

EGN

Erie Gay News

Calendar

June 2—"BYKOTA": Christian Spirituality group meets 7:00pm Info Julie or Sue at julie.sue@juno.com or call 734-3959.

June 4—PFLAG-Erie meets -TBA 7:00 pm Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Info: Elaine Hill at 864-0184.

June 4—Indigo Girls on *David Letterman* CBS.

June 6—Womynspace: Open Mic Nite!!! "Womynspace is excited to offer an open-mic coffee house — a nite for womyn to showcase their original work or that of another: prose, poetry, dramatic readings, one-act plays, musical instrument, voice, etc. We want to hear *you!* Please join us to share your work and to hear others' in a supportive womyn's space - To participate, and for further info, please contact Helen at 451-0359 or email: aichess@hotmail.com.

June 7—*More Tales of the City* Showtime 9 p.m. Debut of the sequel to Armistead Maupin's San Francisco saga. See Repeating Programs for detailed episode schedule.

June 7—Pittsburgh AIDS Walk 8:30am at Flagstaff Hill in Schenley park. Info PATF 412-242-WALK or <http://trfn.clpgh.org/patf>

June 8—Friends from the Heart Meets 6 pm Well Being Ctr, 710 Beaumont. Info Deb Monohon 838-0123.

June 8—Biography: *Andy Warhol: A Life at the Edge* A&E 8pm, midnight. Profiles the flamboyant and controversial artist, filmmaker & center of a whole cultural milieu.

June 9—Biography: *Tennessee Williams* A&E 8pm, midnight Profiles the gay playwright.

June 9—*Northern Exposure: Mister Sandman* A&E noon, 6pm. A weird atmospheric condition causes the townspeople to swap dreams. Homophobic straightlaced Maurice is humiliated when his dreams end up in Ron's head.

June 9—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets Call Cheryl Weber at 455-3786 for more info.

June 11—Biography: *Truman Capote: The Tiny Terror* A&E 8pm. Profiles the witty and nasty author.

Continued on page 3

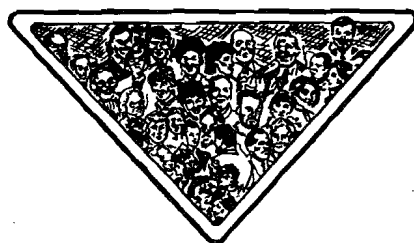


PRIDE

MONTH

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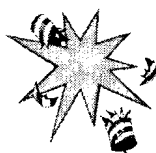


Pride Month Cover by Marilyn Borawski

If you want to reprint...

If you would like to reprint original articles or artwork that appeared in *EGN*, please contact us for permission, and please credit *Erie Gay News*. If an article or illustration contains the author's/creator's name, please credit them as well.

Thanks!



Items to send us in June

June 15— Deadline for info related to July and early August events:
Independence Day, Summer Activities, Picnics, Sporting Events, Christmas in July



c/o EGC Coalition, 1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA 16502-1105
Phone: (814) 456-9833
Fax: (814) 452-1392
Pager: (814) 870-9128
Email: egcn@ncinter.net
Web Site: <http://www.eriegaynews.com/>

The *Erie Gay News* is published monthly as a source of information, support and affirmation for lesbians, bisexuals, gay men and their friends & families in the Erie area.

Contributors: Our deadline is the 15th of the month! We welcome and encourage all readers to submit timely news, comments and opinions of interest to the Erie and surrounding area's LesBiGay community for publication in these pages.

We **STRONGLY** recommend sending SASE for writers' guidelines or at least inquiring of the EGN staff before submitting articles! Please include contact information with any submissions (name, phone, email address, etc.) so we can contact you if we have questions.

We will consider for publication any *nonfiction* article or illustration graphic which broadens our understanding of our lives and each other. We won't publish any material which promotes hatred or discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, race, gender, religion, age, class, physical ability or any other reason. We do not support exploitation of minors.

Views and opinions appearing in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of EGN staff.

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Thanks for the May issue collators!

Thanks to Paul Grubbs, Marilyn Borawski, Laurie Tapper, Rick Blair, Jerry McCumber, Neal, Sharon, Greg Knowles, Ron Reed, Richard, and Dave Mulholland, and Bernie Bright for helping us to collate the most recent issue of *EGN*!

If you would like to volunteer, please give us a call at 456-9833. You needn't feel obligated to become a regular or even to stay from start to finish. *Any help is always appreciated!*

June 12-14—Broadway Nights at Jones Pond (Angelica NY) "Puttin' On the Hits. Lip Sync Contest. 567-8100"

June 13—Pride Erie Picnic At Presque Isle State Park, Beach 11 Pavilion. Begins with games at 11 am, Family Portrait at 4 pm For information, see article page 10 or call Michael at 456-9833 or email egcn@ncinter.net.

June 13—Menspace NOT MEETING Join us at the Pride Erie Picnic at Presque Isle

June 14—Storytellers: Culture Club Premieres on VH-1 at 7 p.m., in conjunction with the reunited Culture Club's summer tour.

June 17—The Castro 9:30pm. WNED (PBS-Buff. Ch. 17). Documentary shows how this working-class neighborhood in San Francisco became a gay community and symbol of liberation.

June 17—Coming Out Under Fire 11 p.m. WNED (PBS-Buff. Ch. 17). Well-done documentary that examines how the armed forces treated gay men and lesbians during and after World War II.

June 18—Ani DiFranco (Buffalo NY) Artpark, Lewiston NY. 716-800-659-PARK

June 18—Law & Order: The Reaper's Helper A&E 11pm. "Greevey and Logan probe the mysterious death of a gay man who had AIDS—was it a mercy killing or murder?"—A&E

June 19—In the Life (Erie) 10pm WQLN (PBS-Erie/Ch. 54) Episode is called "American as Apple Pie." See details page 6.

June 19-21—LandFest (Holmes Co. OH) Primitive camping, lesbians, woman-centered. 330-387-2481.

June 19-21—Jones Pond: Spring Into Summer "Gazebo Ice Cream Social. 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica NY (716) 567-8100"

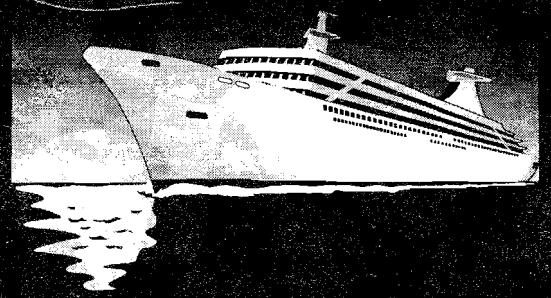
June 20—Elton John, Billy Joel: Face to Face: In Vienna On HBO. 9pm.

June 20—Gay Pride Potluck Dinner: 10% Network (Jamestown NY) Bring a dish to pass and something to drink. Bring games, cards, etc for after dinner. 7 pm at Unitarian Church 1255 Prendergast Avenue. Info: John at 716-484-7285.

June 20—Mysteries of the Bible: Cities of Evil: Sodom and Gomorrah A&E 4pm "Are the twin cities of Bab Edhra and Numeira the cities of sin destroyed by God? The program probes the archaeological evidence and also studies the view, held by some scholars, that the cities were destroyed in wars between rival kingdoms." —A&E

June 21—Gay Day at Cedar Point (near Sandusky OH) Unofficial event, wear red or rainbow colors.

Pittsburgh Three Rivers Cruise



Sunday, July 5th

Boarding time 5:30 PM

Leaves 6 until 9:30 PM

Tickets:

\$15 in advance

(available at Scapers,

2508 Peach St, Erie PA

and all Pittsburgh local bars)

\$20 (if available!) at the boat.

Sponsored by Pittsburgh Tavern Guild

June 22—Pink Ribbon Tournament to Fight Breast Cancer (Edinboro PA) Culbertson Hills Golf Course. To raise money and awareness for breast cancer awareness. Amateur tournament, all scramble format, sponsored by the American Cancer Society. 866-5077.

June 22—Summer Solstice at UU 7:30 PM. Pagan holiday celebrated by lesbigay/trans-friendly Coven of Brigidshaven at Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Wear green, bring a drinking vessel for the ritual and a dish for the potluck feast following. Contact Sharon at medhbh@velocity.net for more info.

June 22—Northern Exposure: I Feel the Earth Move Ron and Erick's wedding is featured. A&E noon, 6pm.

June 23—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets Call Cheryl Weber at 455-3786 for more info.

June 23—"BYKOTA": Christian Spirituality group meets 7:00pm Info Julie or Sue at julie.sue@juno.com or ph. 734-3959.

June 26-July 3—Jones Pond: V-A-C-A-T-I-O-N Week "Day Trips. Disco fever night 6/26. 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica NY (716) 567-8100"

June 26-27—Johnny Mathis in Pittsburgh Heinz Hall 412-392-4900.

June 26, 27, 28—Softball: Women's Fastpitch and Girl's 17 & Under Invitational Fastpitch All games at 11th & 12th & Hess, in Erie. Sat. 8am-11 pm, Sundays 9 am-4 pm.

June 27—Austin City Limits: Indigo Girls/Kim Richey 8 p.m. WQLN (PBS-Erie/Ch.54).

June 27—Ani DiFranco in Pittsburgh IC Light Auditorium 800-628-5971.

