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SPEAKERS

Cindy Friedman, Lori Clark, Brian Nunes

- C** Cindy Friedman 00:07
Franklin, just off of Louisiana, between Baghdad and Louisiana, you can't miss it. It's that big building up there. Go into the inside, you know, hopefully you have your stamped but you don't even need a stamp. Right? Get it in there and you'll be registered to vote because it's the absolute deadline it has to be postmarked by midnight tonight.
- L** Lori Clark 00:25
Okay,
- C** Cindy Friedman 00:26
so let's see tomorrow. Tomorrow we have the Queer Nation meeting, which is at 7:30pm at the Montrose Palace, 1505, Nevada at Commonwealth.
- L** Lori Clark 00:35
Okay. On Wednesday, the seventh we have wave Women Against Violence Everywhere, a group specifically focusing on violence against women and children at the Sojourner Truth room at the First Unitarian Church. For more information you can call 867 9117.
- C** Cindy Friedman 00:52
Yeah, and also on Wednesday, the seventh amends network the topic has to be announced. They asked for donations to small donations at 7pm to 8:30pm at 900 Lovett suite 201 and their phone number there is five to 90037

L Lori Clark 01:07

Asan Wednesday's the Houston gay and lesbian Political Caucus at 7:30pm. At the Montrose Palace that's 1505 Nevada common word from Commonwealth excuse me for more information you can call 521 1000.

C Cindy Friedman 01:21

And on Thursdays act up the new Act Up Gulf Coast chapter. They meet also at the Montrose palace at 7:30pm. And that's a brand new chapter and they're doing some exciting things.

L Lori Clark 01:32

Gulf Coast Friday, the ninth is International Association of Lesbian and Gay Pride coordinators 1992 conference, networking of ideas, and problem solving workshops on Pride Week and most importantly, selection of a 1993 thing. The Ramada Renaissance Long Beach, California. For more information, you can dial 803, five for pride. And I think one of my co hosts here is going to be guesting over there. Are you going to be?

C Cindy Friedman 02:00

Yes, yes. In fact, I'm secretary treasurer of the organization. And if anybody has some suggestions for the theme for next year, which any organization can bring in with them, you can call us on the pride line at 5296979. And give that suggestion. When do you leave? So? Well, we'll be checking in of course, but the we submit them I think on Saturday, and they're voted on on Sunday. So if you submit them before Well, let's say Friday sit submit them by Friday, and basically things like Unity and more this year. This year's theme, of course was pride equals power. And you know, we've had other themes locally such as you know, united we stand a part of not apart from and any theme that's selected nationally doesn't necessarily mean that Houston is going to take it. You know, we many times go by that theme, but not always.

L Lori Clark 02:48

So when you come back, can we like quiz you on the Oh, absolutely. Absolutely. Okay, on Saturday, the 10. We have the pride awards voting, voting for awards to be presented later that evening will take place and you can vote from 9pm to six 9am to 6:30pm at the tower Theatre, which is a 1201, West timer. And you dial five to 443 18 for more information. Yes, I

C Cindy Friedman 03:12

believe they have special absentee ballots if you cannot be there that Saturday. And I think that started today. And it's gonna go through Wednesday at the Metropolitan multi service center. And you can call that number if you need some more information.

 Lori Clark 03:24

And then the awards will be that evening at 7pm. And there will be people being honored. Yes, Jack?

 Cindy Friedman 03:31

Yes, there's different nominations that people vote for, like for Brian Kiefer is one of the persons nominated for Person of the Year along with a nice where there's different categories for male and female and he's Parker Ray Hill, Brian Kiefer, and there's a few other people I just don't remember though.

 Lori Clark 03:47

That sounds good. For more information, you can dial again. 524 4318 Is there going to be dinner involved?

 Cindy Friedman 03:53


No, it's not dinner. No. It's at the tower and that's why they kept the prices down a little bit. On Sunday, the 11th. The women's group meets at 10am at the Sojourner Truth room, and if you go on to the next event, I will find what the

 Lori Clark 04:09


okay also Sunday morning the 11 Lads meets lesbians in the dark they met at Transco lakes about 930 to noon. Just look for a bunch of lesbians with their dogs hanging out at the lakes.

