



EGN

Erie Gay News



Zone Selling Red Crosses to aid Katrina Victims

Please note that the Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th Street, Erie PA, will be selling Red Crosses for \$1 each through the end of September that will be posted in the bar as a fundraiser for the American Red Cross' relief efforts for Hurricane Katrina victims. The owners of the Zone will be matching all donations. The employees of the Zone will be buying dinner for the person who buys the most crosses.

Women Rock! Fest

Women Rock 2 will take place Saturday Oct 1 2005 at Forward Hall, 2502 Peach St., Erie PA 6 PM - 2 AM. Admission is \$5. *21 and over*. The goal of The Women's Music Fest is to spotlight female artists/musicians and build a stronger community amongst them. It happens in October, which is Domestic Violence Awareness month and proceeds go to benefit SafeNet, an Erie Women's shelter that provides services and shelter for victims of domestic abuse. The fest is or-

Jocelyn Porter Project at last year's Erie Pride 2004. She'll be one of several acts performing at the Women Rock! Fest on October 1.



ganized by musician/filmmaker Sybil Drew sybildrew@hotmail.com (814) 455-8231. Browse to www.myspace.com/21174040 and www.womenrockfest.com

The line-up includes: *Heather Waugh* 6 PM - Pure pop from Columbus; *Jocelyn Porter Project* 7 PM - Local folk/acoustic girl; *The Raven Society* 8 PM - Art rock from Buffalo; *The Telefonics* 9 PM - Local pop hipsters; *Beauty's Confusion* 10 PM - Trip hop and downbeat electronica from Philly; *The Killerinas* 11 PM - Rock/pop hometown girls; *Lexsis Jumps Midnight* - Female-fronted hardcore from Meadville; *Angry Red Planet* 1 AM - Electronic music and performance from Chicago

—*from Sybil Drew*

Behrend Allies Luncheon--call for talent

Trigon is looking for local speakers/artists to add some extra oomph to their annual Allies Luncheon. It's basically a free-food social event intended to raise awareness, visibility and hopefully support for TBGL folks on campus and in general; we have a ballroom—there's as much space as anyone could want—with food and buttons and pens to give out.

We're planning to hold it on Tuesday, October 25th, with setup at 12:15 PM, food available at 12:30, and clean-up at 3:30ish. Students, faculty, staff and (unless someone would rather they not) the general public can wander in and out at will—though most stay for at least 5 to 10 minutes, with 30 being quite possible. It takes place in the McGarvey Commons, located about 10 yards from the Reed parking lot.

Anyone interested can contact us at psutrigon@yahoo.com.

—*From Chris Strayer, Secretary, Penn State Behrend Trigon*

More community news on page 4!

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Erie Gay News
 1115 West 7th St.
 Erie PA 16502-1105
 Phone: (814) 456-9833
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 info@eriegaynews.com
 www.eriegaynews.com

Editors: Deb Spilko and Mike Mahler
Ad Design: Mike Lipiec
Deadline: the 15th of each month.

The *Erie Gay News* is published monthly as a source of news, events, information and support for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered people (GLBT's), their families, friends & supporters in the Erie and NW PA Area.

We welcome and encourage all readers to submit timely news, comments and opinions of interest to local GLBT's for publication in these pages. We will consider for publication any nonfiction article, blurb or illustration graphic which upholds this spirit. Please include your contact information with any piece that you submit.

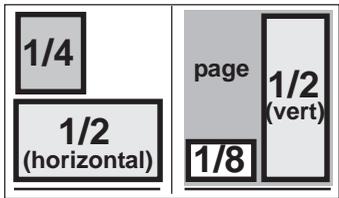
We will not publish any material which promotes hatred or discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identification, race, religion, age, class, physical ability or any other reason. We do not support the exploitation of minors.

Views and opinions expressed in this publication don't necessarily represent those of the EGN staff.

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Cover Photo: Deb Spilko of Jocelyn Porter Project at 2004 Erie Pride Rally at the Village

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Half (vert)	\$90 (\$81 prepaid)	7"high X 2-7/8" wide
Page	\$160 (\$144 prepaid)	7-1/2" high X 6" wide

call 456-9833 or email info@eriegaynews.com
 Deadline for ads is the 15th

Thank You:

To Dale, James von Loewe, Brian Lonyo, Chris Strayer and Tim for folding; Dale, Chris Strayer, James von Loewe, Jerry McCumber, John & Paula King & Dave S for distribution; and Bob for proofreading. Mike Lipiec for ad layout & etc. Thanks! If you're interested in helping out, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or info@eriegaynews.com for date/time.



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SHOUT Outreach Fund raiser
6:00 PM to 9 PM
Doors Open at 5:30 PM
Dinner and Show \$10
All proceeds to benefit
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SATURDAY
OCTOBER 15th
**Celebrate Your Pride
at TRANCE**
Hot Spot Entertainment

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 16th
**Post Pride Hangover
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Drink Specials

FALL IS COMING SOON!
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At 11 PM Friday, October 14,
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**HALLOWEEN
MASQUERADE
PARTY**

Saturday, October 29th

"Dead and Fabulous"

Monster Mash

Community News

(continued from cover)

PFLAG Has New Affiliate in NW Pennsylvania

by Maureen Koseff

I am in the process of being designated, "PFLAG Northwestern Pennsylvania Representative." This position will be affiliated with the National organization of PFLAG. A representative is an affiliate position for an individual who is working to further PFLAG's goals, but is not associated with any chapter. This position can also be brought under PFLAG National's 501(c)3 "umbrella" status as a tax-exempt, non-profit organization. I will continue to advocate for equal rights for GLBT people, with emphasis on work with schools. I am looking forward to this new opportunity.

Since my husband and I plan to be in Florida during the winter months, my PFLAG activity will occur primarily from May through November. I can be reached by email: almaureen@eriegaynews.com, or by phone: (814) 898-8341.