June 27—National HIV Testing Day

June 29—Golden Girls: Scared Straight Lifetime 5:30pm. Blanche's gay brother comes for a visit.

July 1—Intimate Portrait: Judith Light Lifetime (check listings for times). Profiles the actress and activist (best known from *Who's the Boss?*). "...focuses on the amazing work Light does for lesbian and gay equal rights and AIDS/HIV issues..."—GLAAD

July 2—Mary Chapin Carpenter (Buffalo area) Artpark 800-659-PARK.

July 2—PFLAG-Erie meets TBA 7:00 pm Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Info: Elaine Hill at 864-0184.

July 2-5—Jones Pond: 4th of July "300 Block Independence Day Party. (716) 567-8100"

July 3—Mary Chapin Carpenter (Chautauqua) For reservations, call 716-357-6250.

July 4—Happy Independence Day

July 4—Womynspace: NO MEETING "See you in September! For further info, please contact Helen at 451-0359 or email: aichess@hotmail.com."

July 5—Pittsburgh 3 Rivers Cruise (Pittsburgh PA) See ad page 3. Boarding time 5:30 PM. Leaves 6 until 9:30 PM. Tickets are \$15 in advance, available at Scapers, 2509 Peach St, Erie PA and all Pittsburgh local bars, \$20 (if available!) at the boat. Sponsored by Pittsburgh Tavern Guild. Reservations are recommended.

July 7—"BYKOTA": Christian Spirituality group meets 7:00pm Info Julie or Sue at julie.sue@juno.com or call 734-3959.

July 10-12—Jones Pond: Animal House "Toga Party. 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica NY (716) 567-8100"

July 11—10% Network Picnic(Cassadagua, NY) 4 pm at Neal's home, 3251 Burnham Rd in Cassadagua, NY. Bring a dish to pass, beverage, table settings and games. Neal has a grill and will be supplying hot dogs and rolls. For info or directions, call Neal at (716) 679-7731.

July 11—Menspace: TBA At da Mikes. Call Michael at 456-9833 or email egcn@ncinter.net

July 11—Janet Jackson in concert (Cleveland) Gund Arena.

July 13—Friends from the Heart Meets 6 pm Well Being Ctr, 710 Beaumont. Info Deb Monohon 838-0123.

July 14—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets Call Cheryl Weber at 455-3786 for more info.

July 17-19—Jones Pond: Nude Naturists "Mud and Body Painting Olympics 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica NY (716) 567-8100"

The Victorian City Salon

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July 18—Ganewongo gathering (Westfield NY) Annual Radical Faerie (pagan gay males) gathering. More details next month.

July 18 & 19—Softball: Women's State Modified 1-Women's 2- Men's. All games at 11th & 12th & Hess, Erie. Saturdays 8am to 11 pm, Sundays 9 am to 4 pm.

July 19—Dancin' in the Streets (Cleveland) 216-621-0766. Fundraiser for AIDS Task Force of Cleveland. Outdoor party at Mall B in downtown Cleveland—dancing, entertainment, food. Proper ID required.

July 21—"BYKOTA": Christian Spirituality group meets 7:00pm Info Julie or Sue at julie.sue@juno.com or call 734-3959.

July 24-26—Jones Pond: Winter Solstice "Christmas Illumination Parade 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica NY (716) 567-8100"

July 25—PFLAG-DuBois Picnic (DuBois PA) "Picnic and socialize with PFLAG members and supporters. Rain date July 26. Details and location information (814) 371-8962 or email pflagdubois@key-net.net

July 28—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets Call Cheryl Weber at 455-3786 for more info.

July 31-Aug 3—Jones Pond: Can/Am Brotherhood "Taste of Jones Pond, Stage Show 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica NY (716) 567-8100"

Aug 1-2—Buddies 10th Annual Summer Festival (Buffalo) Buddies Bar 31 Johnson Park. Casino games, entertainment, food, raffle, dancing. This year they're also working to make it more "kid-friendly" (details next month). Also new: First Annual Festival of Gay & Lesbian Artists and Crafters (see "Entertainment Notes"). This event raises a lot of money for AIDS Community Services of WNY. Info: 716-855-1313.

Aug 1—Womynspace: NO MEETING "See you in September! For further info, please contact Helen at 451-0359 or email: aichess@hotmail.com."

Aug 4—Lughnassaadh at UU 7:30 pm. Pagan holiday celebrated by lesbian/trans-friendly Coven of Brighidshaven at Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Wear green, bring a drinking vessel for the ritual and a dish to pass for the potluck feast following. Info: Contact Sharon at medhbh@velocity.net

Aug 15—Janis Ian (Cleveland) Cain Park.

VISIT OUR NEW WEB SITE AT
[HTTP://ERIEGAYNEWS.COM/](http://eriegaynews.com/)

Show your Erie pride

10% of the sales of
Erie pride T-Shirts in
June will be donated to
the Erie Community Pride
Organization for the October Rally



Closed Sat. June 13
for Pride Picnic

Closed
June 18-21

Erie's Premier
Gay and Lesbian
Gift Shop

Thurs-Fri
5p.m. - 9p.m.
Saturday
12p.m. - 8p.m.
Sunday
12p.m. - 5:30p.m.

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(814) 456-7002
SCAPERS@AOL.COM

SCAPERS
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Repeating programs

Armistead Maupin's More Tales of the City Showtime 6/7 9pm. That's the simplest way to tell you how to catch this miniseries about San Francisco in the 1970's. But here are the dates for each episode (thanks to Michael for excavating this stuff from Showtime's dense program listings):

#1: 6/1 at 11 pm, 6/7 at 9 pm, 6/9 at 10 pm.

#2: 6/1 at 11:45 pm, 6/7 at 9:45 pm, 6/16 at 10 pm.

#3: 6/2 at 11 pm, 6/7 at 10:30 pm, 6/23 at 10 pm.

#4: 6/2 at 11:45 pm, 6/8 at 9 pm. 6/30 at 10 pm.

#5: 6/3 at 11 pm., 6/8 at 9:45 pm..

#6: 6/4 at 11 pm, 6/8 at 10:30 pm.

Definitely check these against local listings or <http://www.showtimeonline.com> for more info.

New York Times Documentary Showtime 6/7 11:30pm, 6/9 10:45pm. Investigates various television issues, one of which is the portrayal of gays and lesbians in entertainment.

Party Monster (1998) Cinemax 6/19 midnight, 6/27 3:50am. Documentary story about gay club boy Michael Alig, who was convicted of killing a drug dealer.

Festivals and conferences

Aug 1-Aug 8—Gay Games V (Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

Info: Web site: www.dds.nl/gaygames, phone: 011-31-20-620-1998 email: info@gaygames or write: Box 2837 1000CV, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Always check program times against your local listings.



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In the Life

Episode #705 "American as Apple Pie"

from Candace Taylor, WNET

For this second annual "American as Apple Pie" episode, In the Life looks at gay participation in some of the most conservative social institutions in American society. Some of the stories will include:

Politics: In this segment, we will map a shifting focus in the gay civil rights movement, while illustrating how far the gay community has come in the eyes of the law and how far there is to go.

Family: Meet Gair Bridges and Ron Travis, a gay couple from Eldora, Iowa, who received that city's Foster Parents of the Year award for their commitment to eighteen children they've cared for and loved over the years.

A Day in the Life of Virginia Apuzzo: For thirty years Ms. Apuzzo has been one of the gay rights movement's most visible activists, and now as Assistant to the President for Management and Administration, she is the highest ranking openly gay official to serve in the federal government.

Entertainment: A profile of Fenton Bailey and Randy Barbato, creators of the independent production company, World of Wonder. This media savvy team has a knack for turning gay alternative images and artists into mainstream phenomena.

Religion: This story will track several religions in their efforts to affirm or deny their congregations' gay and lesbian members.

Awards: This segment takes a look at how gay not-for-profit organizations have taken the tradition of award programs and made it their own.

In the Life dates

Dates for area PBS affiliates. Mark the date as a reminder.

Western NY (WNET.Channel 17) several dates:

June 2 10pm episode #705

June 9 10pm episode #703

June 16 10pm episode #704

ERIE PA (WQLN) June 19 10pm episode #705.

Pittsburgh (WQED) July 17 11 p.m. Episode #705.

Special upcoming edition for Erie's first Pride Rally

We are very excited by the plans for Erie's first Pride Rally on Saturday, October 10 from noon to 4 PM in Perry Square. This has the potential of creating an unprecedented change in how the greater community perceives local lesbian people and how we perceive ourselves.

In celebration of this, *Erie Gay News* is planning a special expanded edition for October. We are planning on printing an expanded edition of our Resource Directory and will run additional copies, because we will probably be able to reach some people who may not have been in touch with our community previously.

To finance this, we're going to need your help. We are going to offer special ads for people who would like to celebrate with us. Display ads start at just \$25 (\$22.50 with the prepay discount.) In addition to our normal ads, we will be offering \$15 for 25 words or less "Happy ads" that are plain text. Contact us at (814) 456-9833, email to egcn@ncinter.net or write us at 1115 W 7th St, Erie PA 16502-1105. Not only will you be making a statement, you will be helping make others more aware of our community.

Because of our publishing deadlines, we need to receive all ad copy/submissions be absolutely no later than September 10th. All checks should be made payable to "EGC Coalition"

See you in Perry Square on Saturday, October 10th!

