



Chautauqua County news

by Beth Robson

Here are some events and resources in Chautauqua County:

The Watchfire Alliance, a social and networking group, meets at various locations in Chautauqua County the second Friday of each month at 7 PM. The August meeting will be held on August 8. Contact Bethany Robson (716) 449-4817 or brobson515@msn.com. We invite friends from NW PA to visit.

Recurring meetings thru August:

The LGBT Group at Chautauqua Institution will meet every Tuesday during the summer season at 12:15 PM for a brown bag lunch at Alumni Hall. Coordinator: Pat Collins (716) 761-6052.

Parents Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) will meet every Friday 12:15 PM during the summer season during the summer season for a brown bag lunch at the Women's Club at Chautauqua Institution. Coordinator: Bethany Robson (716) 499-4817 or brobson515@msn.com.

Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), a Christian-based church organized by LGBT people will meet every Thursday at 7 PM during the summer season at Chautauqua Institution. Contact Pat Collins (716) 761-6052.

For the three meetings at Chautauqua, you will receive a free gate pass if you tell them you are there for a support group.

Parents group created in Ohio's Mahoning Valley

from Marita Emmert, *All Families Matter*

The mission of All Families Matter is to bring together a diverse variety of open-minded/alternative parents and guardians for friendship, support, education and advocacy.

This group is open to all natural, foster, adoptive and prospective LGBTQ and Ally families. Goals of the group:



Pride Picnic volunteer Raven takes a well-deserved break. More picnic photos on page 15 and online at www.eriegaynews.com Photo by Deb Spilko

- To create community, while strengthening children's esteem through social interaction, making friends, and having fun.
- To create a social network for LGBTQ/Alli parents and their children.
- To ensure all children and youth are treated equally.
- To support one another and share community resources.
- To support all individuals in their efforts to become parents.
- To advocate for the issues and concerns faced by LGBTQ families and youth.

Group home page: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/allfamiliesmatter> Email address: allfamiliesmatter@yahoogroups.com Group contact: Marita Emmert

More Community News inside!

In This Issue...

Equality Advocates PA's Services for Youth and Their Families.....	4
Online Contest.....	4
Recurring events.....	5
Calendar.....	6
Black Pride events.....	9
Java Buzz.....	10
Watch Thy Tongue.....	11
Pride Rally Speech from Kathy Dahlkemper	12
Parade and Rally photos.....	13
Pride Picnic recap.....	14
Pride Picnic photos.....	15

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available for as little as \$10
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See page 12 for more info.**

EGN Rates & Data

QUARTER PAGE	FULL PAGE	HALF PAGE VERTICAL
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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
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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.

EGN

Erie Gay News

Erie Gay News
1115 West 7th St.
Erie PA 16502-1105
Phone: (814) 456-9833
Fax: (270)423-6217
info@eriegaynews.com
www.eriegaynews.com

Editors: Deb Spilko and Mike Mahler
Ad Design: Mike Lipiec
Deadline for next issue: Friday, August 15;
this will be distributed the night of Tuesday, August 26.

The *Erie Gay News* is published monthly as a source of news, events, information, and support for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered 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. We will consider for publication any nonfiction article, blurb, or illustration graphic that upholds that spirit. Please include your contact information with any piece you submit.

We will not publish any material that promotes hatred or discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identification, race, religion, age, class, physical ability, or any other reason. We do not support the exploitation of minors.

Views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent those of the EGN staff.

THANKS

From Your Friends at Erie Gay News

To the Zone for hosting, Brian Lonyo, Bruce ShROUT, Charles, David Shaffer, Johauna & James von Loewe for folding; Brian Lonyo, Charles, Bruce ShROUT, Christopher, Johauna, James von Loewe, Deb Spilko, Jerry McCumber, Charles, Paula and Dylan for distribution, Charles for proofreading, 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)

WNY Pride Center's bash August 24

From WNY Pride Center

Summer in the City kicks off Sunday August 24 in LaSalle Park from 2 PM to 7 PM with food, beverages, and entertainment for celebrating western NY's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities. Originally produced as Pride at the Pier in 2004 and 2005 and debuting as Summer in the City in 2007, we hope this year's celebration will draw the biggest crowds yet for the WNY Pride Center annual fund-raiser and community celebration. \$5 includes DJ's, dancing, games, and more.