Luminary Labyrinth Walk

The Luminary Labyrinth Walk will take place Saturday, October 1 at Frontier Park (West 8th & Bayfront Parkway) in Erie.

Labyrinth walking is an ancient prayer or movement meditation. The event offers a place for prayer and meditation, but it serves an additional purpose. It is being held on the first day of Domestic Violence Awareness month, and donations will benefit SafeNet, which serves victims of domestic violence in the Erie County area. Suggested donation for the event is \$5, to help with the cost of the labyrinth and to benefit SafeNet, a domestic violence agency.

"We are offering the labyrinth this year for peace," said Shari Gross. Gross is co-facilitator of Watersong Circle, the local chanting and drumming circle sponsoring the labyrinth.

The walk through the labyrinth, should take about 45 minutes. Candles will be lit at sundown, opening circle is at 7 PM and the labyrinth will close at 10:30 PM.

Gross has several suggestions for participating in the labyrinth. Children are allowed if accompanied by a parent, but Gross recommends against it, because this is a quiet, respectful event that will not be able to accommodate children's needs. Also, people are invited to bring their own drums; but only percussion instruments are allowed in the drumming circle. Open for walking until 10:30 PM. Dress comfortably for the weather. All are welcome. Contact: Joann. Phone: (814) 455-3325. Email: sgaia@att.net.

Representatives from SafeNet, will be at the labyrinth, sharing information about the agency.

—i from Shari Gross and Erie Times-News

Erie Horror Film Festival

The Erie Horror Film Festival takes place every October, at the Road House Theatre in the great city of Erie, Pennsylvania. The Roadhouse is a wonderfully spooky community theater and is the perfect location for a horror festival. The seating is quite comfortable and there is a cafe with refreshments and snacks within the theater that will be open at all hours of our event. For additional information about the Eerie Horror Film Festival, visit www.eeriehorrorfest.com

—from Greg Ropp

Pittsburgh film festival Oct 14-23

The Pittsburgh International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival (PILGFF) is an annual celebration of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered writers, directors, actors, and their work.

This October 14 to 23, 2005 PILGFF will host the 20th lesbian and gay film festival in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Hundreds of movie-goers from Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, and the surrounding areas will be treated to ten days of high quality entertainment, including feature films, shorts, and videos from the hottest national and international LGBT filmmakers of our time. This year we are excited to be celebrating our 20th anniversary. PILGFF is the fifth oldest continuously-running LGBT film festival in the United States and to help us mark this achievement we have a number of great changes and updates planned for 2005. Explore our new web site to learn more! Visit www.pilgff.org/

—from PILGFF

Community News

Organize a “Stop Santorum Now” house party

Help defeat Rick “man-on-dog” Santorum in 2006 by hosting a house party!

Stop Santorum Now is planning a nation-wide house party event Sunday, November 13th. All across the country, folks will be hosting parties, big and small, to raise money to defeat Rick Santorum in 2006. Organizing a party is easy.

We know that Rick is looking forward to retirement, since he already spends most of his time outside the Senate at his home in Virginia.

Now, you have the chance to speed Rick's retirement by throwing — or attending — a retirement party in your town. It's easy. Visit the link, sign up and get some friends together for a fabulous time. We'll entertain you with celebrities, your friends will provide the laughs, and hey, there may even be cake.

Stop Santorum Now is a statewide coalition of citizens working to elect fair-minded public officials. The local effort is supported by Liberty PA and the National Stonewall Democrats.

For more information on organizing a party— or on the record of our homophobic U.S. Senator— visit www.stopsantorumnow.org

—*from Stop Santorum Now*

Paid activist opening

Liberty PA is looking for a part-time activist to register LGBT & allied voters in Erie 4-6 hours/week, now thru November 2006. \$9/hour, must be outgoing and able to work nights/weekends. Please email reneegilinger@yahoo.com.

—*from Liberty PA*



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This ad is made possible by a Federal Grant under the Ryan White Care Act of 1990.



ERIE PRIDE MARCH/RALLY

Saturday, October 15, 2005

Meet at the Zone 133 W. 18th Str. at 12:30 PM.

Step off at 1 PM and march down State Street

Rally at Perry at 2 PM Square

For more information contact Dan Burdick at ErieGayPride@yahoo.com or call 814/602.0252



Calendar

This calendar is also online at
www.eriegaynews.com/calendar.html

Sep 28 - Equality PA/SW Region meets (Slippery Rock, PA) 7 PM. Support group to empower and support the GLBTQ community, at the meeting place of the Ginger Hill Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 174 S Main Street, Slippery Rock. Contact: Reid. Phone: (724) 735-4407. Email: butlerdiversity@yahoo.com.

Oct 1 - Creatures of the Night Black Party! at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. "Join us for our 7th Annual Pre- Halloween Black Party! The Spirits of the night are getting restless and want to welcome you to this Dark night of Evil and Fun! Wear Black or dress in Leather and Evil Goth Gear! Be there as we welcome the Black Widow and her spider drones to their new home in the Zone for the month of October!... Beware of the Curse of the Black Widow!" Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Oct 1 - 31 - Curse of the Black Widow! 7th Annual Haunted Bar! at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. "The Black Widow has crawled her way into the New Zone and is searching for her next helpless victim! Be mesmerized by the hauntingly beautiful webs that her evil spider drones are weaving all over the bar- but don't get in their way, as they are feverishly working to complete her webbed palace in time for the Black Widows Ball - Oct. 29th! Pick your poison at the Black Widows Bar or dance the night away in her Evil Web! Join your friends for a month-long party of Fright and Fun! But beware!... one bite and you belong to her!... for that is the Curse of the Black

Widow! Haunted Bar Open 7 days a week! All month long!" Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Oct 1 - Luminary Labyrinth Walk at Frontier Park, Erie, PA. 7 PM - 10:30 PM. \$5 donation to benefit SafeNet. Details page 4. Contact: Joann. Phone: (814) 455-3325. Email: sgaia@att.net.

