



EGN

Erie Gay News



Adoptions From The Heart Honors local adoption pioneers Joey And Jeff Grego

ERIE, PA, - Oct. 18, 2005 - Adoptions From The Heart (AFTH), a licensed, non-profit agency offering domestic and international adoptions, will present Joey Grego with a Pioneer in Adoption Award as one of seven honorees to be honored for his contributions at AFTH's 20th anniversary gala in November, National Adoption Month. Joey will also accept the award for his partner Jeff Grego, who died in a small plane crash in late August. The couple became AFTH's first same sex parents when they adopted Zoey and Clay, now teenagers, Adoption pioneers who paved the way for second parent adoption in Pennsylvania, Jeff and Joey took their cause to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court for the belief that everyone, regardless of sexual orientation, has the right to adopt their partner's children. The pair claimed victory when second parent adoption became legal in Pennsylvania. That same year, they received the "People of the Year" award from the *Philadelphia Gay News*.

"These are two people who had an impact on society, not just the adoption community. Jeff's loss is tremendous, but his legacy will live on," said Maxine Chalker, MSW, LSW, founder and executive director of AFTH.

Since opening in 1985, AFTH has gone from facilitating just 16 adoptions to nearly 500 domestic and international adoptions in 2004, and from no budget to a record \$5 million. With 12 offices, AFTH is licensed in PA, NJ, DE, VA, WV, and NY and is approved to place children with families in CT. It is one of the largest placing agencies for domestic infants on the East Coast and coordinates international adoptions with 10 countries.

—Adoptions from the Heart



Erie Pride March October 15, 2005

Raphael's Tavern welcomes you

Raphael's Tavern, 363 West Eighth Street, is the first smoke-free tavern in Erie. The tavern's owners also want the GLBT community to know that everyone is welcome at Raphael's.

The bar is open Tuesday through Sunday, 3 PM to 2 AM. They are located at the corner of 8th & Chestnut Streets.

Zone raises \$\$\$ for Katrina Victims

The Zone raised \$202 dollars from the sale of the red crosses for the Katrina hurricane relief fund and the owners, Bob and Lou, matched the donation for a total of \$404 - every little bit helped!- thanks for your support from the Zone!

—from Jared

More community news on page 4!

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Erie Gay News
 1115 West 7th St.
 Erie PA 16502-1105
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 www.eriegaynews.com

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

Cover Photo: Marching down State Street for the 2004 Erie Pride March/Rally. Photo taken by Jayk.

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.

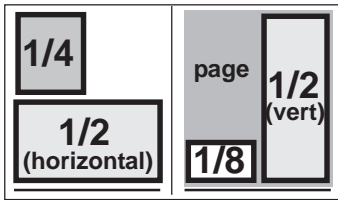
We welcome and encourage all readers to submit timely news, comments and opinions of interest to local GLBT's for publication in these pages. We will consider for publication any nonfiction article, blurb or illustration graphic which upholds this spirit. Please include your contact information with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



Ad Size	Price/Issue	Dimensions
Eighth	\$30 (\$27 prepaid)	1-5/8" high X 2-7/8" wide
Quarter	\$50 (\$45 prepaid)	3-1/2" high X 2-7/8" wide
Half (horiz)	\$90 (\$81 prepaid)	3-1/2" high X 6" wide
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 Bob 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.



ERIE'S NEWEST
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SERVING THE GAY & THE LESBIAN COMMUNITY!

1607 Raspberry Street
Erie, PA 16502
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Visit our Website at: www.trancedanceclub.com

MONDAY,
OCTOBER 31st

Rocky Horror Night

Let's Do the Time Warp Again!

STARTING MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 7th

College ID Night at Trance*

MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 14th

End of Summer Party

*Prizes for the Hottest
in Bathing Suit*

FRIDAY,
NOVEMBER 18th 11 PM

Friday Night Drag

Sex, Drag & Rock 'n' Roll

SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 19th

Sisters's of Erie

After Gala Mixer

SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 20th 9 PM

1st Annual Trance

Prince & Princess Pageant

**HALLOWEEN
MASQUERADE
PARTY**

Saturday, October 29th

"Dead and Fabulous"

Monster Mash

SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 26th

Shagadelic

Valley of the Dolls

THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 1st 9 PM

**World AIDs Day -
Dramatic Reading**

The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told
-Paul Rudnick

SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 4th 9 PM

Dramatic Re-reading of

The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told
-Paul Rudnick

*You must be at least 18 to enter and 21 to drink and alcohol will only be served and will remain in the Martini Bar. 18-21 Must enter from the main entrance. NO ONE UNDER 21 WILL BE PERMITTED IN THE MARTINI BAR. The Dance Club will be alcohol free on Monday nights.

Community News

(continued from cover)

Buffalo's "Cause for Celebration" moves to Statler Golden Ballroom

The gala annual fundraiser for AIDS Community Services of WNY—"Cause for Celebration"—is moving! Look for one of Buffalo's favorite events November 5th, 2005 at the beautiful Statler Golden Ballroom in downtown Buffalo. This year's theme is "Saturday Night Fever at Studio 54" so dig those platform shoes out of the attic and start practicing your disco dance moves! There will be live music, dancing, special entertainment, casino gaming, our famous art auction, luscious desserts and much more! Pre-Cause parties are, of course, welcome throughout the year, so call us at (716)847-0340 for more information.

