



EGN

Erie Gay News



Rt Rev Gene Robinson in Chautauqua July 29

Rev Gene Robinson, the bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire, will be speaking at the Chautauqua Institution on July 29 at 2 PM.

Rev Robinson is the first openly-gay and non-celibate bishop within the Anglican church.

More details on the visit are available from the Chautauqua Institution www.ciweb.org (716)357-6200.

Large GLBT weekend in Chautauqua Sep 11-12

Information from Pat Collins

People from around the tri-state area are invited to a big weekend event on the second weekend in September on the grounds of the Chautauqua Institution.

Among the events being planned are an art show, dances, workshops, speed-dating, a panel discussion and a performance by the Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus.

"We're doing this to reach out to some of the smaller communities and rural areas," said Pat Collins, one of the organizers for the weekend. "We'd like to see more pride groups in these sorts of areas."

The organizers are publicizing the event in Ohio, northwestern Pennsylvania and western New York.

For more information call Pat at (716)761-6052 or visit their website at www.rainbowprideconnection.net (note that some of the information will be changed in July, so check back).

Erie Gay News on Wikipedia

Erie Gay News now has an entry on Wikipedia. Check it out at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erie_Gay_News



Volunteer Erin put together gift baskets for the 17th Annual Pride Picnic on June 13. Photo by Dee Dee Foll.

Miss Erie 10th Anniversary Pageant

by Drew Riggs/Angelica Redd

The tenth anniversary presentation of the Miss Erie Pageant held at the Zone was a huge success!

The Zone Dance Club and Drew Riggs/Angelica Redd wishes to congratulate Mistress Vanitay on earning the Miss Erie crown on June 6, 2009. We look forward to a productive and fun filled year with her and Buffylynn Hayes, her first runner up.

As pageant director, I can say everyone involved played equal roles in producing the most fun dragathon in Erie. It was a night full of glitz, glamor and entertainment. All five contestants brought their game and came to win! We hope to see them all more often.

Thanks to Joe, Rob, Rich, Carl, Jason, Justin, Gene, Hank, Brett F, Brett M, Zack, and most of all Celine DaShawn for a wonderful job as Miss Erie 2008. I want to thank all the former Miss Eries that jumped in and donated time and sharing my passion for this event: Michelle Michaels, Taylor Morgan, and Celine

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Erie Gay News
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Editors: Deb Spilko and Mike Mahler
Ad Design: Mike Lipiec
Deadline for next issue: Monday, July 13;
this will be folded and distributed the night
of Tuesday, July 21 at the Zone.

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.

Classified Ads are available!
See page 13 for more info.



QUARTER PAGE	FULL PAGE	HALF PAGE VERTICAL
HALF PAGE HORIZONTAL	EIGHTH PAGE	

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
HALF HORZ.	\$90 - \$81 Prepaid	3 ¹ / ₂ " high X 6" 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.



To the Zone Dance Club for hosting: Andrea, Anthony S, Bart, Bruce Shrout, Dale, Dennis, Erin M. ., Gary, GNPDD, James von Loewe, Janice Hanusik, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Kelly Kidd, Kim, Laurie Finch and Neal D for folding: Brian Lonyo, Bruce Shrout, Dale, Dennis, Erin M. M., Janice Hanusik, Jerry McCumber, Johauna and Laurie Finch for distribution, Mike Lipiec for ad layout & etc and Peter for proofreading. If you're interested in helping out, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or info@eriegaynews.com.

Community News

DaShawn. Without you, it would have been just another drag show! Thanks to Jared for his skills in transforming the dance floor into an elegant setting and the owners of the Zone for giving me the opportunity to help create the most exciting drag event in Erie PA.

Dynamic Diva Fridays at Craze Night Club

by *Victoria Spaulding*

Starting on July 10, there will be drag competitions hosted by Victoria Spaulding the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month at Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry Street, Erie, PA. Doors open at 9 PM; show starts at 11 PM and there will be dancing until 2 AM. There is a \$2 cover and must be 21 to enter.

There will also be drink specials and shot boys/shot girls. The phone at Craze is (814) 456-3027 or visit their web site is at <http://www.crazeerie.com>. You can

also check Victoria Spaulding's web site at <http://www.victoriaspaulding.webs.com/>.

Vertigo has moved

from *Kirsten*

I know, I know. "What, You Moved?" Yes we have moved to 100 Pillow St.

It's across from the Medicine Shoppe in Butler. Also it's the building that is kinda next to Papa John's. We are right on the corner of Pillow and West Cunningham.

The building on Jefferson St. sold and the new owners are turning it into something that I guess doesn't involve us. But life goes on. It was a great location but Vertigo is about YOU not about how great the building is. So keep supporting us.

Stop in and check out the new place.

<http://www.myspace.com/butlervertigo>

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LGBT Youth converge in Pittsburgh

GLSEN Pittsburgh Presents first statewide youth conference

from GLSEN

PITTSBURGH -- Unified For Youth -- Pennsylvania's first statewide conference for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender youth, their straight allies, parents and family members -- kicks off over the weekend of July 17-19, 2009,

Volunteers from the Pittsburgh chapter of GLSEN, the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network, are collaborating with The Persad Center, Parents, Families, & Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), and Dreams of Hope, with generous support from The Art Institute of Pittsburgh to affirm and support wellness through workshops, networking opportunities, special guest speakers, and social activities.

