

March 2013



EGN

Erie Gay News



Marriage Equality vigil March 6

from Marriage Equality for PA

Marriage Equality for PA is sponsoring the Light the Way to Justice Vigil at the Federal Courthouse in Erie PA on March 26 from 7 until 8:30 PM. This is not a march, a fight, or a demonstration - this is a peaceful display of solidarity and a stand for love, not hate. Make signs to hold, bring candles and help show our desire to be equal under the law. This is a grassroots movement. For more information, click the link on: www.me4pa.org. Please join us.

Persad Erie starts therapy discussion group for gay men

by Will Koehler, Persad Erie

There is a new Gay Men's Discussion group meeting every other week on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 5 PM at Persad Erie, 1011 W 38h St, Erie PA. (This is inside Community United Church.) The group focuses on developing skills for healthy living focusing on

- * Healthy relationships
- * Building supportive social networks
- * Stress management
- * Managing HIV & reducing risk
- * Confronting discrimination
- * Reducing isolation
- * Coming out

Contact Will Koehler, LCSW to participate at (814) 388-0195 or wkoehler@persadcenter.org

LGBT AA meets Sundays

"Live and Let Live" an LGBT AA meeting is now happening every Sunday at 7 PM at Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie PA., For more info, contact Charlene Newport at (814) 504-1507 or cmn0626@gmail.com.

Alcoholics Anonymous® is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.



Revelers at the Feb 8 "Flaming Hearts Dance" organized by the Mercyhurst QSA. More photos of event on our website. Photo by Mike Mahler.

TransFamily of Erie walking team in March for Babies

by Caitlyn

The TransFamily of Erie Transgender support group is sponsoring a walking team for the 2013 March for Babies taking place on April 28th at 1pm at Presque Isle, beginning at Rainbow Gardens.

The mission of March of Dimes is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth, and infant mortality. Every day, thousands of babies are born too soon, too small, and often very sick. My own daughter was one of these babies.

Our team is walking in March for Babies because

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Check out our special bonus contest online at eriegaynews.com! Photo galleries, videos, contests, reviews and 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
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Deadline for next issue: March 15; Folding and distribution is Tue, March 26 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.

Erie Gay News is now included in
The EBSCO *LGBT Life*[®]
 with Full Text Index &
 Six LGBT Archives
WORLDWIDE!

THANKS
 From Your Friends at Erie Gay News

To Mike Kohler for hosting! Andrea, Johauna, Julie, Kim, and Michael Kohler for folding; Andrea, Erin Moll, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Julie, Kim, and Michael Kohler for distribution; Mike Lipiec for ad layout & etc. If you're interested in helping out, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or info@eriegaynews.com.

Community News

(continued from front page)

we want to do something about this. Please, come out to show your support and to give hope to babies! The money you raise supports programs in our community that help moms have healthy, full-term pregnancies, and it funds research to find answers to the serious problems that threaten our babies.

You can walk all or part of the route. Shuttles are available to take people back to the starting point if you are unable to walk the whole route.

If you are unable to walk, or you belong to an organization that would like to support March for Babies financially, you can still make a tremendous difference by making a donation to the TransFamily of Erie team. All donations are tax deductible.

Let's show everyone the impact that the LGBT Community can make in the local area! Sign up to walk for our team or make your generous donation at www.marchforbabies.org/team/t2014456.

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

814-764-6066 or 1-800-359-AIDS

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Community News

Family-to-Family Education Program Spring 2013

from NAMI

Family-to-Family is a 12 week education course for family members whose loved ones are facing the challenges of mental illness. This course increases empowerment, reduces burden in the home, and increases family stability. Family-to-Family also provides education about mental illness, understanding the mental health system, and self-care for the family member. This starts Monday, March 4, 2013 from 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm at Gannon University, 120 West 9th Street.

Registration is required. Please call the NAMI of Erie County office at 814-456-1773 to register today. *Free to the public!*(Limited seats available)

DEADLINE for next issue: **MARCH 15**

Text for Testing

Text "PAtest" to 41411
to find free HIV testing
near you.

