

October 2006



EGN

Erie Gay News



Standing on the Side of Love Concert

by Rev. Steve Aschmann

The Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus will perform in Erie on Sunday, October 22, at 4 PM at the Grand Ballroom of the Masonic Temple Building, 32 West 8th Street (on the corner of 8th and Sassafra). The performance will benefit the high school HIV/AIDS education program and the renovation of the sanctuary of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie. The tickets are \$15 with provision for senior citizens and students at \$10. Tickets are available at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Hwy or at the door before the performance. For further information call Rev. Steve Aschmann at 864-9300.

Please note that the concert will not be held at the church.

The Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus (BGMC) under the direction of Barbara L. Wagner performs a rich catalogue of classical, contemporary, Broadway, pop and multicultural selections. The repertoire is as diverse as the 90 men who are singing with pride as members of the BGMC. A balance of educating, entertaining and enlightening allows them to maintain their integrity as a gay chorus while providing inclusion and appreciation by all members of our respective communities.

The BGMC has been honored by the Empire State Pride Agenda with a Community Service Award. This award was in recognition of efforts to raise awareness and to enlighten with choral music. To that end, the BGMC has performed in a variety of venues throughout Western New York and Ontario, Canada, for many community events. Additionally, the BGMC has traveled to Montreal to participate in the seventh annual GALA Festival of Choruses, an international gathering for gay and lesbian choruses.

There will be a reception following the performance for all to celebrate harmony and community pride in Erie.

Erie Pride March/Rally Update

by Mike Mahler

The fall Pride March/Rally will be held on Saturday, September 30. Those wishing to march can assemble at noon at either the Zone, 133 W 18th St or at the Papermoon, 1325 State Street. Step off will be at 1 PM from the Zone, down to Papermoon at 1:15 and then to Perry Square for the Rally from 2 to 4 PM. Full details are at <http://eriegaypride.eriegaynews.com> and we encourage you to register at <http://www.eriegaynews.com/pride/register.php>.

Entertainers will include Melody, Miss Erie 2006; Rhiannon Angelina, Miss Trance Diva 2006;

(continued on page 4)



Scene from last year's Erie Pride Rally. This year's rally takes place September 30.

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Erie Gay News
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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.

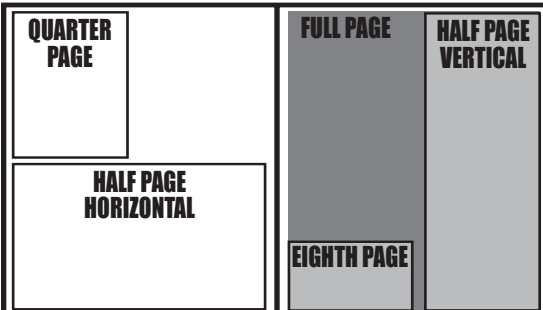
Views and opinions expressed in this publication don't necessarily represent those of the EGN staff.

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Thank You:

To Brian and Larry (who also hosted,) Bob, Brian, James von Loewe, Jack Walburn, Peter and Tim for folding; James von Loewe, Deb Spilko, John & Paula King, Bob, Brian, Jack Walburn and Brian for distribution. 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.

Classifieds Ads are now available for as little as \$10 for 30 words!
See page 6 for more info.



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 VERT.	\$90 - \$81 Prepaid	3 ¹ / ₂ " high X 6" wide
HALF HORZ.	\$90 - \$81 Prepaid	7" high X 2 ⁷ / ₈ " wide
FULL PAGE	\$160 - \$144 Prepaid	7 ¹ / ₂ " high X 6" wide

Camera ready art or manuscript and/or photos, illustrations and logos must be received by the 15th of the month.

Photos and Illustrations should be PDF or TIFF and HIRES.

All hardcopy ads submitted will be reproduced as close as possible.

Wednesday, October 11

Erie Art Museum Fundraiser *Exposure*

5:30 PM - 9 PM

Tickets \$20

All proceeds going to the Erie Art Museum. Featuring the work of local artists & featuring the work of local artists Evan Everheart, Rowan Rose, Don Joint. Performances by The Killerinas & Mas Nova. Art Auction. Hors d'oeuvres courtesy of Papermoon, Zodiac Dinor, & Lettuce Entice You.



Saturday, Oct 21st

80's Retro Night

A night of all your favorite 80's and retro dance music video hits.



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October 28th

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Community News

(continued from front page)

T.J. Knight; Temple of Bast; Bob Bearfield and Carrie Sample

Speakers will include Fran Reinsel from SHOUT Outreach; Rev Steve Aschmann of the Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie; and Joey Grego.

Tables present include: Erie Gay News, Sprint, Erie Gay Pride, PFLAG, Trance, Zodiac Dinor, Zone, Lambda Car Club, Liberty PA, NW PA Rural AIDS Alliance, Alive, Shout Outreach, Erie Country Human Relations Commission, Lake Erie Alliance for Democracy (LEAD), Touch of Salem, Erie Sisters and local artist Evan Everhart.

For more info, contact Dan Burdick at (814) 602-0252 or eriegaypride@yahoo.com.

In the event of bad weather the day of the event, please contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 about the rain location.

B.Y.K.O.T.A. (Be Ye Kind One To Another)

from BYKOTA

We are an LGBTQ group of seekers from diverse faith traditions. Our gatherings encompass spiritual nurture, discussion of LGBT issues, and mutual support.

We generally* meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month from 7-9 PM at the Unitarian Universalist Parish House in Meadville, 346 Chestnut Street (on Diamond Park, corner of Chestnut and South Main Street). *Check to confirm meeting dates. (holylisting@alltel.net or 814-724-1832)

All are welcome!

Our spiritual leader is Rev. Lyta Seddig



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Erie native, partner win podcast award

from Feast of Fools.net

CHICAGO, IL (August 15) – Feast of Fools podcast makes history as the first gay-themed podcast to win the People’s Choice Podcast Award.

This year marks the first time any gay themed podcast has won the award in its own GLBT category. Over 7.9 million votes were submitted making this year the most contested and anticipated for the awards.