If you don't have an outfit for Cause yet, DivineFinds vintage boutique is offering a 15% discount when you mention Cause for Celebration. DivineFinds is located at 220 Lexington Avenue, just off the Elmwood Strip in Buffalo. www.divinefinds.com/

—AIDS Community Services of Western New York

New bar opens in Olean, NY

A new bar has opened up in Olean New York. Mixers is at 204 Coleman Street, Olean, NY 14760 They are open Wednesday - Saturday 4 PM to close Sunday Noon - close (716) 372-1004



James von Lowe and Pride organizer Dan Burdick at the October 15 Erie Pride March and Rally.

PFLAG NWPB rep meets with Curt Sonney

On September 22nd, a small delegation of people who live in the 4th legislative district of PA visited with Curt Sonney, Republican, who is our representative in the PA House of Representatives. We discussed legislative issues regarding equal rights for GLBT people. He was open minded regarding that issue. We made him aware of previous attempts by Representative Birmelin and other members of the PA legislature to attach anti-gay amendments to various bills in order to diminish equal rights for GLBT people. A lesbian member of our group requested help regarding a legislative matter and he was very receptive to her request. Mr. Sonney supports the concept of equal opportunity in employment, housing and public accommodations, as articulated in Erie County's Human Relations Commission Ordinance, which specifically bans discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

—Maureen

Lambda Ball on Nov. 12

The theme if the 18th annual Lambda Ball is "An Evening in Paradise." The Ball will be held on Saturday, November 12 at the Grand Ballroom, Pittsburgh Hilton and Towers, in Pittsburgh PA. This is a black tie event. There will be cocktails, dinner, dancing, silent auction, and live entertainment by "After Dark." For ticket information call (412) 521-5444 or visit www.lambdapgh.org Contact the Pittsburgh Hilton at (412)391-4600 for special Lambda Ball room rates. Proceeds benefit The Lambda Foundation. The Lambda Foundation exists to foster for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People - educational, social, cultural, health and artistic projects and programs in the Greater Pittsburgh Area through grants and scholarships to organizations and individuals. The Lambda Foundation was incorporated in 1983. The first grants were awarded in 1984. Over the past 20 years the Foundation has raised nearly a half a million dollars and has granted back to the community over \$500,000. (General Grants, Lambda Scholarships, Pittsburgh Tavern Guild Frank Borelli AIDS Fund, Buzz Pusateri Alpha to Omega AIDS Fund).

—Lambda Foundation

Community News

World AIDS Day at Cascade United Methodist

The 17th Annual World AIDS Day observance will be held at the Cascade United Methodist Church located at 1001 West 21st Street. A worship service entitled "A Candlelight Service of Love and Assurance in the Face of HIV and AIDS" will be held Thursday, December 1st at 7 PM in the church sanctuary. A time of fellowship and refreshments will follow the service. The United Methodist Church celebrates "Open Hearts, Open Minds and Open Doors." **All are welcome!** God loves us unconditionally and welcomes us as we are and where we are. For more information you may call Rev. Russell Shuluga at 452-3364, or 452-2870.

—*from Cascade United Methodist*

Pride March/Rally planning for next year

Meeting for next year's Pride March/Rally set for Panera's in Yorktown Plaza, 2501 W 12th St, Erie PA for Sunday, November 13 at 2 PM. Contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or info@eriegaynews.com for more info.

—*from Mike Mahler*

Erie Pride & March Gallery
can be viewed online at
www.eriegaynews.com

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Erie, PA • 814-504-5983

More Light Presbyterian weekend

Join with a group of More Light Presbyterian (MLP) members and supporters for a reflective weekend in the country an hour north of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Called "Sharing Our Journey: Sojourning Together" the regional conference will be held November 11-13, 2005 Camp Crestfield-Slippery Rock, PA (Just off I-79). Our program will be built around stories as told by GLBT folks and their families and recorded by the Community House Church Learning Center. Listen for the disclosive spaces and reflective points in these stories. Hear them as modern parables. Hear success stories from high schools and colleges. Celebrate our creation in God's image in creative worship. Free time to explore the Slippery Rock Creek and camp trails...rest...talk. **What to expect:** Two nights in a warm bed. Five delicious meals. Get to know people in a richer way and come home richer for it. For information, and to register online, go to www.mlp.org email pgh_regional_mlp@verizon.net

—*from More Light Presbyterians*



Small ranch style house in neighborhood near headwaters Edinboro Lake. 5 minutes to I-79, 30 minutes to Erie. Living Room, 2 brs., 1 bath, kitchen, deck, 1-car garage, full basement, 60 x 100 lot. New roof, newer siding, furnace. Size makes it an energy saver. Low township taxes. Asking \$79,000. Call 814-734-4885 for address to drive-by or to ask questions or see inside. Or send e-mail to rcogan@coaxpa.com to see JPEG photos.

