

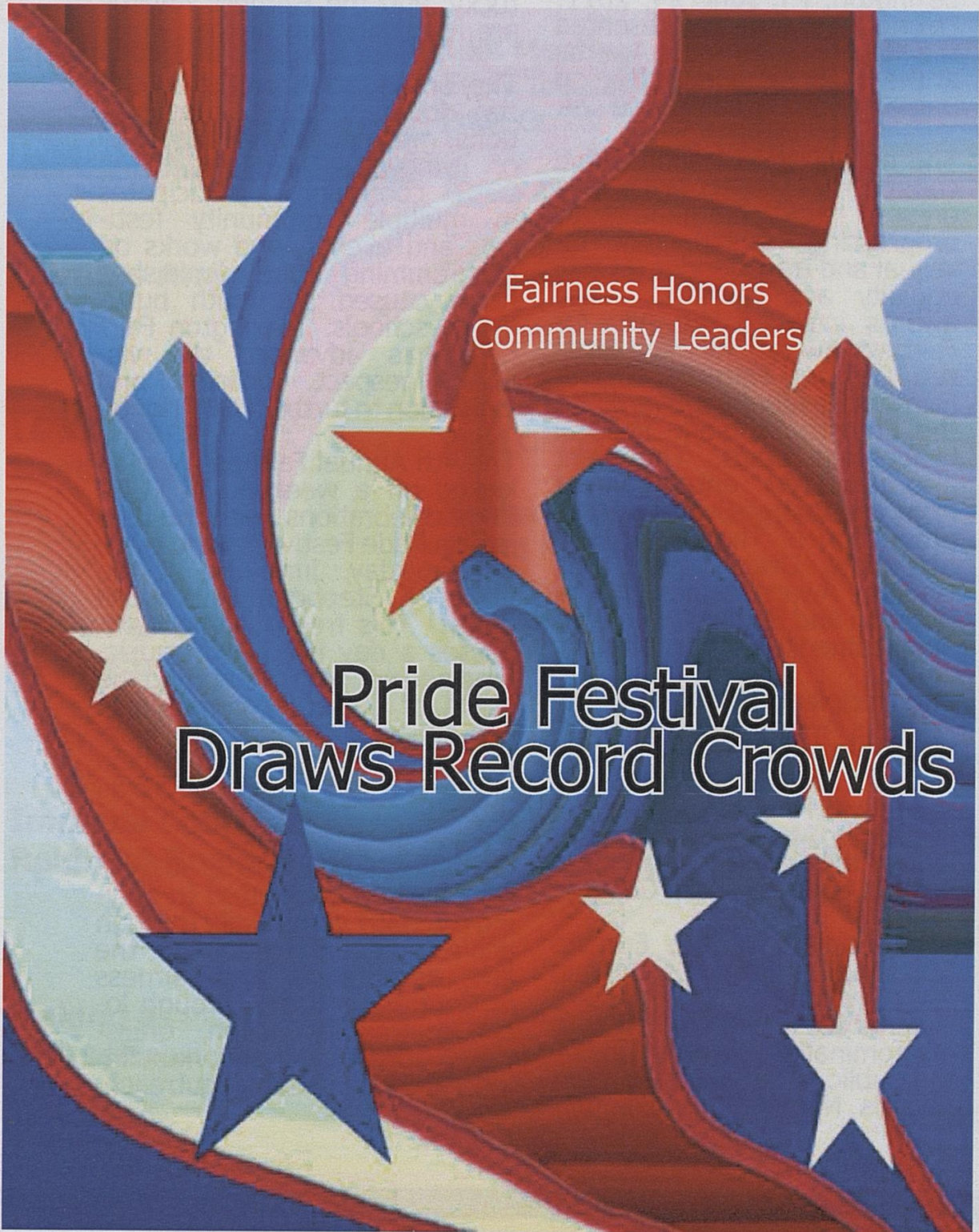
GLSO

GAY AND LESBIAN SERVICES ORGANIZATION

NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Services Organization

Volume 33 Number 7



Fairness Honors
Community Leaders

Pride Festival
Draws Record Crowds

**Lexington Fairness
Presents the 4th Annual
Fairness Awards**
By Craig Cammack,
Contributor

Lexington Fairness kicks off Lexington's LGBT pride weekend by recognizing and celebrating community leadership. Lexington, KY, June 24, 2011: Lexington Fairness presented the 4th Annual Fairness Awards at the Hyatt Regency Patterson Ballroom on Friday, June 24.

