



The GLSO NEWS

JANUARY 2001

A publication of the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Service Organization

Vol. 16 No. 1

Federal Suit Against Somerset School District Settled

Somerset school officials have settled a lawsuit filed by Brad Putman who was harassed by fellow students who thought he was gay. Brad, with the support his family, filed a Federal Civil Lawsuit against the Somerset Independent School District and some of its employees last March. Brad does not consider himself to be gay and thinks he was targeted partly because of his interest in fashion design.

Brad and his mother, Gina Cooper, had reported incidents of harassment including death threats to school personnel several times over the months preceding their decision to file a law suit. As is too often the case, school officials said they could not do anything to stop the harassment. The Superintendent at that time, Monte Chance, met with Cooper and told her that the district had no policy against same-sex harassment.

They do now. Part of the settlement was a more stringent policy that forbids any harassment or discrimination based on "actual or perceived sexual orientation" and outlines the schools' responsibilities and the recourse available to victims.

Everett Hoffman, an attorney for Putman [and a former executive

director of the Kentucky chapter of the ACLU], said he hopes the new policy in Somerset will be a model for other school districts in the state.

Cooper said the new harassment policy is the largest victory for her. "It's not going to fly by so easy the next time" a student is harassed, she said. "This wasn't about money, but it'll sure help Brad as far as his future."

The Somerset Independent School District will pay an estimated \$135,000, some of which will be put into an education trust fund for Brad to use in any Kentucky college. This monetary settlement will be an incentive for other Kentucky school districts to update their policies and train school personnel in how to stop harassment.

The settlement also included some money for GLSEN-KY (Gay Lesbian Straight Educators Network, Ky Chapter) and other endeavors in the state. Gina Cooper formed this chapter and is encouraging new members to join. There will be a GLSEN meeting in Lex. on January 10 at the Pride Center at 7:30.

Brad has come through his ordeal in good shape and is looking for a college that will help train him for what he wants--a career in fashion design.

Bluegrass Celebrity Squares

Mark your calendars for this one: the "Queerest" game show in the world, Bluegrass Celebrity Squares, brought to you by the people who do fundraising best, the Imperial Court of KY. It will be held at the Kentucky Theater on Tuesday, January 30th.

Included in this event will be the Grand Finale of the Celebrity Auction. Ask any member of The Board or the Monarchs for a complete listing of items to be auctioned (emperorev19@aol.com, Imperial Crown Prince XIX Chris Rhorer, crownprince19ky@aol.com).

Silent bids will be taken starting now and will continue until the night of the event. So start your bids and fight tooth and nail to get your pick from our celebrity selection. As we usher Year 2001, join the court for the first fundraiser of the New Year!

Sponsor of the Month

J. Mark Chambers
CPA



The GLSO NEWS

Vol. 16 No. 1

Published Monthly by:

The Lexington Gay
Lesbian Service
Organization
321 Second St.

Editors:

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**GLSO Annual dues
and Newsletter: \$15.00**
**Dues and Newsletter
for couples: \$20.00**

Opinions expressed in the GLSO News are those of the authors and don't necessarily represent those of the GLSO Board. Submissions are welcome and become the property of the GLSO. The staff reserves the right to edit submissions and advertisements as well as the right to reject any submissions or advertisements.

Pride Center Our Vision for 2001

The Pride Center Committee of the GLSO has been developing guide lines for our new Pride Center. We have looked at a variety of properties and will be making a decision within the next month. Thanks to those of you who have sent in suggestions for locations. Here is our vision in outline form. If you want to take part in the work to make the vision a reality, the next meeting will be Thursday, Jan. 4 at 7 pm at the Pride Center. Call Jane for information 389-7698.

Pride Center Mission: to provide the focal point for our community by maintaining a safe and positive gathering space with access to the latest, most accurate information.

Physical Considerations:

Geographic Location

On a main artery
Assessable from the burbs and from downtown
Low crime area
Good visibility from street level

Appropriate Space

Handicap Assessable
Professional to instill pride
An office
One large assembly room
At least one mid sized conference /meeting room, elsewhere: stocked with table & chairs, dry erase board)

Basic Operation Needs:

Paid Office Manager (part time)
Regular Day Hours
Additional Scheduled Staffing
Volunteers, & College Interns
Availability of access for "after hours" programs

Telephone Line
Tables, chairs, dry erase boards, etc.
Computer

Newsletter
Fundraising
Announcements
Web Development
Pink Pages

Information Access:

