

the glsonews

a publication of April 1997 the lexington gay and lesbian services organization

DRAGN' FOR JESUS

Lexington's Metropolitan Community Church is planning a wonderful evening of entertainment on Wednesday, April 9th at the Bar Complex. A new concept in fund raising for the church, Dragn' For Jesus will be a female impersonator show featuring the best performers Lexington has to offer.

The show will begin at 8:00 pm. real time, not drag time and the cover will be \$5:00. In addition to wonderful music, members of the LMCC congregation will be setting up a table of hors d'oeuvres and over thirty door prizes will be given away.

This event is the brain child of LMCC member Bill Chandler who has put his creative talent to work in naming, advertising, and designing the show and will be making his drag debut as the lead singer in the group Angel and the Heavenly Rays. You can look forward to some hot gospel music.

Bill has lined up top talent including Natalie Gay, Empress of the Royal Imperial Sovereign Court of Ky., Tracy Taylor, Miss Gay Lexington, Lexington's Entertainer of the Year, Miss Chandelier, and Leigh Angelique' Rayna Star and Latoya Bacall who performed at E-Male's Black History Month Benefit.

These performers and more will be singing music from Bette Midler, Aretha Franklin, Patti LaBelle, and others. This could easily prove to be the most exciting impersonator show in Lexington in a long time. LMCC thanks the Bar Complex, KY Wranglers, Imperial Sovereign Court of KY., and E-Male for their cooperation.

WOMYN'S MUSIC FESTIVALS

by Mary S. Crone

Every year there are several dozen womyn's music, comedy, and spirituality gatherings around the country. I was lucky enough to attend three last year, up from my usual one or two. If you have never been to one, you are truly missing some wonderful experiences.

Each festival has its own atmosphere, but from what I here women who attend any of them return home with increased positive feelings about being lesbians. There are usually workshops on a vast array of topics, live musical performances. great shopping, sometimes comedy, dance performances, dance lessons, spiritual rituals, political discussions, and more.

My personal favorite is the Michigan Festival which is the biggest and perhaps most famous. If you are concerned about the size, you might want to go for a few days rather than the whole week to try it out. If you want to start smaller and closer to home try the National Women's music Festival at the end of May, one of the oldest and the only indoor festival, or the Ohio Lesbian Festival near Columbus Ohio on Sept. 6th. This is a one day event which I will write more about later.

Here are some festivals and where to call for more information. All of these festivals are open to all women, most are predominately lesbian. If you will be traveling in other part of the U.S., you can call Mary (266-5904) for other listings. Note W's M Fes. stands for Women's Music Festival.

glso ONLINE:

Peter: pjtayl00@ukcc.uky.edu

IN GAIA'S LAP May 15-18, Maryland Box 39, Maryland Line, MD, 21105 phone (888) 740-GAIA or (410) 435-3111

CAMPFEST May 21-26 near Oxford,Pa. Box 559 Franklinville, NJ. 08322 (609) 694-2037 or camfest@aol.com

VIRGINIA W'S. M. FES. May29-June 1 and KICKBACK July 4-6, Box 1096, Kent's Store, Va. 23084, ph (804) 589-654

NATIONAL W'S M. FES. May 29-June 1 Bloomington Ind. NWMF. Dept LC Box 1427, Indianapolis, IN. 46206 ph (317) 927-9355

MICHIGAN W'S M FES. Aug. 12-17 near Hart Mich. WWTMC Box 22 Walhalla, Mi. 49458ph(616) 757-4467

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Community Church



the gLso NEWS
Published Monthly by the
Lexington Gay/Lesbian
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P.O. Box 11471
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Views or opinions expressed in the GLSO News are those of the authors and don't necessarily represent those of the GLSO Board of Directors.

Submissions are welcome. All submissions become the property of GLSO and must indicate full name and address of the author. The staff reserves the right to edit submissions and ads to meet publishing requirements, as well as the right to reject any submissions.

Placement of advertising in GLSO News denotes neither a person's sexual orientation nor a business' customer preference.

LEXINGTON MEN'S CHORUS

The Lexington Men's Chorus will present its Spring Concert "Freedom" on Sat. April 5, 8:00 at the Lexington Opera House.

