



EGN

Erie Gay News



Erie County HIV Task Force Art Display Call for Submissions

from Erie Co. HIV Task Force

Attention all artists. Erie County HIV Task Force will be having an art display at PACA in early December to recognize Worlds AIDS Day. More details next issue about the event. Please contact Edith Prather at eprather@community-healthnet.com for further information. Submissions are due by November 21. We would love to have your piece on display to show your support. The HIV Task Force thanks you in advance for your support!!

Meadville TransFamily announces location change

by Caitlyn Strohmeier

The Meadville Transfamily meeting will be held in a new place: CHAPS building, first floor, 944 Liberty Street, Meadville, PA 16335.

Meadville TransFamily meetings are held the second Saturday of the month from 2-5:00 pm. We welcome anyone who identifies as gender-variant, their family, friends, and allies of the community.

Information: richellekohler@hotmail.com. www.facebook.com/TransfamilyOfNWP.

Erie Gay News distributor updates

by Mike Mahler, Erie Gay News

We are updating our list of distributors.

If you are currently a distributor, we ask that you email us at info@eriegaynews.com or call us at (814) 456-9833 to let us know that we are getting you the correct number of copies before Friday, November 11.

If you are not currently a distributor, but would like to be, please email or call us by November 11.

The distributors of our monthly print edition are listed at www.eriegaynews.com/printedition/placesto-get.php. We are happy to list those who carry EGN!



BREAST CANCER AWARENESS EVENT: Elisa Guide, Strings-foraCURE Executive Director; Gracie Watson, mother of Michelle Michaels; and Elaine Crandall. More photos on our website. Photo by Mike Mahler

Breast Cancer Awareness Weekend raises \$5239

The 11th Annual Breast Cancer Weekend was held Sept. 30 to Oct. 2 at the Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie PA. The event was organized by Michelle Michaels. The beneficiary was again local charity StringsforaCURE®. The event directly raised \$2,739, and Sam's Club additionally donated a grant of \$2,500, making for a total of \$5,239.

As always, there was an impressive array of baskets donated for a Chinese auction. Basket donors included Brenda Crolli, Denise Kubiak, Elaine Lucas Crandall, VisitErie.com, Watson/Hodas families, Lake Erie Counseling, NW PA Pride Alliance, Erie Gay News, Brenda Dugan, Sherry Edkin and family, Little Dance Studio, Matthew Blake & Scott David, Sunglass Hut, Robert Eckendof, Bobbi & Ryan, Drenched Fur, and Pat & Tom Matson.

The weekend included a bake sale. and food.

(continued on page 3)

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Just go to our website and click on the image of the print edition!

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 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 -1105
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 www.eriegaynews.com

Editor: Mike Mahler

Assistant Editor and Layout: Deb Spilko

Ad Design: Mike Lipiec

Deadline for next issue: November 14;

Folding and distribution is Tue, Nov 22 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, Audrey, Debbie Whalin, Johauna, Kim, Leonard Ginnery, Rex Apps, Richard Guy, Trish Catalano, and Wanda Watkins for folding; Andrea, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Kim, Leonard Ginnery, Rex Apps, Richard Guy, and Trish Catalano 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)

Thanks for the treats goes to Walmart East, Walmart Harborcreek, Matthew Blake, Kathy and David, Gary, Snyder, and Jessica.

Volunteers for the weekend were Josh, Marty, Jimbo, Alex, Season, Brenda, and Zone owners and staff.

The weekend concluded with a drag show, with performers donating all tips. Drag performers were Misty Michaels Kall, Jill Jameson, Danyel Vasquez, Demita Lamore, Trista Towers, Mistress Vanitay, Siren Lady of the Lake, and Michelle Michaels.

Michelle Michaels' mother, Gracie, herself a breast cancer survivor, was the inspiration for the holding the Breast Cancer Awareness weekends each October. StringsforaCURE has had a total of \$6,650 raised over the past three years that it has been the designated charity.

In the past five years, StringsforaCURE has given 1,264- \$100 gas, grocery and pharmacy gift cards to breast cancer patients in 39 different states, because cancer has no boundaries. They have approved 60 Medical Grants to men and women within 60 miles of Erie, up to \$1,500 per grant. This past January, the StringsforaCURE board started a Living Expense Grant program and since January the board has already approved 10 Living Expense Grants to help with rent, mortgage and car payments, etc., up to \$1500 per grant.

