

Lin



Connecting the Bluegrass LGBT community

February 2014
Vol. 36 No. 2

Making History

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tells us
about
love*

*Our
years
of loving
dangerously*

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A publication of the GLSO

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EDITOR Don Lowe

PHOTOGRAPHY Brian Hawkins

CALENDAR Chad Hundley

COPY EDITORS Barb Stead and
Troy Johnson

CIRCULATION Kay Garner

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The Lexington Gay and Lesbian Services Organization seeks to educate, enhance and empower the community about GLBTQIA issues.

GLSO Pride Center

389 Waller Avenue, Suite 100

Lexington, KY 40504

859.253.3233

www.glso.org

Office hours are:

Mon-Fri 1pm-5pm

Sat 10am -12pm

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That's What I'm Talkin' About

By Helena Handbasket



If you are focused on being the person you want to be, the right person will see you when you don't even know they are looking

Well, here we are. We have lived through another January and are already into the 2nd month of 2014. I could tell it was February because of all of the Valentine's Day candy that is for sale almost everywhere you go. Strange that the most popular resolution for the new year is weight loss and then the very next month we are encouraged to buy chocolate and sweets to show our love. That hardly seems fair... but don't get me started. This article is not intended to be a continuation of last month's article.

But it did get me started thinking about why we designate one month out of the year to celebrate our love for each other when we have eleven other months that we should equally celebrate our love. As a matter of fact, each day that we are alive we should celebrate the love we have in our lives. Love and life are gifts and we need to nurture those loving relationships each day.

I always giggle a little when

someone tells me about when they "fell in love" as if it was like falling into a mud puddle and they had no control over it. While love does sometimes feel that way, it is not the way that love lasts. We can't continually, day after day, fall into the same puddle. Love, as I mentioned earlier, is something that should be nurtured. Love is something you work to maintain. I don't want to take the romance out of it. Being spontaneous is wonderful but sometimes we have to plan a little spontaneity (an oxy-moron, for sure). Planned spontaneity? Can that exist? If it is planned then it can't be spontaneous, right? Well, sort of. But, if one person in the relationship "plans" a fun day for the two of them, it can appear to be spontaneous to the other person, but with a little pre-planning, it can end up making a lifetime memory. And, I feel that a relationship is built on those love affirming life experiences.

And, I really worry about

those single friends out there that want so badly to be in love that they go looking for the puddle to fall into. You know what I mean, right? That person that wants to be in a relationship so badly that they start pursuing someone relentlessly until either they win their affection or freak them out by the non-stop pursuit of them.

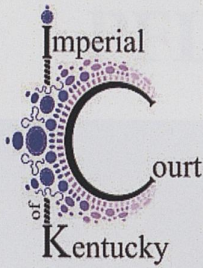
You want my advice? To my coupled children out there, if you want your relationship to last, make sure you make the effort toward cultivating your relationship into the loving bond that you want it to be. As the word cultivate implies, love is something that grows and just like a flower garden, requires some effort to make it something beautiful. And yes, there will be weeds - problems that arise that will challenge that beauty. Just work together to deal with the weeds as they come and remember that there is a word that is just as important as love to a relationship and that word is

compromise. It can't be your way all of the time.

And to my single babies out there that are looking for love. Turn your energy toward working on yourself - to make yourself the best "self" that you can be. People are attracted to someone who has their "stuff" together... to confidence (not arrogance - if you don't know the difference, look it up). If you are focused on being the person you want to be, then the right person will see you when you don't even know they are looking, and you are likely to "fall" into that puddle called love before you even know what hit you.

And lastly, while I love candy... and I DO love me some candy... try to be a little more creative this Valentine's Day and think outside of the box. I welcome your emails to share with me what YOU planned for your love for Valentine's Day.

Comments or suggestions
HelenaHandbasketKY@gmail.com



Imperial Court News

By J. D. Vaughn

Greetings from the Imperial Court of Kentucky.

The Court ended 2013 with a bang as it held its annual Mr. and Miss Mary Christmas pageant at pulse nightlife on Dec 18th. There were several contestants for both titles. The Miss Mary title was won by Miss Mia Milan Decardeza, with runner-up Miss Britney Love. The Mr. title was won by Braylin Valentino, with runner-up Dagger D. All four will go on to compete in the ICK Entertainer of the Year competition in May 2014.

The Court stepped off 2014 with a return to fundraising for the second half of Reign 32 and new events planned for the upcoming months.

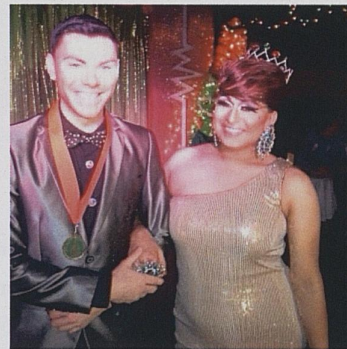
Joining efforts with the Greater Kentucky/Southern Indiana Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association and responding to a call from the International Court System's challenge for 2013, the Court held a "Year of the Elder" show at Crossings on January 8. In 2013, Nicole the Great, Queen Mother I of the Americas, and Executive Director of the International Court Council requested all court chapters produce

a fundraiser benefitting our seniors and elders. The fundraiser raised over \$600 in funds that will directly benefit programs, services, and research efforts addressing the needs of persons living with Alzheimer's.

