



EGN

Erie Gay News



Celebrating
23 years



Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) held an End of Year Celebration Dec. 14, 2015 at the Hemingway Ballroom at the Ambassador Conference Center to thank their partners, supporters and board. More photos page 4 and on our website. . Photos by Mike Mahler

Update on 2016 Pride Logo Design Contest - Win \$100!

from NW PA Pride Alliance

As mentioned previously, NW PA Pride Alliance will be accepting design entries through February 29 for the 2016 Pride logo.

The theme for 2016 Pride is "Invite. Unite. Ignite!" We hope that your design will include the official Pride theme.

There is no limit to the number of entries per person that can be submitted, nor is there an age limit. Please also note that the shirt fabric has alternated between black and ash gray from year to year. If your design requires a specific color for an element, please be sure to include that color in your design. That is, elements that should be/are intended to be white should not be transparent in your design. The design we select will receive a free shirt and a \$100 Visa gift card. The template for the logo design, as well as our

organization's logo is on NW PA Pride Alliance's web site at www.nwpapride.org. The preferred format is an Adobe Illustrator Vector File (or something we can convert to that format), 300 dpi, with the canvas size being a maximum of 9 1/2" wide by 15" tall.

Please email your entry to president@nwpapride.org on or before February 29. Questions may also be sent to the same email address.

A Look Back at 2015

from Mike Mahler, Erie Gay News

Erie Gay News will have article online with a look back at 2015 for our region's happenings and news for the year, as well as a look back in photos and videos. We also will have an updated LGBT history page for our region, which covers events from the 1960's up to the end of 2015.

After the server crash in October, 2014, we had to re-create the history, but we are very proud to say that almost all of the area history has been recovered!

Browse to www.eriegaynews.com.

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PRINT EDITIONS AVAILABLE ONLINE

www.eriegaynews.com

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

Also, check out our Photo Galleries, Videos, Contests, Reviews & much more!

EGN Erie Gay News Rates & Data

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| QUARTER PAGE | FULL PAGE | HALF PAGE VERTICAL |
| HALF PAGE HORIZONTAL | EIGHTH PAGE | |

| AD SIZE | PRICE/ISSUE | DIMENSIONS |
|------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| EIGHTH | \$30 - \$27 Prepaid | 15/8" high X 27/8" wide |
| QUARTER | \$50 - \$45 Prepaid | 3 1/2" high X 27/8" wide |
| HALF VERT. | \$90 - \$81 Prepaid | 7" high X 27/8" 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
 1115 West 7th St.
 Erie PA 16502-1105
 (814) 456-9833
Fax: (530) 451-9833
info@eriegaynews.com
www.eriegaynews.com

Editor: Mike Mahler

Assistant Editor and Layout: Deb Spilko

Ad Design: Mike Lipiec

Deadline for next issue: Jan 15; Folding and distribution is Tue, January 26 at Griffin Room at Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel.

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 Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel for hosting! Alex, Andrea, Bill, Kim, and Rex Apps for folding; Alex, Andrea, Bill, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Kim, and Rex Apps 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



Above: Members of newly-formed PFLAG Meadville chapter

PFLAG Meadville forms

On Tuesday, December 15, members of Meadville PA's community decided to form a local PFLAG chapter. There have been support meetings at Stone United Methodist Church, 956 S Main St. in Meadville for a little over a year. The group will continue to meet at Stone United Methodist Church. Meetings will be held the third Tuesday of the month at 7 PM, so the next meeting will be January 19.

Randy Herbert-Weed is the chapter president, Sarah Roncolato is secretary, and Mariana Silva is treasurer.

For information contact Sarah at meadvillepflag@gmail.com or (814) 724-6736, Find PFLAG Meadville on Facebook: PFLAG Meadville

PFLAG Erie/Crawford County voted to dissolve in July due to low attendance, so PFLAG Meadville will now be the only chapter in northwestern Pennsylvania.

"The Fluidity of Gender: Sculpture by Linda Stein" at Allegheny

from Linda Stein and Allegheny College

"The Fluidity of Gender" exhibit is open Jan. 26 to Mar.13 at the art galleries of Allegheny College, Meadville PA. The exhibition explores the continuum between masculinity and femininity, while inspiring the compassion, empathy and bravery it takes to become an upstander rather than a bystander. Stein asks people to re-invent and visualize bravery for themselves, to look at the armor they wear, the safety they seek. The exhibition has traveled to more than 24 museums and universities around the country. Visit allegheny.edu

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GEAE End of Year Celebration

Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) held an End of Year Celebration on December 14, 2015 at the Hemingway Ballroom at the Ambassador Conference Center to thank their partners, supporters and board.