Obituaries

Susan Terese (Senger) Wolf

Loving Mother, Grandmother, Partner and Friend. Susan Terese (Senger) Wolf, age 58, of Erie, passed away September 9, 2005, surrounded by her family.

Born July 11, 1947, Sue was the daughter of the late Macarius J. and Theresa A. (Sirak) Senger, Jr. She enjoyed watching all of her grandchildren's activities such as sports, acting in plays or just playing in the backyard. Sue was an avid bowler in several leagues and served as President of one league for 20 years. She was a member of several social clubs, including the Sportsmen's Athletic Club, CYS, and South Erie Turners. Sue loved music, attending many concerts on the bay at the Liberty Amphitheater. She loved to roller skate, and was a member of McDowell class of 1965. Preceding her in death were her parents and an infant brother Jerry Senger. Survivors include her partner of 17 years, Joyce Haas, Sue's three children; two sons, Brian Wolf and his wife Kim and Sean Wolf, all of Erie; a daughter Michele (Wolf) Baumgratz and husband Greg of Girard; eight grandchildren, a sister Patricia Wright of Erie and a brother Macarius "Mark" Senger III of Erie. Several Aunts, Uncles, Nieces and Nephews also survive.

Burial was in Mary Queen of Peace Cemetery. Memorials can be made to Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, 1030 State St., Erie, PA 16501.



The Erie Gay News welcomes obituaries, memorial tributes, and announcements of memorial websites.

To learn more about how to submit these items, please contact the editors at Erie Gay News, 1115 West Seventh Street, Erie PA 16502 (814) 456-9833. info@eriegaynews.com

PFLAG News

from PFLAG Erie & Crawford Counties Chapter

We extend our gratitude to Author Marc Adams, Executive Director of HeartStrong, INC. and to all those in attendance at the October 10th meeting. Marc shared his personal story and the mission of HeartStrong, INC. "HeartStrong is a non sectarian organization established to provide outreach to GLBT and other persons adversely affected by the influence of all denominations of religious institutions. HeartStrong is also committed to educating the public about the persecution of GLBT's and others at religious institutions. HeartStrong is a volunteer 501(c)(3) educational nonprofit organization. All donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law." HeartStrong can be reached: WEB: www.heartstrong.org; Email: heartstrong@heartstrong.org; Telephone: (206)388-3894; Mail: P.O. BOX 2051, Seattle, WA 98111; AOL keyword: HeartStrong. People are able to subscribe to "HS Report", a monthly Newsletter & Calendar.

Thank you, Marc Adams!

Some these adverse affects include reparative therapy, expulsion, humiliation, suicides, and negative therapy. Marc's enthusiasm and 100% dedication to HeartStrong is helping to share the mission and stop the continued persecutions and discrimination inside religious institutions.

So, if you are reading this and having an issue coming out being in a religious institution, HeartStrong is a resource of help. You are not alone and deserve to receive positive messages about your identity.

Meeting Notes:

Our next PFLAG meeting is November 14th, the second Monday of the month from 7 PM - 8:30 PM Support Group at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy (Rte 97). Take Exit 27 off I-90, go North (left) about a half mile. Church is on the left). We hold the support session to end at 8:30 PM The PFLAG Board meets from 8:45 PM - 9:15 PM following the monthly meetings. Please plan to remit your new or renewed membership dues of \$25.00 by November 14th meeting week. See you on November 14th! Thank you.

Contact us: PFLAG Erie & Crawford Counties, P.O. BOX 8914, Erie, PA 16505-0914. PH: John: (814) 454-1392. Write: pflagerie@eriegaynews.com

Calendar

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

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. (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. "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."

Oct 29 - GayJamestown NY Gay Association Costume Ball and Benefit Mark and David's, 403 Lakeview Ave, Jamestown, NY. RSVP, BYOB, costume and your favorite libation. Sumptuous Buffet. Adults only. For the new GayJamestown NY Gay Association. (LGBT). This is also the 10% Network event for October. Contact: Mark and David, (716) 484-1661, info@gayjamestownny.com/. Browse to www.gayjamestownny.com/.

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

Oct 30 - Pittsburgh Boat Cruise Station Square, 1 Station Square, Pittsburgh, PA. 5 PM - 9 PM. Boarding starts at 5 PM. The boat leaves at 5:30 PM, and 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 W 18th St, Erie and all Pittsburgh area bars. Sponsored by Pittsburgh Tavern Guild. Phone: (412) 355-7980. Browse to www.stationsquare.com.

Oct 31 - "Halloween Night" at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. "Stop in for our famous Monday Madness with Mad-Man Matt and DJ Sparkplug...A monstrously good time. Halloween drink specials and more! The only way to remove the Monday Curse and have some fun." Phone: (814) 452-0125. www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Oct 31 - "Halloween Night" at Trance Dance Club 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. "The Rocky Horror Picture Show will be shown on the screens at Trance!" Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to www.trancedanceclub.com

Nov 1 - Last day to apply for absentee ballot for PA General Election

Nov 2 - "The Guys" get together at Moonsense 5442 Peach St, Erie, PA. 7 PM. Informal get together to
(continued on next page)

reservations appreciated 455-7766

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14th & state **papermoon.** www.artaloneendures.com

Calendar

hang out at this local coffeeshop Contact: Michael Mahler. Email: info@eriegaynews.com. Browse to <http://menspace.eriegaynews.com>.

