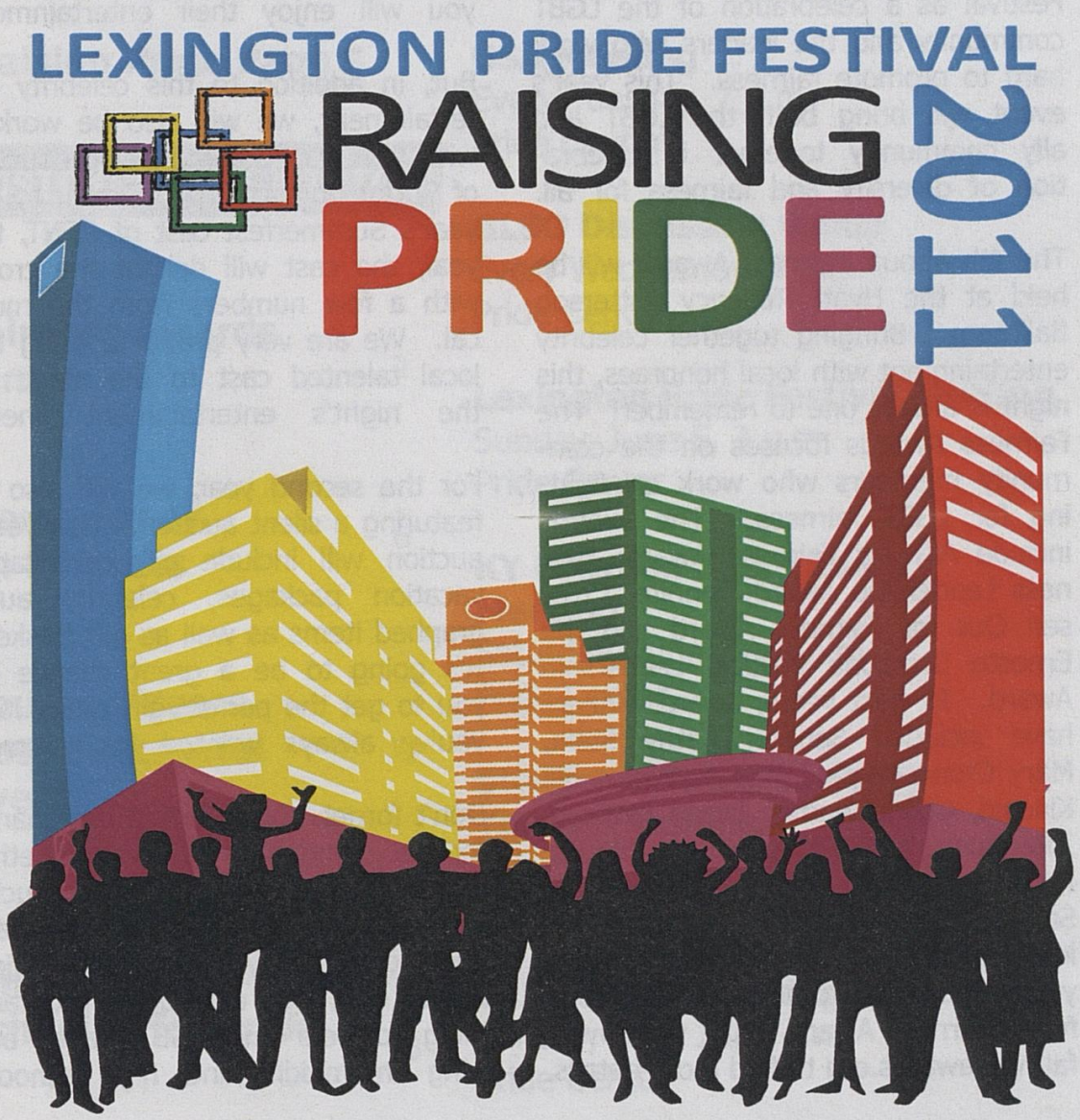
June 2011

GLSO

GAY AND LESBIAN SERVICES ORGANIZATION

NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Services Organization Volume 33 Number 6



Sponsored by:
Lexington Pride Festival

Celebrating Community, Awards and Entertainment

By Craig Cammack, Contributor

Lexington Fairness is honored to once again bring the Fairness Awards to Kentucky. Each year, the Fairness Awards take place the night before the Pride Festival as a celebration of the LGBT community and the leaders who work hard to promote fairness. This year's event will bring both the LGBT and ally community together in celebration of diversity and fairness for all.

