

March 2012



EGN



Bob Langley appointed to Meadville City Council

Congratulations to Bob Langley, who was recently appointed to Meadville PA City Council to fill a vacancy. Bob applied for the position with a number of other candidates. The link to the Meadville Tribune article is in this online version of this article. Bob's partner, John Despo, was also at the swearing in ceremony on February 15.

Caitlyn Strohmeier on GEAE Board

Congratulations to Caitlyn Strohmeier, who was recently voted onto the board of Greater Erie Alliance for Equality. Caitlyn is also active with Erie Sisters and LBT Women of Erie. She is interested in working towards equality for the community and providing help to the transgender community. The Greater Erie Alliance for Equality is committed to developing and offering a variety of programs designed to address the wide and varied need of the regional LGBT community and its straight allies. GEAE is in the process of assessing the needs of the community to help guide us as we move forward. Their website is at <http://www.greatereriealliance.com>.

Greg Rabb going to Democratic National Convention

Greg Rabb, openly-gay Jamestown NY city council president, has been chosen to be the only delegate from Jamestown to the Democratic National Convention in support of President Obama's nomination and re-election this year representing the 27th Congressional district in New York State.

LBT Women small biz shopping trip

by *Kimmie*

LBT Women are planning a small business shopping day for April, date TBA. We want to visit and support the small businesses in the Erie area.

Any suggestions for places to check out? Contact Kimmie at kimmytoes@gmail.com



*Partying at the Mercyhurst QSA "Flaming Hearts" Dance
Feb. 3, 2012
Photo by Mike Mahler*

Petition to ask Mayor Joe Sinnott sign Mayors for Freedom to Marry

by *Mike Mahler*

Last month, Freedom to Marry had included Erie PA Mayor Joe Sinnott on its Mayors for the Freedom to Marry campaign. It was later reported that Sinnott's signature and those of several other mayors were added without the knowledge of the mayors. Those mayors had their names removed immediately.

Since then, several other Pennsylvania mayors have signed on to the campaign.

We have created a Change.org petition page to ask Mayor Sinnott to sign on. Link from our website or go to <http://www.change.org/petitions/joe-sinnott-mayor-of-erie-pa-join-the-nation-wide-mayors-for-the-freedom-to-marry-effort>. Please sign this and ask others to sign.

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 www.eriegaynews.com

Editors: Deb Spilko and Mike Mahler
Ad Design: Mike Lipiec
Deadline for next issue: Mon, Mar 12;
Folding and distribution is Tue, Mar 20 at
Mike Kohler's. Please check night before!

ISSN 2159-1792

The *Erie Gay News* is published monthly as a source of news, events, information, and support for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgender 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. Please include your contact information with any piece you submit.

Check out our special bonus contest online at eriegaynews.com! Photo galleries, videos , contests, reviews and so much more!

EGN Rates & Data

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.

Erie Gay News is now included in the EBSCO *LGBT Life*® with Full Text index and six LGBT archives around the world

THANKS

From Your Friends at Erie Gay News

To Michael Kohler for hosting; Andrea, Erin Moll, Janice Hanusik, Jeff, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Julie, Michael Kohler, Sean Weary, and Steve B for folding; Andrea, Erin Moll, Jeff, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Michael Kohler, Sean Weary, and Steve B 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.

DRENCHED FUR8



Thurs., March 29th 10pm:

Bear Bar Night at The ZONE



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Fri., March 30th 11pm:

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This ad is made possible by a Federal Grant
under the Ryan White Care Act of 1990.

