

April 2009



# EGN

## Erie Gay News



### **“GLBT, Same Sex & Equal Marriage”**

*from Susan Woodland and James Fisher*

Thursday, March 26, 7 PM, Edinboro University Pogue Student Center Multipurpose Room: Same Sex Marriage Panel Discussion. Same-sex marriage in the United States will be examined from legal, policy, and theological perspectives. With James Daniel Fisher, Associate Professor of Political Science and Board member of NWPACLU; Susan Woodland, President, NWPAC NOW; and the Rev. Jason Hickman., Presbyterian minister from West Middlesex PA.

The panel will address audience questions after brief remarks. Free and open to the public. Part of Edinboro University's Women's History Month events. Call 814-732-2409 for more information

### **Bears invite you to join them at Splash Lagoon, Dinner**

*By Peter G*

Ever thought it would be great to have a private event evening at Splash Lagoon? Well here is your chance! On Saturday, April 4, 2009, Drenched Fur 5 will host an exclusive event at the Splash Lagoon Indoor Water Park Resort. The event is from 10 PM until 2 AM and the cost will be \$40. There is also an option to have a Buffet Dinner and Splash Combo for \$60. The Buffet Dinner will be at the banquet room of the Quality Inn and Suites on Perry Highway. It is preceded by a cash bar Cocktail Party at 5:30 PM and Buffet Service begins at 7:30 PM. The buffet menu includes a wide variety of chef prepared items. If community members wish to participate in the evening, either Splash Lagoon or the Buffet Dinner and Splash Combo, please visit the DF5 website at [www.drenchedfur.com](http://www.drenchedfur.com) and click on Registration. (Advance registration is required).

The Splash Lagoon Event is sponsored by Drenched Fur 5 and is part of Erie's Bear Run Weekend. Approximately 200 visitors are expected from around the USA. The full listing of events for the weekend can be found at the Drenched Fur website



*Gay singer-songwriter Tom Goss celebrates the release of his new CD Back to Love with a special performance at Presque Isle Gallery and Coffeehouse Sunday April 5 featuring Jeremiah Clark. See page 19 for details.*

and include a bar crawl, a winery tour, casino visits, charity auction, vendor mall, and more!

Commemorative DF5 beach towels are also available to order via our website.

There is a 21 and over age limit because of the presence of alcohol on the premises.

If you have questions, please contact the DF5 Run Coordinator, Gary at [gnsnyder@drenchedfur.com](mailto:gnsnyder@drenchedfur.com) or leave a message at 814 384 0463.

### **“Not Just ‘Friends.’ We’re Family Too”**

*from Ken*

On Saturday, April 4, Edinboro University's GLBTs alliance, Identity, will be hosting an open symposium celebrating GLBT people and their families, and will feature renowned GLBT activist and author **Robyn Ochs**. Topics will include gay marriage and

*(continued on page 3)*

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**See page 4 for more info.**

## EGN Rates & Data

<b>QUARTER PAGE</b>	<b>FULL PAGE</b>	<b>HALF PAGE VERTICAL</b>
<b>HALF PAGE HORIZONTAL</b>	<b>EIGHTH PAGE</b>	

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	7" high X 2 7/8" wide
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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.



**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 for next issue: Monday, April 13;**  
**this will be distributed the night of Tues-**  
**day, April 21.**

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

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

We will not publish any material that 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 do not necessarily represent those of the EGN staff.



To Mike and Tom for hosting; Andrea, Bart, Bruce Shrout, C. Michael, Dave Martin, Don, Gary, James von Loewe, Janice Hanusik, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, John, Kim, Laurie Finch, Marshall, Mike, Oat, Robin Green, Sue S and Tom Wiler for folding; Bruce Shrout, C. Michael, James von Loewe, Janice Hanusik, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, John, Laurie Finch & Paula for distribution, Mike Lipiec for ad layout & etc. If you're interested in helping out, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or info@eriegaynews.com.

# Community News

gay adoption rights.

Registration begins at 11 AM and the welcome session begins at Noon in Butterfield Hall on the Edinboro University campus. The workshop sessions begin at 12:30 PM, and the keynote address will begin at 5 PM.

More detailed information can be obtained at [www.cs.edinboro.edu/~k4794051](http://www.cs.edinboro.edu/~k4794051) or by contacting [k4794051@edinboro.edu](mailto:k4794051@edinboro.edu) Read more about Robyn Ochs here: [www.robynochs.com/](http://www.robynochs.com/)

## Erie Gay Pride Launches T-shirt Design Contest

*from Erie Gay Pride*

Plans are underway for this year's Erie Gay Pride celebration on the weekend of July 25-26, sponsored by Erie Gay Pride, Inc.

For this year's event, the Pride Planning Committee is sponsoring a contest to design this year's official Pride T-shirts. Area graphic artists, designers and creative souls are encouraged to submit designs for the T-shirt. The winning design will be selected by the members of the Pride Planning Committee.

Here are the rules for entering the contest: The artist must be a member of the local GLBT community; all designs must be tasteful since they are to be worn publicly; the design is limited to the front of the shirt only; the design must incorporate the Erie Gay Pride logo (which can be seen at [www.eriegaypride.org](http://www.eriegaypride.org)), the slogan "One Community, One Voice" and the year 2009; the design should include rainbow colors somewhere and the artist's signature.

Contest submission must be in JPEG or PDF format only. They should be emailed to [eriepride@gmail.com](mailto:eriepride@gmail.com) or mailed to Erie Gay Pride, Inc., P.O. Box 8027, Erie, PA 16505. The deadline for submission is April 30. If you have questions about the contest or the rules, please contact Pride Planning Committee chairman Don Craig at [eriepride@gmail.com](mailto:eriepride@gmail.com).

Anyone who is interested in becoming involved in planning this year's Erie Gay Pride Weekend is welcome to attend the committee meetings. The next meeting will be Sunday, March 29, at 2 PM at the Community United Church, 1011 W. 38th St., Erie. Contact Don Craig at [eriepride@gmail.com](mailto:eriepride@gmail.com) for more information.

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the Ryan White Care Act of 1990

# National Equality Rally at Philly's Independence Hall May 3

*from Equality Forum*

The National Park Service (NPS) has issued a First Amendment permit to Equality Forum for a National Equality Rally at Independence Hall on Sunday afternoon, May 3, 2009 at Independence National Historical Park.

Grassroots activists, organizations and straight allies will March for Equality on Independence Mall (from the National Constitution Center to Independence Hall) to rally for:

- Passage of trans-inclusive hate crimes legislation and the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA)
- Repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA)
- Support for GLBT health issues
- Equal benefits for same-sex families
- Same-sex marriage Equality

Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell are where the Gay Pioneers held the first organized gay and lesbian civil rights demonstrations called "Annual Reminders" each Fourth of July from 1965 to 1969. The Annual Reminders laid the groundwork for the Stonewall Riots in 1969 and the first New York Pride Parade in 1970.