The Underground Nightclub is selling food and beverages and Imperial Court of Buffalo is hosting an exciting raffle. Proceeds go to benefit the programs and services at The Pride Center: Pride Youth, Services & Advocacy for GLBT Elders (SAGE-WNY), and Pride Works. This year's event will include a beverage tent, dance floor, and an alcohol-free picnic area. Bring your friends and family and enjoy Buffalo's beautiful waterfront! Stay tuned for Internet ticket sales and more information.

Info from WNY Pride Center (716) 852-PRIDE or www.pridecenterwny.org

Women's Stuff

From Barb

Okay, For women only! I have 4 free tickets to Jr's Last Laugh - who wants to go? Email me at womynspace-owner@eriegaynews.com or the LBT Women of Erie website at <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com>. Let's set the date for a night in late July or early August.

Nature walks are being run by Fitfan and Laurie on the LBT Women of Erie site. Seasonal walks are at Presque Isle. Send a message to Fitfan or Laurie on the LBT Women of Erie website at <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com>. All you have to do is join to post messages!

Looking to meet professional women? Go to The Chautauqua Institute Lunches, which are every Tuesday at Alumni Hall, corner of Cookman & Wythe, from 12:15 to 1:15 in the Garden Room. Bring your lunch, beverage provided. There are speakers every week.



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Equality Advocates PA's Services for Youth and Their Families

From Equality Advocates Pennsylvania

Equality Advocates Pennsylvania's Youth Law Project combats the pervasive effects of anti-LGBT bias on Pennsylvania's children and youth through direct legal services, education, and policy reform.

The project takes an innovative approach by serving both LGBTQ youth and children raised in LGBT-headed families. The project advocates for youth facing anti-LGBT harassment, discrimination, and abuse in institutional settings and at home. It also confronts the effects of discrimination against LGBT parents on their children through advocacy in second-parent adoptions and in dependency proceedings in which anti-LGBT bias is a factor.

Equality Advocates Pennsylvania was able to start this project in September 2007 by hiring an attorney, Katie Stewart, who received funding from the law firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP, to implement the Youth Law Project.

Services for LGBTQ youth include

- Representation of LGBTQ youth facing harassment or discrimination in schools, including

intervention with schools and litigation against school districts for unequal treatment, illegal blocking of GSA formation, and failure to take appropriate action to protect youth from harassment and abuse.

- Outreach and education for LGBTQ youth, including regular on-site legal clinics at LGBTQ youth centers throughout Pennsylvania.

- Advocacy for state, local, and institutional reform, including antibullying policies with LGBT-inclusive language and the adoption of safe school policies and LGBT training programs.

Services to protect children in LGBT-headed families include

- Representation of low-income LGBT parents in second-parent adoptions of their partners' children to help nonbiological coparents formalize legal ties with their children.

- Advocacy for fair and uniform procedures for second-parent adoptions, including lobbying for statewide uniformity, as well as for individual counties to reconsider their currently prohibitive and biased standards.

Collaboration and referrals:

The Youth Law Project seeks input and referrals from organizations and individuals across Pennsylvania who interact with and serve LGBTQ youth and families. If you are interested in potential collaboration, please contact Project Attorney Katie Stewart at kstewart@equalitypa.org or (215) 731-1447 ext. 17.

In addition, please encourage all LGBTQ youth and families who are facing anti-LGBT harassment or discrimination to contact Equality Advocates' legal hotline at (866) LGBTLAW or (215) 731-1447 ext. 15.

Do you know the signs of an abusive relationship?

- ☐ Does "IT'S HIS/HER WAY OR THE HIGHWAY" apply to the relationship?
- ☐ Does one partner get blamed for everything that goes wrong? "IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!"
- ☐ Is the relationship full of put downs and disparaging comments?
- ☐ Is jealousy off the charts?
- ☐ Are there constant calls and "tracking" of the partner?