The theme of the concert reflects the struggles, hopes and joys experienced by gays and lesbians in their search for freedom in our country today. Be prepared to laugh and cry as you are carried through a musical journey traveling all the way from our nation's fight against slavery to topics as current as the right of gays to marry.

The concert includes the debut of "Crossing the Ohio", a stirring piece written by Brian Throckmorton which compares the struggle of gays and lesbians today with that of African Americans during the Civil War. Other numbers include "marry Us", from a piece commissioned by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus; the traditional "We Shall Overcame", and also Throckmorton's arrangement of "The Star Spangled Banner" as sung for a recent Thoroughblades hockey game at Rupp Arena.

The Lexington Men's Chorus (A tax exempt and not for profit organization) is a proud member of the International Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses and Lexington Arts and Cultural Council.

Tickets, available at the Singletary Center Box Office, are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children.

INTERWEAVE GLSO APRIL 25TH DANCE

The Dance originally planned for March has been reschdueled for April 25th at the Unitarian Church, 3564 Clays Mill Rd, from 8:00 to Midnight. \$5:00 admission. This will be the last time we will be able to use the Unitarian Church for quite a while due to. We plan some great dance lessons, and pride items including a variety of t-shirts will be for sale to help support the Pride Picnic. Deserts, soft drinks, beer, and wine will be sold. Come on Out. 7

OUT ON VIDEO

By: Davina G. Warner

In a recent Entertainment Weekly article, I read that the introduction of a lesbian doctor on *ER* brings the 24th lesbigay character to prime time television. That isn't counting Ellen Morgan, the character played by Ellen DeGeneres who is scheduled to come out later this month.

But television isn't alone. More and more lesbigay characters are showing up on the big screen as well. You can find them in supporting roles like Charlane Woodard's lesbian FBI agent in *Eye for an Eye* or starring roles like Robin Williams' and Nathan Lane's middle-aged gay couple in *The Bird Cage*. And while the authenticity of these characters and what these movies say about lesbigays is debatable, I am happy to see more lesbigay images on film.

Of course, with more lesbigay characters on film comes the increase of lesbigay characters in your video store. Big studio films like *The Birdcage* can be found on the shelves of most video stores including supermarkets, and independent and foreign films are showing up at some stores.

Blockbuster (Richmond Rd. and Saron Dr. locations, Cut Corner (S. Limestone), Movie Warehouse and Video Hits (both on Tates Creek Dr.) are video stores where I have found a good selection of lesbigay films. The Richmond Road Blockbuster recently expanded its Alternative Film section, where newly released or re-released foreign and lesbigay films are displayed

In most cases lesbigay films are filed on the shelves alphabetically by category (drama, comedy, etc.). This is great because it doesn't segregate lesbigay films, but it can sure make it difficult for that shy, closeted queer to find lesbigay video. I used to spend hours

continued on page 10

CÓMMUNITY NEWS

PRIDE '97 BLUEGRASS RAINBOW ROUND UP

The GLSO Pride Planning Committee has named this year's celebration Pride '97: Bluegrass Rainbow Round Up. There are now 10 events on the calender. Its going to be a great couple of weeks. The committee is still looking for events to take place between June 6th and June 22nd. Our next two meetings will be at the downtown public Library.

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On Monday, April 7th, we will be meeting on the forth floor in conference room B. At that time we will be putting together a pamphlet advertising all the events. To be included in this pamphlet your group needs to mail your information to Mary Crone (266-5904) or bring it to the April 7th meeting.

If you plan an event after this date, you may be too late for inclusion in the pamphlet but can still be listed in the GLSO June advertising. After the April 7th meeting, the next pride planning meeting will be Monday, April , again at the Library, meeting room C. These meetings are open to anyone interested in helping. The advertising or picnic committee could use your ideas and energy.

PRIDE PICNIC ATTENTION VENDORS

Lexington's Annual Pride Picnic (scheduled for Sunday, June 15 from noon to 5:00) attracts a large number of lesbigays from our community. If you've been looking for a place to sell your art, crafts, or business wares, consider reserving a vendor space at this year's picnic. Vendor spaces are free this year, but you will need to bring your

own tables or displays.

