

A Publication of the Lexington Gay Service Organization

Volume 23, Number 10

#### Vote

A change is in the air... The trees are starting to lose their deep green in favor of a spectacular rainbow of colors. There's a surprising chill to the night air, and for the first time in months people consider getting out their blankets and long sleeve shirts. School's back in, and many of us are studying for our first mid-term of the fall. With all the excitement of tailgate parties, trips to the Red River Gorge, and deciding what to wear on the gayest holiday of the year - Halloween - it's easy to forget the season's most important obligation - Voting.

As Americans, all of us have a sacred duty to participate in our representative government by doing a little research and going to vote on November 4th to select the candidates that best represent our views and ideals. With the interminable negative ads and the constant bickering between Democrats and Republicans, it's easy to get discouraged, and give up on the very frustrating institution that is politics in America.

Irish political philosopher Edmund Burke had an idea that all of us should remember when the political discourse gets a little too heated. He surmised that "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good people do nothing."

This concept, this thought, this idea is the most critical reason why all of us should care about who we elect

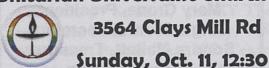
Continued on page 4

## GLSO HALLOWEEN Party

GLSO and Interweave invite you to a Halloween Party on Friday, Oct 31 from 7:30 until 11 at the Unitarian Universalist Church. We will have chili and drinks for sale starting at 7:30 so join us for dinner. Midlife Harmony, a band that sings music from the 60s, 70s, and 80s, will start playing around 8:30. They are great fun and many of us will be dancing.

There will be a \$5 charge at the door, which includes free snacks. There will be prizes for the best historic GLBT person, for the best bigot, and for the most fabulous costume. Dress up and join the fun.

**Unitarian Universalist Church** 



Join us for the installation of our new sign

"Civil Marriage is a Civil Right"

Reception to follow





Incorporated as
The Gay Service Organization
P.O. Box 1172 Lex., KY 40588
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www.glsopc.org

## GLSO NEWS

**VOLUME 22 NO. 10** 

News Editors
Mary Crone & Sarah Phillips

Assembly & Distribution

Debby Hemstock

Pride Center Office Manager
Bill Chandler
859-253-3233

#### **GLSO BOARD**

Mary Crone, President
Ginger Moore, Secretary
Sondra Mellott, Treasurer
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Terry Mullins
Dana Wallingford

GLSO Membership & Newsletter Individuals/Couples \$20 per year

**Open Board Meetings** 

You are welcome to attend GLSO Board Meetings. which are on the second Thursday of each month.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED The GLSO News Team

The GLSO News Team is looking for volunteers to manage various aspects of newsletter production and distribution. These are the positions we are looking for at this time, we will be advertising other positions next month. If you are interested, please contact Mary at mary-crone@isnightbb.com or call her at (H) 266-5904 or (cell) 221-4396

**Advertising and Marketing Manager** 

We need a volunteer who will be responsible for soliciting sponsors and advertisers. You will not have to start from scratch, we have a list. This individual will work with the newsletter team to establish goals, advertising rates, and update policies.

**Backpack Journalists** 

We conceive of a backpack journalist as an individual who would be out in the community attending a variety of events, conducting interviews, and taking pictures. We are looking for several creative people who would enjoy reporting "from the field". We would ask that you be responsible for one article with pictures a month. Having your own digital camera would be a plus.

**Assembly and Distribution** 

Debby has volunteered to be in charge of Assembly and Distribution. She will need help toward the end of each month to fold and collate the newsletter and to take them to locations around Lexington. To volunteer: please contact Debby at her at (email addy?)

Next month we will post a few more positions such as News editor and Feature editor. If you are interested in working on the newsletter in some capacity, even if not specified in our stated needs, please give mary a call.

# Community News

#### **OUToberFest 2008**

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Tippecanoe County Pride Celebration by Kim Williams & Marjie Gold-Vukson

Twenty-one years ago, on Oct. 1, 1987, the GLBT March on Washington and the unfurling of the AIDS Quilt on the National Mall heralded an amazing new chapter in lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) chronicles. The next was no less remarkable with the celebration of the newly created National Coming Out Day.

Fast forward to Lafayette, Indiana, two decades later and OUToberFest 2008: Tippecanoe County Pride Celebration; the first-ever local LGBT-pride event. The purpose of this festival is to applaud openness, honesty, visibility, and diversity, and to help increase public awareness of the LGBT population. Additionally, the organizers of OutoberFest strive to educate residents of Tippecanoe County, Indiana about the availability of organizations and services of particular interest to the LGBT community.