The following week, the Court held its annual Inner Diva Pageant. This pageant is for biological women who are interested in femme drag. A raucous crowd came out to pulse nightlife to cheer on the efforts of the contestants and performers for the evening, and contestant Waddy Peytona (real name Ann Daugherty) took home the title and crown as Inner Diva 2014.

Then on January 22nd at pulse, the Court sponsored the King of Drag contest, a drag king contest for biological women who perform as male entertainers. Even though the weather was frightful, King of Drag 2013 Kenneth J. Squires and court performers entertained the crowd and raised funds for the charities of the ICK.

Finally, as January came to a close, the Court took a moment to remember the founder of the International



Mr. Mary Christmas Braylin Valentino and Miss Mary Christmas Mia Milan Decardeza

Court System, Jose Sarria, with a celebration and remembrance show at Crossings on Wednesday, January 29th. The show featured the current Royal Family of the Court and many of the previous Monarchs and was a stunning evening of entertaining and inspiring performances. The funds raised will directly benefit the Jose Sarria Memorial Scholarship Fund being administered by the International Court Council.

There are many upcoming and exciting events planned for the coming months. February will feature the annual collaborative event with the Scott Co. Humane

Society called Wags n Drags. That event is scheduled for February 8th from 6pm - 9pm at the Barrel House, and will feature performances from the ICK entertainers and a silent auction. Tickets may be purchased online at the ICK website, www.imperialcourtkentucky.org.

Then the Court holds two events for Valentines. First, the annual Mr. and Miss Gay Valentine pageant will be held at 9:30 on February 12th, at pulse nightlife. Contestants will compete in Presentation, Talent, and Creative Evening Wear categories. Interested applicants may contact Regent Empress 32 J.D. Vaughn for

an application packet. Later that week, on February 14th, at Crossings, Emperor 30 Fred Worsham and Emperor 29 Clayton Burchell will host their annual Single and Bitter event from 8:30 pm to 10:30 pm. There is no cover for this event and will feature shot specials and a few drag performances.

On February 26th, to celebrate the Olympics, the Court will hold their own Drag Olympics event at pulse nightlife. It is open to any 3-member team (can be men, women, drag kings, or drag queens) who will compete in several fun categories, including group performance number, fundraising ability, and "special" sporting events. Prizes will be awarded to the winning team.

Later that week, Imperial Court of Kentucky members will travel to Old Street Saloon in Monroe, Ohio on Friday, February 28th, to produce the Lexington Invasion Show for the Imperial Sovereign Queen City Court of the Buckeye Empire (Cincinnati). This show will feature entertainers from both the Lexington and Cincinnati courts, with the funds directly benefitting the charities of the ICK.

The following night, the Court will kick off March with the reinvention of

the Mardi Gras Ball at the Women's Club of Central Kentucky. The event will run from 7 pm to midnight and will feature heavy hors d'oeuvre, entertainment from the UK Jazz Ensemble and entertainers from the ICK, a cash bar, and a silent auction. The ICK is partnering with its direct beneficiaries, JustFundKY, AVOL, Moveable Feast Lexington, GLSO, PLAG Lexington, and LexFair to produce the event, with those charities benefitting directly from the proceeds of the event. Tickets are \$30 and are available online at the ICK website or from any board of director's member.

For further information or to see upcoming events of Reign 32, visit the Court's social media sites on Facebook (group name Imperial Court of Kentucky) or online at imperialcourt-kentucky.org.



Teresa Combs, ABR, GRI, QSC
Realtor



2013 King of Drag
Kenneth J. Squires



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PFLAG February Meeting features talk with local physician

This month's PFLAG meeting will be held Tuesday, February 11, 2014, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at St. Michael's Episcopal Church 2025 Bellefonte Drive, Lexington.

Our speaker this month is Dr. Keisa Bennett -- a clinician, researcher and advocate for the LGBT population at the University of Kentucky.

Questions on the agenda include:

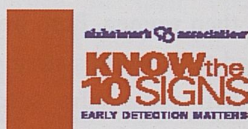
What is it like to stand up for this community within this broad institution?

What is she finding in her research on the health of LGBTs, access to healthcare, and communication with healthcare providers, both urban and rural?

Our PFLAG Lexington chapter has developed into a supportive family for parents, LGBTs, and allies. Whether you are looking for support, want to "give back," have questions, or wish to be part of a confidential setting where you can be fully yourself, you are welcome!

