asked her face to face about the 2106 being retained in the penal code, which she did not veto. She poked me in my chest and told me that it was more or less, something that didn't hurt anybody that we need to let it go. You know, what, what, what good does it do to have it any way? Or what good would it do to take it away? Now remind her that the gay and lesbian Texans who vote for 117 years have been called criminals. And we're tired of it, she may see it as an innocuous label that isn't hurtful, but I don't particularly care for it. And I do resent her telling me that we should just leave it alone.

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Deborah Bell 15:46

Section 21 06 of the Texas penal code is the homosexual conduct clause that makes certain acts between consenting adults illegal in the state of Texas, and it is something that's used against us because we are entitled to all the rights and privileges of any other citizen of this country. Unless you're a criminal. That's right. And that criminalizes our behavior and therefore can be used against us. What else tonight, Brian?

R

Ron Bradley 16:14

Well, I'm happy to report that things are changing in Japan, they've had their first ever homosexual March, as they called it, they had 1500 people turned out in Tokyo in the red light district. Interestingly enough, they said there was a overwhelming majority of the participants were lesbians, and they cited some of the reasons for that being that though the whole country is very closeted men do have second select few places to go to and socialize and be themselves. And women didn't have any whatsoever. So a lot of these women just that held

this is the first opportunity. I've had to be out proud, Japanese and queer, and I'm going to do it. So they start things up in Tokyo. And did what is it the Dallas Cowboys or Texas cowboys? Or what's their football team up there? That's called cabin northern city, a city north of Houston. And an airline north of Houston great American Airlines is being sued by a male flight attendant for sex discrimination. He says that men are not allowed to be at any of the beyond any of the flights chartered by the football team. This man and his supervisor bass, the airline in charge that the cowboy charter flights and that male flight attendants be used on these flights and not just females. It's interesting the Cowboys is say that they have never shown a preference toward man or women in the flight attendant service. Sure, sure. Well, Rodney pawn and Jeffrey hair had been living together for two years, but Tuesday was the first day that they were allowed to register their relation ship their relationship, the city's new ordinance being Seattle allows homosexual and heterosexual live in adult couples to register as domestic partners. So one more city and last week in Cincinnati, the Cincinnati mayor and city council have joined a group of people in a lawsuit against a judge who said that their anti discrimination Bill was unconstitutional. So move forward in one city back in another city. But it eventually all goes to the courts. As a federal appeals court showed last week in Washington, it has ruled in favor of Siler Keith mine hold, who has was discharged for announcing that he was a homosexual. And this goes face to face against President Clinton stone ads don't tell policy that he and Sam Nunn hammered out last year. The judge says on the merits, he defers to the Navy's judgment that people who engage in homosexual conduct or who demonstrate a propensity to do so do not belong in uniform. The court, the judge said, but ruled that the Navy was wrong to discharge mine hold solely because of a statement or orientation devoid of any concrete expressed desire or intent to act on his homosexual propensity. This is eventually going to work its way to the Supreme Court and hopefully, with the closet case queer that we have sitting on the Supreme Court and now Ruth Bader Ginsburg and, and folks, though, to see that it's all red herring, it's it's a painless thing as I like to say. And

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Deborah Bell 19:40

it's time to get over it will be

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Ron Bradley 19:41

in the Navy girls.

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Deborah Bell 19:44

And thank you once again, Brian Bradley for speaking out. Just a reminder that the opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of this station or the management

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Jack Valinski 19:53

which are usually ours. As it's as we fly through our first half hour of less meaning Hey, voices, we want to remind people that this is a pledge week, we do these weeks three times a year, actually two weeks, three times a year, ask people to donate money to the station so that we

can keep on the air. The reason we're on the air is because of our listeners, the vast majority of the budget of this radio station comes from people who pledge money and fulfill those pledges.

D

Deborah Bell 20:23

And it works just this simply, you get the radio free, all you have to do is turn it on, and there you have it. And whatever music comes on, or whatever talk or information is there, commercial free, unlike the other stations that are commercial, and

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Jack Valinski 20:40

it may not always be pleasant, it may challenge you, it may be something different that you haven't heard somewhere else. It may be a familiar voice that you heard, and you're used to the folk sort of acoustic type of sound that you hear a lot on KPFT. But there are many different varieties of music. And there's a lot of reliance of opinion in talk.