We are also looking for businesses to donate merchandise and gift certificates for raffle prizes. Proceeds will benefit the picnic fund, as in previous years. If you make a donation, you will be recognized at the picnic and in the GLSO News.

Contact Davina at 245-5301 to make donation, to reserve vendor space, or for more information.

WORKING CLASS KITCHEN PRIDE EVENT PLANNED

Working Class Kitchen is planning a reading on Sunday, June 8 at Alfalfa's Resturant. We are looking for people who would like to read their work, poetry or prose. Please call Devina (245-5301) for more information.

INTERWEAVE

Please join us for our next luncheon Sunday, April 13th at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Lexington (UUCL) immediately following the service (app. 12:30 pm.). We'll enjoy potluck lunch at the picnic tables outside, so please bring a dish to share. Also, make note of the Interweave GLSO Dance on April 25th. For more information about Interweave or the Unitarian Church, please call Davina at 245-5301.

SHAMANISM

Also of interest at the UU Church, Adult Religious Education provides programs every Wednesday evening from 7 to 9 p.m.. On wed., April 16th there will be a discussion on dream work. On wed., April 23rd., Mary Crone will be leading a discussion and experience in Shamanism

based on Michael Harner's research on indigenous healers throughout the world. There is donation of \$2 requested to cover expenses. Child Care is provided.

PARENTING GROUP

Because of low attendance, the Lesbian and Gay Parenting Group will not be meeting on a regular basis. Instead they hope to plan four or five events during the year to give parents and children a chance to come together. These events will be organized by different family groups and could be celebrations of holidays. If you are a parent and would like to be on the list to be contacted about events or would like to help plan an event, please call Laura (276-2685). We will also be putting notices in the GLSO when events are scheduled.

DIGNITY BIBLE STUDY

Dignity of Lexington will be offering a Bible Study based on <u>Claiming The Promise</u>, an <u>Ecumenical Welcoming Bible Study Resource on Homosexuality</u>. Weekly gatherings will begin in April. For further information call Don (299-4458).

BOARD ELECTIONS

The GLSO Board has an election every year in June for half the board positions (5). We are now looking for people interested in running for the board. You may want to come to a board meeting to see how we opperate (and what fun we have). Board meetings are always open and can be found listed on the calender. We meet at the MCC building at 7:00, in April on the 14th. If you want more information about serving on the

board call Duane at 271-1407.



SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 1997
Fifth Annual AIDS Walk For Life
UK Commonwealth Stadium

AIDS Quilt-Names Project Display

Food\(\nabla\)Entertainment\(\nabla\)Prizes

CALL 278-6274 or 278-7494
For More Information

Proceeds Benefit AIDS Volunteers, Inc. and Their Mission of HIV/AIDS Education, Prevention, & Care - Donations are Fully Tax Deductible

Honorable Discharge for Gay Marine

By Kim Gamel

RALEIGH,NC (AP)- A Marine who announced he was gay on national television the same day President Clinton announced his "Don't ask, don't tell" policy was given an honorable discharge and retirement benefits to settle his lawsuit over the rule. "I think what we have proved is that a Marine who happens to be gay can serve just as well as a Marine who's straight with no detriment to morale or lack of mission operation", said Sgt. Justin C. Elzie, a medical supply clerk at Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville.

Elzie, who received his walking papers Thursday, said he got a \$30,000 check as part of his retirement benefits. Elzie, 34, had already been accepted into an early retirement program when he declared on ABC's "World News Tonight" that he is gay. His announce,ment came on January 29,1993, the same day that President Clinton agreed to the policy on gays in the military.

That February, the Marine Corps placed Elzie on standby reserve and tried to deny him early retirement and discharge him without benefits. He sued the military in September, 1993, and a month later, a federal judge ordered him placed back on active duty.

Elzie's lawyer, Christopher Sipes, said an honorable discharge after 15 years of service is part of last month's settlement of the lawsuit. "Everybody here is satisfied that the matter has been settled in a mutually agreeable manner that would avoid any further delay, expense, and inconvenience for any of the parties involved," said 1st Lt. Charles E. Campfield, a base spokesman. Campfield said the case was isolated.

