

February 2010



EGN

Erie Gay News



Drenched Fur 6 Registration Is Now Open!

by Gary Snyder

With less than 2 months to go, we're proud to announce that registration for attending Drenched Fur 6 on March 26th-28th, 2010 in Erie, PA has now begun. Folks can choose to register either on-line thru our website, www.drenchedfur.com, or by printing the registration form and mail in their payment. This year's registration options include the Basics Package for all the main items of the weekend but does not include Splash Lagoon Water Park Event on Saturday Night. Attendees can choose to add the water park on to the Basics or choose to attend the Splash event only. Also, we are having a limited amount of Drenched Fur 6 Beach Towels created again this year for only \$15 each. (Note: Splash Lagoon does not supply towels.) In addition, folks can join us for an afternoon outing on Saturday for Wine Tasting as well or try their luck at hitting BIG Money at Presque Isle Downs and Casino.

The DF Committee is also proud to say that we have not increased our run fees while providing more this year than before. Currently we are working away at finalizing details for events over the weekend. Look for more updates to appear in the coming weeks. Keep an eye out here on the website, our Facebook, Twitter and Yahoo Group accounts to get up to date information as it happens. Visit www.drenchedfur.com

We look forward to you joining us here in Erie for "The Best Little Run For Fun!"

Greg Rabb continues as Jamestown Council President

from Greg Rabb

The Democratic caucus in a 7 to 2 majority asked openly gay Greg Rabb to continue as President of the Jamestown NY City Council for the 2010-2011 City Council, with swearing in on January 4. Rabb is Jamestown's first openly-gay councilmember.



Recording artists emma's revolution will be performing at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie on Feb. 6: Pat Humphries is on the left and Sandy O on the right. For more on the benefit performance see page 6

Spirituality and Sexuality Discussion Group

by Rich McCarty

Every third Tuesday of the month, beginning February 16, 2010, the Rev. Dr. Rich McCarty will facilitate a discussion group on spirituality and sexuality at Community United Church (1011 West 38th Street) in Erie, PA. Community United Church is an open and affirming Christian congregation. The discussion group will ground conversation in relevant issues such as what Christian scripture and ethics have to say about human sexuality, but will also provide individuals opportunities to share questions, stories, and experiences with respect to what it means to identify as a person who is both spiritual and sexual. This group will also explore comparative religious views on sexuality and think about how different religious perspectives can help or hurt a person to cultivate a strong and sure sexual identity. Meetings will be confidential. Come join the discussion! For more info, contact Rich at richmccarty@msn.com or at (319) 270-5140.

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**Even more content at
www.eriegaynews.com**

**Classified Ads are available!
See page 11 for more info.**

EGN Rates & Data

QUARTER PAGE	FULL PAGE	HALF PAGE VERTICAL
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AD SIZE	PRICE/ISSUE	DIMENSIONS
EIGHTH	\$30 - \$27 Prepaid	1 5/8" high X 2 7/8" wide
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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.



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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: Mon. Feb 15; Folding and distribution is Thurs, Feb 25 at Mike Kohler's. Please check night before!

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 Michael Kohler and Tom Wiler for hosting; Andrea, Bart, Carl, Erin M. M., Gary, James von Loewe, Janice Hanusik, Jeff, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Kim, Laurie Finch, Mike Kohler, Robin Green, Stacie, and Tom Wiler for folding; Erin M. M., James von Loewe, Janice Hanusik, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Kim, Laurie Finch, and Robin Green for distribution; Peter for proofreading; 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

"Re-Member Yourself"

Author, Christopher Felton, will be conducting a 5-week self-help workshop at the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Erie on Sundays from January 31, 2009 - February 28, 2010, 9:15 am to 10:15 am. The workshop will be based on his book, entitled "Re-Member Yourself", which is a comprehensive self-help workbook/journal that has been very effective for people from all walks of life. It has been credited for helping others to learn from and correct negative thinking, bring meaning to daily life, and find a blessing in each day. Books are \$20 each, and the sign-up sheet is on the community action table. Be prepared for an interactive, introspective, and interesting experience! Browse to <http://www.uuerie.org>

New HIV/AIDS Support Group

Submitted by Lake Erie Counseling

Lake Erie Counseling, Inc. in association with North West Pennsylvania Rural AIDS Alliance is forming a group for persons diagnosed with HIV or

AIDS. The group will focus on support, resources and education.