StringsforaCURE has helped over 1,215 cancer patients, relying solely on donations from the public and corporations, giving over \$184,104 directly to these patients.

For more information, vist www.stringsforacure.org



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TransFamily of NWPA positions open

For more information about these positions or TransFamily, contact Caitlyn Strohmeier. (814) 823-1969. or caitlynxpress@gmail.com.

TransFamily of NWPA is seeking volunteer board members

If you are interesting in joining TransFamily of NW PA's board, please review the qualifications listed below and submit a personal statement and CV/resume to us at caitlynxpress@gmail.com. This personal statement should reflect how you meet the qualifications listed below, any volunteer or board experience you may have, why you are interested in fighting for transgender equality, and what you hope to bring to the organization with respect to skills/abilities/experience.

Required:

- * Must live within our service area, which includes all counties from Warren to the Ohio line, and from Mercer County north to Lake Erie.
- * Must be able to attend all board meetings, which are held in Erie the first Sunday of each month from 12:30pm to 2pm.

- * Must have a commitment to social justice and transgender equality.
 - * Must currently have or be willing to obtain child abuse clearances within the first month of board membership.
- Preferred, but not required
- * Fundraising experience
 - * Previous board experience

TransFamily of NW PA Seeks Volunteer Youth Facilitator

The TransFamily of NWPA Board of Directors is seeking submissions for the position of volunteer Facilitator for the TransFamily Youth group.

The group is held from 2pm to 5pm the first Sunday of each month at Lake Erie Counseling (301 West 10th St., Erie PA). All trans youth up to 21 years of age are welcome. Parents are asked to not attend as this is a safe space for youth to interact with their peers to discuss issues and take part in activities.

Please submit the following to caitlynxpress@gmail.com

- * A personal statement that reflects past work that you may have done with youth, any volunteer or board experience you may have, why you are interested in advocating for transgender equality, and what you hope to bring to the organization with respect to skills/abilities/experience.
- * CV/resume
- * Copy of current child abuse clearances or commitment to obtain them upon selection.
- * Copy of mandated reporter training certificate, or commitment to complete this training at the next date available. In-person training can be obtained locally through the Crime Victim Center of Erie County.
- * Willingness to serve on the TransFamily of NWPA Board of Directors. Board meetings are held at Lake Erie Counseling immediately prior to the youth group from 12:30pm to 2pm.



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Erie Co. HIV Task Force

The Erie County HIV Task Force was excited to announce a new initiative to increase the accessibility and availability of FREE condoms throughout Erie County. The Condom Distribution Initiative was kicked off at a press conference held at the Erie County Department of Health on Monday, August 22, 2016 *See the online version of this article for a complete list of locations and a map)*

The program includes several strategies:

- Multiple condom distribution sites where people can obtain condoms FREE of charge throughout Erie County.
- A social marketing campaign, which includes information on STDs and HIV, and locations where to get condoms.
- A traditional marketing campaign, which includes flyers, news releases and ads.

Distribution sites throughout the county are provided with condoms, bags and signage designating them as a distribution site. Individuals can go to any distribution site to request condoms and will be given a confidential bag of 12 condoms.



CONTINGENT IN EDINBORO HOMECOMING PARADE On Saturday, Oct. 8, members of NW PA Pride Alliance and Identity, Edinboro University's LGBTQIA student group, marched in the Edinboro Homecoming Parade. Season Crannell made themed decorations for the contingent to carry. The parade went through the campus of the university and the streets of Edinboro and was well-received. More photos at www.nwpapride.org Photo: Mike Mahler

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This ad made possible by a Federal Grant under
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 St., Erie, PA. For more information, visit www.aaeriepa.org.

Oct 14-Nov 6 - "Christmas in July" Buffalo United Artists Buffalo NY. www.buffalobua.org

Through Oct 30 - Exhibit "We're Here: Pioneering LGBT Rights in Pennsylvania" (State Museum of PA, Harrisburg PA) statemuseumpa.org Ends 10/30.

Oct 26 (Wed) - LBT Women go to Simply Healthy Recipes for Busy Weeknight Dinners (Whole Foods Co-op, 1341 W. 26th, Erie, PA) 6 -8 PM. Free, meet inside at Cafe 5:30 p.m. Contact: Kim (814) 314-9512. www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE.