Organization representatives will carry the name of their organization on pole-mounted placards. Movement leaders will carry Equality messages. Organization members and the public will be offered American



and rainbow flags. After completion of the March for Equality, demonstrators will assemble on Independence Mall for a one-hour high-impact Rally.

"Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell are where the movement was launched. With a new Congress and a President who describes himself as a 'fierce advocate' of our civil rights, it is the right moment for us to join hands at an iconic location to demand Equality," stated Malcolm Lazin, Executive Director of Equality Forum.

Equality Forum is a national and international GLBT civil rights organization with an educational focus. The National Equality Rally at Independence Hall will be held on the concluding day of Equality Forum 2009 (April 27 to May 3), which features over 50 programs – 34 panels, 8 parties and 10 special events including SundayOUT!, Pennsylvania's largest GLBT street festival. .

For more information about the National Equality Rally at Independence Hall, visit [www.nationalequalityrally.org](http://www.nationalequalityrally.org). For information about Equality Forum, visit [www.equalityforum.com](http://www.equalityforum.com).

## CLASSIFIEDS

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COMING NEXT MONTH  
NWPV VOTERS GUIDE

# Calendar

This calendar is also online at [www.eriegaynews.com/calendar.html](http://www.eriegaynews.com/calendar.html)

**Mar 25 (Wed) - Showing of Milk with Panel Discussion** (SUNY Fredonia, Williams Student Center, downstairs, Fredonia, NY 14063) 1 PM. Showing of Academy Award nominated Milk, about the life of openly gay San Francisco supervisor Harvey Milk. Followed by panel discussion, including Jamestown NY City Council President Greg Rabb who is the first openly gay elected public official in the region. Phone: 716.673.3111. Browse to <http://www.fredonia.edu/>

**Mar 25- Guelcher: "Milk"** Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center at Mercyhurst College, Erie PA. 2:15 p.m. and 8 p.m. For tickets and information visit <http://pac.mercyhurst.edu/events>

**Mar 26 (Thu) - Panel on Same-Sex Marriage** (Edinboro University, Frank G Pogue Student Center - Multipurpose Room, Edinboro, PA) 6:30 PM. See details front page of this issue.

**Mar 28 (Sat) - Mixers Tavern Benefit Drag Show ... Inspiration** 204 Coleman St, Olean, NY 10:30 PM. \$4 cover. Proceeds to benefit a local campaign that helps as many children as they possibly can. Please come out and support our cause - children are our future. Performers: Miss V, Diva D Vyne, Licia Paige, Johnny Paige, Eursula Thunderpussie, Oliver Klosoff Phone: (716) 372-1004. Email: [v2hot4u14760@aol.com](mailto:v2hot4u14760@aol.com). Browse to <http://www.mixerstavern.com>.

**Mar 29 (Sun) - Erie Gay Pride - Pride Weekend Planning Meeting** (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA 16508-2540) 2 PM. Everyone is welcome to join in on helping us plan for the Pride weekend put on by Erie Gay Pride July 25-26. Contact: Don. Email: [eriepride@gmail.com](mailto:eriepride@gmail.com).

**Mar 31 - Renaissance City Women's Choir: Lesbians and Gays Creating Change through the Power of Music** will perform March 31 at Edinboro University, Alexander Music Center Recital Hall, Edinboro, PA. Reception to follow the event - open to the public. This is the closing event of Women's History Month at Edinboro University. See last month's issue for details Visit [www.rccpittsburgh.org](http://www.rccpittsburgh.org)

**Apr 2 (Thu) - Always Our Children meets** (Nazareth Center, 517 E 12th St, Erie, PA 16503) 1 PM - 3 PM. For Catholic parents of GLBT children. First time attendees should contact the facilitator before attending

at (814) 456-2091.

**Apr 3 (Fri) - G2H2 - Erie Gay Business Alliance social get together** (Nelson's Tavern, 1033 State St, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM - 8 PM. Gay Guy/Girl Happy Hour (G2H2) is a monthly get together for GLBT professionals and their colleagues and friends meet for networking. You can also sign up for the Erie Gay Business Alliance email list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com>. Email: [egba-owner@eriegaynews.com](mailto:egba-owner@eriegaynews.com). Browse to [www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=54742829807](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=54742829807).

**Apr 3 - 5 (Fri - Sun) - Drenched Fur 5 Quality Inn South, 8040-A, Erie, PA 16509.** Erie's 5th annual Bear run! Contact: Gary Snyder. Phone: (814) 384-0463. Email: [info@drenchedfur.com](mailto:info@drenchedfur.com). Browse to [www.drenchedfur.com](http://www.drenchedfur.com).

**Apr 3 (Fri) - Under-Bear Party - Zone's Bear Bar Night!** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA). The Zone welcomes all the guys from Drenched Fur to a night of Show off your Under-Bear! Wear *fun* boxers and underwear and let's see some fur! Hungry? Grab a bite to eat from the Zone Kitchen, Try a Zone Twister

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# Calendar

Cocktail & join your friends on the Video Dancefloor as fellow bear DJ TC plays your requests! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to [www.thezonedanceclub.com](http://www.thezonedanceclub.com).

**Apr 3 (Fri) - Craze welcomes Drenched Fur 5** - 1607 Raspberry Street, Erie. "Join us for a night of fun, drkinking, danding, re-uniting, and a woof of a good time!" [www.myspace.com/crazeerie](http://www.myspace.com/crazeerie)

**Apr 4 (Sat) - Symposium: Not Just 'Friends' - We're Family Too** (Edinboro University, Butterfield Hall, Edinboro, PA 16444) 11 AM. Details front page of this issue. <http://www.cs.edinboro.edu/~k4794051>.

**Apr 4 (Sat) - Vertigo Dance Party** (Vertigo, 300 E Jefferson St, Butler, PA 16001) 9 PM. 18 and over. \$5 cover. BYOB. Email: [vertigov@aol.com](mailto:vertigov@aol.com). Browse to <http://www.myspace.com/butlervertigo>

**Apr 5 (Sun) - LBT Women of Erie meets** Presque Isle Gallery Coffeeshouse, 35 Peninsula Drv, Erie. 2 PM. Social group for lesbian, bisexual and transgendered women. Meets the 1st Sunday of each month at Presque Isle Gallery Coffeeshouse. Sign up for email list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com/> For more info,

call Laurie at (814) 452-6645. Email: [womynspace-owner@eriegaynews.com](mailto:womynspace-owner@eriegaynews.com). Browse to <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>.

**Apr 5 (Sun) - CD release party for gay singer-songwriters Tom Goss and Jeremiah Clarke** (Presque Isle Gallery Coffeeshouse, 35 Peninsula Drv, Erie, PA 16505) 2 PM.

