



Mercy Center for Women names honorees

Info from Erie Times News and Mercy Center for Women

March is Women’s History Month, and the Mercy Center for Women celebrates by honoring 11 women this year. The presentation is at Mary D’Angelo Performing Arts Center at Mercyhurst University on Tuesday, March 27, at 7 p.m. and is open to the public.

There will also be a display of their portraits throughout the month of March at Saint Vincent (main lobby), 311 W 24th Erie PA.

Founder and president of TransFamily of NWPAC Caitlyn Strohmeyer was among those being recognized. Honorees in alphabetical order: Sister Mary Paul Carioty; Amy Danzer; Asia Horton Dickerson; Jodie Farbotnik; Jenny Weigold Geerston; Barbara Lewis, RN; Luchetta Manus; Victoria Merski; Reganne O’Brien; Juanita Smith; Caitlyn Strohmeyer.

Link to GoErie article from www.eriegaynews.com

Pennsylvania Equality Project - Ban Conversion Therapy Efforts

from Pennsylvania Equality Project

Pennsylvania Equality Project (PEP) is counting on Erie County, and our US Congress to take action that our General Assembly in Harrisburg has failed to address. We seek a ban on the use of conversion therapy on minors by health care professionals in Erie County, Pennsylvania. Ideally, a ban would exist statewide.

Already, the cities of Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Allentown, Reading, Doylestown Borough, and now State College have banned the practice within their respective jurisdictions. See the online version of this article for a link from the *Centre Daily Times* that addresses what the ban is, and why it was imposed.

Conversion therapy is abuse, and is considered unacceptable and dangerous practice by the American Psychological Association, the American Psychiatric Association, the American Medical Association, the



FLAMING HEARTS VALENTINES DANCE 2018
Mercyhurst LGBTQIA Equality Club Flaming Hearts Dance, held on Feb. 14, drew Valentine ravens from Mercyhurst and Edinboro University. Pictured are Gabrielle and Lyxi.

Photo: Mike Mahler

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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.

AA Meeting 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.



QUARTER PAGE	FULL PAGE	HALF PAGE VERTICAL
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AD SIZE	PRICE/ISSUE	DIMENSIONS
EIGHTH	\$40 - \$36 Prepaid	15/8" high X 2 7/8" wide
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 Photos and Illustrations should be PDF or TIFF and HIRES.
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To Lake Erie Counseling Associates for hosting! Alex, Andrea, David Duguay, Kim, and Rex Apps for folding; David Duguay, Jerry McCumber, 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

National Association of Social Workers, and the National Education Association, among other professional bodies across the United States.

While Pennsylvania awaits the legislature’s passage of House Bill 1177 and Senate Bill 44, we hope that the Erie County Council will pass the first countywide ban in Pennsylvania and show the rest of the Commonwealth how progressive Erie County is.

Tables at Pride Fest on June 30

from NW PA Pride Alliance

NW PA Pride Alliance invites you to participate as a table at this year’s Pride Fest! The event will be held on Saturday, June 30 from 1 to 4 PM in Perry Square at W. 6th and State, Erie PA.

Set-up will begin at 11AM. PLEASE NOTE: step off for the parade and the start of Pride Fest are 1 hour earlier this year than previous years! All tables are expected to remain set up until the end of the festival. Registering for tables for those who had a table at last year’s Pride Fest began in January, and table registration for everyone else begins on March 1.

The cost to participate is \$15 per table and *must be paid in full by Friday, June 1*. The cost includes one 8-foot table and two chairs. Checks should be made payable to: NW PA Pride Alliance and mailed to PO Box 11448, Erie PA 16514. The festival will be held outdoors and will take place rain or shine. You may bring a canopy up to 10 x 10 for shade. Electricity is unavailable to tables for this event. Please note that the total number of tables is limited, so be sure to register early to insure your spot!