Hosted by Pride Lafayette; Citizens for Civil Rights; Parents, PFLAG and many other community organizations, OUToberFest will be held on Saturday, October 11, from 4 P.M. until midnight, on Main Street between 6th and 7th Streets. This exciting evening will feature festive entertainment including a drag show and live bands, local food and business vendors, informational booths, a family area with a wide array of activities for children of all ages, karaoke, dancing, and much more!

If you are driving in for the fest, Best Western hotel at I-65 and State Rd.

Continued on page 4

#### Frankfort Group Starting

Karen Taylor is interested in starting a group in Frankfort. Contact her at ktaylor@fewpb.net, or 502 223-7441 (H) or 502 545-6355 ©.

#### SisterSound

SisterSound has weekly rehearsals every Sunday evening between 6 and 8 at Lansdowne Cumberland Presbyterian Church on Redding Road. If you would like to speak with a live person, call Patti at 806-0243. Either way, hope to see you there! (see article on page 8)

#### New LGBT Phonebook

The Bluegrass Gay Phonebook has been published and can be found at The GLSO Pride Center, Joseph-Beth, Sqecial Media, The Bar Complex, The Bang, Mia's, Common Grounds, 3<sup>rd</sup> St Stuff, the KY Theatre, Video Max, Hook Novelty, Video & Beyond, Purple Haze, CD Central, AVOL, Central Christian Church, & the UU Church.

## Bluegrass Gay PHONEBOOK"

The Bluegrass Gay Phonebook is a new yellow page based directory for Gay and Gay-Friendly businesses, service providers and community groups in Lexington and Central Kentucky.

> 1-866-640-5504 www.BluegrassGYP.com

#### Outober Fest continued from pg 3

26 is offering a discount on standard rooms and executive suites for those attending OUToberfest. When calling to book, ask for the "best rate" of \$84.99 for a standard room, or \$89.99 for an executive suite. Space is limited and going fast.

## **Imperial Court News**

The Imperial Court of KY held the annual Julie Vaughn Memorial Closet Ball on September 17 at Anything Goes on Winchester Road. After a night of entertainment featuring our Reigning Empress Eve St Mychal and fierce competition among the two contestants, Porsche Mercedes was crowned the winner.

On Sept. 27th the ICK held a Turn it Out Show cosponsored with Bluegrass Fairness at Bang Nightclub. This is part of a nationwide campaign with the International Court System and the NGLTF to provide information and encourage the GLBT community to get out and vote this Nov.

Our next event will be Diva of Darkness. Check for the venue and updates on all events related to the Court on my space at myspace.com/imperialcourtofkentucky or at www.imperialcourtkentucky.com.

#### Bluegrass Women's Network

The Bluegrass Women's Network is a social group for women of all ages. To receive emails about events contact debbywoman@gmail.com. You will be notified of events ranging from camping trips, to parties, movie nights and monthly brunches. You can attend those of interest to you. You are also welcome to plan an event and invite the women on the list. Sign up, get involved.

to political office. Due to the electoral college system, many people believe that our vote in this year's presidential election won't make a difference. Nothing could be further from the truth! In addition to the nation-defining presidential election, many other political offices are up for grabs this year, including Kentucky's Congressional delegation, and a host of local and state offices.

As Tip O'Neill, longtime Speaker of the House, once said "All Politics is Local." In Kentucky, that statement is absolutely true. Here in Lexington, we are fortunate to have the Fairness Ordinance. This law, passed in 1999 by the Urban County Council, extended employment non-discrimination to GLBT workers in Lexington. In Fayette County, you cannot be fired simply because you are gay. This achievement was made possible by progressive members of the Urban County Council and the tireless efforts of the Fairness movement.

In Henderson, another Kentucky city, a non-discrimination ordinance was passed - but due to an intense public backlash and the election of a strongly conservative government, the ordinance guaranteeing equality in employment was REPEALED. Many people say that something like that could never happen here... Lexington is a very open and accepting city, after all. For those who think we don't need to guard our rights, I ask you to reread Edmund Burke's quotation: "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good people do nothing."

As residents of Kentucky all of us owe it to ourselves to do a little research into who represents the district in which we live, who's running for office this year, and who would best represent all our ideals. We may not get to vote directly on a national nonbringing fairness to the Bluegrass since 1992 www.lexfair.org

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## Pride Center

Phone 859 253-3233

Office Hours 10 to 3 Mon.-Fri. Opened: 3—7 Thurs 3-6 Friday Saturdays 12 -2 - call to be sure

### **DISCUSSION GROUP**

EVERY WEDNESDAY
PRIDE CENTER 389 WALLER

#### **TransKentucky**

TransKentucky is a support, social, and resource group serving Lexington and Kentucky. Our mission is to provide a safe place for transgender individuals and others who do not fit the standard gender norms. We support each other by offering advice, resources and insights from our own experiences. This is not a therapy group.