The group will meet on Wednesdays from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. once a month at the office of Lake Erie Counseling, Inc. 301 West 10th Street in Erie. The office is located on a bus route. Lunch, snacks and beverages will be provided. For more information regarding the group, please call Dale Allgeier at Lake Erie Counseling at 455-4009 or Roy at 881-2542.

Lake Erie Counseling, Inc. is a private psychotherapy practice providing individual, couple, family and group therapy. Lake Erie Counseling has been proudly serving the LGBT community since 1993.

GLBT Legislation and Legislative Advocacy Mtg on Feb 18 at Craze

by Michael Mahler

You are invited to a meeting of the GLBT community on Thursday, Feb. 18 at 7 PM at Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie. At the meeting will be

(Continued on next page)

Adagio Health Erie 1611 Peach St., Suite 465, 814-453-4718 **Adagio Health Edinboro** 118 E. Plum Street, 814-734-7600

Please call 814-453-4718 for available days and times at our satellite offices listed below:

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Hispanic American Council
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adagioHEALTH

JFK Center, Inc.
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www.adagiohealth.org

Community News

Jesse Salazar, who heads Senator Casey's statewide LGBT and Latino Affairs. Also present will be Gary van Horn, president of the Delta Foundation in Pittsburgh. We will be discussing legislation and legislative advocacy related to the GLBT community. For more information, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or info@eriegaynews.com. You can also sign up for the GLBT Voter/Activism list (as well as other lists) at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com>.

Erie Gay Pride Schedules Program on Communicating

from Erie Gay Pride

What bothers you about your partner? How do you solve differences of opinion? Do you keep things "bottled up" inside?

If you are looking for some tips on communicating with your partner, consider attending the program Communicating With Your Partner Effectively at 7 p.m. at Community United Church, 1011 W. 38th St., Erie.

The program, which is open to everyone at no

charge, is being presented by Erie Gay Pride, Inc. For more information, go to www.eriegaypride.org.

"In Between" Exhibit at Allegheny

from Allegheny College

The Art Galleries at Allegheny College will present the exhibition "In Between" Jan. 26 to Feb. 16. An opening reception and artist's talk with diversity scholar-in-residence Zanele Muholi will be held at 7 p.m. on Jan. 26. Note: some of the works in this exhibition deal frankly with human sexuality. Highlights include Muholi's immersive installation "Inсила Yomuntu"; "Nude No. 5, Eleanor Dubinsky and Melanie Marr," an experimental video piece by New York artist Mary Ellen Strom; and two large projections in the Vukovich Center, "Mind Control" and "Queer Youth Manifesto," by artist collaborative AGAIN. The projections by AGAIN will be visible every evening during the exhibition through the building's wall of windows. The show also will include a wide variety of drawings, paintings, photographs, videos and sculptural works by Melissa Boyajian, Ria Brodell, Jacinta Bunnell, Andrea Chung, Jess Dugan, Jesse Jagtiani, Nahna Kim, Jacob Kincheloe, Cobi Moules, Jesse Finley Reed, Jeannie Simms, Colleen Toledano and Japanese photographer/performance artist Yasumasa Morimura.

Planning committee for Erie Gay News Family Picnic meets Feb 7

by Michael Mahler

The Picnic Planning Committee will have their first meeting on Sunday, February 7 at 2 PM at Panera's Yorktown, 2501 W 12th St, Erie PA. The 18th Annual Erie Gay News Family Picnic will be Saturday, June 12



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Community News

at the Rotary Pavilion. We need volunteers and folks to make this year's event a success. Last year's picnic was the largest thus far, and we want to make this year's even better! For more info, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or email info@eriegaynews.com. Sign up for the Picnic Planning list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com>.. You can see more about the picnic at <http://picnic.eriegaynews.com>.



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Hate Crimes Rise in schools, communities

from Crime Victim Center of Erie County, Inc.