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Deborah Bell 20:59

And the simple matter. The simple point of the matter is, is that you're listening right now to this program, and you're a regular listener, it might be your first time to tune in, but it's your chance to say yes, it matters to me, it's important to me, and I want to support it, we have some special premiums for lesbian and gay voices. At the \$35 level, you get the program guide. At the \$50 level, you get a coffee mug, our T shirt while they last. And you can also get a pound of coffee beans or a t shirt courtesy of two Ps coffees in company. At the \$90 level, you get the two coffee mugs and a pair of tickets to straight and narrow now playing at the actors workshop are a pair of tickets to heart song. At the \$150 level. There's a wonderful new coffee carafe. And you can also get at the \$200 level but the coffee carafe and the the coffee mug so we'll just be all set up for our coffee talk.

J

Jack Valinski 22:06

We'll be into our addictions.

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Deborah Bell 22:08

That's right, we'll just sit there here with oh, I don't know maybe French roast or some hazelnut cream or one of those. I'm I'm a coffee fan here in the studio. But we're now not allowed in the studio. But when we go out to the lobby, and you can take out like to make a pot of coffee and then put it in a craft because that keeps it nice and hot and fresh. If you leave it cooking it burns it up. So bad, bad bad stuff. But you can have this lovely stainless steel it has KPFT Pacifica logo one, it's very classy, and you can get that premium. And all you do is called in and put it on a credit card. We take MasterCard, Visa or American Express. And it's your chance right now to call at five to six KPFT 5265738. We have Elaine, Sarah, Laurie, Laura, and some other folks out there all ready to answer the phone. And I do think

J Jack Valinski 23:06

we have an announcement. We do know our goal with the Southern \$100 \$1,500. Tonight we're on our first leg there with a first pledge from Cynthia.

D Deborah Bell 23:17

All right, thank you, Cynthia. She's made a very generous pledge. And she is there a note there that says why she enjoys the programming. That's why she's supporting KPFT and Lesbian Gay voices cash in hand. And I know that Cynthia listens because I I've met her before and the way I met her was she said, I said something and she didn't like it. And she called him let me know about it. And he was brave. Yeah, she is a brave person. And, and by but that dialogue led to some other things led to another program, it led to some education. And that's important. That's part of what all of this is about. Brian comes on and speaks out and Suzanne comes on and speak out and

R Ron Bradley 24:00

no one ever takes intensity.

D Deborah Bell 24:04

Goodness knows. And a lot of people take time and energy to make this program possible, because they believe in it. And if you're someone who who maybe this program has touched your life in some way you tune in every week, you tune in when you can, then this is your chance to support the program by calling 526 KPFT 5265738.

J Jack Valinski 24:29

This is a very special station. The fact that allows people to come on and talk about certain issues. In today's Wall Street Journal. If you pick it up, there's a discussion about access TV, and how the cable companies are really trying to turn back access TV. Because the channel capacity there's not enough channels for all these new stations that are coming on the ESPN two and the FX channel, Comedy Central and et cetera, et cetera. There's not enough room for them. So they're trying to push these access His channels off. And that's happening here in Houston, especially if you don't believe me read the Wall Street Journal today. This we're on the air because of the listeners, they're not trying to push us off the air as long as we can get the listeners to help fund this station on an ongoing basis, we'll be here.

D Deborah Bell 25:18

We'll be here as long as you're here supporting us because that's what it takes. It takes money to run a radio station is that simple. We have bills to pay, we have equipment to pay for we have salaries to pay, all the branches are not really great ones. And especially while I'm not you

don't know, this show. Some of the rewards of this show is staying informed of what's going on in the community. And it seems like in the past year or so there has been an explosion in the cultural realm as far as lesbian and gay theatre and performances going on. We did a whole series over a diverse works. We have several local companies that are doing things, we've had things at stages, the alley is coming up next year with Angels in America. We've had the Houston Grand Opera, opera coming up with the Harvey Milk opera next year. And one of the ways to find out what is going on in what might be out there to go see that is about our communities by listening to lesbian and gay voices. This is where you're going to find out about it just by tuning in. Coming up in a few minutes. We'll have Gary Laird with us. He is the author of last flash, which is now playing at Khumba house theater through this weekend. And he we're going to talk to Gary and find out what's going on with that. But we need to be hearing from we have people out there ready to answer the phone.

J Jack Valinski 26:50

We're doing our part by putting the show together by getting all the elements together getting the calendar together and stuff like that. We're doing our part to keep this pipeline open of information. They talk about that information superhighway Well, we're not quite on the superhighway. We can't even find the ramp, but where they

D Deborah Bell 27:07

tell you about what's going on in the community. A cheap one