Computer with online service
Library: Including an In-House Reading/Lounge Area
Inventory List
Develop a Donor Program
Periodical Section
Web Presence
Solid Design
Newsletter Online
Frequent Updates
Info Specific to Pride Center

Community Involvement

Current Functions

Community Meetings (GLSO, Fairness, Imperial Court, Colts, GLSEN, FayYEN, etc.)
Discussion Group
ActOut rehearsal space
Social Events

Development of New Programs

Youth Support/ Networking
Potlucks
Classic Movie Night
Contra Dancing
Games Night
Poetry Readings
GLBT Retail Space

Liaison to Larger community

Outreach to Progressive Groups
Develop contacts in many organizations
Post/print info about Lexington community events
Submit articles to other publications
Letter writing campaigns

Community News

Social Concepts

A local production of the *The Vagina Monologues* will be presented at the Singletary Center next month. The cast includes our own Debra Hensley, as well as Rev. Kelly Flood, Cathy Rawlings, Missy Johnston and Kathy Stein.

There will be only one performance which will be on Monday, February 12, at 7 pm. You can't miss this. We will either get together before or after the concert. Get your tickets NOW. This will sell out quickly. Singletary Box Office, 859-257-4929. All tickets \$15.00.

This one is worth missing a day of work for out of towners. The owners of the play have allowed small groups to produce it on this one time only basis. You might not get another opportunity. Call Ginger for info at 389-7698 or email gg40504@hotmail.com for .

BINGO \$\$ VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

GLSO can earn \$200 by providing volunteers to work at Bingo games on the fourth Friday of each month. Tom Collins is organizing volunteers. We need you even if you only can do it one time. The money will help pay the rent for the Pride Center. Call Tom's work number at 1-800-420-7431 and ask for Tom Collins. Thanks

Discussion/Support Group

The GLSO Discussion Group will be meeting every Wednesday in January from 7 to 8:30. Meetings

are held at 2216 Young Drive, Suite 1. Young Drive is located off New Circle between Richmond and Winchester Roads.

Join us and be yourself for a couple of hours. The Group is there to support you, and we might even have a laugh or two. If you have questions or need directions call Jane at 389-7698 (evenings).

Wishing Chair

Wishing Chair will be performing in the are on the following dates:

- Jan 4 Stanley's, Cinti, OH, 10 pm
- Jan 11 Cheapside, Lex. KY, 10 pm
- Jan 12 High on Rose w/ Mother Jane, 8 pm
- Jan 25 Cheapside, Lex. KY, 10 pm
- Jan 27 Stanley's, Cincin, OH, 10 pm

Moveable Feast,

Movable Feast needs help for delivering meals. It is easy; you come in at 5 pm and are through by 7pm (often earlier). You can get a specific route if you commit to a regular schedule. If you can drive a car you can change a life. Please give us a call at 252-2867.

ART FOR LIFE

Please join us for ART FOR LIFE, an art auction to benefit AIDS Volunteers, Inc. on Sunday, January 14, from 4:30 PM to 7:30 PM at the Limestone Club located at 213 North Lime. Hor d'oeuvres and cash bar provided by Phil Dunn's Cookshop. Art provided by local area artists and the Ghiglieri Trust. Silent auction and viewing of art items begins at 4:30 pm; live auction begins at 6:00 pm.

Sistahs in the Life Ebony Male

Ebony Male and Sistahs in the Life invite you to a FREE Holiday Unity Celebration! We'll see you on December 29th at the Limestone Club at 213 N. Limestone St. (two doors up from Columbia's restaurant)

We will begin the evening at 8 pm with dinner. There will be a variety show from 10 pm until 11pm. And get your groove on from 11pm until 2am! Dress is casual, there is plenty of parking. And it's FREE!

For more information about Sistahs call LeTonia 233-3751, or Joan 252-2657.

GLSO Library

GLSO plans to establish a library at the new Pride Center. We will develop a collection that includes books, videos and other media, information and entertainment sources, and have full and open lending services to the community. We are looking for volunteers to help build this as a community resource. Call Jane 389-7698.

Soulforce

In January the local Soulforce group will begin a new "17 Step Journey into Soulforce," studying the non-violent principles of Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King. There will have an initial meeting in January, possibly on Thursday 18. If you are interested in receiving information, please email Dotti Berry dotti.berry@mindspring.com at and she will put you on the list of people to contact.

...Community News continued page 4

Community News Continued

Bluegrass Rape Crisis Training

The next training for the Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center will be starting on Friday evening, Jan 26th and will continue for the next three Saturdays. This training is free of charge, a six month commitment is asked.