Workshops for youth and parents include: What is Gender Identity?, Becoming An Advocate, and Bullying -- An Epidemic. A panel of current college students and parents will answer questions about what to look for and expect from college in the event, Life After High School.

Stephen A. Glassman, chairman of the Pennsyl-

vania Human Relations Commission, is the conference's keynote speaker. He will discuss civil and legal rights, and how young people need to prepare themselves in an evolving society as it pertains to LGBT issues. Mr. Glassman is the first openly gay individual in the country to chair a state gubernatorial commission subject to Senate confirmation, and he is the highest-ranking openly gay appointed official in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He has appeared as a media spokesperson on television, radio, and in the press on behalf of gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender civil rights causes and AIDS issues.

Participants will be treated to a "sneak preview" of *Out in the Silence* followed by a discussion with the co-producers, Oil City, Venango County natives Joe Wilson and Dean Hamer. The film explores the controversy ignited in Wilson's hometown of Oil City, a conservative small town in the hills of western Pennsylvania, after he and Hamer published their wedding announcement in the local newspaper. Wilson -- drawn back by a mother's plea for help for her gay teen son who was tormented at school -- takes viewers on an exhilarating journey through love, hate, and understanding in rural America.

Registration for the conference is \$25 (\$10 per additional attendee from within the same family) which covers all costs for conference materials, admission to the film screening, three meals on Saturday, and breakfast on Sunday. For more information, and to register, please visit www.glsenpgh.com to download a registration form that can be mailed with payment to: unified for youth, c/o GLSEN Pittsburgh, P.O. Box 110288, Pittsburgh, PA 15232-0288.

GLSEN, the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network, is the leading national education organization focused on ensuring safe schools for all students. Established nationally in 1995, GLSEN envisions a world in which every child learns to respect and accept all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression. GLSEN seeks to develop school climates where difference is valued for the positive contribution it makes to creating a more vibrant and diverse community. For information on GLSEN's research, educational resources, public policy advocacy, student organizing programs and educator training initiatives, visit www.glsen.org.



Transitions

Congratulations to **Melissa Burlingame** and **Maria Matkozych** who had a commitment ceremony on May 16, 2009. The ceremony was performed by Tim Dahle.

BREAKING: NY Marriage Vote May Come June 24

June 19 —Press reports indicate that NY Governor David Paterson may call a special session of the legislature on Wednesday to take up several key bills, which perhaps could include the marriage equality bill, S.4401. Human Rights Campaign has phone banks set up across New York State. To stay updated, visit www.hrc.org

This month on the EGN website

As you may have noticed, we have started including items that might be too long for the print edition of EGN at www.eriegaynews.com.

This month we will begin running **Michael Kimmel's Body/Mind/Soul** column. Michael is a gay psychotherapist and writer who is presently writing a book called "Life Beyond Therapy."

Also, comedian **Kate Clinton** takes a humorous and personal look at how far we've come on the 40th anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion.

Win Prizes at ErieGayNews.com!

Erie Gay News has been stepping up the number of online giveaways that we have been offering to about 1 a week. All that you need to do is fill out the form at the contest page at the Erie Gay News web site (<http://www.eriegaynews.com>.)

You can either check our web site frequently or you can also get notice by signing up for the Erie GLBT News and Events list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com>. We also have a group at Facebook that gets notices about contests and other important news. The link to the Facebook group is on the right sidebar at the Erie Gay News web site.

So, stay in touch with the GLBT community, and also win free stuff!

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The City of Erie and WQLN Radio bring StoryCorps to Perry Square

The conversation of a lifetime...

from WQLN and PBS

StoryCorps, heard on NPR's Morning Edition, will be coming to Erie's Perry Square from July 30th through August 22nd. StoryCorps is an independent nonprofit project whose mission is to honor and celebrate another's life through listening. Since 2003, tens of thousands of everyday people have shared stories and life experiences with family, friends, and their community through StoryCorps. Each conversation is recorded on a free CD to take home and share, and a copy is preserved at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

The process is quite easy. Two people go into StoryCorps' mobile unit and sit down to interview each other for about 40 minutes. The interview is conversational and can be about anything you'd like.

Sometimes a grandparent and grandchild participate, or a married couple reminiscing their first date.

Community organizations are encouraged to

become a Community Partners, by emailing east@storycorps.org. 3-5 interview slots will be reserved for you at this time. Between July 16th and July 31st anyone can reserve a spot to be interviewed by logging on to www.storycorps.net, visiting www.wqln.org, or calling 800-850-4406.

WQLN Radio, sponsor of StoryCorps will post interviews online, and finish taping if there are any who may not have a chance while StoryCorps is in town. WQLN will also post photos, and viewers will be able to listen to the interviews done by community members. If you are interested be sure to check out the StoryCorps website and sign up to interviews for this interesting experience.

Additional info from Michael Mabler

In addition to individuals being able to make appoints to share their stories, community organizations (like Erie Gay News) can get 3-5 slots to make sure that all aspects of the greater Erie community can be heard.

To clarify: This is not the director of some organization sitting down and being interviewed by a professional journalist. This is 2 people who have some sort of connection sitting down and talking. This is a chance to have our community be part of the conversations taking place and being recorded.

If you and someone are interested in getting a special slot reserved, please contact me ASAP at info@eriegaynews.com or (814) 456-9833!

Community organizations can get slots earlier than the general public, so I want to hear from folks soon.