Hate crimes have been a part of this nation's history for ages but the term "hate crime" was not used until the 1980's.

On November 23, 2009, the FBI released the 2008 Uniform Crime Report with statistics on hate crimes in the United States. Overall, the report indicated there were 7,783 hate crime incidents involving 9,691 victims. Nearly 32% of the hate crimes took place in or near homes and 11.7% occurred in schools and colleges.

California schools have had incidents of hate crimes involving beatings and harassment of students due to their sexual orientation. Corona Del Mar High School is being sued by the ACLU because three football players have been threatening a lesbian student there. Recently a 12-year-old Calabasas, California boy was beaten by fourteen classmates because someone declared it "Kick a Ginger Day" on Facebook. His red hair and freckles made him a target. And, in Pennsylvania two high school football stars were accused of beating to death a Mexican immigrant. Most of the time these incidents never reach the public which leads one to believe the number of hate crimes is probably much higher than reported.

On October 28, 2009, President Obama signed The Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr., Hate Crimes Prevention Act, expanding the federal civil rights law criminalizing violence or attempted violence against persons because of their race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or disability. It also extends legal protection to transgender persons. The hate crimes measure was named for Matthew Shepard and James Byrd who were both murdered.

Next month we will share some steps that can be taken to curb the violence.

Erie Gay News group on LinkedIn

by Mike Mahler

Erie Gay News now has a group on LinkedIn. Please be sure to check us out and join! LinkedIn is a popular social networking site for professionals. In addition to LinkedIn, you can also find Erie Gay News on Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, and Wikipedia.

Concert: emma's revolution at UUCE

"Smart, funny, informative -- like Rachel Maddow and Jon Stewart -- with guitars." Acoustic music with the energy and strength of its convictions filled with hauntingly beautiful harmonies and engaging, intelligent lyrics from award-winning activist songwriters emma's revolution.

emma's revolution will perform on Saturday, February 6, 2010 at 7:30pm at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie. ("\$12 suggested donation, pay what you can, all are welcome.")

"Bold, profound, moving, hilarious and transformative," emma's revolution is the duo of award-winning, activist musicians, Pat Humphries & Sandy O, whose songs become traditions. "Peace, Salaam, Shalom" is sung around the world and has been called the "anthem of the anti-war movement." Their song, "If I Give Your Name" won Grand Prize in the John Lennon Songwriting Contest and their music has been featured on NPR's "All Things Considered" and Pacifica's "Democracy Now!"

In the spirit of Emma Goldman's famous attribution, "If I can't dance, I don't want to be part of your revolution," emma's revolution brings their uprising of truth, hope and a dash of healthy irreverence to concerts and peace, justice, labor, environmental, LGBTQ and women's rights events across the US and abroad. emma's revolution has traveled around the world from Canada, Chile, Korea, Scotland, England, Israel/Palestine, Nicaragua and Cuba and throughout the US (40 states to be exact) spreading their message of peace and justice. As a duo, they've performed at hundreds of peace and justice events over the last eight years and over a 30 year period, Pat's numbers reach into the thousands.

emma's revolution in concert on Saturday, February 6, 2010 at 7:30pm at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie, PA 16509. Tickets are \$12 suggested donation or pay what you can. For information or advance tickets call, 814-864-9300.

Also, they will be adding music to the Sunday service at the Unitarian Universalist Cong. of Erie (February 7, at 10:30 AM)



emma's revolution

emma's revolution has performed by invitation at the First Inaugural Peace Ball 2009, Sing Out the Vote Ohio 2008, World Culture Open in Seoul Korea, and the Scottish Parliament's Festival of Politics, School of America's Watch Annual Vigils, the first ever International Convocation of Unitarian Universalist Women, Unitarian Universalist General Assembly 2009, Michigan Womyn's Music Festival as well as Unitarian Universalist churches, coffeehouses, and universities/colleges across the country.