Nov 2 - Always Our Children meets Catholic Charities, 329 W. 10th St, Erie, PA. For Catholic parents of GLBT children Phone: (814) 456-2091.

Nov 4 - Vertigo Party (Butler, PA) Lyndora Firehall, 114 Whitestown Road, Butler, PA. "We supply everything Cups, Ice, Mix, just BYOB." Email: vertigov@aol.com. www.webspawner.com/users/vertigov.

Nov 5 - Judith Avers performs Moonsense Cafe, 5442 Peach St, Erie, PA. 8 PM - 11 PM. Judith performed at the recent Pride Rally Phone: (814) 868-1783. Email: info@moonsense.net. Browse to www.moonsense.net.

Nov 7 - College ID Night at Trance Dance Club 1607 Rasperry St, Erie, PA. "Beginning in November, Mondays will be College ID Night! Must be 18 to enter, must be 21 to drink! Dance your ass off all night to today's *hit* music from R & B to Top 40 and more. Join us on for first on Monday, November 7, 2005." Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to www.trancedanceclub.com.

Nov 8 - Support group for those dealing with loss (Hospice of Metropolitan Erie, 202 E. 10th St, Erie.) 7 PM. Also meets Nov 17 at 10 AM. Phone: (814) 456-6689. Email: hospice@velocity.net.

Nov 12 - Bed! Party at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. "Light some candles, get out the oils and lube, slip into something sexy, because we are going to give you a night of sensual foreplay. Are you ready for a romp in the sheets? Join all your friends

in *bed* ...and release all that pent-up energy! What do you wear to *bed*? Wear sexy lingerie, silk or sexy pajamas, Revealing underwear, or just wear a sheet if you sleep naked. (No Nudity) Find out what really happens behind closed doors! (814) 452-0125. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Nov 12 - Lambda Ball (Pittsburgh) Pittsburgh Hilton Hotel downtown. "This Black-Tie benefit is the Lambda Foundation's largest fundraiser and enables us to fund GLBT scholarships and grants." www.lambdapgh.org (412)521-5444.

Nov 13 - Pride March & Rally Planning Meeting Meeting for next year's Pride March/Rally set for Panera's in Yorktown Plaza, 2501 W 12th St, Erie PA for Sunday, November 13 at 2 PM. Contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or info@eriegaynews.com for more info.

Nov 13 - Lake Erie Alliance for Democracy (LEAD) meets 218 E 11th St, Erie, PA. 4:30 PM - 8 PM. Progressive political group Contact: Cindy Purvis. Phone: (814) 453-4113. Email: cindypurvis@velocity.net. Browse to www.erielead.org.

Nov 14 - PFLAG meets At Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie, PA. 7 PM - 8:30 PM. Phone: (202) 467-8180. Email: pflagerie@eriegaynews.com.

Nov 14 - "End of Summer Party" at Trance Dance Club 1607 Rasperry St, Erie, PA. "Throw up your hair and bring out your beach-ware!" College ID Night! Must be 18 to enter, must be 21 to drink! Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to www.trancedanceclub.com.

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Calendar

Nov 14 - 20 - Erie Sisters Lake Erie Gala (Erie, PA) Email: eriesisters@eriesisters.org. Browse to www.eriesisters.org.

Nov 14 - PFLAG meets Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie, PA. 7 PM - 8:30 PM. Contact: Mark H. Phone: (814) 454-1392 (John). Email: pflagerie@eriegaynews.com.

Nov 15 - Deadline for December 2005 edition of Erie Gay News

Nov 15 - Open Full Moon Rite Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie, PA. "Sponsored by Covenant of Brigid's Haven, GLBT friendly Eclectic Pagan group, celebrating the Rite of the Full Moon, doors opening at 7 PM, potluck feast to follow. Please note that a three dollar donation is requested to help defray the cost of renting the space." Contact: Jeremy. Email: prosperotter@yahoo.com.

Nov 18 - Friday Night Drag: "Sex, Drag, Rock 'n' Roll" at Trance Dance Club 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. 11 PM. Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-

3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to www.trancedanceclub.com.

Nov 19 - Two Girls Alone performs Two Friends Italian Market, 25 E 10th St, Erie, PA 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM. Phone: (814) 461-9966. Email: twogirlsalone@att.net.

Dec 11 - Menspace meets (Jay's, 110 Shenango St, Greenville PA) 7:30 PM. Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: info@eriegaynews.com. Browse to <http://menspace.eriegaynews.com>.

Nov 19 - "Sisters of Erie After GALA Mixer" at Trance Dance Club 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. For the Erie Sisters annual Gala. Among the performers are Lottie Hatfield. Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to www.trancedanceclub.com.