**Apr 10 (Fri) - Vertigo Dance Party - Toy Party hosted by the East Brady Guys** (Vertigo, 300 E Jefferson St, Butler, PA 16001) 18 and over. \$5 cover. BYOB. Email: [vertigov@aol.com](mailto:vertigov@aol.com). Browse to <http://www.myspace.com/butlervertigo>

**Apr 10 (Fri) - Watchfire Alliance** Next meeting date is Friday, April 10 at 7:00 PM at the UU Church in Jamestown, 1255 Prendergast Ave, for a Birthday and Games event. "If you have a birthday sometime this year, so do we! Celebrate with us!" Bethany mailto:[brobson515@msn.com](mailto:brobson515@msn.com) (716) 499-4817.

**Apr 10 (Fri) - Zone Dance Club: Easter Drag Show** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 11 PM. "Hop on down the bunny trail to the Zone for a night of entertainment. It's our annual Easter drag show with all your favorite Zone Divas. Get here early as tables fill up quickly. Show time is 11 pm! Then, stay for a night of fun and dancing on Erie's first all video dance floor!" Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to <http://www.thezonedanceclub.com>.

**Apr 11 (Sat) - Zone Dance Club: Easter Bunny Hop**, 133 W 18th St, Erie. "Guys - hunt for a nice big basket! Ladies - find a cute cuddly chick! Join your friends for a 'hopping' good time!" Phone: (814) 452-0125. [www.thezonedanceclub.com](http://www.thezonedanceclub.com).

**Apr 12 (Sun) - Zone Dance Club open on Easter**

# HIV

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**Thursday 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

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[chad@hondacarsofmeadville.com](mailto:chad@hondacarsofmeadville.com)

# Calendar

**Sunday** 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) "Easter Sunday with your 'Gay Family and Friends' at the Zone.." (814) 452-0125. [www.thezonedanceclub.com](http://www.thezonedanceclub.com)

**Apr 13 (Mon) - Deadline for EGN May 2009 print edition** Please have all articles, ads, and submissions in by this date. This issue will be released the evening of April 21. For a complete list of upcoming deadlines and release dates, check the print edition schedule here. Contact: Mike. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: [info@eriegaynews.com](mailto:info@eriegaynews.com). Browse to [www.eriegaynews.com](http://www.eriegaynews.com).

**Apr 13 (Mon) - PFLAG Erie/Crawford County meets** Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie. 7 PM - 8:30 PM. Support group for parents, friends and families of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered (GLBT) people. Phone: (814) 454-1392 (John). Email: [pflag.erie.crawford@gmail.com](mailto:pflag.erie.crawford@gmail.com).

**Apr 16 (Thu) - Lecture Series: GLBT, Hate Crimes and Human Rights in the Criminal Justice System** Edinboro University, Hendricks Hall, Room 200, Edinboro, PA. 11 AM. Speaker: Elvage Murphy (Dept. of Pol. Sci./Criminal Justice). This event is part of Criminal Justice Day. Part of Edinboro University of Pennsylvania President's Commission on the Status of Gay Men, Lesbians, Bisexuals, Transgender People, and Allies 2008-2009 Lecture Series.

**Apr 17 - 18 (Fri-Sat) - 2009 ACLU of Pennsylvania Membership Conference** (Harrisburg/Hershey Holiday Inn Conference Center, 604 Station Road, Grantville, PA 17028) Speakers, workshops on a variety of topics (including LGBT anti-discrimination laws in PA) and much more! Phone: (215) 592-1513 x122. Email: [aclupa@aclupa.org](mailto:aclupa@aclupa.org). Browse to [www.aclupa.org](http://www.aclupa.org).

org/conference.

**Apr 19 (Sun) - Pride Picnic Meeting** (Panera's Yorktown, 2501 W 12th St, Erie, PA 16505) 2 PM. Come help us plan for the 17th Annual Erie Pride Picnic on June 13. Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: [info@eriegaynews.com](mailto:info@eriegaynews.com). Browse to <http://picnic.eriegaynews.com>.

**Apr 21 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distributing work party Mike Kohler's, 614 Cherry St, Erie PA, Erie, PA. 7 PM.** Help us get out the print edition of Erie Gay News. We'll be folding and distributing the copies. All ages are welcome. It is also a great way to hang out and chat with folks! Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: [info@eriegaynews.com](mailto:info@eriegaynews.com). Browse to [www.eriegaynews.com](http://www.eriegaynews.com).

**Apr 22 (Wed) - LBT Women of Erie go to Dueling Pianos** (JR's Last Laugh, 1402 State St, Erie, PA) 5 PM - 9 PM. Come and laugh .. for free! Phone: (814) 452-6645. Email: [womynspace-owner@eriegaynews.com](mailto:womynspace-owner@eriegaynews.com). Browse to <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>.

**Apr 23-26 - Cleveland Leather Awareness Weekend**

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# Calendar

[www.clawinfo.org/](http://www.clawinfo.org/)

**Apr 24-26 - Opening Weekend at Jones Pond Welcome Home Potluck** [www.jonespond.com](http://www.jonespond.com)

**Apr 27-May 3 - Equality Forum** (Philadelphia) 50 programs, 24 panels, 8 parties 10 special guests, and PA's largest street party. [www.equalityforum.com](http://www.equalityforum.com)

**May 2 (Sat) - Zone's Spring Break Fiesta!** 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. -Girls & Guys Gone Wild! -Get into your Latin groove as we play a little hot salsa, drink a few cold coronas, and fiesta the night away. Try a margarita or strawberry daiquiri from our frozen drink machine! Vamos en el Zone!

**May 23 (Sat) - LBT Women of Erie go to Campbell's Pottery** Campbell Pottery Gallery and Store, 25579 Plank Rd, Cambridge Springs PA. 11 AM. Going to see Master Glass Artist, Herb Thomas, who will be there creating glass vases, paperweights and other items while you watch. Rain or shine, it is under the pavilion. Phone: (814) 452-6645. Email: [womynspace-owner@eriegaynews.com](mailto:womynspace-owner@eriegaynews.com). Browse to <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>.

## Information is Power

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[www.stophiv.com/pms](http://www.stophiv.com/pms)

# On Stage

## The Vagina Monologues at Allegheny

The Vagina Monologues will be performed on March 30th at 8pm in Shaffer Auditorium in the Allegheny College Campus Center in Meadville PA,. They will be selling tickets at the door. The prices are \$3 for non-students and \$2 for students. . The award-winning play is based on V-Day Founder/playwright Eve Ensler's interviews with more than 200 women. With humor and grace the piece celebrates women's sexuality and strength. Through this play and the liberation of this one word, countless women throughout the world have taken control of their bodies and their lives. For more than twelve years, The Vagina Monologues has given voice to experiences and feelings not previously exposed in public.

The Vagina Monologues has been produced in thousands of colleges, universities, cities, towns and high schools since 1998, with unrivaled success. These events have been responsible for raising millions of dollars for local charities over the last 10 years.