These are just a few of the signs that a relationship is on its way to devastating intimate partner violence. Learn more!



SafeNet
Domestic Violence Safety Network

Call SafeNet.
We can help!

814-454-8161 HOTLINE
www.safeneterie.org

Online Contest

Enter at <http://www.eriegaynews.com> between August 1 and August 22. One winner will be reimbursed the purchase price of \$50.00 for your purchase of the \$10,000.00 software and e-book collection that can be purchased on the **Stealth Money Maker** web site. You can get to the Stealth Money Maker web site from either the banner ad in rotation at <http://www.eriegaynews.com> or from the contest entry page which takes you to the purchase page after you receive your FREE Internet home-income guide.

Recurring events

Always Our Children, Catholic Charities, 329 W. 10th St, Erie, PA. For Catholic parents of GLBT children. First time attendees should call facilitator before attending meeting. Phone: (814) 456-2091.

Deadline for print edition of Erie Gay News. Aug 15. EGN, 1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA. Contact: Michael Mahler. (814) 456-9833. info@eriegaynews.com.

Folding/distributing work party for print edition of Erie Gay News. Aug 26 Contact: Michael Mahler. (814) 456-9833. info@eriegaynews.com.

HIV/AIDS Support Group meets (St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E Grandview Blvd, Erie, PA) 6 PM. Aug 12, Aug 26. HIV/AIDS Support Group for those infected and affected meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at 6 PM. Contact: Cheryl Kobel. Phone: (814) 452-6113 x 210. Email: cheryl1027@aol.com.

Jones Pond Campground & RV Park 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY Gay-owned, members only, adult male (21+), clothing optional, gay camping facility. 100+ acres. DJ dancing Fri-Sat., events every weekend. Open April-September. Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to www.jonespond.com.

PFLAG Erie/Crawford County. Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. 7 - 8:30 PM. Contact: Mark Hoovler pflagerie@eriegaynews.com. Ph: John at (814) 454-1392.

Support group for those dealing with loss Hospice of Metropolitan Erie, 202 E 10th St, Erie, PA. Ph: (814) 456-6689. Email: hospice@velocity.net.

Watchfire Alliance Monthly gathering, a social and networking group, meeting around Chautauqua County, the second Friday of each month at 7 PM. Contact Bethany Robson (716)499-4817, brobson515@msn.com for location and further details. August 8 and September 12. We invite friends from NW PA to visit.

Womynspace 2nd Saturday of each month from 3 to 5 PM at the Zodiac Dinor, 2516 State St, Erie PA for brunch and making plans together. Karaoke at Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie PA, Wednesdays and Sundays at 9 PM. Ladies' Nite is every Thursday at the Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie PA with Ernie, the bartender. Email: womynspace-owner@eriegaynews.com. Browse to <http://womynspace.eriegaynews.com/>

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

Calendar

This calendar is also online at www.eriegaynews.com/calendar.html

July 23 (Wed) - A Night at the SeaWolves (Jerry Uht Park) Picnic at 6:05 PM, followed by the ball game at 7:05 PM, sponsored by GE Transportation's GLBTA and Come on OUT!, Erie's GLBT monthly social group presented in cooperation with Erie Gay Pride, Inc. Evening includes buffet picnic dinner and reserved seat tickets for the SeaWolves game. There is no charge, but advance reservations are required at www.eriegaypride.org. For information call Brian (888) 749-7073 or <http://comeonouterie.googlepages.com>.

Jul 24-27 (Thu-Sun) - Pittsburgh Black Pride www.pittsburghgayblackpride.com, (412) 537-7472 pgh-blackpride@hotmail.com

Jul 25-27 (Fri-Sun) - Jones Pond Bears in the Woods Weekend! Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY. Bear Weekend of the Summer as Bears and Bear groups from the tristate area gather for a weekend of Fur & FUN! Come pitch your tent, relax by the heated pool, and rest up for a

weekend of FUN! Relax and enjoy a close getaway weekend at Jones Pond Campground (all-male, clothing optional, 21 and over ONLY) in nearby Angelica, NY- just 2 hours from Erie! Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to <http://www.jonespond.com>.