The 4th Annual Fairness Awards will be held at the Hyatt Regency Patterson Ballroom. Bringing together celebrity entertainment with local honorees, this night is always one to remember! The Fairness Awards focuses on the community members who work on fighting for LGBT fairness. The awards include Ally for Fairness Award, Fairness Leadership Award, Jennifer Crossen Out for Fairness Award and the Ernesto Scorsone Political Leadership Award. In past years, award winners have included Senator Kathy Stein, Mary Crone, Mark Johnson, Pastor Bill Kincaid, Councilwoman Diane Lawless, Joey Rose, Jane Minder, Ginger Moore-Minder, Jackson Cofer, Terry Mullins, Sandy Linville, D. Wayne Swope, Wesley Nelson and Caitlin Powell. Now is your opportunity to nominate someone for a Fairness Award. Just visit www.fairnessawards.org to find more details.

In addition to the award honors, Lexington Fairness is bringing in two wonderfully entertaining celebrities to the event. Grammy Award winning Disco and Motown legend Thelma Houston will be bringing her sultry voice featuring her single "Don't Leave Me This Way". Also, Emmy Award winning comedian Bruce Vilanch will be showcasing his comedic talents. You will remember Bruce from his time on Hollywood Squares, as Edna Turnblad on Broadway's production of Hairspray and his multi-decade stint at the comedy writer for the Academy Awards (Oscars). We are so excited to have both of them for this year's event and we know you will enjoy their entertainment.

But, in addition to this celebrity entertainment, we will also be working with the 2011 Summerfest production of Rocky Horror Show. Similar to last year's Summerfest cast of RENT, this year, the cast will delight the crowd with a few numbers from the musical. We are very proud to bring this local talented cast to the stage for the night's entertainment lineup.

For the second year, we will also be featuring a silent auction. This year's auction will include gift certificates, vacation packages, celebrity autographed items as well as gift baskets. It's going to be a great chance for you to get the perfect gift or an item you've always wanted for yourself.

Don't forget, this event is the chance for our community to come together and celebrate diversity in Kentucky. This will also serve as Lexington Fairness' opportunity to explain Project Speak Out, our developed programming to help end LGBT youth bullying in middle and high schools.

Buy your tickets today, be a table captain and don't forget to nominate someone for an award. All information can be found at www.fairnessawards.org. We hope to see you Friday, June 24th for this wonderful night of celebration.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

Lexington Pride Festival Meeting
Sunday, June 5, 3 p.m.
Pride Center

KY Bourbon Bears Board Meeting
Saturday, June 11, 9 p.m.
Pride Center

Bluegrass Trans(Gender) Youth & Families
Saturday, June 11 & 25, 1 p.m.
Pride Center

GLSO Board Meeting
Sunday, June 12, 1 p.m.
Pride Center

Imperial Court of Kentucky Meeting
Sunday June 12 & 26, 6 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.

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www.glso.org

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Jessica Sucik, Affiliate Groups

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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!

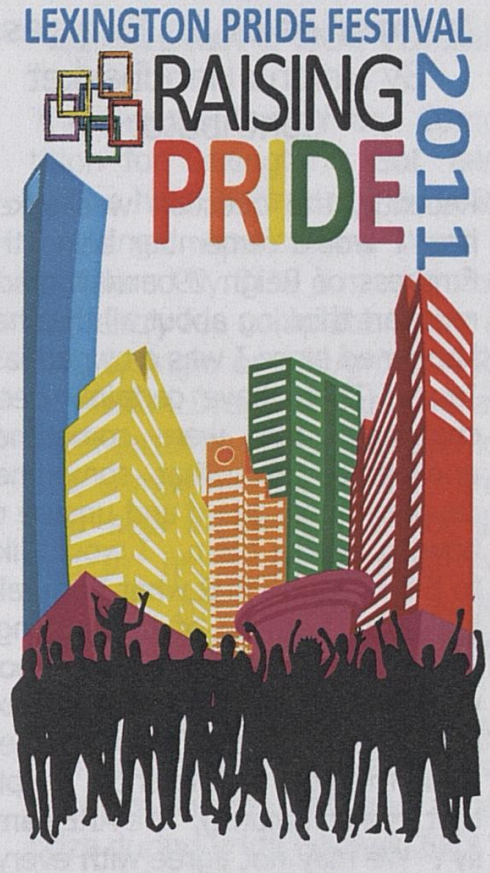
Raising Pride Festival is Almost here!

WOW! Who can believe that the 2011 Pride Festival is just around the corner. It seems like we just started planning! June is chock full of fun, fabulous events. Coronation XXX kicks off the month's festivities on June 3-6, with the Ball starting at 6 p.m. on June 5th at the Downtown Hilton. (please see article in this issue for more events)

Wednesday June 8th brings us the second prelim for "Lexington's Got Talent" at Crossing's starting at 9 p.m.. Then, on Friday June 10th, we have the 2nd Annual Miss Lexington Pride Pageant at the Barrel House. We will give you a little break before getting pride weekend off on Friday June 24th starting with the Fairness Awards Dinner at the Hyatt. Immediately after the dinner, we will "Kick-Off" the pride festival with a party featuring DJ D Stu from Florida, a drag show, strippers and go go boys.