 Cindy Friedman 04:21

Okay, and the women's group on the 11th is present on Norman. In a boy I'm sorry, this box is not quite that great. We'll present the lifetimes and relationships of Rosa. Oh boy. No, no, no, no, a French artist and painter of animal law. And also joining us on 11th is barber Gehrman. She's an artist, educator and mother and activist and was arrested and convicted for actions during the protest held at the day of the court ruling of Pennsylvania versus Casey. Well, that ought to be an exciting topic. Like, coming here the story of injustice.

 Lori Clark 05:03

Also October 11. Is that what day is October 11?



C Cindy Friedman 05:07

National Coming Out Day. Yay. And next week, you're gonna also be doing sort of a second show national.

L Lori Clark 05:14

Right? We're gonna have more technical aspects of coming out. And I think we have another guest on that night. wigs on fire.

C Cindy Friedman 05:23

Yes. wigs on fire. Yes, that ought to be exciting. Hopefully they will not have any other wigs on fire when they

L Lori Clark 05:29

Oh no, I think that there must be a fire hazard against that. There's one other thing. There is free self of free self hypnosis courses being offered. The AIDS Foundation of Houston has offered a free mini course on the art of Self Hypnosis for people with HIV being being run by hypnotherapist, TC Lee Norman, and will present the course over three Thursday evening starting October 15. From 730 to 9:30pm. At the AFH office at 3202 Wesleyan. For more information you can call 7890713.

C Cindy Friedman 06:05


And the Montrose Counseling Center is having a community forum on violence. They've rescheduled it to October 24 due to the Arts Festival and the traffic, and that's going to be between 10 and noon, and that's probably on a Saturday, isn't it? 24th I believe 24th Uh huh.

L Lori Clark 06:23

I'll take a look while you read the next thing going.

C Cindy Friedman 06:25


Okay, well, the next thing going on is the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard Houston is having training classes in November. On Friday, the sixth through the Sunday, the seventh and the following weekend on the 14th and 15th to November's volunteers must be at least 18 years of age. And this is training to and they ask you to commit to at least one three hour shift for the next couple of months. And it is a wonderful organization that provides a lot of information to our community. And they are usually open between 3pm and midnight, seven days a week. And if you'd like to get involved with them, you call them at five to 930 to 11. And also if you're interested in anything that we read, that you might not have caught or it's things that we might have stumbled over, you can call them out.

 Lori Clark 07:10

Okay, and that is a Saturday night. Okay. And that is like Jackson that is really important. Also, there is something else happening. The Jewish woman and the world making a difference is the second Texas Jewish feminist conference is happening. Friday, October 23, through Sunday, October 25, at the Westin Galleria. For more information, dial 524 1133. There's only a couple of workshops that I thought would be really interesting to point out. One is creating families a challenge for Jewish lesbians, and that's going to be facilitated by melty blank Janet Cohen and Michael ruder the lonely passions of Delilah, rather, rock which poetry, love and politics. And there's some other ones but I just thought that would be rather interesting. Oh, and

 Cindy Friedman 07:59


if you're headed towards as Urvashi that says the vortex of evil, Washington or the district this weekend is the names project quilt, the entire quilt will be in Washington, in the mall area. Yes, it's going to be absolutely incredible. Friday night, Saturday and Sunday. You know, just a wonderful thing I know our friend Deborah will be there because she's there in Washington, representing us for the National march on Washington for 93 Oh, she Yes. So she won't miss that. There's gonna be a lot of events going around that. So that's happening this weekend. And if you'd like to get any of your events talked about and this radio show or being given to the other radio shows, you can just send them to peal box 66071 ustun 77266. And in basically give us the who, what, when, where, why, and how, and we'll even print it right and make sure you give us a phone number for more information church. Okay, well, let's go to this way out.