Suite
204
LE SALON
233 W 8TH
454-4691

Resource/ Distribution update

Erie Gay News is conducting its annual update of distributors and groups/resources and has mailed out forms. If you are aware of places where newsletters are needed, or where there are too many or too few distributed, please let us know.

We are also trying to make sure that all the information about the groups and resources in our Resource Directory is correct. If you are aware of a change, or something that is missing or no longer active, please let us know. Others might really benefit from your help!

We had asked that all updates be returned by June 5th. We will still accept them if they come back later, but please don't give them to us at the Pride Picnic on June 13, as we are expecting we'll be rather preoccupied!

Thanks!

Remember our deadline is June 15

Free HIV Counseling and Testing
Call The AIDS Factline
1-800-662-6080

- New treatment advances make it more important than ever to get tested
- The earlier you get tested – the sooner you can get help
- If you are sexually active or if you share needles, you could be at risk for HIV
- Call the Factline for a free and confidential test site near you

**BE POSITIVE YOU'RE
NOT POSITIVE**

Funded by the PA. Department of Health, Division of HIV/AIDS

Michael dithers

by Michael Mahler

Well, I am certainly looking forward to the Pride Picnic this month! It should be even better than last year and the Pride Rally this October is shaping up to be exciting indeed!

I had a very nice time over at my mom's for her birthday (which is also the anniversary of Hitler's suicide—let's just say that my family has a macabre sense of humor.) My grandfather said that he was sorry his other grandson wasn't able to join us. At first I thought he meant my younger brother, who had to work that night, but I realized that he meant Micheal! My mom gave Grandpa her old computer, and so he is now getting online for the first time at the tender age of 85. Trying new stuff is fun!


Micheal and I were interviewed recently about the Erie Times-News decision to finally allow lesbigay people the same access to run personals that straight people have always had. It was Micheal's first time speaking on camera as a gay person. He wasn't technically out at work, but figures that folks were probably aware.

We have this running gag about being "way too married." When TV-35 showed up to tape us, we went directly into the back yard. It was a nice day and Micheal has been doing fantastic things with the garden. When we watched the news that night, we noticed that they used (twice each), our wedding picture and a picture from our first Yule together. It was then we realized that the Grandmaster Champion status for being "way too married" is when your wedding pictures become stock photos at a local news station. I guess we really got our money's worth out of those!

Rascals

701 NORTH MAIN STREET
JAMESTOWN, NY 14701
(716) 484-3220

Open 3pm to 2am 7 days a week!
DJ Fri & Sat, Happy Hour 3-9 M-F,
50¢ draft, 25¢ off mixed drinks



Local news

The Erie Sisters Club

by Kara

The April meeting of the Erie Sisters Club was an out meeting. We all went to Tapas for the first time. Although several were disappointed that Clemens did not have French Onion Soup on the menu, members still rated the food Four Star. The atmosphere was very trendy and the service was excellent. But the highlight of our time there was when Clemens played Happy Birthday to Jane, on a saw. Not only is he an excellent chef, he's also a talented musician! And Clemens, I'm still wondering. Have you cooked for that little cutie yet?

After our time ended at Tapas, we all headed up to Papa Nick's new bar, The Village. Club members had many good comments about Papa Nick's. We all enjoyed ourselves immensely, dancing and having good conversation with friends.

Erie Sisters is a club for Cross Dressers, their spouses/significant others, family and friends. Our meetings are held the 4th Sat of the month. On odd months, we have our meeting at a local church and on even months, we go out to eat.

For more info, email Diane at esc@mail.csonline.net, or Kara at gustibizzarri@usachoice.net. You can also write to Pam at the following address: ERIE SISTERS, 1903 West Eighth St., Suite 261, Erie, PA 16505.

New LGLV-Erie email address

Please note that if you are emailing LGLV-Erie or Dave Mulholland, the new email address is lglerie@aol.com. The old email on North Coast is no longer active.

Condolences

Condolences to Pete from Menspace on the recent death of his mother and to John of the 10% Network on the death of his father.

Note our new mailing address:
Erie Gay News
1115 West 7th Street
Erie PA 16502-1105

Entertainment notes

by Deb Spilko

On June 7, Showtime will debut the long-awaited **More Tales of the City** miniseries, the second installment of Armistead Maupin's saga of San Francisco in the 1970's and 1980's.

While waiting for the **Ellen** finale on May 13, I caught **Dharma & Greg**, and another example of gay-straight double standards. In the **Dharma & Greg** episode, Dharma (or whatever her name is) has a contest with her friend to see who can have the most outrageous public sex with their guys. I can just imagine what would have happened if that story line had been pitched for **Ellen**. There's been a lot of discussion generated about the cancellation of **Ellen**.... a new writer (Claire) and myself put in our own diverging two cents worth elsewhere in this issue.

If you like traditional jazz and blues, check out the **Solitaire Miles Trio** at Hoppers Brew Pub in Union Station. Solitaire is a really cool ally and a very talented vocalist. The trio will be performing every Friday night throughout the summer.

In conjunction with Buddies Summer Fest, artists can sell their wares at **The First Annual Festival of Gay & Lesbian Artists and Crafters** to be held in Johnson Park, Buffalo, Saturday and Sunday, August 1 and 2 from 11am-6pm. For an application or more information, please call 716-881-6126 after 5PM, ask for Frank, or you can write for an application to Rainbow Pride Gift Shop, 266 Elmwood Avenue, #233, Buffalo, NY 14222. Deadline is July 15, 1998. This event is being sponsored by **Artvoice**, Buddies and Rainbow Pride Gift Shop.



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The Erie Playhouse will be presenting **Some Like it Hot** in June, a musical comedy about two men who are hiding from the mob and decide to dress as women and join an all-female band. It stars Ben Agresti, Charles Corritore and Patty Corella. Info 454-2852. The play runs between June 11 and June 27.

Jane Chambers' lesbian drama **Last Summer at Bluefish Cove** opens at Directors' Circle July 16. I'll remind you again next month.

Ally Sheedy's new film **High Art** is released in June. She plays an unsuccessful photographer with a junkie girlfriend, and Ally really does it on camera. "May not make it to Erie" as **Showcase's** Floyd Lawrence wryly remarked.

Randy from Warren is organizing a road trip to Pittsburgh to catch the Sunday, August 2 matinee performance of the musical **On The Town** at the Benedum Center. He suggests, "Who could resist cute young men dancing in pristine sailor uniforms?" Ticket prices for the Second Tier are \$24.95 each. There would be an additional split cost for van/bus. The route and some other details are up for discussion. If you're interested, give Randy a call at (814) 489-5497.

Let's Talk!



Are you thinking about your dream house, but don't know how to start? Give me a call; I can represent you as a buyers agent, and help you with the whole process!

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Area Pride Month events

Erie area Pride '98

by Picnic Organizing Committee

Saturday June 13 Pride Picnic. Picnic will be held at Presque Isle State Park at Beach 11 from 2 pm until sundown. Beach 11 is an uncrowded picnic and beach area (the beach is guarded). A picnic shelter has been reserved. If you are not sure of where Beach 11 is, stop at the Park's Administration office (near Beach 6). Also, signs will be posted throughout the park.

Hot dogs, hamburgers and beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass. Paper plates and plastic silverware will be available. Donations will be most gratefully accepted!

As always, straight friends and families are most heartily welcome! Feel free to bring your children or parents, but parents are responsible for taking care of their children. (There is playground equipment near the shelter.)

We'll begin at 2 pm with games (including the perennial favorite, volleyball.). The annual Family Portrait will be taken promptly at 4 pm and anyone who wants can be in the picture or not. We will be publishing the picture in the August issue of *Erie Gay News* and on our web site. After the Family Portrait, we'll be choosing the new logo for ECPO (see article in last month's issue or use contact info for volunteers).

We will have a literature table and also a book exchange. Bring lawn chairs, blankets, rollerblades and sunscreen. Volunteers are asked to help with clean up, cook and set up. If you would like to volunteer, call Michael at (814) 456-9833 or email egcn@ncinter.net

Because of state law, alcohol and sales by outside vendors are not permitted. Please respect this.

Sunday June 14 Second Annual Interfaith Pride Service. At the Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. The service begins at 10:30 AM.

For more information, contact Michael Mahler, 1115 W 7th St, Erie PA 16502-1105, phone (814)456-9833, Fax: (814)452-1392, E-Mail: egcn@ncinter.net Web: http://eriegaynews.com/pride_98.html

Rainbow Pride Gift Shop

Now with 2 locations to serve you better.
175 Hodge Ave. at Elmwood - 881-8126
31 Johnson Park in Buddies - 855-0222

Hours:	Hodge Avenue	Buddies
Sun.	Noon to 5:00	Closed
Mon.	Closed	Closed
Tues.	5:00 to 9:00	5:00 to 2:00
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Tuesday; June 16 First Annual Pride Run. Buffalo Frontrunners invites all comers to Delaware Park for exercise, fresh air and fun. 6:30 p.m. Free.

Thursday, June 18 Pride Variety Show. Music, drag, theater and more... local favorites... and your host, Vicky Vogue. Doors open: 7:00 p.m. Showtime: 7:30pm New Phoenix Theatre On The Park 95 N. Johnson Park. Free.