For advance reservations email [porterm2@allegheny.edu](mailto:porterm2@allegheny.edu)

For more on V-Day visit <http://newsite.vday.org/>

## Charles' Busch's Camp Classic at Clarion Main Campus

Clarion, PA—Clarion University Theatre closes the season by throwing open the closet doors with Charles Busch's camp classic comedy "Psycho Beach Party," a high spirited parody of 1960's beach party/Gidget surfing movies mixed with Hitchcock thrillers, psychological pot-boilers with a healthy dose of "Mommie, Dearest" thrown in for good measure. Performances are scheduled April 15-18 at 8 p.m. and April 16 at 2 p.m. in Marwick-Boyd Little Theatre.

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for Clarion students with a valid student identification cards. The play is not suitable for children. For tickets contact (814) 393-ARTS or visit [www.clarion.edu/19107](http://www.clarion.edu/19107).

This effervescent comedy is set in 1962 Malibu where high school boys and girls are invited to the luau of the season where they meet surfer bums and college kids enjoying the summer. Into the mix comes



# On Stage



*"Psycho Beach Party" at Clarion main campus April 15-18*

a Hollywood starlet, best known for her "B-movies" like "The Pizza Waitress With Three Heads," and "Sex Kittens from Outer Space," who wants to escape the studio and be taken seriously as an actress. As well as a teenaged wannabe surfer-girl with multiple personalities one of which is bent on taking over the world.

"Busch wrote the lead role of Chicklet, a teen-aged girl, for himself," explains Bob Levy, director of the production and Chair of the Clarion University Theatre Department. "maintaining that tradition, several of the female roles are played by men, and some of the men, played by women."

The sets, designed by Ed Powers, associate professor of theatre, are a celebration of Hawaii Kai, Trader Vic's and every tacky Polynesian theme restaurant of the 1960s.

This performance is ASSIGNED seating if you wish to sit together as a group, please submit your reservations together.

## Coming Up

**Through Apr 18 - Buffalo United Artists: "In Gabriel's Kitchen"** In Gabriel's Kitchen is the debut play of Salvatore Antonio centering on an Italian-Canadian family's reaction to their son's homosexuality. For Gabriel, the youngest son, falling in love leads to decisions which cannot be reversed. For Gabriel's family, the subsequent loss of their favorite child means a silence of denial and the slow crumbling of a family built on Old World morals. [www.buffalobua.org](http://www.buffalobua.org) No one under 18 admitted. For reservations, call (716)886-9239

**Mar 31 - Renaissance City Women's Choir: Lesbians and Gays Creating Change through the Power of Music** will perform March 31 at Edinboro University, Alexander Music Center Recital Hall, Edinboro, PA. Reception to follow the event - open to the public. This is the closing event of Women's History Month at Edinboro University. See last month's issue for details Visit [www.rccpittsburgh.org](http://www.rccpittsburgh.org)

**Apr 1 - David Sedaris in Pittsburgh** at the Benedum Center, 7:30PM [www.pgarts.org](http://www.pgarts.org)

**Apr 1 - Rachael Sage in Oil City** Robert W. Rhoades Center, Clarion Venango Campus, Oil City PA. Free and open to public. Part of Coffeehouse Series. [www.myspace.com/rachaelsage](http://www.myspace.com/rachaelsage)

**Apr 3 - Dreams of Hope "That's So Gay!" in Warren OH** Kent Trumbull Theater Kent State University Warren campus 4314 Mahoning Ave, NW Warren, OH 44483 Free and Open to the Public. Trumbull Theater Info (412) 361-2065 [www.dreamsofhope.org/](http://www.dreamsofhope.org/)

**Apr 4-5 North Coast Men's Chorus "On With the Show,"** In Cleveland. For locations and times visit [www.ncmchorus.org](http://www.ncmchorus.org), call (216)556-0590.

**Apr 5 - Tom Goss in Erie** at Presque Isle Gallery and Coffeehouse, 35 Peninsula Drive, Erie PA.

**Apr 7 - k.d. lang in Pittsburgh** at the Benedum Center, 8 PM [www.pgarts.org](http://www.pgarts.org)

**Apr 16-19 - "Cabaret" performed at Penn State Behrend** [www.behrend.psu.edu](http://www.behrend.psu.edu)

**Apr 20 - Indigo Girls in Buffalo** at University At Buffalo Center for the Arts 103 Center for the Arts 8:00 PM

**Apr 17 - Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus at Lancaster Opera House Lancaster NY** [www.lancopera.org/april09.html](http://www.lancopera.org/april09.html)

# PA House State Government Committee Passes Legislation to End Discrimination

*By Jake Kaskey*

*Policy and Outreach Coordinator, Equality Advocates Pennsylvania.*

(Harrisburg, PA) – Members of the Pennsylvania House State Government Committee on March 11 passed legislation out of their committee prohibiting discrimination on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity or expression in housing, employment, and public accommodations by a vote of 12 to 11.

“Thousands of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people across Pennsylvania thank members of the State Government Committee for their commitment to basic fairness,” said Jake Kaskey, policy and outreach coordinator of Equality Advocates Pennsylvania. “This legislation has broad support from all corners of Pennsylvania, so we look forward to the bill moving to the floor of the State House for a vote.”

Rep. Dan Frankel (D-Allegheny County) introduced the bill, House Bill 300, which would amend the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act to include “sexual orientation” and “gender identity or expression” as protected classes, on March 4 with a record 79 co-sponsors from both parties and from across the commonwealth.

“I’m very pleased committee members took the first step in providing basic protections for all Pennsylvanians,” Frankel said. “Pennsylvania is at a competitive disadvantage when it does not protect all of its citizens against discrimination, and I look forward to the entire House voting to pass this important legislation.”

House State Government Committee Chairperson Babette Josephs (D-Philadelphia) held public committee hearings on similar legislation in Philadelphia,

Pittsburgh, and Erie last session. “I’m excited that the committee has finally passed this important legislation,” Josephs said. “Ensuring every citizen of this state has the opportunity to work, and retain housing, is a core principle of fairness for all Pennsylvanian.”

House Bill 300 will now move to the entire House of Representatives for a vote.

“We are very encouraged to see this important legislation successfully passed through the State Government Committee,” added Andy Hoover, legislative director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania. “We hope the full House takes up this bill quickly and deliberatively.”

Current Pennsylvania law provides basic legal protection against discrimination on the bases of race, color, religion, ancestry, age, national origin, handicap or disability, education and the use of a guide dog. Thirteen Pennsylvania municipalities have already enacted civil rights laws including protections based on sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, but nearly eighty percent of the state’s twelve million residents live or work in communities that do not provide these protections. Twenty states in the country have similar laws, including our neighboring states of New Jersey, Maryland and New York.

