

# The GLSO NEWS November 2006

A Publication of the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Services Organization

Volume 21 Number 11

#### Role Reversal

Join the Imperial Court of Kentucky, Emperor 25 John Ridener and members of the male line as they present Turnabout 2006 at the Bar Complex on November 15th. Doors open at 8:30 pm with the show starting at 9:30 pm. Cover is \$5 with proceeds benefitting the charities of the Imperial Court, including Moveable Feast Lexington, AVOL, GLSO, and Fairness.

Roles will be reversed as our traditional entertainers get to rest their feet and the male line members find out what it's like to have their toes cramped up in not-so-sensible shoes. There will be fabulous raffle prizes throughout the evening, including cash, gift certificates, original art, T-shirts, a Jeff Stryker doll, and items donated by local businesses.

During the course of the past 5 reigns, the Imperial Court of Kentucky has donated over \$100,000 to local charities so that they may continue to provide much needed services in our community. 99 Percent of our profits go right back into the community so that our brothers and sisters have access to health care, shelter, hot, nutritious meals, and the possibility of living in a world in which we are all treated with the dignity we all deserve.

For our 25th reign, we have set a goal of raising \$50,000 for our charities. This goal will not be met without your generous support. Come, have a good time, and help support agencies in our community that are fighting the good fight.

GLBT Youth -Still at Risk pg 12

Nov. 20 - Transgender Day of Remembrance....page 14

# Karaoke Nights

Announcing Tuesday Night Karaoke Tunes-days in the Gilded Cage Showroom of the Bar Complex, hosted by Bill "Melater" Chandler and DJ B.T.J. (Boi Toi Jeff). This event will be a weekly fundraiser for the GLSO Pride Center. You can help make it a success simply by coming out and singing a song or supporting others who do.

Audience members are invited to sing their favorite songs; friends and other audience members will be encouraged to tip. The tips will go to help support the GLSO Pride Center..

The GLSO Pride Center of the Bluegrass is located at 389 Waller Ave. GLSO's mission is to improve the quality of life of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender individuals and their allies through outreach, information access and support. We advocate for GLBT people and organize to change attitudes on GLBT issues. To learn more about The Center please visit www.GLSOPC.org.

In addition to being the host of the Karaoke Tunes-day, Bill"Melater" Chandler is the Office Manager of The Pride Center and would like to

continued next page

Sponsor of the Month

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café) & coffee

Railroad Street - Midway, KY



# GLSO NEWS

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P.O. Box 1172 Lex., KY 40588 www.lexingtonglso@yahoo.com www.glsopc.org

News Editors

Mary Crone & Jackie Cobern

Pride Center Office Manager

Bill Chandler

859 253-3233

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Opinions expressed in the GLSO News are those of the authors and don't necessarily represent those of the GLSO Board. Submissions received after the deadline, which is the 15th of each month, may be cut or not printed when space is limited. The staff reserves the right to edit or reject submissions and ads.

#### Karaoke Tunes-days ......continued

thank everyone who has participated in this new fund-raising endeavor especially Jody Samons, The Bar Manager and Joey Brookshire, Owner.

Bill encourages everyone to come out and join the fun. "We have a small selection of music right now but folks are welcome to bring their own, If the event proves to be the success we hope it will be, then we can foresee the collection of music growing rapidly".

"We are also looking forward to developing special theme nights such as country nite, blues nite, funny songs nite, etc. Joey Brookshire and I have discussed some other ideas and one he's open to is possibly a contest that would yield the winner a Saturday night performance with the Gilded Cage Showroom Divas."

Bill concludes, "It is my hope that this event will lead to an even more successful Pride Idol in 2007. Those who are thinking about entering next year, why not use this venue for exposure and practice."

#### **Act Out Auditions**

Act Out will be holding auditions for *Lot's Daughters*, a three act drama by Rebecca Basham that will be opening in January. The play is a powerful love story about two women, Gertie and Susanna, who fall in love in Appalachia in 1944.

Tryouts will be on Thursday, Nov. 9 at 7 pm and Sat. Nov. 11 at 2 pm at the Pride Center, 389 Waller Ave. There are four male and four female roles in the play. The play uses the Biblical story of Lot to explore the effect of religion on the lives of these two women.

# Art for Life

AVOL announces this year's Art for Life Auction to be held on December 2 at 4 pm at The Red Mile. This event is always an evening of fun, beautiful art, and entertainment for everyone. It also raises funds necessary for AVOL to continue delivering its effective programs and services to their clients and community.

AVOL welcomes two new employees to our organization. Ashley Hudson is our new Director of Client Services and Julianne Sutter joined Avol in the spring is our Director of Development and Volunteer Services. Call AVOL at 859 225-3000 with questions about our services or to become a volunteer.

