

April 2013



# EGN

Erie Gay News



## Penn State Behrend's Sixth Annual Gender Conference features "Push" author Sapphire

Penn State Behrend's Sixth Annual Gender Conference will take place April 4 and 5, 2013, Reed Union Building. The theme of the event is "Voice and Visibility," and features a presentation by Sapphire, the author of the acclaimed 1996 novel "Push," (later adapted as the Academy Award winning 2009 film *Precious*). Her talk will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the McGarvey Commons of the college's Reed Union Building. Admission is free and open to the public.

### About the Theme

Precious Jones, the teenage protagonist of "Push," is illiterate, impoverished, pregnant, and a victim of incest.—the kind of narrator who is rarely heard from in contemporary American fiction. But through her experiences at an alternative school, Precious learns to write and to reclaim her voice.

"You know, [for so long] there has just been this space filled by statistics and jokes, but never with a real human being," author Sapphire has said about her creation. "And in that way I feel I've done my work . . . every time I let Precious's voice come through, I just felt the rawness and the power coming from a worthy human being."

In celebration of Sapphire's April 4 speaking engagement at Penn State Behrend, the theme of this year's gender conference is "Voice and Visibility." Whose voices have been forgotten? Who are the faces over-saturating our popular culture? What subjects remain taboo, and what do they reveal about ourselves? How can the humanities and the arts illuminate new stories and provide new perspectives?

### About the Conference

The conference strives to provide a thoughtful but low-key experience. Conference Schedule to be Announced

This Speaker Series event is made possible by Penn State Behrend's Student Activity Fee, the Division of Student Affairs, and the Harriet Behrend



*Sapphire—performance poet and author of Push (inspiration for the movie Precious) will speak at Behrend April 4.*

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Ninow Memorial Lecture Series Fund. For additional information, contact the Office of Student Activities at 814-898-6171.

## Candidate Forum on April 18

*by NW PA Pride Alliance*

NW PA Pride Alliance and other co-sponsoring groups are presenting a Candidate Forum on Thursday, April 18 at 7 PM at The Avalon Hotel & Conference Center, 16 W 10th St, Erie PA. There is no charge to attend. Please come to learn more about where candidates stand on issues affecting the LGBT community! Co-sponsoring organizations currently include Drenched Fur, Equality Pennsylvania, Erie Gay News, Erie Sisters, Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE), LBT Women, LGBT Erie, Marriage Equality for Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Student Equality Coalition, Persad - Erie, Persad Center, PFLAG Erie/Crawford County and TransFamily of Erie Support Group. Please note that the next issue of Erie Gay News, cover dated for May 2013, will include our Voters Guide.

For more information phone (814)456-9833.

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**Editor: Mike Mahler**  
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**Deadline for next issue: April 15; Folding and distribution is Tue, April 23 at Zone Dance Club. 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 more!**

## EGN Rates & Data

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

AD SIZE	PRICE/ISSUE	DIMENSIONS
EIGHTH	\$30 - \$27 Prepaid	1 5/8" high X 2 7/8" wide
QUARTER	\$50 - \$45 Prepaid	3 1/2" high X 2 7/8" wide
HALF VERT.	\$90 - \$81 Prepaid	7" high X 2 7/8" wide
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 & Six LGBT Archives WORLDWIDE!**

## THANKS

From Your Friends at Erie Gay News

To Zone Dance Club for hosting! Andrea, Jerry McCumber, Joe Totleben, Julie, Kim, Marchae Peters, Melanie Shubitowski, and Paul Gee for folding; Andrea, Erin Moll, Jerry McCumber, Julie, Kim, Marchae Peters, Melanie Shubitowski, and Paul Gee 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)

## PFLAG Erie Update

by PFLAG Erie and Crawford Counties

PFLAG Erie is pleased to announce the election of the following officers to their Board of Directors:

President: Jayne May

Executive Vice President: Diana Ames

Secretary/Treasurer: Kate Copp

Community Liaison: Ted Hoover

Chief Technical Officer and Geek to the Stars:

Michael Mahler

We'd like to express our most sincere thanks to our past Secretary/Treasurer, Eric Rogers who has been instrumental in helping keep PFLAG running smoothly during this transition.