Saturday will host the 4th annual Lexington Pride Festival starting at 11 a.m.. Our headliner this year is international singing sensation Amber. Joining Amber will be Mother Jane, DJ D Stu, Lexington's premier drag performers, our new Miss Lexington Pride, Emperor and Empress 30 and Chi Chi LaRue.

After the festival, Barrel House will again join us in hosting our first after party featuring many of the stars from the festival and Titan Video Performer Jessie Coulter. The after party gets started at 11 p.m.. Mark your calendars now for the month so you won't miss anything-See you there!!!



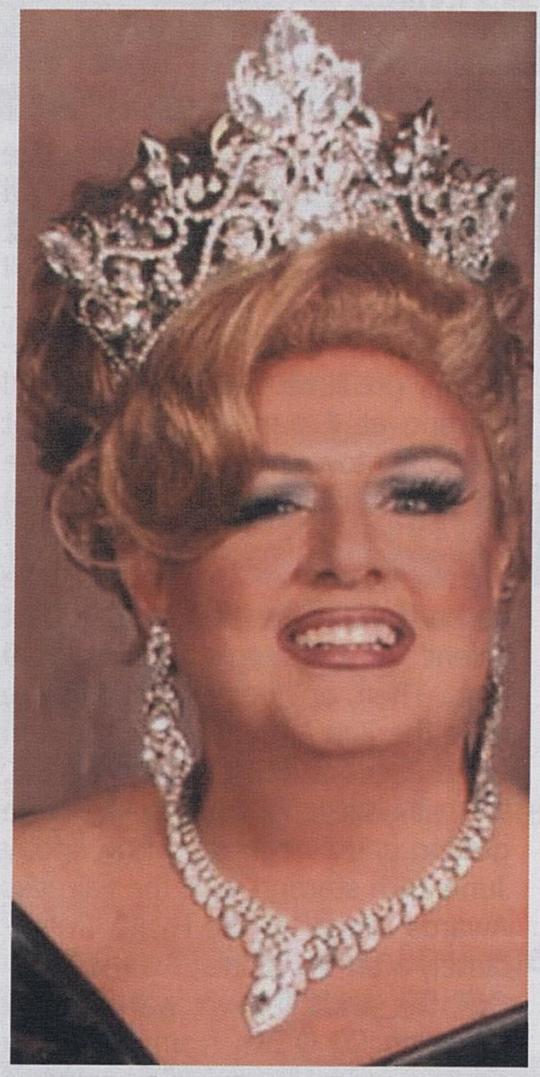
Kick off Party at Barrel House

By Orvis Kean
Pride Festival Director

I would like to invite everyone out for some great activities for Pride this year. Barrel House is hosting our Pride Pre-Party on Friday, June 24th. We will have the talents of DJ D Stu, drag performances by Cammie Dietrich, Cavier Towers, Jo Dee Monroe, Natalie Gaye, Miss Lexington Pride, Paris BaCall and more. We will have special raffles and giveaways, drink specials featuring Maker's Mark (one of our proud sponsors), strippers and go go boys. This event has a $5 door donation.

Memories of an Empress

By Helena Handbasket
Contributor



Recently, the question was asked how I would remember being the Empress of Reign 29 and it made me start thinking about all that has happened since I was crowned last June. There have certainly been challenges that were sometimes unexpected and that sometimes caught me off guard and unsure of how to handle them. I would like to think though that what I am taking away from all of those things are some life lessons to draw upon when I am faced with new life experiences up ahead. What I tried to do this year was to show people that as a community, "We ARE Family". We may not agree with everyone but we do need to take care of each other and love each other.

As time slides on by, the things I will remember will not be the challenges or the anguish with trying to know what was the right thing to do but rather the triumphs and celebrations that were shared with the community and everyone in the court. What a great year it has been! Together, the court has held over 37 events this year, not to mention the other events that we attended and participated in that were not sponsored by the court.

The hard work of the board of directors and everyone else that were involved is directly related to the success of these events. Enough can't be said about the performers that time and time again, tirelessly and unselfishly show up without any kind of pay and, not keeping one dollar tip for themselves, work their numbers for the community. When you see these girls out and about, I ask everyone in the community to mention to them that you appreciate the work they do with the court.

That pat on the back that you give may be the only pay off they get personally (other than the inner feelings of pride for helping their community). I think that more than anything, the memory of the relationships that have developed during this experience will be what I cherish the most. Of course there have been certain shows that stand out in my mind

(Continued on Page 16)

Miss Pride Pageant Set for June 10

The second annual Miss Lexington Pride Pageant will be held on Friday, June 10th, 2011 at the Barrel House located at 903 Manchester Street. Doors will open at 8:30 p.m. and the pageant will begin promptly at 9:30 p.m.. There will be a $5 donation at the door with the proceeds benefiting the GLSO Pride Festival.

This event is open to 18 and up. Miss Pride will represent the GLSO Pride Festival during the upcoming year. If you are interested in competing for the title, please contact Orvis (orvis@glso.org) for more information.