# Community News

# Mr. Kentucky Leather 2007 Chosen

Bill Howard of Lexington was chosen as Mr. Kentucky Leather 2007 before a capacity crowd at StarbaseQ in Louisville, on October 21, 2006. The new Mr. Ky Leather will represent Ky at the International Mr. Leather Contest to be held in Chicago, IL over Memorial Day weekend on May 2007. The event was produced by KY Leather Productions.

The contest was sponsored by the Imperial Court of Kentucky and cosponsored by the Lexington Lyons, the Louisville Nightwings, The Louisville Trailblazers and Mark England, Realtor. Don Palmore of Louisville was the First Runner-Up and Ray Irizarry of Louisville was Second Runner-Up.

Judges for the event were: Dan Newman, Mr. Tri-state Leather 2001, Mistress Tammy, Great Lakes Master 2004; Thomas Smith, Mr. International Rubber 1999; Roger Spencer, Mr. International Daddy Bear 2003; and Donnie Ray, Mr.Kentucky Leather 2005. Chuck Schramm was Den Daddy and Jack Downs was Tallymaster.

Larry Stanley, Emperor 22 of the Imperial Court of Kentucky and Executive Director of Kentucky Leather Productions, was Master of Ceremonies. Net proceeds from the event will benefit the charities of the Imperial Court of Kentucky.

# Lexington Lyons Leather/Levi Club

The Lexington Lyons meet the second Monday of each month at the Pride Center, 389 Waller Ave. at 7 pm. That will be Nov. 13 this month. The Lyons are a group of friends WHO come together to celebrate strength, unity, and diversity in order to form a bond within a community that enjoys the Leather /Levi lifestyle. For more info visit <a href="http://www.lexlyons.org">http://www.lexlyons.org</a>.

# Transgender Day of Remembrance

National Transgender Day of Remembrance is on Monday, Nov. 20th. In commemoration, we will be showing the first episode of the documentary series *TransGeneration* at the Downtown Branch of the Lexington Public Library at 7 pm. A moderated community discussion will follow the movie. (See page 14 for more information about this day.)

TransGeneration is a fascinating eight-part documentary that follows four college students - Gabbie, Lucas, Raci, and T.S.- who are in the process of transitioning from one sex to the other.

They wrestle with a variety of issues: what to tell parents and friends, how to present themselves on campus, whether or not to take hormones and whether to undergo sex re-assignment surgery.

By allowing cameras to follow them through one year, these remarkable individuals help us to understand the lives and difficult choices of transsexual people.

GLSO will be showing several additional episodes at the Pride Center on Saturday, Dec. 2 starting at noon.

... continued on page 14.

## Dress and Gender Alliance

The Lexington Dress and Gender Alliance (also known as the Diversity in Gender Alliance) is reorganizing. We meet on the first Saturday of each month at a private location. For information email Cassie at cassiemtf@yahoo.com.

Lex DGA is a peer support group for anyone that transcends gender norms. This includes transsexuals, intersexuals, cross dressers, drag kings, drag queens, gender queers, and people who are unsure what their gender identity might be. This is not a therapy group but we offer conversation and support.

## AIDS Memorial Quilt

Fifteen panels of the AIDS Memorial Quilt, the largest on-going community arts project in the world, will be on display at the Rasdall Gallery (located in the Univ. of Ky Student Center) during regular operation hours until November 10.

Now containing more than 40,000 colorful panels, the quilt memorializes the lives of people lost to AIDS. As the epidemic continues claiming lives around the world as well as in the United States, the Quilt continues to grow and to reach more communities with its messages of remembrance, awareness, and hope.

For more information about this event, visit the University of Kentucky's Student Activities Board website at <a href="https://www.uksab.org">www.uksab.org</a>,

#### SisterSound Invitation

SisterSound welcomes new members and does not require auditions. Rehearsals are at 6 pm eve ry Sunday at Landsdowne Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 333 Redding Rd. For information call Patti at 806-0243 or email paowens@excite.com

# Quirk Cafe & Coffee

Just fifteen minutes away from Lexington, Quirk cafe & coffee is located on Railroad St. in Midway. We are now in a beautifully restored building from the early 1900s which has original tin ceiling, brick and wood interior and a charming patio. We serve great soups, sandwiches, salads and wonderful desserts. We offer a variety of gourmet French presspot coffees, espresso, cappuccino & lattes.