Oct 3 - Lake Erie Alliance for Democracy (LEAD) meets 218 E 11th St, Erie, PA. 7:30 PM - 9 PM. Progressive political folks (many former Kerry/Edwards volunteers) advocating for several issues. GLBT friendly. Contact: Cindy Purvis. Phone: (814) 453-4113. Email: cindypurvis@velocity.net. Browse to www.erielead.org

Oct 5 - Always Our Children meets Catholic Charities, 329 W. 10th St, Erie, PA. For Catholic parents of GLBT children Phone: (814) 456-2091.

Oct 7 - 9 - Buffalo Bear Trap 2005 (Buffalo, NY) "Men from three states and two nations. US Columbus Day and Canadian Thanksgiving Weekend. Chicken Wing Tasting Welcome Party. Niagara Falls

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Calendar

Sight-seeing and Casino Excursion. Beard Butt and Belly Contest. Downtown Host Hotel/Hospitality Suite. Bear Rave Saturday Night. BBQ Dinner, Sunday Brunch and more." Email: beartrap@buffalobears.org. Browse to www.buffalobears.org/.

Oct 7 - Vertigo Party (Butler, PA) Lyndora Firehall, 114 Whitestown Road, Butler, PA. "We supply everything Cups, Ice, Mix, just BYOB" Email: vertigov@aol.com. Browse to www.webspawner.com/users/vertigov.

Oct 10 - PFLAG meets At Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie, PA. 7 PM - 8:30 PM. See article on page 21. Phone: (202) 467-8180. Email: pflagerie@eriegaynews.com.

Oct 11 (Tue) - Last day to register to vote in General Election (Pennsylvania and Ohio)

Oct 11 - National Coming Out Day For information, and ideas for events, visit www.hrc.org

Oct 11 - Hospice Support group for those dealing with loss Hospice of Metropolitan Erie, 202 E 10th St, Erie, PA. 7 PM. Also meets Oct 20 at 10 AM. Phone: (814) 456-6689. Email: hospice@velocity.net.

Oct 12 - "The Guys" get together at Moonsense 5442 Peach St, Erie, PA. 7 PM. Informal get together to hang out at this local coffeeshop. Contact: Michael Mahler. Email: info@eriegaynews.com. Browse to <http://menspace.eriegaynews.com>.

Oct 14 - SHOUT Outreach Fundraiser Dinner & Show at Trance Dance Club 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. 6:00 PM to 9 PM. Doors Open at 5:30 PM. Dinner and Show \$10. All proceeds to benefit SHOUT Outreach. Food provided by Chuck & Ginny's. Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to www.trancedanceclub.com.



Meet Sharon Peterson RN
Sharon has been with the Alliance for 3 years, she's just one more of the dedicated people you'll find at the Alliance waiting to help you.

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For more information, contact:

Northwest PA Rural Aids Alliance
1001 State St. Suite 703
Renaissance Centre
Erie, PA 16501

814-4568849 or 1-800-400-2437

Clarion Office:
15870 Route 322 Suite 2
Clarion, PA 16214

**814-764-6066 or
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Hágase un examen del VIH: Usted necesita saber.

Calendar

Oct 14 - Friday Night Drag with Stevie Reese Diamond at Trance Dance Club 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. Showtime 11 PM. Friday Night Drag with Special guest: Stevie Reese Diamond "Oh My Gawd, A Totally Awesome 80's Drag Show" Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to www.trancedanceclub.com.

Oct 15 - Fall Pride March and Rally (Erie, PA) See article on page 9. Contact: Dan Burdick. Phone: (814) 602-0252. Email: eriegaypride@yahoo.com.

Oct 15 - Deadline for November 2005 edition of Erie Gay News

Oct 15 - Rainbow Pride Party! at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. Show your PRIDE at the Zone's 3rd Annual Gay PRIDE Party! Join us after the Erie Pride Rally for a night of Dancing and Fun! - Red, Orange, Yellow, Blue, Green, or Purple! Wear your favorite Rainbow colors, any PRIDE or Zone T-shirt and FUN Joe Boxer Underwear! Show off Your BIG Smile at our PRIDE Party! The Gay Rainbow ends here at the Zone! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Oct 15 - Celebrate Your Pride at Trance Dance Club 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. Hot Spot Entertainment. Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to www.trancedanceclub.com.

Oct 16 - Post Pride Hangover Relief Party at Trance Dance Club 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. Drink Specials. Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to www.trancedanceclub.com.



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Fall Gay Pride 2005

by Dan Burdick

Fall Gay Pride 2005 Coordinator

It's almost here! Fall Gay Pride 2005!

Come on out and participate in either event or both. Some people like to do the March; some just the Rally; and some people like both. For a lot of people it depends on how out they can be due to their circumstances. The March involves walking down State Street! Pretty public. The Rally involves just being in Perry Square and although public it's a little more quiet. So, pick what's right for you.

March

Saturday, October 15, 2005 - 12:30 PM -

Meet in the Parking Lot of The Zone at 18th and State. March steps off at 1:00 PM down State Street. Bring any festive signs you have and good walking shoes!

Rally

Saturday October 15, 2005 - 2 PM -

Perry Square. Speakers so far include Erie County Council Member Joy Greco, a letter from Edinboro University President Frank G. Pogue, and surprise guests. Information tables and vendors will be there also. Entertainment line-up is being developed but includes Bob Bearfield and others.

Dykes vs. Drag Queens Softball

**Scheduled for Sunday, October 16, 2005
at 11:00 AM at Haggerty Field.**

Come on out to one of the events and don't forget to celebrate our Gay Pride at Trance and the Zone! Any questions or ideas? Please email us at eriegaypride@yahoo.com or call me at 814.602.0252.