ATTN: OLDER LESBIANS

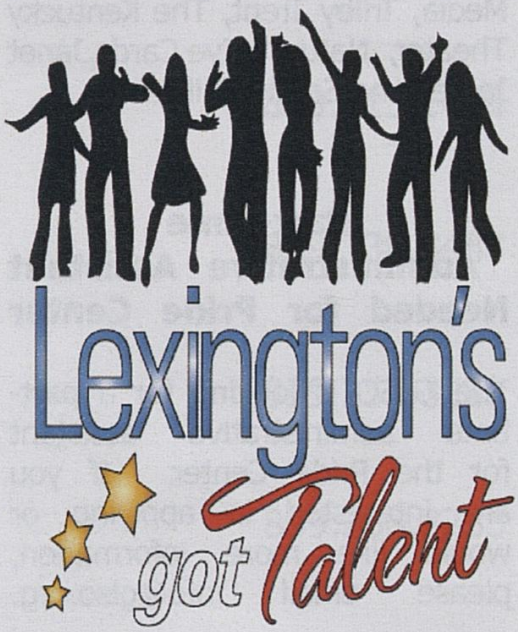
I'm thinking of moving back to the Lexington area (my hometown) and would like to know if there's interest in getting a group together...."older wiser lesbians"? Potlucks, support and help for each other, maybe some hiking, picnicing, attend events together, other outdoor activities. Just have lots of fun, with a sense of "family". Let's talk about it! jwinsett@frontier.com

Lexington's Got Talent!

The Second Preliminary Competition for Lexington's Got Talent will be held Wednesday, June 8 at Crossings. Applications must be registered by 8:30 p.m. with form and entry fee complete. Entry fee is $10/single or $20/group. FREE admission. Drag Spotlights will also be entertainment for the evening. The competition is open to amateur acts including but not limited to: music performance (vocal or instrumental), acting, comedic, dance, visual art, etc...

The Finalists chosen on June 8 will join those chosen in May and will compete for the title and a cash prize during Pride Festival 2011 on June 25 in downtown Lexington.

For all rules and updates add and check out the facebook page by going to the search bar and typing in "Lexington's Got Talent Competition". Or you may contact Chad at chad@lexpridefest.org.



Pride Prom
A Fabulous Good Time.

By Mary Crone, Contributor

The Pride Prom on May Friday the Thirteenth was a great success. Teens told us: "I am finally old enough to come", "This is where i can be me", and "Too cool". We appreciate all the people and organizations that helped make this possible. The teens that helped plan the dance, made the decorations, and helped supervise the activities where awesome. The chaperones did a great job, thanks you for volunteering.

We would also like to thank those who made financial contributions. Our sponsors this year included: The Gay Lesbian Service Organization, The GLSO Gay Straight Alliance for Youth, The GLSO Pride Festival Committee, The Loving Arms of God Church, The Unitarian Universalist Church, St. Martha's Episcopal Church, Sqecial Media, Trilby Trent, The Kentucky Theater, Nature's Eye Cards,Janet James and Sarah Phillips.

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.

(Continued from Page 6)

as being favorites... the first being the "AVOL Kid's Christmas" show. Not only was that so much fun, it is always filled with such a spirit of love and community. This is truly a great experience that everyone should be part of next year. I am also especially proud of the "It's Just Sex – Get Over It" show that we did in January when we teamed with AVOL and not only got a little naughty on stage but also worked toward raising awareness and education about HIV and AIDS. Sex is a part of life. Be smart about it and stay healthy. Whether infected with HIV or not... stay healthy and stay with us. You are a vital part of this community. We need you – we want you – we love you.

What a gift when I got to work with my twisted sisters of sequin and put on a Gospel Show the night of Easter. That will always bring a smile to my face. Who knew a bunch of boys in dresses could be so spiritual? That was a special night. I guess the one thing that will always be special to my heart from this experience came from the 2nd Annual Wags for Drags show that we did for the Scott County Humane Society. That night, I met Mitchell... a dachshund mix, who has come into our home and melted our hearts. All of the love that I have shared with the community has been given back by that loving little dog that we adopted.

So... what will I remember most about being Empress? The love and hugs from all of you that have made this such a rewarding experience this year – and even though I am stepping down as Empress as we crown Empress 30, I will always take those hugs... anytime. Hugs,Kisses,andD.I.V.A.Wishes to yoall. Empress 29, Helena Handbasket

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www.ImperialCourtKentucky.org