Over the 15 day period from the 1st to the 15th of July, 3,285 shows were nominated from a submission pool of 875,000 nominations. A team of volunteers reviewed, listened and graded over 500 podcast sites and shows in order to determine the final voting slate. Recognized were the top five shows in 22 categories for a total of 110 shows representing a very diverse range of subjects. New categories for this year included Best Podcast Directory, Best Mobile Podcast and Best GLBT Podcast.

Fausto Fernós, from San Juan, Puerto Rico and his partner Marc Felion, from Erie, PA spearheaded the podcasting revolution in February 2005 with their comedy talk show, the Feast of Fools. As the first gay couple in history to produce a podcast, along with their ensemble of on-air personalities, the show’s irreverent look at odd news and cultural trends defined the podcast talk show genre and continues to rank on top of the charts as one of the most popular programs available online.

The Feast of Fools podcast holds the proud distinction of winning the 2006 People’s Choice Podcast Award and having the distinction of being the only GLBT podcast recognized by Apple Computer as a “pioneering show that helped bring podcasts from an underground movement to a mainstream phenomenon.”

Some of the show’s past celebrity guests have included: filmmaker John Waters, actress Teri Garr, comedian Kathy Griffin, drag legend Lady Bunny, and Star Trek legend George Takei.

Every show is downloaded on the range of 6000-8000 times a month, with an average weekly distribution of 30,000 downloads. As a result, The Feast of Fools podcast is the most popular comedy podcast

Community News

coming out of Chicago. No other gay-themed podcast has more listeners.

A real-life gay couple, Fernós and Felion bring light to many serious issues not brought up in mainstream media, but within the gay community itself. Bringing a sense of humor to their daily discussion on odd news and social trends they connect on a deep and personal level with their listeners five days a week.

Podcast Connect Inc. is the world's leading innovator in podcast marketing, The Podcast Connect Team has developed itself into a power house marketing arm for the Podcasting Community.

Please contact media@feastoffools.net, or call 773-818-7799 to schedule an interview with the show's hosts Fausto Fernós and Marc Felion. For more information on the Feast of Fools please visit www.feastoffools.net.

Trans Art Exhibit in Buffalo

from CEPA Gallery

CEPA Gallery's "Deviant Bodies 2.0" explores the margins of gender and representation by presenting photography-based work that speaks to issues and perspectives rarely made public. A companion to CEPA's critically acclaimed 2004 project "Deviant Bodies" (voted Best Art Exhibit of the Year by ArtVoice and earning the Gallery a 2005 Empire State Pride Agenda Community Service Award), this complex exhibition investigates ideas through the multiple lenses of Transgender, Genderqueer and Gender Variant perspectives. It will run from Sept. 29 to Dec. 17. CEPA Gallery is located in the historic Market Arcade Com-

plex in Buffalo, NY. CEPA stands for Center for Exploratory and Perceptual Art.

Gallery Director Lawrence Brose says that the Trans community runs the gamut of self expression. It is very different to be a white trans-person, a trans-person of color, a teenager, or a 40 year old. With these different points of view come numerous different notions of what it means to be a man, a woman, in-between, and beyond. "Deviant Bodies 2.0" presents a range of perspectives and experiences intersecting with issues of race, class, age, ability, sex, sexuality, and nationality, to show transgendered individuals as they truly are: angry, sexy, introspective, queer, and not like everyone else.

"Deviant Bodies 2.0" opens with a reception, free and open to the public, Friday, September 29 at 7 PM. The exhibition runs through December 17.

CEPA Gallery is located in the Market Arcade Complex at 617 Main Street, Buffalo NY. (716-856-2717) info@cepagallery.com www.cepagallery.com/



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- Excavating
- Fencing
- Snow Plowing and Removal
- Ice Control

Mr. Chad Hershey, CEO
Mr. Scott Palermo, Director of Operations

Classified Ads

We have been receiving inquiries about carrying classifieds in EGN, so we're trying them out to see what the response is.

The categories are wide-open—events, room-mates, items for sale, business offers, and of course, personals. Regarding personals, we're staying away from the sexually-explicit stuff. We're not into censorship or prudery, but that's just not where we want to go with this.

See classified section (below) for rates.



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EGN reserves the right to refuse any inappropriate classified.

RELIGION AND SPIRITUALITY

Making Distinctions

by Reverend Richard Moyer

The second chapter of James in the New Testament begins “My brothers, as believers in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, you must never treat people in different ways according to their outward appearance.” Verse eight of this chapter also contains the golden rule “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

This was one of the scripture passages that was read in many Christian churches on Sunday, September 10th. Most Bible scholars agree that James was a close relative of Jesus—either his brother or his cousin. He eventually became bishop of Jerusalem.

The context in which James is writing is a warning to those who make distinctions between the rich and the poor; favoring the rich. In the wider context, we who claim to be Christians must also understand that there are to be no distinctions concerning the love of God between male and female, the weak and the strong, the attractive and the unattractive, those who are gay and those who are straight. The list is endless.

Each of us is created in the image of God and therefore we are recipients of his love and grace.

Let us rejoice that God's love is so extravagant and far-reaching that it can and will include us all.

Community United Church is a place where spiritual pilgrims can find nourishment, the sacraments are celebrated, and the family of God's love gathers all together. **We are a Christian community of peace, justice and full inclusion.**

Reverend Richard Moyer is the pastor at Community United Church located at W 38th and Cascade.



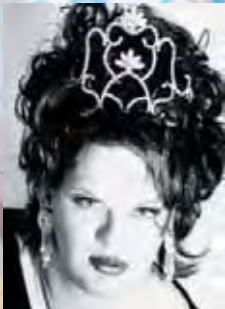
ERIE GAY PRIDE

Saturday, September 30, 2006

Entertainers



Temple of Bast



Rhiannon Angelina
Miss Trance Diva 2006



Melody,
Miss Erie 2006



Carrie Sample



T.J. Knight



Bob Bearfield

March Step off times:
1 PM at the Zone
133 West 18th Street
1:15 PM at the Paper Moon
1325 State Street

Rally in Perry Square:
2 to 4PM.