Pennsylvanians from every corner of the state met in the Capitol Rotunda at 1 PM on Tuesday, March 17, to rally in support of House Bill 300. (See article next page)

The Value All Families Coalition is comprised of diverse statewide, regional, and local organizations that support equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Pennsylvanians.

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# Pennsylvanians Rocked the Dome!

## A Report on the Rally and Lobby Day for Equality in the State Capitol

by Kathleen Czarnecki

Harrisburg, Pa., March 17, 2009— From start to finish this was a really exciting and educational experience.

The bus ride down to Harrisburg was a really good opportunity to network with other people from Pittsburgh and Mercer.

Once we arrived, we were greeted and welcomed by the staff of St. Michael's Lutheran Church who provided a great lunch and a chance to stretch from the long ride down state. While there, we received a brief introduction to the rally, and how to lobby our local representatives once the rally was over. There were about 300 people from all over the state who came for the day. Once inside the Capitol, we were asked to gather on the steps in the middle of the building. Media from the paper, television and other local social service agencies were everywhere. The steps were completely full, many holding signs representing where they were from and what organization they represented.

Jake Kaskey from Pennsylvania Equality Forum spoke on how important it was for House Bill 300 to finally pass. He introduced several speakers at this point, many representatives who supported and/or sponsored the Bill. The speeches were all very powerful, many referencing past civil rights movements as an example of what perseverance and belief in equality can do. Just to be standing on the steps was an empowering feeling. To know that as the Bill passes, our showing up in person will be part of the reason it does. To be a part of living history is an amazing feeling.

After the rally, we were instructed on where to find our local representatives within the Capitol. We were to provide them with a packet of information provided by the staff at Pennsylvania Equality Forum if they currently do not support House Bill-300 to let them know how this personally affects them, and to encourage them to vote for the bill. If they did support it, we were to go and personally thank them for their willingness to recognize all gay and lesbian citizens as equal. Our representative, Flo Fabrizio, was currently in session, so we left a note for him to read, and made plans to visit him in the Erie office.

I e-mailed the staff that coordinated the event to



*Photo by Daniel Denvir*

thank them for providing such a great experience, and to let them know we are looking forward to participating in any future trips to Harrisburg, Washington, or wherever the ride to equal rights might take us. It would be a great statement of our support and encouragement if we could fill our own bus for the next rally. I would ask that each of you think about attending. If we get to experience equal rights in the future, it will be because we put a name and a face to this most personal issue. Log on to [www.equalitypa.org](http://www.equalitypa.org) to learn what is happening in the state, and when the next rally might take place...and then please, take the time, and take a stand.

**Learn more about House Bill 300 in  
the article on the facing page**

# Lasered!

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## My journey into the world of Cosmetic Enhancement

**Jeff Hill**

I had a cosmetic procedure done on my face at Good Health Rejuvenation, (<http://www.good-healthrejuvenation.com/I>) It's Lent. Confession is good for the soul. The procedure was good for my face. My grooming consists of self (badly) cut hair, soap, shampoo and sometimes shaving cream. Hardly a perfectly primmed metrosexual. I'm 52, bald, and my face has an "honesty based on life experience". I'm comfortable with it. So how did I end up in Dr Michele Polon's office? Well, I was talking to Mike, co-editor of this newsletter, and he mentioned that (time for the disclaimer) Good Health Rejuvenation has an ad and was thinking of running a contest. He needed: a guinea pig.... er, someone to undergo a procedure and make an endorsement. I thought Joan Rivers, yuck. Mike said they had a laser. I thought "back hair be gone!" Greedily I contacted Ronda at Good Health. We set a date to assess my wants, sorry, *needs*.

The day came. The office is located at 1339 West 6th street across from the Erie Day School. Michael the receptionist smiled and handed me the personal history quiz. It's a doctor's office and very professional. The waiting room is stylish and comfortable. I heard happy children's voices. Dr. Polon does family practice. No screams, good sign. Ronda appeared and was as down-to-earth and friendly in person as on the phone. Thankfully her sense of humor helped my nerves. We went into an exam room to discuss different procedures, expected results and cost. She is articulate, up front, and to the point. Examining my face through a magnifying glass, she commented my skin wasn't bad for 52. Immodestly I agreed. Was that the beginnings of a cataract in her eye?

Dr Michele Polon came in next. Aren't doctors supposed to be our parents' age? Chart on a laptop, young, current, she is warm, direct with intelligent eyes and a great smile. She asked if she could look at my back. Way too hairy. She examined my face and yes my skin was pretty good. I do have Rosacea, an uneven skin tone on my face and nose from small broken blood vessels. The laser would diminish the broken vessels and even out my skin tone and texture. A non-intrusive procedure I could smugly show off. Consultation ended, treatment date scheduled, and the impression of a fair honest assessment with absolutely no pressure to "sell

me" on procedures. Comforting.

Friday, February 27th.

The big day. Some final paperwork to do and I was given a special cleanser to scrub my face and a real towel. The bathroom, like the rest of the facility, was clean. Ronda took "Before" mug shots. Dr. Polon explained the procedure combined laser and radio frequency. They have a special machine that cools the skin during the procedure. This helps eliminate discomfort or burning sensations I had read about. Dr. said I would feel a "pinching or feeling of being snapped by a rubber band" on the skin. I donned a pair of tanning bed goggles. A gel was applied that helps transmit the light and cool the skin. Dr.'s running explanation was good. The laser went off with snap, crackle and pop. I could see the flair of light through the goggles with my eyes closed. The cooling machine was a relief. Honestly there is a slight discomfort. Nowhere near as bad as getting waxed (Don't ask).

The procedure took about a half hour. Dr. Polon and Ronda work very well as a team. Their easy rapport was comforting. I washed off the gel. Ronda applied a moisturizer with a sun block and instructed me to use a SPF of at least 30 whenever I went outside for the next three days. My questions? Reasonably answered.

That evening my face was minor sunburn tender, in the morning a slight redness but no discomfort. I was surprised at the reduction in the ruddiness and broken capillaries. At some point I had quit seeing it. They had appeared slowly over the years. I would see more results over the next few days. The best results take at least three treatments. Dr. stressed that Rosacea is a chronic problem and may need intermittent follow up treatments to keep it under control.

Now I don't look 20 years younger. I still have my sags and wrinkles. Other procedures address those issues. I did see changes expected for the work done. I felt that I was given a fair assessment and the promised results. The staff is all pleasant and professional. The surroundings are clean and comfortable. The procedure feels a bit weird and mildly uncomfortable, but it doesn't hurt and it works. Thank you cooling machine. Next treatment March 30



# Hell on Earth

By Rev. Richard A. Moyer  
Pastor, Community United Church

The winter of '08-'09 was a rough one even by Erie standards. All of us will look back and tell one story or another about the inconveniences the severe winter caused. There were power outages, excessively high snow banks, fierce winds and cars stuck in the snow.