The presentation is from 6:30 to 7:30; our regular support group meeting is from 7:30 to 8:30.

For more information please visit pflaglex.com.



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Love Anyway

Jack and Brady fell in love. They couldn't touch each other for three years.

By Sandy Spaulding

It was after midnight when Jack called, and ask me if I would tell their story. I listened. When he asked I protect their identities, it was clear why, but against this column's commitment to publish stories about real people.

Jack said their names didn't matter. It's what they know, that they want told here.

Jack and Brady met at a Clinton's Global Initiative Conference--by invitation only.

The first time they saw each other at the glittering opening reception, they could not look away. Their eyes met as though to steady one another while the earth was moving beneath them. They moved toward one another, their well positioned wives at their sides greeting their Washington friends, but to them it seemed no one else was left in the room.

Their smiles said Its you.... now nothing is the same."

For most who know this is the man I was born to love, these moments are the beginnings that turn into time together, long talks weaving the tapestry of a new life together. The lovers come together and tell their friends, entertain, get away and so it is. That is, unless one of you is a pillar of the conservative community--of the few wealthy enough to not be owned by donors and can transcend politics to implement ground breaking initiatives for global causes and reconciliation; unless, your wives will run for governor and senator next year, your eldest son has an appointment to the Vatican dialogue on complicated issues. One daughter is celebrated writer.

Jack had felt drawn to men off and on in his life, but when you are raised for

public service in the tradition of your family name --you have no choices. These are defined by your lineage.. In his position, Brady had never allowed himself those thoughts. He had studied for the priesthood until he lost his taste for silence and senseless disciplines. He heads an ecumenical foundation for global standards in education of boys--boys first and then women. Both were raised to be world statesmen in their prospective fields, their names in the concrete of university. These were men who had to hold still. Moral integrity moved power and money into place by highly respected men.

Pouring over statistics and budget proposals, It was Jack who said "I think of you often," "I do that too." "I have these talks with you...in my head where I'm somewhere by myself.Wonder what that

is?" "Type A-isms?" "You've got company.

I know...I think of us on a beach...just walking. Peaceful. No staff...phones. Talking."

And so it began. They were globe trotters but they'd come home to the sliver of the texting box and while the others were in the next room. They wrote e-amils, just to talk. When the feelings grew and they knew in their minds they were gravitating into each other, they arranged for a small locked conference room at a major hotel.

"Look, I think I am falling in love with you." "I know.. I am ...in love with you." The relief came brought tears. They knew the answers to all the questions. "We can't." "We can't be together ever."

OUR YEARS OF
LOVING DANGEROUSLY

“Jimmy Carter called today. I mean he knocked out golly worm with our money and diplomacy. We can’t lose our balance..If we cave..and sex starts we lose control of it, make mistakes...get found out. Too many losses. Kids. The work..too much damage. too much pain. We can’t...” We aren’t selfish enough. ” My heart is indifferent to everything before I saw your face—God, that’s awful. What happened..?. It just wants to be with you.” “Mine, to. I’m scared. We have to help each other. What are we going to do? I’m scared of the pain? The work of denial and lying and hiding and longing. It’ll go away if we don’t...touch.” “Will it?”

Lok at me. We’ll retire, we’ll begin to move our lives into place so we can back out—like An affair to remember...

Remember Bette Davis and Paul Henried in Now Voyager?

The small miracle at the back of the room—work and the sliver...

They were offered the co-chairs of Global Gay Justice Initiative. We can’t take this. Yes we can. We’ll work...pour our passion into this. Go to Uganda. Go to where its bad. Start the conversation. Their work continued and they noticed how bright the ideas , came how the energy was charged with this love. The months passed filled with hard work and big wins. The nights, they texted and wrote love



letters at the same time every night while their families and houses were asleep. But after Bengazi and their gay friend Chris was murdered—probably because he was outed on the internet in a muslim state...their love turned a corner, it languished and distracted, pulled and churned in their bodies. They met alone again. This time they stood and held each other. And cried. “I don’t think I can do this.” Jack saw Brady looked tired, drawn, thinner. “I mean the work—I’m..I don’t care anymore...all I think about is...us.” I need to resign... and get away.” “Remember the play Bent...lovers in the concentration camp. Telling each other stories of the their dreams, making love with words standing a yard in a lineup Bent. Brady, you are my heart. I’ll miss you. I won’t be able to...That’s what happens to people like us. They fuck up their lives or they die of broken hearts... nobody wins. Bill Cinton called today. I almost told him...and resigned.

Jack said, “But you didn’t. In a few years we’ll retire. Our kids educated.

Our wives will be able to say we have different interests, chosen not to live on the road. This is not wrong, its early. That’s all. Its not a mistake, it’s just not our turn yet.”

We’ll be old.
We’ll have
finished this
and passed the
torch--We’ll
have choices.
Old men do.
We have to wait,
but we have to
hope.”