Nov 19 - "Party Girl" at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. "Hosted by Miss Valerie. The Zone Welcomes all the Ladies from the Erie Sisters Gala

(continued on next page)



363 West 8th Street
Erie, PA

At the Corner of 8th & Chestnut

Raphael's Tavern

"A Breath of Fresh Air"

Erie'sFirstSmokeFree Tavern

Open Tuesday—Sunday
3:00 pm to 2:00 am

Calendar

for a night of fun and festivities— it's time for martinis and mayhem! Let your hair down and party the night away Miss Valerie—one of the original Erie Sisters will be hosting a night of fun at the Zone party favors. Prizes and Fun. Get into the Zone, girls, and show us you can party! Located right across the street from the Ramada Inn at 133 West 18th St. —Erie's Largest gay bar and party complex!" Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Nov 20 - 7th Annual Transgender Day of Remembrance www.gender.org/remember/day/

Nov 20 - "1st Annual Trance Prince and Princess Contest" at Trance Dance Club 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to www.trancedanceclub.com.

Nov 23 - "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>.

Nov 23 - "Family Reunion" at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. "Everyone is coming Home for the Thanksgiving Holiday, Catch up with old friends and family for a night of dancing and fun at the Zone." Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com

Nov 24 - Thanksgiving Day at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. "We open at 8:00. Join us for an after-dinner drink and dance off all those extra calories." Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Nov 25 - "Black Friday" at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. "Don't let the horrors of the Christmas shopping season get you down. Join us for

a night of fun in the dark. Wear black...Glowsticks and black lights!" Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Nov 26 - "Pump It Up Party" at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. "Find out what we are pumping and have some fun finding out! Do you pump It? We want to watch!... Guys, Prize for sexiest 6-Pack! Ladies, Prize for best Junk in the Trunk!" Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Nov 26 - "Shagadelic - Valley of the Dolls" at Trance Dance Club 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to www.trancedanceclub.com.

Nov 27-28 - Mr. Leatherman Weekend (Toronto) www.mrlt.com/mlt_weekend/index.htm

Dec 2 - 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.

Dec 4 - ALIVE Art Auction fundraiser for AIDS at Moonsense Cafe 5442 Peach St, Erie, PA. 2 PM - 5 PM. Sponsored by Alive, a new organization to raise AIDS awareness. Proceeds benefit: Erie County Health Dept. to fund AIDS education, local HIV scientists to find a vaccine, Counseling and testing Phone: (814) 868-1783. Email: aliveorg@yahoo.com. Browse to www.moonsense.net.

Dec 7 - Always Our Children meets Catholic Charities, 329 W. 10th St, Erie, PA. For Catholic parents of GLBT children Phone: (814) 456-2091.

Dec 11 - Menspace meets (Gordon & Bill's, Edinboro, PA) 6 PM. Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone:



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(814) 456-9833. Email: info@eriegaynews.com. Browse to <http://menspace.eriegaynews.com>.

Dec 11 - Lake Erie Alliance for Democracy (LEAD) meets 218 E 11th St, Erie, PA. 6:30 PM - 8 PM. Contact: Cindy Purvis. Phone: (814) 453-4113. Email: cindypurvis@velocity.net. Browse to www.erielead.org

Dec 12 - PFLAG meets Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie, PA. 7 PM - 8:30 PM. Contact: Mark H. Phone: (814) 454-1392 (John). Email: pflagerie@eriegaynews.com.

Dec 13 - Hospice Support group for those dealing with loss Hospice of Metropolitan Erie, 202 E 10th St, Erie, PA. 7 PM. Also meets Dec 22 at 10 AM. (814) 456-6689. hospice@velocity.net.

Dec 14 - "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>.

Dec 16 - Friday Night Drag: "Studio 54 '05" at Trance Dance Club 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. 11 PM. Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to www.trancedanceclub.com.

Dec 17 - 10% Network Christmas Party At John S's, 201 Lakeview Ave, Jamestown, NY. Contact: Martin. Phone: (716) 484-1661. Email: jtown-admin@eriegaynews.com. Browse to <http://jamestowntenpercent.tripod.com/>.

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!

Contest

Erie Gay News online contest for Naughty Girls DVD

by Michael Mahler

Once again, there will be an online contest for a free DVD at www.eriegaynews.com. To enter the contest, you will need to enter your name, mailing address and email address at the page at www.eriegaynews.com. Please note that if you won in the last contest, we ask that you give others a chance and not enter this one.

The Naughty Show DVD, where top female comics hit the stage with their naughtiest, bawdiest jokes, letting fly with whatever is on their dirty girl minds! A night of raunchy comedy with talent from Comedy Central, The Tonight Show, NBC, WB, Major Motion Pictures and America's top comedy clubs!

There will be 10 copies to giveaway to our readers online. Enter the contest between November 1 and November 7.

The lineup for this massive performance includes Lisa Ann Walter (War Of The Worlds, The Parent Trap, Bruce Almighty, Shall We Dance?), Robyn Montague (Showtime At The Apollo), Stella Stolper host at The Laugh Factory), Shayma Tash (Hype, The Tonight Show, The Best Damn Sports Show Period), Kate Rigg (NBC Late Friday, FOX Family Guy, SEX TV) and Kim Cea (Kim Cea Live, The News In Revue). And as an added treat, the legendary Naughty Boys GoGo Team!