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 8th, 2013, at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy, Erie, PA. The meetings begin at 7:00 pm. Please join us and bring a friend!

**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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[www.persadcenter.org](http://www.persadcenter.org)

# Community News

## Marriage ban case is subject of performance at PACA on Apr 8-9

*Info from Dramashop, PACA and www.8theplay.com*

Erie's Dramashop presents a performance of Dustin Lance Black's "8" about the court case that overturned California's Proposition 8, which banned same-sex marriage.

Black (who wrote "Milk" and "Big Love") used actual transcripts from the court case to craft a heartbreaking and compelling look at this monumental legal case.

"8" will be performed as a staged reading at the beautiful new space at PACA (Performing Arts Center & Theater, 1505 State St, Erie, PA 16501) 8 PM. This is the final production of 2012-2013 Erie Reader Staged Reading Series.

*Free admission* - no reservations needed. Performance time is 8 PM both nights. Contact: Mark Tanenbaum. Phone: (814) 434-0687. Browse to [www.paca1505.com](http://www.paca1505.com).

For more on "8" visit [www.8theplay.com](http://www.8theplay.com)

## Dine Out for Life in WNY Apr 9

*from Evergreen Health Services, Southern Tier*

Nine restaurants in the Chautauqua County area are among over 100 Western New York restaurants that will participate in the 11th annual Dining Out For Life® on Tuesday, April 9.

Each location will donate 25 percent or more of their profits from that evening's food sales (excluding alcoholic beverages) to benefit vital services provided by Evergreen Health Services (EHS) through its Southern Tier Office at 111 West 2nd St. Jamestown NY.

Laurie Matson, Director of the Southern Tier Services office, is coordinating the Chautauqua County area activities for the community fundraiser. "The public is asked to choose a restaurant, make reservations and enjoy a great meal out with family and friends," she said. "All you have to donate is your appetite."

Participating restaurants range from fine dining to casual. The Chautauqua County area restaurants are Alfie's, Forte, Hometown Grill, House of Petillo, Jones 212 Café & Bakery, and Labyrinth Press Company all in Jamestown; Harbor Grill in Celoron; EBC West in Fredonia; and Andriaccio's in Mayville. In addition, Sky in Jamestown will be doing Dining Out For Life® drink specials.

For a complete list of restaurants participating across WNY, visit [www.diningoutforlife.com](http://www.diningoutforlife.com) and click on Buffalo, or call Laurie Matson in Jamestown at 716-664-7855.

Founded in Philadelphia in 1991, Dining Out For Life® is now held in 45 cities in North America, raising an annual total of \$2 million. All funds raised in this area remain here. The event benefits EHS which provides direct services to those living with HIV/AIDS and to their families.

# DRENCHED FUR 9



## Sat., April 6th 10pm-2am \$40 Private Event at



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[www.drenchedfur.com](http://www.drenchedfur.com) or call: 1-814-446-2327



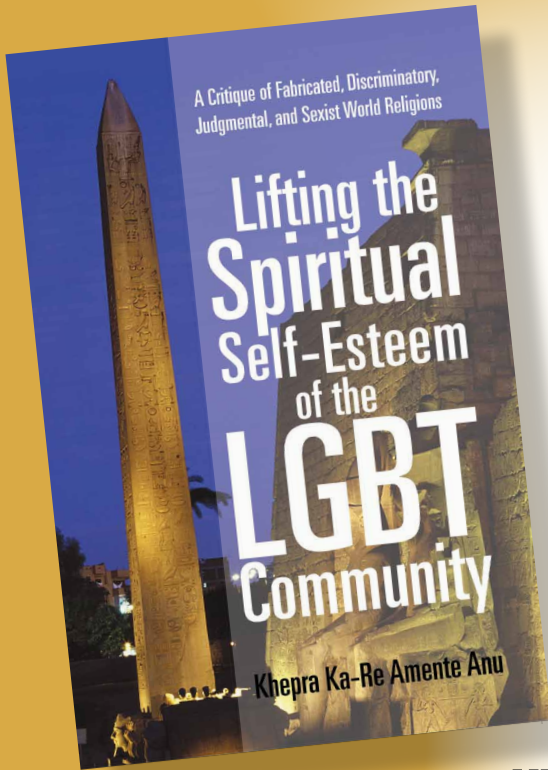
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Lifting the Spiritual Self-Esteem of the LGBT Community: A Critique of Fabricated, Discriminatory, Judgmental, and Sexist Religions is written for all people—whether LGBT or heterosexual—who are disgusted with the judgmental and discriminatory way religions project and impose their beliefs onto and into the lives of others in the self-righteous name of God. Religions are man-made, mythological, and grounded in hearsay, fables, and prevarication.