Almost half the gay men
infected with HIV don't know
it. Knowing your status can
help protect you from AIDS.

Text for Testing is presented
by the Pitt Men's Study and
the PA Prevention Project at
the University of Pittsburgh's
School of Public Health.

For more information visit
PittMensStudy.com.



Get Wet at Drenched Fur 9

by Gary Snyder

This year Drenched Fur marks nine years of bringing together the broader bear community from Erie and beyond. The bears, cubs, and admirers of Drenched Fur 9 invite you to join them in April for fun and good times.

Drenched Fur will be heading out to The Zone Dance Club for a Military Theme Bar Night on Friday April 5th. Join us for hours of fun dance music starting at 11 PM with cover charge at the door. The guys will be bumping and grinding away in camos, uniforms and more. Guests can help support this year's charity by purchasing and putting their name on dog tags that will be on display around the bar, and some lucky patrons will walk away with prizes!

And of course, the reason for the weekend is the exclusive 'after hours' event at the Splash Lagoon Indoor Water Park Resort. The private event is from 10 PM until 2 AM, and the admission is \$40. If local guys wish to participate in the private event at Splash

Lagoon, please visit the DF9 website at www.drenchedfur.com and click on Registration. (Advance signup and payment is required for joining all the water park fun!)

The Splash Lagoon Event is sponsored by Drenched Fur 9 and is part of Erie's Bear Run Weekend. Approximately 200 visitors are expected from around the USA. The full listing of events for the weekend can be found at the Drenched Fur website and include a winery tour, charity auction, vendor mall, and more!

Commemorative DF9 beach towels are also available to order via our website. There is a 21 and over age limit because of the presence of alcohol for events at the Avalon Hotel.

If you have questions, please contact the DF9 Run Coordinator, Gary at gnsnyder@drenchedfur.com or leave a message at 814-446-2327.

For more about Drenched Fur 9 visit www.drenchedfur.com

DRENCHED FUR 9



all three events are at



The Avalon
10th & State Street • Erie, PA

Thurs., April 4th 9pm - Midnight:

Bear-e-oke \$5

Fri., April 5th 11pm - close:

Bear Bar Night
at the  **ZONE**

Cover at the door 133 West 18th Street
Erie, PA

Fri., April 5th 5pm - 8pm

Buffet Dinner \$45
Bear BINGO

Sat., April 6th 7pm - 9:30pm

Buffet Dinner \$45
Comedy Game Show



Sat., April 6th 10-2am

\$40

Private Event



exclusive water park
access paid in advance

For more info, visit:
www.drenchedfur.com
or call: 1-814-446-2327

John Waters in Edinboro April 4

EDINBORO, PA – The Edinboro Film Series, in cooperation with Identity and Edinboro University Student Government Association is pleased to announce their Spotlight Filmmaker for spring: acclaimed writer and director John Waters. Mr. Waters will be performing an all-new version of his solo stand-up performance, *This Filthy World*, on Thursday April 4th, 2013.

John Waters is a cultural icon. An American filmmaker, actor, stand-up comedian, writer, journalist, visual artist, and avid art collector. Waters' one-man show is a "vaudeville" act that celebrates the film career and obsessional tastes of the man William Burroughs once called "The Pope of Trash." Focusing in on Waters' early negative artistic influences and his fascination with true crime, exploitation films, fashion lunacy, and the extremes of the contemporary art world, this joyously devious monologue elevates all that is trashy in life into a call to arms to "filth followers" everywhere.

Edinboro Film Series director John C. Lyons said "John Waters is a name that has kept reappearing on my wish-list for the Edinboro Film Series ever since I started it seven years ago. He's a perfect fit in our program's eclectic history. To say I am excited about this event is an understatement."