The organization honored five community leaders who expressed their commitment to progressing lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) equality and fairness. The awards included the Ally for Fairness Award, Jennifer Crossen Out for Fairness Award, Fairness Leadership Award and the Ernesto Scorsone Political Leadership Award. The event also featured entertainment from the cast of SummerFest's production of The Rocky Horror Show, Disco legend and Grammy Award winner Thelma Houston and Emmy Award winning comedian Bruce Vilanch.

The recipient of the Ally for Fairness Award was Ms. Isabel Yates. The recipients of the Jennifer Crossen Out for Fairness Award were Tim Burcham and Phillip Marcum. The recipient of the Fairness Leadership Award was Wayne Clayton.

The recipient of the Ernesto Scorsone Political Leadership Award was Mayor Jim Gray. Recipients are chosen from a field of nominations submitted by the public. This year's Fairness Awards Nominations Commit-

tee consisted of Jonathan Barker, Mary Crone, Jennifer Crossen, Nicole Diamond, Ernesto Scorsone and Fred Worsham. The Fairness Awards are a tribute to the leadership exhibited by the LGBT community in Kentucky. Lexington Fairness commits its energy to promoting fairness and equality in Central Kentucky, and the Fairness Awards are a culmination of that work.

The organization produces citizen lobby training presentations, gives classroom speeches on living as a member of the LGBT community, participates in multiple community festivals and events, and works on programming that diminishes harm caused by youth bullying in schools. Lexington Fairness has advanced the visibility, respect, policies and legislation to further LGBT rights.

The 4th Annual Fairness Awards kicked off a weekend of LGBT Pride celebrations, with the Lexington Pride Festival taking place on Saturday, June 25, at the Robert F. Stephens Courthouse Plaza. This free event encompasses a day filled with music, food and vendors celebrating the rights of the LGBT community. For more information: Lexington Fairness, www.lex-fair.org, 859-951-8565.

Lexington Fairness is a 501(c)3 organization committed to serving the LGBT community through achieving equal rights under the law, acceptance, and fairness in Central Kentucky through local community action, grassroots advocacy, network-building, and educational outreach.

Issue 7 2011 CONTENTS

Feature Story

Pride Festival Sets
Records Page 11

FEATURE STORY

Pride Festival Page 11

INSIDE THIS EDITION

**Fairness Awards
Dinner** 2

**LGBT Teens
Health Risks** 5

**Pride Festival
Wrap Up** 11

**Imperial Court
Reign 30 Begins** 13

**Making a
Difference** 16

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

GSA Meeting
Every Tuesday, 7 p.m.
Pride Center

GLSO Discussion Group
Every Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Pride Center

**Bluegrass Trans(Gender)
Youth & Families**
Saturday, July 9 & 23, 1 p.m.
Pride Center

**Kentucky Bourbon Bears
Board Meeting**
Saturday, July 9, 9 p.m.
Pride Center

GLSO Board Meeting
Sunday, July 10, 1 p.m.
Pride Center

Imperial Court of Kentucky Meeting
Sunday July 10 & 24, 6 p.m.
Pride Center

Lexington Pride Festival Meeting
Sunday, July 31, 3 p.m.
Pride Center

EDITOR

Don Lowe

The GLSO News is published monthly by and for the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Services Organization members and community.

The mission of the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Services Organization is to provide support and services to the GLBTQQIA community.