 Brian Nunes 09:01

I'm Brian Nunes

 Cindy Friedman 09:02

and I'm Cindy Friedman

 Brian Nunes 09:03

with news wrap a summary of some of the news in we're affecting the lesbian and gay community for the week ending October 3 1992. The Salt Lake County Commission has passed the first lesbian and gay rights protections in the state of Utah. Sexual orientation is now included as a protected

 09:20

follow the news in your area and informed community is a strong community

B

Brian Nunes 09:25

news wrap is compiled and written by Cindy Friedman, for this way out. I'm Brian Nunes and I'm Cindy Friedman.

C

Cindy Friedman 09:32

And that is the new segment of this way out and this way out can be hard on after hours. About 130 in the morning, Saturday night, Sunday morning, and the entire after our show is heard from midnight to 3am. And they put this way out in there. Although they don't always have the most current show on they think it's about run there's runs about two weeks behind. So this way out is a program that you can listen to and it comes from our Pacifica station in LA Los Angeles KPFK, October 11. He was about five years ago, I guess in 1987, when the march in Washington happen, that they decided to, or some people thought they put together this day called National Coming Out Day. And the reason for it was, is that a lot of us, some of us have come out. But if we can put this sort of national holiday for gay and lesbian people, and really go the next step, because you're never totally out, there's always another step to go. There isn't always another step to talk about your internal homophobia that you deal with. And also about the older you know, the outside world, you know, you can't feel good about yourself, you have to first feel good about yourself before you can feel good about other people. So National Coming Out Day is October 11. It's a day that was just randomly picked, I guess, to coincide with the march 1987. And this year, it's going to be on Sunday. So we thought we'd do a couple shows around National Coming Out Day. And Laurie, I guess just pick some sort of ordinary people, but special people in a sense to talk about coming out. Why don't you introduce our guests? Okay,

L

Lori Clark 11:06

well, Sally, say hello, Sally, Sally is. Sally is one of our guests, she's going to be the older woman, I wanted to kind of get a diversity. She's an older woman who has come out within the last two years has been. And she's going to talk about her coming out story, along with the homophobia that she experienced herself how she felt before and after. And sad was very articulate. And we'll just be able to talk about that. And we have Quincy, who was a member of hatch, he's a young gentleman 19 just turned 19, who has just been out for six months, and he's going to be able to give us the perspective of what it's like, as a young person to be coming at at such a young age and what he has to look forward to, I guess his whole life. So basically, we're just gonna be chatting tonight and talking about coming out. I think, for me, personally, I think carrying stories of coming out is very empowering, whatever your story might be. And I just thought that'd be a nice way to celebrate.

C

Cindy Friedman 12:05

Yes, is a lot of our sort of culture developed plays and movies and stuff like that a lot of it before the 80s was very much about coming out. And then the 80s, of course, is very much dominated by AIDS, but still, in that too many people they came out being HIV positive and

being gay or lesbian. Um, so let's, let's bring this context back. And Sally wants to give us a little bit about your story.