A friend of mine told me about an experience he had pushing the car of a stranger out of the snow. He complained that after he made sure the car was safely on the road, the driver drove away and didn't even say thank you!

I thought back to a similar experience I had in a snow storm several years ago. I was in the middle of an intersection on a city side street. The street wasn't plowed. The wheels of my car spun and I couldn't get enough traction to get out of the way of on-coming traffic. A Good Samaritan pedestrian came along and pushed my car until I was able to move forward. As I drove a way from the intersection, I was afraid to slow down or stop, reasoning that if I did, I'd get stuck again. I kept my foot on the accelerator pedal and kept on going.

I've often wondered if the person who gave me assistance thought that I was ungrateful and inconsiderate. Instead of thinking about the politeness of a thank you, I just wanted to get out of a dangerous situation as fast as I could.

In the Christian church we are now observing Lent. This is the season of the Church Year in which Christians are reminded that Jesus died on the cross.

In my devotional reading for Lent, I came across the quote by Winston Churchill: "If you're going through hell, keep going." Those words reminded me of my winter car experience. Just keep on going and get out of harm's way as fast as possible!

The quote also reminded me of the meaning of Lent.

There's a passage in the Gospel of Luke that tells us that "Jesus (on his way to the cross) set his face steadfastly toward Jerusalem." Another version renders it, "(Jesus) became resolutely determined to make his way (to the cross)."

Jesus knew he was about to go through an earthly hell. So, what did he do? He just kept going, determined to get through the bad times.

Lent reminds us that we can get through the difficulties in our own lives. For us, those challenges may include painful struggles with loneliness, disappointments or feeling of inadequacy.

Whatever it is that separates us from the love of God's presence can be hell on earth! But always remember that Lent ends at Easter. There is always light at the end of the tunnel. God's grace is more than sufficient to see us through tough times

So when you're going through difficult trials, temptations and tribulations, keep on going. Soon enough God's love and peace will win out to defeat even the most painful hell.

*The Community United Church is an open and affirming congregation and is a member of United Church of Christ and Church of the Brethren denomination. . It is located at 1011 W38th St. in Erie. Services are Sunday at 11am. (814) 864-4429. The pastor is Richard A. Moyer and his assistant is Dr. Richard McCarty.*



## Mark your calendars for the Erie Pride Picnic!

1:00-6:00 PM

**Saturday June 13**

Rotary Pavilion  
Presque Isle State Park

This is a family and friends event.  
Bring covered dish  
Refreshments and sloppy Joes provided  
Info (814)456-9833  
[info@eriegaynews.com](mailto:info@eriegaynews.com)



# LBT Women news

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*by Laurie Finch*

We now have our own YouTube channel. Go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and enter LBT Women of Erie,

We had a great time at Peak N Peek for our LBT Tubing party. It was a beautiful sunny day and though it was a bit brisk, we had all dressed properly and so it was a fun time! We were there the two full hours, and took pics and some videos. Between members and friends and family there were seven of us attending. Hope more can make the next event!

At the March meeting of the "LBT Women of Erie" at Presque Isle Gallery we had two new women attend. It's always good to see more faces involved because those new faces bring fresh ideas and the possibility of a new friendship increases as well!

We discussed the "business cards" to hand out when one of us does a random act of kindness. We decided that the cards should read: "You have just been helped by a member of the gay community"....."You're Welcome!" We felt that "gay community" was a better choice than "lesbian community" because it is inclusive of the whole community and gives the receiver a feeling that there are many more of us out there who would have offered help as well, not just the person who helped, then and then gave them the card. We feel it would be a positive way to show that we are all caring helpful people who do go out of their way to help strangers we come across on a daily basis. The design for the cards is still not set in stone, but we have a couple good ones submitted. I think if no more are submitted, we should go with it and see what happens.

Our excursion to Hurry Hill Farms on Maple Syrup Weekend was very enjoyable! Five of us attended and the tour was excellent, Jan Woods, who is passionate about her maple syrup making, gave a wonderful presentation right in the sugar shack as we actually watched the process in front of our eyes. There is a new museum there which you can learn a lot more about maple syrup making and purchase various items such as syrup, maple cotton candy, maple candy, maple mustard, maple butter creme (our favorite) and more! Afterwards we enjoyed a nice brunch and pleasant conversation at Perkin's Restaurant in Edinboro.

Upcoming events:

Sunday April 5th LBT Women of Erie meeting, at 1 PM (note the time change for this meeting

only - gay musician Tim Goss and Jeremiah Clark are performing at 2PM (see "Java Buzz" this issue.) Wednesday, April 22nd we will be attending "Dueling Pianos" at Jr's Last Laugh Comedy Club in Erie, Pa. The bar opens at 5 pm and pianos begin at 6:30 pm. No Cover, no reservations necessary. We would like feedback on this though, because if there is a better Wednesday date in April for everyone, we can change the date. Pianos IS every Wednesday. So please, drop us a line on <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>. You can post it on the Discussion Page by adding it to the Dueling Pianos thread. If we have more interest for another date, it can easily be changed, but let's decide as soon as we can please.

Saturday May 23rd at 11 am we are going to meet at Campbell's Pottery in Cambridge Springs. They will have a Master Glass Artist, Herb Thomas there creating glass vases, paperweights and other items while you watch. Rain or shine, it is under the pavilion. For more info see: [www.campbellpotterystore.com/upcoming-events/](http://www.campbellpotterystore.com/upcoming-events/). Again, please reply on <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/> if you plan to attend.

We have several going to each event so far. More info on each event is available on each of our websites.

Also two activities that we can carpool to:

Monday March 30 The Vagina Monologues will be presented at Allegheny College. The Vagina Monologues will be performed on March 30th at 8pm in Shaffer Auditorium in the Allegheny College Campus Center. Is anyone interested in going to see this? We can carpool. They will be selling tickets at the door or you can make advance reservations by emailing Melissa Porter at [porterm2@allegheny.edu](mailto:porterm2@allegheny.edu) \$3 non-students/\$2 students.

And last, but not least: Tuesday March 31st at 8 pm at Edinboro "The Renaissance Women's Choir: Lesbians Creating Change Through Music" will bring their talents to Edinboro University's Alexander Music Center on the University's campus. I would really like us to go as a group and give them our support! Again, please reply at the Women's Choir Thread on the Discussion Page at: <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>

Later, Laurie

*Check us out online at <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/> Links to our new Myspace and Facebook pages are at the that site on the home page.*

## Obama endorses UN declaration calling for decriminalization of homosexuality

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March 18—The Obama administration formally endorsed a United Nations declaration calling for homosexuality to be decriminalized.

Former President Bush was heavily criticized when he refused to sign the resolution. The United States was the only western nation that refused to support the resolution when it came up at the UN General Assembly in December.

The U.N. declaration, which is not legally binding, condemns rights abuses against gays and urges states to pass laws to ensure that "sexual orientation or gender identity" can "not be the basis for criminal penalties, in particular executions, arrests or detention."