A night of raunchy chick comedy, with a trash talkin', crazy sexy star powered line up. Starring some of New York and Los Angeles' edgiest and raunchiest comics, *The Naughty Show* was recorded at the historic Ivar Theater in Hollywood in December 2004. Featuring 90 minutes of some of the raunchiest female stand-up comedy to ever grace the stage, The Naughty Show has it all: sexy women telling it like it is, non-stop laughter, and an extra treat the audience - The Naughty Boys GoGo Team! Also included is almost a full hour of bonus features, taking a sneak peek behind the scenes and also interviews with all the comics and the Naughty Boys!

On stage

Selected area cultural events that may be of interest to GLBT audiences.

Oct 15-29 - "The Rocky Horror Show (in concert)" Roadhouse Theatre, 145 W. 11th St., Erie PA Special Halloween show and Party \$15-VIP \$20 BYOB with proper ID. Reservations (814)456-5656.

Oct 27-Nov. 19 - "Deathtrap" Directors Circle Theatre, Renaissance Centre, 1001 State St., second floor. 8 PM, no matinees. (814)451-1153.

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

Oct 29 - Kathy Griffin performs Rex Theatre, Pittsburgh. 7:30, 10 PM. \$27.50. Tickets, info: Ticketmaster, 323-1919; Dave's Music Mine, 488-8800; Rex box office after 8:30 PM. Saturday, October 29th 2005 at 7:30 and 10:00 PM. (Ticketmaster)

Oct 29 - "Kiki & Herb: The Resurrection Tour" Byham Theater, Pittsburgh. "It's drag cabaret with the gut wrenching impact of the best punk rock - grand, vivacious and sordid". New York Times. Visit the Backstage Bar, located in Theater Square for the pre-show Happy Hour! Presented in association with The Warhol Museum. www.pgharts.org/

Nov 4 - 2nd Annual Pride Alliance Diversity Concert (Fredonia NY) 8-11 PM SUNY Fredonia (Mason Hall, Juliet J. Rosch Recital Hall) Features School of Music ensembles and various performers, including Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus. Free admission, sponsored by SUNY Fredonia Pride Alliance & Center for Cultural Affairs.

Nov 4-27 - "I Am My Own Wife" Cleveland Playhouse, 8500 Euclid Ave., Cleveland OH. "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." www.clevelandplayhouse.com

Nov 5 - Judith Avers performs at Moonsense Cafe, 5442 Peach St, Erie, PA. 8 PM - 11 PM. Singer/songwriter from West Virginia performs. Judith performed at the recent Pride Rally Phone: (814) 868-1783. Email: info@moonsense.net. Browse to www.moonsense.net.

Nov 5 - Michael Feinstein in concert Quicken Loans Arena, Cleveland OH www.theqarena.com/publish/index.html

Nov 18 - Dec 17 - "Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge" Roadhouse Theatre, 145 W 11th St, Erie, PA. 8 PM. "Comedy written by Christopher Durang, based on the characters from the classic Dickens novel "A Christmas Carol." All shows Friday and Saturday nites at 8:00 PM and, we will even be running it for the weekend after Thanksgiving, and, as always, affordable Roadhouse prices." Reservations: (814) 456-5656. Email: pipedown3@msn.com. Browse to www.goerie.com/roadhouse.

Nov 19 - Two Girls Alone performs Two Friends Italian Market, 25 E 10th St, Erie, PA 7 PM - 9 PM. Phone: (814) 461-9966. Email: twogirlsalone@att.net.

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

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

Dec 1 & 4 - Dramatic Reading of Paul Rudnick's "The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told" Trance Dance Club 1607 Raspberry St., Erie PA 9 PM.

Dec 3 - Cyndi Lauper in concert with special guests Jill Sobule and Sandra Bernhard Lakewood Civic Auditorium, Lakewood OH (Ticketmaster).

Dec 17 - North Coast Men's Chorus presents "Tree Chic" Waetjen Auditorium, Cleveland State University, 2001 Euclid Ave, 800-766-6048, www.ncmchorus.org, info@ncmchorus.org

Dec 31 - "Playhouse Bouquet" Erie Playhouse, 13 W. 10th St., Erie PA. "A potpourri of Broadway and Hollywood musical magic." Full orchestra, and David Matthews hosts. 7:30 PM. (814) 454-2852. www.erieplayhouse.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.

World AIDS Day Erie County events

by Patty Puline
WORLD AIDS DAY December 1, 2005
Observance Schedule

Hosted or co-sponsored by:
Erie County Department of Health
2005 Theme:
"STOP AIDS. KEEP THE PROMISE."

November 23- Dec. 2
AFSCME - Health Department Bulletin Board, Tree of Hope

November 26
Gaudenzia Crossroads SHOUT Program Booker T. Washington Center 1720 Holland Street Red Ribbon Night/Talent Show Open to Public 5:30 PM

November 29
LECOM World AIDS Day Observance Program 4:00 PM

November 30
Gaudenzia Crossroads In-house Observance

November 30
Gannon University World AIDS Day Observance Open to Public

December 1
Open to Public:
Cascade United Methodist Church 1001 West 21st Street, Erie PA. "Candlelight Service of Love and Assurance in the Face of HIV and AIDS." 7 PM in church sanctuary. 7 PM.

Trance Dance Club 1607 Raspberry St., Erie PA. Poetry Reading. Dramatic Reading of Paul Rudnick's "The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told." 9 PM.