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Calendar

Oct 22 - Menspace Halloween at Jim and Greg's 20996 Kightlinger Road, Venango, PA. 7:30 PM. "Costumes are encouraged! If needed, you can call Jim and Greg at (814)398-8527." Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: info@eriegaynews.com. Browse to <http://menspace.eriegaynews.com>.

Oct 26 - Equality PA /SW Region meets (Slippery Rock, PA) 7 PM. Support group to empower and support the GLBTQ community, at the meeting place of the Ginger Hill Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 174 S Main Street, Slippery Rock. Contact: Reid. Phone: (724) 735-4407. Email: butlerdiversity@yahoo.com

Oct 26 - Open Circle for Final Harvest/Samhain/Halloween Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie, PA. 7 PM. Sponsored by Covenant of Brighid's Haven, GLBT friendly Eclectic Pagan group. Contact: Jeremy. Email: prosperotter@yahoo.com.

Oct 29 - Black Widow's Ball - Halloween Party! at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. "Erie's Biggest Gay Halloween Party in the Zone's own 7th Annual Haunted Bar! - The Black Widow's evil drones have finished weaving her webbed palace just in time for our Halloween Bash! Pick your poison at the Black Widows Bar or join your friends as you dance the night away into her Evil Web. Wear Black or Dress in Costume! Give-aways, Glowsticks and Cash Prizes for Best Costume! She will lure you and your friends into the Zone for a night of Fright and Fun!... as that is the Curse of the Black Widow!" Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Oct 28 - "Bewitched" Halloween Show at The Zone 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. "Join us as the witching hour approaches, a Halloween show. Come watch as witches, warlocks, and wizards keep you spellbound. Gaze into your crystal ball and watch the Black Widow prey her next victim. Break her curse with magical spells cast through the eerie fog by our Diva's Angelica, Taylor, Vanessa, Mistress Vanite', and Melody. Also keeping you mystified are our own exclusive Diva Dudes. The tale begins at 10:30 PM but the story lasts all weekend. Party the whole weekend through in the Halloween Zone!"

Oct 29 - 10% Network Costume Party At Mark and David's, 403 Lakeview Ave, Jamestown, NY. Contact: Martin. Phone: (716) 484-1661. Email: jtown-admin@eriegaynews.com. Browse to <http://jamestowntenpercent.tripod.com/>.

Oct 29 - 2nd Annual Trance Fantasy Halloween Masquerade Party at Trance Dance Club 1607 Rasperry St, Erie, PA. "Dead and Fabulous" Monster Mash Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to www.trancedanceclub.com.

Oct 29 - Black Widow's Ball - Halloween Party! at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. "Erie's Biggest Gay Halloween Party in the Zone's own 7th Annual Haunted Bar! - The Black Widow's evil drones have finished weaving her webbed palace just in time for our Halloween Bash! Pick your poison at the Black Widows Bar or join your friends as you dance the night away into her Evil Web. Wear Black or Dress in Costume! Give-aways, Glowsticks and Cash Prizes for Best Costume! She will lure you and your friends into the Zone for a night of Fright



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On stage

Selected area events that may be of interest to GLBT audiences

Sep 24 & 25, Oct 1 & 2 - Rocky Horror In Concert! at the Roadhouse Theatre for Contemporary Arts, 145 W 11th St., Erie. (814) 456-5656. pipedown3@msn.com www.goerie.com/roadhouse "All the songs! Live Band! Party afterwards!"

Oct 1 - Women Rock 2 at Forward Hall, Erie PA. Benefits SafeNet. 6 PM - 2 AM. Details on front page. 21+

Oct 5 - Menopause The Musical Out Loud Presented by the Women for Women Foundation, University at Buffalo 103 Center For The Arts www.ubcfa.org www.menopausethemusical.com

Through Oct 2 - Menopause The Musical Playhouse Square Cleveland OH. (216) 771-4444. "Celebration of women who are on the brink of, in the middle of, or have survived The Change." www.playhousesquare.com

Oct 6 - Queen: It's Kinda Magic Playhouse Square Cleveland "The most sensational Queen tribute ever staged. The stage performance and presence of Freddie Mercury and the other musicians in the hit smash *Queen-It's A Kinda Magic* tour is so close to the real thing that even Freddie's trusted personal assistant and confidante Peter Freestone has given it the thumbs up. www.playhousesquare.com www.queen.itsakindamagic.com

Oct 7 - The Comedy of Bob Smith at The New Tralf, 622 Main Street, 2nd Floor, Buffalo. (716) 854-3068 info@newtralf.com "Bob is the author of the best-selling collection *Openly Bob*, winner of the 1998 Lambda Literary Award. He is the first openly gay comedian to appear on *The Tonight Show* as well as to star in his own HBO special. Bob has written for *The Advocate*, *OUT*, and the *Los Angeles Times Magazine*. He has also written for the *MTV Video Awards*, among numerous other shows for television. Bob grew up in Buffalo, and now lives in Los Angeles." www.newtralf.com

Oct 18 & 19 - Openings Erie Playhouse, 13 W. 10th St., Erie PA An array of opening numbers from

Broadway musicals throughout the years. www.erieplayhouse.org/ (814)454-2852

Oct 19 - The Comedy of Marga Gomez at The NewTralf, Buffalo NY. "Sarcastic Latina Female seeks intimate evening. Stage lighting and an adequate sound system a plus. Gay, straight and bi welcome. Smokers okay." www.newtralf.com

Oct 23 - A One Night Stand with Augusten Burroughs Byham Theater Pittsburgh PA www.pgharts.org

Oct 28 - Sophie B. Hawkins in concert at The Winchester, 12112 Madison Ave. Lakewood/Cleveland, OH (216)226-5681 Cleveland OH www.thewinchester.net