I’m not as strong as you are. I live in my house but it feels like I want to go home now.” Then they knew--come home with me in your mind—imagine us, plan us, think us...be together in our constant thoughts,

make a heart space like this little room..transcend the “not now” and love anyway. Celibacy is easy when you are waiting to be with the one you love.”

We can live out of our gratitude, celebrate what we have. If we do this well we can keep it. If we quit we lose seeing each other...the work loses its source of light.

And they did. They sent music, art, wrote wonderful love letters every day. Saw one another at work. They wrote erotic pieces imagining being to together, they met in their beds miles apart at midnight, and made love to each other. They deleted texts and saved love letters in obscure files with no names...they loved each other anyway. They could not be happy together if this love damaged any one or any work. And they carefully waited until the time was right when it would be their turn.

Not long ago, this year Jack and Brady, retired leaving an astounding amount of work that will make a difference in villages, schools, in a hundred places. Safe places for gay people are spinging up everywhere Brady and Jack left their light. They quietly divorced their grateful wives, wished their children well and met in a little town in Northern Washington on the ocean near a forgotten Indian reservation where the poverty is 97%.

They teach school, and are living happily ever after.

Lexington Mayor Jim Gray

Leading by Example

Lexington has long been a leader in LGBT life in Kentucky but recently, the state's second largest city made history by electing the first openly gay mayor. LinQ caught up with Mayor Jim Gray, Here is that conversation.

LinQ:

How do you feel about being Mayor of Lexington at this point in your tenure? Is it what you expected?

Mayor Gray:

I say routinely, even on a bad day, this is a great job.

LinQ:

What has surprised you the most about being Mayor?

Mayor Gray:

How much I've learned, how rewarding the job would be. I've learned more in this job than anytime in my life. I've learned more about people, the good and the bad of human nature; I've seen the potential of a City and how to pull people together to actualize on it; and I've seen a City's problems up close, and learned new ways to solve what looked at first like insurmountable problems.

LinQ:

What accomplishment (s) of your administration are you most proud of?

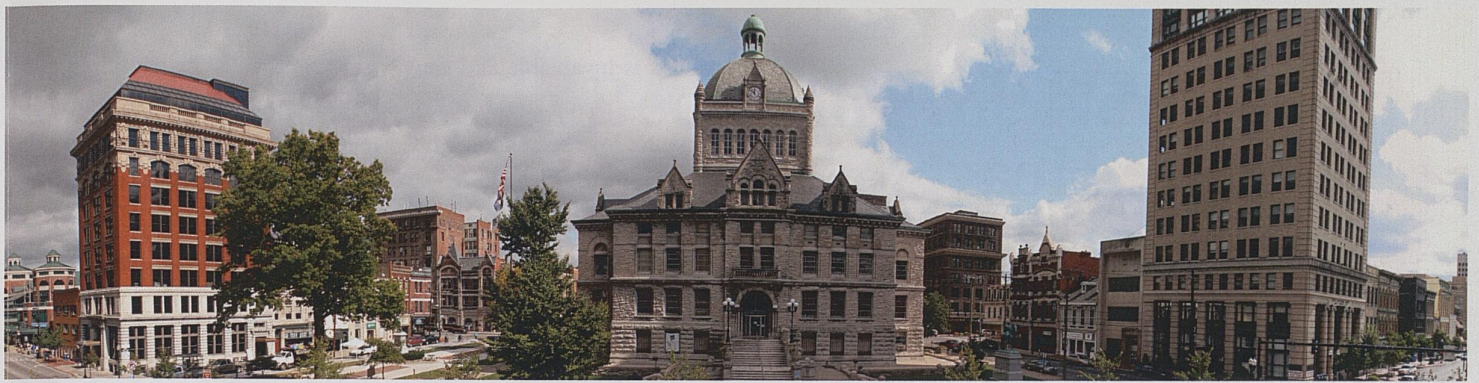
Mayor Gray:

The top goals of my administration have been: Create Jobs; Run Government Efficiently; and Build a Great American City. They're the goals we set together as a community in 2010.

We've made progress, across the board. The city's finances are on solid ground; more people are employed here today than have ever been employed in Lexington since the government started keeping records almost 25 years ago; and our Great American City has an outstanding quality of life thanks to investments we are making in basic services, like police and fire, and in the future.



Lexington Mayor
Jim Gray



Panoramic view of downtown Lexington

from <http://www.flickr.com/photos/rbowen/3971883798/>

LinQ:
What has been your greatest challenge?

Mayor Gray:
In my first two years in office, we had to overcome budget gaps totaling millions. Now, the city's finances are on solid ground thanks to reforms of employee health insurance and pension plans and an ongoing emphasis on efficiency and continuous improvement. Every city in the country is wrestling with employee health insurance and pension costs. Only a few have found pathways and solutions. Lexington is today a beacon for other cities; an example of how to build financial health and strength.

LinQ:
What do you foresee /for the future of Lexington/ Fayette County?