Friday; June 19 ESPA Pride Dance. At Club Marcella Theater Place, 622 Main St. Break a sweat for Pride '98. Sponsored by Empire State Pride Agenda. Cosponsors: Imperial Court Of Buffalo, Club Marcella & Lambda Business Club. Media cosponsor: Outcome.

Saturday; June 20 Pride Parade & Rally *Parade:* Meet and register at American Red Cross, corner of Summer at 11:00 am. Parade steps off at 1:00 pm. heads to Lafayette Square. *Pride Rally:* Immediately after the parade,

there will be speakers, entertainment, refreshments and vendors in Lafayette Square. Approximately 2pm - 4pm
June 20 Shades Pride Dance. Shades, this region's organization for lesbians of color, invites everyone to this high energy event. Live D.J.s and a free buffet are only part of the fun. Plan to stay late. Hamlin House 432 Franklin Street \$7 in advance; \$10 at the door. 716-882-7373.

Sunday June 21 Pride: A Celebration Of Spirit "Pride is a personal accomplishment of a spiritual nature. Our service joyously emphasizes unity even as we appreciate our differences. Our guests will include speakers who honor our pride from the perspective of their own faith communities. Songs... traditional and modern... that celebrate strength Music will be performed by The Pride Choir. This service is one way to include straight friends and family in your pride weekend." 10:30 a.m. Temple Beth Zion, 805 Delaware Avenue.

Sunday June 21 Softball Game & Picnic. Queen City Softball League starts up its days play at 12:30. Bring dishes to pass around and your favorite beverage. The grill gets going after the final inning, about 2pm. Front Park, at the foot of Porter Avenue, near the entrance to the Peace Bridge.

Events and schedule current as of 5/20/98; subject to change.

Pittsburgh PridesFest '98

Saturday June 20 Parade & Festival. Parade lines up at Westminster Place. Step-off noon, march through Shadyside to Mellon Park, then the festival of celebration, live entertainment, community groups, beverages, vendors, and education begins at 1:30p.m. That's the information we have right now; pick up a June copy of *Planet Q* or *Out* for further details. Info 412-422-3060, email trp@trfn.cipgh.org Web: <http://trfn.cipgh.org/trp/> Interpreted for deaf.

Cleveland Pride Parade

Saturday June 27 Parade & Festival. Voinovich Park next to Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. Parade assembles at 22nd & Euclid (near E. 21st) at 12:30, rally 1pm, 2pm step off. Festival at Voinovich Park (next to Rock & Roll Hall of Fame): 1pm-7pm music, dancing, food court, drink, entertainment, 90 vendors, beer garden. Wheelchair accessible, many events sign-interpreted. Rain or shine. Info <http://members.aol.com/clevepride/join.htm> or email clevepride@aol.com.

By the way, Dave Mulholland is considering getting together a group of Erie area people to march in the Cleveland parade. If you are interested, contact him at 898-4210 or lgilverie@aol.com

Pride Toronto 98 "MegaPride"

June 23-26 various lead-up events.

June 27 & 28 Parade & Festival contact them for further information. <http://www.torontopride.com/> or 416-92-PRIDE. Toronto Pride claims they have "North America's largest pride parade."

Also: Buffalo's SHADES Women of Color organization will be heading to the Toronto Pride parade by bus on June 28, in case you'd like to travel with a fun group of women. SHADES bus trip info: 716-882-7373

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Tamoxifen can *prevent* breast cancer

by Breast Cancer Awareness

Six years after its inception, the Breast Cancer Prevention Trial (BCPT) shows a **45 percent** reduction in breast cancer incidence among the high-risk participants who took tamoxifen (Nolvadex), a drug used for the past two decades to treat breast cancer. As a result, investigators released the initial study results about 14 months earlier than expected. They also notified the 13,388 women participants of the findings so those women who had been taking the placebo could consider starting tamoxifen therapy after consulting with their personal physicians. Participants will continue to be followed by the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project (NSABP), the Pittsburgh-based research network that conducted the trial with support from the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

In this trial, healthy women assigned to take tamoxifen developed 85 cases of invasive breast cancer compared to 154 cases in the women assigned to the placebo. Tamoxifen did increase the women's chances of three rare but life-threatening health problems: there were

33 cases of endometrial cancer (cancer of the lining of the uterus) in the tamoxifen group versus 14 cases in the placebo group; there were 17 cases of pulmonary embolism (blood clot in the lung) in the tamoxifen group versus 6 cases in the placebo group; and there were 30 cases of deep vein thrombosis (blood clots in major veins) in the tamoxifen group versus 19 cases in the placebo group. Among these women at increased risk for breast cancer, women under age 50 appeared to suffer no excess risk of adverse effects from use of tamoxifen.

Only women at increased risk for developing breast cancer participated in the study. Because the risk of breast cancer increases with age, women 60 years of age and older qualified to participate based on age alone. Women between the ages of 35 and 59 who demonstrated an increased risk of breast cancer equivalent to or greater than that of an average 60-year-old woman were also eligible. This breast cancer risk was determined by a computer calculation based on the following factors:

Number of first-degree relatives (mother, daughters, or sisters) diagnosed as having breast cancer;

Whether a woman had any children and her age at her first delivery;

The number of times a woman had breast lumps biopsied, especially if the tissue was shown to have a condition known as atypical hyperplasia;

The woman's age at her first menstrual period;

And whether a woman has had a type of non-invasive breast cancer known as lobular carcinoma in situ.

Women who are at increased risk of breast cancer now have the option to consider taking tamoxifen to reduce their chances of developing breast cancer. As with any medical procedure or intervention, the decision to take tamoxifen is an individual one in which the benefits and risks of the therapy must be considered. The balance of these benefits and risks will vary depending on a woman's personal health history and how she weighs the benefits and risks. Therefore even if a woman is at increased risk of breast cancer, tamoxifen therapy may not be appropriate for her. **Women who are considering tamoxifen therapy should talk with their health care provider.**

A fact sheet discussing the initial results of the BCPT can be obtained by calling the Cancer Information Service at 1-800-4CANCER.

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After the shootings...

Edinboro recording artist Greg Ropp has been deeply affected by the Andrew Wurst shooting. His band was recording a song about the Jonesboro shootings on the April night that Wurst fired into Nick's Grove. The day after, the group cancelled an appearance in a gesture of mourning. In the aftermath, Ropp became involved in the discussions and counseling of the town's traumatized young people. He sent this email around to his friends and has given permission for it to be reprinted here. Greg says his band will keep its name, but he is aware that there is now a sad irony about a band called Five Empty Chambers, hailing from a town that most people now associate with this tragic shooting incident. There is nothing particularly gay about his message, just some touching thoughts on shared humanity...

—D.S.

by Greg Ropp

May 5, 1998—Edinboro

Twelve days later...

A little town begins to return to normal, or at least it appears to be doing so. The media whores are gone. CBS, NBC, ABC, FOX, CNN, *Hardcopy*, *20/20*, *Good Morning America*, *Headline News*... they've all forgotten about Edinboro, Pennsylvania already.

Children are riding their bikes through town again... the fishermen have returned... the white ribbons are slowly but surely being removed from the doors of local businesses... John Gillette is buried in the ground... Andy Wurst is behind bars, awaiting word of his fate...

On Friday, April 24th, at approximately 9:30pm, Andy Wurst shot and killed teacher John Gillette, shooting him first in the face with a 25 caliber handgun, and then once, fatally, in the back, where the bullet struck his heart. My friend, Justin Fletcher, pleaded with him to stop. "Shoot me, don't shoot them" he cried, and Andy did. By some miracle, the bullet passed through the sleeve of his shirt and struck a boy behind him in the leg. More shots were fired... five in all... One person dead, three wounded at an eighth grade dance.

Within hours the media descended upon us. Edinboro was famous.

They interviewed the kids, the parents, the cops... they said that local business owner Jimmy Strand was a hero... after all it was he who grabbed a shotgun from his house and stopped Andy from doing anymore damage...

Andy Wurst was whisked away to prison where he will be tried as an adult.

In the days that followed tears flowed... people hugged strangers... people talked and cried together... everyone... every single person in this town, was effected by this event. There is no way to describe the feeling to an outsider, no way to find the proper words to make one understand... it was like the bullet from that gun had wounded each and everyone of us... and scarred us for life...

I attended the viewing of Mr. Gillette, who I had last seen 15 years ago, when I had him for a class back in High School. Surprisingly, he had an open casket, but he looked peaceful... not much different than when I had last seen him. The scene at the funeral home was weird. I had to be escorted into the home by State Troopers, who successfully kept the media at bay throughout the day... hundreds of people came to pay their final respects, some in suits and ties, some in baggy jeans and tee shirts, some in overalls...

The next day I attended a memorial at the local college with a young friend of mine. Over 4,000 people

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showed up, some of whom had never even met John Gillette, but who came to grieve with us... it was during the Mass that I realized the impact of this tragedy. We had all lost something... something very, very precious to us... our innocence... our direction... our balance...

My young friend slumped his arm around my shoulder and everyone cried. At the end of the Mass, 4,000 people exited in silence from the building into the glare of the noontday sun and TV cameras and newspaper reporters... there must of been a camera for every person attending. It was a circus... A sick and demented circus... We went to the graveyard... John Gillette was laid to rest.