Photo gallery on our website. Photos by Mike Mahler



*Tracy, Maria, and Finn at GEAE End of Year Celebration.
Photo by Mike Mahler*

Community News

Behrend community responds to hate speech

Eric W. Corty, Ph.D wrote a "Guest Voice" column for the *Erie Times-News*, "How Behrend responded to hate speech" (December 11, 2015)

Dr. Corty—a professor at Penn State Behrend—explained with much admiration the manner in which the Behrend community responded when a homophobic message was placed next to his friend's office door on November 10. A custodial staffperson informed his supervisor, and the campus police were called. An officer explained the situation to the friend ("with much care," wrote Corty) and an investigation had begun. The interim chancellor asked all faculty and staff to work toward maintaining an inclusive community.

Corty organized an effort to wear rainbow ribbons and buttons in solidarity with the targeted person and in support of inclusiveness.

Link to Dr. Corty's column from the "Featured" section on our website at www.eriegaynews.com



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the Ryan White Care Act of 1990.

Calendar

Detailed calendar listings in our online calendar
www.eriegaynews.com

Live & Let Live is an LGBTQA-friendly AA meeting that meets every Sunday, at 7PM, at Community United Church, 1011 West 38th Street, Erie, PA 16508. For more information, visit www.aaeriepa.org.

Dec 24 (Thu) - Zone Dance Club OPEN for Christmas Eve (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub.

Dec 25 (Thu) - LGBTQ Seniors Holiday Dinner (Zhang's Chinese Buffet, 3525 Union Road, Cheektowaga NY) You don't have to be alone on Christmas! The Silver Pride Project will be gathering at 2 PM at Zhang's Chinese Buffet. Silver Pride is a project of WNY Pride. Venue phone: 716-686-9388 WNY Pride phone: 716-852-PRIDE (7743)

Dec 25 (Fri) - Zone Dance Club OPEN for Christmas Night (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie,


PA) www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub.

Dec 25 (Fri) - M & J's Lounge Closed for Christmas (www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge).

Dec 26 (Sat) - Erie Sisters and Brothers 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. (440) 265-8191. shub1@suite224.net. eriesisters.ning.com/

Dec 26 (Sat) - Ugly Sweater and Joshua's Birthday Bash (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Dec 27 (Sun) - Christmas at The Table (The Table, 3176 W. 41st Street, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Join us for a Christmas celebration! Bring a gift (\$10 limit) for a gift exchange and a snack/dish to share. Soup will be provided. We will begin the evening with a brief reflection on the Nativity, followed by food, gifts, and sharing our holiday adventures/stories. Email: patrixjodi@gmail.com.



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Calendar

com. Browse to <http://www.thetableerie.com/>.

Dec 30 (Wed) - 'Family' Food and Fun (Hooch & Blotto's, 8071 Peach St, Erie, PA 16509) 7 PM. Join us for food, drinks, and bowling at Hooch and Blotto's. No bowling shoes required! If you can let us know ahead of time, we'll reserve lanes. Otherwise, just show up ready to laugh, bowl, eat, drink and be merry! Venue Phone: (814) 217-1140. Email: pastrixjodi@gmail.com. Browse to <http://www.thetableerie.com/>.

Dec 31 (Thu) - New Year's Eve Diversity Bash (Maennerchor Club, 1607 State St, Erie, PA) 9 PM - 1 AM. Come join us for the first New Year's Eve Party for everyone! Hors D'oeuvres, cash bar, DJ, Karaoke, hats and noisemakers. Tickets are \$25 per person and must be purchased in advance. Contact Brian N Larry at 814-882-5205, Karl Shearer at 814-860-1713 or Joy Johnson at 716-720-3220 or through Facebook for tickets and information. www.facebook.com/events/1090305014322661/.

Dec 31 (Thu) - Community Board Game Night (Community United Church, 1011 West 38th Street, Erie PA) 10:30 pm. Game Night is special this month - it's our New Year's Eve Party! \$5 donation at the door. We provide the party hats, noise makers and midnight toast (we use sparkling juice). We also provide the games and snacks. Nonalcoholic and smoke free for New Years Eve. (814) 864-4429 FB: Community Board Game Night

Dec 31 (Thu) - Zone New Year's Eve Party (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) Free party favors and hats, food buffet, and a champagne toast at midnight. (814) 452-0125. www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub.

Dec 31 (Thu) - New Years Eve Party (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) Tickets are \$10. BYOB,

membership required, purchase from bartender. (724) 602-8447. www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Dec 31 (Thu) - "The Music of Rodgers & Webber" (Erie Playhouse, 13 W 10th St, Erie PA) www.erieplayhouse.org

Jan 2 (Sat) - Second Annual Ladyfest at PACA (1505 State, 2nd floor, Erie PA). 5 - 10 PM, \$5 at the door. "Live music, art, vendors and useful informational booths. If you'd like to be involved in any way please contact Kristen Nichole Nielsen. The 3rd issue of Battlefield will also be available at this event so look for that! The event will benefit an organization which is a great resource for women in need Erie-DAWN. This organization helps women and their children with an array of resources including housing, clothing, food and more."