Upon successful completion of all training sessions, volunteers will answer the 24 hour crisis line in their homes via call-forwarding. Shift choice is flexible. Volunteers also provide support and information to victims and their loved ones, meet immediate victims at local emergency rooms, and staff information tables at local health fairs.

This is a valuable training for anyone interested in working with women in recovery from sexual violence. To apply for this training, please call Brandy at 253-2615 by January 25th.

Diversity Films

On Monday, January 15, as part of the Martin Luther King Day Celebration, the Humanitarium in cooperation with the Kentucky Theater, will be showing A Lesson Before Dying in downtown Lexington. Based on Ernest Gaines' award winning book by the same name, this is a compelling story told with sensitivity and compassion.

Set in a small southern community in the 1940s, the film recounts the efforts of a young school teacher, Grant Wiggins (Don Cheadle) to help Jefferson, a man condemned to die for a murder he did not commit.

Grant's Tante Lou and Jefferson's godmother Miss Emma (Cicely Tyson), pressure Grant into visiting Jefferson regularly to help

him come to terms with his approaching death. The two men struggle to find common ground and, by the end, find that they have enriched each other's lives.

Ernest Gaines and director Joseph Sargent have given us an outstanding movie that richly conveys a place and time to easily forgotten. This is an opportunity to remind ourselves and to teach our children about the history of race relations and the importance of human dignity.

IMPERIAL COURT NEWS

The Imperial Court of KY celebrates the achievement of donating \$10,000 to Moveable Feast Lexington over the last several years. Moveable Feast delivers hot meals each day to people living with HIV/AIDS in this area.

The International Court system designates a nation-wide charity campaign each year. This year, each chapter is challenged to raise money for local charities that assist people in need of food. The Court is honored to assist Moveable Feast and HMIM Emperor Donnie Royce has designated it as a main charity for his reign.

On December 5th the Imperial Court of KY held the 4th annual Miss Mary Christmas Pageant at Club 141. Highlights of the evening were the opening production "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" performed by Empress 19 of KY, Tracy Taylor, Empress 15 of KY, Natalie Gaye, and Reigning Miss Mary Christmas 1999 Samantha Storm; and also with fabulous performances from local entertainers such as Imperial Crown Princess 19, Jordan Taylor, Princess Royale 19 Rayna Starr, Empress 18 of KY

Eden Towers and former Miss Gay US of A, Chelsea Pearl.

It was certainly a delightful evening for the Court to celebrate Christmas, the season of giving, with the community here in Lexington. Congratulations to Miss Mary Christmas 2000, Sapphire.

On December 15th The Imperial Court of KY held "Food for Friends" at Mia's restaurant. The court designated Moveable Feast of Lexington the beneficiary of the proceeds. During the event a "sneak peek" of the almost annual celebrity auction was displayed. Preview items up for auction were: LaWanda Paige "Aunt Ester, Sanford and Son" Picture (autographed), LeAnn Rimes Picture (autographed), Gladys Knight CD (autographed), Julie Neumar magazine (cover autographed), REM poster (autographed with goodluck note by band members). The restaurant was full the entire evening and Mia's donated 30% of all proceeds of food sold to the Court. This money will be used by Moveable Feast to get them through the holidays. The silent auction was well received and provided a great preview of the many other items to be auctioned in January. The Board felt this was a very successful evening and would like to give a special thanks to Mary Beth, Mia and staff.

On behalf of The Imperial Court of KY, The Board of Directors and the reigning Monarchs, EV and Tracy, we thank you for your continued support and generosity and wish you a Happy New Year!

Take Note: Mary Crone has a new email address. You can reach her at marycrone2@msn.com