Since then, Edinboro has begun to heal, but nothing here will ever be the same again. Paranoia now rules the roost... rumors of Satanic cults are flourishing... cops are making themselves quite visible... the tension is almost unbearable at times...there is a strange vibe in the air. Though the kids are again riding their bikes through town, the fishermen are back at the pier, and the ribbons are now being removed... there is a still a feeling of death in the air. The death of a little nowhere town, in the middle of nowhere, Pennsylvania... The town that me and my buddies once cruised around in. The town where I lost my virginity, smoked my first joint... the town where I first fell in love, and suffered my first broken heart... my town. My hometown. A little speck on the map... We've lost ourselves out here...

As corny as it sounds, please let what happened here be an example for all of you. A chance to re-evaluate your own lives. There's way to much hate in this world. Not enough love... not enough time...

Peace,
Greg


Crossdressers and gays: common ground?

by Lisa Kelly

Please allow me to introduce myself, Hello my name is Lisa Kelly, current president of the Erie Sisters and, we are a support/social group for cross dressers of any gender or sexual orientation. My reason for writing this article is that I hope for better understanding between members of the gay community and that of the transgender community. Personally I believe we may have more in common than many of both groups may realize. Are we the same? No. Are we lumped together by "normal" society's preconceptions? Yes, we are. Most of society is not educated or aware enough to realize that a man in a dress is not necessarily gay. Most cross dressers are heterosexual. Many are married and have children. But oh my, what a little secret we've been hiding from the wife and kids! So a lot of us are hiding alone in the closet, ashamed of what we are, which is something that is part what we are, that we can not change. No matter how much we've tried. Time and time again. Groups such as Erie Sisters are the first step towards self-acceptance for many of us. Myself included. Coming out of the closet for a cross dresser is going out in public dressed as a woman. That is why we prefer to go to gay establishments, because the level of acceptance is generally higher. Making it easier for the newer people to finally start enjoying themselves and proceed on the road to self acceptance, and all that kind of fluff. Anybody else ever been on that road?

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Ellen: Over & out

by Claire

I was so glad to finally hear that *Ellen* was cancelled. Really I was. The truth is that I was just plain tired of waiting for the inevitable. Everyone had a sneaking suspicion—and I hesitate to call it a “sneaking” suspicion because it was standing right behind us with its hand on our collective gay shoulder—that the cancellation would be the next big piece of *Ellen* News we’d hear. No big surprise there. And when it happened, I was actually relieved, because it was time to move on. I’m serious. I think it was time to move on.

I am a collector of printed matter. I search and clip and paste my way through every event of interest to me. The media made this little compulsion a breeze because for quite some time there has been so much press generated for DeGeneres that I was cutting and pasting every other day. So after I heard the news that the show had been cancelled, I went to my scrap pages and took a few minutes to look over the past eighteen months. The only thing I could think was “Man, this has been fun!”

I’ve always liked Ellen DeGeneres. And from the time that I was catching snippets of her stand up act on cable back in the 80’s, I’ve always known she was gay. We all did. But the best part about all that was that she was funny. I truly loved her work (except for that stupid movie which she did, but we won’t discuss that). She was one of only a few comics that made me laugh out loud. There was nothing shocking or appalling or even vulgar in her act. She was just funny in her observations. The fact that she made me laugh over and over again was a valuable commodity to me. During a time when Andrew Dice Clay was turning my stomach under the guise

of humor and Eddie Murphy was raising my eyebrows for me with his really angry stand-up material, here was someone who was talking about Lassie and goldfish and conversations with God and it was just fun. I didn’t have to think about the politics or the issues. I was only expected to have a good time. Now if that’s not a truly gay mentality, then I don’t know what is. So for that, I am thankful to Ellen.

And even when she finally was on network TV, the show was generally funny. Sure, it took a few years to find its feet. But she must have been doing something right, because nobody else on television seems to get a few years for their show to hit its stride. Usually they get six or eight shows and a cancellation notice. There was something about her brand of comedy that allowed someone to keep giving it a second chance. And that second chance paid off for everyone.

By allowing Ellen DeGeneres to re-work and re-style the show, the network gamble paid off. Forever in television history, ABC will be the network that took the big risk. Calculated and on a very short leash, but ABC took

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the big risk. They aired the coming out episode. They reaped the benefits of the hype. They counted the cash afterwards. They forever established themselves as the liberal risk-taking network of the big three. Of course, there are a hundred angles to the story with regard to the network. They were scared. They let us down. They only cared about the profit margin...on and on. But none of that matters. They took the big risk. They ran the coming out episode. End of story.

Certainly, DeGeneres herself benefited. She got what people in show business spend most of their career searching for. She got financed for following her dream. And she forever will be considered a pioneer, a groundbreaker, a hero. Whether we liked the show or not. Whether you feel she handled the material and the networks with the same kind of finesse we armchair quarterbacks would have liked. Whether you like Anne Heche or not (Oops, did I say that?) Whether you felt the show was not gay enough or too gay. Regardless of the debates that surrounded every baby step this television show took, Ellen blazed a trail, and, like every trailblazer before her, she was cutting a path in extremely dense woods. The next person who comes along will have a nice clear path to walk. They will be less emotional, less naive, more confi-

dent of their politics before they even try to sell the show to the networks. Degeneres cut this deal solely on heart and that was a recipe for cancellation. That's reason enough for us to consider her a role model.

And the gay community benefited. Ellen DeGeneres gave us good positive visibility. She came out the way so many people do—frustratingly slow because of the fear. She gave us the most accurate picture of ourselves we've ever seen on television. She danced around her lesbianism on the show, she downplayed her allegiance to the community to save her ass early on, she grew stronger once she spoke her truth. It's an all-too-familiar story for many gays and lesbians and she did it all with intense public scrutiny and emerged as a champion for honesty and love. She captured the true panic of an entire movement in the coming out episode when she finally said to Laura Dern in the airport scene, "Why can't I just say it? Why can't I say the word? Why do I have to be so ashamed?" I still cry every time I see that one moment because it distilled the whole essence of so many of our lives. The hardest part is living your whole life with low-level fear. It's debilitating and every time someone jumps the fence successfully and the whole world doesn't fall apart, we all get just a little stronger.

But most of all, Ellen DeGeneres showed the world how regular gay life really is. That's why the show seemed a little dull in the last season. It wasn't about the scattered, rambling Ellen Morgan and her "nutty antics" anymore. It was about the newly empowered Ellen DeGeneres. The fact that the character was now gay didn't make the show any funnier. Just being gay isn't even interesting enough to sustain an entire television season anymore. From where I sit, that's the greatest gift of all.

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Ellen: Whose fault?

by Deb Spilko

Late last summer, *TV Guide* asked Ellen DeGeneres if her show's new season would feature her kissing a woman. "Oh, I don't know," she answered. "It's not like I'm fighting the network on this one. I'm more comfortable kissing a man on camera because I've done it more times. This [kissing a woman] is really the last thing I want to do."

Within a few weeks, she *would* kiss a woman, and go running to the media complaining about ABC putting a parental advisory on the episode.

I kicked off this opinion piece with this example, because I think it gives one reason why ABC may have had a problem with "supporting" DeGeneres. I do not know the woman, of course, but based on numerous accounts in respectable media, I'm starting to get the idea that Ellen DeGeneres could be one crazy-making, pain in the neck. Now, there are entertainers who can get away with that. Roseanne was the Queen Bitch-on-Wheels, but the network tolerated it because she had fantastic ratings and very funny writing. However, when you have a show that has low ratings, and even your fans are getting bored, you're not in the position to be a prima donna.

I'm not writing this to trash Ellen DeGeneres. I am really very disappointed that this talented, important comic shot herself in the foot so stupidly. But I'm much more concerned about her insistence that this was all about homophobia. It would be naive to say homophobia wasn't a part of the mix, but I think Ellen DeGeneres's own behavior has a lot to do with it as well. The reason I'm writing this (which is probably going to only result in my getting angry letters from diehard Ellen fans), is

that I don't want to see gay people feel defeated by this. NBC is already planning on having a program with a gay lead character, so the idea hasn't scared people away.

Almost from the start of DeGeneres' sitcom, people started encouraging her to come out, telling her that people had figured it out anyway. Her response, often nasty, was that it was that it was none of anybody's business what she did in her private life. Fans were disappointed when her book *My Point...And I Do Have One* failed to reveal anything about DeGeneres' love life. Again it was none of our business.

In 1996, she made the decision to come out. She had been aware of her lesbianism for some 20 years, and was just now ready to be out about it. That would make one think she might have shown a little tolerance when ABC took a *half* a year to come to terms with letting her coming out.

But she showed no tolerance for ABC; in fact, she was publicly furious with the network for "taking so long" to let her character come out. When they did finally agree to it, they promoted it to the hilt, and when the now-historic "Puppy Episode" proved to be so successful that the network decided to renew the show, give DeGeneres a raise, and make her out character become more of a focus of the show. In response, DeGeneres bitterly complained to the media that she hated ABC, wanted out of the contract with them, and hated the idea of having to go into the next season as the "gay poster child."