Jul 25-27 (Fri-Sun) - Buffalo Black Pride Sponsored by Pride Center of Western New York www.pridecenterwny.org/BufaloGayBlackPride.html (clickable link at Erie Gay News Online)

Jul 26 (Sat) - Zone: Island Heat! Tropical Beach Party! (133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) Aloha! Calling all Island boys and Native girls to come join us for some *hot* steamy fun and *cool* island drinks. Show off your summer tan. Wear your tight board shorts, grab your teeny bikini, and show off your sexy beach bod. Grab a frozen daiquiri, slip into your grass skirt, and come get lei'd! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Visit www.thezone-danceclub.com.

Jul 26 (Sat) - Summer White Party (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA) All the hottest in white are the coolest at Craze. Be hot and be cool. Prizes! Go ahead...Dare to do something different. Contact: Duane. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.crazeerie.com

Jul 31-Aug 3 (Thu-Sun) - Black, Gay and Proud Celebration (Cleveland) Events held throughout Cleveland. www.bgpccleveland.com, www.myspace.com/bgpccleveland.

Aug 1-3 (Fri-Sun) - Greek Gods Nauturist Weekend at Jones Pond 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY. Toga Party. Come dressed as a Greek god, leather gladiator, or just wear a fig leaf! Come pitch your tent, relax by the heated pool, and rest up for a weekend of fun. Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com.

the NORTHWEST Pa.

Rural AIDS Alliance

We

provide access to testing, education, and medical, financial, and supportive services to those infected with HIV/AIDS in Northwest Pa. With Clinics in Erie, Warren, Clarion, Clearfield, Seneca, Sharon, Greenville and Farrell staffed by HIV specialists. Support Groups are also offered, please contact Sue at the Clarion office for that information.

For more information, contact:

Erie Office: Booker T Washington Ctr
1720 Holland St, PA 16503
814-453-5744 or 1-800-400-2437

Clarion Office: 15870 Route 322
Suite 2 Clarion, PA 16214
814-764-6066 or 1-800-359-2437

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Calendar

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

Aug 1-31 - Zone: Got Wood? Fundraiser (133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) Help *build* a better Community! We will be selling "Got Wood" boards and "Construction Zone" signs you can personalize for a \$1 donation. Get one for yourself, your lover, your friends, your mom, your dog, your secret admirer. All money raised will be donated to the local Habitat for Humanity organization. Stop into the Zone and make a difference. Join us for the Construction Zone Party on August 16th. There is only *one way* to fun—Get into the Zone! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Visit www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Aug 8 (Fri) - Watchfire Alliance meets (Chautauqua County) A social and networking group that meets around Chautauqua County at various locations the second Friday of each month at 7 PM. Contact Bethany Robson (716) 499-4817 or brobson515@msn.com for location and further details. We invite friends from NW PA to visit.

Aug 8-10 (Fri-Sun) - Red Hot Leather Weekend at Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY. Horny Devil Party! Wear red or black and your leather gear. We're going to HEAT things up! Come pitch your tent, relax by the heated pool, and rest up for a weekend of FUN! Friday Night is Bingo in the Barn. Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to <http://www.jonespond.com>.

Aug 9 (Sat) - Glow at Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St., Erie PA. Illuminate the night! Wear white! Join us in a radiating night of black light. Dance to amazing hit beats. Come glow with us. Guest performance by Buddy Dobson, "Glow Sorcerer" and Erie debut of Liza Summers. Phone (814) 456-3027 Visit

www.crazeerie.com

Aug 10 (Sun) - Imperial Court Boat Ride (Buffalo) 7 PM - 10 PM at Marina. Boarding at 6:30 sharp Set sails at 7:00 PM Sharp - don't be left standing at the dock! Tickets available soon www.imperialcourtofbuffalo.com/

Aug 13 (Wed) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Girl Happy Hour) Coconut Joe's, N Park Row & W 6th St, Erie PA. Sponsored by Erie Gay Business Alliance. Phone: (814) 340-1346. Email: egba-owner@eriegaynews.com. Website: <http://networking.eriegaynews.com>.