Imperial Court of Kentucky

Bluegrass Celebrity Squares

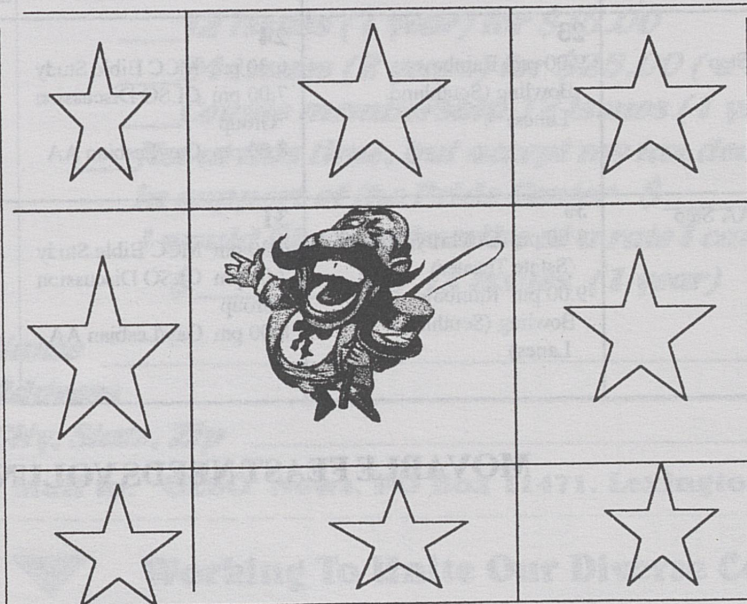
Tuesday January 30, 2001

**State Theatre (inside Kentucky
Theatre)**

214 E. Main St

Doors open at 8:00 p.m.

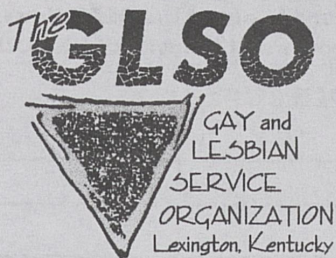
Silent Auction/Games &
Prizes
All proceeds to benefit
Moveable Feast



Special Appearances
By Local Celebrities

For information contact
Imperial Court of KY
P.O. Box 265
Lexington, KY 40588





**KENTUCKY'S OLDEST GAY AND LESBIAN ORGANIZATION
HAS BIG PLANS FOR 2001!**

**We will be moving into a new Pride Center soon and hope
to receive news of grant money to support expanded
programming.**

Our current projects are:

- * The GLSO News * Pink Pages * The Pride Center of the Bluegrass * Pride Month *
- * Act Out * Speakers Bureau * Pride Picnic * Discussion Groups * Social Concepts *

New projects:

- * Youth Support: Gay Straight Alliance * Outreach into Eastern Kentucky *

We need from you:

- * New and renewing subscribers to the GLSO Newsletter *
- * New advertisers for this newsletter and/or the Pink Pages *
- * Names and addresses of friends who would like a free sample copy *

(see rates and extra forms on reverse side)

- Yes! Please add me to your mailing list**
 12 issues (1 year) for \$15.00
 24 issues (2 years) for \$25.00 (a \$5.00 savings)
 Couple membership 12 issues (1 year) \$20.00
 **Not at this time, but accept my tax deductible donation
in support of the Pride Center \$ _____**
 **I would like to subscribe at a rate I can afford right now...
\$ _____ for 12 issues (1 year)**



Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Mail to: GLSO News, PO Box 11471, Lexington, KY 40575

Working To Unite Our Diverse Community

All you have to do is send any of the completed forms accompanied with your check made out to the GLSO News. Your newsletter will come in a confidentially marked envelope, so even your mailperson won't know! THANK YOU!

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF FRIENDS THAT WOULD LIKE A FREE SAMPLE COPY:

Name: _____ Address: _____

Name: _____ Address: _____

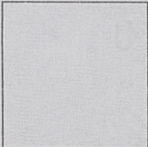
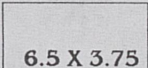
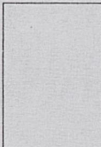
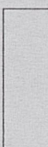
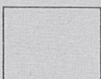

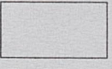
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The GLSO News Rate Sheet

The GLSO News is published monthly with a distribution of over 600 copies. It is the leading source of news and information for the LGBT Communities of Eastern and Central Kentucky.

	Cost per month ad runs:			
	1	2	3	4
 FULL PAGE 6.5 X 7.75	\$45	\$40	\$35	\$30
 HALF PAGE 6.5 X 3.75 OR 3.2 X 7.75	\$30	\$27	\$24	\$20
 2 VERTICAL COLUMNS 4.25 X 7.75	\$35	\$33	\$30	\$25
 1 VERTICAL COLUMN 2 X 7.75  1/2 OF 2 VERTICAL COLUMNS 4.25 X 3.875	\$27	\$25	\$23	\$18
 1/2 Of 1 VERTICAL COLUMN 2 X 3.875	\$20	\$18	\$14	\$10
 1/8TH PAGE 3.125 X 2 (BUSINESS CARD)	\$12	\$10	\$9	\$7

The GLSO News is set up in a three column format. Ads are black and white only. Halftones are acceptable, and although we can accept a copy for reproduction (85 line is best) it will be better for your ad if we have an electronic version in tiff, eps, pict, pex, jpeg, or any similar format on either IBM or Macintosh. Any good, clean artwork is acceptable. We can work with you to help with your ad if you need, just remember our work is done on a volunteer basis, and you may need to allow extra time for changes to your ad.