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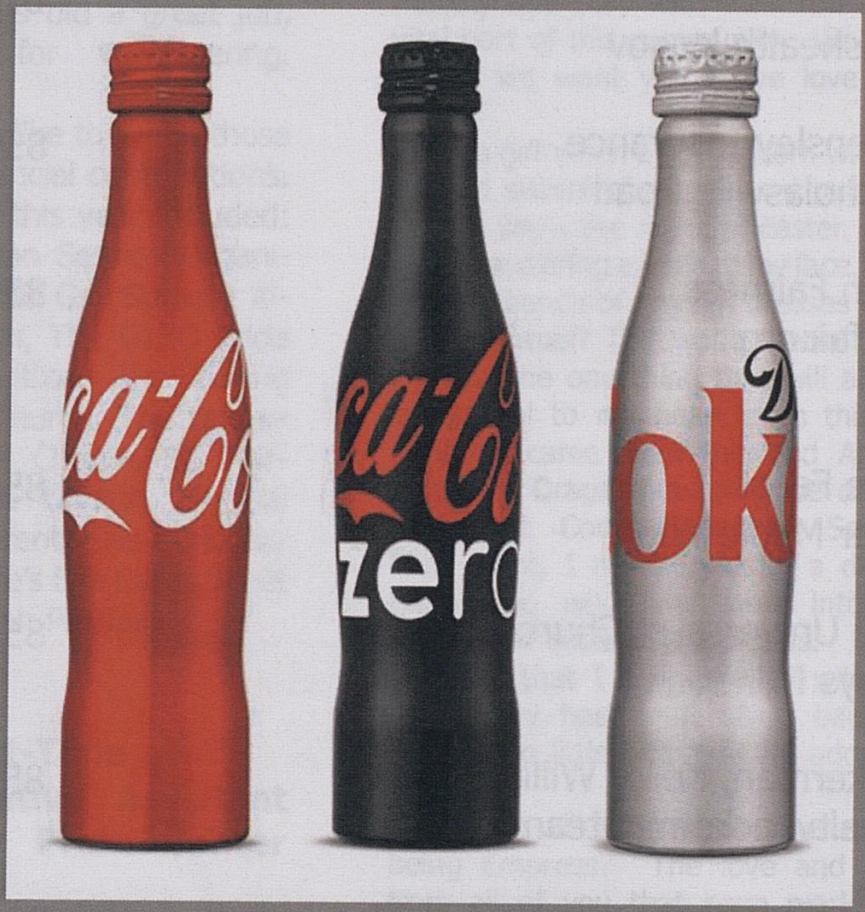
Coca-Cola Refreshments of Lexington



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Bourbon Bears Hosts Big Baskets of the Bluegrass

by Chuck Embs, Contributor

Second Annual 'Big Baskets of the Bluegrass' a huge success for the Kentucky Bourbon Bears. On Saturday, May 14, The Kentucky Bourbon Bears hosted the second annual Big Baskets of the Bluegrass fundraiser at Crossings Lexington. Always a crowd pleaser, ten local guys wearing underwear took to the stage dancing and carrying gift baskets to be auctioned off. There were 23 specific themed baskets with matching underwear, including 'Hello Kitty', 'Fighting Cocks', 'Frisk Me', 'Kiss My Blarney Stone', 'Touch Down' and 'Big Blue Balls."

Included in the baskets were high dollar items including a Hello Kitty toaster, gift cards for meals and hotel rooms, a football signed by Joker Phillips and a basketball signed by John Calipari. There was also a raffle for an Ipod Touch 64.

This year's charities were Lexington Fairness and PFLAG. A total of $3,500.00 was raised setting a record for highest amount of money raised in one evening at Crossings. There were a lot of guys involved to make this night a seamless success. The Kentucky Bourbon Bears would like to thank all of the businesses and individuals who donated to make the baskets so valuable. The donor of the Ipod Touch 64 was QX.net. Other donors include Delightful Parties, Stag Run Campground, Toyota Motor Manufacturing of Georgetown, Bluegrass Bakery, Cheddars, Crown Plaza Hotel, Kentucky Theatre, Crossings, Kentucky Bourbon Bears, Tattoo Charlies and Corey Profitt Massage Studios.

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Listening is probably the most important factor when doing business with anyone, whether it be Real Estate or any other form of sales oriented services.

I like to use the term of "emotional intelligence" when describing what I bring to my clients.

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2011 Pride Festival Entertainment Schedule

11 AM	WELCOME
12:30 PM	Official Proclamation by Mayor Jim Gray
1:00 PM	Lexington's Got Talent Competition
2:00 PM	Poetry in Pride
2:45 PM	Afternoon Drag Show
4:00 PM	Mother Jane
6:30 PM	Lexington's Got Talent Finale
6:45 PM	Evening Drag Show
8:15 PM	Amalgamation Fire Nation
9:30 PM	Amber

11 PM—3:30 AM Pride After Party at The Barrel House

Many Thanks from Festival Director

I want to take just a moment to thank a few people for making my position as the 2011 Pride Festival Chair much easier. First of all, I want to say "Thank You!" to the GLSO Board of Directors for sponsoring this event in Lexington. Without their insight and input, the Pride Festival would not happen.

Next, to the committee (RJ, Adam, Jamie, Chad, Andrea, Sean, Ginger, Glenn, Don, Steve--you all are great. We have had some rocky spots in the road, but in the end, we all had the same vision and knew where we were headed.