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CALENDAR LISTINGS

Are Free!

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

Calendar

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

Jun 26 - 28 (Fri - Sun) - Jones Pond: Illumination Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Spa Day by The Pool; White Party Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to <http://www.jonespond.com>.

Jun 27 (Sat) - Camp Davis: Brief's and Tee's (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Contact: Jim. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: campd@aol.com. Browse to <http://www.campdaviscampground.com>.

Jun 27 (Sat) - Vertigo Dance Party (Vertigo, 100 Pillow St, Butler, PA 16001) 8 PM. 18 and over. \$5 cover. BYOB. Email: vertigov@aol.com. Browse to <http://www.myspace.com/butlervertigo>.

Jun 27 (Sat) - Mixers Tavern: Pride Drag Show (Mixers Tavern, 204 Coleman St, Olean, NY 14760) 10 PM. \$3 cover. Featuring Miss V, Diva, Johnny, Licia and Dao ja. Come on out and celebrate Pride with us! Also, one of our performers is going to do a celebrity look-a-like! Phone: (716) 372-1022. Email: v2hot4u14760@aol.com. Browse to <http://www.mixerstavern.com>.

Jul 3 (Fri) - G2H2 - Erie Gay Business Alliance social get together Location. 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. Browse to www.facebook.com/

[group.php?gid=54742829807](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=54742829807).

Jul 2 - 5 (Thu - Sun) - Jones Pond: 4th of July Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Red, White & Boyz; Saturday 2PM - 5PM - Barn Party sponsored by the 300 Block; Everyone Welcome Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to <http://www.jonespond.com>.

Jul 3 (Fri) - G2H2 - Erie Gay Business Alliance social get together (Joe Roots Grill, 2826 W 8th St, Erie PA 16505) 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. Browse to <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=54742829807>.

Jul 4 (Sat) - Camp Davis: Independence Day Holiday Freedom Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Wear Red, White and



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For more information, contact:

Erie Office: Booker T Washington Ctr
1720 Holland St, PA 16503
814-453-5744 or 1-800-400-2437

Clarion Office: 15870 Route 322
Suite 2 Clarion, PA 16214
814-764-6066 or 1-800-359-2437

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Calendar

Blue. Potluck Dinner/ Covered Dish or Donation- 5 PM. Donations go towards main course for those who do not have a covered dish. Contact: Jim. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: campd@aol.com. Browse to <http://www.campdaviscampground.com>.

Jul 4 (Sat) - Zone Dance Club: Uncle Sam's Indepen-Dance Daze! (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) We're looking for a few good men and women to celebrate the good ol' USA at the Zone's U.S.O. Independence Day Party. Wear red, white, or blue ... or military uniform from the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marines. Polish those boots and join us for some off-duty fun! Dress as Uncle Sam, Lady Liberty, or wear FUN patriotic boxers. Parade on in and dance under the fireworks on the dance-floor as we light up the night! American Pride! Gay fun! Don't be AWOL! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to <http://www.thezonedanceclub.com>.

Jul 10 (Fri) - Watchfire Alliance meets (511 N Main St, Jamestown, NY) 7 PM. GLBT group of Chautauqua County, New York. Note new meeting location! Contact: Bethany. Phone: (716)499-4817. Email:

brobson515@msn.com. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/watchfirealliance/>.

Jul 10 - 12 (Fri - Sun) - Jones Pond: Leather-Levi Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Saturday 10 PM - Black Leather Ball Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to <http://www.jonespond.com>.

Jul 11 (Sat) - Camp Davis: Hag Drag Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Contact: Jim. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: campd@aol.com. Browse to <http://www.campdavis-campground.com>.

Jul 12 (Sun) - LBT Women of Erie meets (Presque Isle Gallery Coffeehouse, 35 Peninsula Drv, Erie, PA 16505) 1 PM. Social group for lesbian, bisexual and transgendered women. Meets the 1st Sunday of each month at Presque Isle Gallery Coffeehouse. Sign up for email list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com/> Email: lbtwomen-owner@eriegaynews.com. Browse to <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>.

Jul 13 (Mon) - Deadline for EGN August 2009 print edition (Erie Gay News, 1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA 16502-1105) Please have all articles, ads, and submissions in by this date. This issue will be released the evening of July 21. For a complete list of upcoming deadlines and release dates, check the print edition schedule here. Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: info@eriegaynews.com. Browse to <http://www.eriegaynews.com>.

Jul 13 (Mon) - PFLAG Erie/Crawford County meets (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie, PA 16508) 7 PM - 8:30 PM. Support group for parents, friends and families

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Calendar

of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered (GLBT) people. Phone: (814) 454-1392 (John). Email: pflag.erie.crawford@gmail.com.

Jul 17 - 19 (Fri - Sun) - Jones Pond: Beach Party Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Beach Party Sponsored by the 600 Block; Food, Drink, raffles & Games Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to <http://www.jonespond.com>.

Jul 18 (Sat) - Camp Davis: Underwear Night 1 (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Contact: Jim. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: campd@aol.com. Browse to <http://www.campdavis-campground.com>.

Jul 21 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distributing work party (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie PA 16501) 7 PM. Help us get out the print edition of Erie Gay News. We'll be folding and distributing the copies. 21 and over, please. It is also a great way to hang out and chat with folks! Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: info@eriegaynews.com. Browse to www.eriegaynews.com.