The vision of the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Services Organization is to empower the GLBTQQIA community through voice.

The Lexington GLSO is founded upon the core values of fun, inclusion, respect, integrity, dignity, service and competence.

GLSO Pride Center
389 Waller Avenue
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EDITORIAL NOTES

The GLSO is currently looking for new contributors and editorial staff. If interested, e-mail editor@glso.org.

2011 GLSO News sponsorship packages are now available!

E-mail editor@glso.org to pick your package today!

Gay Teen Health Risks

Mary Crone,
Contributor

In June, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported that LGBT youth are at increased risk not only for suicide but also for seven out of the 10 health dangers the CDC tracks. "This report should be a wake-up call," Howell Weschsler, director of the CDC's Division of Adolescent and School Health, said in a news release. "We are very concerned that these students face such dramatic disparities for so many different health risks."

The CDC found that 8% to 19% of straight students are cigarette smokers. In various studies, the percentage for LGBT students varied from 20% to 48%. The discrepancy is much the same for violence, binge drinking, drug use, and even weight problems. Bisexual students are often at highest risk. Binge drinking, for example, was a problem for 15.9% to 44.4% of straight students and for 17.3% to 44.4% of gay students, but it hit 33% to 63.3% of bisexual students. The report also made reference to several studies

that have found that GLBT students feel unsafe in middle and high school. The CDC called for state and local governments to do more, in the form of policies or programs such as gay-straight alliances, to combat what's happening to gay youth.

The center's analysis was based on a common tool for judging the risk of students called the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System. Not all states use this system. In fact, in 2009 only 10 states and seven large school districts even asked whether students were gay or bisexual. The CDC emphasized the need for better study of issues pertaining to student health and safety.

Personally, in my work with GSAs in Fayette County schools, I would say that we are doing well to have GSAs available to many students but that only a small percentage of LGBT youth are actually served by these groups. Some of "our" teens are doing fine on their own, but there are many teens that are not yet ready to walk into a meeting at their school. We need to continue our outreach to youth and education of adults that work with teens in our community. If you are interested in working as an adviser for the GLSO GSA, please contact Mary Crone at marycrone@insightbb.com.

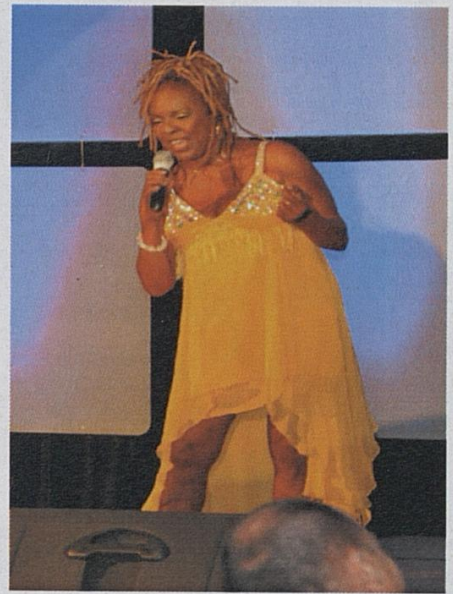


FACES OF PRIDE

Above Ed Bradley and Chuck Embs from the Kentucky Bourbon Bears; below, Pride Festival Board Member R J Deacon and Lexington GLSO Lexington Legend Bradley Pickleseimer.



FACES OF PRIDE



Top Left Lexington Pride Festival Chair Orvis Kean and Board Member Jamie Carie; Top Right The Legendary Thelma Houston performs at this year's Lexington Fairness Dinner; above GSA Members Alex, Mary Crone and Trilby Trent.