I have to say a big thanks to all the great sponsors we have this year. Without your assistance, we could not have done it. To all the clubs who have let us hold events Crossing's, The Bar Complex, Bogart's and of course Barrel House, muchos gracious!! You helped us raise the funds to make the event possible.

Now to two people I must point out-Dennis, you are a great mentor and friend. You helped to lead when needed and knew when to step back. That is the quality of a great leader. Helena, through all you had to do as Empress, you still gave of your time and talents to help another organization anytime we called upon you. Thanks for being a friend!!

To the community, thanks for all the support, love and pride you show everyday-we present your 2011 Pride Festival. Enjoy the festivities and raise your pride.

In Service and Pride,
Orvis Kean

New Pride Center Hours

The GLSO would like to announce new Lexington Pride Center hours effective July 1, 2011 to better serve the GLBTQQIA community of central and eastern Kentucky. The new hours will be Tuesdays and Fridays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesdays and Thursdays 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. These hours will again take effect July 1, 2011.

Volunteers Needed for Pride Festival

We are needing volunteers for this year's festival. If you would like to volunteer, please email sean@lexpridefest.org or orvis@glso.org. We have volunteer opportunities in all areas including hospitality, merchandising, concessions, first aid, services, activities and more. All volunteers will receive a gift pack (donated by our sponsors), festival tee shirt and $5 off admission to the after party.

Absolut VIP Tent

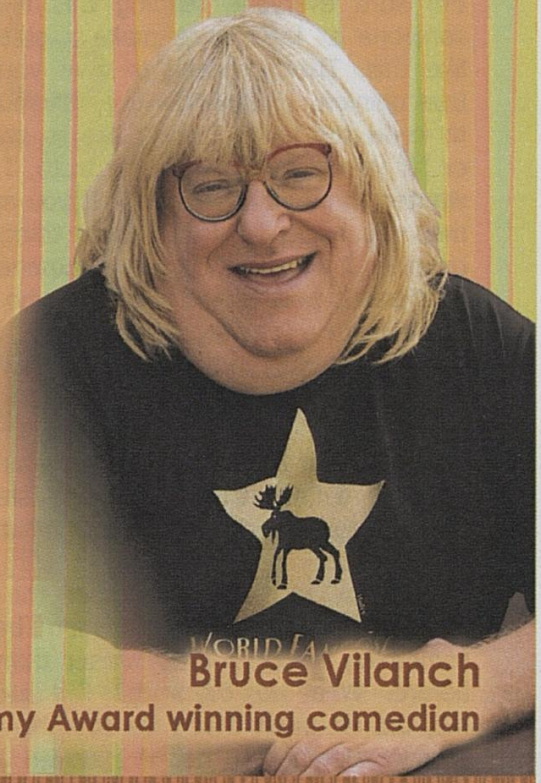
The Absolut VIP tent is something new to this years pride festival. The Absolut VIP tent gives any pride goer all access into a meet and greet with your favorite headliner at this years pride. Amber, Chi Chi Larue, and Morgan McMicheals we be on hand to sign autographs or just have you take a picture with them. Cool down in the air condition ,Absolut VIP tent and also have snacks and beverages provided by Coke and Bluegrass catering . The cost of a Absolut VIP ticket is only $50 dollars which includes all this and a Pride festival t-shirt. go to www.lexpridefest.org for more information or to purchase ticket in advance. There are limited tickets available

Friday, June 24th 2011

Cocktails begin at 6 p.m.
Dinner & Show at 7 p.m.

Hyatt Regency Hotel

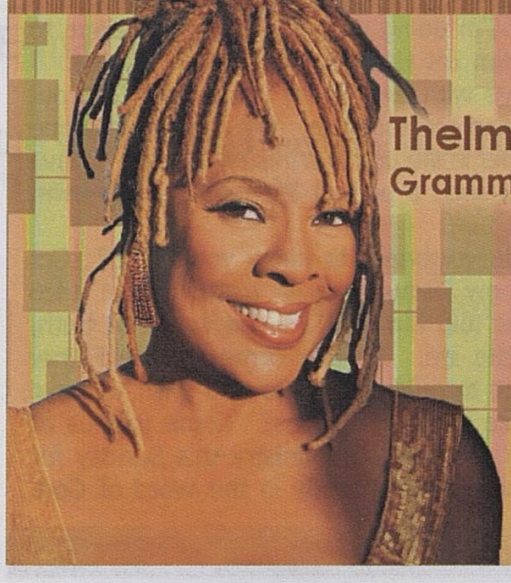
Tickets are available at:
www.lexfair.org
www.fairnessawards.org



Bruce Vilanch
Emmy Award winning comedian

The 4th Annual

Fairness Awards



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If You Want to Know the Truth....