We are open Tues. - Thurs 10 am - 4:30, Friday 10 am - 9 pm, Saturday light breakfast 9:30 - 11 am, open until 9 pm,. Sunday 11 am - 4 pm

We are pleased to announce our new Tarpas Menu featuring beef, shrimp, chicken, clams & more. Come try this out on Friday or Saturday, 5:30 - 9 pm. There is live music on most Fridays.

Quirk is a great place to hang out with friends. We now have wireless Internet. Odyssey Books is right next door. Enjoy a peaceful drive to Midway and spend some time with us.

(859) 846-4688 www.kygallert.com/quirk

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Tues. - Thurs 10 am - 4:30 Friday 10 am - 9 pm Saturday 9:30 am - 9 pm light breakfast 9:30 - 11 am Sunday 11 am - 4 pm

# Introducing Evening TAPAS Menu

with beef, shrimp, chicken, clams & more Friday & Saturdays 5:30 - 9 pm Live Music on most Friday Nights

(859) 846-4688 www.kygallert.com/quirk

A great place to hang out with friend

# Pride Center News

389 Waller Ave. 859 253-3233 Mon. - Fri. 10 - 3 Sat 10 - 2

The Pride Center is also open Tues. 5-7 Wed. 5-7 pm

# Pride Center Activities DISCUSSION GROUP

Every Wed. 7 pm Open to all Jane: ladyjaneky@yahoo.com

# Lexington Insight

Pot Luck and Discussion Group

# Thanksgiving Pot Luck Dinner on Friday Nov. 17

Everyone is welcome to attend Please join us on any Friday night

Pride Center 7:00 pm

Gay Straight Alliance for Youth Ages 15 - 20 Call Mary 266-5904

## Rent the Pride Center

There are a number of evenings and weekend days when the GLSO Pride Center is not being used. We would love to rent this space for \$25 a hour, with you doing the clean up. If you are looking for a space to have a party or reception, contact our office manager, Bill at 253-3233

# D&R Gifts

"Everything or Something for all your Gift Needs" 502-868-9635 ddh3498@bellsouth.net

Donny Hrdlicka & Russell Draper

## Saturday Singles 7 pm NOV 11

A group for singles - women and menwill be held on the second Saturday of each month at 7 pm at the Pride Center. The purpose of this group is to give support to people who are single and would like to meet other people.

Individuals who are new to our community, recently coming out, single again, or looking for new friends to socialize with are welcome. Come help us plan some activities. We can plan to get together for a movie or some other activities. Call Jackie at 859 971-3315 for more information.



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

# Jessica Bollinger LCSW Imago Relationship Therapist

EMDR Trauma Work
Couples, Family, Individual
imagoconnection.com 552-6533

### Volunteer Opportunities

- 1. Keep the Pride Center open one Saturday a month 10 am 2 pm. Or one evening a week 5 7. (call Bill at 253-3233)
- 2. Start a group for parents of GLBT youth. Could be affiliated with PFLAG or it could be just a discussion group. (call mary 266-5904))
- 3. Distribute this newsletter to a couple of locations. (call mary 266-5904)
- 4. Write for this newsletter. (call mary)
- 5. Start a movie night (or afternoon) or other social event at the Center. (call Bill)

# THE EMPERIARY STURNABOUT STAND FAIRNESS TO BENEFIT MOVEABLE FEAST, AVOL, GLSO, AND FAIRNESS THE BOY COMMENTS TO SHOW OF DIED STORY OF THE BOY COMMENTS TO SHOW OF DIED STORY OF THE BOY COMMENTS TO SHOW OF DIED STORY OF THE BOY COMMENTS TO SHOW OF THE BOY COMENTS TO SHOW OF THE BOY COMMENTS TO SHOW OF THE BOY C

## Kentuclky Fairness Alliance Legislative Update

State Rep. Stan Lee (R-Lexington) prefiled legislatio non Monday that would prohibit Kentucky's public universities from extending domestic partner benefits to families of faculty and staff. The Kentucky Fairness Alliance condemned the move. "The bill is disgraceful," said Christina Gilgor, executive director. "Lee is playing politics rather than acting in the best interest of Kentucky's families and children."

The University of Louisville has rightly committed to providing a fair workplace for all its employees and their families. Lee's proposed ban on domestic partner benefits would force Louisville to turn its back on those families.

"Our state universities must compete for top minds against fair-mindedemployers like Lexmark, UPS, Toyota, and others that offer domestic partner benefits. The freedom to hire top quality faculty and staff, and to support those employees and their families, strengthens our universities and gives our kids the best possible opportunities.

## Kentucky Fairness Alliance Celebrates Massive Success

October 7<sup>th</sup> turned out to be a hugely successful day for the Kentucky Fairness Alliance. The day began with a well-received educational forum and ended with a fundraising extravaganza.