Edinboro Film Series presents
JOHN WATERS: THIS FILTHY WORLD
Thursday April 4th, 2013 8:30PM
Louis C. Cole Memorial Auditorium
Edinboro University

Tickets available: Free for Edinboro University students (must have a ticket to attend). General Admission: \$10 pre-sale \$15 at the door. Available online at www.edinborotickets.com. Will call by phone at 814-732-1048 [8a.m. – 4p.m., daily]. Tickets are also available



John Waters— American filmmaker, actor, stand-up comedian, writer, journalist, visual artist, and art collector—will appear in Edinboro as part of his "This Filthy World" tour. Among the many films to his credit are Hairspray, Cry-Baby, Serial Mom, Pecker, Polyester, Cecil B. Demented, and the campy "Trash Trilogy" Pink Flamingos, Female Trouble, and Desperate Living,

at the SGA Convenience Store located on the 2nd Floor of the Frank G. Pogue Student Center on the campus of Edinboro University.

Posters created for the event by area artist Andy Flatley will be available for purchase and autographs at the event. Proceeds of which will be donated to the LGBT Resource Center.

For more information go to <http://aux.edinboro.edu/filmseries> or email filmseries@edinboro.edu.

EGN
Erie Gay News

**PRINT EDITIONS AVAILABLE
ONLINE**

www.eriegaynews.com

Click on the PDFs for this & previous issues of EGN from 1992.

Become a Pride Sponsor!

by NW PA Pride Alliance

Our goal as NW PA Pride Alliance, Inc. is to improve visibility and unity in the community. You can help us to promote unity in the community with financial or gift donations.

To maximize the impact of your contribution and be included on the T-shirt and other promotional materials, please have donations in by Friday, April 26th. Have checks payable to NW PA Pride Alliance, Inc., or include retail value of any non-monetary donations.

Please feel free to contact Michael Mahler at president@nwpapride.org or (814) 456-9833 if you need any additional info. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sponsors donating \$500 or more can have their logo/name included on a sponsors' banner that will be at all parades and the picnic.

Top levels of sponsorship are Diamond (\$5,000 and over), Ruby (\$2,500) and Sapphire (\$1,000). These come with inclusion in all press releases, listing in middle column of pages, and 12 months web banner ad rotation.

The next levels include Violet (\$500), Blue (\$250) which come with 9 months web banner ad rotation.

Green (\$150) includes 6 months web banner ad rotation and Yellow (\$100) includes 3 months web banner ad rotation.

Other sponsorship levels include Orange (\$50) and Red (\$25).

All sponsorship levels include:

Text listing of your organizations' name on the 2013 Pride T-shirts, which will be on display throughout the summer. These have been very popular. They feature a calendar of major area LGBT related events below the listing of donors. Donors will be grouped by donation level.

Listing grouped by donor level in promotional materials and mailings.

Listing in the side bar on all pages at the NW PA Pride Alliance web site and also on those page designated for Pride events at the Erie Gay News web site with designation of donation level. Sponsorships of \$150 and up also include a listing in the main column of pages. The listing will include your organization's name, as well as an optional link to your web site. All levels that include web banner ads will be in rotation at both the NW PA Pride Alliance and Erie Gay News sites.



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Persad Center Friends for Life Program

from Persad Center

In 2009, studies found that suicide was the third leading cause of death for individuals age 10-24. Numerous studies report that LGBT youth are three times more likely to attempt suicide than their straight peers. Persad Center, is taking a stand to prevent youth suicide. This year Persad Center will train 15 or more youth on suicide prevention. Youth will get an opportunity to impact their community with a youth lead community service projects that will be centered on suicide prevention.

Persad Center, through the implementation of the Safe Spaces project, will offer counseling, mental health screenings, referrals, peer leadership, and many opportunities for suicide prevention to individuals ages 14 - 21. The Safe Spaces project will provide suicide prevention training and will empower youth to lead activities for other youth within the community. Youth will be educated on LGBTQ specific concerns and issues, including but not limited to suicide prevention. Meetings will be held on the 1st and 3rd Monday of

every month, (meetings are subject to change due to availability, weather, ect) at the Community United Church. population alike. Trainings may include but are not limited to youth programs and agencies, creating inclusive programs, taking steps to cultural fairness, addressing harassment, meeting the needs of LGBTQ youth of color, meeting the needs of transgender youth, and addressing the challenges that face transgender youth.