From The Daily Herald, Everett WA: "Emma's Revolution stands out among those voices that deliver a nudge to our conscience and our sense of who we could be."

emma's revolution is also currently touring in support of their new CD collaborative with Holly Near, *We Came To Sing!* Tender and daring a cappella vocal arrangements of some of Holly Near's most requested songs are paired with some of emma's revolution's most popular songs and some new tracks that perfectly fit the three women's voices!

emma's revolution holds the unofficial record for largest audience: 500,000 in Washington DC in a rally featuring the Rev. Jesse Jackson, Rep. Maxine Waters, Jane Fonda, Sean Penn and Susan Sarandon.

Visit and listen at their website www.emmasrevolution.com

Hear whole selections at www.myspace.com/emmasrevolutionfans

For the Bible Tells Me So - Uganda

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

Before I leave for church on Sunday mornings I often watch a fundamentalist Protestant preacher who appears on a local television station. What he preaches (along with his wife) is unique and troubling. He takes headlines from national newspapers and, after reading them out loud, finds passage from the Bible to back up his own theological bias. He may read a headline, for example, about a natural disaster and then, reading a few verses from the Bible, claims that the disaster is the judgment of God. He proves the truth of the old adage that you can make the Bible say anything you want.

I'm wondering if the misuse of the Bible has had some influence on the reasoning behind the anti-homosexuality bill published in Uganda on September 25, 2009. Uganda, like many places in East Africa, has been greatly influenced by Christian missionaries. When you look at the statistics, Uganda could be considered a Christian nation. This is a country that claims to be 42% Roman Catholic, 36% Anglican and 5% Pentecostal.

I, of course, have no objection to missionaries preaching the good news of the Gospel. I believe Uganda has greatly benefited by church organizations that have done so much good in that part of the world. But, given the fact that the church has had so much influence in Uganda, I wonder if evangelical Christian doctrine played a part in the origin of this bill that, if passed, would violate international human rights.


Here is what Amnesty International says about the bill which, at present, has been tabled before the Ugandan Parliament, but will resume debate in the near future: "If passed, this bill would institutionalize discrimination against those who are, or who are thought to be gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender. It would reinforce the existing prohibition against consensual sex between individuals of the same sex. The bill would go further, purporting to criminalize the 'promotion' of homosexuality, imposing life sentences for entering into a same-sex marriage, introducing the death penalty for 'aggravated' homosexuality, and punishing those who fail to report knowledge of any violations of these

provisions within 24 hours."

How a nation that has been so influenced by the Christian church could come to such radical conclusions is anybody's guess. But we can be certain that some supporters of this bill sincerely believe that they are doing God's will by cleansing the world of what they consider to be the worst of sins. And, we can also be certain that those same individuals will quote the Bible to reinforce their views.

The Christian church and its witness suffer greatly when those who claim to be Christians miss that which is among the most important teaching of Jesus: "You who are without sin, throw the first stone."

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 W 38th St. in Erie. Services are Sunday at 11am. (814) 864-4429. The pastor is Richard A. Moyer and his assistant is Dr. Richard McCarty. Website is www.uccwebsites.net/commuceriepa.html



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DEADLINE for next issue is
February 15

Calendar

This calendar is also online at www.eriegaynews.com/news/calendar.php

Feb 2 (Tue) - Communicating With Your Partner Effectively Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA. 7 PM. Free and open to the public. Venue Phone: (814) 864-4429. Browse to www.eriegaypride.org. Browse to venue web site www.uccwebsites.net/commuceriepa.html.

Feb 5 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour) 1201 Kitchen, 1201 State St, Erie, PA. 6 PM - 8 PM. G2H2/Erie takes place every month in a new location around town, providing GLBT professionals, and our colleagues and friends, the opportunity to meet, network or just hang out once a month. You can also sign up for the Erie Gay Business Alliance email list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com>. Venue Phone: (814) 464-8989. Find G2H2/Erie on Facebook. Browse to venue web site <https://1201restaurant.com/>.

Feb 8 (Mon) - PFLAG Erie/Crawford County meets Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie,

7180 New Perry Highway, Erie, PA. 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.

Feb 8 (Mon) - Craze Entertainment Series Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. 11:30 PM. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.crazeerie.com.