**Author:**

**Khepra Ka-Re Amente Anu**

Hard cover, soft cover and e-book copies of Lifting the Spiritual Self Esteem of the LGBT Community can be purchase at the following on-line book sites:

[www.iuniverse.com](http://www.iuniverse.com)  
[www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com)  
[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

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**Discounts can be found on some sites.**

Lifting the Spiritual Self-Esteem of the LGBT Community is also being sold in Asia and South America—the UK, France, Sweden, Denmark, Italy and other international countries.

# Community News

## Get in on the biggest year of fun at DF9 and Splash Lagoon

from Gary Snyder

Have you been wanting to check out this thing called Drenched Fur? Ever wanted to go to Splash Lagoon but with just a group of good guys and no children? Well, here is your chance! The largest group of bears ever for Drenched Fur 9 invite you to join them the first weekend in April. On Thursday, April 4th, Drenched Fur 9 will be kicking things off with the early arrivals for a night of Karaoke at Billie's inside the Avalon Hotel and Conference Center, at 16 West 10th Street in downtown Erie with a \$5 cover at the door.

Then on Friday, April 5th, the weekend continues with Bear BINGO inside the Avalon Hotel's Presque Isle Ballroom. Local guys can join us for our twist on the traditional blue hair BINGO hall fun starting at 8 PM with a \$15 cover charge at the door. Then it's on to The Zone Dance Club for our Salute to the Military theme night. Folks are welcome to join us in their fin-

est military gear and uniforms as well as camouflage at the Zone, 133 W 18th St, Erie PA, standard cover charge at the door.

But the fun times continue, on Saturday, April 6th as DF9 also welcomes folks to join us for our M\*A\*S\*H 4077th Themed Buffet Dinner and Comedy Game Show Combo at the Avalon 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 \$45 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 DF9 website at [www.drenchedfur.com](http://www.drenchedfur.com) and click on Registration. (Advance signup and payment 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 Avalon Hotel. The Splash Lagoon Event is sponsored by DF9 and is part of Erie's Bear Run Weekend.

Over 250 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 DF9 beach towels are also available to order via our website.

Info: DF9 Run Coordinator, Gary at [gnsnyder@drenchedfur.com](mailto:gnsnyder@drenchedfur.com) or leave a message at 814-446-2327.

## 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  
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the PA Prevention Project at  
the University of Pittsburgh's  
School of Public Health.

For more information visit  
[PittMensStudy.com](http://PittMensStudy.com).



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# Join Our Journey

by Christine Bowen

Just as our son turned one, my partner and I learned we were expecting identical twin girls. We were overjoyed! The birth of our



son was an amazing experience, I loved being pregnant. I was excited to feel every kick and flutter from the twins. The joy quickly turned to fear. Lincoln and Quinn were born 15 weeks early, weighing just over 1.5 lbs. At birth, their eye lids were still fused shut, their skin was transparent, their ears hadn't completely formed and their whole body was the size of a bottle of water. They weren't expected to survive.

We spent 91 nights going home with empty arms, fearing the worst and hoping for the best. After 92 days in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit they came home. Advancements made possible by the March of Dimes

helped them survive. We walk in the March for Babies in honor of these brave girls and so that other babies can be born healthy.

This year we are reaching out to our extended "family" with our story in hopes that you will join our team to remember the little ones who didn't make it, and honor those who have. The March for Babies will be held on April 28th at Rainbow Gardens. The mission of the March of Dimes is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature births and infant mortality. Your donations can help babies like Lincoln and Quinn survive and thrive.