Mayor Gray:
Lexington is a great city on the path to becoming greater. I often tell a story about a young family I met walking home from the Farmer's Market. I had my

UK cap on, thinking I was sort of anonymous. I'm greeted by a young guy and his wife with two little girls. "Hey, under that cap, you're the Mayor, aren't you?" he asks, and then says, "We love Lexington. We moved here 18 months ago from Chicago. We live in Lexington, I work in Winchester, I'm a Human Resources manager. My job is to recruit. When I can get people to come visit us, I bring them into Lexington ... and we recruit them every time."

This story illustrates that Lexington sells itself. Great people, great quality of life, great educational opportunities, an open and welcoming community, a Great American City.

LinQ:
Do you feel you have been treated differently because you are the city's first openly gay mayor?

Mayor Gray:
No. Lexington is a welcoming City with an open and entrepreneurial spirit,

and that's a good thing for everyone, wherever we come from.

LinQ:
How do you feel your tenure as mayor has helped/ aided the LGBT community in Lexington/ Fayette County?

Mayor Gray:
In 2010 Lexington citizens elected an openly gay mayor, without issue. At city hall the Council recently added partner benefits, without issue. Each year we celebrate our diversity during the Pride Festival, without issue. Now each of these may seem like modest steps in the long arc of time, but they've represented big steps for our City in my lifetime.

LinQ:
What do you foresee as future obstacles for the LGBT community in Lexington/ Fayette County?

Mayor Gray:
Tomorrow is a sunnier day for Lexington and the country. Old barriers are

tumbling. This is a remarkable time when, for example, Kentucky towns and cities are passing fairness ordinances like the one Lexington led with in 1999.

LinQ:
Do you have political plans for the future? Other offices? A run for the Governor's office?

Mayor Gray:
I'm challenged and inspired by this job and my focus is on running for mayor.

LinQ:
What do you want our readers to know about you that we do not currently know?

Mayor Gray:
I always recommend a good book and a long hike.

LinQ:
Do you have anything to add? Clarify?

Mayor Gray:
No. Thanks for the opportunity and congratulations on LINQ.

A View from The Heart

By Rev. Marsha J. Moors-Charles

With the December and January holidays now in our rear view mirror, we wait on the next one, Valentine's Day. As a pastor, this holiday brings about as much or more despair. Some of us are fortunate to have loving, committed partners by our side. In many ways, Valentine's Day can be celebrated year round as we are overwhelmed with blessings of sharing our lives with someone who is our best friend, companion, partner, spouse, and lover. So, for all of those readers, Happy Valentine's Day!

Yet, what I see year after year are people who feel an increased loneliness during the month of February; or people who have lost hope; or, worst of all, people who do not feel loved. What becomes apparent to me after talking with these folks is that they have anchored their feelings and/or self-worth on whether or not they have a partner or spouse. I truly understand that longing—I've been there before. Maybe it seems easy for me to give advice since I am fortunate to now share my life with my wife, Brenda. But relying on just one kind of love can be dismantling to our lives, even when that love is amazing.

I advise folks who come to me lonely, depressed, and

void of self-esteem to avoid looking at themselves through the eyes of society—which often says you must be partnered to be happy or you must have a continuous cycle of romantic love to justify your desirability as a person. In my own congregation, there are many single parishioners—gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, and yes, even straight. They are amazing individuals and anyone would be lucky to share their lives! And I have many friends and family members who are single.

Some people are content with being single—sure, if a compatible match for them came along, they would welcome that love connection. But they refuse to let their status as single define them as a person—I admire that! Others appear consumed with being single and conclude that something is wrong with them or otherwise, they would attract a partner.

Spousal and partner love is an incredible gift. Yet, there are other places in which to find meaningful relationships and deep love. Think of the value of friendships. In many cases for the LGBT community, friends are our 'chosen' family, often because our biological families have not accepted us. The love of

friends is invaluable and can fill the gaps of times when romantic love seems to elude us. While some folks have difficult relationships with family members, many more are blessed with embracing love from parents, siblings, and extended family. Then, there is the love from our beloved pets—many of whom we consider family. These four-legged children love us unconditionally and greet us each day as if we are the love of their life—because we are.

As a pastor, one of the greatest blessings in my ministry is to see community in the form of deep and caring relationships within our church family—people tending to one another in times of sickness or grief or loss of job or home or relationship. It moves me to witness genuine acts of self-less caring and love expressed in a variety of ways. I have heard more than once, "I don't know how I would have made it through without my church family". If you haven't found a church family, it's not overrated, trust me. And thankfully, there are many affirming faith communities in Lexington.

All love, regardless of its source, has an ebb and flow—ups and downs. At this time of year especially, when we are bombarded with messages and commercials of perfect love celebrations, it will do us good to remember that love isn't perfect and love comes in many ways. If you are without a romantic love, look around

and give thanks for the other loves in your life. Resist the temptation to define yourself based on whether or not you currently have a partner.