The Bluegrass Chapter kicked things off at one o'clock with its educational forum Marriage Equality Matters. Approximately 40 people came to see the reading of a new play called *Tying the Knot*. Later the audience was treated to speeches by Evan Wolfson of Freedom to Marry, Rep. Kathy Stein, the Rev. Todd Eklof, and local lawyer Dennis Stutsman.

The ultimate showstopper took place later in the evening. Sen. Ernesto

Scorsone and Deborah Hensley workedhard to insure a massive fundraising dinner to benefit KFA.

Some 650 people, including some of Lexington's most influential politicians, came out for fine dining and a silent auction. The night saw rousing speeches from Evan Wolfson, the chair of KFA's board Jody Cofer, and executive director Christina Gilgor. When all was said and done, Ernesto presented KFA with a check for \$102,000.

So, now that KFA has experienced a great windfall, what is on the horizon?

The Bluegrass Chapter will hold its annual retreat in November. At the retreat, steering committee members will do strategic planning for the upcoming year. If anyone has comments or suggestions on ways the Bluegrass Chapter can improve our out reach to the community, please contact Cindy Downey at seecdesign@yahoo.com.

Also, a new committee has developed within KFA whose purpose is to develop existing and new chapters. KFA will dedicate time toward really building up its chapters and creating strategy to continue and enhance grass roots organizing and community education.

Furthermore, KFA will be gearing up for the new legislative season, which is right around the corner. For ways on getting active and to learn the latest news, go to www.kentuckyfairness.org.



# GESO BAINBOW SPONSOR The Imperial Court of Kentucky.....252-3914 **A Charity Organization** 2006 PRIDE MONTH SPONSOR: Scott Ackerman. For all your real estate needs.....(mobile) 338-8483 **GLSO NEWS SPONSORS 2006** SisterSound ......806-0243 Diverse music for all women **Richardson Vision Center** 1757 Alexandria Drive Gardenside......278-4201 **Ernesto Scorsone** Attorney At Law ......254-5766 **Unitarian Universalist Church** Seeking a Diverse Congregation.....223-1448 **Kentucky Fairness Alliance** Bluegrass Chapter.....806-4114 Windy Knoll Farm Riding Lessons, Trail Riding, Boarding.....299-7410 Quirk Café and Coffee.....859 846-4688 **Railroad Street in Midway** Debra Hensley Insurance......276-3244 1513 Nicholasville Rd. Lexington Lyons ......619-3650 **Levi and Leather Club** Ky. Department for Public Health...... 1 800 420-7431 **HIV/AIDS Branch**

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#### **GLSO Newsletter Calendar NOVEMBER 2006** Tuesday

Monday Sunday

To schedule events at the Pride Center, call Bill at 253-3233 Visit us on the web at: www.webspawner.com/users/glsoqxnet

Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Center Open 5p-7p
7p GLSO Discussion Center Open 10a-7p 7p Lexington Insight @ 7:30 LexDGA -PC Panels from AIDS Memorial Quilt on display until November 10th @ Rusdall Gallery -UK Group-PC 7:30 p Gay/Lesbian AA (call for place) 948-.434 8p Gay/Lesbian AA Call for place 948-3434 Student Center. 9a and 11a UU Church 10:30 a St. Mychal's 6p SisterSound Rehearsal 7p GSA (call for Center Open 5p-7p 7p GLSO Discussion 7p Lexington Insight @ the Pride Center 7:30 p Gay/Lesbian AA (call for place) 948-.434 Center Open 10a-2p Center Open 10a-7p place 266-5904) 9p Karaoke Tunesday 7p ActOut Auditions for Lot's Daughters @ PC 2p ActOut Auditions fo Group-PC 8p Gay/Lesbian AA @ The Bar Complex
A Weekly Benefit for
The Pride Cantage Lot's Daughters @ PC Call for place 948-3434 7p New\* Singles Suppor Group-PC Election Day Veteran's Day 7p GSA (call for place 7p GLSO Discussion 7p Lexington Insight @ Center Open 10a-2p Center Open 10a-7p SoulForce ( Jamie 230-5625 4p Integrity @ St. Michael's 6p SisterSound Rehearsal 266-5904) 9p Karaoke Tunesday the Pride Center Special Thanksgiving 8:30p ICK presents 7p Lexington Lyons-PC 6p SisterSound Rehearsal 6:00p Imperial Court Mtg. @ The Bar Complex
A Weekly Benefit for
The Pride Center The Emperor's Turn-Pot-Luck Everyone About @ The Bar Welcome Complex Newsletter Dead-line 10:30 a St. Mychal's SoulForce ( Jamie 230-5625 4p Integrity @ St. Michael's 6p SisterSound Rehearsal Center Open 10a-2p 7p GSA (call for place 7p GLSO Discussion Center Open 10a-7p National Transgender 7p Lexington Insight @ 266-5904) 9p Karaoke Tunesday Group-PC 8p Gay/Lesbian AA Call for place 948-3434 Day of Remembrance Stop the Hate film: TransGeneration THANKSGIVING 7:30 p Gay/Lesbian AA (call for place) 948-.434 @ The Bar Complex A Weekly Benefit for The Pride Center 7-9pm Downtown Public Library Admission Free 9a and 11a UU Church 10:30 a St. Mychal's 6p SisterSound Rehearsal 7p GLSO Discussion Group-PC 8p Gay/Lesbian AA Call for place 948-3434 Center Open 10a-7p 7:30p GLSO Board Mtg 7p GSA (call for place 266-5904) 9p Karaoke Tunesday @ The Bar Complex (New Date) A Weekly Benefit for **The Pride Center** 