Aug 15-17 (Fri-Sun) - Mardi Gras Weekend at Jones Pond, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY. Beads, beads, beads! Guys get WILD! Come party with us all weekend! 100 block Mardi Gras party, Bourbon St. golf cart parade, camp-wide illumination contest - PRIZES! Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball Saturday night! (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Web: www.jonespond.com.

Aug 16 (Sat) - Construction Zone Party Zone Dance

(continued on next page)

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Calendar

Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie. Are you ready for a Road-trip? Follow the *detour* signs into the Zone for a sweaty night of fun. MEN & WOMEN at WORK on the dance floor! Guys—grab your tool belt and stud-finder so you can get nailed! Ladies- put on your daisy-dukes and make sure your headlights are ON as you cruise thru the Construction Zone! Wear work boots, Levis and denim shorts, muscle shirts & tanks, tool belts, and hard hats! Less is best! Show off your Tool! PRIZE! for Sexiest Construction Worker! GOT WOOD? We will be selling “Got Wood” boards and “Construction Zone “ signs you can personalize for a \$1 donation! - all money raised will be donated to the local Habitat for Humanity organization! Help build a better Community! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com.

Aug 22-24 (Fri-Sun) - Cowboy Weekend at Jones Pond 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY. Giddy-up Partner! Line dancing lessons in the barn Sat at 2 PM. Wear your boots & boxers for our Bunkhouse Underwear Party Sat night! Save a horse, ride a

cowboy! Come pitch your tent, relax by the heated pool, and rest up for a weekend of FUN! Friday Night is Bingo in the Barn. Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to <http://www.jonespond.com>.

Aug 16 (Sat) Bob Bearfield at Raphael's 363 W 8th St., Erie. 10PM to midnight. Bob Bearfield's MySpace page: www.myspace.com/bobbearfield

Aug 21 (Thu) - Erie Gay Business Alliance Meeting Sheraton Erie Gayfront Hotel, 55 W Bay Drv, Erie PA. 7 PM. Regular monthly meeting. Phone: (814) 340-1346. Email: egba-owner@eriegaynews.com. Website: <http://networking.eriegaynews.com>.

Aug 24 (Sun) - Dancin' in the Streets (Cleveland) Street party benefits AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland, 1 pm, Clifton Blvd. between West 116th and West 117th, Cleveland. (216)621-0766, www.aidstaskforce.org.

Aug 24 (Sun) - Summer in the City (Buffalo) LaSalle Park 2-7PM. Buffalo's end-of-summer bash, details in “Community News”

Aug 26 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distributing work party (614 Cherry St, Erie PA) 7 PM. Help us get out the print edition of Erie Gay News. All ages welcome for this session. We will be folding and distributing the copies. It's also a great way to hang out and chat with folks! Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: info@eriegaynews.com. Browse to <http://www.eriegaynews.com>.

Aug 29-Sep 1 (Fri-Mon) - W.O.O.F. Weekend 2008 (Pittsburgh) Labor Day weekend Bear Run, hosted by the Burgh Bears. August 21st is the deadline for registration for the weekend run packages. All registrations after August 21st will be handled on a case by case basis. Have questions? Feel free to call 814-384-0463 or e-mail the WOOF '08 Coordinator, Gary S. at garbear73@gmail.com for answers and further details. Visit: www.burghbears.org

Aug 29-Sep 1 (Fri-Mon) - Labor Day NASCAR Weekend at Jones Pond. Get ready for the checkered flag as we celebrate a long Labor Day Weekend and the end of summer. Join us for the 400-Block NASCAR Party- Black & White Ball (wear black & white!) and the “Drag Races” Drag Show! Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Web: www.jonespond.com.

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Black Pride events

Lots of Black Gay Pride events in the region!