Community News

Join the fun at Drenched Fur 8 and Splash Lagoon

from Gary Snyder

Have you been wanting to hang out more with guys in the bear community? Ever wanted to go to Splash Lagoon but would rather attend a private event at night? Well here is your chance! The bears of Drenched Fur 8 invite you to join them at the end of March for weekend of fun and good times. On Thursday, March 29th, 2012, Drenched Fur 8 will be kicking things off with the early arrivals for a bar night outing at The Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie PA. Then on Friday, March 30, the weekend continues for run registrants with an indoor pool party at the Bel Aire Hotel followed by a musical performance with the return of vocal/guitarist Jeff RockCub. Local guys can join us for Jeff's performance starting at 11 PM with just a \$5 cover charge at the door. But the fun continues the following night, on Saturday, March 31 when DF 8 also welcomes locals to join us for our Themed Buffet Dinner and Comedy Game Show Combo at the Bel Aire Hotel. Cocktail hour starts at 6 PM, dinner service at 7 PM, followed at 8PM by laughs from the return of our comedy game show—all this for just \$35 per person! And of course, that night we're once again hosting our exclusive event at the Splash Lagoon Indoor Water Park Resort. The event is from 10 PM-2 AM and the admission is \$40 per person. If community members wish to participate in the private event at Splash Lagoon, please visit the DF8 website at www.drenchedfur.com and click on Registration. (Advance signup and payment is required for the Saturday Dinner/Show Combo as well as the Splash Lagoon Private Event). There is a 21 and over age limit because of the presence of alcohol for events at the Bel Aire Hotel.

The Splash Lagoon Event is sponsored by DF8 and is part of Erie's Bear Run Weekend. Over 200 visitors are expected from around the USA. The full listing of events for the weekend can be found at the Drenched Fur website and include a winery tour, casino visits, charity auction, vendor mall, and more! Commemorative DF8 beach towels are also available to order via our website.

Info: DF8 Run Coordinator, Gary at gnsnyder@drenchedfur.com or leave a message at 814 446 2327



It's our differences that make us great.

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e-rot-i-ca (ī-rōt'ī-kə) - noun. Literature intended to arouse.



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Book Review: *Paul on Homosexuality*

Reviewed by Rev. Steve Aschmann

Paul on Homosexuality by Michael Wood
Tubi Publishing (2011) ISBN: 978-936565-12-2

Cryptographers love to solve puzzles, decode secret writings, decipher hieroglyphics, and “break” secret codes. Modern cryptographers are true computer geeks who specialize in unraveling confidential data confidentiality. As a cryptographer, Michael Wood could have followed the trail of Indiana Jones in “The Raiders of the Lost Ark” or followed suit with Dan Brown in another Da Vinci Code; but he doesn’t. In the same year that the King James Version of the Bible turned 400, Wood tackles the misinterpretations of that and subsequent versions which he claims distort the authentic position of biblical material and especially the position of the Apostle Paul on homosexual relationships. As a longtime minister, I consider this a rough read and moreso for neophyte bible scholars. But if you love your Christianity and you are gay, you will stick with it. Wood uses a reasonable number of Greek

and Hebrew words; and theological and philosophical concepts to solve the 2,000 year-old mystery of Paul’s historical view of homosexual relationships.

Wood nailed me on page 4 when he said, “Atheists, meanwhile simply shake their heads...to them, Paul is a self-contradictory loon...They view the Bible as one of the most self-contradictory books on the planet...” I admire people who can juggle paradoxes in their minds, they have to be geniuses. How could Paul believe, as Jesus did, in “loving your neighbor” and then condemn those who maintained the gay lifestyle of his day? Wood claims Paul was not condemnatory but inspiring the Christians of his time to really evaluate their relationships with everyone. That possibility is what drove me, a non-theistic minister, to read the whole thing through all the way to the Epilogue and the attached addendums.

I applaud Michael Wood for presenting a positive plausible understanding of the “Loving-Kindness” of Christianity especially for today’s gay community. Be sure to read about him at his website, Michael Wood Cryptographer <http://michaelwoodcrypto.com>. Also, there are very affirming and revealing reviews for this book on Amazon.com. If you are gay and Christian you owe it to yourself to digest this book.