8pm - Gay/ Lesbian AA Discussion/Speaker(Call for Location) 278-7103

**Tuesdays:** 7pm - GSA (Gay Straight Alliance) 9pm - Karaoke Tunesday @ The Bar Complex

**Wednesdays:** 7pm - GLSO Discussion Group 8pm - Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for Location) 278-7103

7pm- Lexington Insight 8pm - Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for Location) 278-7103

#### Saturdays:

#### Sundays:

9:00am & 11am - UU Church Worship Services. 10:30 - Mass, St. Mychal The Martyr. 6pm - SisterSound Rehearsal @ Landsdowne Presby. Church.

#### Bi-weekly:

6pm - The Imperial Court SoulForce -Call Jamie 230-5625

#### **Monthly Activities:**

7pm - GLSO Board Mtg. (4th Mon.) 7pm - Lexington Lyons (2nd Mon.)

Saturday: 7pm -LexDGA 1st Sat. 7pm- Singles Support 2nd Sat.

#### Sundays:

4pm- Integrity (2nd Sun) 4pm- Gen Y Integrity (3rd Sun)

More information about many of the events are in this newsletter. You may want to call or email the group to confirm the date and time, see the directory on back page.

Pride Center may be abbreviated - PC

Call for Place may be abbreviated- Call

#### GAY YOUTH - STILL AT RISK

On Thursday, October 5, Josh, a 15 year old gay youth committed suicide at his home in Lexington. He only attended the GLSO Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) one time but many of the youth that attend our support group knew Josh.

We all know that suicide attempts and deaths are high for GLBT teens, but this is the first suicide that has occurred to one of "our" youth since the start of this GSA in March 2001. There was reportedly another young man that took his life earlier this year who attended Mary Queen School but we have little information about him; none of the teens we work with knew him.

Josh had been living in a rural group home when he came to the GSA last spring and social services was considering a foster placement. There was one gay and one lesbian couple that were interested in giving him a home but he eventually was sent back to live with his father.

Josh was dealing with many issues in addition to sexual orientation, suicide is often the result of many difficulties. He considered himself Wiccan, one of a number of pagan traditions that has many followers in Kentucky. His parents were Jehovah Witness. In the obituary, the family included Josh's religion as Wiccan, which may have been a difficult decision, and one that demonstrated a respect for Josh.

Josh will be remembered as a teen who claimed his own identity, flamboyantly and proudly. Many will remember him from Rocky Horror events where he danced his heart out. We will miss him.

#### REPERCUSSIONS

We know that a teen suicides can fuel suicidal thoughts and behavior in other youth. Therefore, we have been actively offering support to teens and to the other teen GSAs. Students at Dunbar High School where Josh attended were hit particularly hard by his suicide. Some of them are channeling their energy into establishing a school based GSA.

Mary Crone and other advisors to the

# Josh 1990 - 2006

Rocky Horror will not be the same without you.

We miss you.

GLSO GSA are working with these Dunbar students. GLBT students and their allies established GSAs at Bryan Station, Henry Clay and Tates Creek last school year and all three continue to meet this year. Layfayette students are also in the process of establishing a GSA..

School based GSAs make an important difference in school atmosphere, even for students that are not ready to attend meetings. Having these groups established in schools as well as within the community gives students options of where to turn for support. Some youth attend both meetings. There are also many teens that we are not reaching. Unfortunately, the teens that are the most isolated and fearful are less likely to join a GSA.

The adult advisors who work with teens at the Pride Center are often impressed by the courage and dedication these young people have to each other and to GLBT activism. This generation has already changed the world, and there is more change around the corner.