FOR RENT: Two 1 Bedroom Apartments in renovated victorian house downtown. Hardwood floors, dishwasher, a/c Prefer no pets. \$310 and \$350 263-2765

Gertie Mae Noe

DEAR GERTIE MAE

I was in one of our local gay establishments the other day, and I noticed that they were advertising an event entitled "Dragin' for Jesus." Then I picked up one of your newsletters and I find an article in there about the same event. I am flabbergasted! Isn't the gay community decadent enough without making fun of God? Aren't things like this just the sort of thing that the general population uses to condemn us? I am, quite matter-of-factly, disgusted by the lack of respect and the flaunting of gay peoples' "Godless" reputation. When will we learn that the more things like this go on, the less acceptance we will get from the population as a whole?

Dear Disgusted,

I am sorry. No, I'm not sorry that some group is doing something that offends you. I'm sorry---you're so closed-minded. Did your mama drop you on your head as a baby? When I first saw the show being advertised, I checked into it and found out who was organizing it. Did you? If not, let me tell you. It's the Metropolitan Community Church. This is a Christian church, that by its own slogan is a "Church for all God's people." And believe me, honey, we are all God's people; be we drag queens, leather queens, dikes on bikes, or small people like you and the religious right. I think that this event is going to the the most fun show the Bar has seen in a long time. The music will be uplifting and the performers the most talented Lexington has to offer.

As for your worry about what

society thinks about such things: why in the world do you give a rats ass? I don't, and obviously neither does MCC. When you're in the right, you're in the right, and I'll be damned what someone else thinks. What the "Fundamentalists" and, apparently YOU need to realize is that God and Her Son, do NOT care if we are gay---and "being gay" IS being a drag queen, a leather queen, a dike on a bike or---just being an "ordinary" queer! Therefore, if they want to raise money being entertained at a drag show---HALLELUJAH!

However, I will say that some in our community, in my humble opinion, sometimes go too far in public displays and offend the prevailing mores. This gives the Christian "Wrong" more fire to add to the brimstone spewing from their acerbic pulpits. Sometimes though, the morals of a society may be too strict and need to be pushed, but, this is one area where caution needs to be exercised so as not to turn off the middle-of-theroader: those who would otherwise be on our side if we were not flaunting nudity and overt sex in front of their little "Darlings."

In short (for you Neanderthals among us)---

Drag show for Church: GOOD! Nudity in the streets: BAD!

Love and Kisses,

Gertie Mae Noe

Questions or Comments for Ms. Gertie Mae Noe should be addressed to:

Gertie Mae Noe

APRII CALE	1997 NDAR	7:00 p.m. Coming out Support Group (MCC Suite) 8:30 p.m. Rainbow Bowling League	2. WEDNESD:AY 6:00 p.m. Frontrunners (Woodland) 6:00 p.m. HIV/AIDS Support Group 8:00 p.m. Gray/Lesbian AA 8:00 p.m. Two Stepping (Club 141)	3 THURSDAY 7:00 p.m. Men's Chorus Practice (Central Baptist Church) 7:30 p.m. UK LAMBDA (231 UK Student Center	7:30 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	5 SATURDAY 9.00 a.m. Frontrunners (Arboreturn) 8.00 p.m. Freedom: Men's Chorus Concert (Opera House)
6 SUNDAY 10:45 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church 11:30 a.m. Metropolitian Community Church 7:00 p.m. Ebony Male 7:00 p.m. Dignity (MCC Sutte)	7 MONDAY 7:00 p.m. Pride Month Planning Downflown Public Library 7:30 p.m. Pride Center Task Force 8:00 P.M. AA Step Study	7:00 p.m. Coming oul Support Group (MCC Suite) 7:30 p.m. P-Flog (Chopel Hill Prestlyterian Church) 8:30 p.m. Rainbow Bowling League	9.00 p.m. Frontnunners (Woodland Park) 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. 8:01 p.m.	10 7:00 p.m. Men's Chorus Practice (Central Baptist Church) 7:30 p.m. UK LAMBDA (231 UK Student Center)	7:30 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	9.00 a.m. Frontiunners (Arboretum)
10.45 c.m. Unitarian Universalist Church 113:0 cm. Metropolitan Community Church 12:30 p.m. Interweave Potluck (U.U. Church)	7.15 p.m. GLSO Board Meeting (MCC Sulle) 8:00 p.m. AA Step Study GLSO NEWS DEADLINE FOR MAY NEWSLETTER 273-6845	7.00 p.m. Coming out Support Group (MCC Surle) 7.30 p.m. P-Prog (Chopol Hill Presbyterian Church) 8.30 p.m. Rainbow Bowling League	16 6:00 p.m. Frontunners (Woodland Pask) 6:00 p.m. HW/AIDS Support Group 7:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. 8:01 Room Dancing (Club 141)	7.00 p.m. Men's Chorus Practice (Cantral Baptist Church) 7.30 p.m. UK LAMBDA (231 UK Student Center)	18 7:00 p.m. Dignity Pottuck 7:30 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	19 9:00 a.m. Frontrunners (Arboretum)
2.0 10.45 a.m. Unitarias III Ch. 11.30 a.m. Metropolitan Community Church AUS Walk for Life (Commonwealth Stadium) 7.00 p.m. Dignity (MCC Suite)	8:00 p.m. AA Step Study	7.00 p.m. Coming Out Support Group (MCC Sulfe) 8.30 p.m. Rainbow Bowling League	6:00 p.m. Frontuners (Woodland Park) HIV/AIDS Support Group 8:00 p.m. Gay/Lesblan AA 8:00 p.m. Line & Partner Dancing (Club 141)	7:00 p.m. Men's Chorus Practice (Central Baptist Church) 7:30 p.m. UK (LAMBDA (231 UK Student Center) 8:00 p.m. Bluegrass Cotts members 9:00 p.m. B.C. non-members	7:00 p.m. Dignity Pottuck For 7:30 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	9:00 a.m. Frontrunners (Arboretum)
10:45 a.m. Untatroin Universalist Church 11:30 a.m. Metropolitan Community Church	7:00 p.m. Prida Month Pilanning Downtown Public Library 8:00 p.m. AA Step Study	7:00 p.m. Coming Out Support Group (MCC Sulte) 8:30 p.m. Rainbow Bowling League	6:00 p.m. Frontuniers (W. Park) 6:00 p.m. HW/AIDS Support Group 7:00 p.m. MCC Holy Week Services 8:00 p.m. Goy/Jastsian AA 8:00 p.m. Open Dancing (Club 141)	Use the Directory on the last page to confirm meeting times and places		



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I do not wish for my name to be added to the Community Mailing List used exclusively by and for Kentucky Gay/Lesbian organizations.

Please become a member: help support and build our community and receive your newsletter by mail!

MAIL TO: GLSO Newsletter, P.O. Box 11471, Lexington, KY 40575

walking up and down aisles, reading the boxes of any film that had the remotest possibility of lesbigay content. Not anymore. Now, I work in a video store, where I can keep track of the latest lesbigay films coming to video. So, stay tuned to the GLSO News for my monthly reviews of lesbigay videos.

Furthermore, support stores that have lesbigay videos, and rent or purchase lesbigay titles. Video stores are like any other business: owners want to make a profit. If lesbigay videos don't make money---they wont carry them.So, get started this month by renting these titles:

BOUND A suspenseful drama about two women (Jennifer Tilly and Gena Gershon) who fall in love and plan to steal \$2 Million from the mob. The film is about the Mafia, so expect to see some graphic violence.

THE CELLULOID CLOSE An enlightening documentary which examines what movies (from Edison's experimental films to the present) have shown us about being gay.

THE SUM OF US An Australian film which tells the touching story of a father's relationship with his gay son. There's also a beautiful sub-plot about the son's lesbian grandmother.

TROUBLE

by Mary Crone,

Guests by Michael Dorris is a book recommended for ages 8 to 10 and one I recommend to you. It is the first time I have read such a explicit description of a transgendered character, Trouble, in a children's book. Guests is an ALA Notable Children's Book for 1995 and has also received positive reviews in several children's literature magazines.