~Rev. Rainbow

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Calendar

Feb 10-26 "The Color Purple" at Erie Playhouse

Passion runs deep in this musical adaptation as it captures the joyful heart of Alice Walker's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel about a woman's triumph over a life of abuse and tragedy. Brimming with beats of rhythm, blues and jazz, the core of the tale is the strength of the black women it depicts in rural Georgia in the first half of the 20th century. This is a musical sung from the heart telling us we all deserve happiness, joy and love. "The Color Purple is the only Broadway or West End musical ever to depict a lesbian relationship between two women of color." ~AfterEllen.com Visit www.erieplayhouse.org

Feb 22 (Wed) - Craze Karaoke 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. Every Wednesday! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Feb 23 (Thu) - Living in Meadville Diversity Symposium (Schultz Hall at Allegheny College, Between N. Main and Park Streets, Meadville, PA 16335) 6 PM - 8 PM. A diversity forum-"Living in Meadville: Building Community by Exploring Differences"- the

first of its kind, is an opportunity for citizens of the Meadville and Crawford County communities to come together and begin a dialogue on how we can engage each other to build a community where differences are respected, affirmed, and appreciated. We have assembled an excellent panel which includes: Dr. Alec Chien, Professor of Music at Allegheny College; Judge Bill Chisholm, District Judge in Meadville; Dr. Armendia P. Dixon, community advocate and educator; Charlie Heller, Superintendent Crawford Central School District; Rev. Kazi Joshua, Assistant Dean of Residence Life at Allegheny College; the Honorable J. Christopher Soff, Mayor of Meadville. The diversity symposium, which is free and open to the public, will be held February 23 on the Allegheny College campus in Schultz Hall (between N. Main and Park Streets) from 6:00-8:00 PM. The symposium is a collaboration between the Grief Recovery and Other Workshops (G.R.O.W.) Ministry at St. John Baptist Church and the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Access (IDEA) at Allegheny. The event was inspired by

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Calendar

Bishop Stanley Smith, pastor at St. John. Although not required community members are encouraged to RSVP at growabettermeadville@gmail.com or call (814) 336-2965.

Feb 24 (Fri) - Erie Sisters benefit for Second Harvest - CANCELED!

Feb 26 (Sun) - SafeNet's 6th Annual Chill-E Cook-Off (Brewerie at Union Station, 123 W 14th St, Erie, PA) Erie's original Chili Cook-off. Phone: (814) 455-1774. Email: rliebel@safeneterie.org. Browse to www.safeneterie.org.

Feb 27 (Mon) - Craze Night Club Entertainment Series 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. 11:30 PM. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Feb 29 (Wed) - Craze Karaoke Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie. Come celebrate Leap Year! Phone: (814) 456-3027. www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Mar 2 (Fri) - Vortex at Craze 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. 9 PM. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Mar 2 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour) (Location TBA) 6 PM - 8 PM. Providing GLBT professionals, and our colleagues and friends, the opportunity to meet, network or just hang out once a month. Find on Facebook.

Mar 3 (Sat) - "Absolutely Tango" Benefit for Dreams of Hope (Absolute Ballroom Dance Center, 6617 Hamilton Ave., Pittsburgh, PA) 8 PM - 11 PM. www.dreamsofhope.org. Phone: (412) 361-2065 Email: info@dreamsofhope.org.

Mar 3 (Sat) - "Starz 2012" at Skybar 108 Fairmount Parkway, Jamestown, NY. 11 PM. Featuring Fantasia Thunderpussy and Sabrina Williams of Club Marcella

in Buffalo. Liza Summers, Anita Waistline, Serenity Chambers, Tasha Brooks and Jill Jameson! Only a \$5 cover. (716) 661-3212.

Mar 4 (Sun) - Craze Karaoke 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. Join us every Sunday! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Mar 4 - March Forth Against Crime Crime Victim Center's first 5K run/walk, will be held at 9am at the Rotary Pavilion on Presque Isle. Early registration through February 11th: \$17, Late registration or day of event: \$20, \$1 deduction in fees for Erie Runners Club. To register online, sign up at: <http://goo.gl/LSQjz>

Mar 7 (Wed) - Craze Karaoke 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. Every Wednesday Night! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Mar 9 (Fri) - Bear Bar Night at the Zone 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. 10 PM. It might be winter but that doesn't mean you have to hibernate! Join local/tri-state area bears, cubs, admirers and their friends for a fun time hanging out together. Meet up with fun people, and take a chance at the raffle giveaway that night. Drenched Fur 8 will be giving away a free pass to Splash Lagoon Water Park Private Event (Date: March 31) during this year's bear run, Mar 29-Apr 1. Contact: Gary Snyder. Phone: (814) 446-2327. Email: info@drenchedfur.com. Browse to www.drenchedfur.com.