For more information on how you can place your ad in the GLSO call: Terry 252-2867 or Ginger 389-7698

JANUARY 2001

USE THE DIRECTORY ON LAST PAGE TO CONFIRM EVENTS

1 MONDAY	2 TUESDAY	3 WEDNESDAY	4 THURSDAY	5 FRIDAY	6 SATURDAY
8:00 pm AA Step Study	9:00 pm Rainbow Bowling (Scutland Lanes)	6:30 pm MCC Bible Study 7:00 pm GLSO Discussion Group 8:00 pm Gay/Lesbian AA	7:00 pm Pride Center Committee (Pride Center)	7:30 pm Gay/Lesbian AA	
7 SUNDAY TBA Dignity 10:45 am UU Church 12:15 pm Interweave Luncheon (UU Church)	8 8:00 pm AA Step Study	9 9:00 pm Rainbow Bowling (Scutland Lanes)	10 6:30 pm MCC Bible Study 7:00 pm GLSO Discussion Group 8:00 pm Gay/Lesbian AA	11 7:00 pm Fairness (Pride Center)	12 7:30 pm Gay/Lesbian AA
14 11:45 am UU Church	15 7:30 pm GLSO Eboard Meeting (Pride Center) 8:00 pm AA Step Study	16 9:00 pm Rainbow Bowling (Scutland Lanes)	17 6:30 pm MCC Bible Study 7:00 pm GLSO Discussion Group 8:00 pm Gay/Lesbian AA	18 GLSO NEWS DEADLINE SUBMIT ADDITIONS AND/OR CORRECTIONS FOR NEXT CALENDAR 273-9649	19 7:30 pm Gay/Lesbian AA
21 10:45 am UU Church	22 8:00 pm AA Step Study	23 9:00 pm Rainbow Bowling (Scutland Lanes)	24 6:30 pm MCC Bible Study 7:00 pm GLSO Discussion Group 8:00 pm Gay/Lesbian AA	25	26 7:30 pm Gay/Lesbian AA
28 10:45 am UU Church	29 8:00 pm AA Step Study	30 8:00 pm Celebrity Squares (Setate Theater) 9:00 pm Rainbow Bowling (Scutland Lanes)	31 6:30 pm MCC Bible Study 7:00 pm GLSO Discussion Group 8:00 pm Gay/Lesbian AA		

MOVABLE FEAST NEEDS VOLUNTEERS EVERY DAY

GLSO News 2001 Sponsors

- J. Mark Chambers, CPA**.....619-5621
For all your Financial Needs
- Bluegrass Fairness**.....296-7812
Keeping our eyes on the Ky. Legislature
- Richardson Vision Center**278-4201
1757 Alexandria Dr., Gardenside
- Scott Ackerman**.....(voice mail) 294-2055
Paul Semonin Realty.....269-7331
- SisterSound**243-0243
Diverse music for all women
- Imperial Court of Kentucky**.....252-3014
A charity organization
- The Bar Complex**.....255-1551
224 E. Main
- Turner Counseling**269-6497
2216 Young Drive, Lexington
- Windy Knoll Farm**.....299-7410
Riding Lessons, Trail Riding, Boarding
- Lexington Men's Chorus**.....266-9175
Rehearsals start again in March
- Pegasus Travel**253-1644
Donating 1% of your ticket cost to GLSO

Faith MCC
Remembers The Legacy
Celebrate the Dream of MLK
Sunday, January 14, 10:30 a.m.

In every generation, there is light bearer, a prophet, a drum major, one who seeks out justice. In the early days of the Christian church, God spread the message of salvation through Paul. Paul had seen the light, the light of Jesus. It is Paul who challenged the early church to understand that salvation was for all who believe. Paul's light was snuffed out as he was beheaded in the ancient world.

And in our modern day world, Martin Luther King, Jr., was a light bearer. King's light was snuffed out by the bullet of an assassin. If King were to appear to us today, he might challenge us, and ask, "What have you done in my absence?" Did I die for nothing? Have you moved toward freedom and justice for all? Have you finally found peace?

What will be our legacy? King would not allow us to rest on the laurels of some well intentioned legislation and social programs created in the 1960's. Martin Luther King would point to his legacy and he would challenge us to discover our own legacies.