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KCHIP www.kidshealth.ky.gov	877.524.4718
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Lexington Fairness http://www.lexfair.org	859.951.8565
Moveable Feast 474 Silver Maple Way	859.252.2867
Unitarian Universalist Church 3564 Clays Mill Road	859.223.1448
Scott Ackerman, Keller Williams Blue- grass Realty, ackermanteam@aol.com	859.338.8483
Gay and Lesbian Services Organization and Pride Center	859.253.3233
Lexington Pride Festival	859.253.3233



View from the 2011 Lexington Pride Festival Stage during the afternoon show

Plans Underway for Lexington

Pride Festival 2012

By Don Lowe, Editor

Plans are already underway for Lexington's Fifth Annual Pride Festival to be held June 30, 2012.

Headlining the event will be Disco Legend Martha Wash, "It's Raining Men" and "Carry On" as well as numerous acts yet to be announced.

An organizational meeting will be held Sunday, July 31, at 3 p.m. at The Pride Center at 389 Waller Avenue. If you are interested in becoming a Board Member for the 5th Annual Lexington Pride Festival, please contact GLSO at 859-253-3233.

Part-Time Administrative Assistant Needed for Pride Center

The GLSO is looking for a part-time administrative assistant for the Pride Center. If you are interested in applying or would like more information, please email info@glso.org.

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ICK crowns New Royalty

by ShotZ, Contributor

It is with much pride and honor that I would like to introduce His Most Imperial Majesty, Emperor XXX, Fred E. Worsham and myself, Her Most Imperial Majesty, Empress XXX, ShotZ, of The Imperial Court of Kentucky. I know that I speak for both of us when I say, we are honored to have been chosen by the membership to represent the ICK as the monarchs of Reign XXX for the upcoming year. We would like to thank the members of the Imperial Court of Kentucky and all other community members in attendance at the recent Moveable Feast 5th Annual Belmont BBQ and the Scott County Humane Society Fur Ball 2011.

Branching out and networking with our fellow community charities keeps us at the forefront of everyone's minds and reminds them of the hard work that each of you put into our organization. We were welcomed to each of these events with open arms and shown the best of southern hospitality. We will be hosting a "Crossings Pride" show at Crossings Lexington on Saturday, June 25, 2011 at 4 p.m.. Crossings is so very supportive of the community all year long especially during Lexington's own Pride Weekend. This will be a fun way to give back to the community as the net proceeds from the event will go to the charities of the Imperial Court of Kentucky, all while having your favorite cocktail and cel-

ebating your pride with your friends! Also, keep your eyes peeled for Investitures XXX coming up in July. We will keep you posted via our facebook group page and website (www.imperialcourt-kentucky.org) as the details for the date and venue as they become available. The Imperial Court of Kentucky has once again had a record setting year by reaching our second highest year of fundraising in our 30 year history during Reign 29. With the support of the community we will ultimately distribute over \$35,000.00 to our charities. Some of these funds have been disbursed throughout the year and we will begin making disbursements of the remainder of the funds to our charities at the end of June during our transition board meeting.

The transition board meeting is when the board from the previous year relinquishes the business of the court to the newly elected board and any board members carried over from the previous years (most board members are elected to a 2 year seat). The board for Reign XXX will consist of myself, Fred E. Worsham, Wayne Clayton, Wayne Swope, Jonathan Barker, Wes Nelson, Daryl Royse, Brad Shepherd and Clayton Burchell. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Imperial Court of Kentucky or have any questions about our organization, please, approach any of these board members and they would be happy to help. Remember that the Imperial Court of Kentucky is ultimately ran by our members, the members vote to elect the Monarchs and the Board of Directors, so that every member has a voice in their "court". You can learn more about our organization, upcoming events, membership, our by-laws and our Manual of Operations at www.imperialcourtkentucky.org or emailing us at info@imperialcourtkentucky.org.

Second Miss Lexington Pride Festival Crowned

by Lacey Lynn Taylors,
Contributor

On June 10, I was honored and humbled to be crowned Miss Lexington Pride 2011. Since then, I have embarked on a journey to represent the GLBT community - my community - and I would like the chance to familiarize myself with those in it, but not just as Lacey Lynn Taylors.