Jan 2 (Sat) - Drag Show (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) BYOB, membership required, purchase from bartender. (724) 602-8447. JoshuaSean2009@aol.com. www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Jan 3 (Sun) - TransFamily Youth meets (Lake Erie

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Calendar

Counseling, 301 West 10th, Erie PA) We provide a safe space for all youth who fit somewhere in the gender spectrum, or who are questioning, to share their experiences and to obtain support from others who have had similar experiences. We welcome anyone 21 and younger who identifies as gender-variant. We also support the community through advocacy efforts and education to the larger cisgender community, and we attend to charges of discrimination experienced by transgender youth in Erie County. Info: (814) 504-1507 cmn0626@gmail.com or Caitlin: (814) 823-1969. caitlynxpress@gmail.com.

Jan 3 (Sun) - PFLAG Butler meets (Covenant Presbyterian Church, 230 E. Jefferson St, Butler PA) 5 PM - 8 PM. (724) 290-9674 . president@pflagbutler.com. www.pflagbutler.com/.

Jan 8 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour) (Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St, Erie, PA 1) 6 PM - 8 PM. G2H2/Erie takes place every month in a new location around town, providing GLBT professionals, and our colleagues and friends, the opportunity to meet,

network or just hang out once a month FB: G2H2/Erie
Jan 8 (Fri) - Wild Hair Party (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) BYOB, membership required, purchase from bartender. (724) 602-8447. www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Jan 9 (Sat) - TransFamily of Meadville meets (Counseling Center, 898 Park Ave (2nd flr), Meadville, PA) 2 - 5 PM. We provide a safe space for all who fit somewhere in the gender spectrum, or who are questioning, to share their experiences and to obtain support from others who have had similar experiences. We welcome anyone who identifies as gender-variant, their family, friends, and allies of the community. We also support the community through advocacy efforts and education to the larger cisgender community. Contact: Richelle Kohler. richellekohler@hotmail.com. www.facebook.com/TransfamilyOfErie.

Jan 9 (Sat) - Veronyca's Showgirls presents A Diva's Jubilation (Loyal Order of the Moose Lodge No. 119, 201 West State Street, Olean, NY) 9 PM. \$6 cover.

Jan 9 (Sat) - 70's Night (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) BYOB, membership required, purchase from bartender. (724) 602-8447. JoshuaSean2009@aol.com. www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Jan 10 (Sun) - LBT Women Annual Holiday Dinner (Calamari's Squid Row, 1317 State St, Erie, PA) 2 PM. Contact: Kim (814) 314-9512. . ErieBeans@aol.com. Browse to www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE.

Jan 12 (Tue) - Bears Do Dinner (Maxi's Cafe, 2800 W 8th St, Erie, PA) 6:30 PM. Join the Bears for a casual night of food and fun! Dinner is on your own. Contact: Gary Snyder. (814) 446-2327. . www.drenchedfur.com.

Jan 12 (Tue) - Youngstown PFLAG meets (St. John's Episcopal Church, 323 Wick Ave, Youngstown, OH)



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6:30 PM. Contact: Marguerite Felice. youngstown-pflag@aol.com. www.youngstownpflag.org/.

Jan 15 (Fri) - Deadline for Erie Gay News February 2016 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 Jan 26. For a complete list of upcoming deadlines and release dates, check the print edition schedule at www.eriegaynews.com/printedition/deadlineschedule.php Contact: Michael Mahler. (814) 456-9833. info@eriegaynews.com. www.eriegaynews.com.

Jan 15 (Fri) - Volley Ball Night (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) BYOB, membership required, purchase from bartender. (724) 602-8447. JoshuaSean2009@aol.com. www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Jan 16 (Sat) - Bar Trivia (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) BYOB, membership required, purchase from bartender. (724) 602-8447. JoshuaSean2009@aol.com. www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Jan 17 (Sun) - Michelle Michaels presents FACE Drag Show (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie,

PA) 11 PM. "Great entertainment with all of your favorite drag queens, new drag queens and special guests" (814) 452-0125. www.thezonedanceclub.com/.