And, no matter where you are on life's journey—whether you have a partner or not; whether you have a loving family or not; whether you have a large circle or friends, a house shared with pets, or a community of faith you call 'home'—there is one love that is ever present in your life. Love at its best is the love of God—who created each one of us uniquely and diversely. It is this same God who seeks to remind us over and over again that we are loved unconditionally and welcomed into relationship.

Through relationship 'tweener' times or estrangements or loss, God's love remains with us and, if we let it, lives through us. Who knows, we might be called to grasp onto God's love in such a way that our outlook and our living gives hope to others who feel unloved. Love at its best is from God—and then is shared as we give thanks for ALL the loves in our own lives. So Happy Valentine's Day, indeed—to ALL of us—ALL of us loved by an inclusive, affirming and embracing God!



Is Russia Becoming the New International Front for LGBT Activism?

By Jonathan George

Unless you live under a rock, you've heard that Russia has declared war; Harvey Fierstein of the New York Times calls it Putin's "war on homosexuals." No gay flags, no gay speeches, no gay pride. Nothing. It's essentially legalized homophobia. Congratulations, my Russian comrades.

The law began to make news in late June of this year not only because of its autonomously jarring nature, but mostly because the Sochi Olympics. For a period of about two weeks, almost every nation in the world will be subject to the will of homophobia in a developed nation. That's kind of a big deal.

According to an article in the Associated Press, Putin "promised" that gay athletes and gay people would feel "at ease" during the Olympics. And although the law will continue to prohibit "propaganda of nontraditional sexual relations," Russia will follow the Fundamental Olympic Charter's Principle 6 and not discriminate. Although if someone is too gay, that person could be fined, jailed, and/or deported. And yes, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) said that

this was not discrimination.

But back to what Putin said, saying that gay people would feel at ease. Ignoring the whole deportation thing, LGBT violence has risen drastically in Russia the past few months. According to Alec Luhn of The Guardian, it is almost as if a shroud of fear has been cast over the former Soviet Russia.

LGBT individuals have been forced into "lives of secrecy" or they face horrible persecution, threats of being attacked, or other acts of "vigilante violence." A young 15-year old Russia describes the situation: "In general, people's attitude here toward LGBT has worsened after long-running homophobic propaganda in the mass media."

Also, a few weeks ago, two men went to a gay club and in Moscow and just started firing gunshots in the open crowd. No one was hurt, but

this could have become a gay Russian Sandy Hook.

I don't know what country Putin was referencing as being welcome.

Overall, Russia just isn't a safe place for gay people. And this uneasiness takes two manifestations: the local issue of violence and discrimination in Russia, and the more widespread oncoming issue with the Olympics.

Groups and individual people have already begun a reactive campaign against the atrocities in regards to the Olympics, tackling the international issue. James Nichols of the Huffington Post reported how a group of Russian athletes posed for a NOH8 Campaign photo. Germany

has also adopted a rainbow uniform. And although they claim, "it's just a fashionable jacket," it's rainbow. It seems pretty fabulous to me. Frank Bruni of the New York Times talked about how there as a movement developing that encourages people to wear P6 on their cloths. This is meant to be a reminder of the IOC's policy against discrimination, defined in Principle 6 of the Olympic Charter.

So it does seem that Russia could turn into a centerpiece of the LGBT movement come February. There is a reaction, which is good, but a reaction to the wrong problem. The label of 'Host of the Olympic Games' has caught the attention of many. The Olympics will most likely sport some protest with some hero(s) championing the issue. For the Olympics. While the world is watching. The real question is what will happen in March, after the Olympics, when governments and other groups have the option to look away. Activism is nice, and I'm sure great feats will come out of the Olympics, but they may not address the literal casualties of Putin's war. How will the war in Russia end?



GLSO Health News

Health Screenings. Part Six in our series of survey results

By Jeffery A. Jones, PhD

On the 2012 Fayette County LGBT Health Assessment we asked our 306 local respondents if they had ever had one of the following health screens. The results are to the right.

Of note: A significant percentage of women have not had a mammogram or pap smear. These women, however, may be too young for such recommended procedures. Further analysis may focus on gaps in health screens among this group.

While all of the handful of transgendered individuals in the study and most of the men have been tested for HIV, a third of women have not. The lack of testing among women likely reflects the perception of lower risk driven by data showing a low prevalence of HIV infections.

Anal pap smears are relatively new. They test for cancerous or pre-cancerous cells linked to anal and/or

penile cancer. Gay/bisexual men are 17 times more likely to develop anal cancer than exclusively heterosexual men. HIV+ gay/bisexual men have even higher rates of anal cancer and are usually more likely to be tested using an anal pap smear through regular checkups with their infectious disease physician.

Read more next month about the Fayette County LGBT Health Assessment.