Go To: [March for Babies.org](http://MarchforBabies.org) and join team: Lincoln and Quinn's Journey [www.marchforbabies.org/team/lyncolnandquinnsjourney](http://www.marchforbabies.org/team/lyncolnandquinnsjourney)

Today, our girls are healthy two-year olds with no signs of their early birth. I am very proud to serve as the community director at the Northwest PA March of Dimes. For questions about joining our walk team, donating or creating your own walk team contact me, Christine Bowen at [cbowen@marchofdimes.com](mailto:cbowen@marchofdimes.com).

## ACLU-PA Northwest Chapter 2013 Annual Meeting



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in the Northwest Region*

ACLU-PA Legislative Director  
Andy Hoover

*"The State of Our Union Under the Dome,  
Undermining Liberties"*

Sunday April 28th, 2013—3-5pm  
la bella's Restaurant, 802 W 18th St., Erie, PA 16502

**FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

For more info: [www.aclupa.org/union](http://www.aclupa.org/union)

RSVP are greatly appreciated. Call 881-3788 & leave your name & phone number.  
[northwestchapter@aclupa.org](mailto:northwestchapter@aclupa.org) or 877-HBG-ACLU

# Calendar

**Mar 29 (Fri) - The Great and Powerful Divas of OZone!** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) Annual Spring Diva Show featuring the Great and Powerful Michelle Michaels and Miss Erie Rhiannon Angeline! Phone: [www.thezonedanceclub.com/](http://www.thezonedanceclub.com/).

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

**Mar 30 (Sat) - Somewhere Over the Rainbow Easter Party!** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie) [TheZoneDanceClub@aol.com](mailto:TheZoneDanceClub@aol.com). [www.thezonedanceclub.com/](http://www.thezonedanceclub.com/).

**Mar 30 (Sat) - Prom Redux** 7-10pm, Vukovich Center for Communication Arts, Allegheny College, Meadville PA. Wear what you want and bring who you want for a night of dancing, food, and fun! Information: [queersnalliesac@gmail.com](mailto:queersnalliesac@gmail.com)

**Mar 30 (Sat) - Veronyca's Showgirls Diva Extravaganza Fundraising Event** (Rockin' Ricks, 543 Spittler Lane, Limestone, NY) 10 PM. \$7 cover includes door

prize ticket. Gift baskets, 50/50s, door prizes. Veronyca, Sabrina, Diva, Manny and more! (702) 505-4771. [www.myspace.com/rockinricks](http://www.myspace.com/rockinricks).

**Mar 31 (Sun) - Zone is open Easter Sunday** 133 W 18th St, [www.thezonedanceclub.com](http://www.thezonedanceclub.com)

**Apr 1 (Mon) - Persad Center Safe Spaces Night for LGBTQ Youth and Allies** (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA) 6 - 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. Email: [lromitti@persadcenter.org](mailto:lromitti@persadcenter.org). Browse to [www.facebook.com/PersadErie](http://www.facebook.com/PersadErie).

**Apr 3 (Wed) - M.S. Fundraiser for 'Team Tapper'** (Brewerie at Union Station, 123 W 14th St, Erie, PA 16501-1717) 5:30 PM. Proceeds benefit tNW Pa. M.S. Chapter and go towards finding a cure for M.S. Join

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# Calendar

Jan and Laurie and help us raise money for our team. If you're coming, please let me know ASAP and we'll save a seat! Contact: Laurie. LFinch003@neo.rr.com.

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

**Apr 4 (Thu) - PSU Speaker Series: Sapphire**  
7:30PM. See front page. Reed Building

**Apr 4-5 (Thu-Fri)- Sixth Annual Gender Conference Penn State Behrend's** Featuring a talk by Sapphire, the bisexual author of "Push" In celebration of Sapphire's April 4 speaking engagement at Penn State Behrend, the theme of this year's gender conference is "Voice and Visibility." Reed Union Bldg Contact: Sarah Whitney sew17@psu.edu (814)8986325

**Apr 5 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour)**  
(Location TBA Erie PA) 6-8 PM. Provides GLBT professionals, and our colleagues and friends, the

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# Calendar

opportunity to meet, network or just hang out once a month. Sign up for the email list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com>.