Jul 25 (Sat) - Annual Pride Parade (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 12 PM. Organized by Erie Gay Pride. Assemble at Zone at 12 noon. Step off is at 1 PM. Will proceed down State Street to Perry Square. The Gay Rainbow starts at the Zone and ends at Perry Square! Wear your Zone or PRIDE t-shirts, bring a banner or sign, and the Zone will supply Rainbow flags and balloons to show off your Gay PRIDE! Email: eriepride@gmail.com. Browse to <http://www.eriegaypride.org>.


Jul 25 (Sat) - Pride Rally (Perry Square, W 6th and State St, Erie, PA) 2 PM. Many activities, planned

including speakers, local singers and the 2008 & 2009 Miss Erie will be performing. Headliner is Tom Goss. Also performing is Jeremiah Clark of Pittsburgh and others. Vendors and displays. Email: eriepride@gmail.com. Browse to <http://www.eriegaypride.org>

Jul 25 (Sat) - Zone Dance Club: Island HEAT-Rainbow PRIDE Beach Party! (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Join us for a night of fun as we HEAT things up and celebrate Erie Gay Pride! Rainbow jello shots & leis, glowsticks & grass skirts! Show off your summer tan! Wear FUN or sexy swimwear & your Zone or Gay PRIDE t-shirts in rainbow colors! Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, & Purple... The Gay Rainbow starts at the Zone and ends at Perry Square! Thank you for making us your #1 Gay party destination Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to <http://www.thezonedanceclub.com>.

Jul 26 (Sun) - Religious Service (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA 16508-2540) 11 AM. Email: eriepride@gmail.com. Browse to <http://www.eriegaypride.org>.

Jul 26 (Sun) - GLBT Day at Waldameer (Waldameer



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Calendar

Park, 220 Peninsula Drv, Erie, PA 16505) 1 PM. After the noon church service. A good meeting place is in front of Rainbow Gardens. Combo tickets will be offered at a discounted price. Check the web site for additional info and to register. Email: eriepride@gmail.com. Browse to <http://www.eriegaypride.org>.

Jul 29 (Wed) - Rt Rev Gene Robinson in Chautauqua 2P.M. Rev Robinson is the first openly-gay and non-celibate bishop within the Anglican church. More details on the visit are available from the Chautauqua Institution www.ciweb.org (716)357-6200.

Aug 2 (Sun) - Buffalo Big Gay Boat Ride Start Time: 7PM-10pm Boarding at 6:30pm. Erie Basin Marina, Buffalo NY. Tickets \$25. Dry dock part to follow. Benefits Imperial Court charities. For more info please contact The Imperial Court of Buffalo info@imperialcourtofbuffalo.com Visit www.imperialcourtofbuffalo.com

Aug 6-9 - Cleveland Black Pride - Phone: (216)322.5131 www.bgpccleveland.com

On Stage

Jun 26 (Fri) - Buffalo United Artists Presents a Staged Reading of 'All About Eve' (Buffalo United Artists, 119 Chippewa, Buffalo, NY 13205) 7:30 PM. A radio play based on the screenplay by Joseph L. Manckiewicz, from the story 'The Wisdom of Eve' by Mary Orr. starring Jimmy Janowski as Margo Channing. \$25.00 general admission to benefit BUA. Phone: (716) 886-9239. Browse to [hwww.buffalobua.org](http://www.buffalobua.org).

Aug 20 (Thu) - Kathy Griffin in Cleveland State Theater, Playhouse Square, 1519 Euclid Ave, Cleveland; 216-241-6000, www.playhousesquare.org.

Directors Circle Closes

by Mike Mahler

Please note that Directors Circle Theatre has permanently closed. It had presented many wonderful productions of interest to GLBT audiences over the years and it will be missed.

Marsha Stevens & Justin Ryan In Concert in Piuttsburgh

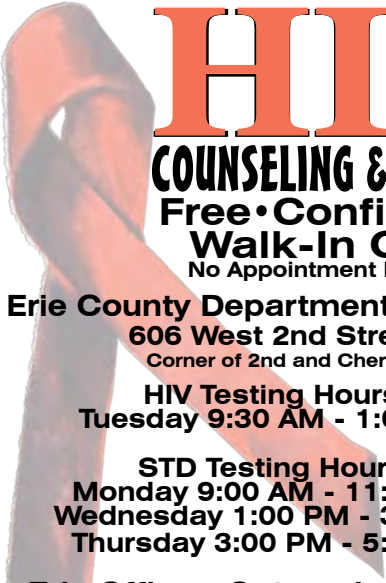
Exciting, spiritual, talented Christian Music performers, Marsha Stevens & Justin Ryan will bring their ministry to The East Liberty Presbyterian Church, July 19, 2009 at 2:00 PM. This is a free concert with light refreshments and social time to follow. Members of the congregation's "Journey Contemporary Worship Group" will perform a few of their favorite songs to start the afternoon concert.

Marsha is the famed composer of the first contemporary Christian hymn, "For Those Tears I Died". Her life has involved many struggles with "Conservative Christians" trying to "steal" Jesus from this God-Loving, Bible-believing, Jesus-Loving, lesbian Christian. In addition to touring full time throughout the U.S, she shares her experience, gifts and talents with artists wishing to minister to the GLBT community.

Justin has been recognized for his talent and ability to sing any type of Christian Music. His voice touches the heart and soul of everyone who listens.