The project will be implemented in Erie County as well as Allegheny County Pennsylvania.

The project will also help to build ally organizations within the community. Organizations will have the opportunity to become Safe Spaces and be known as allies for youth and the LGBT will be led by Persad Center Youth Counselor, Leann Romitti. For more information about the program contact: Leann Romitti, MSCP, Youth Counselor, Persad Center, Inc., 5150 Penn Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15224. email. lromitti@persadcenter.org cell. 412-538-7862 p. 412-441-9786 ext 219

Meeting Location: Community United Church, 1011 West 38th Street Erie, PA

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814.866.1573

Free Tobacco Cessation Class Offered in Erie

ERIE, PA— The Northwest PA Tobacco Program is pleased to offer a FREE stop smoking class beginning Tuesday, March 5, 2013 and ending Tuesday, April 9, 2013.

This six-week program provides participants with tools and information needed to break the addiction and habits of tobacco use. Medication assistance is available for qualified persons. Classes will be held in the Admiral Room of the Blasco Memorial Library, located at 160 East Front Street in Erie. Class time is from 6:00 pm until 7:00 pm.

Registration is required, and class size is limited to 15 participants. For more information or to register, call the Erie County Department of Health at 814-451-7855.

Calendar

Mar 1 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour)

(Victor's at the Bel Aire, 2800 W 8th St, Erie PA) 6-8 PM. Provides GLBT professionals, and our colleagues and friends, the opportunity to meet, network or just hang out once a month. Sign up for the email list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com>.

Mar 1 & 2 - Renaissance City Choirs: "Cabaret: Divas & Divos"

7:30 pm East Liberty Presbyterian Church 116 South Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA. Music made famous by some of our favorites shining stars: Barbra Streisand, Bette Midler, Cher, Christina Aguilera, Mariah Carey, Madonna, Michael Jackson, Adam Lambert, Ricky Martin, Jennifer Holliday, Lady Gaga, Whitney Houston, Katy Perry, Darren Criss, Elton John, Dolly Parton, Aretha Franklin, and Kelly Clarkson. Our Divas and Divos are bigger than life. The music that they performed or are performing is likewise big, with open arms that embrace us and give voice to our own experiences. This cabaret honors the contribution of some of our musical heroines and heroes and the music that they bring to the world.

Visit <http://rccpittsburgh.com>

Mar 2 (Sat) - LBT Women go to Tinseltown Movie

Night (Tinseltown USA, 1910 Rotunda Drv, Erie, PA 16509) 12:19 AM. Dee Dee is the coordinator: I was thinking of Identity Theft if it's still out. If not, we'll pick another one. The early evening show, usually about 7 pm. Maybe we should add dinner first? Applebees? Sounds like fun to me. Let me know if you want to go. :-). You can contact me on Facebook or via e-mail Contact: Dee Dee. Venue Phone: (814) 866-3390. Email: twopalz@gmail.com. Browse to <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>. Browse to venue web site http://www.cinemark.com/theatre-detail.aspx?node_id=1491.

Mar 2 (Sat) - Masquerade!

(Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA 16502) We're excited to announce another upcoming Special Event! Mark your calendar and come help us celebrate Chelsey's birthday at Masquerade! Masks and costumes encouraged but not required for this ages 21+ ball! Weekend Show Director Destiny Divine will have a fish-tastic show

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Calendar

lined-up! *No cover!* Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Mar 2 (Sat) - Liza Summers' Birthday Bash (Skybar, 108 Fairmount Parkway, Jamestown, NY 14701) 10 PM. It's time to party again with Starz! You're all invited Saturday March 2nd as Starz presents Liza Summers' Birthday Bash with a huge, epic show! Featuring only the best performers around: Anita Waistline, Anna Lee, Tasha Brooks, Matthew Kayden, Jaala, Spielen des Feuer, Jeramie Rutland, Greg Glasman, Anita Mandalay, Serenity Chambers, Jayme Coxx, Stella Star and many, many more! Featuring Liza's famous Lady Gaga and Michael Jackson illusions, and dedications from the cast that night. \$5 cover Phone: (716) 661-3214.