Nov 4-27 - I Am My Own Wife Cleveland Playhouse, 8500 Euclid Ave., Cleveland. "How does a well-known transvestite survive, and even flourish in, both Nazi Germany and the Soviet-dominated Communist dictatorship of East Germany? A Tony Award and a Pulitzer Prize winner, this riveting one-man tour-de-force is hands-down the most celebrated play of the past New York season." www.clevelandplayhouse.com

Nov 25 - Rob Thomas in concert Playhouse Square in Cleveland. www.robthomas.com

Nov 15-20 - Hairspray at Shea's 646-646 Main Street, Buffalo NY www.sheas.org

Date TBA: Naked Boys Singing at Buffalo United Artists (Buffalo premiere) http://buffalobua.org/

Websites/email lists for area performers

Bob Bearfield www.bobbearfield.com

Jocelyn Porter Project www.jocelynporterproject.com

Leah Zicari www.leahzicari.com

Two Girls Alone http://twogirlsalone.iuma.com *email list:* twogirlsalone@att.net.

Performances at Bars and Nightclubs may be 21 and over.

*Event listings are free!
Deadline is
the 15th of the month.*

AIDS Network mourns the loss of AIDS advocate and counselor, Jeffrey Grego

Upon meeting Jeff, all you really saw was his smile, and those wonderfully deep-set eyes. He was also known for his sense of humor, sharp wit, and the ability to adapt to any audience with his chameleon personality.

Jeff worked for the Northwest Rural AIDS Alliance as an HIV case manager. That was his job description, but he was so much more than that to his clients, and to us, his colleagues in the battle against AIDS.

By working in various educational ventures, Jeff specialized in individual and group dynamics. An excellent group facilitator, he developed an aptitude to train many counselors in the field over the years pertaining to HIV/AIDS and interventions with at risk clients and families.

Jeff and I worked together through his affiliation with the Erie County Department of Health and the Northwest Rural AIDS Alliance.

Jeff set the bar for HIV/AIDS work at a level of professionalism unparalleled in Erie, or in the county. His continuous strategic planning, and relentless pursuit of excellence among his colleagues has caused a paradigm shift in HIV/AIDS planning and client management. His efforts have produced hundreds of people to log online and extol the virtues of this brilliant man.

Jeff has given selfless service on behalf of HIV positive individuals and their families in Erie, Pennsylvania,

Today, if you mention the name of Jeff Grego, people will smile and say:

“Oh yes, I know Jeff helped me with...” Each personal story you listened to was peppered with the words “help”.

Because that was the backbone of this great man; his greatness escapes and eludes even him. His value was in the fact that he was a simple man, a man of plain vanilla, pure honesty, and he lives and guides his life by those principles.

In his simplicity, in his honesty was the profound complexity of the substance and value of this man's gift. A gift, which he willingly and naturally shares with



everyone who crosses his path. His goal was to leave everyone he meets just a little bit better, just a little bit less worried, and just a little bit more self assured, just a little bit more safe and secure. That's Jeff Grego. Caring for others above himself, sharing the gifts that he has been given.

Jeff Grego was an unsung hero. You can call him day or night, and he's there. If it was a troubled teen that was trying to kill himself, or an AIDS patient crying for their family, or a kid who needs a fix so bad, or an inmate concerned with a health problem, or someone who just needs HIV information right now, Jeff was on the job,

And the beauty of it was, he was always *on the job*. See, he managed his life and his job together so well, that it synthesizes into a way of life, a role model for others to emulate.

He was a force for change in our community, and we look to him to continually raise the bar for outreach and professionalism in health issues.

Here are a few of the entries at goerie.com – please sign the guest book for Jeff, our newest angel in the fight against AIDS. Vaya con Dios, my friend.

Patty Puline
Erie County Department of Health

Joey and Family,

Like a father who is strong for his children, so was Jeff for the staff at NWA. A good listener with a non-judgmental ear and advice that was just what we needed to hear. Clay and Zoëy, Your dad loved you so much and was so proud of you and all your accomplishments. Joey, You have been blessed with the kind of love that only few experience. Jeff will be greatly missed.

Leah Magagnotti (Clarion, PA)

Dear Jeff,

Not only were you my DAD but my greatest friend. Seeing so many of these guestbook entries really shows us that you have touched a great amount of people. I am astounded by the friends both you and Joey have made through out the years, even a beautiful family was managed to be made. I loved you always with a full and pure heart.

Love & Prayers Always, Your Son, -Clay

Clay Grego (Erie, PA)

It's as if all the stars in the sky have stopped sparkling. Jeff's spirit was infectious. You couldn't help smiling and laughing in his presence. He always brightened my day. He was such a passionate man in his HIV advocacy. He was an inspiration to us all. Anytime I asked for his help, he always found a way to give it to me. My heart goes out to his partner and children. I can't imagine the pain in your hearts. I know I will always have Jeff with me every time I need his help still. His star will always sparkle for me and I'm sure many others.

Kathy Meehan (Erie, PA)

Memorial donations may go to the Grego Education Fund, 3915 Caughey Road, Suite 3, Erie PA 16506. This fund has been established to help Clay and Zoey Grego continue to receive a quality education. The Fund will remain open throughout their educational years and contributions will gratefully be accepted at any time.

Jeffrey Grego killed in plane crash

Jeffrey Grego, 48, was killed August 26 when the small plane in which he was a passenger crashed at Corry-Lawrence Municipal Airport, in Corry, PA.. His 13-year-old daughter, Zoey, and the pilot survived. The pilot is the father of local drag performer Rhiannon Angelina.