Oct 26 (Wed) - The Table: Spirituality in Everyday Life (Wooden Nickel Buffalo Farm, 5970 Koman Rd, Edinboro, PA) 7 PM. Corn maze adventure. pastrix-jodi@gmail.com.

jodi@gmail.com. www.facebook.com/thetableerie.

Oct 27 (Thu) - Halloqueen Ball (Edinboro University/Pogue Student Center, 405 Scotland Rd, Edinboro, PA 16444) 7 PM - 11 PM. Come join Identity for our annual Halloween dance! This year it will be held in Pogue Student Center, in Gym Room A.

Oct 28 (Fri) - Halloween Diva Show (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) TheZoneDanceClub@aol.com. www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub.

Oct 29 (Sat) - "Rocky Horror Picture Show" with Shadow Cast Performance Academy Theatre, Meadville PA. www.theacademytheatre.org

Oct 29 (Sat) - Annual Halloween Party & Drag Show (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) "BYOB, all welcome." www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Oct 29 (Sat) - Halloween Party (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) TheZoneDanceClub@aol.com. www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub.

Oct 30 (Sun) - Diversity Worship Service (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA) 11 AM. Contact: Rev. Dr. Rich McCarty. (814) 864-4429. communityunitedchurch@yahoo.com. communityunitedchurchoferiepa.weebly.com/.

Nov 1 (Tue) - The Table: Candlelight Remembrance for Pulse Night Club (Frontier Park, W 8th and Bayfront Highway, Erie, PA) 7 PM. "Candlelight remembrance for the victims of the Pulse Night Club and for all those who have passed on but are still carried in our hearts. Rain or shine. It will be a brief reflection and then will offer an opportunity for participants to remember and commemorate those who have been lost in their own way and time." pastrixjodi@gmail.com. www.facebook.com/thetableerie.

Nov 2 (Wed) - Trigon Annual Drag Show (Penn State Behrend, 5103 Station Rd, Erie, PA) 7 PM - 9 PM. "We will be having the amateur drag show again this year, so audience members can participate for a prize." (814) 898-7162. behrend.trigon@gmail.com. orgsync.com/22531/chapter.

Nov 4 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour) (Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St, Erie, PA) 6 PM - 8 PM.

Nov 4-20 - "Streetcar Named Desire" Erie Playhouse, Erie PA www.erieplayhouse.org

Nov 4 "Loving" Movie based on the lives of Richard and Mildred Loving, an interracial couple who successfully challenged laws against race mixing. Opens 11/4

Northwest PA Rural AIDS Alliance

814.454.3811

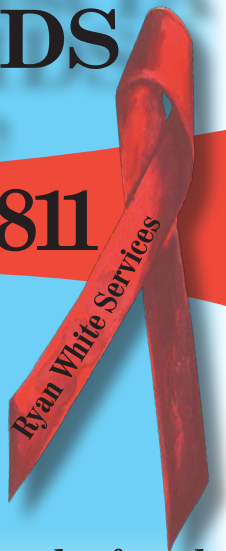
Case Management

Clinical Services

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Calendar

Nov 5 (Sat) - Name That Tune (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) "BYOB, all welcome." www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Nov 6 (Sun) - TransFamily Youth Transgender Support Group meets (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA) 2-5 PM. "safe space for all youth who fit somewhere in the gender spectrum, or who are questioning, We welcome anyone 21 and younger who identifies as gender-variant. Also support the community through advocacy efforts and education" Contact: Tyler Titus. tylertituslpc@gmail.com. www.facebook.com/groups/TransFamilyYouth/.

Nov 6 (Sun) - PFLAG Butler meets (Covenant Presbyterian Church, 230 E Jefferson St, Butler PA, PA) 5 PM - 8 PM. www.pflagbutler.com/.

Nov 6 (Sun) - 24th Annual Miss Tri-State All-Star Pageant (Cabaret at Theater Square, Pittsburgh, PA) www.trustarts.org/visit/facilities/cabaret/.

Nov 8 (Tue) - General Election 7 AM - 8 PM. Please remember to vote! See Voters Guide this issue.

Nov 8 (Tue) - Youngstown PFLAG meets (St. John's Episcopal Church, 323 Wick Ave, Youngstown, OH) 6:30 PM. Contact: Marguerite youngstownareapflag@gmail.com. www.youngstownpflag.org/.