Over the summer, she had some sort of change of heart. She says it was due to all the letters of support and thanks she received from gay people. By the beginning of the 1997-98 season, she and the network seemed to be on the same wavelength. ABC's president Jamie Tarses

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was very supportive about the show's gay content, but conceded that this was new territory and they were proceeding with caution—"baby steps," in her words. DeGeneres agreed; although she wasn't crazy about the phrase "baby steps," she also said she didn't want to push past the general audience's "comfort level." In an interview with *TV Guide* (9/6/97) she says "this is a delicate balancing act because we don't want to lose any of our audience." It was in that same interview that she declared she had no interest in kissing a woman on camera.

Small wonder then, that ABC was caught off guard when weeks later Ellen Morgan kissed her straight friend Paige on the mouth. (Yes, it was a joke kiss, but it was one of the sexiest joke kisses I've seen for awhile). The network's parental advisory was silly, but DeGeneres hadn't given them much chance to think about it ahead of time either. Networks, by the way, have the prerogative to pull an episode they don't want to air. They didn't do that. The advisories may have been clumsy, but the network apparently thought it was the best compromise. And they also let her do a promo for the show that poked fun at the network's squeamishness.

DeGeneres ran to the media to complain about the parental advisory. This did create a healthy discussion in

the media about double standards, but it also succeeded in humiliating and further angering the network.

And then DeGeneres did an about-face on the whole "comfort zone" thing, the whole aversion to becoming a "gay poster child." The show began dealing with "gay issues" a lot—or a total of about 13 episodes. For whatever reason, the ratings began to fall. According to *Entertainment Weekly*, at the show's wrap-up party in February, she confronted ABC entertainment chair Stuart Bloomberg and repeatedly called him an "asshole." The show was soon put on hiatus, and in late April it was cancelled.

Was it because the audience didn't want to look at gay issues or lack of network support that caused the show to be axed? Was it because, as Bloomberg insists, the general audience became bored with the same issue being dealt with? Was it because the show just wasn't that funny anymore and the novelty of being a "gay show" was not enough to carry it anymore? Or was it because Ellen DeGeneres had become too obnoxious to deal with?

Networks cancel TV shows all the time. Recently, ABC's hyper-hetero college sex drama *Push* was cancelled after only two episodes. Who noticed?

DeGeneres says she has several upcoming projects. I wish her well. Honest. I enjoy her gentle brand of humor, at least the stuff she does on camera. But if she doesn't lose the attitude, she's going to lose the projects and the support. When she recently guest-starred on *Mad About You*, she managed to tick off the staff by telling them how to do their jobs (and Helen Hunt *had* been trying to convince the producers to put DeGeneres on the show for the next season). In April, she didn't bother to show up at the big Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation's annual media awards, where she was to be given a special award; GLAAD, by the way, has been DeGeneres's strongest supporter from the very beginning. And recently it has been reported that the people who had written for *Ellen*'s Emmy-winning 1996-97 season were upset and insulted with how she has dealt with them.

It may actually have taken an obnoxious, pushy person to do what DeGeneres has accomplished, and she has indeed accomplished something of great historical importance. And I believe her when she says that people have written her and told her she has changed—or saved—their lives. But her great talent and ability to change lives is going to be lost if people in the industry decide she's just not worth the trouble of bothering with.

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HIV/AIDS News

Vaccine Awareness Day

Submitted by Erie County Department of Health

What can we learn from the recent HIV/AIDS Vaccine Awareness Day? This national event was sponsored by a variety of groups involved in testing, developing and advocating for HIV/AIDS vaccines, HIV/AIDS Vaccine Awareness Day was an opportunity for people around the world to understand:

Why the world needs a vaccine to stop the spread of HIV and halt the global growth of the AIDS epidemic;

What such a vaccine would mean to their local communities;

What it will take to develop and test an HIV/AIDS vaccine; and

How ordinary people can be a part of the international effort to find an HIV/AIDS vaccine;

Vaccinations for smallpox and polio have been immensely successful. We have seen the extinction of some diseases, while other diseases are becoming more rare as the direct result of vaccination efforts.

You can be a part of the education process:

Educate others about efforts to find a vaccine;

Honor HIV/AIDS trial volunteers;

Highlight the importance of a vaccine to other countries around the world;

Take part in commemorative efforts locally and nationally;

Support vaccine-related policy initiatives; and

Speak to the media about HIV/AIDS vaccines.



Picnic at Presque Isle

Beach Eleven Picnic & guarded beach area	June 13th 2pm to sundown info 456-9833
Hotdogs & Hamburgs provided Bring a covered dish & place setting	

Back then...

1978 "Macho Man"

In June of 1978, the Village People hit the charts for the first time with the double entendre anthem to gay butch "Macho Man."

A "manufactured" group a la the Monkees or Partridge Family, the creator of the Village People made a conscious decision to target the lucrative gay disco market. Members dressed in the exaggeratedly masculine uniforms that had become part of the gay bar and cruising scene in some big cities.

Most of their successful songs had double meanings, like *In the Navy* or *YMCA*, but a lot of straight people didn't catch on. When *YMCA* played in the straight dance bars like 2001, many men would do a he-man dance, lifting air-weights and striking various manly-man poses. The real proof of their not getting it came when the song's extended play version included "I Am What I Am," which contained lines like "To love is not a sin," and the less-than-proud "I did not choose the way I am."

One interesting sidenote about "Macho Man" is that that song is probably responsible for making the word "Macho" a household word, as well as giving it a positive tone. Before "Macho Man," the word "macho" was largely used by feminists and some gay males as a derogatory term for certain boorish, bullying characteristics in some men. And before that, this essentially Spanish word could occasionally be found in literature, describing a certain type of masculinity, neither positive nor negative.

So it's pretty funny when you think about it...the word that has come to mean the ultimate in John Wayne/Marlboro Man/he-man masculinity was made popular by a group of pretty boys doing butch camp.

—Deb Spilko

Soon

Home Video Exchange

At a new location - 2630 Parade
Over 7,000 movies
All categories for all tastes
other location
3651 W 12th St - 838-3864
Call for hours

Resource policy

For the past 6 years *Erie Gay News* has been proud to keep people aware of what resources are available in our area. We also like to think that we may have helped some of these resources prosper.

However, we worry that some info is out of date as we don't have regular contact with some resources. We update our distribution sources and resources on an annual basis (which we are in the process of doing right now.) We also want to have as the most space possible for current news and articles while providing info to newcomers to our community.

What we have decided to do is to run an expanded edition of the Resource Directory in the print edition annually, and a slightly more abbreviated version than what is running now the rest of the year. The web edition will always be the expanded edition because we don't have the same space limitation.

We will start running the more abbreviated edition in Jul and the first expanded print edition in the October issue. We are choosing October because we will be printing extra copies for Erie's first Pride Rally. We will also be offering commemorative ads to finance printing a greater number of copies, as well as a larger edition.

We are planning on listing local lesbian resources. By "local", we mean a roughly 200 mile radius of the city of Erie. The only resources we would list from the major surrounding cities would be info-lines and advertisers, since those area have their own resource directories. We would, of course, list contact info in calendar entries for items that are out of town.

What will always be listed: Lesbian/transgendered (GLBT) local community groups and allies that have a strong history of support (e.g. ACLU); Businesses that target the GLBT community as a primary audience (e.g. Pride shops, gay bars, etc.); Businesses or groups that are the primary meeting space for a GLBT group or an important social arena that is open to GLBT people (e.g. the Unitarian-Universalist Church, because groups meet there and the congregation actively welcomes GLBT people.); Advertisers who have run a display ad at least once in the past 3 months or 4 times within the past calendar year.; Crisis/emergency resources that are GLBT friendly (i.e. 24 hour hotlines, mental health counselors, violence/domestic abuse hotlines, HIV/AIDS case managers & support/counseling groups.)

Resource Directory

All phone numbers are area code 814 unless otherwise noted. Not all resources are necessarily gay-owned nor serve primarily lesbian people; some may be just gay-friendly

▼ = Erie Gay News available here! ♿ = Handicap accessible

24 Hour Counseling

- Erie Hotline 453-5656 or (800) 628-0190
- Saint Vincent 452-5151
- Family Crisis 456-2014
- Hamot 877-6136
- Victims of Anti-Gay Hate Crimes 1-800-259-1536

Accommodations, Bed & Breakfasts, Campgrounds

- Camp Davis (412) 637-2402
311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers PA. Campground
- Jones Pond Campground (716)567-8100
9836 Old State Rd, Angelica NY. Adult male camping, 135 sites, water & electric, camp store, pool, DJ weekends, theme events

Bars

- The Embers ▼ 454-9171
1711 State St, Erie PA. Open Mon-Sat 8 pm - 2 am. Live DJ music Wed thru Sat 10 pm - 2 am. Pool table.
- Leeward Lounge ▼ (440) 964-9935
1022 Bridge St, Ashtabula OH.
- Nite Spot ▼
201 Winsor, Jamestown, NY. Open Tues-Sun 7 pm - 2 am. Closed Mon. DJ Fri & Sat 10 pm - 2 am. Sun. Drag show, DJ after 9:30 pm, no cover. Nitely specials.
- Rascals ▼ (716)484-3220
701 North Main St, Jamestown, NY. Handicap accessible. Open Mon-Sun 3pm-2am. DJ Fri & Sat.