Feb 12 (Fri) - 'Heart Beatz' Valentine's Day Rave by GSA of Mercyhurst Mercyhurst Heritage Room in Sullivan Hall, 501 E. 38th St., Erie. 9 PM - 12 AM. Sponsored by Gay Straight Alliance of Mercyhurst College. Club/Rave clothes in red, white, pink, & black are appropriate (nothing too formal). Everyone is invited. Since it is an official college event, the Heart Beatz Rave will be a clean & alcohol-free event. Contact: Dr. Marnie Sullivan. Phone: (814) 824-3759. Email: msullivan@mercyhurst.edu. Browse to <http://gsaofmercyhurst.wetpaint.com/>.

Feb 12 (Fri) - Zone Dance Club: Queen of Hearts Drag Show 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA.) Come see why Miss Erie is Queen of the Zone and breaks a few Hearts with the help of her royal court of Diva Princesses! Get here early for a great seat and enjoy the show! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Feb 13 (Sat) - YLBT Women of Erie - Ladies' Single Night Molly Brannigan's Irish Pub, 506 State St, Erie, PA. 7:30 PM - 10:30 PM. Hey Single Ladies! Dreading this upcoming Valentine's Day? Fear not! The YLBT Women of Erie are hosting a Ladies Singles Night at Molly Brannigan's! Dressy/casual clothes. \$12 per person, appetizers and soda/tea included.



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Calendar

Email Erin at emprsiris@yahoo.com to pre-register or for more information. Young Lesbians Bisexuals & Transgender Women of Erie is an 18-40 group of ladies who share their interests. Sign up for the email list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com>. Contact: Erin. Email: emprsiris@yahoo.com. Browse to <http://ylbtwomenoferie.wetpaint.com/>.

Feb 13 (Sat) - Carnival of Sins: Mardi Gras & Valentine Party Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. What happens when Valentine's Day and Mardi Gras collide on the same weekend? We throw one *Hell* of a big party! Girls & Guys Gone Wild! Wear sexy lingerie and fun boxers, show us some skin, get some beads, or a tattoo! Join us for a night of debauchery and fun as we travel from Bourbon St. to Hell and back and celebrate our Carnival of Sins at the Zone. (814) 452-0125. www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Feb 14 (Sun) - Craze Night Club: Happy Valentine's Day 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. Stop out and sing your Valentine a song! Long Islands on special! (814) 456-3027. www.crazeerie.com.

Feb 15 (Mon) - Deadline for EGN March 2010 print edition (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 Feb 25. For a complete list of upcoming deadlines and release dates, check the print edition schedule at www.eriegaynews.com/printedition/deadlineschedule.php. Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: info@eriegaynews.com. Browse to www.eriegaynews.com.

Feb 16 (Tue) - Spirituality and Sexuality Discussion Group meets Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA. 7 PM. Every third Tuesday of the month, the Rev. Dr. Rich McCarty facilitates a discussion group on spirituality and sexuality at Community United Church. Community United Church is an open and affirming Christian congregation. The discussion group grounds conversation in relevant issues such as what Christian scripture and ethics have to say about human sexuality, but also provides individuals opportunities to share questions, stories, and experiences with respect to what it means to identify as a

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Calendar

person who is both spiritual and sexual. This group also explores comparative religious views on sexuality and think about how different religious perspectives can help or hurt a person to cultivate a strong and sure sexual identity. Meetings are confidential. Come join the discussion! Contact: Rich McCarty. Phone: (319) 270-5140. Venue Phone: (814) 864-4429. Email: rich-mccarty@msn.com. Browse to venue web site <http://www.uccwebsites.net/commuceriepa.html>.

Feb 16 (Tue) - Zone Fat Tuesday Mardi Gras Party 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Mardi Gras Zone Style! (814) 452-0125. www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Feb 21 (Sun) - LBT Women of Erie meets at P.I.G. (NOTE DATE CHANGE) 1PM, Young LBT Women meet at 2PM. (814) 452-6645

Feb 21 (Sun) - SafeNet's 4th Annual Chill-E Cook-Off Brewerie at Union Station, 123 W 14th St, Erie. 2 PM - 6 PM. 50/50 Raffle, Silent Auction, T-Shirts, Art by Kevin-John. Advance tickets \$10 at SafeNet, Northwest Savings Bank, The Brewerie at Union Station. Tickets will be sold at the door the day of the event.