Speakers, entertainers,
Vendors and much more

Speakers

Fran from SHOUT Outreach
Rev Steve Aschmann
Joey Grego

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Tables present include: Erie Gay News • Sprint * Erie Gay Pride • PFLAG • Trance • Zodiac Dinor • Zone • Lambda Car Club • Liberty PA • NW PA Rural AIDS Alliance • Alive • Shout Outreach • Erie HRC • Evan Everhart • Touch of Salem • LEAD • Erie Sisters

Calendar

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

Sep 29 - "Pre Pride Party and Drag Show" at Trance Dance Club 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. Kick off Pride with some Kings, Queens, dancing girls and dancing boys. Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to <http://www.trancedanceclub.com>.

Sep 30 - Step-Off to the PRIDE Rally from Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. 12 PM. Join us at noon for a light lunch compliments of the Zone. Show your pride as we assemble for our march to Perry Square! Step-Off at 1 PM. Wear your Pride or Zone T-Shirts. Bring your signs and banners, we'll provide the Rainbow Balloons and Flags. Check out our booth at Perry Square. Give-Aways, Crafts, Prizes! Smile—Show your Pride! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Sep 30 - 2006 Pride March/Rally (Various locations, Erie, PA) 12 PM - 4:30 PM. See the article in this month's issue for more info. Phone: (814) 602-

0252. Email: eriegaypride@yahoo.com. Browse to <http://www.eriegaynews.com/news/article.php?recordid=2006fallpride>.

Sep 30 - "PRIDE! Party" at Trance Dance Club 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. Where the Rainbow comes to party. After showing your PRIDE in the afternoon, come out for the Post Pride Party at Trance. Wear the rainbow! Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to <http://www.trancedanceclub.com>.

Sep 30 - "Rainbow PRIDE Underwear Party" at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. Show your Pride at the Zone's Pride Party! Join us after the Pride Rally for a night of dancing and fun! Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, or purple—wear rainbow colors, any Pride or Zone T-Shirt and fun Joe Boxer Smiley Underwear (Show off your big smile at our Pride Party!) The Gay Rainbow ends here at the Zone. Phone: (814) 452-0125. www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Sep 30 - GLENDA Party (Franklin PA) Coon and Fox Club, Franklin PA. Details in last issue. \$5 adv / \$6 door. Info: Robyn at (814)437-0722 or (814)657-2698 and Ellen (814)678-2037.

Oct 1 - 31 - "Pirate's Treasure of Skull Island"—8th Annual Haunted Bar at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. All month long—October 1st thru 31st. Ahoy Mateys! Come board the Pirate Ghost Ship as we set sail from the Zone this Halloween on a month-long Pirate Adventure! After pillaging and plundering the Seven Seas, Pirate One Eye'd Willy and his Scurvy Crew have hidden their stolen treasure of gold and jewels somewhere on Skull Island! Mystical Mermaids have found the Treasure



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Calendar

Map floating in the lagoon in a bottle and will share its clues daily ... but *beware* of Shipwrecked Souls and Hungry Cannibals looking to feast on your flesh! Don't get caught by the Evil Pirates crew or you may have to walk the plank. Yo ho ho, and a bottle of Rum—Get into the Zone for some Halloween Fun! Come search the Zone, all month long for some Pirate Booty. Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to <http://www.thezonedanceclub.com>.

Oct 4 - 7 PM. 'The Guys' at Two Friends Italian Market 827 State St. Erie PA For more info, contact Brian at (814) 825-6203 or email eriebrian@gmail.com.

Oct 6 to 8 - Load the Boat 16 (Cleveland) Annual "fly-in" weekend of square dancing and social events presented by Cleveland City Country Dancers, (216) 251-1053, www.cccdohio.org

Oct 6 to 9 - Buffalo Bear Trap 2006 (Buffalo, NY) Browse to www.buffalobears.org.

Oct 8 - Mr. Tri-State and Miss Tri-State All-Star Pageants (Pittsburgh) Holiday Inn - North Hills (near Ross Park Mall), 4859 McKnight Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 7:30 PM. Cash bar. Two pageants for the price of one. Tickets \$25 in advance. Reserve tables can be purchased (10 seats per table at discount \$225). \$30 at the door. Music provided by Kelli Burns. Guest performance by Mr. and Miss Tri-State All-Star 2006, Simba R Hall and Necole Luv Dupree and Mr. and Miss Tri-State All-Star alumni. Phone: (412) 241-2329. Browse to <http://www.kierradarshell.com>.

Oct 10 - Voter registration deadline in PA

Oct 11 - National Coming Out Day www.hrc.org

Oct 11 - Erie Art Museum Fundraiser: 'Exposure' at Trance Dance Club 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. 5:30 PM - 9 PM. Tickets \$20. All proceeds going to

the Erie Art Museum. Featuring the work of local artists Evan Everheart, Rowan Rose, Don Joint. Performances by The Killerinas & Mas Nova. Art Auction. Hors d'oeuvres courtesy of Papermoon, Zodiac Dinor, and Lettuce Entice You. Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to <http://www.trancedanceclub.com>.

Oct 13 - Last day to register to vote in NY General Election

Oct 14 - 15 - Lambda Car Club Weekend: Autumn Adventure (Erie, PA) Sponsored by the Allegheny Region of the Lambda Car Club International. Visits planned to the Lucille Ball Museum, area wineries and more. Contact: Bob. Phone: (814) 456-9643. Email: LCCAllegheny@yahoo.com. Browse to <http://www.lambdacarclub.com>.