Our own legacies may be founded upon three challenges: Be something. Do something. Leave something. As we look at the first challenge, to be something, let's also look at it in the light of Paul and King. Paul was a great apostle, chosen to take the good news to the Gentiles. He saw himself as servant of Christ, set apart for the gospel of God. Paul was very clear in his calling, he wasn't called by the people but by God. Now that was quite a claim- how many of us can claim the same- that

we have been called by God to be God's servant?

Martin Luther King did. King described himself as an apostle of Jesus Christ, a preacher of the gospel, a servant of God.

Paul, in his time, had been a strict Pharisee, he had interpreted the Jewish Law. He was a citizen of Rome. Paul was well educated, a man who believed in observing the Law, but he believed that legalism would not bring one closer to God. And so, Paul saw Jesus as a threat to the traditional Judaism. Paul was there as an observer when Stephen was stoned to death. And Paul had undergone a miraculous conversion on the road to Damascus. During this incredible experience, Paul realized that salvation came through Jesus Christ, not by one's works. With Paul, came a new day for all. Not only did Paul's conversion remove one of Christianity's most powerful enemies, but it also gave Christianity one of its most brilliant leaders. In Paul, we can see he fulfilled his legacy- to be something.

And in more modern times, Martin Luther King also fulfilled the legacy- to be something. King was an evangelist and a brilliant civil rights leader. He, like Paul, was highly educated. He was the 1963, Time "Man of the Year." And at the age of 35, King was the youngest ever Nobel Peace Prize winner.

Now, what of our legacy? Will we be something? How do we describe our relationship with God? Can we claim to be servants of God? What have we done to let God's light shine? How have we fulfilled the first part of the legacy to be something?

And what of the second part of the legacy? Do something. To fulfill the legacy, it is not enough to simply

be something. We must also do something. Looking back at Paul, we see a man who became the greatest missionary of the Christian faith. It was only after Paul made his trip to Antioch that believers were called Christians. Paul took the Gospel - really took it to the people.

Now, Paul wasn't a famous man outside the Roman Empire but that's where he went to work. Paul took the message of the Gospel to those who weren't hearing about it. And in doing so, Paul endured hardships, encountered danger, was jailed, beaten and stoned. And yet, Paul chose to do something. Even though he was warned and warned again, Paul left the safe confines of his home and took the Word of God's love to those in need. Paul endured arrest and imprisonment and served years in prison. And in time, Paul was beheaded as he fulfilled his mission. Paul preached, he wrote, he traveled, he endured. Paul did something.

And what of King's legacy? King led the Montgomery bus boycott- this led to an end of segregation on city buses. King used Gandhi's non-violent strategies. He organized the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. King staged demonstrations, faced attack dogs, bombs, knives, and guns. King led the March on Washington and gave his "Dream" speech. He was actively involved in bringing about the Civil Rights Act of 1964. King led voter registration drives and sought to combat segregation in the North. He taught self-worth. King preached, he wrote, he traveled. King did something.

And what about us? How do we fulfill our legacy to do something? What have we done? How have we

....continued on the next page

helped others along the way? How have we let our light shine?

And now, the final part of the legacy challenge- leave something. Do we leave something to this world that wasn't here when we came? Paul did. Paul wrote 14 of the 27 books in the New Testament. He wrote the letter on behalf of Onesimus from jail. He pleaded with Philemon for acceptance of Onesimus as a brother for love's sake. Paul also wrote Ephesians, Colossians, Philippians, 1 and 2 Timothy, and Titus from jail. Paul left something.

Martin Luther King, Jr., left something also. He left a movement

that believed "we shall overcome." King left a book of sermons titled, "Strength to Love." Among those sermons were "Love in Action," "Loving Your Enemies," and "Shattered Dreams." King left his imprint on the Montgomery bus boycott in a book titled "Stride Toward Freedom." He left letters he wrote while in jail, "Why We Can't Wait." King left behind the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. He also left behind dignity, and hope for a people who had no hope. King left something.

What about us? What will we leave behind? Paul and Martin Luther King, Jr., left behind a legacy.

It's a legacy that calls out to us even today: Be something. Do something. Leave something. Their lights still brightly shine. We too have a light.

Faith Metropolitan Community Church extends an invitation to all- bring your light and let it shine among us. Choose to be something. Commit to do something. Leave something behind. Sunday morning worship begins at 10:30 a.m. at 385 Waller Avenue (look for the MCC in the window), located conveniently beside Imperial Plaza. In the event of severe weather, please call the church phone after 9:30 am. Sunday for information. For info about Faith MCC, please call 255-4016.