"The United States supports the U.N.'s statement on human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity and is pleased to join the other 66 U.N. member states who have declared their support of the statement," said State Department spokesman Robert Wood.

"The United States is an outspoken defender of human rights and critic of human rights abuses around the world," Wood told reporters. "As such, we join with other supporters of this statement, and we will continue to remind countries of the importance of respecting the human rights of all people in all appropriate international fora."

Human rights groups report that homosexuality is still outlawed by more than 85 countries and that it is punishable by death in several Islamic states, including Afghanistan, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Yemen.

The gender and sexual orientation discrimination declaration was sharply criticized by Islamic countries, which assert that it would promote sexual behavior that is considered socially unacceptable. The Vatican also denounced the declaration.

The text of the declaration can be read in full at the website of the International Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Trans and Intersex Association at <http://www.ilga.org>

The Administration's statement is posted on the US Department of State website at <http://www.state.gov/> (enter keywords "sexual orientation")

Also you can directly get to of both these items from the online version of this article.

## GLSEN Study "Harsh Realities" finds transgender youth face extreme harassment in school

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*from GLSEN*

NEW YORK, March 17, 2009—Transgender youth face extremely high levels of victimization in school, even more so than their non-transgender lesbian, gay and bisexual peers. But they are also more likely to speak out about LGBT issues in the classroom, according to Harsh Realities: The Experiences of Transgender Youth in Our Nation's Schools, the first comprehensive study on transgender students, released today by the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network.

Nearly nine out of 10 transgender students experienced verbal harassment at school in the past year because of their sexual orientation and gender expression, more than half experienced physical harassment because of their sexual orientation and gender expression and more than a quarter experienced physical assault because of their sexual orientation and gender expression. These levels of victimization were higher than those faced by the non-transgender lesbian, gay and bisexual students who participated in the 2007 National School Climate Survey, GLSEN's biennial survey of LGBT students.

In addition to looking at comparisons between transgender and non-transgender students, Harsh Realities specifically examines the experiences of the 295 transgender students who took the National School Climate Survey.

"Harsh Realities demonstrates the urgent need for educators, policymakers and all who care about safe schools to address the disproportionate victimization of transgender students and to improve the knowledge and understanding of all members of the school community about issues related to gender and gender expression," said GLSEN Executive Director Eliza Byard. "It is important to note, however, that in the face of extreme harassment, transgender students are resilient and taking the lead to bring up LGBT issues in school."

The high rate of victimization had a direct impact on school attendance and academic performance. Transgender students who experienced high levels of harassment were more likely to miss school because they felt unsafe and had lower grade point averages than those who experienced lower levels of harassment.

The full report can be viewed at [www.glsen.org](http://www.glsen.org).

# Transitions

Condolences to **Leslie Clifton**, whose beloved canine friend **Boris** passed away on March 20, 2009.



*Leslie, Boris, and Jamie Hibbs at last year's Pride Picnic.*



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<http://gayellowpages.com>

# Quote-Unquote

"You blew up every single financial vessel we had and if you think you aren't personally responsible, well, the blame starts at the top. There is no higher top than you, *sir!* If I were you, I would feel so absolutely horrific that I would take every penny I had and distribute it to anybody and everybody to help them in whatever way I could. You owe the American people every penny of your fortune and your family's fortune."

Lesbian financial guru **Suze Orman**, on former President Bush's role in the economic meltdown, in an interview with WWD date March 20, 2009

"Well, I think the gay people have always liked me because I have always been myself, I'm not intimidated by how people perceive me, I don't judge nor criticize people. I think that's another reason they at least know that I'm sympathetic. I think all people have a right to be who they are. We're all God's children and God should be the one to judge, not other people. So I have a lot of gay friends, lesbian friends. I work with a lot of people. I am not gay. I have been accused of that. But I have been happily married for 42 years to the same man. And he's not the least bit, you know, threatened by the fact that I may be gay. And he knows I have a lot of friends. But I love everybody. It doesn't matter to me."

**Dolly Parton** to CNN's Larry King, Feb. 21.

"AIDS is a tragedy that cannot be overcome by money alone, and that cannot be overcome through the distribution of condoms, which even aggravates the problems."

**Pope Benedict XVI**, March 17, while on a tour of Africa. Some 22 million people are infected with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa, according to UN figures for 2007. This is around two-thirds of the global total.

"These remarks are unacceptable.

"It's a denial of the epidemic. And to make these remarks on a continent that unfortunately is a continent where 70 percent of the people who have AIDS die, it's absolutely unbelievable."

**Michel Kazatchkine**, the head of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. One of many health agencies denouncing the Pope's remarks about condoms.

# Screen ONLINE

Dustin Lance Black's Oscar acceptance speech for **Milk** offered a universal message of hope and determination especially for GLBT young people. "When I was 13 years old, my beautiful mother and my father moved me from a conservative Mormon home in San Antonio, Texas to California and I heard the story of Harvey Milk," he said. "And it gave me hope. It gave me the hope to live my life, it gave me the hope to one day live my life openly as who I am and that maybe even I could fall in love and one day get married." The speech won loud applause from the Academy Awards audience. You can watch it at <http://www.couragecampaign.org/ThankYouForMilk> There's a clickable link at the Erie Gay News website Video section and online version of this article.

Black won the award for Best Original Screenplay for the movie *Milk*.

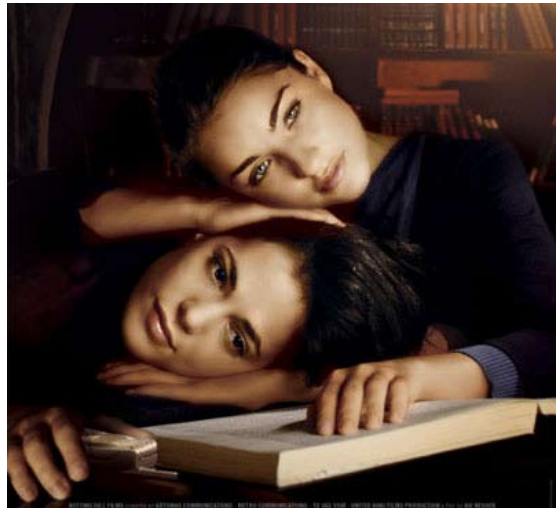
## VIDEO

**Begging for Shorts (2008)** special collection of five award-winning short gay-themed films by the clever filmmaker J.T. Tepnapa. *Blue Seraph Productions*

**Clandestinos (2007)** Set in Spain. three teenage boys break out of a youth prison and enter the world of Basque separatism. *TLA*.