Mar 4 (Mon) - Persad Center Safe Spaces Night for LGBTQ Youth and Allies (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA 16508-2540) 6 PM - 8 PM. Persad Center presents Safe Spaces, a free drop-in night for Erie's LGBTQ Youth and Allies. Meet new friends, discuss the latest issues, create a

Youth Leadership Project for the Erie community and enjoy free pizza and snacks. Join with Persad Center and help make Erie a Safe Space for the LGBTQIA community. Contact: Leann Rommitti. Phone: (814) 388-0195. Venue Phone: (814) 864-4429. Email: lrommitti@persadcenter.org. Browse to www.facebook.com/PersadErie.

Mar 7-9 - The Laramie Project Butler County Community College on March 7, 8, & 9 beginning at 7:30pm. This play is about the reaction to the 1998 unfortunate murder of University of Wyoming gay student Matthew Shepard in Laramie, Wyoming. The Laramie Project is frequently used as a method to educate audiences about prejudice and tolerance in personal, social, and health education and citizenship in schools. Tickets are \$8 and \$5 for students. www.pflagbutler.com/

Mar 9 (Sat) - Pride Planning meeting (Persad Erie, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA) 2:30 PM. NW PA Pride Alliance meets to plan our events for this year! All are welcome to help out. PLEASE NOTE! New location. Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: mmahler@nwpapride.org. Browse to www.nwpapride.org.

Mar 9 - Michigan Gay & Lesbian Comedy Fest Dearborn's Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, 15801 Michigan Avenue Dearborn, MI 48126 www.comedyfest.org/

Mar 10 (Sun) - LBT Women meets (Zodiac Dinor, 2516 State St, Erie, PA 16503) 12 PM. Social group for lesbian, bisexual and transgendered women. **NOTE NEW LOCATION!** Meets the 2nd Sunday of each month at Zodiac Dinor. Sign up for email list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com/> Contact: Laurie Finch. Email:



Bears Get Lucky!

Bear Bar Night

Friday, Mar 15th
Join the guys at The



ZONE
DANCE CLUB • ERIE, PA
133 West 18th Street
Erie, PA

Another Fun
Friday
Night
Outing!



Marriage Equality
for Pennsylvania
Light the Way to Justice
Candlelight Vigil on March 26
from 7 till 8:30 PM
At the Federal Courthouse in Erie, PA
Find us online at www.me4pa.org
www.Facebook.com/me4pa
Twitter: @me4pa

*The larger
the group,
the louder
the voice.*

Calendar

LFinch003@neo.rr.com.

Mar 11 (Mon) - LBT Women go to A Taste of Ireland Culinary Class (Cutco Store, 6821 Peach St, Erie, PA) 6 PM - 8 PM. Social group for lesbian, bisexual and transgendered women. Join Kim and Andrea for this free class. They have attended previous classes and say they are done really well, with lots of great food and drink for sampling. The course is free, but you must pre-register at 814-464-0270. With St. Patty's day coming up, this is a great way to help you plan a special holiday dinner. Contact: Kim and Andrea at kimmytoes@gmail.com

Mar 11 (Mon) - PFLAG Erie/Crawford County meets (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy, Erie, PA) 7 PM - 8:30 PM. Support group for parents, friends and families of gay, lesbian and transgendered people. Meets 2nd Monday of each month. Contact: Jayne May. Phone: (814) 314-9259. Email: pflag.erie.crawford@gmail.com. Browse to www.facebook.com/pages/

Mar 11 (Mon) - College Night Entertainment Series - Luck O' The Irish (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA 16502) Kicking off our St. Patrick's Day events, come play with Diva and even our leprechaun Buffy! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Mar 13 (Wed) - Andrea Gibson- Slam Poet (Penn State-Erie (Behrend Campus), Erie, PA) 7 PM. Hosted by Trigon, Penn State Behrend's GSA. Open and free to public. Phone: (814) 898-7162. Email: behrend.trigon@gmail.com. Browse to <https://org-sync.com/22531/chapter>. Browse to venue web site <http://www.pserie.psu.edu/admissions/undergrad/visitindex.htm>.