East Liberty Presbyterian Church, 116 S. Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15206 412-441-3800

For more information on these artists visit www.balmministries.net www.Justinryanonline.com



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PA Sen. Daylin Leach introducing equal marriage bill

by Senator Daylin Leach (D-Montgomery)

[Editors' note: this is the first part of an article originally published in the Harrisburg Patriot News. Read complete article online]

I have recently drafted and am shortly introducing legislation which would cause Pennsylvania to join the other states that recognize same-sex marriage.

I do so now for several reasons. Many other states are moving to consider this issue, including Maine, Vermont and DC which have passed legislation in just the past few weeks. Also, a bill banning same-sex marriage was recently introduced in the Pennsylvania State Senate and it is important to provide the legislature with a timely pro-civil rights, pro-family alternative. But mostly, I feel that every day we spend living under a law which treats an entire category of citizens as second-class, and denies them their fundamental human rights is a profound injustice.

The case for same-sex or gay marriage is a simple one. The state and federal government confer hundreds of benefits upon married couples that are unavailable to single people. This is done to encourage marriage which society considers to be good, for both the couple and for the community at large. We should be doing with gay couples what we do with straight couples; namely encouraging them to enter permanent, monogamous, stable and legally recognized unions.

The arguments against gay marriage are much more complicated. I'd like to briefly address each argument that I've heard.

To read full article visit www.eriegaynews.com. Also online is a link a radio debate between Sen Leach and State Senator John Eichelberger (R-Blair). Eichelberger has introduced a bill amending Pennsylvania's state Constitution to ban same-sex marriage.

Stay updated!
Subscribe to the Erie GLBT list at
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National briefs

Visit this article online for more complete items.

June 8

From Time Magazine: When Barack Obama sought the presidency, he pledged to reverse the "Don't ask, don't tell" policy preventing gays and lesbians from serving openly in the U.S. military. Yet on Monday, the Supreme Court rejected a gay Ohio soldier's challenge to the law — with the legal backing of none other than the Obama Administration.

June 12

Several national LGBT legal and advocacy coalition partners have issued a statement decrying the manner in which the Obama administration has defended the so-called Defense of Marriage Act against *Smelt v. United States*, a lawsuit brought in federal court in California by a married same-sex couple asking the federal government to treat them equally with respect to federal protections and benefits.

Groups issuing this statement include The National Center for Lesbian Rights, Lambda Legal, the ACLU, Human Rights Campaign, GLAD and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force

June 17

from the Human Rights Campaign: - In an Oval Office signing ceremony, President Obama signed a Presidential Memorandum granting non-discrimination protections and some same-sex partner benefits for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender federal employees

"Today's presidential signature is the first brick in paving what is a long path toward equality for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Americans. We commend President Obama and his administration for taking this beginning step to level the playing field but we look forward to working with him to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act, overturn "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and guarantee the entire American workforce is free from discrimination," said Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solmonese.

June 20

From National Gay and Lesbian Task Force: the U.S. Census Bureau will count married same-sex couples in the 2010 census, reversing an earlier decision made under the Bush administration. "This is a huge win for our community," said NGLTF Executive Director Rea Carey www.thetaskforce.org

Historic vote in Ohio

Anti-Discrimination vote is a first in state's history

from Do What's Right Ohio

Colombus, Ohio June 17—With a vote of 8 to 5, House Bill 176, the Equal Housing and Employment Act, passed out of State Government Committee in the Ohio House of Representatives. The committee vote marks the first time in Ohio's history that a vote has occurred on legislation protecting the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community in Ohio in either chamber of the General Assembly. The only previous issue to come to a vote in the Assembly related to LGBT issues was the 2003 legislative Defense of Marriage Act (banning same-sex marriage.)

“With their passage of this legislation, the members of the State Government sent a clear message today,” said Lynne Bowman, Executive Director of Equality Ohio, the state’s advocacy organization for LGBT people. “Discrimination based on a person’s sexual orientation or gender identity will not be tolerated in Ohio, regardless of where a person lives, works or plays.”

Testimony in support of the bill during committee hearings came from a broad representation of Ohioans and included Cardinal Health, the Cleveland Clinic, Bishop Ough of the West Ohio Methodist

Conference, the Ohio Civil Rights Commission and the Mayor of the city of Springfield. Most compelling though, were the true stories of discrimination shared with the committee.

“People who oppose this bill want to claim that discrimination doesn’t happen in Ohio,” said Dr. Juli Burnell, a psychologist from the Dayton area who provided written testimony. “Through our testimony we showed that, as much as we would like to believe we live in a state where everyone is treated equally, we are not there yet. Including sexual orientation and gender identity in Ohio’s Civil Rights laws is the only way to make clear the public policy of our state when it comes to equal treatment.”

Voting yes were Gerberry, Lundy, Belcher, Williams B., Stewart, Mallory, Sayre, and Hite with Stebelton, Grossman, Adams, Daniels and Hall casting no votes. The bill now moves to consideration by the entire House of Representatives. A vote is not yet scheduled.

Stay updated on the subject at www.dowhatsrightohio.com The project is a collaboration between Progress Ohio, Equality Ohio, and other pro-equality organizations.



Performers at first Youngstown Pride celebration on June 6. More photos of Youngstown Pride available at www.erie-gaynews.com Photo: Mike Mahler

Pentecost Means Equality

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

Recently I found an old box in the basement that hadn't been opened for years. The cardboard was stained with water marks and the contents had the kind of musty odor that is characteristic of stored items that haven't seen the light of day for sometime. In bold magic marker letters the words "Odds and Ends" were written on the outside of the box.