Family, friends, and supportive community members are invited to attend to gain understanding of issues concerning gender presentation, identity, and variance. We meet on the first Saturday of each month at 7:30 pm. Meetings are free and you may dress however you feel comfortable. For info TransKentucky@gmail.com



"Keep the love you find, Get the love you want!"

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Insight Group
Friday, Oct. 3 Pot Luck
Friday, Oct. 17 Movie Night
Pride Center 7 pm

In Memorial: Jamie Cody, of Mount Sterling, a beloved member of our Lexington Insight Group, passed away during the early morning hours of September 19th. His kindness, warmth, and sensitivity will be deeply missed. We extend our thoughts and prayers to his best friend, Ann, who we have also grown to love.

## Lexington Lyons & Levi Club

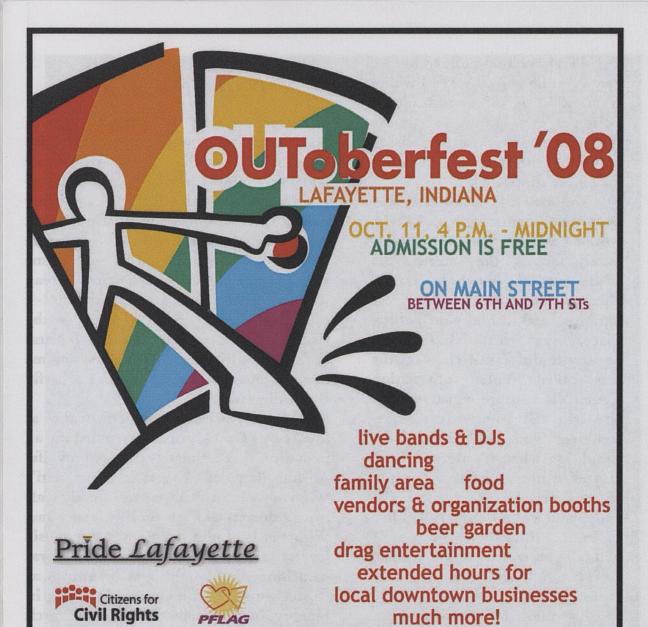
Monday, October 13 7 p pm Pride Center, 389 Waller Ave. www.lexlyons.org.

#### GLSO COOKBOOK

We are working on a cookbook that will have a wide variety of community recipes. Please send in a favorite "family" recipe including a short story of where the recipe came from or who has enjoyed eating it with you.

You can also send in a picture to go along with it. We will not have room to print all the pictures or stories, but having some will make the cookbook fun.

Bring your recipe to the Pride Center, the Halloween Party or send to thomas\_gayzebo@yahoo.com.



On National Coming Out Day, Pride Lafayette, Inc. and partners are hosting Greater Lafayette's first-ever Pride celebration. OUToberfest is causing a stir! Go online to learn more about the event and check out what people are saying!

#### WWW.PRIDELAFAYETTE.ORG/OUTOBERFEST

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Universalist Church West Lafayette



discrimination policy - but we can elect the person we feel would be most likely to support such a policy. It's up to us to educate ourselves and head to the polls on November 4th to ensure all of our values are supported.

You may ask, "How do I find out who's running, and who would best represent me?" Fortunately for us, the Internet has made our jobs much easier. To check the status of your voter registration, and to find your polling visit http://elect.ky.gov/ registrationinfo/ and click on the link called "Voter Information Center" If you are registered, the site will tell you what districts represent you, and where you should go when it's time to vote. If you're not registered, the site will tell you how to register and make your voice heard. If you live in Lex., http://www.lfucg.com/ will tell you which council district you live in, and who currently represents you.

For more information about the individual candidates, and what policies they support, we recommend you visit Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, a non-partisan community action group that actively collects information on candidates throughout Kentucky, and compiles an annual voter guide. You can find links to KFTC on our site, http://www.lexfair.org

This fall, you owe it to yourself and your ideals to get online, get informed, and go vote!

Your Friends

at Lexington Fairness

## **How SisterSound Found Her Voice**

It was a dark and stormy night.... Nah, actually, it was a cool and crisp night in the autumn of 1995. My partner and I were about to take in a play downtown when I heard a little voice call my name. It was Connie, a wonderfully sweet woman I had met a couple of years before when I had ventured out to meet some single women. She was hosting lesbian women's night out at a local restaurant-I may have heard about it through the GLSO. So, I nervously ventured to Natasha's on Southland; it wasn't easy for me to meet single women. I wasn't a barfly But, I digress....