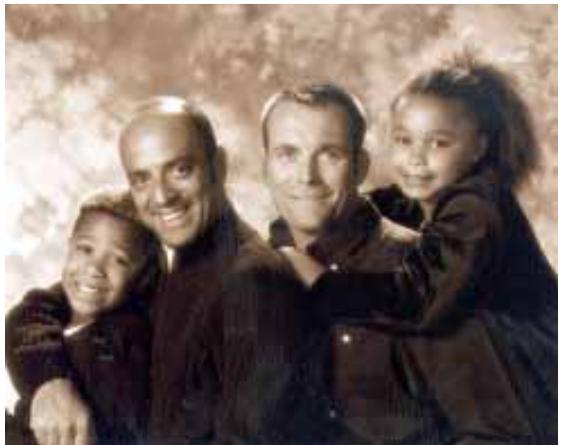
Born October 15, 1957 in Shippensburg, PA and raised in Meadville. Jeffrey was the son of the late Janet Schwenk Deramo and the late Charles Schwenk.

Jeff is survived by his daughter Zoey, 13, his son Clay, 14, and his partner of 24 years, Joey Grego.

Jeff's historic fight to adopt Joey's two children resulted in the landmark Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruling in 2002 that gave same-sex partners the right to second-parent adoption. The Gregos sought the right for a second parent adoption, along with Barbara and Carol Fryberger of Lancaster County. Previously, cases in Pennsylvania had been decided on a case by case basis.

Jeff and Joey were devoted parents, and had raised their children since infancy. One former co-worker of Jeff's recalled that Jeff came to work one day covered with stickers because his children had "decorated" him that morning. He spent the whole day covered with the stickers, proud of how he looked.

At the time of his death, Joey was a caseworker for the NW PA Rural AIDS Alliance. He had previously worked for Crossroads and the AIDS Council of Erie County, Inc.



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1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

THURSDAY

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HIV & STD CLINIC **451-6700**

Appointments can be made at the following locations:

Erie County Health Department

Erie Office
Outreach Services
814.451.6732

Corry Office
814.663.3891

Hispanic American Council
814.455.0212

Multi-Cultural Health Evaluation Delivery System (MHEDS)
814.453.6229 or
814.453-4728

All services are free and confidential.

Specially trained outreach workers are available for in home appointments, (HIV testing only).

National News Briefs

by Bob

Area College on Princeton List for Low LGBT Acceptance

In the latest edition of the Princeton Review's annual "The Best 361 Colleges," authors included lists of the schools that are the most, and least accepting of LGBT students.

One of the 10 institutions ranked highest on the "least accepting" list is nearby Grove City College in Grove City. The rankings are based on a survey taken by 110,000 students at 361 top colleges and universities.

Robert Franek, the gay author of the ranking, told the PlanetOut Network the strength of the list comes from the fact that college students themselves are determining the ranking.

"I believe there is more validity with a qualitative survey than a quantitative survey," he said. "It's more important to see how students feel about their schools than how many resources a particular school provides."

Franek noted the schools that had the best reputation with LGBT students were ones that participated in LGBT college fairs, held in major cities. There did not appear to be a common feature among the schools that were listed as having a low acceptance of the LGBT community.

According to the survey, the 10 schools that ranked the best in acceptance toward gay students are: New College of Florida, Sarasota; Macalester College, St. Paul, MN; Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA; Eugene Lang College, New York City; Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA; St. John's College, Annapolis, MD; Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA; Lawrence University, Appleton, WI; Emerson College, Boston; and Harvey Mudd College, Claremont, CA.

In addition to Grove City College, the other schools that ranked high on the "least accepting" list are: Hampden-Sydney College, Hampden-Sydney, VA; University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN; Baylor University, Waco, TX; Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL; University of Tennessee-Knoxville; Texas A & M University-College Station; College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA; Samford University, Birmingham, AL; and Brigham Young University, Provo, UT.

Governor Will Terminate Marriage Law

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has said he will veto the new legislation legalizing gay marriage passed earlier this month by the California legislature.

"Out of respect for the will of the people, the governor will veto the bill," said Schwarzenegger's spokeswoman, Margita Thompson. Five years ago, a majority of California voters approved a ballot proposition defining marriage as a union of a man and a woman. In addition, gay marriage opponents are trying to have the state's constitution amended to define marriage as the union of a man and a woman.

The fact remains however, that the California legislature made history when it became the first legislative body in the country to legalize same-sex marriage without judicial pressure. Although the bill passed both the California Senate and Assembly, it did not pass by majorities large enough to override the governor's planned veto.

Schwarzenegger, a Republican, noted that California already gives same-sex couples many of the rights and duties of marriage if they register with the state as domestic partners. He also reaffirmed his support for equal rights for gays and lesbians.

Currently, the state appellate court is considering appeals of lower court rulings that overturned California laws banning recognition of gay marriages. The governor's spokeswoman said the governor "will uphold whatever the court decides."

(continued on next page)

New Ad Program

Erie Gay News is excited about a new advertising program! Following the recent success of the online Tracey Ullman DVD contest, we would like to announce our Featured Advertiser of the Month program. To be featured, you should have a item or items to give away. *Erie Gay News* will feature your business on our web site, and also promote the contest in *Erie Gay News*, as well as emailing the *Erie GLBT* list about the contest. Call us at 814-456-9833 or info@eriegaynews.com for more details!

National News

Move is on to Recall Spokane Mayor

Organizers in Spokane, WA, say they have enough signatures on petitions in their efforts to recall the city's mayor, Jim West. West has been accused of abusing his office by trying to secure a city hall internship for an 18-year-old man he met in a gay chat room. The 18-year-old turned out to be a computer expert hired by the city's newspaper which was investigating allegations against the mayor.

West, a conservative Republican, was a leading anti-gay advocate while a member of the Washington state legislature. He has acknowledged having relationships with adult men, but denies any legal wrongdoing. In addition, he has not been charged with a crime. West says he will fight the recall effort.

Under state law, the recall drive needs 12,567 signatures that can be certified as valid. Recall organizers say they have 12,700 signatures and hope to get at least 5,000 more before turning in the petitions.