Mar 10 (Sat) - Pride Planning meeting (Panera's - Yorktown, 2501 W 12th St, Erie, PA 16505) 3 PM. Planning the 20th Pride Picnic on June 16 and the Pride Parade and Rally on August 27 and so much more! All are welcome to help out! Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Venue Phone: (814) 833-9101. Email: info@eriegaynews.com. Browse to



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Calendar

www.eriegaynews.com.

Mar 11 (Sun) - LBT Women meets (Presque Isle Gallery Coffeehouse, 35 Peninsula Drv, Erie, PA) 1 PM. Meets the 2nd Sunday of each month at Presque Isle Gallery Coffeehouse. Contact: Laurie Finch. Email: LFinch003@neo.rr.com. Browse to <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>.

Mar 11 (Sun) - LBT Women Erie Art Museum Visit (Erie Art Museum, 411 State St, Erie, PA) 2:30 PM. After LBT Women of Erie's monthly meeting, we head to the Erie Art Museum. Admission is free every 2nd Sun. from 1-5! . Email: LFinch003@neo.rr.com. Browse to <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>.

Mar 12 (Mon) - PFLAG Erie/Crawford County meets Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Hwy Erie. 7 - 8:30 PM. Support group for parents, friends and families of gay, lesbian and transgendered people. Contact: Mark H. Phone: (814) 456-0901. Email: pflag.erie.crawford@gmail.com.

www.thezonedanceclub.com/.

Mar 12 (Mon) - Deadline for Erie Gay News April 2012 print edition Erie Gay News, 1115 W 7th St,

Erie, PA. Please have all articles, ads, and submissions in by this date. This issue will be released the evening of Mar. 20. For complete list of upcoming deadlines and release dates, check 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.

Mar 12 (Mon) - Craze Night Club Entertainment Series 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. 11:30 PM. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Mar 16 Apr 7 - "Secrets of the Trade" at Buffalo United Artists Andy Lipman, a smart, ambitious kid from Long Island dreams of a career on Broadway and hopes that his idol, theater legend Martin Kerner, can give his career a boost. Will Kerner open Andy's door to success, or will their complicated relationship force him to question a life in the theater? buffalobua.org/

Mar 17 (Sat) - LBT Women go to Erie Otters Hockey Game (Tullio Arena, 809 French St, Erie,

It's gonna be twice as nice this month!

Bear Bar Night at the **★ ZONE**

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DRENCHED FUR 8

Splash LAGOON
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Friday, March 9th

Join local bears, cubs, admirers & friends to hang out, shoot pool & dance! You could win a pass to the Splash Lagoon Private Event on Saturday March 31st during Drenched Fur 8!

Contact: Gary Snyder: 814-446-2327 • Venue: 814-452-0125
Email: info@drenchedfur.com • Visit www.drenchedfur.com
Visit the Zone @ www.thezonedanceclub.com

Join us for the kick-off of Drenched Fur 8 on Thursday March 29th

Calendar

PA) 7 PM. Meet between 6:15 -6:30 in lobby. My email is kimmytoes@gmail.com. RSVP if possible by 3/12 so we know how many and who to be looking out for. Ticket prices vary depending on where we want to sit. We might be able to get some free or discounted tickets so please RSVP. Contact: Kim. . Email: kimmytoes@gmail.com. Browse to <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>.

Mar 17 (Sat) - O'Zone St.Patricks Day Dance Party 133 W 18th St, Erie. Feeling Lucky? Join your friends for some 4-leaf fun at our St. Patrick's Party! Wear Green! Have some green beer or dance an Irish jig! Catch the leprechaun and he might give you his pot of gold! The gay rainbow ends here! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com/.

Mar 17- "Ladies of the Night" hosted by Appeal of the Twin Tiers At St Stephens Club, 1117 N Union St, Olean, NY. Starts at 9pm, \$6 cover. The Ladies of The Night return for a great show. Remember, it's Martika's 22nd Birthday, Show cast to be announced.