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Feb 21 (Sun) - Zone Dance Club: Face: 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. 10:30 PM. Drag series every 3rd Sunday of the month. Also, wish Michelle Michaels a happy birthday! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Feb 22 (Mon) - Craze Entertainment Series (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA 16502) 11:30 PM. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to <http://www.crazeerie.com>.

Feb 25 (Thu) - Eric Gay News folding/distributing work party at Mike Kohler's, 614 Cherry St, Erie PA. 7 PM. Please contact the night before to verify that we are on schedule! Help us get out the print edition of *Erie Gay News*. We'll be folding and distributing the copies. All ages welcome! It is also a great way to hang out and chat with folks! Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: info@eriegaynews.com.

Feb 27 (Sat) - Insanity Ball at Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St. 6 PM - 9 PM. After the last of the turkey.... after all the wrappings from presents are thrown away...after you have made your returns and bought what you really want.. after the snowfall has turned from delightfully festive to drab and dank.... we will party. Yes, we will party. A hafla that will drive you crazy... No Cover! Doors Open at 6pm. At 7 pm we will be administering.... *Shock Therapy*:

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Calendar

Our Main Show featuring Erie's fusion bellydancers: Vikki Krugger, Jessica Stadtmueller, Salem Pierce. Special guests : Sanctuary Fusion Dance Company and many more performers to drive you mad! Stick around after the main show for... Group Therapy: An Open Performance and Belly Dance Party! Patients, errrr, um, Performers, Meet with our resident nurse to commit yourself. Come prepared with your music ready. All levels and styles are welcome. Feel free to dress crazy! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.crazeerie.com.

Mar 13 (Sat) - LBT Women go to the Presque Isle Downs & Casino 8199 Perry Highway , Erie, PA. We are meeting at the Casino in Erie at 3:30 for a little wagering and optional dinner afterwards if you like. We can partake of the Buffet there or pick from manyContact: Laurie Finch. Phone: (814) 452-6645. . <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>. B

Mar 26-28 - Drenched Fur 6 - Erie's own Bear weekend. Info: Gary Snyder (814) 446-2327 gnsnyder@drenchedfur.com www.drenchedfur.com

Mar 28 - LBT Women Game Day Afternoon Details TBA. Phone: (814) 452-6645. . <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>.

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EGN has free content for your site!

by Mike Mahler

Erie Gay News has free, automatically updating content for your web site!

You can have the calendar and/or latest headlines on your site. Once you place the code, you don't need to do anything else.

This helps us all out, because the more places that news and events can be found, the more likely it is that people can find it.

Additionally, we have a page on our site that displays web sites carrying our content. Right now, about 10 different sites already carry the calendar and headlines and get an extra mention and a link for doing this. Everybody wins!

Check out the page at www.eriegaynews.com/rsspartners.php. You can also contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or info@eriegaynews.com for more info.

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On Stage

Selected events of possible GLBT interest

Feb 8 (Mon) - Ani DiFranco in concert in Buffalo at Babeville Phone: (716) 852-3835 . www.babeville-buffalo.com

Feb 19 - Mar 13 (Fri - Sat) - The Chronicles of Beebo Brinker Presented by Buffalo United Artists,. Based on Ann Bannon's lesbian fiction series (written between 1957 and 1962).Phone: (716) 886-9239. Browse to www.buffalobua.org.

Feb 23 (Tue) - Melissa Ferrick and Alison Pipitone in concert in Buffalo at Babeville. Phone: (716) 852-3835 . Email: info@babevillebuffalo.com. Browse to www.babevillebuffalo.com.