Archbishop Wants Gays Banned from Church

The American archbishop overseeing the Vatican's evaluation of every seminary in the United States has told the National Catholic Register newspaper that men with "strong homosexual inclinations" should not be enrolled, even if they have remained celibate for years.

Archbishop Edwin O'Brien made his comments as Roman Catholics await word of a Vatican document deciding whether homosexuals should be barred from the priesthood. The document is expected to be released soon.

"I think anyone who has engaged in homosexual activity, or has strong homosexual inclinations, would be best not to apply to a seminary and not to be accepted into a seminary," O'Brien said in an interview with the independent newspaper. He added that even gays who have been celibate for a decade or more should not be admitted.

O'Brien heads the Archdiocese for the Military Services in Washington, DC.

The Vatican ordered the seminary review three years ago in response to the clergy sex abuse crisis. At that time, it was looking for anything that contributed

to the sex abuse scandal, which has led to more than 11,000 abuse claims in the last 50 years. The seminary evaluation is expected to focus on sexuality, including what seminarians are taught about maintaining their vow of celibacy.

Lawsuit Greet School Administrators

New students were not all that greeted Holmdel High School administrators on the first day of school. They also were slapped with a lawsuit claiming they failed to adequately protect a lesbian student from persistent abuse.

The lawsuit was filed by Lambda Legal on behalf of Nancy Wadington, 18, who attended the New Jersey high school until the middle of her junior year when, she says, she was forced to leave the school to protect her safety.

The teen says she suffered anti-gay abuse at the hands of her fellow students for nearly three years which interfered with her right to get an education. The lawsuit claims students threw bottles and other objects at her, pushed her down a flight of stairs and stole and destroyed her books and backpacks. The lawsuit also claims that the teenager and her mother asked the school administration for help, but it failed to stop the harassment.

"Holmdel High School failed horribly in its duty to protect Nancy Wadington, and there is no excuse for it," said Alphonso David, staff attorney at Lambda Legal and an attorney on the case. "Hopefully this lawsuit serves as a further wake-up call to schools that they cannot ignore anti-gay harassment and abuse."

Erie Gay News print edition
can be viewed online at
www.eriegaynews.com

African Americans and Coming Out

"The world is before you, and you need not take it or leave it as it was before you came in."

—James Baldwin, *Black & Gay* author

Coming out can be one of the most challenging events in your life, but also one of the most rewarding. Being attracted to someone of the same sex or understanding that your gender identity is different from your biological sex can be frightening. Some African Americans feel pressure to prioritize their different identities.

"Perhaps the most maddening question anyone can ask me is, 'Which do you put first: being black or being a woman, being black or being gay?' wrote Barbara Smith, author of *"Blacks and Gays Healing the Great Divide"* (*Dangerous Liaisons: Blacks, Gays, and the Struggle for Equality*. Brandt, Eric Editor, New Press, 1999). "The underlying assumption is that I should prioritize one of my identities because one of them is actually more important than the rest or that I must arbitrarily choose one of them over the others for the sake of acceptance in one particular community."

For many African Americans, coming out involves additional cultural factors that make the process more challenging but no less rewarding. Some of those challenges include associations with often homophobic churches, strong family foundations that emphasize heterosexuality, homophobia in the black community and racism in the broader gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community. Thanks, however, to brave GLBT African-American activists and their allies effecting change in the church and the community, there is more support and acceptance than ever before.

The Human Rights Campaign has created a resource for African-Americans who are dealing with coming out issues. For more on this, visit www.hrc.org



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Hurricane victim benefit at Trance

by Michael Mahler

With only two weeks from the initial planning to completion, Trance Dance Club and Erie Gay News put on a fundraiser to benefit the victims of Hurricane Katrina on Saturday, September 17 at Trance Dance Club, 1607 Raspberry Street, Erie PA. \$894 was raised.

The performers provided an evening of wonderful and varied entertainment! They included the graceful movements of members of the **Lake Erie Ballet**, the glamorous and inspiring **Taylor Morgan**, **Mazie La Croix**, and **Rhiannon Angelina**, the exciting and illuminating **Buddy Dobson ~ Glow Sorcerer**, and the gentle acoustic performances of **Joe Newcomer**, **Carrie Sampler**, and **Bob Bearfield**. The event was emceed by **Gary Snyder**. Talent Coordinator was **Patrick S**.

Special thanks go to **Lettuce Entice You Restaurant**, **Midtown Storage**, **Northwest Savings**

Bank, Omni Plumbing, Pro Clean Unlimited, Erie Gay News and Trance Dance Club.

Photos from the event will be posted on the Erie Gay News website and the Trance website. The show was videotaped and will be shown on Trance's television screens at various times.

ALL proceeds from this event went to the **Rainbow World Fund (RWF)** Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund. The organization has promised that 100% of the contributions you make to this fund will go toward helping the survivors to recover. Donations to the Hurricane Katrina fund will go to **America's Second Harvest (ASH)**, the nation's food bank network. ASH expects that at least ten food banks and hundreds of related agencies were hit by Hurricane Katrina. Your donations will be used to provide meals and groceries, transport food to survivors and secure additional warehouse space to assist food banks in resuming and maintaining operations. Rainbow World Fund's mission is to promote humanitarian relief from the GLBT community. RWF provides a united voice, a large visible presence and a structure to deliver GLBT charitable assistance to the larger world community. RWF was founded in 2000, and works to help people who suffer from hunger, poverty, disease, oppression and war by raising awareness and funds to support existing relief efforts around the world. Their current partners include CARE, WaterPartners International, Africare and Adopt-A-Minefield. Contributions are 100% tax-deductible. For more information on the Rainbow World Fund, visit <http://www.rainbowfund.org>. RWF is a 501(c)(3) non profit organization. EIN:94-3372560



Just some of the wonderful acts at the September 17 benefit: Clockwise from lower left: Taylor Morgan, Carrie Sampler, Glow Sorcerer Buddy Dobson, and Bob Bearfield. More photos can be viewed at Trance website and Erie Gay News website.