That night before the performance at the Actor's Guild, Connie extended me an invitation that ultimately changed my life. A big fan of "Muse," Cincinnati's Woman's Chorus, Connie was finally realizing a dream- and was sharing it with me. With the help of a couple of other music lovers, and after a few false starts, she was launching what would later be known as "SisterSound." And on a cold evening in January, in the basement of a local church at Park and High, nearly 20 voices came together for the very first rehearsal.

Many of those voices were wobbly, untested, and underdeveloped; our director, Nancy, certainly had her work cut out for her. More than a few of us could not read a note or interpret a musical phrase, but we kept on coming. We came because we wanted to make music together. We stayed because the place felt like home.

SisterSound was, and is, much more than a singing group. In those early days, it was the only place lesbians could come together to sing women's music and be honest about whom they loved. The vast majority of the singers were lesbian; some had partners, some did not. Some were "out" to their families, some were isp ner vnmy eet ore me ian - I Presented by the Imperial the tame fly at an fe. ti's Categories: Halloween Presentation sic vas Spooktacular Talent in Creative Funeral Wear Date/Location: TBD Look for more information on our website www.imperialcourtkentucky.org or www.myspace.com/imperialcourtofkentucky

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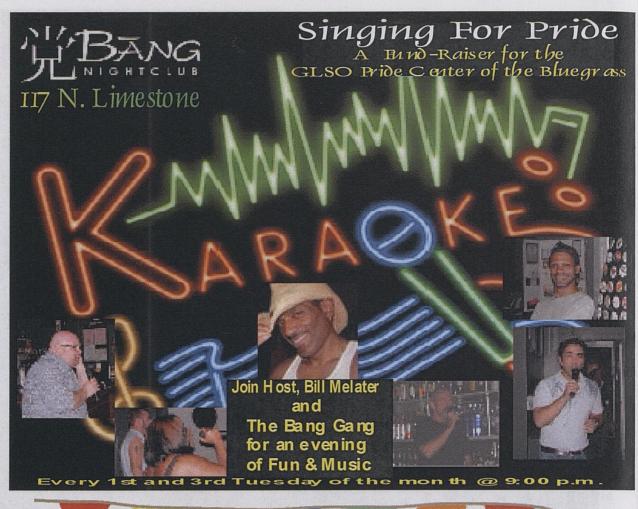
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## **GLSO Needs Your Support**

Mail to PO Box 1172, 40588 **Subscriptions help pay Pride Center Expenses** 

Address			
City	State	Zip	

We are looking for people to help with this newsletter. See page 2 If you are a member of a community group that would like an article and/or pictures in the newsletter, you can volunteer to write and/or send pictures for your specific group.



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But all shared in the knowledge that they would be personally supported for who they were-lesbian and straight alike. And when they ran into the predictable but painful challenges of lifedeath of a parent, the breakup of a relationship, the loss of a jobthey had a support system. they didn't have to steer around revealing pronouns to talk about those challenges, or joys. Everyone had the freedom to be herself, with the understanding everyone's life has dignity, meaning and value.

Now, in 2008, it is not quite as tough to be a lesbian in the city of Lexington. Anti-discrimination ordinances have been written and passed, "The Advocate" lists Lexington as one of the top gay/lesbian cities in America, and just this year, our fair city supported an incredibly successful Pride Festival right down on the lawn of the old courthouse.

Yes, it is much easier to feel free and safe in our city today. But, while safety in the community at large is an essential goal, the safety in personal relationships is priceless. May SisterSound always make beautiful music, but more than that, may she always provide safe haven for lesbian singers who have no safer place to go.

(SisterSound is a non-audition chorus, open to all women who enjoy singing with otherwomen. See page 4 more information Although the above article focuses on this group's historic role in the support of the lesbian community, all women are welcome, valued and supported.)



**DEL MARTIN AND PHYLLIS LYON** 

On October 1, 2008, Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon were the first lesbian couple honored as Icons of GLBT History Month by the Equality Foundation. These two women spent 55 years together until Del Martin died on August 27 of this year. Just three months before her death, Martin and Lyon were married on June 16 (pictured above) after the California Supreme Court declared it unconstitutional to deny same-sex couples the freedom to marry.