Youth Suicide on the Rise Gay Youth at Increased Risk

By Annie Gillespie, Stop Youth Suicide

Today in the United States, 1000 teenagers will attempt suicide; 18 will be successful today, 80% of the unsuccessful will try again. Youth suicide has long been a taboo topic in our society; we are afraid to confront the reality that our children are contemplating death as a solution to their problems. Youth suicide is preventable if we are willing to overcome our fear and look at it directly.

The first step in prevention is information. Suicide is the third leading cause of death among all youth in the United States; Suicide is the leading cause of death among gay, lesbian and bisexual youth. Homosexual youth attempt suicide five times more often than their heterosexual peers. We have the information, and we need to move to action.

The Stop Youth Suicide Campaign began in October 2000 and is dedicated to educating parents and friends of youth about the warning signs and risks of youth suicide. The campaign is striving to inform people about the increased risk of completed suicide with handguns present in the home (more people are killed by guns in suicide than homicide each year.) The campaign wants parents to know that mood swings can be an indication of depression, and a cry for help. The campaign wants friends to know that 80% of youth who commit suicide give clues, like giving away their favorite possessions.

The Stop Youth Suicide endeavor wants to increase awareness about youth suicide. If youth suicide has not affected your life yet, chances are it will. Log onto the website and get information, order the video produced by the campaign, encourage your churches and schools to approach the issue, become sensitive to the needs and habits and attitudes of the youth around you, and if you have any doubts or concerns, get help. Suicide is preventable.

Log onto the Stop Youth Suicide website: <http://community.kentucky.com/realcities/stopyouthsuicide>

Questions or concerns? Want to get involved? Call 859-225-5628, or email: stopyouthsuicide@yahoo.com

If you think that someone you love is at risk for attempting suicide, call: Teen Suicide Hotline: 1-800-999-9999 or 24 Hour Crisis Hotline: 1-800-928-8000

Editors note: GLSO is planning to send a representative to the meetings of this group. We do not have a volunteer that can do this on an ongoing basis at this time. Please call Mary Crone if you might be interested, 266-5904 Thanks

GLSO ONLINE

Peter: peter@QX.net

New Mary: marycrone2@msn.com **New**

Terry: Terry_Mullins@msn.com

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True January

By Reinette F. Jones

According to the Gregorian calendar, January is the first month of the year. (It was the 11th month in the Ancient Roman calendar.) The month is named after Janus, Roman mythological god of doors, gateways, and endings and beginnings. He is considered the first of all things and thought to have emerged from chaos when nothing was fully formed. Janus is depicted with two faces, one looking forward to the future and the other looking back to the past. He was worshiped during the beginnings of important events in a person's life.

Janus's main temple, a portal on the Roman Forum, had two doorways, one facing East and the other facing West, and between them was Janus gazing through each door. Both doors were kept open during time of war and Roman legionaries went through the portal

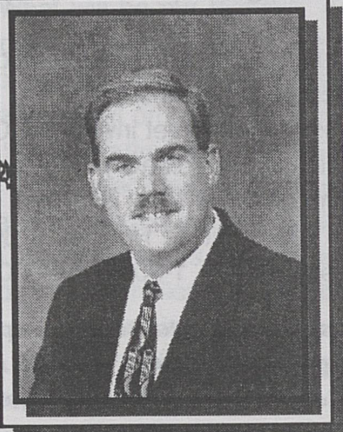
on their way to battle. The doors were kept closed during peaceful times.

In Janus's right hand is a gate key and in his left had is a rod. The key is used to lock up the old year and open the new year. The rod is used to discourage those who are not allowed to enter the gates. The terms janitors and janizaries come from the word Janus. Janitors were originally doorkeepers, who were responsible for safeguarding buildings. Janizaries were special infantry soldiers, organized in the 1300s by Orkhan, founder of the Ottoman Empire. Both janitors and janizaries were loyal guards, true to the legend of Janus.

January 1st is the day of new hopes, promises, and dreams for the remainder of the year. As early as 600 BC, the Greeks used a baby to signify the beginning of the new year. The baby represented the rebirth of Dionysus, the god of wine,

reborn as the spirit of fertility. Dionysus was known in Greece as Bacchus. One of his characterizations is that of a deity who inspired ecstatic, orgiastic worship. Female devotees, wearing fawn skins, gathered in the wilderness in devotion to Bacchus. The name itself refers to the loud cries with which the god was worshiped at frenzied celebrations in his honor. The worship was initially celebrated only by women, but later it was opened to men. The rites became an occasion for drunkenness and licentiousness. In 186 BC, the Roman Senate attempted to suppress the rites, which resulted in them taking place in secret.