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

Calendar

Mar 15 (Fri) - LBT Women go to Campfire Talk - JOE ROOT (Rotary Pavilion at Presque Isle State Park, 301 Peninsula Drv #1, Erie, PA 16505) 7 PM - 8:30 PM. Join us around an indoor campfire and discover the story of Joe Root. All ages welcome, hot beverages included. \$2 per person, registration is required. This will be a very popular program, so don't wait to register. We already have at least 7 of us going at this time. To register, call Brian Gula at 814-217-9632 Contact: Laurie Finch. Venue Phone: (814) 833-7424. Email: LFinch003@neo.rr.com. Browse to <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>. Browse to venue web site <http://www.presqueisle.org/>.

Mar 15 (Fri) - Bear Bar Night at Zone 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. 11 PM. Join the Bears for a night of fun! Contact: Gary Snyder. (814) 446-2327. info@drenchedfur.com. www.drenchedfur.com.

Mar 15 (Fri) - Deadline for Erie Gay News April 2013 print edition Erie Gay News, 1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA. This issue will be released the evening of March 26. For complete list of upcoming deadlines

and release dates, check print edition schedule at www.eriegaynews.com/printedition/deadlineschedule.php. Contact: Michael Mahler. (814) 456-9833. Email: info@eriegaynews.com. www.eriegaynews.com.

Mar 15 (Fri) - Irish Tailgate Party (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA 16001) Join us before our BIG 2 Year Anniversary. Phone: (724) 602-8447. Email: JoshuaSean2009@AOL.COM. Browse to www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Mar 16 (Sat) - M & J's Lounge 2nd Anniversary Party (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA 16001) Ivanna Douche hosts.....M&J's Lounge 2nd Anniversary Party. And it will be St. Patrick's Day Style. Lots of FUN this Night. Phone: (724) 602-8447. Email: JoshuaSean2009@AOL.COM. Browse to www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Mar 16 (Sat) - St. Paddy O'Party! (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA 16502) Bust out your best green outfit, red wig, grab your friends and join us at the home of Erie's EPIC parties! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Mar 16 (Sat) - Emerald City of OZone St. Patrick's Party (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Follow the little green Munchkins down the yellow brick road into the Emerald City of OZone and join us for our St.Patrick's Party! Wear green or come dressed as your favorite Wizard of Oz character! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Email: TheZoneDanceClub@aol.com. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com/.

Mar 17 (Sun) - St. Patrick's Day Karaoke (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA 16502) If you still have some party left in you, come belt out a few songs! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Mar 17 (Sun) - Michelle Michaels presents FACE (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) Don't

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Wednesday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
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Calendar

miss a fun-filled night of great entertainment with all of your favorite drag queens, new drag queens and special guests the third Sunday of the month at 11 PM. (814) 452-0125. www.thezonedanceclub.com

Mar 18 (Mon) - Persad Center Safe Spaces Night for LGBTQ Youth and Allies (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA 16508) 6 PM - 8 PM. *Persad Center* presents "Safe Spaces", a free drop-in night for Erie's LGBTQ Youth and Allies. Meet new friends, discuss the latest issues, create a Youth Leadership Project for the Erie community and enjoy free pizza and snacks. Join with Persad Center and help make Erie a Safe Space for the LGBTQIA community. Contact: Leann Rommitti. Phone: (814) 388-0195. Venue Phone: (814) 864-4429. Email: lromitti@persadcenter.org. Browse to www.facebook.com/PersadErie.

Mar 19 (Tue) - Spirituality and Sexuality Discussion Group meets (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Every 3rd Tues. (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 LGBTQIA 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. 1-866-229-1974 (toll free). richmccarty@msn.com.