Oct 14 - Parrot Bay Island Party at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. The pirates of Skull Island are restless and with the help of Captain Morgan and a few bottles of his special RUM - are throwing a Parrot Bay Party! Come get Lei'd - Wear Hawaiian shirts and Grass skirts! Come enjoy a night on Skull Island with a tropical drink and a few island boys and girls! ...but beware—the Pirates lookin' for Booty... may try to lure you home and have their way with you! Yo Ho Ho and a bottle of Captain Morgan rum—Get into the Zone for some Halloween fun! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Oct 20 -29- Pittsburgh International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival Annual celebration of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered writers, directors, actors and their work. Website: www.pilgff.org

Oct 21 - Pumpkin Party at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. Don't sit around the waiting for

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Calendar

the Great Pumpkin—get into the Zone's 8th Annual Haunted Bar for a traditional night of Halloween fun and games. Extreme Pumpkin Carving Contest—bring us the Best-Carved Pumpkin and Win a prize. Trick or Treat! Wear black and orange or come dressed as a pumpkin. Try a pumpkin pie shot—or enter one of the many contests going on all night and win a prize. Get into the Zone— your party place to be! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to <http://www.thezonedanceclub.com>.

Oct 21 - 80's Retro Night at Trance Dance Club 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. A night of all your favorite 80's and retro dance music video hits. Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to <http://www.trancedanceclub.com>.

Oct 22 - The Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus performs in Erie 4 PM at the Grand Ballroom of the Masonic Temple Building, 32 West 8th Street (on the corner of 8th and Sassafras). The performance will benefit the high school HIV/AIDS education program and

the renovation of the sanctuary of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie. The tickets are \$15 with provision for senior citizens and students at \$10. Tickets are available at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie or at the door before the performance. *Note that this event will not be held at the Unitarian church!* For further information call Rev. Steve Aschmann at 864-9300. See front page for more details on the concert. More about the Chorus at www.buffalogaymenschorus.com

Oct 25 - 'The Guys' at Hookah Cafe 129 W 14th St (Union Station Complex), Erie PA. 7 PM. Informal get-together. Meets every 3 weeks. Now will be moving location each time. For more info, contact Brian at (814) 825-6203 or email eriebrian@gmail.com.

Oct 27 - Lost Treasures of the Divas! at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. Join the Divas' and Diva Dudes on a Swashbuckling Pirate Adventure! The Zone's Halloween Show -featuring House Diva Angelica Redd, Miss Erie 2006 - Melody!, and our own Michele Michaels! Get here early for a seat, and well show you our Treasures! Phone: (814) 452-0125. www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Oct 28 - 3rd Annual "Trancefantasy" Halloween Party at Trance Dance Club 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. Prizes for Best costumes! Contact: Lee. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Email: lee@trancedanceclub.com. Browse to <http://www.trancedanceclub.com>

Oct 28 - "Pillage & Plunder Halloween Party" at Zone Dance Club 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. Grab your friends and follow the treasure map into the Zone, because the ghost ship has docked on Skull Island and the pirates are ready to party! Come dance

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Calendar

on the ship's deck and drink from the galley—we're hunting for some Pirate booty to plunder. Come pilage your share of the pirates' treasure or find someone's family jewels. Come dressed as a Pirate Scoundrel or Wench, Mystical Mermaid or a Lost Shipwrecked Soul ... or just wear black. Prizes for Best Costume. Erie's Biggest and Best Gay Halloween Party! Yo ho ho, and a bottle of Rum—Get into the Zone for some Halloween Fun! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to <http://www.thezonedanceclub.com>.

Oct 31 - Halloween Night at the Zone 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. Get into the Zone for one last night to find some Pirate Booty. Yo Ho Ho and a bottle of rum...this is your *last* chance for some Halloween fun! Happy Halloween from the Staff of the Zone! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to <http://www.thezonedanceclub.com>.

Nov 15 - 'The Guys Location TBA. 7 PM. Informal get-together. Meets every 3 weeks. Now will be mov-

ing location each time. For more info, contact Brian at (814) 825-6203 or email eriebrian@gmail.com.

Nov 15-19 - 2006 Lake Erie Gala The Erie Sisters Transgender support group will hold its annual Lake Erie Gala at the Quality Inn & Suites, 8040 Perry Highway, in Erie. Info; (814) 746-5524 (best time to call is M-W-F 5 PM to 9 PM) or visit www.eriesisters.org

The graphic features the text 'EGN Erie Gay News' in black, with 'EGN' in a large, bold font. Below it, 'CALENDAR LISTINGS' is written in a blue, outlined font, and 'Are Free!' is written in a yellow, cursive font. The background shows a calendar grid with some numbers visible.

All listing entries must be received by the 15th of the month.



Jon Bostjancic is our newest case manager. He's been in the field of Social Work for the last 13 years. Jon says that he looks forward to continuing Jeff Grego's spirit and commitment as an advocate and voice for the HIV community.

The Northwest Pennsylvania Rural Aids Alliance

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For more information, contact:

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On stage

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

Through Oct 16 - "Bat Boy: The Musical" Reprise of campy musical. Box office, info, reservations at (814)456-5656 or in person at the Roadhouse Theatre for Contemporary Arts 145 West 11th Street.

Oct 6 - David Sedaris at Playhouse Square Center, Cleveland OH. www.playhousesquare.org

Oct 10 - David Sedaris University of Buffalo Center for the Arts, Buffalo NY. <http://www.ubcfa.org/>

Oct 10 - Elton John in concert Mellon Arena in Pittsburgh PA. www.mellonarena.com/

Oct 13 - Nov 4 - "Die, Mommie, Die!" at Buffalo United Artists (Main Street Cabaret) Comic melodrama by Charles Busch. www.buffalobua.org

Oct 21 - Joan Jett & the Blackhearts in Cleveland at the Agora. www.clevelandagora.com/

Oct 22 - Indigo Girls in concert Lakewood Civic Auditorium www.indigogirls.com/ Venue: <http://lkwdpl.org/schools/civicaud/>

Nov 1 - Augusten Burroughs at Playhouse Square Center, Cleveland OH. www.playhousesquare.org

Websites/email lists for area performers

Judith Avers www.judithavers.com/

Bob Bearfield www.bobbearfield.com

Carrie Sample www.myspace.com/carriesample

Jocelyn Porter Project www.jocelynporterproject.com

Leah Zicari www.leahzicari.com

Two Girls Alone <http://twogirlsalone.iuma.com> *email list: twogirlsalone@verizon.net.*



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THEATRE

Bat Boy: The Musical **Fridays and Saturdays at 8 PM September and October**

A musical based on a story in the Weekly World News, "Bat Boy: The Musical" flies its way back onto the Roadhouse Theatre's stage. First produced by the Roadhouse Theatre in 2005, the original Erie production of this raucous show received rave reviews, including a cover story of the Erie Times-News Showcase supplement and being listed as "Best Bat Boy Outside A Dugout" by the 2006 Best of Erie Guide.