Nov 9 (Wed) - Bears Do Dinner #41 (Maxi's Tuscan Grille - Clarion Hotel, 2800 W 8th St, Erie, PA) 6:30 PM. JDinner is on your own. Contact: Gary (814) 446-2327. info@drenchedfur.com. www.drenchedfur.com.

Nov 9 (Wed) - The Table: Theology on Tap (Andy's Pub, 3866 Peach St, Erie, PA) 7 PM. pastrixjodi@gmail.com. www.facebook.com/thetableerie.

Nov 9 (Wed) - "Rent" (Warner Theatre, 811 State St., Erie PA) Broadway in Erie Series eriewarnertheatre.com

Nov 10 (Thu) - Namoli Brennet in Oil City (Venango College, Rhoades Center, 1801 W. 1st St. , Oil City, PA) www.namolibrennet.com

Nov 11 (Fri) - Namoli Brennet in Youngstown (TBA) www.namolibrennet.com

Nov 12 (Sat) - Erie LGBT Rainbow Alliance meets (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA) 1 - 3 PM. "Safe, confidential space for LGBT community members" Co-facilitators: Chelsea Nicole, Dale Allgeier, LCSW. (814) 455-4009. ErieLBGTRainbowAlliance@gmail.com.

Nov 12 (Sat) TransFamily of Meadville Transgender Support Group (CHAPS Building, first floor, 944 Liberty Street, Meadville, PA 16335 - NOTE NEW

LOCATION) 2-5 PM. Contact: Richelle Kohler. richellekohler@hotmail.com. www.facebook.com/TransfamilyOfNWPA.

Nov 12 (Sat) - Rufus Wainwright Music Box Supper Club Cleveland OH rufuswainwright.com/

Nov 12 (Sat) - Open Mic Night (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) "BYOB, all welcome." www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Nov 12 (Sat) - "Celebration of the Women of Imperial Court" (Imperial Court of Buffalo, 376 Grant, Buffalo NY) www.imperialcourtofbuffalo.com

Nov 13 (Sun) - LBT Women meets (Brew Ha Ha at the Colony, 2612 W 8th St, Erie, PA) 12 PM. Contact: Kim Conti. (814) 314-9512. ErieBeans@aol.com. www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE.

Nov 13 (Sun) - Aging With Pride (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA) 4 - 6 PM. "Safe, comfortable space for the older LGBT individual to seek support, friendship, social opportunities and discussion of issues of importance. (814) 455-4009. dalleallgeier@outlook.com. www.lakeeriecounseling.com/

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Calendar

Nov 14 (Mon) - Deadline for Erie Gay News December 2016 print edition (Erie Gay News, 1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA) (814) 456-9833. info@eriegaynews.com. www.eriegaynews.com.

Nov 15 (Tue) - PFLAG Meadville meets (Stone United Methodist Church, 956 S Main St, Meadville, PA) 7 PM. Contact: Randy Herbert-Weed. (814) 724-6736. meadvillepflag@gmail.com. www.facebook.com/groups/PFLAGMeadville/.

Nov 16 (Wed) - The Table: Contemplation 101 (The Table, 3176 W. 41st Street, Erie, PA) 7 PM. "Will focus on practicing gratitude." pastrixjodi@gmail.com. www.facebook.com/thetableerie.

Nov 16 - 20 (Wed - Sun) - Lake Erie Gala (Bel-Aire Hotel and Conference Center, 2800 W 8th St, Erie, PA) "Celebrating 25 Years of The Erie Sisters & Brothers! 17th year of Erie's premiere Transgender event!" (440) 265-8191. shub1@suite224.net. eriesisters.ning.com/.

Nov 18-19 (Fri-Sat) - Trans Wellness Conference (Evergreen Commons, 262 Georgia St., Buffalo NY). www.pridecenterwny.org FB: Trans Wellness Confer-

ence 2016

Nov 18 & 25 (Fri)- "Dark Play or Stories for Boys" (Dramashop, Erie PA) dramashop.org/

Nov 19 (Sat) - Boxers Night (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Nov 20 (Sun) - Transgender Day Of Remembrance Candlelight Vigil (Bel-Aire Hotel and Conference Center, 2800 W 8th St, Erie, PA) 1 PM - 2 PM. "Please join the Erie transgender community as we gather to remember and honor the trans lives lost during the past year due to transphobia and hate. Even as our community gains more visibility, we also experience more targeted violence. I hope that you will come with open hearts to grieve the lost and to gain understanding of why it is so critical to stand up to transphobia wherever and whenever it occurs." Contact: Caitlyn Strohmeier. (814) 823-1969. Caitlynxpress@gmail.com.