The book's main character is Moss, a young Native American boy whose "coming of age" struggle is the focus of the story. Moss meets up with Trouble, a girl of his tribe who

he knows only slightly. Angry with his father, Moss recklessly decides to go into the forest for his "away time". Trouble follows his example, even though girls are not supposed to go through such a vision quest.

When they meet in the forest, Moss is amazed to find Trouble in boys clothing. As they talk, Trouble tells Moss the story of Mistake, her aunt who left the tribe years ago rather then settling down to the expected life of a married woman. This aunt was not called Running Woman and Trouble is thinking of following in her footsteps, as she does not feel that she can fit into the role of women in her tribe.

"I can't be the way they want." Trouble says in anguish. "You are who you are, and no one but you can tell you the truth about that," replies Moss. Moss suggests that other girls have been aloud to choose the role of a warrior, giving up their female role in favor of the male role.

In the one day that is covered in this book, Moss and Trouble help each other move toward adulthood. A Native American culture is respectfully represented in this book and the poetic language of the storytelling is particularly delightful. I was particularly impressed with the authors sensitivity to a transgendered character.

If you never read children's literature you are missing some fine books. Buy this one for a child you know. GLSO has ordered a few copies which will begavailable soon. Look for Guests to appear soon on some right wing banned books list



NEEDS HELP.Firebrand Books, an independent

FIREBRAND BOOKS

Firebrand Books, an independent publisher of contemporary lesbian writers, is facing financial difficulties in the increasingly inhospitable climate of the corporatized publishing world. In a recent letter, publisher Nancy K. Bereano requests that Firebrand readers buy books and send donations to help Firebrand survive.

For the past twelve years, Firebrand has printed works by such influential writers as Dorothy Allison (Bastard Out of Carolina), Allison Bechdel (Dykes To Watch Out For), Leslie Feinberg (Stone Butch Blues), Minnie Bruce Pratt (Crimes Against Nature, S/HE) and Audre Lorde. It is a well respected publisher in the gay community having received ten Lambda Literary Awards since 1989.

Please support Firebrand's vital work for

Pride Planning Meeting

Monday, April 7

Lexington Public Library

7:00 - 9:00 Fourth Floor

our community. Send a donation or write for a free catalog: Firebrand Books, 141 The Commons, Ithaca, NY 14850.



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COMMUNITY CHURCH
"A CHURCH FOR ALL GOD'S PEOPLE."
387 WALLER AVE. LEXINGTON, KY.
Worship Service, Sundays @ 11:30 a.m.



Dragin For Jesus

Wednesday, April 9,1997 in the ShowRoom @ The Bar Complex. Admission \$5.00- ShowTime 8:00p.m.

Proceeds from this benefit are to help the Lexington Metropolitian Community Church procure a telephone, hymnals and aid in the cost of choir robes. We appreciate your support.

"glsoDIRECTORY

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Thursday HIV+/AIDS Support Group	

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COMMUNITY

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Rentucky Legislature (800) 382-2455		
Bill Status Line (800) 382-2455 Legislator Message Line (800) 372-7181 Kentucky Wranglers (Terry) 255-5469 The Lesbian & Gay Parenting Group (Laura) 276-2685 Lexington Men's Chorus (Shelby) 231-0090 Louisville Youth Group (502)894-9787 Names Project, Lexington (Katie) 272-2588 Newcomers Group (Joe) 233-4432 P-FLAG (Jan) 278-7461 (Perry) (502) 859-0033 Pegasus Travel 253-1644 Rainbow Bowling League (Shawn) 255-7379 RISC of KY(Paul) 225-5151 (Steve) 255-4636 The Women's Chorus (Connie) 276-2554 RELIGIOUS GROUPS Dignity [Catholic] (Don) 299-4458 Episcopal Diocese AIDS Ministry (Steve) 233-1782 Honesty [Southern Baptist] (Eddie) (502) 637-7609 (Dorothy) (502) 458-5392 Interweave [Unitarian] (Davina) 245-5301 MCC-Bowling Green (Rev. Donna) (812) 282-9404 MCC-Bowling Green (Rev. Cathy) (800) 484-8498 MCC-Lexington (Rev. Rex) 271-1407 <t< th=""><th></th><th>276-3058</th></t<>		276-3058
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