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO

- 1. One thing that would be beneficial is a group for parents of GLBT or questoning youth. I mentioned in last month's newsletter that we need someone to restart a PFLAG chapter. But whether it is PFLAG or just a discussion group, we know a number of parents that would like to talk to other parents. You don't have to be a parent to help with this group.
- 2. Supporting GLSO with your financial contributions helps support the work we do

... continued on next page

with youth. Having a place to meet, materials to use, snacks to offer, and adults to interact with are basic to making this work possible.

3. You can donate new or used copies of the following for resources. The books listed here can be found on Amazon or other Internet sites and sent directly to us at:

> GLSO P.O. Box 1172 Lexington KY 40588

Revolutionary Voices, A Queer Youth Anthology, Amy Sonnie, Ed.

I wish I could give every teen that walks through our door a copy of this book. Revolutionary Voices is a multi-cultural collection of personal stories and poems by teens and young adults. It is available on Amazon for about \$10 with used copies going for less.

Kate Bornstein has a new book out, Hello Cruel World: 101 Alternatives to Suicide for Teens, Freaks and Other Outlaws. I have not red it but I like Kate's work and it looks ideal for us at this time. I would also like youth to have access to her other books, *Gender Outlaw: On Men, Women and the Rest of Us* and *MY Gender Workbook.* We do have teens dealing with gender issues.

We would also like a copy or two of Leslie Feinberg's *Transgender Warriors: Making History from Joan of Arc to Dennis Rodman.* Other books by Feinberg are also welcome.

I have seen good reviews of Finding the Real Me: True Tales of Sex and Gender Diversity by Tracie O'Keefe and s Katrina Fox, editors.

If you look around on Amazon you can find lots of interesting books and videos, many that you can buy cheaply. Or look on your shelves and donate books that you know you will not read a second time.

Finally, PFLAG has some great pamphlets for youth and for parents. You can order off their web site at www.pflag.org or send in a donation so we can buy more pamphlets including Coming Out To Parents and Our Daughters & Sons.

I will print some more titles and some

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# Transgender Day of Remembrance

In 1999 the Transgender Day of Remembrance was set aside to memorialize those who have been killed due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice. The event is held in November to honor Rita Hester, whose murder on November 28th, 1998 kicked off the "Remembering Our Dead" web project. Rita Hester's murder, like most anti-transgender murder cases has yet to be solved. The web page can be found at http://www.gender.org/remember/day.

Although not every person recalled during the Day of Remembrance self-identified as transgender, each was a victim of violence based on hatred of or prejudice against transgender people. The term transgender includes transsexuals (those people who feel they were born in the wrong body and are interested in changing gender), crossdressers, drag queens or kings, and other gender-variant people.

The category can include gay men who are targeted because they are "too feminine" as well as lesbians who look "too masculine" to their attackers. Many of us believe that it is our gender expression, rather than our orientation, that is the trigger for anti-gay harassment and violence.

In today's world, we are asked to become sensitive to and respect differences within the human race. Yet the assaults and murders of individuals who are gender variant are largely ignored. The media doesn't often report them and police work is often below standards.

Over the last decade, more than one person per month has died due to transgender-based hate or prejudice, regardless of any other factors in their lives. This trend shows no sign of abating.

So, this Day of Remembrance has been set aside to serve several purposes. It raises public awareness of hate crimes against transgender people. It is a time we otherwise be forgotten. We take a stand; we express love and respect for trans people in the face of national indifference and hatred.

The Day of Remembrance also reminds non-transgender people that we are their sons, daughters, parents, friends and lovers.

On the web page for the Day of Remmberance, there is a list of unsolved murders. The one death listed that happened in KY is below. Kentucky.

## Timothy Blair, Jr.

Louisville, Kentucky Date of Death: May 22, 2005

Blair, a 19 year old crossdresser, died from multiple gunshot wounds. It is believed that Blair met his killer in an Internet chat room.

# TransGeneration..continued from page 3

Gabbie and Raci were both born and raised as boys but realized early in their lives that they felt and identified as female. Sex-reassignment surgery is expensive, but for Gabbie a welcomed step in becoming herself. Gabbie has no problem telling her classmates she's transgender but does struggle to learn new social skills as she learns to live full time as a young woman. Raci is deaf and an immigrant from the Philippines. At one point she resorts to purchasing female hormone shots off the street because that's all she can afford.

Lucas and TJ identify as female to male transsexuals. Lucas a neuroscience major at Smith College, is not always accepted by other students at this women's college. He also worries that hormones could potentially shave years off his life. TJ, an Armenian grad student, is a leader on his campus but much less secure about talking with his family

TransGeneration will be shown at the Downtown Branch of the Lexington Public Library on Nov. 20 from 7 to 9. More episodes will be show at the Pride Center on Dec 2 at noon. I would also be great if someone would buy us a copy for our Library! Amazon has used copies for sale.