Nov 20 (Sun) - Michelle Michaels presents FACE Drag Show! (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) 11 PM. www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub.

Nov 22 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party (Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel, 55 West Bay Road, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Contact: Mike (814) 456-9833. info@eriegaynews.com. www.eriegaynews.com.

Nov 26 (Sat) - Transgiving TransFamily of Erie Transgender Support Group meets (Crime Victim Center of Erie County, 125 W 18th St, Erie, PA) 2-5 PM. "We welcome anyone who identifies as gender-variant, their family, friends, and allies of the community. ..." Contact: Caitlyn (814) 823-1969. caitlynxpress@gmail.com. www.facebook.com/TransfamilyOfENWPA.

Nov 26 (Sat) - Drag Show (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Nov 26 (Sat) - Erie Sisters & Brothers Transgender Support Group meets (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Provides support and encouragement for both MTF and FTM transgender individuals. Discussion followed by dinner at a local restaurant and dancing at The Zone Dance Club. (440) 265-8191. shub1@suite224.net. eriesisters.ning.com

Nov 30 (Wed) - The Table: Planning Session for 2017 (TBA, Erie, PA) 7 PM. pastrixjodi@gmail.com. www.facebook.com/thetableerie.

Dec 1 (Thu) - World AIDS Day www.worldaidsday.org/.



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☆☆☆ VOTERS GUIDE ☆☆☆

Candidates for US Senate, US Congress PA-3 and PA-5, PA State Senate and PA State House were asked about their positions on GLBT issues. Their responses appear on the next few pages.

These were the questions for all candidates:

Anti-Discrimination

Do you support the passage of legislation such as the Equality Act or the PA Fairness Act, which would protect LGBT individuals from discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodation? Please explain.

“Religious Freedom”

Do you support legislation such as Indiana’s Senate Bill 101 that would allow individuals, government officials or government agencies to deny providing goods and services to LGBT individuals because of religious beliefs. Please explain.

Gender Identity/Expression

Do you support legislation such as South Dakota’s House Bill 1008 that would prohibit individuals from using the restroom and etc facilities which match their gender identity? Please explain.

Anti-Bullying

Do you support the PASS Act, which would amend the Public School Code of 1949 to include protecting LGBT individuals from bullying in public schools? Please explain.

Other

What would you like to let the Erie area LGBT community to know?

Compiled by Michael Mahler

All candidates in a race are asked the same questions. Responses are entered as received, without any changes, including correction for typographical errors. Pertinent information that does not come directly from the candidate will use reliable and verifiable sources.

This guide also appears on www.eriegaynews.com

US Senate

Not Responding: Pat Toomey (R-Incumbent).
Edward Clifford III (Libertarian)

Anti-Discrimination

Kathleen McGinty (D)

Yes, I support the Pennsylvania Fairness Act and, in the Senate, would be an outspoken advocate of federal legislation to protect members of the LGBT community from discrimination across the board. As governor Wolf’s Chief of Staff, I was proud to stand with him and call on Pennsylvania’s legislature to pass legislation that ensures no Pennsylvanian is discriminated against.

“Religious Freedom”

Kathleen McGinty (D)

I absolutely oppose Indiana Senate Bill 101 and any legislation like it. These laws are unacceptable attempts to make discrimination legal, and it is an appalling use of legislative power. We should be passing laws that protect individuals from discrimination, not condone it.

Gender Identity/Expression

Kathleen McGinty (D)

I absolutely oppose South Dakota House Bill 1008 because it is the duty of government to protect all citizens—especially the most vulnerable. Transgender students should be treated equally and as Senator, I would be an outspoken presence against discriminatory legislation like this.

Anti-Bullying

Kathleen McGinty (D)

I support the PASS Act and in the Senate, I would support federal legislation along the same lines because schools should be a place for all children to be able to grow and learn without being subject to harassment and violence.