In September, many of the original cast will reprise their roles, along with some fresh faces — this time directed by the Bat Boy himself, Ryan Dawley.

Bat Boy: The Musical is the story of the half-man, half-bat creature made famous in the June, 1992, issue of the tabloid newspaper Weekly World News. Found in a cave by three West Virginia teenagers, Bat Boy is brought to Hope Falls, West Virginia, where he is befriended by the veterinarian's family after being brought to the office to be put down. The doctor's wife and daughter decide to educate the boy so that he can join society. Meanwhile, the townsfolk begin to blame the deaths of the town's cattle on the freak of nature found in the caves. Now pursued by the entire town, Edgar must face his own past and confront what it means to truly be human, on the way to the show's thrilling climax.

Sometimes, as Bat Boy teaches us, love bites.

The Cast: Ryan Dawley, Lizabeth Crandell, Matthew Fuchs, Shannon Kearny, Christina Schaffer as Mrs. Taylor/Mayor Maggie, Bill Williams as Rev. Billy Hightower/Roy, Jeff Schroeder as Rick Taylor/Lorraine, Natalie Vindivich as Ruthie Taylor/Ned, James Kenworthy as Ron Taylor/Clem, and Alex Bolla as Bud/Daisy/Pan.

Performances are Fridays & Saturdays at 8 PM through October 21 (Note: September 22 and 23 the theatre will be used for the Great Lakes Film Festival). Prices: \$20 VIP table, \$15 riser seats, \$10 regular seating, \$7 students. Reservations can be made by phone at 814.456.5656 or in person at the Roadhouse Theatre for Contemporary Arts 145 West 11th Street. Box Office hours are 2-6 PM Tuesday - Saturday. The theater accepts cash, checks, Visa, MasterCard and Discover.

-from the Roadhouse Theatre



National News Briefs

by Bob

Arnold Terminates Textbook Law

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has refused to sign a law passed by the legislature that would ban school textbooks from using language that is discriminatory to gays.

Stating that the state's education laws already prevent such discrimination, Schwarzenegger said the bill "would not strengthen this important area of legal protection from bias based on sexual orientation." The bill would have expanded current California anti-discrimination laws by prohibiting any negative portrayal of gay people in school textbooks and other instructional material.

The final bill that was passed by the legislature had been amended by the state Assembly in an effort to avoid the Governor's veto. The bill's original version, written by openly gay state Sen. Sheila Kuehl, would have required social science textbooks to in-

clude the historical contributions of gay people. Kuehl, a Democrat, called the veto "inexplicable."

"I am extremely disappointed that the governor chose to respond to a small, shrill group of right-wing extremists rather than a fair-minded majority of Californians who support this reasonable measure," Kuehl said.

New Rules Mean More Gay Delegates in 2008

The Democratic National Committee has adopted new rules that will increase the number of LGBT delegates at the 2008 Democratic National Convention (DNC), the National Stonewall Democrats have announced.

Every four years, the DNC approves a series of rules to guide state parties in drafting delegate selection plans for the national conventions. At the DNC's recent meeting in Chicago, rules were implemented to take action to correct past under representation of gay people among delegates.

State party organizations will be required to adopt and implement inclusion programs for LGBT Americans, according to the DNC's Web site. The move was applauded by the National Stonewall Democrats, which lobbies for LGBT causes within the Democratic Party.

"Although these new rules will ultimately increase the number of LGBT delegates in 2008, the rule has broader significance," Jo Wyrick, executive director of the Stonewall Democrats, said in the statement.

"These rules will move state parties into deeper partnerships with LGBT Democrats that will last well beyond the 2008 convention," Wyrick said.

Wal-Mart Takes Steps to Advance Diversity

Wal-Mart and the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce have joined forces in an effort to advance diversity within the store's associate, supplier and customer bases.

According to published reports, Dee Breazeale, a vice president at Wal-Mart Stores Inc., will serve on the gay and lesbian chamber's Corporate Advisory Council, which works to educate corporate America

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<http://gayellowpages.com>

National News Briefs

on the benefits of workplace diversity. Other companies with representatives on the Corporate Advisory Council include IBM, Wells Fargo and Kodak.

As part of the agreement, Wal-Mart will also sponsor some of the chamber's programs, including two of its conferences.

"We are honored to have Wal-Mart's support of the NGLCC," said Justin Nelson, co-founder and president of the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. "Our partnership will not only provide more opportunities for the NGLCC but the business community as a whole."

The new Wal-Mart/NGLCC partnership is not without its critics. Jeremy Bishop, program director of Pride at Work, a constituency group of the AFL-CIO labor organization, criticized Wal-Mart for its inhospitality to gay and labor concerns.

He said he would rather see the chamber "demand that Wal-Mart create 'friendly' practices of, say, paying their employees above-poverty-line wages, offering affordable health care, and when that is done, they could think about offering domestic-partner benefits and dealing with the massive class-action lawsuit facing them regarding gender discrimination."

That lawsuit, the largest private civil rights case in U.S. history, alleges unequal pay and opportunities for up to 1.6 million current and past Wal-Mart employees, according to the Associated Press.

Ellen to Host Oscars

Comedian Ellen DeGeneres has been selected to host the 79th Academy Awards telecast in 2007, producer Laura Ziskin has announced. It will be the first time DeGeneres has hosted or appeared on an Academy Awards telecast.

"Ellen DeGeneres was born to host the Academy Awards," said Ziskin. "There is no more challenging hosting job in show business. It requires someone who can keep the show alive and fresh and moving, as well as someone who is a flat-out great entertainer."