In 2004 Lyon and Martin joined in a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the California laws that limited marriage to opposite-sex couples. When this lawsuit was successful, San Francisco Mayor Newsom arranged for them to receive the first marriage license to be issued to a same-sex couple. He then married them in a private ceremony at City Hall. The law suit and their marriage was the culmination of over fifty years of advocacy work on the behalf of LGBT people. These women changed our lives.

Del Martin was born in San Francisco in 1921; Phyllis was born in Oklahoma in1924, but raised and educated in San Francisco. They both were journalism majors in college and later met at a publishing company Continued on page 13

where they both worked. At that time Martin, who had been briefly married, was a 29-year-old lesbian mother, and Lyon, 25, identified as straight. In 1952, they became lovers and on Valentines Day,1953, they moved into an apartment on Castro Street. In 1955 they bought a small hillside home with a sweeping view of San Francisco for \$11,000.

The years of their accomplishments are displayed on their walls: plaques of appreciation from politicians and civil rights groups, as well as photographs of Hillary Clinton, Dianne Feinstein, Shirley Chisholm and Eleanor Roosevelt

Also in 1955, they formed Daughters of Bilitis (DOB), named after a book of lesbian love poetry: Songs of Bilitis by Pierre Louÿs. The name was deliberately chosen to be recognizable by lesbian women but not by others.

In 1956, DOB published the first edition of *The Ladder*, a mimeographed newsletter edited by Lyon. By the early 1960s, subscriptions to *The Ladder* topped 500, and it was passed around to many other women. In the 60s, DOB had chapters throughout the country, in major cities including Chicago, New York, New Orleans, San Diego, Los Angles, Detroit, Denver, Cleveland, and Philadelphia.

DOB has sometimes been called an assimilationist organization in that most of the early members wanted to present themselves in non threatening ways so that they would be accepted by society. Although this concept was part of the organization's principles, the membership and the leaders changed the focus over time.

Barbara Gittings, for example, became the publisher of The Ladder in the early 60s and under her leadership the word lesbian was added to the



cover and articles advocating political action were included. Many of the original members of DOB, including Lyon and Martin, opposed this change.

Lyon and Martin became active in San Francisco politics including as part of the Council on Religion and the Homosexual (CRH), which worked to end police harassment. A particularly brutal raid of a New Year's Ball on January 1, 1965, led many religious leaders in San Francisco to condemn the police. As support grew, CHR was able to lobby for the reform of laws and practices which led to better lives for GLBT people in San Francisco.

In 1970, Martin wrote an article in the Advocate entitled "Goodbye, My Alienated Brothers", in which she rebuked the sexism of the homophile movement. Although at the time Lyon and Martin considered lesbian separatism, they subsequently became leaders in helping improve the relations between the sexes in the LGBT movement.

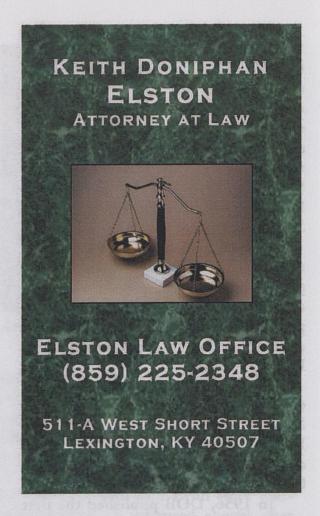
In the late 1960s and early 1970s, Lyon and Martin also worked to address the lesbophobia of the women's movement. Even with a number of respected out lesbians in the National Organization for Women, several NOW leaders expressed concern that lesbians were

not good for the feminist movement. Betty Friedan, one of the founders of NOW, made comments about the "lesbian menace". In 1971, at the NOW's national conference in Los Angeles, the organization finally passed a resolution which affirmed that the oppression of lesbians was a feminist concern.

In 1972, Lyon and Martin helped form the Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club to help lesbians get elected to public office. Both women subsequently served in a number of capacities on city commissions and task force.

Also in that year, Lyon and Martin published their most significant book, Lesbian/ Woman, which remains a crucial account of American lesbian life in the twentieth century, ranging in its concerns from questions of sexuality to questions of psychological health. In this groundbreaking book they challenged the concept of lesbianism as simply a matter of sexuality. They proposed defining a lesbian as "a woman whose primary erotic, psychological, emotional and social interest is in a member of her own sex, even though that interest might not be overtly expressed." This not only opened the door for women who had never been sexual with women to see themselves as lesbians, but it also laid the foundation for a woman-identified subculture that became the basis for the lesbian movement of the 1970s. There is now a 1991, twentieth-anniversary edition of the book available updated to include current information.