December 1
In-House: SCI Albion, Cathedral Preparatory School for Boys, Erie's Promise Student Forum, Great Lakes Medical School, Gannondale Center

December 2
Mental Health Association 1101 Peach Street Ecumenical Service-Quilt Display Tree of Hope - Refreshments Open to Public 1:30 PM

December 3
Saint Vincent Health Center World AIDS Day Observance In-house Program 9:00 AM

December 4
Moonsense Cafe - ALIVE Art Auction/ Erie County Department of Health Fundraiser for ALIVE organization which promotes HIV awareness and research. 5442 Peach Street, Erie PA. (814)868-1783.

December 6
Booker T. Washington Center/SHOUT 1720 Holland Street World AIDS Day Program 3:30 PM Open to Public

December 8
Mercyhurst University World AIDS Day Observance Program 8:00 PM.

December 10
Erie County Department of Health STOP At Marsha Hall Learning Center 1841 East 18th Street (Harbor Homes Area) Remembering the Spirit of Julia, Emory, Don Paul, Kelvin and Others *Special Presentation honoring a beloved case manager, friend "Jeffrey Charles Grego" Open to Public. 1:30 P.M.

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THURSDAY

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

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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

Group Claims Penn State Coach Harasses Players

The National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR) is demanding that Penn State University officials take action against women's basketball coach Rene Portland for what it called a "decades-long policy of harassing players whom (she) believed to be lesbians."

The group sent a letter to Penn State's president on behalf of former Penn State women's basketball star Jennifer Harris, claiming she was forced off the team by Portland.

"Coach Portland's anti-gay recruiting methods and infamous 'no lesbians' policy have continued for nearly three decades," said NCLR Regional Counsel Karen Doering, who is representing Harris. "It is time for Penn State to step up and put an end to this overtly illegal activity."

Penn State has an official policy that prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation.

The NCLR claims that Harris, a star Lady Lions player during the 2004-05 season, was repeatedly questioned by Portland about her sexual orientation. The group claims Portland threatened to kick Harris off the team and allegedly told other players not to associate with Harris because the coach believed Harris was gay. Jennifer Harris has since transferred to James Madison University in Virginia.

Both Portland and the Penn State athletic department have declined to comment about the accusations.

Vatican Backs off a Bit on Gay Priests

The soon-to-be released Vatican document dealing with gays in the priesthood is not likely to be as severe as first feared.

The Italian newspaper, *Corriere della Sera*, has reported that the document will permit gays in seminaries, as long as they have lived chastely for at least three years.

Earlier reports about the church document lead GLBT leaders to fear an outright ban on all gay seminarians and an ensuing witch hunt. The new report was reportedly approved by Pope Benedict XVI during the summer.

Singapore Bans Gay Pride Parades

The government of Singapore has announced a ban on Gay Pride parades because they conflict with the conservative values of most Singapore residents.

In making the announcement, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said, "I don't think we're homophobic. I agree ... that homosexuals are people like you and me. But there's some segment of Singaporeans who vehemently disagree with that and we have to be aware of that."

"Gay Pride — well, you can do that in Sydney, in London, in San Francisco," the Prime Minister added. "But I'm not sure if I want to do that in Singapore."

People Like Us, a gay interest group in Singapore, has called on the government to decriminalize consensual gay sex.

"The government should ask whether the opposition to gay equality is not a virulently vocal, religiously motivated campaign by a small number of people that is in no way representative, but merely

(continued on next page)



Judith Avers performs at Pride Rally at Perry Square. Judith will be performing at Moonsense Cafe on November 5.

National News

seems so because they have the clout and resources to make themselves heard," the group said in a prepared statement.

Earlier this year the government banned the Nation party, the biggest annual gay event in Asia. The party had been held in Singapore since 2001.

Miers Stand on Gay Rights?

The Associated Press has reported that Supreme Court nominee Harriet E. Miers told a GLBT group in 1989 that she believed in equal rights for gay men and lesbians. However, during her campaign for the Dallas City Council, Miers said she did not believe Texas should repeal its ban on gay sex. That law was eventually overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court in June 2003.

During that city council election, Miers filled out a questionnaire for the Lesbian/Gay Coalition of Dallas. While her replies were sometimes ambiguous,

she said she would be willing to discuss the need for barring discrimination on the basis of AIDS and HIV. She also wrote: "I do consider the AIDS illness as a serious total community problem."

Although Miers make it clear she was not seeking the Coalition's endorsement, she came to talk with the group anyway. Coalition member Louise Young said Miers did not impress her as "a right-wing nut or anything like that," nor did she recall Miers taking any stand on gay issues during her short tenure on the Dallas City Council.

Miers was a registered Democrat in the 1980s and gave donations to Al Gore's 1988 presidential campaign and to the 1987 re-election campaign of Texas Democratic Sen. Lloyd Bentsen.

Subsequently, Miers has become a Republican and has recently been described as a "born-again Christian" by her close friend, former Texas Supreme Court Justice Raul Gonzales. Miers is a member of the evangelical Valley View Christian Church.