12:34

Well, I'm 46 and I think coming out begins with looking back at at your life and those nervous moments in the girls locker room in high school when you've noticed you were looking at other women with appreciation and and felt the shame the guilt that that went along with that. And, and then I didn't do anything about this for years and years and had a an episode where I ended up in bed with a woman and and really freaked out. I mean, I had serious case of homophobia myself. Several years after that became a Bible waving Bible waving Southern Baptist. So I had a lot to untangle. But in the middle of all this, were these these little messages, hey, you know, you, you may be a lesbian, and I just batter them all down until I had a friend very close friend that I respected a lot. And I mean, I my own homophobia didn't didn't untangle easily at all, I had people saying, Oh, you need to go to a gay bar and get drunk and, and I just I was at that point, the Bible toting Baptists and I said, I, I may be this but I choose not to cultivate this aspect of my personality. The whole time, you know, suffering all kinds of major depression because partially because of that. And, but finally, a very close friend of mine was well, I suspected she was lesbian just because it was somebody I respected a lot and and I just looked at her across the room one day and notice we're both sitting there in our blue jeans and high tops and, and this percolated for months and finally I got the courage to ask this friend. Could you be lesbian me this is a humorous conversation probably took 45 minutes to get to get the question out and when she met her faculty said, Yes, it was like that opened a door for me to explore who I was, and that process was, was gradual. I later I got couraged go to the women's group on a Sunday morning and I looked around I thought, well, this isn't quite so bad. And then I went to the annual peace rally. And I saw the women hugging and kissing. And I thought, well, well, maybe this is all right. And then I experienced a brief relationship with a woman and, and it was really the one. I don't want to get graphic, but it was one kiss. And I experienced that. And I thought, Hmm, I think I will rethink my philosophy here. I think I will redo my religion, I think I will redo my lifestyle. It was the experience, I thought, unfortunately, this this woman was very ambivalent about being lesbian. And our relationship went on and off as it it was so uncomfortable to go to places and have her so fearful of being discovered, because I looked like a dike. And, and so it was hard for her to keep her cover. And, but I was infatuated, and I couldn't share it. It was horrible. It was a horrible experience. So I would be so happy. And I couldn't go into work and say, oh, man, I had the most wonderful evening, I went to the movies last night, I couldn't. And I was just about to burst with joy, and I couldn't share it. Then when we broke up, I was about to burst with despair. And I couldn't get support. And after that, I said, I will never do that to myself again, I, I will surround myself with people that I can talk real with that I can talk about my experiences, and be supportive. And I did that. And I became more active in in the women's group and and networked a little more in the community got into a relationship. And this is me now I'm comfortable with with my life. And I also read the book on the church and homosexuality and laid that issue to rest. Now I can't tolerate being in a church at all, because I find the hatred so toxic.



Lori Clark 17:24

What's the book you're talking about?



17:26

It's a I think it's book by McNeal called the church in homosexuality. And that's where he, because I really bought bought hook, line and sinker, the part about it being an abomination the scripture in Romans and I couldn't get around that. And so the book really the you, you can read the first several chapters, and that will lay all your doubts to rest



Lori Clark 17:51

being a Bible toting Baptist, as you said, Did you experience any kind of relationship in your life before you became a lesbian?



18:02

What a hero, heterosexual? Oh, yes, I was. I was married for seven years. And looking back now I know why that was somewhat of a disaster.



Lori Clark 18:14

Okay, okay. Thank you very much. That was really interesting.



Cindy Friedman 18:17

Oh, Quincy, perhaps you can give us a little bit of your perspective.



18:23

Well, I'm 19, I've been 19 grand a month and a half. I knew I was attracted to men. As long ago as when I was eight years old. I can remember feeling, feeling attraction to men. And I never associated the word gay with it. Partly because I didn't want to, I would hear that word. And what I heard going along with it I didn't like so I didn't want to associate that with myself. But around the time of my 18th birthday, as matter of fact, on my 18th birthday, I started to deal with dealing with all this because I was very unhappy with myself, I was very uncomfortable. I just was not where I thought I should be, you know, 18 You're supposed to be happy. Just live life up and everything like this time of your life. It was supposed to be it was nice to me. So I started to deal with all this. And I really evaluated everything and came to terms with myself being gay, it took it took me actually about four or five months before I could think of the word gay. Think of the word gay and myself and actually say it out loud. To myself, it took seven months before I could say to anybody else. So after that time when I finally did come to terms with myself, and I and I came out to someone to someone at work. Very good friend of mine now. I came up to her to work. I was very scared. I was very afraid. I was afraid that I just didn't know what she would say I didn't know if she would Hello, boss, I just did not know what would happen. It turns out, it turns out she accepted it very wrong. Very well. She's a part of my

support system now. And she's helped me. She and another good friend of mine from work have helped me to really become more and more comfortable with myself. And more and more comfortable with what and who I am. Okay,