Jan 19 (Tue) - PFLAG Meadville meets (Stone United Methodist Church, 956 S Main St, Meadville, PA) 7 PM. (814) 724-6736 sroncola@allegheny.edu (Stone UMC)

Jan 21 (Thu) - YSunity Annual Drag Show (Youngstown State University, 1 University Plaza, Youngstown, OH) 7 - 10 PM. Q&A afterward. Event open to YSU students and general public. *Must be 18 or older to attend* (Valid ID, student or driver's license to present at the door is required for entry.) Students and staff free w/ID General Public: \$5 at door (330) 941-3597. . YSunity@gmail.com. ysunity.webs.com

Jan 22 (Fri) - Winter Ball Dance (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) BYOB, membership required, purchase from bartender. (724) 602-8447. www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Jan 23 (Sat) - LBT Women go to Pink zone game, Gannon women's basketball game (Gannon Hamermill Center, 620 Peach St, Erie, PA) 1 PM. We will

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Calendar

meet at 12:15 at the ticket window inside. Game is free but there will be items for sale, 50/50 tickets and chances for gift baskets if you want to purchase tickets. Contact: Kim Conti. (814) 314-9512. ErieBeans@aol.com. www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE.

Jan 23 (Sat) - TransFamily of Erie Support Group meets (Mental Health Assoc. of NW PA, 1101 Peach St, Erie, PA) 2-5 PM. Support group for transgender, gender non-conforming, gender-questioning, and intersex people and their loved ones Contact: Caitlyn Strohmeyer. (814) 823-1969. caitlynxpress@gmail.com. www.facebook.com/TransfamilyOfErie.

Jan 23 (Sat) - Erie Sisters and Brothers 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. (440) 265-8191. shub1@suite224.net. eriesisters.ning.com/

Jan 23 (Sat) - 80's Night (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA)


Jan 26 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party (Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel, Griffin Room, 55 West Bay Dr Erie, PA) 7 PM. All ages welcome! info@eriegaynews.com. www.eriegaynews.com.

Jan 26 - Mar 3 - "The Fluidity of Gender: Sculpture by Linda Stein" Allegheny College art galleries, Meadville PA. The exhibition explores the continuum between masculinity and femininity. allegheny.edu/

Jan 29 (Fri) - Boxers Night (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) (724) 602-8447. www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Jan 30 (Sat) - Guesstures Game Night (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) BYOB, membership required, purchase from bartender. (724) 602-8447. www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Feb 7 (Sun) - TransFamily Youth meets (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA) 2 - 5 PM. We provide a safe space for all youth who fit somewhere in the gender spectrum, or who are questioning, to share their experiences and to obtain support from others who have had similar experiences. We welcome anyone 21 and younger who identifies as gender-variant. We also support the community through advocacy efforts and education to the larger cisgender community, and we attend to charges of discrimination experienced by transgender youth in Erie County. Contact: Char Newport. Venue (814) 455-4009. cmn0626@gmail.com. www.facebook.com/TransfamilyOfErie.



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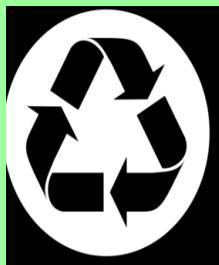
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Major religions that sanction same-sex marriage

Conservative Jewish Movement
Episcopal Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Presbyterian Church (USA)
Reform Jewish Movement
Society of Friends (Quaker)
Unitarian Universalist Assoc. of Churches
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Online Contests

Here are new contests for this month...

| Contest | Begins |
|---|-------------|
| <i>Anything for Amelia</i> | December 25 |
| <i>The Up Stairs Lounge Arson</i> | December 29 |
| <i>Best Gay Erotica of the Year</i> | January 2 |
| <i>Empire: Original Soundtrack, Season 2 Volume 1</i> | January 5 |
| <i>Matt Shepard is a Friend of Mine</i> | January 8 |
| <i>David Goes Home: Growing Up Gay in the Dust Bowl</i> | January 12 |
| <i>The Twilight Zone FAQ</i> | January 15 |
| Complete set of <i>Eating Out</i> DVDs | January 19 |
| <i>Gym Boys: Gay Erotic Stories</i> | January 22 |
| <i>TV Finales FAQ</i> | January 26 |
| <i>Dirty Dates: Erotic Fantasies for Couples</i> | January 29 |
| <i>The Big Book of Kink</i> | February 2 |

Here are contests which are currently active...

| Contest | Ends |
|--|-------------|
| <i>Restart in Newtown, Sydney, A Head Full of Dreams</i> from Coldplay | December 25 |
| <i>The Girl King DVD, Blue Neighbourhood</i> from Troye Sivan | December 29 |
| <i>Like You Mean It DVD, Dark Sky Island</i> from Enya | January 1 |
| <i>The Surface DVD, Untamed</i> from Cam | January 5 |
| <i>Immaculate Blue, Nathan Sykes Over And Over Again</i> prize pack | January 8 |
| <i>Brave in Ribbons, Return of the Tender Lover</i> from Babyface | January 12 |



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