**Dakan (1997)** The first gay-themed film from sub-Saharan Africa, set in Guinea. Available 3/26. *California Newsreel*

**Devoteé (2008)** "Herve doesn't possess the good looks needed to attract his type. When Herve meets a twenty-one year old hunk who refers to himself as



Ania Bukstein and Michal Shtamler star with Fanny Ardant in the highly-acclaimed Israeli drama "The Secrets," which mingles faith, feminism and passion.

a 'devotee,' his luck finally starts to look up. ~ Jason Buchanan, All Movie *Water Bearer Films*

**Fashion Victims (2008)** A father's dysfunctional family life becomes entangled with his problems at work when his son falls in love with the young upstart who's stealing his clients in this sexy and funny jaunt. *Revolver Entertainment. Culture Q Connection*

**FirstOUT International** Features award-winning gay films from around the world. *Alluvial Filmworks*

**Holding Trevor (2007)** Here, *Liberation Entertainment*


**Japan Japan (2007)** *Water Bearer Films.*

**A Jihad for Love (2007)** Muslim gay filmmaker Parvez Sharma travels the many worlds of Islam, discovering the stories of its most unlikely storytellers: lesbian and gay Muslims. Available 4/21. *First Run Features*

**Lesbian Nation (2009)** Collection of lesbian-friendly cinema features five films, four of them making their premiere on DVD. Available 5.19. *First Run Features.*

**No Regret (2006)** Hauntingly erotic and splendidly lyrical, this new movie from South Korea is the leading film in a gorgeous wave of queer film to emerge from this previously repressive Asian country. - Here! *Liberation Entertainment*

**The Raven (2007)** Adapted from the classic Edgar



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# Screen

Allan Poe story, gay horror director David DeCoteau takes us on a creepy journey where a gay man holds a wild gay party in the ballroom where the infamous "Ravenswood Massacre" happened decades ago. Available 3/31 *Liberation Ent*

**Ready? OK! (2008)** "10-year-old Joshua just wants to be on the all-girl cheerleading squad and play with dolls and dresses. In 2008, what's wrong with that?" Available 4/14 *Wolfe Releasing*

**"The Secrets" (2009)** Alternate title (Sodot Ha-) Available 4/7 "Avi Neshet's 'The Secrets,' a deeply involving melodrama, has all the devices to draw us into this story. In some ways, it is a traditional narrative. But it is more. It is gently and powerfully acted. ." -Roger Ebert. In Hebrew and French with English subtitles. [www.thesecretsthemovie.com](http://www.thesecretsthemovie.com) *Monterey ideo*

**Skins: Volume 2 (2009)** "Oh, if only American shows had half its guts" -Entertainment Weekly. Available 4/14. *BBC Warner*.

**The Universe of Keith Haring (2007)** Documentary on the groundbreaking artist. *Arts Alliance America*

**We're All Angels (2007)** Documentary. Behind-the-scenes look at the public and private lives of rising pop stars Jason and deMarco, who are gay, Christian and in love. As they prepare to release a new album to appeal to a wider audience, We're All Angels turns the spotlight on their struggle to integrate their sexuality and spirituality within their relationship and professional careers. [www.wereallangels.com](http://www.wereallangels.com) *Centaur Music Entertainment*

**What's Up Scarlet? (2005)** Romantic comedy. Scarlet (Susan Priver) is a workaholic L.A. matchmaker whose harried life gets even more complicated when Sabrina (Musetta Vander) crashes into her car. Released 4/28 *Ariztical*.

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To enter just fill out the online contest form at the Erie Gay News web site (<http://www.erie-gaynews.com>) Entries must be received between March 27 and April 17. Check out their website at [www.goodhealthrejuvenation.com](http://www.goodhealthrejuvenation.com). Their phone is (814) 480-8170

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# Java Buzz

## Tom Goss and Jeremiah Clark at Presque Isle April 5

To coincide with the release of his new CD *Back to Love*, Tom Goss will perform with Jeremiah Clark at the Presque Isle Gallery and Coffeehouse on April 5.

*Back To Love* is a collection of edgy alt/pop songs that are literally about love—not always romantic love, but the many faces of love. He has built on the success of his first national tour with acclaimed singer/songwriter Eric Himan in 2008, as well as the production and release of his first video, which was featured nationally and eventually rose to #2 on MTV LOGO's The Click List.

With the release of his third and most personal album to date, *Back To Love* this coming April 7, DC based singer/songwriter Tom Goss gave fans a taste of what's to come as he released the video for lead single "Till The End" on February 13, just in time for Valentine's Day. Since the days since its release, the video reached 10,000 plays, a number that continues to climb. To check out the video, directed by Aron Hinson, click here or on the image below. "I wanted to create something that was honest, something that speaks to the heart of love," said Goss. "By keeping it simple and unscripted, using real couples (together for over 162 years combined), we managed to create something more powerful than we could have otherwise. The beautiful thing about the video is that it touches people in so many different ways,

For more information about Tom and to check out some of his music, visit [www.tomgossmusic.com](http://www.tomgossmusic.com)

After a three year hiatus of writing and artist development, Jeremiah Clark has returned to the indie scene a new and more mature artist. On his MySpace page he writes, "I'm a musical culmination of sorts...fusing together many inspirations. i've never heard anyone like me, but i do have a lot of influences. i try to keep things very simple--making each song a separate unity. i enjoy being a no frills performer...with only a guitar, a piano and a song i like the setting intimate and warm; i tell life stories and drink wine. there's no place i'd rather be more than right there singing for you." You can listen to Jeremiah's music on his MySpace page is at [www.myspace.com/indiemusicboi](http://www.myspace.com/indiemusicboi) and on his Facebook page (Facebook features his two videos).

Performance begins at 2 PM on Sunday April 5



*Pittsburgh-based Jeremiah Clark will appear at Tom Goss' CD pre-release party at Presque Isle Gallery and Coffeehouse April 5.*

at Presque Isle Gallery and Coffeehouse 35 Peninsula Drive, Erie PA. There is no cover, and this is an all-ages show. Phone is (814) 790-5615.

## Like My Thai? Liz and Mike are back!

Liz and Michael Augustine are back to serving up their wildly popular Thai and Vietnamese dishes. And now you can indulge Tuesdays *and* Fridays.

They tell us "We are usually at Raphael's on Tuesdays (as of late, but we're gypsies right now lol), and Lettuce Entice You on Fridays (this is our home base at the moment, and we expect to keep this Friday night gig for a while)."

If you want to get on their email list, send them an email at [likemythai@gmail.com](mailto:likemythai@gmail.com). They send all of their menus and schedule updates from there.

Raphael's is at 363 W.8th and Lettuce Entice you is on the first floor of the Renaissance Centre at 1001 State Street, both located in Erie.

To make reservations call or text (814) 504-6281 or 403-0235, or email: [likemythai@gmail.com](mailto:likemythai@gmail.com) All reservations must be made by 2pm the day of the event.

Check the Like My Thai MySpace for news and updates [www.myspace.com/447457250](http://www.myspace.com/447457250)

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