Mar 23 (Sat) - TransFamily of Erie Support Group meets 2 - 5pm at Mental Health Association of Northwest PA (MHA - 1101 Peach St. Erie, PA,) TransFamily of Erie is a support group created to serve the transgender community of Northwestern PA and the surrounding region. The group provides a safe space for all who fit somewhere in the gender spectrum, or are searching. This includes all transgender subcategories, including FTM, MTF, cross dresser, genderqueer, questioning, etc. Contact: Caitlyn Strohmeier. Phone: (814) 823-1969. Email: caitlyn_xpress@verizon.net.

Mar 23 (Sat) - Erie Sisters meets (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Local transgender support group that provides support and encouragement for both MTF and FTM transgender individuals. Followed by dinner at a local restaurant and dancing at The Zone Dance Club. Phone: (440) 265-8191. Email: shub1@suite224.net. Browse to <http://eriesisters.ning.com/>.

Mar 25 (Mon) - College Night Entertainment Series (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA 16502) . Diva, Buffy, and all of your favorites take the stage for one fishy show! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Mar 26 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party (Mike Kohler's house, 614 Cherry St, Erie, PA 16502) 12 AM. 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! You can also sign up for the Erie GLBT News and Events list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com/>. Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: info@eriegaynews.com. Browse to www.eriegaynews.com.

Mar 26 (Tue) - Light the Way to Justice Vigil (Federal Courthouse, 17 S Park Row A150, Erie, PA 16501) 7 PM - 8:30 PM. Marriage Equality for PA is sponsoring the Light the Way to Justice Vigil. This is not a march, a fight or a demonstration - this is a peaceful display of solidarity and a stand for LOVE, not hate. Make signs to hold, bring candles and help



Accommodations, bars, business and not-for-profit resources Separate WOMEN'S and ETHNIC/MULTICULTURAL sections

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<http://gayyellowpages.com>

Calendar

show our desire to be equal under the law. This is a grassroots movement. For more information, click the link on: www.me4pa.org. Please join us. Browse to www.me4pa.org.

Mar 29 (Fri) - The Great and Powerful Divas of OZone! (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) A tornado of talent is blowin' thru and touching down at the Zone for our annual Spring Diva Show featuring the Great and Powerful Michelle Michaels and Miss Erie Rhiannon Angeline! Join us as we travel down the yellow brick road and meet all your favorite Wizard of Oz and wicked characters, put on your ruby slippers, get here early for a good seat, and click your heels together three times and say...there's no place like the Zone! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Email: TheZoneDanceClub@aol.com. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com/.

Mar 30 (Sat) - 'Broadway Baby' Drag Show (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA 16001) Phone: (724) 602-8447. Email: JoshuaSean2009@AOL.COM. Browse to www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Mar 30 (Sat) - Somewhere Over the Rainbow Easter Party! (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Friends of Dorothy, I don't think we're in Kansas anymore! Join us as we journey over the rainbow and down the yellow brick road, come dressed as your favorite Wizard of Oz or wicked character, grab your basket and Toto, and collect Easter eggs and prizes under the gay rainbow! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Email: TheZoneDanceClub@aol.com. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com/.

Mar 31 (Sun) - Zone is open Easter Sunday! (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Phone: (814) 452-0125. Email: TheZoneDanceClub@aol.com. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com/.

Apr 4 - John Waters: This Filthy World 8:30PM Louis C. Cole Memorial Auditorium Edinboro University
Tickets available: Free for Edinboro University students (must have a ticket to attend). General Admission: \$10 pre-sale \$15 at the door.

Apr 9 - Dine Out for Life 2013 Dine Out at a participating restaurant in western New York and at least 25% of your food bill will go to Evergreen Health Services! Dining Out For Life is an annual event that is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a delicious meal while also helping those in our community whose lives

Online Contests

Here are new contests for this month...

Contest	Starts
<i>Best Gay Erotica 2013</i>	March 1
<i>Treasures of Bruce Lee</i>	March 5
<i>'On The Road' prize pack</i>	March 8
<i>Vampire Boys 2: The New Brood DVD</i>	March 12
<i>People of the Bear Mother</i>	March 15
Signed copy of <i>Sin Warriors</i> by Julian Farris, <i>Strange Frame</i>	March 19
<i>Doctor Who FAQ</i>	March 22
<i>The Wishmakers DVD</i>	March 26
<i>Our Paradise</i>	March 29

Here are contests which are currently active...