Mar 4-6 -Angels in America by Tony Kushner
Directed by Dan Crozier. Playshop Theatre, Allegheny College, Meadville PA at 8:00pm, March 7 (Sun) at 2:30 pm Vukovich Center for Communication Arts Phone: (814) 332-3414 <http://sites.allegheny.edu/playshop/>
March 28-Tegan and Sara in Cleveland at Lakewood Civic Cleveland, OH <http://teganandsara.com>

News headlines

Link to these articles from our website at www.eriegaynews.com

Dec 15 - D.C. Council Gives Final Passage to Same-Sex Marriage Bill

Jan 4 - Obama Names Transgender Appointee to Commerce Department

Jan 4 - Federal jobs site bans gender identity bias

Jan 7- New Jersey Senate Rejects Marriage Bill for Same-Sex Couples, back to court

January 8, 2010, The Portuguese Parliament passed a bill backing same-sex marriage The bill will now be reviewed in committee before coming back to parliament for a final vote.

Jan 8 - Prop 8 Trial begins. Landmark case is nation's first over gay right to wed

Screen

TV

Logo has just announced its new line-up of GLBT entertainment. Visit us online for the whole list with descriptions.

VIDEO

Check online for links to trailers and clips

The Butch Factor (2009) This investigation of gay men and sexuality blows the lid off old stereotypes and showcases a battalion of interviewees including muscle men, rodeo riders, rugby players and cops. *Wolfe Video*

Hollywood, je t'aime (2008) After a breakup, gay Parisian Jerome impulsively books a trip to LA and pursues his dream of being a movie star. "Polished crowd-pleaser likely to rank among the year's more popular gay pics." ~Variety *Wolfe Video*

Wanda Sykes: I'ma Be Me (2009) Her HBO comedy special Available 2/2 Warner/HBO

Outrage (2009) Controversial documentary about closeted politicians who vote against LGBT rights. Boldly revealing the hidden lives of some of the most powerful policymakers, Outrage takes a comprehensive look at the harm they've inflicted on millions of Americans, and examines the media's complicity in keeping their secrets. *Magnolia*

The Truth: A Stage Play about the Downlow (2007) Filmed musical stage play that played to standing-room only audiences. *Restoration Stage*

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Res. Code: DD-MBIDS-09

Equality PA and Equality Advocates PA names Jake Kaskey Managing Director

from Equality Pennsylvania

Philadelphia, PA - Equality Pennsylvania and Equality Advocates Pennsylvania has announced the promotion of Jake Kaskey, former policy and programs director, to managing director of the organizations. Continuing with this expansion, the board has elected four new members from across central Pennsylvania.

Under Jake's leadership, Equality Pennsylvania and Equality Advocates Pennsylvania more than doubled the size of their database of supporters, hosted events in every region of the state, increased the number of organizations involved with the coalition working on legislative priorities, and organized first-ever events such as last year's "Rock the Dome" Rally and Lobby Day and the Pennsylvania Equality Summit held in State College. In 2006, Jake was featured in "The Advocate" for his political organizing work and experience.

The Board of Directors is also proud to announce the election of four new members of the board from across central Pennsylvania.

This article can be read in its entirety on our website.

On our website

Online now or coming soon: to www.eriegaynews.com

Videos

- "Whose Marriage Is It?"

Photos

- LBT Women Tubing Party
- LBT Women Sleigh Ride
- EGN Folding and new Beanwear by LBT Women

Also, web site bonus features!

- Amazon Trail, column by lesbian author and novelist Lee Lynch
- Gay Travel, from GayTravel.com
- Health and Fitness from Ron Blake
- Life Beyond Therapy by Michael Kimmel
- Other news!

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Health

Research: Female transmission of Cervical Cancer virus possible

Leicester, UK, January 20, 2010 – The Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) that is present in almost 100% of cervical cancer cases can be transmitted between women, according to a new report from the UK. (DMU) in Leicester and has been used as part of the British National Health Service Cervical Screening Programme 2009 Annual Review.

Historically it was believed that the HPV virus could only be transmitted by male partners, leading to the incorrect assumption that lesbians are not at risk from cervical cancer and do not need to be screened.

However, research shows that 80 per cent of lesbians have had a sexual relationship with a man at some stage in their life. Any exchange of bodily fluids can pass the HPV between two people, so a woman could contract the infection from her partner.