Buffalo

Info: (716) 852-PRIDE email proudones@pridecenterwny.org Web: www.pridecenterwny.org/BufaloGay-BlackPride.html

Friday July 25

Mocha Meet & Greet, 531 Virginia Street, 7 PM - ?

Saturday July 26

Life Changes BBQ and Emperor's Picnic at Front Park 2-9 PM *Free*

Sunday July 27

The Disney Ball Marcella's Show Club and Lounge.
Doors at 6 PM. www.clubmarcella.com

Cleveland

Info: (216) 621-0766 ext. 555 email: info@bgpcleveland.com Web: www.bgpcleveland.com

Thursday, July 31

Opening Reception/Jazz and Poetry 7-10 PM. \$5 suggested donation. At AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland, 3210 Euclid.

Friday August 1

White Fantasia on the Majestic Yacht cruise. \$40 individual tickets, \$75 per couple. 9 PM - 1 AM Boarding 8:30 PM.

Saturday, August 2

State of Black Gay America 2008. At Red Cross, 3747 Euclid Avenue. Time: 9 AM meet and greet and continental breakfast. Panel discussion starts promptly at 10 AM -2 PM (lunch will be served) *Free*.

Sweat Party featuring Robbie Robb 9 PM - 2 AM. \$10. House music, two levels of fun. At Flex, E. 26th at Hamilton, off St. Claire

Sunday, August 3

Brunch and church services 9 AM at Archwood UCC, 2800 Archwood Ave.

Family Picnic, Edgewater Park, noon to dusk. *Free* .

Pittsburgh

For info: email pghblackpride@hotmail.com Call (412) 261-1692 or (724) 612-4653 Visit www.pittsburghgay-blackpride.com/

Thursday, July 24

Opening Reception 6 - 9 PM. SPIN, Ellworth Avenue, Shadyside. *Free*

After Party 10 PM, P' Town Niteclub, Baum Boulevard, Oakland. *Free*

Friday, July 25

The Aggressive One & Fem Show 7 PM Bricolege Theater, 937 Liberty Avenue Downtown.\$10.00

"Steppin Out" Dress to Impress 10 PM, NAVARRA, Seventh Street, Downtown. \$10.00

Saturday, July 26

Basketball Tournament Noon - 3 PM. Downtown YMCA, Boulevard of the Allies, Pittsburgh. *Free*

The White Party 9 PM Olive or Twist, Sixth Street, Downtown. \$10.00

Sunday, July 27

ONEchurch Worship Celebration 12 Noon, 931 Liberty Avenue, Downtown —our new location!

Community & Family Picnic 2 PM -Dusk. Rhododendron Grove near the swimming pool at Highland Park. *Free food*. Health fair. HIV & STD testing. Games, memorial and more.

Finale & weekend closing party, 9 PM Pegasus, 818 Liberty Avenue, Downtown. *Free*



Java Buzz

Awakened Cafe closes

The Awakened Cafe closed in June.

Papa Joe's to re-open after flood


After a flood caused them to close, Papa Joe's Downtown location expects to be re-open after July 22.

Liz Augustine says as a result of the sudden but severe thunderstorm on July 8, "There was a river running down Chestnut Street!" The restaurant ended up with five feet of water in the basement, and experienced some carpet damage on the ground floor.

A new wooden floor has been laid down, and the "riser-mabob," as owner Mike Augustine calls it, has been removed, so that the floor is all on one level. "It opens up the space more," he explains.

To keep updated, Mike suggests you check their MySpace page at www.myspace.com/papajoes

Papa Joe's is at 402 W 8th St, Erie PA 16502 Phone: (814) 455-1292 (note that at this writing the phone is still not in operation). Email: eatlocalpizza@gmail.com



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Intermezzo

12 Park Place, Fredonia, NY (716) 672-6070 www.intermezzocoffeehouse.com

Aug 1 - Guitarist David Allen Coester 12-1:30 PM

Aug 30 - Medium/Psychic Michele Cleaves (reservations only) 11:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Brother Bean