Contest	Ends
<i>Best Gay Romance 2013</i>	March 1
<i>Luna Park, Power Trip</i> by Jackie Collins	March 5
<i>The Big Gay Musical</i>	March 8
<i>Ethan Farmer Wine & Strings EP, Top Gun Blu-Ray</i>	March 12
<i>Roxanna - Unforgotten</i> (Single)	March 15
<i>Best Lesbian Erotica 2013</i>	March 19

More contests at eriegaynews.com!
Sign up for the Erie GLBT News and Events list and get contest announcements and also a list of upcoming events!

are affected by HIV and who rely on Evergreen Health Services. Find on Facebook at Dining Out For Life, Evergreen Health Services, Southern Tier. Info:(716) 664-7855 lmatson@evergreenhs.org

Apr 12 - 13 - "8" by Dustin Lance Black (PACA - Performing Arts Center & Theater, 1505 State St, Erie, PA 16501) 8 PM. Final production of 2012-2013 Erie Reader Staged Reading Series. Dustin Lance Black's "8" portrays the legal argument and witness testimony of the *Perry v. Schwarzenegger* trial, which led to the overturning of California's anti-marriage equality Proposition 8. Using actual transcripts from the court case, Black has crafted a heart-breaking and compelling look at this monumental legal case. *Free admission* - no reservations needed. Performance time is 8 PM both nights. Contact: Mark Tanenbaum. Phone: (814) 434-0687 . Email: director@papa1505.com. Browse to www.paca1505.com.

Jun 15 - 21st Annual Pride Picnic Presque Isle, Rotary Pavilion 1-6PM.

Aug 24 - 2013 Pride Parade & Rally Perry Square, Erie PA

Presque Isle Gallery Coffeehouse closed

As of January 22, Presque Isle Gallery Coffeehouse, located at 35 Peninsula Drv, Erie PA, is permanently closed. According to their web site:

It is very difficult to relay this to you, but after today, the P.I.G. is closing it's doors. The reason has many factors involved, the main ones being my health and my inability to keep up with all the required responsibilities. After searching for a business partner for the past year, to alleviate half of my duties, that search has turned up empty. The P.I.G. is suffering and we cannot continue on this level anymore. We are thankful for all our loyal fans, and cherish all the happy times and the heartfelt love you have so generously given us! So the door is closing and a new one will open in the future - ride the wings of fate - the universe has so much to give us! Much Love & Respect - Laurie & the P.I.G. Crew"

LBT Women of Erie, which had been meeting here, will now be meeting at Zodiac Dinor, 2516 State St, Erie PA. The schedule is the same - second Sunday of every month at noon.

Michael Dithers

by Michael Mahler

Hope that everyone is doing well! There is a lot going on. I have been really excited about the LGBT Youth and Allies group that Persad Center has just started that meets the first and 3rd Wednesday of the month at Community United Church at 38th and Cascade. I think that it is important to develop leadership skills in the youth community, so for those of you who are youth, and those of you who can help reach out to youth, please consider becoming involved! Leann Rommitti has been doing a great job in getting this off the ground.

Please also note that there is the new GLBT AA group that also meets at the same location every Sunday at 7 PM, and also a therapy program for gay men that meets every other week. Hoping that we can all work together to support these.

Drenched Fur is shaping up to have record attendance, so the committee is pretty excited about that. The Bear Bar Nights that we have been having monthly have been going well, and it has been fun taking photos and chatting with guys.

Keep an eye peeled in the enxt issue for news about a candidate forum. Several area groups are working together so that we all have a chance to make an informed choice when we vote on May 21.

On our website

Articles

- President Obama Awards PFLAG Founder Jeanne Manford Presidential Citizens Medal
- The Amazon Trail

VIDEO

- Midgey Earl Show

PHOTOS

- February Bear Bar Night
- Mercyhurst QSA Flaming Hearts Dance
- FACE Drag Show Birthday Bash

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