In my day-to-day life, I am simply Eric Caines. I am 25 years old, and currently reside in Ashland, KY, with my partner Zach, and two cats, Doodle and Dame. I am a professional oboist and have been blessed with a successful freelance career, a highlight being a 2008 concert tour of Spain.

In my free time, I enjoy horseback riding, and work closely with American Saddlebreds horses. My most recent endeavor involved a year of volunteer work with AmeriCorps, a government program, which allowed me the opportunity to teach and mentor at-risk students ranging in age from 5 to 15.

I created Lacey Lynn Taylors in 2005, with humble beginnings at the Stonewall Club in Huntington, West Virginia. Between that time and now, I have honed my craft and developed the celebrity illusions for which I am best known, including Dolly Parton, Reba McEntire, and Liza Minnelli.

In 2009, I founded my own business, LLT Designs. LLT Designs specializes in affordable custom costumes, rhinestone jewelry, and wigs, and has catered to many different entertainers, all over the country



and internationally. Over the course of my career, I have mentored other entertainers, who in turn have taken my last name and have gone on to be successful performers. As an entertainer, I have enjoyed performing at many different venues and events throughout the Tri-State.

It was a truly unexpected blessing and an honor to be crowned Miss Pride of Lexington 2011. It is my hope that by sharing with you this brief summary of myself, you will be better able to understand who I am and what I love to do.

I intend to represent Lexington and the people of Lexington Pride in a respectful and professional manner, bringing our message to everyone I come into contact with. I look forward to the new friends and opportunities that this year will hold. Thank you so much!

MIS-PAGINATION

Pride Festival Sets Records

By Don Lowe, Editor

The Fourth Annual Lexington Pride Festival was held Saturday, June 26 in Downtown Lexington and was by far the biggest celebration of its kind in central Kentucky. The festival set records in several categories including but not limited to 1) vendors and non-profit organizations participating 2) monies raised for local GLBT charities 3) entertainment acts 4) corporate sponsors and 5) festival participants.

Over 60 vendors and non-profit organizations participated in this year's event. Among them were numerous religious organizations including Woodland Christian Church, St. Martha's Episcopal Church, Bluegrass United Church of Christ, Open Arms of God Ministries and St. Mychal The Martyr Church. Vendors included The Barrel House, Macy's, Half Price Books and The Word.

Monies are still being tallied

but all non-profits reported heavy booth traffic and those raising monies through raffles and sales were very pleased with their participation. The entertainment was more exciting than ever before and featured nationally and internationally known acts such as recording artist Amber, RuPaul's Drag Race Alum Morgan McMichaels, Adult Film Director Chi Chi LaRue and many local performers. Corporate sponsors were Coca Cola, ID Lube, The Word, Chipotle, Bud Light, Absolut, Maker's Mark, Lexmark, Kentucky Fairness Alliance, Video Max, Third Street Stuff, Tate Hill Jacobs Architects, Channel 1 Releasing, Shea Chaney, Crossings Lexington, Purdon's Fayette County Diabetes Coalition, Grindr, Smiley Pete Publishing, Lexington-Fayette County Health Department and The Barrel House. While there is no official word on festival participants, photographs and videos taken of the event show massive crowds. Estimates of attendance range from 12,000 to some reports as high as 17,000 in attendance. One thing is for certain, this was the biggest Pride Festival in Central Kentucky's history.

FACES OF PRIDE

Right, Comedy Legend Bruce Vilanch Performs during this year's Lexington Fairness Dinner



Making a Difference

By Rev. Karen Taylor,
Contributor

I've just returned from a vacation to Washington, DC. It's pretty amazing to walk the streets, looking at all the monuments in tribute to some of the great leaders of this country. With all of its faults, this is still the greatest country in the world.