(Continued on next page)

☆☆☆ VOTERS GUIDE ☆☆☆

Other

Kathleen McGinty (D)

It's important to me that the Erie LGBT community understand that through my brother John, who is gay, I've seen the issues that confront the community first hand and they're very personal to me. In the Senate, I will fight to bring an end to discrimination at all levels, whether it's because of race, gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity and ensure all Americans are treated and protected equally under the law.

Diversity is our nation's greatest strength. I am incredibly proud to have worked with Governor Wolf to help him select one of the most diverse cabinets in our Commonwealth's history, including appointing Dr. Rachel Levine as Pennsylvania's Physician General, making her the highest-ranking transgender person in the history of Pennsylvania's government. We are a better place for having leadership that reflects the diversity of our state and we must be vigilant to stop attempts to undermine the great progress we've made.

US Congress PA -3

Not Responding: Mike Kelly (R-Incumbent)

Editors' Note: This is from Human Rights Campaign's article "19 Members of Congress Inducted into HRC's Hall of Shame" (October 2014):

"Mike Kelly (R- PA)— At first glance, Kelly appears to be a more moderate, reasonable kind of guy. Yet in the 113th Congress, in addition to cosponsoring anti-LGBT bills, he took the initiative to introduce one of the most hurtful and harmful anti-LGBT bills yet—the Child Welfare Provider Inclusion Act. This bill would allow adoption and foster care providers to use their personal religious beliefs as a reason to discriminate against LGBT people seeking to provide a loving home to a child in need."

US Congress PA -5

Not Responding: Kerith Strano Taylor (D), Glenn Thompson (R-Incumbent)

PA State Senate 49

Anti-Discrimination

Sean Wiley (D-Incumbent)

Absolutely. I am a co-sponsor of Senate Bill 300 and have advocated for its swift movement through the Senate for final passage.

Dan Laughlin (R)

Yes.

"Religious Freedom"

Sean Wiley (D-Incumbent)

Absolutely not. I do not feel that a claim of a religious exemption is valid. These restrictions are similar to those imposed based on race in the earlier history of this country. As citizens of this country, we should all be afforded equal protection by our government free of any discrimination.

Dan Laughlin (R)

No,

Gender Identity/Expression

Sean Wiley (D-Incumbent)

I do not support efforts like HB 1008 as I feel that prohibition is grounded in fear and not in reality.

Dan Laughlin (R)

No.

Anti-Bullying

Sean Wiley (D-Incumbent)

Yes, I do support efforts to include all students

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in anti-bullying initiatives in our schools and to have protections extended to all so that a safe learning environment is afforded to each student.

Dan Laughlin (R)

Yes.

Other

Sean Wiley (D-Incumbent)

I stand with each person in the great Erie community as an ally, an advocate and a champion. It was my honor to attend the NWPA Pride Festival this past summer with the first transgender member of the Pennsylvania Cabinet, Physician General Dr. Rachel Levine and to meet so many amazing people in our community. I see each of us as who we are and in that vein, feel it my duty and obligation as your Senator to ensure that everyone is afforded the same opportunity in our community.

Dan Laughlin (R)

I don't believe in discrimination, period.

PA State House 1

Not Responding: William Crotty (R)

Anti-Discrimination

Patrick Harkins (D-Incumbent)

I have always been a strong supporter of H.B. 300 since it was introduced and I will continue to support it and will vote in favor of it when it comes up for passage.

“Religious Freedom”

Patrick Harkins (D-Incumbent)

No, I believe all people should be treated fairly and with respect regardless of their religious beliefs.

Gender Identity/Expression

Patrick Harkins (D-Incumbent)

I am not familiar with the South Dakota's H.B. 1008. I really don't see Pennsylvania dealing with any legislation like that in the foreseeable future.

Anti-Bullying

Patrick Harkins (D-Incumbent)

Yes, bullying of any kind cannot be tolerated whether it is in school, on the internet or in society. I have introduced legislation and held hearings across the state to see what solutions we can enact to stop bullying and I believe we are making some positive progress with regards to the issue.

Other

Patrick Harkins (D-Incumbent)

I have always been an ardent supporter of LGBT. I believe in the “Golden Rule”- Treat others with respect, the way you would want others to treat you.