**Apr 5 (Fri) - Bear Bar Night at Zone** 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. 11 PM. Join the Bears for a night of fun! This is part of Drenched Fur! Contact: Gary Snyder. (814) 446-2327. [info@drenchedfur.com](mailto:info@drenchedfur.com). [www.drenchedfur.com](http://www.drenchedfur.com).

**Apr 6 (Sat) - 'You Don't Know Jack'** (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) Compete in bar trivia. (724) 602-8447. [JoshuaSean2009@AOL.COM](mailto:JoshuaSean2009@AOL.COM). Browse to [www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge](http://www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge).

**Apr 8 (Mon) - PFLAG Erie/Crawford County meets** (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy, Erie, PA) 7 - 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](mailto:pflag.erie.crawford@gmail.com). Find on Facebook.

**Apr 8 (Mon) - College Night Entertainment Series**

(Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA) (814) 456-3027. [www.facebook.com/crazenightclub](http://www.facebook.com/crazenightclub).

**Apr 9 (Tue) - 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! Annual event helps those in our community whose lives 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 [imatson@evergreenhs.org](mailto:imatson@evergreenhs.org)

**Apr 12-13 (Fri-Sat) - "8" by Dustin Lance Black at PACA** (PACA - Performing Arts Center & Theater, 1505 State St, Erie, PA 16501) Staged reading of play about the overturning of California's anti-same sex marriage ban (Proposition 8.) Black (who wrote *Milk*) has crafted a heartbreaking and compelling look at this monumental legal case. *Free admission* - no reservations needed. 8 PM both nights. Contact: Mark Tanenbaum. Phone: (814) 434-0687. Browse to [www.paca1505.com](http://www.paca1505.com).

**Apr 13 (Sat) - Spring Fling Dance** (M & J's Lounge,

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# Candidate

— F = O = R = U = M —

Thursday, April 18th at 7 PM at

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Come learn where candidates stand  
on issues affecting the LGBT community!

**FREE admission!**



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*The* **Avalon**

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  - Drenched Fur
  - Equality PA
  - Erie Gay News
  - Erie Sisters
- Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE)
  - LBT Women
- LGBT Erie
- Marriage Equality for Pennsylvania
- Pennsylvania Student Equality Coalition
  - Persad - Erie
  - Persad Center
- PFLAG Erie and Crawford Counties
- TransFamily of Erie Support Group

# Calendar

124 Mercer St, Butler, PA 16001) Phone: (724) 602-8447. Email: JoshuaSean2009@AOL.COM. Browse to [www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge](http://www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge).

**Apr 13 (Sat) - Seven Deadly Sins Party** (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA) Hosted by Princess Nicki and DJ Tony G-Spot. What sin are you battling? Come dressed as your favorite and indulge in some sinfully good times! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to [www.facebook.com/crazenightclub](http://www.facebook.com/crazenightclub).

**Apr 13 (Sat) - Veronyca's Showgirls** (Rockin' Ricks, 543 Spittler Lane, Limestone, NY) 10 PM, \$6 cover. . Featuring the area's best entertainers! Manny (2005), Ciera (2005), Sabrina (1979), Veronyca (2004), Diva (1988), Licia (2007), Oliver (2006). Phone: (702) 505-4771. Browse to [www.myspace.com/rockinricks](http://www.myspace.com/rockinricks).

**Apr 14 (Sun) - LBT Women meets** (Zodiac Dinor, 2516 State St, Erie, PA) 12 PM. **NOTE NEW LOCATION!** Meets the 2nd Sunday of each month Contact: Laurie Finch. Email: LFinch003@neo.rr.com.

**Apr 14 (Sun) - LBT Women go to Presque Isle Trolley Tour** (Tom Ridge Environmental Center, Presque Isle State Park, Erie, PA) 2 - 5 PM. Right after

the regular monthly meeting - Meet at TREC Center. Free, but registration required. Contact: LFinch003@neo.rr.com.

**Apr 14 (Sun) - Drag Show at Allegheny College** Meadville PA 8pm Henderson Campus Center lobby. Watch students and faculty lip synch in drag to their favorite songs! Info: [queersnalliesac@gmail.com](mailto:queersnalliesac@gmail.com)

**Apr 15 (Mon) - Deadline for Erie Gay News May 2013 print edition** Erie Gay News, 1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA. This issue will be released the evening of Apr 23. For complete list of upcoming deadlines and release dates, check print edition schedule at [www.eriegaynews.com/printedition/deadlineschedule.php](http://www.eriegaynews.com/printedition/deadlineschedule.php). Contact: Michael Mahler. (814) 456-9833. Email: [info@eriegaynews.com](mailto:info@eriegaynews.com). [www.eriegaynews.com](http://www.eriegaynews.com).