The celebration of the new year is the oldest of holidays, and not everyone celebrates the occasion on the same day or the same month, or even for the same reason. Whenever you celebrate the new year, may the past give you omniscient vision for the future. Happy New Year!



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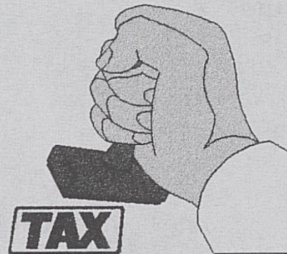
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STUDENT GROUPS

Please call Mary with new information.

ACE League: Berea (Rich).....	859-986-0323
email: Keenan94@hotmail.com	
AGLF: NKU (Pat).....	572-5604
B-GLAD: Centre College (Mykol).....	238-5332
Pride Alliance EKV (Josh).....	(606)622-5297
Morehead State Univ. (Ned-Advisor).....	606 783-2294
Transylvania University (Jessica).....	255-2122
UK Lambda (James).....	254-6021

ANONYMOUS AIDS TESTING

Jessamine County.....	(859) 885-4149
Lexington-Fayette County.....	288-2437
Madison County.....	(606)723-7312
Woodford County.....	(859)873-4541

AIDS INFO / SERVICES

AIDS Volunteers Inc.....	225-3000
Health Dept. HIV Support (Patty).....	288-2377
HIV/AIDS Legal Project.....	(502) 584-1254
HIV Education YOUTH GROUP.....	278-7494
HIV Support (Somerset).....	679-7578 or 678-5814
Moveable Feast.....	252-2867

COMMUNITY

Alcoholics Anonymous (Brian).....	245-7471
(office).....	276-2917
AL-Anon (office).....	277-1877
Bluegrass Belles (Marjorie).....	278-2608
(Dawn) ???..... (Ann)(502)672-8673	
Bluegrass COLTS (Morris).....	225-9169
Bluegrass Fairness.....	296-7812
Council for Peace and Justice (Richard).....	277-6101

DOJ Pride(Robin).....	231-8526
E-MALE (Bill).....	255-5469
Fairness of Louisville.....	(502) 893-0788
First Link (was Ask Us).....	313-5465
GLSEN-Ky (Gina).....	(606) 676-9412
G/L Defense Fund.....	(502) 589-2896
IGBO (Int. Gay Bowling Org.) (Steve).....	276-3058
Imperial Court of KY.	bluegrassempire@hotmail.com
Ky Leather Productions (Larry).....	253-0185
Kentucky Fairness Alliance-Lexington.....	296-7812
Lexington Lyons Leather/Levi Club (George)....	885-7777
(Greggers).....	792-6117
Lake Cumberland Gay Alliance(Roger)	
roger@hyperaction.net	
Lex. Human Rights Commission.....	252-4931
Lexington Men's Chorus (Shelby).....	231-0090
Louisville Youth Group.....	(502) 894-9787
Moonshine Bears of Ky (James).....	254-9567
(Jim).....	299-2047
Pride Alliance of Cent. Ky. (Gary).....	(859) 236-4547
(Shane).....	859-854-0596 or pridealliance@yahoo.com
P-FLAG (Jim)	266-3934
Pegasus Travel.....	253-1644
Rainbow Bowling League (Steve).....	276-3058
SisterSound (Patti).....	243-0243
Sistahs in the Life (Joan).....	252-2657
(LaTonia).....	233-3751
Social Concepts (Ginger).....	389-7698
gg40504@hotmail.com	

RELIGIOUS GROUPS

Dignity [Catholic](Don).....	299-4458
Interweave [Unitarian](Davina).....	271-6174
MCC-Elizabethtown (Rev. Cathy).....	(800)484-8498
MCC-Lexington (Rev. Mel).....	255-4016
MCC-Louisville (Rev. Dee).....	(502)775-6636
MCC-Paducah (Rev. Donna).....	(270)441-2307
Norse Pagan Community: (Rev. Pat).....	268-1640
KY Pagan Forum.....	http://go.to/kypaganforum/
Path of the Personal Divine(Chris).....	268-1640
RainbowWind [Pagan] (Sarah).....	273-2455
Rainbowwind@aol.com	
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