To get a table agreement for Pride Fest, please email tables@nwpapride.org. Please specify whether you will be an info table (no physical items sold at your table) or vending (physical items may be sold at your table)

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

Community News

GEAE at Otters Night Mar 3

from Greater Erie Alliance for Equality

Join us March 3 on the upper deck of Erie Insurance Arena, for dinner, conversation, and some local excitement as the Erie Otters meet the Peterborough Petes. Buffet opens at 6:30 and game begins at 7 pm all on the upper deck. Buffet includes: Smith hot dogs, baked beans, potato salad, arena chips and dip, cookies.

Tickets that include the game seat and the buffet are \$37. Cash bar is also available. Info: (866) 229-1974. GEAEinfo@gmail.com greatereriealliance.com Erie Insurance Arena is at 809 French St, Erie, PA.

Michael dithers


by Michael Mahler

Erie Gay News recently received a letter of congratulations from Gov. Tom Wolf for 25 years of informing the LGBT community. The letter was actually sent out from Gov. Wolf's office in December to the local office, and the occasion to present it didn't come up until recently. Very thoughtful of Gov. Wolf!

It was great going to the Mercyhurst LGBTQIA Equality Club's Flaming Hearts Dance. Several students from Identity/EUP were also at Mercyhurst. Wonderful to see students/youth working together!

Very exciting to see Drenched Fur taking shape for April 12-15! Some parts of the weekend are available as a la carte options. In addition to the DJ Dance on Friday and Splash Lagoon, we will again be offering FREE HIV & STI testing on Saturday afternoon, More details in the next issue!

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LETTERS FROM LEGISLATORS Erie Gay News co-editor Michael Mahler holding congratulatory letters from Sen. Bob Casey (presented last June) (left) and Gov. Tom Wolf (right)

Photo: Deb Spilko

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Calendar

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

Jan 23-Mar 4 (Tue) - "Rough Trade: Clay Bodies and Queer Visions" Allegheny College, Meadville PA See "Events" at allegheny.edu

Feb 9 - 25 (Thu-Sun) - "Deathtrap" (Erie Playhouse, 13 West 10 Street Erie PA) "provides twists and turns and sudden shocks in such abundance that audiences will be held spellbound until the very last moment." www.erieplayhouse.org

Feb 21 (Wed) - "Lady Bird" (2017) (Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State, Erie PA). Film Society of Northwestern Pennsylvania New dinner & a movie series. filmsocietynwpa.org [Note: *LBT Women are going to this.*]

Feb 22 (Thu) - "NT Live: Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" (Tinseltown Erie. PA) "Captured live on stage...will screen in cinemas around the world." National Theatre Live. FB: NT Live ntlive.nationaltheatre.org.uk

Feb 24 (Sat) - LBT Women of Erie goes to Lady Royals Softball Teams' Casino Night (Belle Val-

ley Fire Hall, 1514 Norcross Rd, Erie, PA) 4 -8 PM. "Please help support the Lady Royals Softball Teams' Casino Night. 21yrs or older event. Tickets \$10 (available for presale & at the door). Ticket gets you admission plus food & beer." Contact: Kim (814) 490-3994. EriBeans@aol.com. FB: LBT Women of Erie

Feb 24 (Sat) - Imperial Court of Buffalo: Ladies Night at the Follies (Troop I-Hamlin House, 432 Franklin St., Buffalo, NY) \$25, Hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, guest appearances by Women of the International Court system. imperialcourtofbuffalo.com

Feb 25 (Sun) - Rebecca Mae's Drag Brunch (Metropolitan Event Center 144 W 13th St, Erie, PA) 12 PM - 4 PM. "Sip on some bottomless mimosas and eat some delicious food while myself and my monthly guests whirl and twirl for you! This month is featuring Ariel Versace, Siren Kelly, Evon Michelle and Erie's Icon, Michelle Michaels. Erie's first ever drag brunch." Tickets are \$35, (814) 384-1582. FB: Rebecca Mae's Drag Brunch [*LBT Women are going to this.*]