PA State House 2

Not Responding: Patrick Fuller (R)

Anti-Discrimination

Flo Fabrizio (D-Incumbent)

Yes. I continuously and consistently have cosponsored legislation which would protect LGBT individuals from discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodation. Additionally, as the Erie County Clerk, I was instrumental in getting the Erie County Human Relations Commission amended to include similar language.

“Religious Freedom”

Flo Fabrizio (D-Incumbent)

No. Discrimination is heinous for any reason. We as elected officials must safeguard and protect the civil and legal rights of everyone at all times. To do otherwise

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is an abrogation of our responsibility.

Gender Identity/Expression

Flo Fabrizio (D-Incumbent)

No. This type of legislation is just another manifestation of discrimination in its ugliest form.

Anti-Bullying

Flo Fabrizio (D-Incumbent)

Yes. All students, whether members of the LGBT community, straight community or any other community should be protected from bullying in public schools. It is incumbent upon us, as well as members of the various local school boards, to fund and to provide for a safe learning environment for the children of this Commonwealth.

Other

Flo Fabrizio (D-Incumbent)

As a member of the LGBT Caucus in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, I have and will continue to support any and all legislation that promotes the and protects the civil liberties of LGBT community.

PA State House 3

Not Responding: **Greg Lucas (R)**

Anti-Discrimination

Ryan Bizzarro (D-Incumbent)

Yes, I support the PA Fairness Act. No one should be denied housing, employment, or public accommodation because of sexual orientation, gender identity or expression.

“Religious Freedom”

Ryan Bizzarro (D-Incumbent)

First, I do not think it is good for the cause of liberty to inscribe discrimination into the law. Second, while communities of faith certainly have the right to define their own religious and moral codes, when it

comes to civil law the separation of religion and state is an important principle upon which we should rely. No elected official or government agency should ever deny services to people on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. Third, while particular courts are deliberating on whether there are any cases in which a private business owner has a constitutional right to deny services to anyone on the basis of religious belief, I can't imagine being an entrepreneur and turning any business away--that just doesn't make business sense to me.

Gender Identity/Expression

Ryan Bizzarro (D-Incumbent)

Instead of discriminating, I think we support laws that help transgender people to access restroom facilities that match their gender identity. I've heard people say that somehow allowing transgender people to use the bathroom will incite predators to pretend to be transgender, who will then molest people in the bathroom. I think that's ridiculous. If we want to stop predators from hurting people, we need to make sure restroom facilities are safe--we shouldn't categorically discriminate people groups who use them..

Anti-Bullying

Ryan Bizzarro (D-Incumbent)

Yes, I support anti-bullying acts. The fact that specific communities are targeted because of their given diversity is sad to me. Generic anti-bullying laws don't adequately address why some people are actually bullied. To that end, for the same reasons why we enumerate protections for race, sex, or creed, I think it makes perfect sense to enumerate protections for LGBT people.

Other

Ryan Bizzarro (D-Incumbent)

I have been, and will continue to be, a strong ally of the LGBT community. My record speaks for itself. To view my record on LGBT issues and other issues, please visit my legislative website at www.pahouse.com/bizzarro.

PA State House 4

Not Responding: Curt Sonney (R-Incumbent)

PA State House 6

Not Responding: Brad Roae (R-Incumbent)

Anti-Discrimination

Peter Zimmer (D)

I fully support the passage of the Fairness Act in Pennsylvania. I believe that protection from discrimination is guaranteed in the Commonwealth's Constitution and the Fairness Act will enhance the protection of all citizens. While I commend the businesses and municipalities of Pennsylvania that have expanded their non-discrimination ordinances and practices I think it is shameful that our leading governing body is so far behind on enacting similar legislation to protect that rights of our citizens. Not only is there an ethical and moral duty to provide a more inclusive state but it is also in our economic interests to create a more attractive and appealing state for future employees, entrepreneurs and investments.

"Religious Freedom"

Peter Zimmer (D)

I oppose such legislation as SB 101 of Indiana. Legislation is not to be used to restrict the access of goods and services to it's constituents. While I do support the freedoms of individuals to provide or deny services or goods without harassment, abuse or indignity I do not and will not support the restriction of services of the government due to an individual's personal preference. I believe the First Amendment and Establishment Clause prevents state sanctioned religion and expression. An individual working as an arm of the Government cannot use their religious expression and beliefs to interfere with the rights and access to services of citizens. I believe the Government's role is to expand inclusivity and protection rather than diminish it.