"Ellen completely fits the bill. I can already tell she is going to set the bar very high for herself and therefore for all of us involved in putting on the show," Ziskin said

DeGeneres has twice hosted the Primetime Emmy Awards telecast and co-hosted the show in 1994.

"She just sparkles," said Academy President Sid Ganis. "She is such a pleasure to watch. Her wit cuts to the truth of things, but in a wonderfully warm-spirited way. I think she'll be a fantastic host for this show and we're extremely pleased that she's agreed to do it."

The 79th Annual Academy Awards Presentation will be broadcast live from the Kodak Theatre in Los Angeles by ABC Television on Feb. 25, 2007.

Pope Lashes Out at Canadian Laws

Pope Benedict XVI has criticized Canadian laws allowing same-sex marriage and abortion, saying they result from Catholic politicians ignoring the values of their religion.

"In the name of 'tolerance' your country has had to endure the folly of the redefinition of spouse, and in the name of 'freedom of choice' it is confronted with the daily destruction of unborn children," the Pope told a group of Canadian bishops visiting the Vatican.

The Pope said that such laws are the result of "the exclusion of God from the public sphere." He went on to say that Catholic politicians yielded to "ephemeral social trends and the spurious demands of opinion polls."

Benedict XVI has made the defense of traditional family values a major goal of his papacy, speaking out often on the issue. During a trip to Spain in July, he harshly criticized that country's Socialist government for instituting liberal reforms such as same-sex marriage and fast-track divorce.

Same-sex marriage became legal in Canada last year but the country's new leader, Conservative Prime Minister Stephen Harper, has pledged to hold a vote in the House of Commons later this year to determine whether the issue should be revisited.

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Regularly meeting

Always Our Children Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6, Catholic Charities, 329 W. 10th St, Erie, PA. For Catholic parents of GLBT children Phone: (814) 456-2091.

Deadline for print edition of Erie Gay News Oct 15, Nov 15, Dec 15, EGN, 1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA. Contact: Michael Mahler. (814) 456-9833. info@eriegaynews.com.

Butler Area Equality Project Oct 25, Nov 22, Dec 27, Ginger Hill UU Congregation, 174 S Main St, Slippery Rock, PA. 7 PM. Contact Reid at (724) 735-4407 butlerdiversity@yahoo.com.

Be Ye Kind One To Another (BYKOTA) Oct 3, Nov 7, Dec 5, **Please check to confirm dates!** Unitarian-Universalist Parish House, 346 Chestnut St, Meadville, PA. 7 PM. We are a cross-denominational Christian group of/for LGBT people – encompassing spiritual nurture, discussion of LGBT issues, and mutual support. *All are welcome* Phone: (814) 724-1832. Email: bykota@eriegaynews.com.

Wrap up meeting for Fall Pride Event and election of Erie Gay Pride officers Oct 15 Zodiac Diner, 2516 State St, Erie, PA. 2 PM. Meeting to wrap up Erie's Fall Pride event. The event will be held on September 30. Contact: Dan Burdick. Phone: (814) 602-0252. Email: eriegaypride@yahoo.com. Browse to http://eriegaynews.com/mailman/listinfo/event_eriegaynews.com.

Lake Erie Alliance for Democracy (LEAD) Oct 2, Nov 6, Dec 4, 218 E 11th St, Erie, PA. 7 - 8:30 PM. Contact: Cindy Purvis. Phone: (814) 453-4113. Email: cindypurvis@velocity.net. Browse to www.erielead.org

PFLAG Erie/Crawford County Oct 9, Nov 13, Dec 11, Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie, PA. 7 - 8:30 PM. Contact: Mark H pflagerie@eriegaynews.com. Phone: John at (814) 454-1392.

Support group for those dealing with loss Oct 10 at 7 PM, Oct 19 at 10 AM, Nov 14 at 7 PM, Nov 16 at 10 AM, Dec 12 at 7 PM, Dec 21 at 10 AM, Hospice of Metropolitan Erie, 202 E 10th St, Erie, PA. Ph: (814) 456-6689. Email: hospice@velocity.net.

The Guys Oct 4, Oct 25, Nov 15, Dec 6, Dec 27, Various locations, Erie, PA. 7 PM. Informal get together for gay/bi men at local establishments. Contact: Brian. Phone: (814) 825-6203. Email: eriebrian@gmail.com.

Highlights from The XVI International AIDS Conference

by Patty Puline, Contributing Journalist

(TORONTO)—What a time we had! Twenty-five thousand people attended this AIDS conference, a record shattering number. And, there's nothing like being a member of 3000 dedicated journalists covering one topic – AIDS.

Just the sheer fact that we were all reporting on one subject for seven days was huge.

My own project, "*Red Wagons, Red Flags*" was met with admiration, and individual discussions on how to replicate it in their own hometowns. Our work has been introduced to India, South Africa, Mexico, Germany, Serbia, Iran and Italy. I was able to make individual contacts with each of these government agencies, exchanging business cards and hoping to work together.

Dr. Reza Nassiri, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, had keen scientific insights into the conference. His work within the framework of science, pharmacy and virology will be published soon. His focus was on the incidence and the virulence of HIV among women, and he appeared on International TV.

Daily poster presentations, abstracts, conference program activities and workshops screamed at the multitudes "*Here, I am AIDS,*" and rightfully so. It was difficult to attend just one program, because you wanted to see and hear everything. Some of the larger workshops had overflow rooms, and I ended up in one of those while listening to Dr. Anthony Fauci, International AIDS scientist, speak about AIDS vaccines, microbicide gels and the new integrase inhibitors.

The science of AIDS has changed, and some of "*what's old is new again*" gave way to circuitous approaches in prevention as well. Focus on outreach to prostitutes was met with overwhelming success, which in Erie, is a reinvention of our original STOP – Street Outreach Prevention Project.