Feb 25 (Sun) - "Out of the Past" documentary: Regional Youth GSA Movie Night (Erie Movie House, 3424 W Lake Rd, Erie, PA) 3 - 5 PM. "Transportation is available. Please email to receive free bus tokens for the event. We will watch the award-winning documentary *Out of the Past*, which talks about the struggle for LGBT rights in America. Free popcorn and soft drinks provided. Vintage video games are also part of the package." (866) 229-1974. ErieRegionalGSA@gmail.com. greatereriealliance.com FB: Regional GSA Movie Night

Feb 25 (Sun) - Whispering Lake Grove Quarterly Rite of Offering (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy, Erie PA) Doors open

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Calendar

5PM, ritual 6pm, potluck after. Contact: Rev. Christopher Temple. (814) 720-1560. grollwynn72@hotmail.com. www.wlg-adf.org/.

Feb 27 (Tue) - "We'll Meet Again: Coming Out" PBS, check local listings. "Join Ann Curry as people who first met during the early days of the LGBT movement reunite." This is an episode from Curry's new documentary series, which examines dramatic events from history via the personal stories of those who experienced them. www.pbs.org/meet-again

Mar 1 & 3 - Oscar 2018: "Call Me By Your Name" (2017) Tinseltown, Erie PA. 10PM FB: Call Me By Your Name Tinseltown www.cinemark.com

Mar 1 (Thu) - "A Chorus Line" (Warner Theatre, 811 State, Erie PA) Part of the Erie Broadway Series. eriewarnertheatre.com

Mar 1-24 (Thu-Sat) "The Nance" (Manny Fried Playhouse, at 255 Great Arrow Ave, third floor in suite #302. Buffalo NY) www.subversivetheatre.org

Mar 3, 10 & 11 - "Sing It for the World: Renaissance City Choir 2018 Cabaret" (East Liberty Presbyterian Church Social Hall, Pittsburgh PA) www.rccpittsburgh.com

[rccpittsburgh.com](http://www.rccpittsburgh.com)

Mar 3 (Sat) - Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) Otters Night (Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St, Erie, PA) "Join us on the upper deck for dinner, conversation, and some local excitement as the Erie Otters meet the Peterborough Petes. Buffet opens 6:30; 7 pm all on the upper deck. Buffet includes: Smith hot dogs, baked beans, potato salad, arena chips and dip, cookies.. Tickets that include the game seat and the buffet are \$37. Cash bar also available. (866) 229-1974. info@gmail.com. greatereriealliance.com

Mar 4 (Sun) - "The Good Fight" Season 2 Premiere CBS All Access.

Mar 7 (Wed) - "Hap and Leonard" Season 3 premiere Sundance. Drama based on novels of Joe R. Lansdale, about the adventures of a black gay Vietnam vet and a white working class guy who spent time in prison for refusing to go to Vietnam. FB: Hap and Leonard

Mar 7 (Wed) - Speaker: Aneesah Smith (Edinboro University - Frank G. Pogue Student Center 405 Scotland Rd., Edinboro, PA) 7:30PM National


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Calendar

speaker, activist and social justice educator, Director of LGBTQA Services at West Chester University and a faculty member for the Campus Pride Aneesah Smith will discuss hope, activism and solidarity. ww.aneesahsmith.com. Contact: Pertrina Marrero pmarrero@edinboro.edu

Mar 7 (Wed) - "Call Me By Your Name" (2017) Reg Lenna Center for the Arts, Jamestown NY reglenna.com

Mar 8 (Thu) - "Marvel's Jessica Jones" Season 2 begins Netflix. FB: Marvel's Jessica Jones netflix.com/marvelsjessicajones

Mar 10 (Sat) - VS Millennium Dance Party for HFAC (Loyal Order of Moose Lodges, 201 W State St, Olean NY) "Come on out as Veronyca's Showgirls puts on a fabulous fundraiser to help Healthy Families Allegany-Cattaraugus" FB: Veronyca's Showgirls

Mar 11 (Sun) - LBT Women of Erie meets (Brew Ha Ha at the Colony 2612 W 8th St, Erie, PA) 12 PM. Contact: Kim (814) 490-3994. ErieBeans@aol.com.