# **BREAK THE CHAIN**

STEREOTYPING BULLYING VIOLENCE

STOP THE HATE

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH

Join us for

NATIONAL TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

WHAT: Showing of 1st episode of documentary

# **TransGeneration**

FOLLOW THE LIVES OF FOUR TRANS-IDENTIFIED COLLEGE STUDENTS
IN DIFFERENT STAGES OF TRANSITIONING.
GET A GLIMPSE OF SOME OF THE ISSUES FACING PEOPLE WHO
TRANSGRESS ESTABLISHED GENDER NORMS.

WHEN: Monday, November 20th from 7-9PM

WHERE: Downtown Branch of the Lexington Public Library, 140 E. Main St.

WHY: We are ALL affected! UNITE to end oppressive gender stereotyping in our community!

# Gender Oueer

The terms and label used for GLBT people have changed radically over time. One relatively new term is GenderQueer Young people recently started using this term to indicate their nontraditional ways of identifying and expressing their gender. Characterizing themselves as neither female nor male, as both, or as somewhere in between, genderqueers challenge binary constructions of gender and traditional images of transgender people.

Genderqueers use a wide variety of terms to describe themselves, including transboi, boydyke, third gendered, bigendered, multi-gendered, androgyne, and gender bender. Sometimes they refuse to attach a label to their gender identities at all, feeling that no one word or phrase can adequately capture the complexities of how they experience gender.

Since Christine Jorgensen made international headlines in the early 1950s the dominant model of transgender identity has involved individuals who recognize themselves as having a body that did not correspond with their internal sense of who they were. Now termed transsexual, these individuals are often interested in taking hormones and having gender confirmation (or reassignment) surgery to align their outward appearance with their inner sense of self.

In the last decade, there has been a fundamental shift in how many transgender people conceive and express their gender identities. Trans youth today benefit from the political and social gains made by previous generations of transgender activists and often have access to information on the Internet. They seem to be less isolated and may acknowledge and embrace their transgender identities earlier in their lives.

Many trans youth also do not believe that they need to transition entirely or at all in order to be "real" men or "real" women. Refuting the idea that one's genitalia is the defining aspect of one's gender, they may take hormones, but not have any surgeries,

or they may have a breast augmentation or reduction procedure, but not genital surgeries, or they may reject medical intervention altogether.

Some trans youth may seek to blur gender boundaries, such as by having an androgynous appearance or by wearing both "male" and "female" clothing. Thus, while genderqueers often refuse to conform to traditional (trans)gender expectations, they also do not believe there is only one way to enact or express a genderqueer identity.

The "transgender umbrella" is increasingly recognized as including a myriad of genderqueer, and other genderdiverse, identities. As more people identify as genderqueer, the less society will be able to foster and enforce a male/female gender dichotomy. The future looks interesting.

# Great Decision in New Jersey

In a decision filled with bold and sweeping pronouncements about equality, the New Jersey Supreme Court ruled on Oct. 25 that gay and lesbian couples are entitled to the same legal rights and financial benefits as heterosexual couples. In other words, we have a right to state recognized unions that carry all the benefits of marriage. They ordered the Legislature to decide whether their unions will be called marriage or could be known by another name.

The Judges gave the Democratic controlled Legislature 180 days to either expand existing laws or come up with new ones to provide gay couples benefits including tuition assistance, survivors' benefits under workers' compensation laws, and spousal privilege in criminal trials.

All seven justices agreed that the state's Constitution demands full legal rights for same-sex partners. The 4 - 3 majority said that lawmakers, not the court, should decide whether to call those arrangements a marriage, a civil union or something else. The three dissenters went further, asserting that gay couples must be allowed to wed.

# ST. MYCHAL THE MARTYR PARISH

Sunday Worship 10:30



Saturday Evening Prayer 5 pm

1350 Eastland Dr. #5 (859) 389-9418

www.stmychalthemartyr.org

# St. Mychal The Martyr

The mission of St. Mychal the Martyr Parish is to provide a church that welcomes all people in all their uniqueness and giftedness. We are a liturgical church whose worship is filled with ritual and whose heart is filled with joy and hope.

You are invited to our worship services every Sunday at 10:30 with Rev Ken Waibel performing mass. We also hold Saturday Vespers at 5 pm. We are located at 1350 Eastland Dr., Suite #5, off Winchester Rd.