Cindy Friedman 20:21

do you have any support groups or I go,



20:23

I go to hatch. I've been going to hatch. It's the Houston area teenaged coalition of homosexuals. I've been going since I believe, July. It hasn't been very long. But I've been going. The first time I went there. I actually put it off for about six months. I called once and I didn't go for six months. And I called again, and I went, I was I was scared. I was scared to death. I didn't know what to expect. I didn't know what it would be like I didn't know what was going to go on. I think I was scared mostly because I knew I was going to be at a place where not only was everybody else gay, but they were going to know I was gay, too. And I had never been to a I had never been anywhere where anybody knew that I was gay, at least that I knew. And that was a very frightening experience. I people were asking me, did you enjoy the meeting? Did you enjoy the meeting? I really couldn't remember all that much about the meeting. I was just so scared. I can remember that. So the next week I went. And I got much more out of that meeting because I knew what to expect. It wasn't as bad as I thought it was going to be. I pictured I just pictured this horrible place where everybody was the stereotypical gay person going around, doing all these things you hear about, but that that just is not what goes on. It just doesn't happen like that. I think that's a bunch of homophobic just hype that they say, this goes on that goes on. It doesn't at least not where I go. It doesn't happen with my friends like that. It came to be a place and it still is a place that helps me out very much.



Cindy Friedman 22:00

How did you find out about hatch? I,



22:03

I was 20. I was sitting at home before my 18th birthday, I was just about to go crazy. And I was looking in the phone book in the blue pages as a matter of fact, and I came across the gay and lesbian switchboard. And I'm thinking to myself, Should I call that place? Or should I, I don't want to call that place, maybe they'll think I'm gay. But after a couple of weeks, I got the nerve to call. And I said, Well, what goes on here. And she says, we get out numbers and things about the gay community. And she gave me the number to hatch. That was in October, last October. And I called them and that's when they were just getting started. And as I said, I didn't go then. But eventually I did go in the gay and lesbian switchboard has helped me out a couple of times since then, as well, with other numbers and references and stuff like that.



Cindy Friedman 22:48

Emily Friedman 22:10

Great. We're gonna take a little break. Now our subject tonight is coming out. And we'll be back to talk a little bit more about it. And that, of course, is Tracy Chapman. And we're talking about coming out. And you have another question. Laurie?

L

Lori Clark 23:18

I have a couple of questions for Quincy, I'm interested in knowing when he finally if and when he told his parents or parent that he was gay. What happened? How was that day for you?

Q

23:31

Oh, I have to take it back to the process I went through to get to that point. The movie during time on Maple drive. I was sitting in delivering when I saw a plug for that movie where the guy says, Please don't tell my parents, I'm gay. So I figured I could watch this movie. And use that as a segue into telling my mother and stepfather that I was caring. But anyone who watched the movie knows that this guy rents a car into a telephone pole. So I couldn't do that, because that wouldn't get my point across. I chose rather to write a letter to my mother and stepfather. And I believe that that movie came out on the movie came on television on Tuesday night. I wrote that letter, two or three o'clock Wednesday morning. And I waited until Friday to give it to my mother. Actually, I didn't give it to her, left it on my bed after she dropped. I left it on my bed and she dropped me off at work. And I told her there's a letter on the bed. She goes, would you like me to mail it? And I said no. I'd like you to read it. And the way I work I work 16 hours on Friday and 16 hours on Saturday. So I go into work Friday at two o'clock. I don't get off till Saturday morning. So Friday afternoon after she dropped me off. I expected that she'd go home read the letter and then she'd call me. So all day at work Friday. I'm waiting for this telephone call. I was just waiting and waiting and waiting. It never came. Saturday morning. I was afraid she wouldn't come and pick me up. I thought you know this was it. She was just given up on it. didn't happen that way. Actually, she did not come pick me up. My stepfather came and picked me up. And on the outside of the envelope that I had written the letter and put it in I, one of the things I wrote on there was that I wanted. I wanted the letter back the next morning just to know that it had been open, even if it hadn't been registered or that it hadn't opened. So we're driving down the street. I didn't say anything about it to my stepfather, because I didn't know she showed it to him. He just kind of reached under the feet and handed me the letter. And I said, oh, did she read it? He says, yes, she read it. I said, What did she say? Because she says one day, we'll have to talk about that. And I said, Well, did she say she knew or she suspected? He said, she said she never knew she never suspected. And I thought she would suspect because I have two older brothers ones 2123 Now, and they would always have their little girlfriends in and out of the house all the time. And I never did that. Never once did I bring a girl over to my house? Never. And I thought just because of that she was to expect or I just figured she had to know. But she said she didn't know. And so the thing another thing my stepfather said is one day, she said one day, we will have to sit down and talk about that. That was in mid March of 91. We didn't actually talk until July. No, that was March of 92. We didn't actually talk until July of 92. And the way that came about is like I said, I go to hatch. I had gone to two hatch meetings. And I didn't tell my mother where I was going. I just went over there. And there was a PFLAG meeting on the first Sunday of July. I had gone to that meeting. And there was a layover time of about 45 minutes between that meeting and the hatch mean that I was gonna go to for that day. And when I got back home, she was just sitting there. And coincidentally, the same day the article came out in the paper about about Paul Rodriguez and