I knew that those words were an understatement. They really weren't odds and ends. The box contained a collection of souvenirs from the sale of the grandparents' house some 30 years ago. They were the things nobody wanted to buy at the auction of the property. "Junk" is what the auctioneer called them. To me they were treasures which few people other than myself could appreciate.

As I rooted through the contents of the fragile box, I found a little book called "The Festival Seasons of the Church Year." Inside the front cover, with flawless penmanship of a fountain pen, someone had written "Christmas, 1894."

Each chapter of the book was dedicated to an almost overly-simplistic explanation of each season of the Christian church year. It was probably a children's book.

Since the next notable Season of the Church Year is Pentecost, I looked up the "Pentecost" entry in the old book. In very simple language, it described the Pentecost events as they are recorded in the Bible (Acts 2): The Apostles were gathered in an upper room where they were given the supernatural ability to speak in languages other than their own.

The Scriptures consider it the miraculous way in which the good news of the Gospel was first delivered to people outside the area where Christianity began—where the common languages were Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic. Now the Gospel would be able to be preached

to all people, in all places, in all languages, in a way that no one would be left out.

The sure and certain message of Pentecost is inclusiveness and quality. The gospel is to be proclaimed to all people, equally. The barrier of communication is dismantled, and all people are given equal opportunity to be included in the Christian community.

Eugene Robinson, a Washington Post columnist, wasn't writing about Pentecost in a recent article, but he was reminding all people (Christian and non-Christian alike) that equality is a good and noble concept, especially in a society that claims that "all people are created equal." He wrote: "It seems to me that equality means equality, and either you're for it or you're not. I believe gay marriage should be legal, and it's hard for me to imagine how any 'fierce advocate of equality' could think otherwise."

Whether we're talking about some modern-day social issue or about the traditional observance of the Christian Pentecost, "equality means equality, and either you're for it or you're not."

It seems to me that those Apostles who were present at the first Pentecost were "for it!"

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 11 am. (814) 864-4429. The pastor is Richard A. Moyer and his assistant is Dr. Richard McCarty.

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Screen

When available, there are clickable links to trailers and movie websites in the online version of this article.

TV

Ask Not is a documentary about the US military's Don't Ask Don't Tell" policy, airing on PBS's Independent Lens series. It has already aired on WNEB (western New York affiliate) but may repeat at some time. WQLN (Erie affiliate) doesn't have it listed at this time. You can also vorder the DVD. <http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/asknot/>

Dance Your Ass Off premieres on Oxygen June 29. Weight-loss dance competition, hosted by Marissa Jaret Winokur, best known for her role as Tracy Turnblad in the Broadway production of *Hairspray*. <http://dyao.oxygen.com/>

Margaret Cho's new concert film **Beautiful** will premiere on Showtime July 3 at 11 PM. www.margaretcho.com/



Bruno (Sacha Baron Cohn) opens in theatres July 10.

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IN THEATRES

Sacha Baron Cohen's new movie **Bruno** opens in theatres July 10. The Borat star's new mockumentary has him posing as a very outrageous gay Austrian fashion reporter. Some GLBT organizations have expressed concern that the character of Bruno will feed anti-gay stereotypes.

From the New York Times, "So it goes for 'Brüno,' a movie that, in mercilessly exploiting the discomfort created when straight men are ambushed by aggressive gayness, happens to (surprise!) expose homophobia. Gay groups are reacting with deeply mixed emotions, heightened by the recent triumphs (Iowa) and losses (California) in efforts to legalize gay marriage. Is the film then vulgar, inappropriate and harmful? Or bold, timely and necessary? All of the above?"

"Ultimately the tension surrounding 'Brüno' boils down to the worry that certain viewers won't understand that the joke is on them and will leave the multiplex with their homophobia validated."

Movie website: www.thebrunomovie.com/

Screen

VIDEO

Four Windows (2006) This journey inside the heads of one twisted German family is sparked when their cute gay son cuts classes and cruises a peep show. German w/English subtitles. *Studio*

Fun in Girls' Shorts 2 (2009) is a collection of Frameline's best lesbian shorts .

History Boys (2006) www.foxsearchlight.com/thehistoryboys/ 6/16 *Fox Searchlight*

La Jupon Rouge (1987) In this classic French lesbian drama from writer-director Genevieve Lefebvre, Bacha is a human rights activist and concentration camp survivor. Manuela, her younger fashion designer friend, is Bacha's primary emotional support. When Manuela meets the beautiful Claude the two begin a relationship that ignites Bacha's intense jealousy. French w/English subtitles 7/7 *Strand Releasing*

Ladies or Gentlemen (2009) Starz Inside documentary, discover the playful history of the most daring cross-sexual performances ever. 6/9 *Anchor Bay*

The Lady in Question is Charles Busch (2005) Documentary www.theladyinquestion.com/ 6/16 *Docurama*

Mad Men Season 2 7/14 *Lions Gate*

Pedro (2008) In 1994, Bunim/Murray Productions made the ground-breaking decision to cast openly gay, HIV-positive Cuban-American Pedro Zamora as part of MTV's *The Real World: San Francisco*. This is his story. www.pedrothemovie.com 6/30. n *Wolfe*