By Pastor Karen Taylor, Contributor

I'm sure everyone reading this has had someone at least once make a statement like this. Then proceed to give you their true opinion. You know like, "If you want to know the truth, I don't like so and so", or "If you want to know the truth, I really wanted to go with her/him". If you are like me, you want the truth about things and people. I would much rather experience a relationship built on truth, people who aren't afraid to be who they are. When it comes to religion everybody seems to "have the truth". Is there such a thing as truth in religion? In this article I would like to share with you what I have come to know as truth. Webster defines truth as a real state of things, agreement with fact or reality.

When Lisa and I got together the truth about being gay and Christian became something I sought after harder than ever before. What was the truth? Did God hate me, did He insist that I be straight, would I be condemned to hell if I stayed in this relationship? I read everything I could get my hands on that were both pro and con. With each article I would say, that's true. I followed scripture by seeking Godly counsel, on both sides of the issue and I would leave both saying, that's true. Well obviously both sides cannot be true or can they? After many months of reading, listening, questioning, I decided I had to stop listening to everyone else and seek God for my truth. To put it another way, I had to listen to what I believed God was saying to me. Now I know God isn't trying to keep secrets from me about how He would want me to live, so I did as any child would and I went straight to the "overseer" of my life and simply asked the important questions.

I waited for Him to answer and confirm what I heard in His Word. Did God hate me? Absolutely not!! His Word tells me He loves me with an everlasting love, that I am the apple of His eye and that He would rather die than to live without me. It is a matter of the heart. How is my heart toward God? I love my Savior and I want to please Him with who I am and what I do. I have come to believe that what pleases Him is me living a life of love and devotion to Him and to others. He isn't concerned with whom I have fallen in love with or chosen to spend the rest of my life with. It is a matter of the heart and choosing to have a close loving relationship with Him. Does He insist that I live my life either in a straight relationship or be celibate? There are many in the church who will say this is true and I thought at one time it may be true.

However, God never meant for us to be alone. He said it wasn't good for Adam to be alone so He gave him Eve. He also wants us to live in truth, not pretending to be someone we aren't. I thought I could please everyone else and live a lie. I tried, but it didn't work. As I think back all those years living in a straight world trying to fit in, I realize that no one I saw were living open lives, not afraid to say and be who they were. Everyone wants to be the person everyone else likes, yet we don't really know who that is. I don't want to be like that. I want to be that person who can say "What you see is what you get" kind of person. Most importantly, would I go to hell if Lisa and I committed ourselves to each other? No!!

Scripture tells us that the way to heaven is through Jesus Christ. By believing that He is who He says He is, and by giving of myself to Him, allowing Him to come into my heart, I have a place in heaven. There is nothing in scripture that says I can love God all I want, serve Him all I want, but if I love another woman I will not go to heaven. It is a matter of the heart. The heart is what God sees. These are my truths based on my reality. God has done nothing but show me time after time of His love for me, His pleasure in what I'm doing with my life. I continue to tell Him it's His will I desire for my life. I believe with everything in me that God put Lisa and me together. We complement one another in life and in ministry. I couldn't have found such a perfect life mate on my own.

So, do you want to know your truth? Get to know Jesus who is truth. John 14:6 "Jesus told him, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." Do you wish to have a close walk with Jesus? Come join us at Open Arms of God Ministry this Sunday for fellowship and a study in the Word of God.

GLSO

GAY AND LESBIAN SERVICES ORGANIZATION

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GLSO Phone Directory

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HIV/STD Testing, Services & Info.

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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	859.951.4450
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
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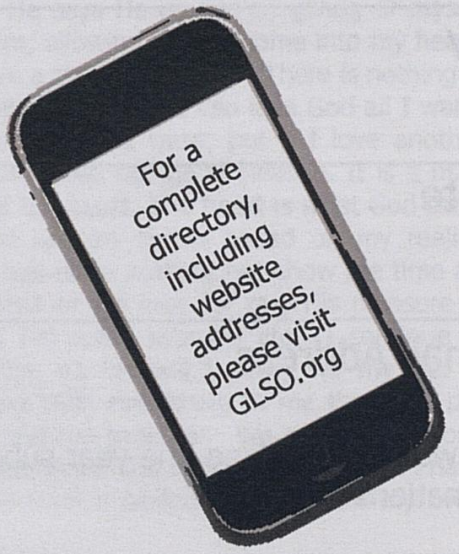
Interweave, Unitarian	859.266.5904
Lex Friends, Quakers	859.254.3319
Mercy Ministry Church	859.358.3357
MCC Paducah	270.443.3339

Student Groups

Berea College ACE	859.958.3633
Centre College BGLA	859.238.5332
Morehead State University	606.783.2294
UK Gay Straight Alliance	859.559.7464