**Apr 15 (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](mailto:lromitti@persadcenter.org). Browse to [www.facebook.com/PersadErie](http://www.facebook.com/PersadErie).

**Apr 16 (Tue) - Spirituality and Sexuality Discussion Group meets** (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA) 7 PM. , 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](mailto:richmccarty@msn.com).

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# Calendar

**Apr 17 (Wed) - Dustin Lance Black's "8" at Allegheny College** Meadville PA --7pm Arter Hall Little Theater: Staged reading about the California court case challenging the constitutionality of Prop 8 that is now headed to the U.S. Supreme Court. Talkback to follow. Collaboration with Student Experimental Theater. (Ally Week event) Info: queersnalliesac@gmail.com

**Apr 18 (Thu) - Drag Discussion at Grounds for Change coffee shop** Allegheny College, Meadville PA 7pm Join us for an open tab while we discuss the history of drag and drag performance. All are welcome! (Ally Week event) Info: queersnalliesac@gmail.com

**Apr 20 (Sat) - Disco Saturday** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) Celebrate DJ TC and DJ Joe's birthday party Studio 54 style! Hear all the great classics and today's top hits! (814) 452-0125. www.thezonedanceclub.com

**Apr 20 (Sat) - Saturday With the Stars - A Night in NYC (A Tony G-Spot Birthday Celebration)** (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA) Come

## Twenty Years Ago...

The original goal of EGN was to get local people to the **March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay, and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation** to help to send a message to the newly-elected president, Bill Clinton. The march was held April 25, 1993, with estimates of marchers ranging from 300,000 to one million.

Many people from our area attended. There were several cars that went down, as well as a bus that left from Edinboro. The bus was sponsored by the student group then known as EGO, or Edinboro Gay Organization (now called Identity).

Passengers on the Edinboro bus were asked to write their thoughts and impressions in a notebook that was passed around.

We still have the notebook, and we are making its pages available online, exactly twenty years later.

To read the messages, visit [www.erie-gaynews.com](http://www.erie-gaynews.com)

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Wednesday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM  
Thursday 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM



## Calendar

celebrate another year in the life of Tony G-Spot! Featuring performances by the best Erie has to offer and a couple of surprises! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to [www.facebook.com/crazenightclub](http://www.facebook.com/crazenightclub).

**Apr 20 (Sat) - Pirates Night** (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) Wear all Pittsburgh Pirates. Ph:(724) 602-8447. email: [JoshuaSean2009@AOL.COM](mailto:JoshuaSean2009@AOL.COM). Web: [www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge](http://www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge).

**Apr 21 (Sun) - Michelle Michaels presents FACE** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) Don't 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](http://www.thezonedanceclub.com)

**Apr 22 (Mon) - A Night in NYC: College Edition (Another Tony G-Spot Birthday Celebration)** (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA) In true G-Spot form, he can't consolidate his birthday to one party! Another round of unbeatable Erie queens and a *national headliner!* Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to [www.facebook.com/crazenightclub](http://www.facebook.com/crazenightclub).

**Apr 23 (Tue) - LBT Women go to Movie at Tinseltown** (Tinseltown USA, 1910 Rotunda Dr, Erie, PA) Exact time TBA, announced as soon as the schedule is posted the Friday before this. I will send out an e-mail reminder at this time. All movies \$6 on Tuesdays. If plan to go please e-mail Laurie at [LFinch003@neo.rr.com](mailto:LFinch003@neo.rr.com) so we don't lose you in the crowd. Also we can get together for a quick meal if anyone is interested.

**Apr 23 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) 7PM. We'll be folding and distributing the copies. 21 and over, please. Contact: Mike Mahler. (814) 456-9833. [info@eriegaynews.com](mailto:info@eriegaynews.com). [www.eriegaynews.com](http://www.eriegaynews.com).