We introduced the concept of outreach to commercial sex workers, and so I was able to relate this to other countries. I learned about new approaches for prevention in India for rag pickers and rickshaw drivers, that's right, rickshaws. Cool, eh? Sort of reminds me of my outreach to truck drivers at truck stops, and, I learned from African health educators, that they are mirroring that in Uganda.

HIV prevention came alive in the Global Village, where giant puppets danced on the floor, and men dressed up like giant condoms allowed for one on one education. The street theater programs were entertaining and educational for everyone. Teens had their own voice through the Youth Conference, and their peer education programs, such as Peer Serbia, are paralleled in Erie by our affiliation with "Teen AIDS Peer Corps" Dr. Chittick, www.teenaids.org

Yours truly met Richard Gere, Bill Clinton, Bill and Melinda Gates, Rick Warren, Alicia Keyes and Laxmi Tripathi.

Laxmi is a tall, handsomely beautiful Hijra from India, who captivated the attention of conference attendees with her words, dress, makeup and attitude. He is typical of the thousands of men and women from across the globe who "strutted their stuff" pertaining to AIDS education and prevention methods. www.aids2006.org

By far, my most interesting discussion was with Laxmi who shimmered every day with her colorful makeup and long sari dresses of vibrant oranges and greens. She is a hijra – men who dress and act like women from India who preserve a third gender role through tradition.

Hijras do not try to pass for female, such as transsexuals might. They are neither male nor female, but a third gender, ensclosed in tradition in India for years, and often defined as eunuchs.

This is a picture of Laxmi Tripathi, a eunuch from Mumbai, and an AIDS activist, spreading awareness about AIDS. I met her at the conference, and spoke with her at length about the Dai Welfare Society, which she co-founded with her friend, Shabina Frances.

Laxmi works with the Mumbai District AIDS Control Society coordinating HIV preven-

(continued on next page)



Laxmi Tripathi

AIDS conference

continued from previous page

tion and AIDS awareness projects on the streets. Her work has been empowering for herself, and 70 members, all Hijras, to try to change the Constitution to include the word “transgender” and to fight for equal rights. The Dai Welfare Society attempts to end discriminatory practices such as social and economic stigma.

Another highlight of the conference was the powerful speeches of President Bill Clinton, and Bill and Melinda Gates. I met and interviewed Bill Clinton personally.



Bill Clinton

“Former President Bill Clinton leaped to the defense of the Bush administration’s AIDS efforts on Tuesday, saying the United States is spending more to fight HIV than any other government.” – NY Times, August 15, 2006

Amazing as it sounds, I listened to Bill Clinton sing the praises of Dub-ya and his PEPFAR program. He chastised others when they said he could have done more for AIDS during his presidential administration, stating “*I made a few mistakes during my presidency, but that wasn’t one of them.*” Guffaws were heard throughout the audience, and that tell-tale smile of his, like a chagrin cat, told us that he still had a sense of humor. Then, as the mood changed, men stood up to protest the shortage of nurses, and you could see his face change, and see that he took AIDS seriously, and has joined the fight now to punctuate his point.

“Clinton, whose foundation negotiates cheaper prices for drugs and HIV tests in developing nations, said PEPFAR has done a lot of good, despite a requirement that 33 percent of prevention funding be spent on abstinence-only programs.” NY Times, August 15, 2006

Rhetoric at the conference surrounded the lack of nurses, funding streams being cut for essential services, and the quizzical abstract of “*abstinence only.*” Both Bills denounced while simultaneously praising abstinence only programs for providing “*more good than*

harm.” While waiting for condoms, people are dying of AIDS, the power must be put back in the hands of women, this was a comment by Bill Gates, and echoed throughout the rest of the conference.

Again, thank you for allowing this reporter to attend the International AIDS Conference on behalf of Erie Gay News. Hope to see some of you in Mexico City for the next one in 2008!

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Rick exploits his kids in new ad

by Deb Spilko

Rick Santorum's big thing is being a "traditional," morally-upright daddy. A loving father who cares for his kids and protects them from all the awfulness in the world. It's what makes him feel superior to "homosexuals," "radical feminists," "the liberal elite," and all the other bogeymen that make up his religious right worldview.

And that is why it is so repulsive that Rick Santorum—the supposedly protective, loving, moral daddy—would use his kids in a recent negative campaign ad. The ad puts lies into the childrens' mouths. And it makes the kids believe that there are a lot of grown-ups out there who are against them, because they wanted to live near their father.

The issue behind this is that Pennsylvania taxpayers have been paying for the Santorum kids' education, even though the family has lived in Virginia for several years.

And yet the Santorum campaign puts these words into the mouth of 13-year-old Johnny Santorum, "My dad's opponents have criticized him for moving us to Washington so we could be with him more." Daniel, 11, says "And they criticized us for attending a Pennsylvania public school over the Internet."

Nobody has criticized the Santorum children. *Nobody*. And yet daddy Rick is apparently fine with letting them say this, and in causing them to believe that they are being condemned by a large number of grown-ups out there.

A father who truly cares about his children's well-being doesn't let them share the experience of being a target of some fairly serious criticism. A father who cares about his children's moral upbringing doesn't put lies into their little mouths.

The Philadelphia Inquirer (9/16/09) calls Santorum's use of his kids a "chicken-livered ploy." This is an excerpt:

"Just so nobody misunderstands, the following criticism is not aimed at the children of Sen. Rick Santorum (R., Pa.). The senator deserves this heat all to himself.

"In a new campaign commercial, he uses

his kids as a shield to deflect questions about his residency. It's a chicken-livered ploy.

"No, Senator, the criticism is not aimed at your children. It's leveled at you. Your children weren't the ones who decided to exploit Pennsylvania's loose cyber school law. You did.

"The questions aren't an attack on Santorum's moving his family to Washington. He has every right to do so; no reasonable person questions a parent's desire to maximize time with his or her children.

"But a moral conservative such as the senator should have no trouble accepting

(continued on next page)

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Stop Santorum

(continued from previous page)

that all actions have consequences, whether you like them or not. One may be that you can't take advantage of a tuition subsidy.