Link to full article from our website. <http://www.pinknews.co.uk/2010/01/21/nhs-review-calls-for-clearer-cervical-cancer-guidance-for-lesbians/>

Pitt Receives Grants Totaling \$17.5M for HIV Prevention Projects

Multicenter Studies Will Develop Rectal Microbicides and Assess Their Acceptance

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 7 – A multicenter research team led by the University of Pittsburgh is developing microbicides specifically designed to prevent rectal transmission of HIV, with the further aim of assessing their safety and efficacy in lab and early clinical studies.

Funded by an \$11 million, five-year grant from the National Institutes of Health, the Combination HIV Antiretroviral Rectal Microbicide (CHARM) program includes a project that will reformulate existing antiretroviral drugs into topical preparations that can be applied to the rectum, said principal investigator Ian McGowan, M.D., Ph.D., a professor of medicine and of obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and an investigator at the Magee-Womens Research Institute.

“Unprotected receptive anal intercourse is the highest-risk sexual activity for HIV transmission,” Dr. McGowan noted. “Vaginal microbicides already are being extensively studied, and a similar approach might be a very effective way of preventing rectal HIV transmission. It will be critical to determine whether vaginal microbicides are safe and effective when used in the rectum, and also to develop rectal-specific products.”

The rectal microbicides that the team develops will be assessed in human cell lines, intestinal tissue samples, and in animal models. After candidate agents have been developed, the CHARM program will progress to studying them in human safety trials. Collaborating research centers include the University of California, Los Angeles; Johns Hopkins University; the University of North Carolina; and CONRAD, a program of Eastern Virginia Medical School that receives substantial support from the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Dr. McGowan, along with Alex Carballo-Diequez, Ph.D., of Columbia University, also is a principal investigator of a \$6.5 million, four-year, NIH-funded project that will examine “Microbicide Safety and Acceptability in Young Men.” For the study, which will be conducted in Pittsburgh, Boston and Puerto Rico,



the Rural AIDS Alliance

We provide access to testing, education, and medical, financial, and supportive services to those infected with HIV/AIDS in Northwest Pa. With Clinics in Erie, Warren, Clarion, Clearfield, Seneca, Sharon, Greenville and Farrell staffed by HIV specialists. Support Groups are also offered, please contact Sue at the Clarion office for that information.

For more information, contact:

Erie Office: 900 State Street, Suite 213
Erie, PA 16501
814-453-3811 or 1-800-400-2437

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

**"GET TESTED: YOU NEED TO KNOW"
EDUCATION IS THE KEY TO PREVENTION**

Health

HIV-negative men who are between 18 and 30 years old and have sex with men will be counseled about safer sex practices and provided with condoms. They will then be asked to use a placebo gel during sexual encounters and inform the researchers about their experiences with the product through an automated phone system, video interviews with research assistants and other means.

Those who are most strict about using the placebo gel will be asked to participate in the next stage of the study, which will test the rectal safety of a vaginal microbicide or a placebo.

"This project will give us greater knowledge of whether microbicides are safe, easy to use and acceptable in the real world," Dr. McGowan said.

The University of Pittsburgh also leads the National Institutes of Health-funded Microbicide Trials Network (MTN), of which Dr. McGowan is a co-principal investigator. Headquartered at Magee-Womens Research Institute in Pittsburgh, MTN is a global clinical trials network focused on preventing the sexual transmission of HIV.



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<http://gayellowpages.com>

Win Prizes from Erie Gay News

Here are contests that will be premiering this month...

Contest	Starts
Logan Lynn - From Pillar to Post CD	January 29
We Came to Sing CD	February 2
Ellen DeGeneres comic book	February 5
Praxis DVD	February 12
Hunx and His Punx - Gay Singles	February 19
Big Muscle Remixed CD Download	February 23
Person of Interest DVD	February 26

Here are contests which are currently active...

Contest	Ends
Joel Evan's Single - Storm	January 29
Kaylah Marin's On The Floor Remix CD and Loving Life CD	February 5
Carole Pope CD - Transcend (Autographed)	February 9
Lost Fingers - Lost in the 80's	February 12
Noa Tylo's CD - Feeling in Me	February 16

Please note that you can always see a complete list of contests at our web site! Members of the Erie GLBT News and Events list and also the Erie Gay News Facebook group get first notice of contests. Sign up today!

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