- Sneakers ▼ (716)484-8816
100 Harrison, Jamestown, NY. Open Mon-Sun 2pm-2am. Musical Mastery Mary as DJ on Friday and Saturday. Also Karaoke every other Friday. Email artemistoo@mindspring.com

- The Village ▼ 452-0125
133 W 18th St, Erie PA. Open Mon-Tue 8-2, Wed-Sun 4-2. Appetizer menu, darts, 2 pool tables, Karaoke in basement on Friday. Dance hits of yesterday, today and tomorrow. Happy hours 5-7 on days open.

Coffeehouses and Restaurants

- Aroma's Coffeehouse ▼ 456-5282 (452-JAVA)
2164 W 8th St, Erie. M-Thurs 7am-11pm Fri 7am-1am. Sat 9am-1am, Sun 9am-4pm. Gay friendly, nonsmoking coffeehouse, retail store, whole bean sales. Sandwiches, salads, soups and desserts. Large quiet deck in good weather. Bike rack. Plenty of free reading material and games. Smoking permitted on deck. <http://www.goerie.com/aramas/>
- Coqui's Gourmet Deli 835-2272
3443 W Lake Rd, Erie PA. Home of delicious guilt-free food. Pizza and sandwiches. Open Mon - Thurs 11-10, Fri 11-11, Sat 12-?, Sun 12-9
- Cup-a-Ccino's ▼ 456-1511
18 North Park Row, Erie PA. Mon-Wed 7:00 am - 9 pm, Thurs-Fri. 7:00 am - 12

mid., Sat 9 am-midnight, Sun 10 am-7 pm. Gay-friendly coffeehouse. Cyberbear Computer Club. Nonsmoking section, retail store. Poetry and story nights on alternating Thursdays, live music most Saturdays, some Fridays. Wheelchair accessible. Bike rack for cyclists.

Tapas ▼ 454-8797
17 W 9th St, Erie PA. In Tullio Towers. Mon, Tues, Wed 4 pm -9 pm. Thu 4 pm - 11 pm Fri & Sat 11 am- 11 pm. May-Oct, open every night but Sunday for dinner

Books, Gifts, Retail

Allegheny College Bookstore ▼
Cochran Hall Lower Level, Meadville PA. Full service independent book store

Barnes & Noble ▼ 864-6300
5909 Peach St, Erie PA

Disc-Go-Round 864-1844
6825 Peach St, Erie between Taco Bells & Fridays

Integrity Computers 453-3227
3119 Pine Ave, Erie PA. Contact Jill Wiggins and Mary Lynn Rote

Lavender Loafer Cards 333-6282
PO Box 1458, Meadville PA. Email Julia@alltel.net. Specializing in cards for gay women.

Pal Prescription Pharmacy 455-8597
1238 W 6th St, Erie PA

Poster Annex/U Frame It 455-1999
717 Liberty St, Erie PA Poster, prints, cards, ceramic tiles, creative custom framing

Pride Gifts by Christopher 796-8023
11846 Martin Rd, Waterford PA 16441. E-Mail PrideGifts@aol.com http://www.lesbianation/PrideGifts

Rainbow Pride Gift Shop ▼ (716) 881-6126
175 Hodge St (corner of Elmwood Ave), Buffalo NY. Also second location inside Buddies, 31 Johnson Park in Buffalo. Phone is (716) 855-0222.

Scapers ▼ 456-7002
2508 Peach, Erie PA scapers@aol.com Lesbigoay/pride gifts, gallery

Talking Leaves ▼ (716) 837-8554
3158 Main St, Buffalo NY. Email talklvbk@fcs-net.com

Counseling

Louanne Barton, Ph.D. 871-7682

Chautauqua Co. Gay Infoline (716)679-3560

Counseling Center ▼ 898 Park Ave Suite 12, Meadville PA

David J Johnson MA MS 838-9408
Lic. psychologist. Private & consulting svcs. 4845 West Lake Rd, Erie

Family Service of Jamestown N.Y. (716)488-1971

Fredonia Office (716)679-3455

Christine L Gagliano LSW 836-9622

Gay and Lesbian National Hotline (6 pm.- 11 pm. Mon.-Fri.)
1-888-THE-GLNH (1-888-843-4564)

Lake Erie Counseling Associates 455-4009
Individual, family & couples counseling; psychological evals; psychiatric evaluations & medication management

Family Medical (Warren PA) 726-3310

Well Being Center ▼ 838-0123 (Deb Monohon)

Entertainment

ARTSline 452-2000 then "ARTS" (2787)

Directors Circle Theatre ▼ 454-0636
652 W 17th St, Erie PA http://www.eriefun.com/dc

Extreme Truthline 868-3825
http://www.njpro.com/etl

Movie Stop 453-7696
1229 State St, Erie PA. Also stores in McKean, Meadville & Oil City. WWW: http://www.moviesop.com/

Poppa Ropp's Video ▼ 734-3014
Edinboro Mall, Edinboro PA http://www.angelfire.com/biz/prv/

Roadhouse Theatre ▼ 456-5656
145 W 12th St, Erie PA. Email Roadhaus@erie.net http://www.njpro.com/rv/rhca

Erotica/Adult Bookstores

Body Language ▼ (888)GAY-PRDE (429-7733) or (216) 251-3330
3291 W 115th St, Cleveland OH. Email bodylanguage@juno.com WWW: http://members.aol.com/bodyla3649

Filmore News ▼ 2757 W 12th St, Erie

Modern News ▼ 1115 State St, Erie

Funding and Fund-raising

Lambda Foundation (412)521-5444
P.O. Box 5169, Pittsburgh PA 15206

Imperial Court 266 Elmwood Ave. Buffalo NY

Health

PA Breast Cancer Coalition 455-7833

Patrick McNamara, Lic. Massage Therapist (716)679-3430

Info-Lines

Buffalo (716)883-4750

Chautauqua County (North) (716)679-3560

Chautauqua County (South) (716)484-8434

Cleveland (216) 781-6736

Gay and Lesbian National Hotline (6 pm.- 11 pm. Mon.-Fri.)
1-888-THE-GLNH (1-888-843-4564)


Erie 456-9833

Pittsburgh (412) 422-0114 (M-F 6:30-9:30 pm, Sat 3-6 pm)

Toronto (416)964-6600 (M-S 7-10 pm)

Legal/Housing

Howard Hanna/Spiegel Realtors 864-3200/Cell 449-0405

Friends From The Heart
710 Beaumont, Erie PA 16505
(814)838-0123 

Founded for the purpose of assisting individuals, and their families, who are HIV+. The underlying foundation of this organization and the services it provides are caring, dignity, and respect.

5100 Peach St, Erie PA Contact Linda Fall-Johnson.
John Cooper, Esq. 455-3436

Political/Advocacy Organizations

NWPA Chapter of ACLU 734-3458 (Bob Cogan)
PO Box 1413 Erie PA 16512.

League of Gay & Lesbian Voters 898-4210 (Dave Mulholland)
Nonpartisan voters group. Publishes Voters' Guide for elections, voter registration/
education, lobbying, advocacy. Meets first Sun. Call for location. Write to LGLV-
Erie, PO Box 8083, Erie, PA 16505-0083. Email to lglverie@aol.com

Publications

Erie Gay News 456-9833
1115 W 7th St, Erie PA 16508-0063. Fax 452-1392, Email egcn@ncinter.net
WWW: <http://www.eriegaynews.com/>

Religious Organizations

Dignity 451-0593 (Jerry)
Support group for lesbian Catholics and their friends and family.

BYKOTA- Be Ye Kind To Another 734-3959 (Susan Laurie)
Ecumenical. Open to Christians of all denominations/orientations. Email
julie.sue@juno.com

Temple Anshe Hessed (Reform Congregation) 454-2426
930 Liberty St, Erie PA. WWW: <http://www.shamash.org/reform/uahc/congs/pa/pa007/>

Cathedral of St. Paul (Episcopal) 452-3779
134 W 7th St, Erie PA

Unitarian Universalist Congreg of Erie ▼ 864-9300
7180 New Perry Highway. For Commitment Vows, ask for Rev. Terry Kime. Email
uuerie@juno.com. Web <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/7660>

Services

Karen's Skin Care Studio 833-3355 or 838-4802
2554 W 8th St, Erie PA. (Execu-Fit) Licensed Esthetician

Suite 204 Le Salon 454-4691
233 W 8th St, Erie PA

TimeSavers, Etc. 866-1081
PO Box 3014 Erie PA 16508-0014. Grocery/Errands, Car maintenance pickup/
delivery

Victorian City Salon (814) 437-3361
1215 Liberty St, Franklin PA. Lesbian and Trans-friendly

Social Organizations

10% Network ▼ (716)484-7285 (John)
Chautauquo County, NY. Meets 3rd Sat of the month 7-11 pm at First Unitarian
Society of Jamestown. No smoking or alcohol.

Menspace 456-9833 (Michael)
Social group for gay/bi men. Meets second Sat (unless otherwise noted), location
varies. Call 456-9833 for more info or email egcn@ncinter.net

Pittsburgh Frontrunners (412) 687-6055
Runners and walkers of all speeds and capabilities. Email parkmanpp@earthlink.net

Womynspace Coffeehouse ▼ 451-0359 (Helen)
An alcohol & smoke-free environment for lesbians, with a theme, topic or activity
for each month. Meet 1st Sat at 7:30pm. at Unitarian Univ Congreg of Erie. Email
ra.aichess@hotmail.com.