his mother come into town. So that that newspaper was on our on our kitchen table. So I was sitting in the living room and I noticed that newspaper, I wouldn't pick it up and read the article. When I asked my mom, I said, Do you know where I've been going for the past two weeks? She goes, No. I said, Do you know where I just came from? She says no. And I kind of detected like she's kind of being smart. So I said, Well, I really don't care if you know or not. I just want to know if you know, and she kind of smelled it. She says Well, I kind of know. And I said where she goes, I know it has something to do with your gay classes. And I laughed because I said they don't teach us. They do not teach us how to be gay. We both laughed. I gave her the newspaper article and the big tight words with the words were something to the effect of when some parents find out their kids are gay, they turn them away, they kick right. And her comment was she thinks she thought that was wrong. Parents would love their kids for who they are, and what they are not for that part of their life. And I just felt wonderful that she said that. I sat back down and we started talking that day, that very day, we started talking. And and I think ever since that day, we've we've been getting more closer and closer each day since that day.

 Cindy Friedman 28:03

Well, going from March to July is not really that long of a time.

 28:07

It's every day seems like a year. Yeah, I

 Cindy Friedman 28:10

sure I understand. But for a lot of us when took us so long for feeling being able to feel good about ourselves. That it's it's we have to expect to take a little bit longer for people who are our family.

 28:22

You see, I didn't realize that at the time. Sure. I was thinking why is she not speaking to me? Why is this? Why is she not talking about?

 Lori Clark 28:28

I wanted to ask you from March until July. You lived in the house. You still lived at home you still have at home. So what was the relationship with your mom was everything normal, but you just didn't talk about that was a tense.


 28:39

The funny thing is the weekend after I gave her the letter, I came home that Sunday, and I was


asleep. They had all gone over to my uncle's house. She called me on the phone. She says, Oh, we're over here at your uncle's house, we'll be there in a little bit. There's something in there that just like nothing had happened. And for that entire time. It was like nothing had happened. And I was wondering, Well, is she not talking to me? Because she doesn't have any questions or really doubted that. If you're not talking to me because she doesn't believe me. Or is it? It never crossed my mind that it took me seven months to get to the point where I could say that I am mice that I'm crunchy and I'm gay. It never crossed my mind that it might take her a little time to get to that point to

 Lori Clark 29:18

what was happening with your stepfather and your brothers. Were they aware of the situation I see. My stepfather

 29:24


was the same weekend she they they read the letter together I suspect and I did not know at the time, but she didn't tell my brother. I did not know that he knew. But she did tell him and the way that all came about with him. Because on his birthday, on his birthday on his 20th birthday, he comes home and he invited me over to the table. He says Oh sit down let's talk. And I said okay, he says get a piece of cake. That's it. Okay. He says So you've been any of those meetings lately? And that kind of blew me away because I didn't know that he knew. And I said yeah, and we just sat there probably for two hours talking him asking me questions. me answering them. Because I feel a lot more comfortable. If someone can talk to me about it, then if I say to someone, I'm gay, and they say, Oh, well, okay, that's fine. I don't know what that means. I don't know if that means okay, that's fine. Don't come back around me or, okay, that's fine. But you know, just don't say it anymore. I just don't know what that means. I feel much more comfortable if someone can talk to me about it. Because I'm not afraid of words. I'm not afraid of answering any questions. And I prefer it that way. People talking,

 Lori Clark 30:30

how about your extended family and your high school terms? Have you come out to your extended family or your temps?