Brother Bean Global Coffeehouse is at 2803 State Route 257, Seneca, PA. Phone: (814) 677-0232 www.myspace.com/brotherbeancoffeehouse Game night every Friday. Events start at 7 PM unless otherwise noted. Upcoming:

Jul 26 Fleets & Signal Home

Aug 2 - Newmen

Aug 4 - Policy Overkill (computer generated music)

Aug 4 - Good Morning Good Morning (3 pc. guitar, harp, piano, w. video)

Aug 9 - Solid Rock Reunion Show 6 PM

Aug 14 - Book Discussion Group

Aug 16 - Jeff Wiley

Aug 23 - Rising Regina (progressive, acoustic, folk)

Aug 30- Nick Piccone (indie folk acoustic)



Marchers in the Millcreek 4th of July Parade pose for a photo at the end of the event. Photo by James von Loewe.

Watch Thy Tongue

*By Rev. Richard A. Moyer
Pastor, Community United Church*

If I were asked to name my favorite book of the Bible, I wouldn't choose one of the Gospels or a writing of the Apostle Paul. I would go straight to the New Testament book of James.

James was the bishop (overseer) of the church at Jerusalem. He was surnamed "The Just," because he was an unusually good man. He was also a practical person, which is the reason I like his New Testament Epistle so much.

In his first chapter, James reminds his readers that they should be careful about what they say and how they say it. In other words, "Watch your tongue!" "Control your temper." "Be a good listener." "Don't speak before you think."

It is that kind of practical advice that draws me to James' teachings. His words also convict me and force me to see my own shortcomings.

Just this past week, I said something cruel to someone without thinking. I certainly didn't mean to say it the way it sounded. In fact, I was just trying to be honest and helpful. The result wasn't anything even close to that! I ended up not only apologizing, but taking my offended friend out to lunch, so he would know that I really didn't mean to offend him with my foolish and careless words.

I also though about the warning James gives us about "watching the tongue" when I read a letter to the editor in a magazine published by a major Protestant denomination.

That particular church has been dealing with the gay/lesbian issue for well over 20 years. The majority of those voting at the church convention have declared they believe their church should stand in strong and clear opposition to homosexuality. However, a recent article in the church periodical indicated that 22% of


their members who responded to a survey about homosexuality said they believe homosexuality should be considered an acceptable alternative life-style.

A woman who sent a letter to the editor stated she was bothered by the wording used in the survey. She wrote that homosexuality (should not be referred to as) a life-style. Rather, homosexuality and heterosexuality are inherent in who we are, not a life-style

Her words caught my attention and shook me up a bit, because without thinking too much about it, I myself have often referred to "a homosexual life-style." It never before occurred to me that those words might be offensive to some or just as bad, inaccurate!

I can't promise perfection, but I will be more sensitive and precise with my words, remembering the admonition of St. James, "Watch what you say" (or what you write).

DEADLINE
for next issue is
AUGUST 15



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CLASSIFIEDS

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COUNSELING JOBS

Persad Center, a counseling center devoted to the GLBT and HIV/AIDS communities, currently has full and part time positions open in its mental health, youth and HIV programs. Candidates must have a Masters degree in counseling and competence with the target population. LCSW preferred. Resume to 5150 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15224 or to lfeisher@persadcenter.org, Equal Opportunity Employer

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Pride Rally Speech from Kathy Dahlkemper

*On Sunday, June 29, PA-3 congressional candidate
Kathy Dahlkemper (D) spoke at the 10th Annual Erie Gay
Pride Rally in Perry Square. Below is the complete text of
her speech.*

Good afternoon... there's nothing like a beautiful rainbow to brighten your day.

I am honored to be here today to lend my voice to the rising number of voices demanding an end to discrimination.

I believe the same core principles and laws that protect me must be provided to every citizen of this country, regardless of sex, race, religion, disability, or sexual orientation.

While recent strides have been made, we still have much work to do. As your next congresswoman, you can be assured I will actively seek equality for all our citizens and fight to end discrimination of any kind. It's time we refocus on the values that unite us: peace, dignity, and respect and put an end to discrimination, intimidation, and fear.