Mar 18 (Sun) - Craze Karaoke 1607 Raspberry St,

Erie, PA. Bring all your friends! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Mar 18 (Sun) - FACE: Michelle Michael's Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie. 11 PM. Don't miss a fun-filled night of great entertainment with all of your favorite drag queens, new faces and special guests! 3rd Sunday of the month at 11 PM. (814) 452-0125. www.thezonedanceclub.com

Mar 20 (Tue) - Spirituality and Sexuality Discussion Group meets (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th, Erie, PA) Every 3rd Tues of month (Sept - May), the Rev. Dr. Rich McCarty facilitates a discussion group on spirituality and sexuality at Community United Church (an open and affirming congregation). This group provides LGBTQA people the confidential opportunity to share questions, stories, and experiences about what it means to be both a sexual and spiritual person. Contact: Rich McCarty. Phone: 1-866-229-1974 (toll free). Email: richmccarty@msn.com.

Mar 20 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie PA) 7 PM. Help us get out the print edition of Erie Gay News. 21+, please (alcohol establishment). 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.

Mar 21 (Wed) - Craze Karaoke 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA 16502) Every Wed. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Mar 23 - Suzanne Westenhoefer in Oil City 7:00 PM Robert W. Rhoades Center, Clarion University-Venango Campus, Oil City PA.. <http://suzanne.com> \$10 at the door for non-students



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Calendar

Mar 26 (Mon) - Craze Night Club Entertainment Series 1607 Raspberry St, Erie 11:30 PM. Phone: (814) 456-3027. www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Mar 29-Apr 1 - Drenched Fur Erie's Bear Run
Online registration at www.drenchedfur.com

Mar 31 (Sat) - LBT Women Movie and Games/Hanging With the Beans Night (Kim and Andrea's, Erie, PA) 6 PM. Social group for lesbian, bisexual and transgendered women. Gathering for movie/games or just hanging with the beans at Kim and Andrea's. RSVP to Kim at kimmytoes@gmail.com by the 3/24 so we know how many to expect and if anyone needs directions. Contact: Kim. Email: kimmytoes@gmail.com. Browse to <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>

Apr 19 - Namoli Brennet in Oil City At the The Impromptu Room @ Art on Elm! 228 Elm St, Oil City, PA (Alternative Entrance-Mosaic Cafe, 237 Seneca St) 7 pm


Apr 24 - Dining Out For Life, AIDS Community Services, Southern Tier (716) 664-7855. Details coming soon!

We provide access to testing, education, & medical, financial, & supportive **services** to those infected with HIV/AIDS in 13 counties of Northwest PA. HIV Specialty Clinics are held in Erie, Meadville, Clearfield, DuBois, Warren, Clarion, Seneca, Greenville & Farrell, staffed by HIV specialists. Support Groups are also offered.

Northwest PA Rural AIDS Alliance

For more info., contact:
Erie Office: 900 State St. Suite 213, Erie, PA 16501
 814-454-3811 or 1-800-400-AIDS
Clarion Office: 15870 Rt. 322 Suite 2, Clarion, PA 16214
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Here are contests that will be premiering this month...

Contest	Starts
<i>Landfall</i> by Carole Pope	February 24
<i>Don't Let Me Go</i> , the debut novel from J.H. Trumble	March 6
<i>I Don't Know How She Does It</i> DVD	March 9
Madonna feat. Nicki Minaj and M.I.A. "Give Me All Your Luvin"	March 13
<i>Global Groove: Dance 5</i> mixed by DJ/Producer Escape	March 16
<i>Dirty Girl</i> DVD	March 20
<i>Nothing This Real</i> by Justin Utley	March 23
<i>Love, Lust and Dancin'</i> CD by Jeff RockCub	March 27

Here are contests which are currently active...

Contest	Ends
<i>Older Man/Younger Man: A Love Story</i>	February 24
<i>Your Boyfriend & Other Guys I've Kissed</i> by Totally Tyler	March 2
<i>I Was Born This Way - The Book</i>	March 6
<i>Paul on Homosexuality</i>	March 9
Hey Dude Skin Care Product for Men	March 13

You can always see a complete list of contests at our web site! Members of the Erie GLBT News and Events list get first notice of contests. Sign up today!

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