 30:38

I have come out to one cousin from my father's side, and one cousin from a mother sign. Because of from my mother's side, her mother does know. But her mother believes it's just her mother believes it's a lie. She doesn't believe that it's the truth. The cousin from my father's side, he believes me. But he thinks I need therapy. He believes me, but he thinks I need to get some help. And I haven't told his parents, he doesn't want me to tell his parents for the fear that they will think he is gay as well. So I won't do

 Lori Clark 31:13

that. Are you would you? Do you foresee? And this is kind of a question that you really couldn't answer. But in the future, if you were to be in a relationship, would you feel comfortable taking your sweetheart with you to any kind of family fairs? If there's like a family gathering or family reunion?



31:27

I would feel comfortable? Yes. My parents feel comfortable with my mother and stepfather. I really haven't brought anyone home yet. I haven't done that. So I'm sure there'll be a little uncomfortable at first. But I think just judging from them and their attitudes about me so far, they would they would be okay with it. And my opinion on that, as far as the other people in the family goes, I would feel definitely most comfortable taking someone with me to a family function. If someone there had a problem with it. Someone there would have a problem with it. It would be their problem to deal with not mine.



Lori Clark 32:02

What a great attitude. Are you not me for this?



Cindy Friedman 32:07

Yes. Well, Sally, you've been listening to this conversation for a while. Do you have any anything to add?



32:13

Oh, well, I'm green with envy. And accepting family is quite a luxury, I think absolutely. The gay community. What struck me was, there were steps in my process to I wasn't a lesbian. I think for a month I was gay. I had to trip over the word lesbian for quite a while and I did have the experience of going to a party, which I knew would have only gays there gays and lesbians. And I bumped into somebody that said, Oh, Hi, Sally. And I said, Oh, hi. And then I recognized her from work. And I just about fainted. And, and my immediate thought was, what are you doing this party? And then I thought, oh, wait a minute. She's at the party too. You know, I became aware of, of my own homophobia. I I had, I think my experience of coming out to my friends was slightly different. I have all sorts of hilarious stories about well, I'll fabricated mgL I there's there's really something that I would like to tell you. But and I stammered and I stuttered. And it must take 1015 minutes for me to get she says, already knew that. I figured that I was like, Well, why didn't you tell me? Why didn't I know this? And it was just, I got tired of, you know, I lost this trepidation because everybody else knew it. But me and I had known it for years, I had gotten approached by somebody in a college campus 10 years ago. And, and so I was I was gratified. But there were, there were levels of comfort that that my friends have had with being gay and I get the Oh, that's wonderful. I want to be as supportive of you. Well, there's one level, you know, okay, it's okay that you're gay, lesbian, but if you start talking about dating women, then they start falling off. And then you start talking about the relationship difficulties and more of them stopped dropping off like they can't handle they can sort of handle in the abstract that you're lesbian, but anything beyond that really. Channel



Cindy Friedman 34:41

write the whole thing about while you're flaunting it, you know, the fact that you're trying to share your life with other people. They do it all the time and they don't realize it.



34:50

Yes, they don't realize heterosexual don't realize how discriminating it is to go to an have an office and not be able to say who you were with the night before. Now now,



Lori Clark 35:06

the pictures app of your app Your Beloved?



35:10

Yes, yes, I, I am in a very unusual work environment now where I've, I've got a picture up of my, of my partner, and I think four or five other people in the office, accept it. And and I can talk about, and I can take my partner to office parties, but I think that is real. Absolutely. It's very rare. And it's, it's really nice. It's really nice.



Lori Clark 35:36

I'd be interested in hearing about the first time you took either your partner or your first female day to a social work social event. Oh, I think that sounds like a good story to hear,



35:48

Oh, let me see, I had taken my partner to work, I was after hours, and I was going to do some overtime, and I was going to sort of have my partner there. And the whole boss of the office walked in. And I just sort of got I just like, it was just And then, you know, my boss just warmly greeted my partner, and and asked her everything about herself. And it was quite obvious that we weren't just casual friends. And and so then I think the word spread to other other people in the office, and I didn't.