Chris and a couple of friends at the October 15 Pride Rally in Perry Square

Two Gay Men Climb to Enter "Guinness Book"

Two gay South African men who are HIV+ have climbed to the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro, a feat that may qualify them for the "Guinness Book of World Records."

Paddy Nhlapo, who has been HIV+ for 13 years, and Richard Yell, who has had the virus for nine years, were part of a four-person team who scaled Africa's highest mountain.

"By reaching the summit, Paddy and Richard appear poised to enter the 'Guinness Book of Records' as the first individuals living with AIDS to make the ascent," Johannesburg health officials said. The accomplishment proves that "AIDS need not limit your horizons or defeat your dreams," the officials added.

According to press reports, Nhlapo, who works on Khomanani, the South African government's campaign against HIV/AIDS, STIs and tuberculosis, said he wanted to send a message to the public that "people living with HIV should never be defined and confined by their HIV status."

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are also offered, please contact Sue at the Clarion office for that information.

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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Clearfield, Seneca, Sharon, Greenville y Farrell con personal especializado en el tratamiento de VIH.

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Erie Pride 2005 March & Rally

Erie Gay Pride March and Rally Celebrates Erie's Gay Communities

On Saturday, October 15, 2005, the Gay Male/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender and Allied communities of Erie County came together to celebrate the successes of the past year and the challenges of the upcoming year. Fall pride events have been held most years since 1998, and picnics have been held since 1992. The organizer this year was Dan Burdick, a faculty member in the music department at Edinboro University. The March included 60-75 people representing such diverse groups as PFLAG, Allegheny College, Penn State – Behrend, Edinboro University, the Erie County Health Department, and many others. Erie City Police led the March down State Street from the Zone to Perry Square. The crowd at Perry Square for the rally was estimated at 125 people. The Rally opened with moving comments by event co-sponsor and organizer, Patty Puline of the Erie County Department of Health about Jeff Grego, LGBT community leader who was recently killed in a plane crash. The keynote was given by Lee Edmondson – co-owner of Trance. Lee focused on speaking about positive changes that have happened in Erie in the last 40 years and gave specific examples of how to move forward. Other speakers included event organizer Michael Mahler – co-organizer of the rally and co-editor of the Erie Gay News, Zach – the first openly gay Homecoming candidate at Edinboro University, Kate Ebersole, CPCC, LCSW, of Authentic Lives Coaching, and Mark – the President of PFLAG. Two other featured speakers were Joy Greco – Republican member of the Erie County Council who is also running for Millcreek Supervisor. She spoke about how the County Council has supported the civil rights of all the citizens in the county. She has been instrumental in the changes enacted by the County Council. Brava to Joy! Another featured speaker was Joe Giles (D), Chair of the Erie County Council. He spoke about how the County Council has put into place budgetary and administrative details to make the Human Rights Commission possible. Again, great work by Joe and the Council! Also speaking was Kahan Sablo, Dean of Students at Edinboro University of PA (EUP) who read a supportive letter from EUP President Frank G Pogue

Entertainment was beautifully provided by Bob Bearfield, singer/songwriter from Erie, who performed a great set! [www.bobbearfield.com] Special guest from Colorado and West Virginia was Judith Avers, a singer/songwriter. [www.judithavers.com] She was also terrific and received enthusiastically by the crowd. Drag King T. J. Knight provided a great number between the singers and worked the crowd of happy women! The Rally ended with a special performance by Stephanie Callahan of the Jen Foster Group.

Photos and an article speaking positively about the event appeared on the front page of the next day's edition of Erie Times News. The local paper included photos showing the diversity of the event participants. Several people used their full names. Local NBC affiliate WICU-TV 12 also had coverage.

We also took a Family Portrait. The first Family Portrait was taken in October 1995 on the steps of the Erie County Courthouse. Previous photos and more info is available at www.eriegaynews.com. Erie Gay News also continued the tradition of taking face photos of community members who wanted to have their faces and photos at www.eriegaynews.com on the Friends and Supporters page. About 25 people took new or updated face photos.

The next Erie Pride event will be the 14th annual Pride Picnic on Saturday, June 10 at the Rotary Pavilion at Presque Isle. Planning is also expected to get underway in early November for next year's Fall Pride event. Info about past and future Pride events can be seen at www.eriegaynews.com/pride. One can also register for Pride events at that location.

Special thanks to the event sponsors – the Erie County Department of Health and Identity, Edinboro University's organization for lesbian, gay male, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and ally students. Special thanks also to the event co-organizers – Patty Puline, HIV/AIDS Education Coordinator at the ECDH, and Michael Mahler, co-editor of the Erie Gay News. Special thanks also to all the speakers and entertainers with a special thanks to Lee Edmondson, co-owner of Trance. Finally, special thanks to Bob Regan, owner of the Zone, for providing food and beverages at the start of the march. See you all at next year's event!

—by Dan Burdick and Mike Mahler

Images from Pride 2005



Brian Lonyo (above)



AJ and Lucy



Beth Robson and Kate



Meeting friends at the Rally in Perry Square

Pittsburgh Boat Cruise Sunday, October 30

**Boarding is from 5 PM
departure 5:30 PM.**

Boat will be back at 9 PM.

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