FB: LBT Women of Erie

Mar 12 (Mon) - Deadline for Erie Gay News April 2018 print edition

Mar 14 (Wed) - Bears Do Dinner #57 (Joe Roots Grill, 2826 W 8th St, Erie, PA) 6:30 PM. Contact: Gary Snyder. (814) 446-2327. info@drenchedfur.com. www.drenchedfur.com.

Mar 16 (Fri) - "Love, Simon" nationwide release www.foxmovies.com/movies/love-simon

Mar 17 (Sat) - O'Zone Dance Club Saint Patrick's Day Party (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) 8 PM - 2 AM. "Wear your green apparel and enjoy a night of four-leaf fun! Dance an Irish jig or have an ice cold green beer! FB: The Zone

Mar 18 (Sun) - Whispering Lake Grove Spring Equinox / Eostre (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy, Erie PA) Doors open 5PM, ritual 6pm, potluck after. Contact: Rev. Christopher Temple. (814) 720-1560. grollwynn72@hotmail.com. www.wlg-adf.org/.

Mar 18 (Sun) - Michelle Michaels presents FACE Drag Show (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) 11 PM. "All of your favorite drag queens, new drag queens and special guests." TheZoneDanceClub@aol.com. FB: The Zone

Mar 20 (Tue) - "You Me Her" Season 3 premiere 10PM Audience on Direct TV and U-Verse FB: You Me Her

Mar 20 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party (Lake Erie Counseling, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Contact: Mike (814) 456-9833. info@eriegaynews.com. www.eriegaynews.com

Mar 23 (Fri) - "BGMC's Spring Soiree" Shea's Performing Arts Center, 646 Main Street, Buffalo, NY buffalogaymenschorus.com

Mar 27 (Tue) - Women Making History Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center at Mercyhurst University on Tuesday, March 27, at 7 p.m. The presentation is open to the public. Founder and president of TransFamily of NWPA Caitlyn Strohmeier was among those being recognized. Honorees in alphabetical order: Sister Mary Paul Carioti; Amy Danzer; Asia Horton Dickerson; Jodie Farbotnik; Jenny Weigold Geerston; Barbara Lewis, RN; Luchetta Manus; Victoria Merski; Reganne O'Brien; Juanita Smith; Caitlyn

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Calendar

Strohmeier.

Mar 27 (Tue) - "Roseanne" series revival premiere (ABC) 8 PM - 9 PM. #Roseanne

Apr 4 (Wed) - An Evening with Chelsea Handler w/ Bruce Vilanch (Benedum Center, Pittsburgh PA) "Join activist, comedian, and author Chelsea Handler as she returns to Pittsburgh for an evening of humorous and engaging conversation hosted by Bruce Vilanch." Benefits Delta Foundation. trustarts.org FB: An Evening with Chelsea Handler

Apr 6 (Fri) - YSUnity Drag Show (Youngstown State University, Youngstown OH) Details TBA "Mark your calendars! Tickets are free for YSU students and \$5 for anyone 18+ without a YSU ID so spread the word!" @YSUnity on Twitter FB: YSUnity

Apr 11 (Wed) - "Call Me By Your Name" (2017) (Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State, Erie PA). Film Society of Northwestern PA presents Downtown Erie's new dinner & a movie series. Gen. Admission: \$12. Doors 5pm, dinner 5:30pm, movie 7pm FB: Call Me By Your Name filmsocietynwpa.org

Apr 12-21 (Thu-Sun) - "Rent" (Penn State Behrend, Erie PA) Details TBA FB: Theatre at Penn State Erie