“Another is that, if you're in Congress, you're going to have to deal with the same concerns about an incumbent losing touch with the home front that Santorum exploited against his opponent in his first run for Congress in 1990.

“Santorum's attempt to spin all this as an attack on his children is disingenuous. It underscores how shaky his behavior here has been.”

Links to references in this article can be found in the web version of this article.

For more information visit:

Stop Santorum Now www.stopsantorumnow.org/
Santorum Exposed www.santorumexposed.com/

Fall TV Season

Sources for GLBT television and entertainment programming.

After Ellen <http://www.afterellen.com/>

After Elton <http://www.afterelton.com/>

GLAAD <http://www.glaad.org/>

here! <http://www.heretv.com/>

Logo <http://www.logoonline.com/>

Queery TV Gay Guide

<http://www.queery.com/tvgayguide/>

365Gay

<http://365gay.com/entertainment/tv/TV.htm>

“Quote- Unquote”

When I was in the military they gave me a medal for killing two men and a discharge for loving one.
~Epitaph of Leonard P. Matlovich, 1988

War. Rape. Murder. Poverty. Equal rights for gays. Guess which one the Southern Baptist Convention is protesting? ~The Value of Families

My lesbianism is an act of Christian charity. All those women out there praying for a man, and I'm giving them my share. ~Rita Mae Brown

Why is it that, as a culture, we are more comfortable seeing two men holding guns than holding hands? ~Ernest Gaines

Who would give a law to lovers? Love is unto itself a higher law. ~Boethius, The Consolation of Philosophy, A.D. 524

One should no more deplore homosexuality than left-handedness. ~Towards a Quaker View of Sex, 1964

The one bonus of not lifting the ban on gays in the military is that the next time the government mandates a draft we can all declare homosexuality instead of running off to Canada. ~Lorne Bloch

Soldiers who are not afraid of guns, bombs, capture, torture or death say they are afraid of homosexuals. Clearly we should not be used as soldiers; we should be used as weapons. ~Letter to the editor, The Advocate

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Corry Office
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Hispanic American
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814.453-4728

All services are free and confidential.

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Hi Biff, Did you hear that the every 3rd Wednesday, The Guys are gonna start meeting at different places? I think it's gonna be swell! Just give Brian a call at 814-825-6203 or E-mail at eriebrian@gmail.com

for tri-weekly meeting info!



Michael Dithers

by Michael Mahler

Well, September has certainly shaped up as a busy month! Hopefully, many of you will be attending the fall Pride March/Rally on Saturday, September 30. The full details are in Community News and also on the web at <http://eriegaypride.eriegaynews.com>. We encourage folks to register online in advance at <http://www.eriegaynews.com/pride/register.php>. Please note that Erie Gay Pride, Inc. (the group that is organizing the event) will be having elections of officers on Sunday, October 15 at 2 PM at the Zodiac Diner, 2516 State Street.

Also to add to the list of things to check out is the Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus benefit concert on Sunday, October 22 at the Masonic Building at 8th and Sassafras. This will help the Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie with necessary renovations, and also the Erie County Health Department with their educational programs. So, go! have a great time and note that you are also helping some very worthy causes.

This month has been a tad packed for me. I am on the board for the United NeoPagan Council of Lake Erie (UNCLE) and we had a very successful 2nd Annual Pagan Pride Day on September 9. We had over 250 people and collected just shy of 200 pounds for the food bank. (It would be nice if we could equal that for the Pride March/Rally the end of this month.) For the closing ritual at the event, everyone divided into tribes by the 4 elements and did face painting with the appropriate color. I chose fire/red and did my best to paint some pentagrams on my face. I was driving home from Chautauqua County and saw Deb walking away from my house, where she had been working on the newsletter. I had forgotten about having red paint all over my face, and she politely mentioned that I looked a tad, um, different.

The every 3 week social group called The Guys has been doing well since they have begun moving locations each time and also chatting up folks. The night before the most recent get together, I had a small meeting of the Erie Bloggers, one of the many hats that I wear. It was pretty small. Okay, just 2 other guys, and they both happened to be straight. When I went to The Guys the next night, there was a new guy there and we chatted a bit. Oddly enough, it turns out that he was the roommate of one of the straight guys at the blogger meeting the night before. Small world!

**DESIGNATED
DRIVERS
SAVE LIVES**



Check Out Our Website at: www.eriegaynews.com
for our list of locations



The Buffalo

*Gay
& Men's
Chorus*

Sunday

*October 22, 4PM
The Grand Ballroom
at the Masonic Temple Building,
32 West 8th Street, Erie, PA.*

The performance will benefit the high school HIV/AIDS education program and the renovation of the sanctuary of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie.

Tickets are \$15, senior citizens and students at \$10

Tickets are available at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Hwy or at the door before the performance. For further information call Rev. Steve Aschmann at 864-9300. There will be a reception following the performance for all to celebrate harmony and community pride in Erie.

Yo Ho Ho and a Bottle of Rum, Get into the Zone for some Halloween FUN!

8th Annual Haunted Bar!

Pirates of Skull Island!



October 1-31

Hunt for Treasure...

All Month Long!

Search the Island,
Lagoons, and Caves,

but

BEWARE!

...of Hungry Cannibals,
Ship-wrecked Souls,

and ...Pirates

lookin' for **Booty!**



October 28

Pillage & Plunder Halloween Party!

Dress as a Pirate! PRIZE for Best Costume!

Erie's Biggest & Best Gay Halloween Party!

The Zone Dance Club - 133 West 18th St. Erie, PA (814)452-0125

October 1-31

Pirates of
Skull Island!
Haunted Bar!
All Month Long!

Saturday Oct. 14

Captain Morgan
**Parrot Bay
PARTY!**

A night of Island FUN!

Saturday Oct. 21

**PUMPKIN
PARTY!**  -Wear Black & Orange!

PRIZE! -bring us the Best Carved Pumpkin!

Friday Oct. 27

Lost Treasures
of the Divas
Halloween Show!

Saturday Oct. 28

Pillage & Plunder
Halloween Party!
PRIZE for Best Costume!

www.thezonedanceclub.com