I urge you to continue what was started at Stonewall 40 years ago and let your voices be heard. The promotion of equality for LGBT people is a moral responsibility of our government. A country that does not respect all of its citizens ends up respecting none of them.

Tolerance alone is not good enough, you deserve - everyone deserves - absolute equality. I will work tirelessly until we achieve this, and I believe we will achieve it, because it is the decent and right thing to do.

My pledge to all of you is that one day very soon we will gather here not to express our desire for equality but to celebrate our victory.

Parade and Rally photos

The Erie Pride March/Rally was held on Sunday, June 20. Step-off was at the Zone, down State Street and on to the rally in Perry Square. Lots more photos at <http://www.eriegaynews.com>.



Pride Picnic recap

By Michael Mahler

The 16th Annual Pride Picnic held on June 28 was a wonderful success! We had about 300 people join us, which ties with the all-time record for a local GLBT event that was open to the general public.

For their very generous donations, we would like to thank Zodiac Dinor, Zone Dance Club, Craze Night Club, Wal-Mart, Wegman's - Peach Street, Body Language, Papa Joe's Pepperoni Cafe, Say What? Productions, Papa Joe's Pepperoni Cafe West, Pepsi Bottling Group, Erie Sisters, Pie in the Sky Cafe, Jr's Last Laugh, Laughing Duck Bookstore and Coffee House, Erie County Department of Health, Crime Victim Center of Erie County, Inc., Two Friends Italian Market, Keva, and Max & Erma's for their very generous donations! Please support the people who support us!

Media coverage was by WICU TV 12.

Organizations represented at the picnic included Community Health Net, Erie Safe Kids Coalition, Erie County Department of Health, Drenched Fur, Pittsburgh Prevention Project, LBT Women of Erie, Erie

Gay Pride, Inc, PFLAG, Erie Gay Business Alliance, the Obama '08 campaign, Planned Parenthood, American Civil Liberties Union, Kathy Dahlkemper for Congress, and the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie.

Thanks to the Pride Picnic planning committee, that included Garry, Mary Lou, Jeremy Snyder, Gary Snyder, Jeff Hill, Michelle, Mike from the Zodiac, Dave Martin, David Shaffer and Brian.

Mary Lou did a fabulous job of organizing for children. We had a big jump in the number of people who brought their children, compared with last year.

Thanks to Jeff Hill, Garry, and Michelle for their terrific help with shopping and transporting. Thanks to Deb Spilko and James von Loewe for taking photos. Kudos to Erie Gay News graphic artist Mike Lipiec for designing the flyer not only for the picnic, but also the handout for the LBT Women's group. Many thanks also to Joe Totleben for help with securing donations and promoting the picnic.


Gary and Jeremy did an excellent job of running the kitchen the day of the event. Special thanks to Raven McClain and Paul who spontaneously helped out for most of the day, as well as Pat Rowley.

We believe one of the most important aspects of the picnic is creating a friendly and welcoming environment. Huge thanks to AJ Sementilli, Michelle, Bryan Atwater, Mike Kohler, Don Craig, Renee, Mark H, and Bruce ShROUT for volunteering at the registration table and greeting folks with smiling faces. Thanks to Season, Chris, and Maureen Koseff for taking the face photos.

Huge thanks to Brian Lonyo for making the silent auction such a phenomenal success.

Performers included David Shaffer, Devin Redinger and Lottie Hatfield. Huge thanks to DJ Jason G and DJ J-Roc for running karaoke which was a delightful addition, as well as for providing equipment. Many thanks to the Laffans as well as the Covenant of Brigid's Haven for the use of the easy-up for the performer area.

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Pride Photos are at
www.eriegaynews.com/gallery.php

Pride Picnic photos

First row: Brian Lonyo; Monica, Jessica and Will (with chocolate moustache); Jeremy Snyder. Second Row: Tom, Mike & Bryan; bris. Third row: Leslie, Boris and Jamie; DJ J-Roc, Buddy and DJ Jason G. Lots more photos at <http://www.eriegaynews.com>.



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August 16

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