HIV testing compares to 43.9% among Lexingtonians in general according to an analysis of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Kentucky Department for Public Health's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Data conducted by the University of Kentucky Markey Cancer Control Program and College of Public Health as reported by kentuckyhealthfacts.org.

Health Screens: Ever Been Tested

Mammogram:

- Females: 65.2%
- F2M: 50.0%
- M2F: 20.0%
- Males: 0.0%

Pap Smear:

- Females: 84.3%
- F2M: 75.0%
- M2F: 20.0%
- Males: 0.0%

Anal Pap Smear (for HPV-related cancers):

- Females: 10.5%
- Males: 9.5%
- F2M and M2F: 0.0%

HIV Testing:²

- M2F: 100%
- F2M: 100%
- Male: 94%
- Female: 67%
- Total: 80%

HIV Status: Percentage Positive When Last Tested:

- Male: 13.3%
- Female: 0%
- M2F: 0%
- F2M: 0%

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THINGS WE LIVE FOR

Blue Jasmine



We always knew Cate Blanchett would one day win the Oscar for Best Actress (she won a Supporting Actress Oscar for her dead-on Katherine Hepburn in *Aviator*) but we thought it would be for her channeling of Queen Elizabeth I in the series of films by Michael Hirst. Enter Woody Allen. *Blue Jasmine* is an awe inspiring tale of female strength in the face of life's cruel twists. *Blue Jasmine* is available on DVD. Cate will most likely win a second Oscar on March 2.



LOVE



We love classical music and we love, well, love--SO, it only makes sense we want to hear Lexington Philharmonic's *Tainted Love*, a program featuring Argento's *Valentino Dances*, Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* and Mendelssohn's *Midsummer Night's Dream*. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. Valentine's Day at the Singletary Center for the Arts on the campus of the University of Kentucky.



Lee Daniels



Is the first openly gay African-American film director to receive national attention & to direct major motion pictures (*Monster's Ball*, *Precious*, *The Butler*). Daniels is blazing trails & giving us films that portray human struggles that cross race & sexual orientation lines as never before. This friend of Oprah (thank you girl!) may just be the first African American & openly gay man to win an Oscar for Best Director. What a role model.



Olympic Figure Skating

Weeks before the events, controversy & terrorism (please keep them all safe, we pray) plague the Sochi Olympics & the Figure Skating events. Two-time US Champ Lindsay Wagner, fell to 4th in this year's nationals but still made the team--the last time someone was placed on the team was Nancy Kerrigan 20 years ago (the whack heard round the world--thanks Tonya!) Plus World & US Champion Ice Dancers Davis & White may make history as they are favored for the Gold. The Ladies Champion will be crowned February 20, on NBC.





FEBRUARY CALENDAR

*All meetings are hosted at the GLSO Pride Center
unless otherwise noted*

Saturday, February 1, 2014

10:00am
GSA Advisors
Meeting

7:30pm
TransKentucky Meeting

Sunday, February 2, 2014

6:30pm
Team Lex Volleyball*

Monday, February 3, 2014

6:30pm
GLSO Assessment Committee

8:00pm
AA Meeting hosted by AVOL*

Wednesday, February 5, 2014

7:00pm
LGBT Discussion Group

Thursday, February 6, 2014

6:30pm
GLSO Board Meeting

Friday, February 7, 2014

3:00pm
Outloud! Radio Show

Saturday, February 8, 2014

9:00pm
Kentucky Bourbon Bears Board
Meeting*
Crossings Lexington

Sunday, February 9, 2014

6:00pm
Imperial Court Meeting

6:30pm
Team Lex Volleyball*

Monday, February 10, 2014

8:00pm
AA Meeting hosted by AVOL*

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

6:30pm
PFLAG Meeting*

7:00pm
HIV/AIDS Support Group host-
ed by AVOL*

Wednesday, February 12, 2014

7:00pm
LGBT Discussion Group

Thursday, February 13, 2014

7:00pm
LOVEBoldly

Friday, February 14, 2014

3:00pm
Outloud! Radio Show

Saturday, February 15, 2014

7:00pm
LGBT Movie Night
Sunday, February 16, 2014

6:30pm
Team Lex Volleyball*

9:00pm Dragging for Babies
March of Dimes Fundraiser
Pulse Nightlife *

Monday, February 17, 2014

11:00am Dine to Donate
Carino's Hamburg

6:30pm
GLSO Assessment Committee

8:00pm
AA Meeting hosted by AVOL*

Wednesday, February 19, 2014

7:00pm
LGBT Discussion Group

Thursday, February 20, 2014

Deadline for LinQ

Friday, February 21, 2014

3:00pm
Outloud! Radio Show

7:00pm
Senior's Bistro (Potluck)
GLSO Pride Center

Everyone over 55 is invited. Con-
tact Ginger for more info at
ginger@glso.org.