Apr 13-15 (Fri-Sun) - Pennsylvania Youth Action Conference Harrisburg PA "Hosted by the Pennsyl-

vania Youth Congress Foundation, to create a positive, safe, and educational foundation for the development of LGBTQ youth leaders within Pennsylvania" youthactionconference.com

Apr 15 (Sun) - Bears Do Dinner #58 (Millcreek Brewing Company, 4102 W Lake Rd, Erie, PA) 5:30 PM. (Last day of Drenched Fur.) Contact: Gary (814) 446-2327. info@drenchedfur.com. www.drenchedfur.com.

Apr 16 (Mon) - PA Voters: last day to register before the Primary Election

Apr 24 (Tue) - Voters Guide released

Apr 26-29 - CLAW (Westin Hotel, Cleveland OH) Cleveland leather charity weekend www.clawinfo.org

UPCOMING

Jun 20 (Sat) - Erie Pride Fest (Perry Square Erie PA) 1-4PM www.nwpride.org

Jul 2 (Sun) 2 - The Adventures of Kesha and Macklemore (Darien Lake NY). www.ticketmaster.com

Aug 11 (Sat) - Erie Pride Picnic (Rotary Pavilion, Presque Isle State Park, Erie PA) www.nwpride.org

Upcoming Awareness Days

Feb 23 (Fri) - International Stand Up to Bullying Day FB: Stand Up to Bullying Day

Mar 1 (Thu) - Zero Discrimination Day "make some noise to challenge discrimination, wherever it happens." #ZeroDiscrimination Day www.unaids.org

Mar 10 (Sat) - National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Raise awareness about the need for all women, especially pregnant women, to be tested and treated for HIV. #NWGHAAD

Mar 20 (Tue) - National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day nnhaad.org/.

Mar 26 - 31 (Mon - Sat) - National LGBT Health Awareness Week Nationwide event that promotes the unique health and wellness needs of LGBT community healthlgbt.org/advocacy/.

Mar 31 (Sat) - International Transgender Day of Visibility



BEARS DO DINNER! Gary, Peter, and Daniel, are among the 12 guys who enjoyed dinner and friendly conversation at Sneaky Pete's. Bears Do Dinner is held at a different eatery every month. Dinner is on your own. Dates and locations are announced in the EGN calendar.

Photo: Mike Mahler

Social & support groups

Addiction & Recovery

AA Meeting 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. www.aacriepa.org.

Aging

Mar 11 (Sun) - Over 40? So What? meets (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA) 4 - 6 PM. Formerly Aging With Pride. (814) 455-4009. dalcalleger@outlook.com.

General

Mar 8 (Thu) - PFLAG Butler meets (Butler Area Public Library, 218 N McKean St, Butler, PA) 5 PM - 7 PM. www.pflagbutler.com

Mar 13 (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.

Mar 20 (Tue) - Crawford Area LGBT+ meets (Unitarian Universalist Church of Meadville, 346 Chestnut St, Meadville, PA) 7 PM. Contact: Randy Herbert-Weed. (814) 724-6736. crawfordarealgbt@gmail.com. FB: Crawford LGBT+ Public Page

Religion and Spirituality

Mar 13 (Tue) - Butler LGBTQ Interfaith Network meets (Covenant Presbyterian Church, 230 E Jefferson St, Butler PA, PA1) 1 PM. (412) 518-1515. butlerinterfaith@zoominternet.net. FB: Butler LGBTQ Interfaith Network

Social

LBT Women of Erie Various events and venues.: Contact: Kim Conti. (814) 490-3994. ErieBeans@aol.com. FB: LBT Women of Erie

Student & Youth

Mar 8 (Thu) - Full Spectrum LGBT Teen Support Group (St. John's Episcopal Church, 323 Wick Ave, Youngstown, OH) 6-8 PM. Open to ages 14-18. Confidential, safe space, free. Light refreshments. (330) 333-1658. www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org/.