GLSO News Deadline

June 20
Send articles and ads to
editor@glso.org

2012 Lexington Pride Festival Headliner Named: Martha Wash the "Dance Legend"

By RJ Deacon, Contributor

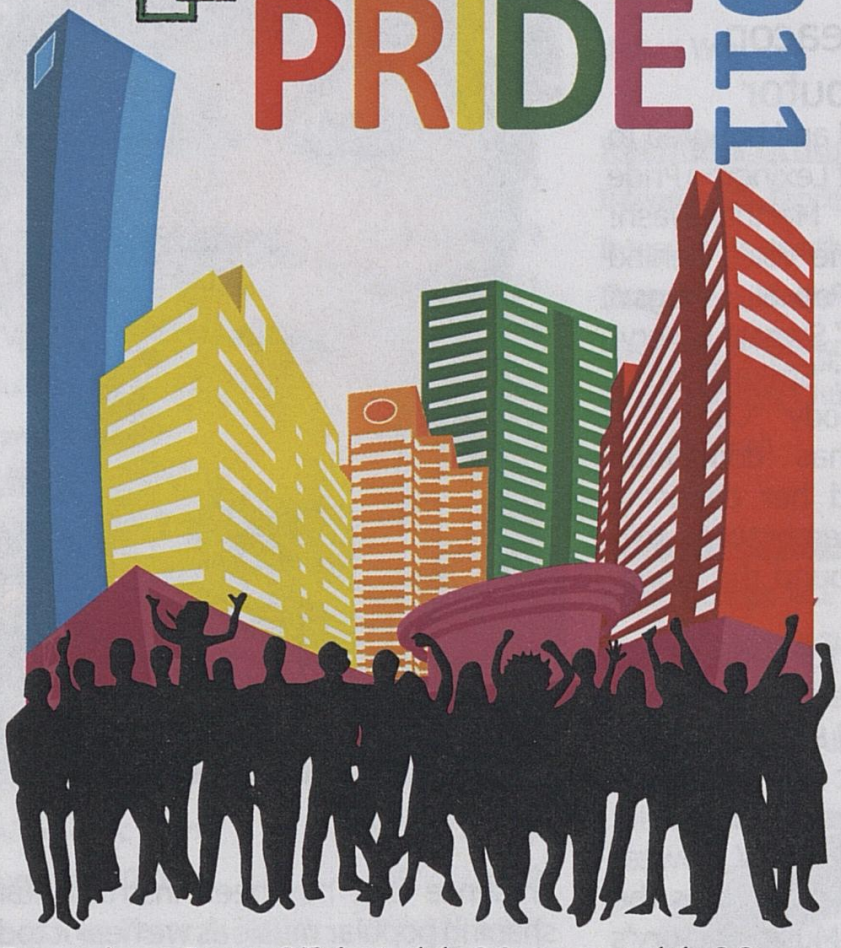
The GLSO is proud and honored to announce the 2012 Lexington Pride Festival Headliner Martha Wash! Martha Wash is the voice behind the massive #1 Pop Hit songs:" It's Raining Men";" Sweat" (Everybody Dance Now);"Strike It Up";" Everybody, Everybody" "Carry On" Martha's voice has dominated the airwaves, and her charisma and spirit has embraced millions of people around the world.

She is responsible for some of the top-selling, most recognizable pop hits of the 80s and 90s. "It's Raining Men", the cult pop classic, is still heard everywhere... the radio, movies, commercials, TV. "Sweat (Everybody Dance now)" was the highlight of C&C Music Factory's career, and sold 5 1/2 million copies worldwide. Black Box's Dreamland featured four #1 Billboard Dance singles and three Top 40 hits including "Strike It Up", a single that continues to receives massive airplay and is still heard at every NFL and NBA game everywhere! All of the above have achieved major success and all have one common denominator - Martha Wash.

She is the heart and soul of dance music. "Martha Wash "The Collection": was released in January 1998 on Logic Records/BMG, honors her timelessness and her renowned presence that has been instrumental in shaping popular music as we hear it today. "Martha Wash began her musical career at the age of two in her parents' church in her native San Francisco. She went on to study opera and tour Europe while still in high school. Martha became part of a contemporary gospel group called N.O.W. (News of The World) and the mix of classical and gospel training accounts for her seemingly effortless transition, from ballads to dance music to pop. In addition to her vast career in pop music, Martha has also starred in major theater productions, and has recorded numerous jingles and movie soundtracks (Kiss Me Guide, First Wives Club, Mighty Ducks, Gun Ho).

LEXINGTON PRIDE FESTIVAL

RAISING PRIDE 2011



Featuring The Talents Of

Amber

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Chi Chi LaRue

DJ D-Stu

Saturday, June 25th | 11:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Free Admission | Rain or Shine

120-150 N. Limestone St., Lexington, KY

www.LexPrideFest.org

Absolut VIP Passes On Sale Now At LexPrideFest.org

Meet & Greet Entertainers in the Air Conditioned Absolut VIP Tent!

Kick-Off Party
Friday, June 24th
The Barrel House
10 p.m.

After Party
Saturday, June 25th
The Barrel House
11 p.m.