PHOTOS: Jayk, Candia, Meranda



PFLAG News

by PFLAG-Erie and Crawford Counties Chapter

PFLAG Erie and Crawford Counties held the annual election of chapter officers in September. We wish to extend our thanks to both Maureen and Mark for previous years served. Maureen is moving on and will no longer be with the Chapter. We now welcome Elected Officers: Mark H, the new Chapter President and Millie V, the new Chapter Secretary-Treasurer. We extend our thanks to all those who attended and voted at this meeting. In addition, we thank special guest Jamie Curtis, Director & Chapter Field Coordinator from the National PFLAG in Washington, D.C. Jamie visited our Chapter at our meeting and others in NW PA, most recently visiting Pittsburgh.

PFLAG Erie and Crawford Counties developed a new, local Advisory Board consisting of five to six (5-6) people to work side by side with the Officers. This Advisory Board is part of the Chapter By-Laws and Articles for the Erie Chapter in conjunction with the National Office. Annual Chapter memberships will remain the same, \$25 yearly (\$15 to National & \$10 to Local Chapter) and run September to September, aligning with Nationals.

Permanent:

PFLAG Erie and Crawford Counties, P.O. BOX 8914, Erie, PA 16505-0914

Temporary: Phone number (202) 467-8180, email: pflagerie@eriegaynews.com

What's the same? Meeting Place and Dates:

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie
7180 Perry Hwy Erie, PA 16509. 2nd Monday Each Month.

New Times: Support Group Meets 7 PM - 8:30 PM

Advisory/Business Board Meets 8:45 PM - 9:15 PM

***Note: Ad-hoc Straight Spouse Network has discontinued meeting.

Also, contact Marcha at marchadenise@hotmail.com for PFLAG T-Net (Transgender Coordinator).

We plan to see you at our next meeting, Monday, October 10th (Columbus Day). We encourage as many people to attend and bring someone to our exciting meeting. We will be hosting a guest speaker, Mr. Marc Adams, a famous author of many books.

Marc will speak for about an hour and offer time for Q's & A's. Marc has addressed several Colleges/ Universities and 250 local PFLAG Chapters. Marc shares a personal story about growing up gay and coming out, while being in a conservative setting, having been raised as a son of a minister. We welcome this opportunity to learn.

National Veterans Coming Out Day- October 11

by American Veterans for Equal Rights

1,000,000 LGBT Veterans *come out* for the 65,000 service members who *can't!*

Honorable service demands honorable equality.

Never before has it been so vital for LGBT Veterans to take a stance and Come Out. With the introduction of Rep. Meehan's (D-MA) Military Readiness Enhancement Act into the House (109thC HR 1059), America stands a chance to end sexuality based discrimination in the United States Uniformed Services. Equally vital is the task of raising LGBT awareness within the VA system. Many of our VA clinicians have little-to-no training concerning LGBT issues. For the sake of those who serve now, as well as those have served in the past, now is the time that we must stand united. The time to Come Out is now. You say that your boss and your bartender already know you are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender, but do they know that you are also a US Uniformed Service Veteran?

Please join us for National Veterans Coming Out Day!

Read the NVCOD blog to keep track of the news, info, links and more.

If you have a LiveJournal, friend us to watch through your own LJ!

For more information visit <http://aver.us/NVCOD/>

Two gay guys and a Martini bar

By: Dave A. and Doug O.

Dave and Doug have been regular visitors to the Martini Bar at Trance since it open last September. Oddly enough neither of them had ever ordered a martini. The reason they were there was of course the really cute, intelligent, and straight bartender, Joe. (That should be good for at least one free drink. Don't you think, Joe?) It started with a simple Sour Cherry Martini and rest as they say is history.

It was Memorial Day Weekend. The boys were all at Trance for the grand opening of the Oasis Patio Bar. After having a few drinks and deciding that since Joe was always talking incessantly about how great his martini concoctions were, they decided they would try their first martini. Doug chose the Sour Cherry because he liked the color. Is he gay or what? Dave chose the Hairy Navel because he likes Fuzzy Navels. It was love at first sip!

The two luses have since graduated to become Martini connoisseurs. They have ordered just about every kind of martini known to Joe, the king of Martinis. Doug is currently in his chocolate martini phase. He has tried Sexual Chocolate, Chocolate Covered Cherry, Chocolate Covered Strawberry, and his latest favorite, the Mallo Cup. It has ruined his diet, not to mention ruining his bottom line.

Dave had his Pineapple Phase. It lasted several weeks and resulted in an aversion to pineapples. He has since decide to move on to a new love; Sex on the Martini Bar.



Here is a list of the boys' current top five favorite martinis.

Dave's Top Five favorite Martinis

5. Chocolate Covered Strawberry
4. Sex on the Martini Bar
3. Washington Apple
2. Hairy Navel
1. Mallo Cup

Doug's Top Five favorite Martinis

5. Sour Apple
4. Sour Cherry
3. Sexual Chocolate
2. Sex on the Martini Bar
1. Mallo Cup

* This list is subject to change and usually does weekly. The writers of this article are not responsible for your possible addiction to Joe's martinis and the financial and social implication of said habit.

We have decided that it doesn't matter what kind of martini you order, it will be great as long as it's made by Joe.

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Pittsburgh Boat Cruise Sunday, October 30

Boarding is from 5 PM departure 5:30 PM.

Boat will be back at 9 PM. Costume judging, gift giveaway on boat, and additional costume judging at area Pittsburgh bars after the boat cruise.

Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 (if available) at the boat.

Advance tickets can be purchased at the Zone, 133 West 18th Street, Erie and all Pittsburgh area bars.



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