Along with writing and speaking about LGBT issues, Martin became a pioneer in the campaign to publicize and stop domestic violence. In 1976, she published one of the earliest books on the subject, <u>Battered Wives</u>, in



which she connected the prevalence of domestic violence to cultural misogyny and to the inequalities inherent in our culture. She said: "The door behind which the battered wife is trapped is the door to the family home."

In 1979, Lyon-Martin Health Services, an affordable women's health clinic, named in honor of the two women, opened in San Francisco. In 1995, they helped form Old Lesbians Organizing for Change, and both served as delegates to the 1995 White House Conference on Aging.

In 2002, the year of the couple's fiftieth anniversary, filmmaker Joan E. Biren released a documentary about their lives titled No Secret Anymore: The Times of Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon.

#### FTM

#### By Transman Cam

I am a female to male (FTM) Transgender. The other category of transgender is male to female (MTF). Some of us come out, some don't. Some early in life and some take too long. Why is it so difficult to become and express one's self? Fear? Uncertainty? Family? Friends? Society?

For me to look in the mirror and see the body of a woman was like watching a stranger dying. The body was familiar, but still not mine. When closing my eyes, I saw a man. When open, I saw a woman.

Things that are possible to lose during transition: family, friends, employment. So, sometimes we hide for as long as possible because fear is powerful. Things that are possible to gain by transitioning: self esteem, love, self confidence, new family and friends and joy.

Some concepts we work with:

Gender: A system of sexual classification based on social construction of the categories "man" and "woman" as opposed to

Sex: A system of classification based on biological and physical differences which form the categories 'Male" and "Female".

Stated another way:

<u>Gender</u> is within our minds
<u>Sex</u> is within our bodies

We are all human beings: LGBT, Heterosexual, black, white, brown, young, old, etc. We each have our own journey in life. We share similar fears and concerns. Self-acceptance is a choice, and it takes courage to become educated and to overcome fear. Thus being given and earning respect.

#### 20 Days for Peace & Justice

Mark your calendars for October 4th through the 24th when the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice and its partnering organizations, artists and organizers will celebrate 20 Days for Peace and Justice activities in the region.

GLSO is participating by showing a new documentary, U People, on Saturday, Oct 18, 3 pm at the Pride Center. This film was created by Hanifah Walidah and Olive Demetrius during a weekend spent making a music video. They kept a ;camera rolling as the African American women of various sexual orientations, including gender non-conformists, had conversations about their lives and struggles.

By watching these fascinating conversations, viewers get to here the joys and pain of being different. There is laughter, love, sadness and determination expressed in this film. The stated goal is "to dismantle the blanket categorization and ignorance inherent in the phrase "you people" by displaying unique individuals in possession of personal power and self- determination." I would say they met their goal.

Many other programs are being offered during the Twenty Days. They are inspired by these themes: Peace and Global Citizenship, Human Rights and Human Differences, Environmental Integrity and Sustainability, Health Care, and Interfaith Dialogue. You can view all the events scheduled at www.twentydaysforpeaceandjustice.com

The CKCPJ is a unique association of groups which addresses the whole fabric of peace and justice issues. They share office space with KCCJ on Upper Street.

## NEED ADVICE?

Ask Helena Handbasket.

Q... Dear Helena, Since you are a woman, I am sure you must be excited about the nomination of Sarah Palin. Shouldn't you use your column to urge other women to vote republican so we can get a woman closer to the White House?

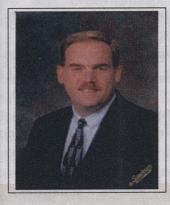
HH... Oh my. Do you really think I want to open this can of worms? Well, here goes. Just because I am a "woman" does not mean that I am necessarily going to campaign for, or even vote for, Mrs. Palin. Quite the opposite is true. I have heard so many people say that they are voting for her because she is a woman. That is like black people only voting for Obama because he is black. Really? Have we not evolved as a society more than that? Are we not a more informed people that we will make a judgment on who should run our country merely by gender or race? If by voting for a

woman you want to limit your reproductive choices and perpetuate the stereotype of women as secretive, vindictive bitches then absolutely, Sarah Palin should be your choice. As you can tell, I am not a fan. It is a free country so vote how you wish. However, please base your decision on more than the fact that she wears hose and make-up. Who knows, we may have already had a vice president who liked to wear hose and make-up. You never know. I am Helena Handbasket and I approve this message.

Q... Dear Helena, I know that Halloween is coming up and I always look forward to the festivities that Lexington has to offer but this year I have decided to finally do something I have never done. I am going out in DRAG. I am freaking out. I already told friends of mine I am doing it but I don't know where to begin. Can you help me?