Sunday, February 23, 2014

6:00pm
Imperial Court Meeting

6:30pm
Team Lex Volleyball*

Monday, February 24, 2014

8:00pm
AA Meeting hosted by AVOL

Wednesday, February 26, 2014

7:00pm
LGBT Discussion Group

Thursday, February 27, 2014

7:00pm LexPride Festival
Committee Meeting

Friday, February 28, 2014

3:00pm
Outloud! Radio Show

* not hosted
at the
Pride Center

*Don't see your
group's events?
contact
editor@glso.org
and we will add you to
our March
Calendar!*



TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

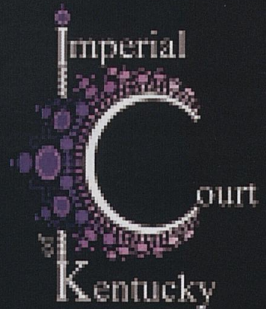
<i>HIV/STD Testing, Services and Information</i>	
AIDS Volunteers of Lexington (AVOL)	859 225 3000
Health Department, Fayette County	859 288 2437
Health Department, Woodford County	859 873 4541
HIV/AIDS Legal Project	502 584 1254
Moveable Feast	859 252 2867
Northern Ky Region	859 341 4264
UK Adolescent Medicine	859 323 5643
<i>Community and Social Groups</i>	
24-Hour Crisis Line	800 929 8000
24-Hour Teen Crisis Line	800 999 9999
Alcoholics Anonymous	859 967 9960
AA/Alcoholic Teens	859 277 1877
Council for Peace and Justice	859 488 1448
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	859 539 3058
Lexington Fairness	859 951 8565
Lexington Human Rights	859 252 4931
Lexington Pride Festival	859 253 3233
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline	1 800 273 8255
PFLAG Lexington	859 338 4393
PFLAG Louisville	502 223 1323

SisterSound	859 806 0243
Social Services, Lexington	211
Speaker's Bureau	859 266 5904
TransKentucky	cassiemt@yahoo.com
Transgender Youth Family Allies	1 888 462 8932
Trevor Lifeline 24/7	1 866 488 7386
United Way	859 313 5465
<i>Religious Groups</i>	
Bluegrass United Church of Christ	859 233 0208
Faith Lutheran Church	859 266 7621
First Presbyterian Church	859 252 1919
Lex Friends, Quakers	859 254 3319
Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church	859 255 1075
St. Martha's Episcopal Church	859 271 7641
Unitarian Universalist Church	859 223 1448
Woodland Christian Church	859 266 3416
<i>College Student Groups</i>	
Berea College ACE	859 958 3633
BCTC Gay-Straight Alliance	859 246 6365
Centre College BGLA	859 238 5332
EKU Alphabet Center	859 622 5041
EKU Pride Alliance	859 622 1027
Morehead State University	606 783 2071
TUnity (Transy)	859 445 3822
UK Gay-Straight Alliance	859 257 8701
UK OutSource	859 323 3312

Don't see your group's telephone number? Contact editor@glso.org and we will include your group in our March issue.



Visit the Imperial Court of Kentucky at
www.imperialcourtkentucky.org
 for more information on all of our events.



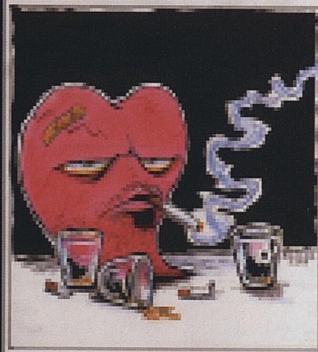
FEBRUARY 8
 BARREL HOUSE
 TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
www.imperialcourtkentucky.org



FEBRUARY 12
 PULSE NIGHTLIFE
 8:30 PM
 \$5 DOOR DONATION



FEBRUARY 14
 CROSSINGS LEXINGTON
 8:30 PM
 \$5 DOOR DONATION



SINGLE AND BITTER

That's right it's Fred Worsham & Clayton Burchell AGAIN!!!

**I GUESS WE'LL DO
 A FEW SHOT SPECIALS**

FEBRUARY 26
 PULSE NIGHTLIFE
 8:30 PM
 \$5 DOOR DONATION

**D
 R
 A
 G
 OLYMPICS**





DINE TO DONATE

Dine at Carino's and 10% of your bill will be donated to

Gay and Lesbian

Services Organization

Present this flyer to your Server on

Monday, February 17, 2014

From: 11:00am to Close



- 2333 Sir Barton Way
 - 135 Rojay Drive
- Curbside To Go Included**

Imperial
Court
of
Kentucky

Mardi Gras Ball

Saturday, March 1st
Women's Club of Central Kentucky
210 N. Broadway
7:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.
Tickets: \$30

Heavy hors d'oeuvre featuring
the flavors of the Bayou
Cash Bar
Silent Auction

Event Entertainment:
University of Kentucky Jazz Ensemble
Imperial Court of Kentucky

Net proceeds to benefit the charities of the Imperial Court of Kentucky