Student Organizations/Youth

Committee in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual People (CSGLBP,
Allegheny College, Meadville) ▼ 332-4368 (Nancy)

A committee of students, faculty, & administrators who work together to educate,
bring speakers, offer films, and address concerns that relate to gay and lesbian
issues specific to the Allegheny Community. Write to CSGLBP, Box 186, Allegheny
College, Meadville, PA 16335. Email to csglbp@alleg.edu

Closest Culture 899-6528 (Mark)
Focuses on social activities. Open to any lesbian, gay or bisexual 22 or younger in
Erie or surrounding area. Write to: PO Box 529, Edinboro PA 16412. Email
ClosestCltr@aol.com

Covenant House Teen Hotline 1-800-999-9999

Identity & 732-4357 (Amy)
Student group for lesbian & allies at Edinboro Univ. Meets in the room 101 of
Hendricks Hall Wed 8:30 pm. Write to Identity, Edinboro Univ, 374 Dearborn
Hall, Edinboro, PA 16412

Jamestown Comm. College Grp ▼ (716)665-5220 ext 204
..... or 664-9174 (Greg Rabb)

Peer counseling & support attempting to live fulfilling, open, integrated lives as
lesbian people in W NY & NW PA. Open to college & non-college people. Meeting
date, time & place vary. Write to JCC, 525 Falconer St, PO Box 20, Jamestown NY
14702-0020. Email to Greg at rabbgg@jccw22.cc.sunyjcc.edu.

Mercyhurst Gay/Straight Alliance ▼ 824-2371 (Dr. Barbara Watters
or Ofc Mgr) or 824-2700 (Tara)

Meets Wednesdays at 9:00 PM in Rm 213 Zurn. Mail to Mercyhurst GSA, 501 W
38th St Box 443, Erie PA 16546-0001. Email to Tara at tsamos@hotmail.com or
Barbara at bwatters@mercyhurst.edu

National Runaway Switchboard 1-800-621-4000

SUNY-Fredonia GLBSU (716)673-3139 or (716) 673-3149
Meets Tuesdays at 10 pm in Williams Center. All welcome. Email to
glbsu0000@fredonia.edu.

Teen Hotline (412)771-8336

Trigon (Penn State Behrend) ▼ 898-6030 or (Sue Daley) 898-6164

Meeting open to the public. Write: College Mailroom, Box 1054, Behrend College,
Station Rd, Erie, PA 16563. Email to trigon_behrend@hotmail.com WWW: <http://www.clubs.psu.edu/trigon>

Support Groups

Erie Sisters

Nonsexual social support group for TV/TS/CD. Monthly meetings on 4th Saturday,
newsletter, interview with a club officer required before 1st mtg. Write: Erie Sisters,
1903 W 8 St, Suite 261, Erie, PA 16505. Email est@csonline.net <http://www.geocities.com/Wellesley/1614/>

Lambda Group—Gay AA ▼ 452-2675

Alcoholics Anon for Lesbians. Open discussion. Meets Sunday at 8:00 pm at Uni-
tarian Universalist Congreg of Erie, 7180 New Perry Hwy. Open to all Lesbians
who think they may have a problem with drugs and/or alcohol. You are not alone.

Partners (814) 664-7090 (Luella)

Support group for lesbian people and their supporters in Carry PA area. Call or
email for meeting time and place.

PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) see below

PFLAG-Ashtabula OH (216)964-3350

Meets the last Friday of each month, 7:00 pm., Conference Room at Donahoe
Center, Rt 20 East.

PFLAG-DuBois PA Karen or John Kressley at 371-8962
 Meets 7 pm on 2nd Tues of month at St. John's Oklahoma Lutheran Church at the corner of Maple Ave & Shaffer Road in DuBois. Write to PFLAG-DuBois, 1191 Treasure Lake, DuBois PA 15801 Email: pflagdubois@key-net.net

PFLAG-Erie Elaine 864-0184
 Meets 1st Thurs 7:00 pm at Unitarian-Universalist Congreg of Erie. Write to PFLAG-Erie c/o Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, PO Box 3495, Erie, PA 16508. Email Elaine Hill at loislane@velocity.net

PFLAG-Jamestown (716) 488-1264 or 763-1529

PFLAG-New Castle PA Lois at (412)652-6893
 Meets 7-9 pm on 3rd Thurs at Human Svcs Ctr, 130 West North St, New Castle.

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA) 453-5656 (Erie Hotline)
 Meets Tuesdays 8:00 pm. Call Erie Hotline for location. WWW: <http://www.sca-recovery.org/>

Violence and Domestic Abuse (Women & Men)

Erie Hospitality House (814)454-8161

Jamestown - YWCA Alternatives to Violence
 Daytime (716)488-2237, evenings (716)484-0052.

Women's Center of Warren & Forest Counties 24 hour Hotline (Sexual Assault as well) 800-338-3460 or (814)726-1030

Women's Services of Crawford County (24 hour) ▼ (814)333-9766

National Domestic Violence Hotline (800)799-SAFE (7233)

HIV/AIDS Directory

National

AIDS Factline 1-800-324-AIDS

National AIDS Hotline 1-800-662-6080

Spanish AIDS Hotline 1-800-344-7432

Ashtabula OH/Ashtabula County

HIV + Support Grp (216)350-2554

Erie PA/Erie County

Case Manager - Sandra Decker 456-8849

Case Manager - Andrea Cathcart 814-764-6066

Case Manager - Cheryl Weber 825-1085 or 455-3786

AIDS Action Team (AACT) Gannon 871-7233

AIDS Bereavement Support Group 452-3779 (Sue Kuebler)
 Sponsored by HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Paul. For families, partners, spouses, friends & caregivers with loved ones/friends who have died with AIDS. Call for info. Meets. At St. Paul's Cathedral, 134 W 7th St. "In our church there will be no outcasts"

AIDS Network Information 451-6700

Friends from the Heart 838-0123 (Deb Monohon)
 Direct Client Services. Volunteers helping deliver help with food, rent, transportation, moving and clothing to people with AIDS. Call to see how you can help. Donations *greatly* appreciated. Meets 2nd Monday of the month at Well Being Center, 710 Beaumont.

GEHASHI 451-6784 (Caryn) or 451-6727 (Fran)
 Gays/Lesbians Educating Gays/Lesbians About Sexual Health Issues. Sponsored by

Erie County Department of Health (ECDH). Email gegashi@aol.com.
HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of Cath. of St. Paul (Episcopal) 452-3779
NW PA Rural AIDS Alliance (Erie Ofc) ▼ 456-8849/(800)400-AIDS
 1001 State St, Suite 806, Erie PA. Email them at nwpaaids@erie.net
St. Mark's/Catholic Charities Support Group ☺

..... Cheryl Weber at 455-3786, if no answer 825-1085
 Open to people of all faiths. Fax to: 459-7310 or email to: cheryl1027@aol.com
 Meetings: 2nd & 4th Tues 7:00-8:30 pm at Catholic Charities, St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd. Use main entrance & follow signs for Support Group.

Jamestown NY/Chautauqua Co.

Case Manager - Margaret Geer, RN (800) 743-1940

AIDS Community Services ▼ (716)664-7855

South County Support (716)488-1070

For HIV infected and affected people. Meets 1st Thursday at the home of Hop and Cindy Chase, 1115 Prendergast Ave in Jamestown.

Meadville PA/Crawford County

Case Manager - Sue Bobosky (800)359-AIDS

Crawford Co. AIDS Coalition 337-3241

HIV+ Support Grps Rosemary Buzzard at 333-5800

Venango/Forest County

Venango-Forest AIDS Support 1-800-359-2437

Case Manager - Sue Bobosky (800)359-AIDS

Case Manager - Andrea Cathcart (800)359-AIDS

Warren County

Case Manager-Deb Monohon 838-0123

Case Manager-Andrea Cathcart. 1(800)359-AIDS or (814)764-6066

HIV/AIDS Counseling and Testing Programs (free):

Free, confidential counseling, testing, and referral.

(Corry) Erie Co. Dept. of Health 663-3891

(Erie) Erie Co. Dept. of Health
 Call for info on CD4 and Viral Load Testing 451-6727

(Erie) MHEDS 453-6229 or 453-4728

Jamestown or Buffalo (716)847-4520

Meadville PA (814)332-6947

Pittsburgh (412)578-8332

Sharon PA (412)983-5150

Youngstown OH (216)747-4805

HIV/AIDS Anonymous Testing Sites

(Ashtabula) Family Planning Assoc (\$30) (216)992-5953

Painesville OH (216)354-AIDS

Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force (412)242-2500





tapas bodega

17 west ninth street
erie pa 16501

tel: 814-454-8797
fax 814-459-8440

*c'mon in and have a real good time,
and please feel free to be yourself.
singles are very welcome and will certainly
receive their deserved attention.
-- clemens and his dedicated team*

Please make your reservation early,
due to limited seat capacity.
B.Y.O.B.

Luncheon from \$4.50 to \$7.50
dinner from \$12.00 to \$21.50
tapas' (smaller size entrees)
\$4.50 to \$8.50

YOU ARE GOING TO LOVE IT

thank you very much for your support and patronage

hours (open for dinner every night but Sunday!):
Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday 4:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Thursday 4:00 pm - 11:00 pm
Friday and Saturday !! 11:00 am - 11:00 pm !!