HH... Not that I would consider myself to be the authority on DRAG, but, since it is your first time, start with the

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HH... Not that I would consider myself to be the authority on DRAG, but,
since it is your first time, start with the
basics. Get yourself some panty hose,
a make up kit containing a concealer
and foundation, eye liner and eye
shadow, blush, and some whore red
lipstick. Now top this with some fake
nails and a wig. Next, go to your favorite thrift store and buy yourself a
cute little dress, preferably with sleeves
unless you intend to shave your arms.
Most importantly, find yourself some
high heels. The rule of thumb, I've

heard, is that they should be two sizes larger than your regular shoe size. Make sure you buy these a good two weeks before you go out in them so you can practice walking in heels. It isn't as easy as it looks. Lastly, find a cute little handbag to put some powder in. Nobody likes a greasy drag queen. If this advice doesn't get you on the right track, go see the professionals at "Inspired Apparel" in Victorian Square. Trayla Trash and Nicole Diamond would be happy to assist you further. If you see me out, come up and give me some sugar! Make yourself pretty, honey!

## Gay Customers Called "Faggots" They Are Not "Lovin' It"

By Marc K. Blevins

A complaint filed by the American Civil Liberties Union alleges two gay men were subjected to anti-gay slurs at a downtown Louisville McDonald's. The complaint was filed with Metro Human Relations Commission, which enforces a Louisville ordinance that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in public accommodations such as restaurants.

According to the ACLU, Ryan Marlatt, Teddy Eggers and three friends stopped for lunch at the East Market Street McDonald's on July 26 while visiting Louisville. While their food was prepared, a McDonald's employee referred to the men as "faggots" to another employee.

Marlatt approached the employee and stated they did not come to McDonald's to be insulted and asked to speak with the manager. While waiting for a supervisor, Marlatt and Eggers were repeatedly called "faggots," "cocksucker" and "bitch" by the employee in front of other customers.

"Nobody should be treated the way my friends and I were at that

McDonald's," Eggers told the ACLU. "When we finally got to speak with a supervisor, she said she didn't see what the big deal was. I couldn't believe what was happening."

The supervisor on duty denied their request for a refund. Marlatt and Eggers then requested the name and number of the general manager, which they received.

Marlatt reports that after making two complaints to corporate headquaters, he has not received a response. He also claims the restaurant employees hang up on him when seeking the general manager.

According to the complaint, Marlatt and Eggers seek an apology, appropriate disciplinary action against the employees, a \$28 refund for the meal and attorneys' fees and costs.

"It may just be a few dollars for a Big Mac and some fries, but if I'm going to spend my hard earned money anywhere I should be able to do so without being verbally abused," Marlatt told the ACLU. "The original name-calling was bad enough, but the fact that McDonald's refuses to do anything to make this right just adds injury to the insult."

## ST. MYCHAL THE MARTYR PARISH



Sunday Worship 10:30

## WE HAVE MOVED!

1033 Industry Rd. (859) 338-1195

www.stmychalthemartyr.org

St. Mychal The Martyr www.stmychalthemartyr.org

You are invited to our worship services every Sunday at 10:30 with Rev Ken Waibel performing mass. We are at 1033 Industry Rd. off Winchester Rd. We are a liturgical church with worship filled with ritual and hearts filled with joy.

St. Mychal is a member of the Orthodox Catholic Church of America, a national church that is gay supportive. We perform blessings of gay unions, welcome divorced people, and ordain all persons into the orders of Deacon, Priest and Bishop.

Unitarian Universalist Church

The U.U. Church has a worship service at 11 am each Sunday. We are a welcoming congregation that celebrates the lives of our LGBT members. We are located at 3564 Clays Mill Rd., one block inside Man O'War.

On Sunday, Oct. 11, after the service at about 12:30, we will be putting up our new sign on Clays Mill. It reads "Civil Marriage is a Civil Right". A reception with wedding cake will follow. Please attend and celebrate with us. We would like to honor all GLBT couples who are not yet allowed to marry within Ky.