One of the books I purchased was "Quotations of Martin Luther King, Jr." There was a quote I read that really stayed with me. It was, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" It also reminded me of something JFK said in one of his speeches, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but ask what you can do for your country." As a country we have strayed far away from these two ideas.

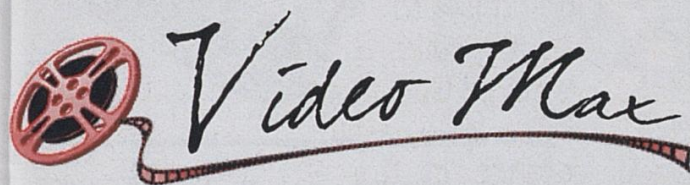
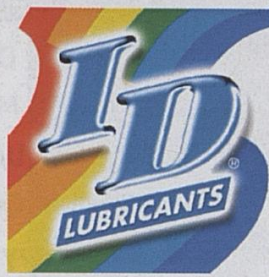
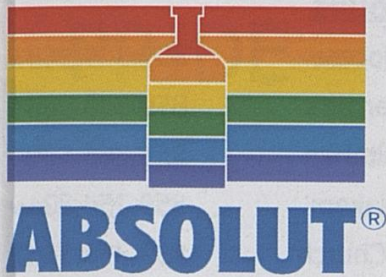
The mindset here can also be applied to the church. As the body of Christ we should always be about doing for others. At Open Arms of God Ministry we are constantly looking for ways to be the hands and feet of Christ. James 1:27 reads, "Pure and undefiled religion before our God and Father is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself unstained by the world." Pure and undefiled religion isn't talking about organized religion followed to the letter of

man's religious law or rules but a sacrifice of man unto one another without regard to oneself. Scripture says: for what you do unto the least of these you do as unto Me.

We have so many government programs that we lose sight of what we are to do because in the back of our minds we know the government is taking care of it. My heart cries out for the orphans and those who are being sexually, physically, or emotionally abused at the hands of their adult care givers; probably more so than most because I was one of them. I get angry when I see children laughing or making fun of another student for any reason, but in a big way when it's due to their sexual orientation. As a middle school teacher I do see a lot of that. It has been stirring up in me to take action, don't just sit there being angry, do something. One thing I'm looking into is starting, what as far as I know is the first in Franklin County, a Gay Straight Alliance chapter in my middle school. There is so much that needs to be done and far too few workers.

I would like to take this moment and challenge each of you reading this, to look for opportunities to make a difference. Open Arms of God Ministry is looking for those who desire to make a difference in the world around us. But whether you connect with us or step out on your own, let's all strive to make a difference. God bless you in all your efforts.

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GLSO Phone Directory

A community resource page for gay and/or gay-friendly organizations across Kentucky.

HIV/STD Testing, Services & Info.

AIDS Volunteers Inc (AVOL)	859.225.3000
Cumberland Region, SE Ky.	606.864.3776
	888.425.7282
Health Dept., Fayette	859.288.2437
	877.606.2437
Health Dept., Jessamine	859.885.4149
Health Dept., Woodford	859.873.4541
HIV/AIDS Legal Project	502.584.1254
Louisville Region	502.574.0161
Moveable Feast	859.252.2867
Northern Ky. Region	859.341.4264
UK Adolescent Medicine	859.323.5643

Community and Social Groups

24-Hour Crisis Line	800.928.8000
24-Hour Teen Crisis Line	800.999.9999
Alcoholics Anonymous	859.967.9960
AA/Alcoholic Teens	859.277.1877
Bluegrass COLTS	859.225.9169
Council for Peace & Justice	859.225.6999
Discussion Group	859.253.3233
Fairness of Louisville	502.893.0788
Gay Straight Alliance, Teens	859.266.5904
GLSO Pride Center	859.253.3233
Imperial Court of Kentucky	859.619.7521
International Gay Bowling	859.276.3058
Lexington Fairness	859.951-8565
Lexington Human Rights	859.252.4931
Lexington Insight Group	859.230.2428
Lexington Pride Festival	859.253.3233
MACT	859.358.8335
PFLAG Lexington	859.338.7393
PFLAG Louisville	502.329.0229