Cindy Friedman 36:34

Do you have any advice to give somebody that may be in the same situation? You're in? You're in?



36:38



36:39

Oh, I think I would. If I had inklings that I was gay or lesbian. I would honor that I would explore it, I would get into therapy. And because one doesn't choose to be gay, it's far too inconvenient. A lifestyle. So if someone thinks that they may be, then it's probably worth exploring, because I've spent a lot of energy in my life, battling and, and and, and hating myself for all my, my orientation issues. So I would say do something about



Cindy Friedman 37:24

Quincy, what kind of advice would you give to somebody say they're 18 years old.



37:29

My advice would be, for each person, the coming out process is different. There are some people who might tell you, if you are in if you are a teenager living at home, some people might tell you, Well, you have to tell your parents, their parents, they deserve to know, I don't think that's the truth. I think you will, you will know when you're ready to tell whoever it is you want to tell. Don't Don't do it out of a feeling of obligation to somebody just because they're your parent or your brother or your sister, do it when it feels right for you. Only you will know when it's right for you.



Cindy Friedman 38:02

Right and coming out may not be the best choice for somebody who's still living at home, that's fine. They have to really weigh those things, think about it, and maybe get some professional help to give you some of that. And we're gonna take a little break now and I want to thank Quincy and Sally for coming by and sharing with us about a



38:23

song that was written by a lady who is as lovely as a song as a song has been kind enough to make friends for me around the world. And it seems to mean something different to every ear that hears it.



Cindy Friedman 38:47

That is from a distance by Nancy Griffith. A songwriting song written by Julie Gould recorded live at Anderson fair just down the road here from one's fine summer evening. Great album, absolutely great album. Yes, but Nancy is my favorite on this song. She's just so good. Coming out is a very special process and everybody's story is special. And as you can see here on Wilde 'N' Stein, we have some very people, very wonderful people being able to tell that story. And,



Lori Clark 39:19

and they were wonderful stories and both of our guests spoke eloquently, I believe.

C

Cindy Friedman 39:25

But there's a lot of things going on in the community. And that's what we talk about here. There's a community forum on violence in the gay and lesbian community to be held as part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. It's originally rescheduled on the 17th. But it's going to be on Saturday the 24th from 10am till noon, at the Montrose Counseling Center. And that's at 900 Lovett suite. 203.

L

Lori Clark 39:48

Okay, I'm Jack I got last week we had surely night on that with us. She was one of the producers of FEM TV. And I went to the screening you have a preview I saw sneak preview was that Mrs. B's. And she showed both October and November shows. And they were very, very good shows they both lasted about an hour approximately, and it didn't drag at all. Okay, I recommend that they watch him and then the complete schedule for the October show, I'll just highlight it is Tuesday, October 13, eight to 9pm. There's a Monday, October 19, from seven to 8pm. Those are the two prime times,

C

Cindy Friedman 40:27

right, and that's on Channel Four, nine or 11 on Warner cable, or store cable channel 98. And some of the groups that we talked about tonight is a hatch Houston area teenage coalition. They meet at Friday at 7:30pm till 10pm And also on Sunday at 7:30pm. And their number is nine four to 700 to smile meets sexual minority youth assistant league meets at Saturdays at 4pm. The women's group meets every Sunday at the First Unitarian Church at 10am at 5210 Fannin. And of course, the gay and lesbian switchboard is at five to 930 to 11 and their staff from 3pm to midnight, seven days a week, usually, usually. Okay, so next

L

Lori Clark 41:13

week, next week, we're going to talk about coming out again from a more technical standpoint, and we're going to have wigs on fire will I believe the cat remember the gentleman's Chris

C

Cindy Friedman 41:24

storeman will be here. And I'll be away for two weeks so the women are going to be taking

L

Lori Clark 41:29

over oh yeah, then so after that, it's gonna be a radical women show so all humans keep listening



Cindy Friedman 41:33

and you're listening to KPFT Houston. This is Wilde 'N' Stein. Stay tuned for the BBC News and beyond the bottom line