Couples Counseling Union Ceremonies

## Rev. Kenneth Waibel

Professional Spiritual Direction

Ecumenical \* Holistic \* Inclusive

kypadre@aol.com (859) 338-1195

## The GLSO

## Directory

GLSO Board:	
GLSO Pride Center (Bill)	253-3233
GLSO Board (Mary)	266-5904
marycrone@insightb	b.com
Discussion Group (Bill)	253-3233
GLSO News (Mary)	266-5904
Subscriptions (Bill)	253-3233
Speakers' Bureau (Mary)	266-5904
Youth, GSA (Mary)	266-5904
GLSO email lexington	nglso@yahoo.com
GLSO web page www	w.glso.org
Student Groups:	
Berea College ACE (Ryan)	985-3633
Centre College(BGLA (Mykol)	238-5332
EKU Pride Alliance allian	nce@yahoo.com
UK Lavender Society uklave	nder@yahoo.com
Moorehead State Univ. (Ned)	606 783-2294
OUTsource (UK)	850 323 3312

Centre Conege (DGLA (MYRO)	430-3334
EKU Pride Alliance allia	ance@yahoo.com
UK Lavender Society uklav	ender@yahoo.com
Moorehead State Univ. (Ned)	606 783-2294
OUTsource (UK)	859 323-3312
Anonymous HIV Testing:	
Jessamine County	885-4149

Jessamine County	885-4149
Lexington, Fayette County	288-2437
Madison County	859 723-7312
Woodford County	873-4541
U.K. Adolescent Medicine	323-5643

HIV/AIDS Info/Services:	
AVOL (AIDS Volunteers, Inc.)	225-3000
Lexington Health Dept.	288-2437
HIV/AIDS Legal Project	502 584-1254
HIV Support (Somerset)	679-7478
	678-5814

Cumberland Region (SEK	Y-Pat)
	606 864-3776
	888 425-7282
Barren River Region	800 559-4448
Lexington S.T.O.P. Progr	am (Jeff)
(8	59) 254-3469 ext. 230

Louisville Region (Geri)	502 574-0161
Northern Kentucky Region	859 341-4264
Purchase Region	800 522-8289
Moveable Feast Lex., (Terry)	252-2867

G	
Community Groups: Alcoholics Anonymous (Ron)	948-0434
Office	276-2917
Al-Anon (office)	277-1877
Bluegrass C.O.L.T.S. (Morris)	225-9169
Council for Peace & Justice	255-6999
Fairness of Louisville	502 893-0788
Social Services (formerly First Li	ink) 211

International Gay Bowling (Steve)	276-3058		
Lex. Fairness	859-951-4450		
w	ww.lexfair.org		
Lex. Human Rights Commission	252-4931		
Lex. Insight Group (Dana)	230-2428		
Lyons Leather/Levi Club (Paul)	940-1769		
www.lexlyo	ns.org		
Louisville Youth Group	502 894-9787		
MACT Men of All Colors Togeth	ier		
mactky@aol.com			
Moonshine Bears of Ky (Jim) -			
moonshinebears.com			
OUTsource susanmatsubara	@yahoo.com		
People for Unity & Fairness	803-1130		
CUFCKT@aol.com			
Pride Alliance of Cent. KY. (Gary	y)		
pridealliance@yahoo.com	859 236-4547		
PFLAG Louisville	502 329-0229		
pflaglouisv	ille@yahoo.com		
SisterSound (Patti) 806-0243			
Sisthas in the Life (Joan)	252-2657		
TransKentucky TransKentuck	cv@gmail.com		

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SisterSound (Patti) 806-0	0243
Sisthas in the Life (Joan)	252-2657
TransKentucky TransKer	ntucky@gmail.com
24 hr. Crisis Line	1 800 928-8000
24 hr. Teen Crisis Line	1 800 999 9999
Delicious Course	

Religious Groups:		
Interweave (Unitarian-Mary)	26	6-5904
Integrity (Episcopal-David)	39	6-9691
Lexington Friends (Quakers)	25	4-3319
Jubilee Fellowship (Rev. Cori)	85	9-421-5859
jfellowship@windstr	eam.n	et
MCC Paducah (Rev. Lillian)	27	0 443-3339
Norse Pagan Community (Rev.	Pat)	268-1640
KY Pagan Forum		
http://go.to/kypagar	forun	n/
RainbowWind (Pagan-Sarah)	273-	-2455

Soulforce (Jamie) 859 230-5625 www.soulforcekentucky.org



## **Next Deadline** October 15

Send news & articles to

marycrone@insightbb.com



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Richardson Vision Center	278-4201
Ernesto Scorsone Attorney At Law	254-5766
Unitarian Universalist Church Seeking a Diverse Congregation	223-1448
Bluegrass Fairnesswww.bgfair.org	951-4450
Windy Knoll Farm Riding Lessons, Trail Riding, Boardin	299-7410 g
Debra Hensley Insurance	276-3244
Mohua "Mou" Das Financial Advisor, UBS	888 390-6900
Levi and Leather Club	619-3650
Ky. Department for Public Health HIV/AIDS Branch	1 800 420-7431