Sister Sound	859.806.0243
Social Services, Lexington	211
Speaker's Bureau	859.266.5904
TransKentucky	cassiemtf@ yahoo.com
United Way	859.313.5465

Religious Groups

Integrity, Ky. Diocese	859.369.9691
Integrity, St. Martha's	859.533.9851
Interweave, Unitarian	859.266.5904
Lex Friends, Quakers	859.254.3319
Mercy Ministry Church	859.358.3357
MCC Paducah	270.443.3339
Open Arms of God Ministry	502-545-6355

Student Groups

Berea College ACE	859.958.3633
Centre College BGLA	859.238.5332
Morehead State University	606.783.2294



GLSO News Deadline

July 20
Send articles and ads to
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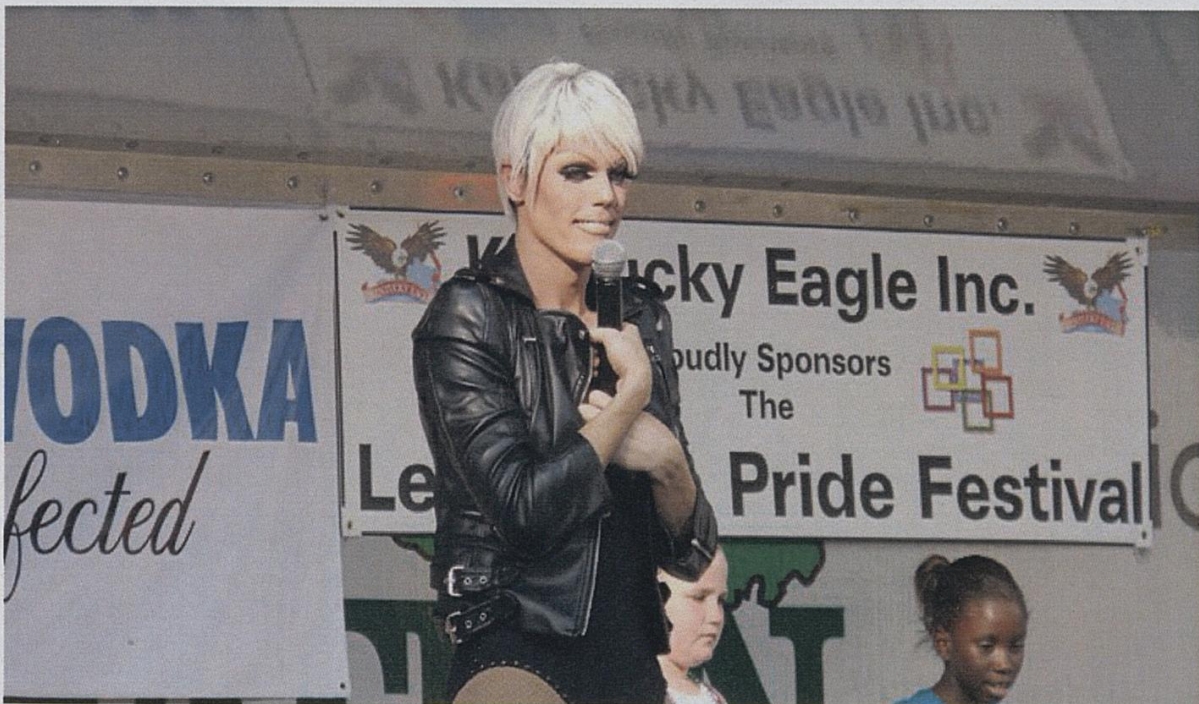
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FACES OF PRIDE



Above International Recording Superstar Amber with Pride Festival Committee Member Don Lowe; below, Star of RuPaul's Drag Race Season 2 Morgan McMichaels.

33
32
04



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