Trans

Feb 24 (Sat) - TransFamily of NWPA (Erie) Transgender Support Group meets (Crime Victim Center of Erie County, 125 W 18th St, Erie, PA) 2 - 5 PM. Contact: Caitlyn (814) 823-1969. Caitlynxpress@gmail.com. FB: Transfamily of NWPA

Feb 24 (Sat) - TransFamily of Titusville Transgender Support Group meets (YWCA Activities Building, 212 N. Franklin St, Titusville, PA) 3 - 6 PM. Contact: Caitlyn (814) 823-1969. Caitlynxpress@gmail.com. FB: Transfamily of NWPA

Feb 24 (Sat) - Erie Sisters & Brothers Transgender Support Group meets (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Discussion followed by restaurant dinner and dancing at The Zone (440) 265-8191. eriesisters.ning.com

Mar 10 (Sat) - TransFamily of Meadville Transgender Support Group (CHAPS Building, first floor, 944 Liberty St., Meadville, PA) 2-5 PM. Contact: Linda Thomas. imhwoman4586@msn.com. (814) 232-1778 FB: Transfamily of NWPA.

Mar 11 (Sun) - Full Spectrum Transgender Support Group meets (St. John's Episcopal Church, 323 Wick Ave, Youngstown, OH) 6 PM - 8 PM.

Mar 12 (Mon) - TransFamily of Warren Transgender Support Group meets (Jefferson DeFrees Family Center - Hawke Room, 207 2nd Ave, Warren, PA) 6 - 8 PM. Contact: Kingsley Reese (814) 688-5574. kreeseamon@gmail.com. FB: Transfamily of NWPA.

Mar 24 (Sat) - TransFamily of NWPA (Erie) Transgender Support Group meets (Crime Victim Center of Erie County, 125 W 18th St, Erie, PA) 2 - 5 PM. Contact: Caitlyn (814) 823-1969. Caitlynxpress@gmail.com. FB: Transfamily of NWPA

Mar 24 (Sat) - TransFamily of Titusville Transgender Support Group meets (YWCA Activities Building, 212 N. Franklin St, Titusville, PA) 3 - 6 PM. Contact: Caitlyn Strohmeier. (814) 823-1969. caitlynxpress@gmail.com. FB: Transfamily of NWPA

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Online Contests

Here are new contests for this month...

Contest	Begins
<i>A Whisper of Bones</i>	February 23
<i>Girlish: Growing Up in a Lesbian Home</i>	February 27
<i>Buffy the Vampire Slayer FAQ: Hollywood Gays by Boze Hadleigh & Hollywood Lesbians: From Garbo to Foster by Boze Hadleigh</i>	March 2
<i>A Gay Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum</i>	March 6
<i>This Is Me</i> remixes download	March 9

Here are contests which are currently active...

Contest	Ends
<i>Thirsty</i> DVD	February 23
<i>And God Belched</i> , auto-graphed by Rob Rosen	February 27
<i>Alternative Movie Posters II: More Film Art from the Underground</i>	March 2
<i>Eastsiders</i> all three seasons DVDs	March 6
<i>The Revival</i> DVD	March 9
<i>The Last Place You Look</i>	March 13

Sign up for the Erie GLBT News and Events list, either at our web site or from the link on our Facebook page to get first notice!

Photo Galleries on Our Website from 1995 through 2017, also a listing of local LGBT history going back to the 1960's

LGBTQIA Domestic Violence... End the Silence.

Domestic Violence affects every age, race,
religion, and sexual orientation.



Does your partner. . .

Threaten suicide?
Humiliate you or make fun of you?
Deny or minimize your feelings?

=

**Emotional
Abuse**

SafeNet

Domestic Violence Safety Network

SafeNet 454-8161 SafeNet, Inc.  www.safeneterie.org