St. Mychal is a member of the Orthodox Catholic Church of America, a national denomination that is gay supportive. We perform blessings of gay unions, welcome divorced people, and ordain women into the orders of Deacon, Priest and Bishop. The Orthodox Catholic Church is one of about three dozen offshoots of the Roman Catholic Church. For information visit: stmychalthemartyr.org.

St. Mychal's has space available for meetings and receptions. Call 859 389-9418 or email kypadre@aol.com for more information.

Couples Counseling

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# Religious and Spiritual Resources

# Integrity

#### St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Integrity is a support group for gay and lesbian Episcopalians that meets on the second Sunday of each month. The gathering occurs at St Michael's Episcopal Church at 2025 Bellefonte Drive (between Tates Creek and Nicholasville Roads) at 4 pm. The November meeting will be Sunday November 12.

All GLBT people over the age of 18 (younger with parental consent) are welcome to attend. For more information please call 859 243 0998 or email at stmintegrity@yahoo.com. St Michael's is also a welcoming congregation toward gays and lesbians with services each Sunday at 8, more contemporary service at 9, and more traditional service at 11:15.

# Lexington Friends Meeting

The Lexington Friends (Quakers) invite you to our Sunday Service at 10:30 am. We are located at 649 Price Ave, between 6th and 7th, parallel to N. Broadway. There is adult discussion between 9 and 10:15 and singing for 15 minutes before the service. Child care is available during the discussion and classes for children are during service.

Quakers have no clergy or sermons and we believe that all of us have access to spiritual truths within ourselves. We do not have a creed. We are deeply involved in working for peace and justice within our city, state, and country. We believe in the equality of all people and work to improve the lives of all people.

Our services are unprogramed meetings; we sit together in silence until someone is lead to speak from the silence. Such spoken words are usually brief, and there may be several messages or none. Our form of worship is similar to meditation but is definitely a shared experience. We welcome visitors at any time.

# Jubilee Fellowship

Jubilee Fellowship of Lexington welcomes members of the GLBT community and their friends to join us in growing as a community of believers in Christ who are fanatical about loving people with God's unconditional love. We hold Sunday worship at 11 am and hold a Friday night prayer meeting at 6 pm.

If you have questions about our fellowship please contact Pastor Cori Wood at jfellowship@aol.com or call 859 5514-5518 We have a big vision and a big God. There is room for you.

# Unitarian Universalist Church

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Lexington is a welcoming Congregation. We do not simply accept GLBT folks within our church community, we celebrate their lives. There are two worship services on Sundays, at 9 am and at 11 am. There is a Buddhist study group (Sanga) that meets in between the two services at 10 am in the Allen House next to the Church.

There is Children's Religious Exploration every Sunday during the second service. We probably have more than the average number of children with gay/lesbian parents within our youth population. We have a middle school and high school groups that meet on Friday nights and have additional activities.

On Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8:30 there are Adult Religious Exploration classes offered. In November a class on world religions will continue. On Nov 8 there will be a video from the Bill Moyers' series on Faith and Reason. We will watch and discuss his interview with Pema Choden, an American Buddhist. Nonmembers are welcome, you can drop in on any of these classes.

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Bluegrass C.O.L.T.S. (Morris)......225-9169 Bluegrass Fairness......859 806-4114

Council for Peace & Justice (Richard) 277-6101 Fairness of Louisville......502 893-0788

First Link (formerly-Ask Us)......313-5465

International Gay Bowling (Steve)......276-3058 I.C.K. (The Imperial Court of KY)......859 269-7756

Kentucky Leather Productions (Larry).....253-0185

imperialcourtkentucky@yahoo.com

ID TT TE	
GLSO Board: GLSO Pride Center (Bill)	Lex. Lyons Leather/Levi Club (Paul))
Barren River Region800 559-4448 Louisville Region (Geri)502 574-0161	RainbowWind (Pagan-Sarah)273-2455
Community Groups  Alcoholics Anonymous (Ron)948-0434  Office276-2917  Al-Anon (office)	GLSO News Deadline

# NOVEMBER 15

Please send all articles, ads and directory information to: lexingtonglso@yahoo.com marycrone@insightbb.com Please put Newsletter in the subject

Let's Give em'

# something To Sing About

# THE BAR COMPLEX

presents

# KARAOKE

**Tunes-day** 

# **SINGING FOR PRIDE**

A WEEKLY FUND-RAISER FOR THE GLSO PRIDE CENTER OF THE BLUEGRASS.

# HOSTED BY BILL MELATER & DJ B.T.J.

**EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT @ 9:00** 

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**JUST** 

COME OUT, SING A SONG, AND HELP RAISE MONEY FOR THE CENTER. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION AND TIPPING IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.