Pick Up the MiC (2006) Queer Hip-Hop or Homohop -- no matter what label is attached to queer rappers, their explosive lyrics, pulsating beats and fervent talent is cementing today's message of gays and the hip-hop culture. www.pickupthemic.com 6/23

Prison Break Season 4 (2008-2009) www.fox.com/prisonbreak DVD and On-Demand *Fox*

Resident Alien (1990) Documentary about Quentin Crisp. 6/16 *Docurama*

She Likes Girls 4: Tomboys and Tough Girls (2008) Fourth installment of the series, with eight shorts. 7/21 *Studio*

Sophie B. Hawkins: The Cream will Rise (1997) www.sophiebhawkins.com 6/16 *New Video/Docurama*

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LBT Women news

by Laurie Finch

Upcoming events for LBT Women:

June 26th, Friday, we will be attending the Arts Festival at Liberty Park on the Bay. Meet Kimmy, Andrea, Janice and Laurie on the "grassy knoll" behind the playground there at 6 PM. My cell (Laurie) # is 450-8804 incase you arrive late and can't find us

Last but not least - June 27th, Saturday, we are attending the play "Slingblade" produced by the United We Stand Theatre Troup. It will be held at the Columbus Theatre, 652 W. 17th Street in Erie at 7:30 PM. I believe tickets are \$8.00. Janice and I will be at all the above events...look for Janice, we use her as our landmark, she wears the Oxygen tank, and my cell is as I mentioned above, 450-8804.

Now on to July:

July 10th, Friday, at 5:30 PM meet Laurie and Janice at the Greek Festival at the Greek Orthodox Church on West Lake Road. Admission is free, but

come prepared to buy tickets for authentic Greek food. It is the best! There is Greek dancing and drinking too! A tour of their beautiful church can be taken and artwork, clothing, jewelry and plenty of those wonderful Greek pastries can be had! And I am so gonna win the trip for two to Greece this year! We'll meet you near the food ticket line at 5:30, Best to eat first then browse as the food lines get really long later in the evening.

July 14th, Meet Laurie and Janice at 6 PM at Liberty Park on the Bay for 8 Great Tuesdays Concert Series. Playing that night will be Big Bad Voodoo Daddy! You can bring food and non alcoholic beverages. There are some age restrictions on kids....see this link for details: http://www.porterie.org/8_great_tuesdays.html We aren't sure where we are setting up, bring your blankets or chairs and look for us, or call the cell - 450-8804

July 12th at 1PM. At the Presque Isle Gallery and Coffeehouse - The LBT Women of Erie meet! PI Gallery is at 35 Presque Isle Drive, just before you come to Sara's Restaurant on the right! If you have never been to a meeting or the coffeehouse, Please come! The gallery has the neatest artwork....every type you can think of, and great food and drinks! We always have a good time at our meetings

July 21st is the next folding party for the Erie Gay News. Be at the Zone at 7 PM to help out, have fun, make new friends and reconnect with old friends too. Hope to see you there!

July 25th, Saturday is the Erie Gay Pride March and Rally at Perry Square. Folks can gather at the Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St at noon. The march will step off at 1 PM down State Street to Perry Square, which is where the Rally will be. The rally will start at 2 PM.

July 26th, Sunday, is Dee Dees event. We meet Sunday at the pancake breakfast at 9:45-10 am at the Rotary Pavilion. Then go off to the kayak experience when we are done eating. From there we can go thru the vendors. The nature shop is open till 6 and we could go see a waterfall photo exhibit which is hanging, its excellent. Maybe go for ice cream at the end? Here is the Discover PI Schedule: <http://www.discoverpi.com/>

Also on Sunday, July 26, Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, will be having a service at 11 AM, which will probably last until noon. After that, there will be a GLBT Day at Waldameer. Meet at Rain-

Pittsburgh Picnic



Ballroom dancer at The Pittsburgh Memorial Day Picnic. Photo by James von Loeve. See more photos from Pittsburgh's Memorial Day Picnic online at www.eriegaynews.com

LBT Women news

bow Gardens at 1 PM. Folks can wear the Erie Pride shirts that Erie Gay Pride, Inc is selling out at the bars and also online at <http://www.eriegaypride.org>. For more info, contact Don at eriepride@gmail.com.

July 28th, Tuesday is Erin's event. 8 Great Tuesdays again and the band will be "Jake's Blues". Again Meet at 6. Look for Erin, If you don't know Erin, look for Janice and her pet oxygen tank. My cell is 450-8804 :-)

On to August:

August 1st and 2nd, Saturday and Sunday. The Blues and Jazz Fest at Frontier Park in Erie. We decided to bring food, drinks and chairs and maybe even a awning to pitch and spend the day(s)! You can wander about, but it will be a nice relaxing home base while we enjoy the music.

August 6th, Thursday at 6:30 PM meet Barb and Robin for Down Town Thursdays in front of Park Place. The featured band will be "The Geek Army"

August 8th, Saturday 8 AM. Meet early at the Lagoons Boat Rental area on Presque Isle. You can register for the free Pontoon Boat Tour of the Lagoons. Tours are at 11 am, 1 PM and 2 PM. We hope to get onto the 11 AM ride, which is why we decided to meet there at 8AM. The line forms early to sign up. Bring a bag breakfast from Mc D's or wherever. We are also bringing a picnic lunch and hanging out on a picnic table there for the afternoon. It should be a nice relaxing day. Bring your camera, the lagoons are beautiful!