Gender Identity/Expression

Peter Zimmer (D)

I believe that the use of a bathroom is a personal and private enterprise. I believe that the policing of bathrooms based on anatomy is rather ridiculous. However, the bill in South Dakota has more caveats than the question suggests. Bill 1008 explicitly states the measures are with regard to children in locker rooms which include a state of undress. As long as our children are safe and reasonably comfortable without discrimination, these matters are best handled by individual schools and districts with conversation between parents, educators and students.

Anti-Bullying

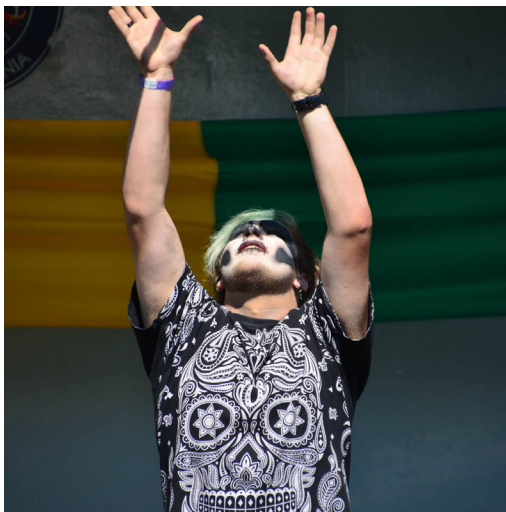
Peter Zimmer (D)

I firmly believe our schools should be a place that allow, encourage and facilitate education in a safe and secure environment. I support legislation that expands the protection of our students from harassment and discrimination in the form of bullying or otherwise. There is no reason to leave any child out of protective and supportive legislation. I think bullying is a vile and detrimental practice and needs to be addressed and curtailed to allow for a more hospitable environment for our youth to thrive..

Other

Peter Zimmer (D)

As a hopeful representative of the greater Erie Community I would like the residents to know that I will work for the preservation and expansion of their rights. I believe the role of government is to provide an umbrella of liberty to all under it's purview. As the representative of the people I will always have an open door for conversation and criticism and will work with deliberate action to facilitate the desires of my constituents. I ask for your enthusiasm and support in moving Pennsylvania in the right direction! Peter can be reached at zimmerPA6th@gmail.com



SNAREBEAR AT ERIE PRIDEFEST Snarebear and his fire baton thrilled the crowd at Erie Pridefest Aug. 27. More photos of Snarebear and the rest of the day's events at www.nwpapride.org

Photo by Andrea Shaffer.

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Online Contests

Here are new contests for this month...

| Contest | Begins |
|---|-------------|
| <i>LGBTQ Monologues That Are Actually Funny</i> | October 28 |
| <i>Ultraviolet</i> EP by Dagny | November 1 |
| <i>BritComs FAQ</i> | November 4 |
| TGirl Teaser Box | November 8 |
| <i>Mad Love.</i> from JoJo | November 11 |
| <i>Star Trek Beyond</i> Blu-ray Combo Pack | November 15 |
| <i>Fat Lot of Good</i> by Cranky George | November 18 |
| <i>The Falls: Covenant of Grace</i> DVD | November 22 |

Here are contests which are currently active...

| Contest | Ends |
|---|-------------|
| <i>Mommie Smearest, The Altar</i> from BANKS | October 28 |
| Pair of tickets to <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> at Erie Playhouse; <i>You and I</i> DVD, <i>The Bonbon</i> EP from Era Istrefi | November 1 |
| <i>Passion Spirit Purpose</i> by Ana Weber, <i>Citrine</i> EP from Hayley Kiyoko | November 4 |
| <i>Outside the XY: Queer, Black and Brown Masculinity, Coconut Oil</i> EP from Lizzo | November 8 |
| Nadkins Male Jewels Refresher Towelettes, <i>The Divine Miss M: Deluxe Edition</i> from Bette Midler | November 11 |
| <i>Painting With Dreams</i> by Tritonal, 40th Anniversary 2-disc Collector's Edition Blu-ray of <i>Carrie</i> | November 15 |

Sign up for the Erie GLBT News and Events list at our web site, and you will get first notice on new contests PLUS news and upcoming events!



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