**Apr 26 - 28 (Fri - Sun) - Opening Weekend- Welcome Cocktail Party** (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) Open your trailer, book your first cabin and get acquainted with old friends once again. Cozy BYOB Cocktail Party at the back of the barn Saturday at 4pm. (585) 567-8100 [info@jonespond.com](mailto:info@jonespond.com). [www.jonespond.com](http://www.jonespond.com).

**Apr 27 (Sat) - Camp Davis Opens** (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA) Camp Opens 10 AM - No Dance - Dinner for Seasonals 5 PM Contact: Jim. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: [campd@aol.com](mailto:campd@aol.com). Browse to [www.campdavicampground.com](http://www.campdavicampground.com).

**Apr 27 (Sat) - Drag Show & Miss or Mr. M&J's**

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<http://gayellowpages.com>

# Calendar

**Lounge Pageant** (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) Come and vote for the New M&J's Lounge Queen or King. (724) 602-8447. JoshuaSean2009@AOL.COM. www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

**Apr 27 (Sat) - TransFamily of Erie Support Group meets** 2 - 5pm at Mental Health Association of Northwest PA (MHA - 1101 Peach St. Erie, PA) Support group created to serve the transgender community of Northwestern PA and surrounding region. Provides a safe space for all who fit somewhere in the gender spectrum, or are searching. Includes all transgender subcategories, including FTM, MTF, cross dresser, genderqueer, questioning, etc. Contact: Caitlyn Strohmeier. (814) 823-1969. caitlyn\_xpress@verizon.net.

**Apr 27 (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://erisesisters.ning.com/>.

**Apr 28 (Sun) - LBT Women go to Erie Explosion Indoor Arena Football Game** (Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St, Erie) 2 PM. \$12. If you plan to attend e-mail me ASAP, so we can et seats all together. We also have vouchers for a couple *free* tickets if you can't afford it. Contact: Email: LFinch003@neo.rr.com.

**Apr 28 (Sun) - American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), NWPA Chapter Annual Meeting** (La bella, 802 W 18th St, Erie, PA) 3-5 M. Join the Northwest Chapter for its annual meeting. Keynote speaker will ACLU-PA Legislative Director Andy Hoover. RSVPs are greatly appreciated: Call 881-3788 and leave your name and phone number. The title of Andy Hoover's talk: "The State of Our Union Under the Dome, Undermining Liberties." We will also have our annual elections of board members. In addition, we will provide information about upcoming events, meetings and actions. We encourage all ACLU members to get involved, and if you want to join, you can do so at the meeting. Email: [northwestchapter@aclupa.org](mailto:northwestchapter@aclupa.org). Browse to [www.aclupa.org/chapters/northwestpa/](http://www.aclupa.org/chapters/northwestpa/)

**May 4 (Sat) - LGBTQ Panel Forum** 2- 4pm Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of N. Chautauqua Fredonia NY. [www.uucnc.org](http://www.uucnc.org)

# Online Contests

Here are new contests for this month...

Contest	Starts
<i>Our Paradie</i>	March 29
<i>Where You Are</i> by J.H. Trumble	April 2
<i>Les Miserables: From Stage to Screen</i>	April 5
<i>Love Free or Die</i>	April 9
Satellite - <i>Calling Birds</i>	April 12
<i>Face 2 Face</i>	April 16
<i>The Killer Wore Leather</i>	April 19
<i>Following My Path</i>	April 23

Here are contests which are currently active...

Contest	Ends
'On The Road' prize pack	March 29
<i>Vampire Boys 2: The New Brood</i> DVD, <i>OUTlaw</i> from Drake Jensen	April 2
<i>People of the Bear Mother</i>	April 5
Signed copy of <i>Sin Warriors</i> by Julian Farris, <i>Strange Frame, Utopia</i> by Kerli	April 9
<i>Doctor Who FAQ</i> , <i>Les Misérables</i> Blu-ray™ Combo Pack	April 12
<i>The Wishmakers</i> DVD, Depeche Mode's <i>Delta Machine</i>	April 16

More contests at [eriegaynews.com!](http://eriegaynews.com/)  
Sign up for the Erie GLBT News and Events list and get contest announcements and also a list of upcoming events!

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