August 9th, Sunday at 1PM. At the Presque Isle Gallery and Coffeehouse - The LBT Women of Erie meet! PI Gallery is at 35 Presque Isle Drive, just before you come to Sara's Restaurant on the right! If you have never come to a meeting, now it the time. If you haven't been to a meeting in awhile, now is a better time...We miss you!

August 22, Saturday, is the "Woman in the Outdoors" event at Presque Isle. Kim and Andrea are hosting this event. The cost last year was \$30.00, but that included all your events you wanted to do and food. More info is forthcoming on this event as soon as it is available.

August 29th, Saturday at the TREC. Meet at 2:45. We are going to see two of the newer movies they are playing on the big green screen there. At 3 PM - "Jane Goodall's Amazing Chimpanzees" and at 5 PM its

"Hurricane on the Bayou" A story told by musicians about music before and after Hurricane Katrina. They have a special price for movies shown after 3 PM, Two for \$10.00. The Center closes at 8 PM I believe, which leaves time to check out the center's exhibits and gift shop. Watching the Ravine Flyer II from the tower is pretty cool too. Admission to the center is free.

Wow, that about wraps it up. It's an ambitious schedule, but we wanted to have plenty of choices for everyone during the summer months. Remember, friends and family are always welcome at our events unless we specify that it is a Woman's Only Night. All of the above except the folding parties (no one under 21) are family and friends events.

If you want to host an event, contact me at LFinch003@neo.rr.com and I will be glad to help you get it posted to the group.

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.



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17th Annual Picnic biggest yet!

By Michael Mahler

On Saturday, June 13, the 17th Annual Pride Picnic set a record for attendance. We estimate a minimum of 330 people joined us for a day of good friends, food and fun!

For their very generous donations, we would like to thank Zone Dance Club, Craze Night Club, Wal-Mart (Peach St), Wegman's (Peach Street), Body Language, Coca-Cola, Community Health Net, Erie Sisters, Pie in the Sky Cafe, Tony Logue, Erie County Department of Health, Crime Victim Center of Erie County, Inc., Two Friends Italian Market, Country Fair, Glass Growers, and Smith's Hot Dogs for their very generous donations!

Please support the people who support us! Media coverage was by WJET TV 24.

We will be having copies of the photo book from this year's picnic for sale soon at the Erie Gay News web site. This is an exciting chance to have your very own

Organizations represented at the picnic included Community Health Net, Erie Safe Kids Coalition, Gay Straight Diversity Alliance, Drenched Fur, LBT Women of Erie, PFLAG of Erie/Crawford County, Erie Gay Pride, Inc, Equality Advocates of Pennsylvania, Gay Life TV from Pittsburgh (who will have video on their site from the event), Erie County Democratic Party, Erie Health Care Coalition, NW PA Rural AIDS Alliance, and Mercyhurst Gay Straight Alliance

Thanks to the Pride Picnic planning committee, that included Garry, Mary Lou, Jeremy Snyder, Gary Snyder, Jeff Hill, Michelle, and Erin M.

Mary Lou found some wonderful toys for children. There were also some lovely bibs that were handmade and donated by the spouse of an Erie Sister.

Thanks to Jeff Hill, Garry, and Michelle for their terrific help with shopping and transporting. Thanks to Dee, Deb Spilko, and James von Loewe for taking photos. Kudos to Erie Gay News graphic artist Mike Lipiec for designing a terrific flyer also the screen dis-

plays for both bars. Many thanks also to Joe Totleben for help with promoting the picnic.

Gary and Jeremy did an excellent job of running the kitchen the day of the event. Special thanks to Eric who helped out for most of the day, as well as Tracy, Amanda, Nicholas, and Carl. Thanks also to Rhiannon Angelina, our own Lunch Lady Drag Queen.

Thanks to DJ J-Roc for providing sound equipment and music.

It is very important that when people arrive at the picnic that they feel welcomed. Huge thanks to Dok and Jami Hibbs, Michelle, Joanna Fletcher, Kim. Keith, Michael Kohler, Johauna, and others for volunteering at the registration table and greeting folks with smiling faces. Thanks to Season, Chris, Alex Bolla and Al and Maureen Koseff for taking the face photos. Special extra thanks to Max Eroshevich for help with clean up and also to Collis for transporting, set up, clean up and many other tasks.

Huge thanks to Erin for making the silent auction such a phenomenal success and for making up the lovely baskets. Big Honcho Media donated a number of promotional items from the recent Academy Award winning movie, Milk, that were given away. We also set an all time record for collection donations for the Second Harvest Food Bank of NW PA! We collected 220 pounds and \$27 to help those less fortunate in the Erie community.

Many thanks to the Laffans as well as the Covenant of Brigid's Haven for the use of the easy-up for the DJ

Pride Picnic photo books

by Michael Mahler

By the end of July, we will have copies of the photo album from the recent record-setting Pride Picnic for sale! More details will be available at the Erie Gay News web site at <http://www.eriegaynews.com>, email Michael Mahler at info@eriegaynews.com or call (814) 456-9833.

Don't miss out on the chance to have this beautiful reminder of a great day with friends in your hand!

Win Great Prizes

Bear the first to know about online contests when you sign up for the Erie GLBT News/Events List or our Facebook group!

Erie Pride Picnic Photo Gallery

Photos should be edited and online by the end of June or early July. Photos were taken by Dee Dee Foll, James von Loewe, and Deb Spilko



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