



New Transgender Support Group in Jamestown

from Southern Tier Trans Network

A new support group for transgender people, the Southern Tier Trans Network, has been formed to provide peer support, education and resources for the trans community and its allies in the southern tier of New York State. We are an open and inclusive community, welcoming all gender variant people no matter what part of the trans umbrella they sit under and no matter what their physical age or sexual orientation may be. Confidentiality will be strictly enforced.

“There is a real need for something like this in the southern tier of New York state,” says Emelye Waldherr, the group’s coordinator, “The larger cities on the northern tier have numerous resources for transgender people that are lacking in this region. We aim for this group to fulfill this vital need.”

The group meets in Jamestown, New York, on the third Friday of every month at 7:00 PM. Please contact Emelye at emelye@susans.org or emelyew@yahoo.com to arrange an interview prior to attending your first meeting.

Triangle Pride new site for PA-OH-WV region

from Triangle Pride

Triangle Pride is a new blog that aims to serve the “tri-state area” that surrounds Youngstown, which takes in Ohio, Pennsylvania and some of the panhandle of West Virginia. They are asking for people to help in getting news, events, directory information, etc. Visit <http://www.trianglepride.com/Wordpress/>

Jason Crighton To Head Western Pennsylvania Advocacy Alliance

There will be a meet and greet event with Jason here in Erie. Check back for date and time.

May 17, 2010—Pittsburgh, PA—The Delta Foundation of Pittsburgh is pleased to announce that Jason Crighton has been hired as a Field Organizer for the Western Pennsylvania Advocacy Alliance.



Pat Collins, organizer of the Rainbow Pride Conference, performed and spoke at the May 23 service of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie. The service was called “Stonewall: Standing on the Side of Love.” More photos from the service on our website. Photo by Deb Spilko

The Western Pennsylvania Advocacy Alliance (WPA3) is a coalition of organizations throughout the 23 county area which all share a common interest in supporting issue advocacy education and action as it relates to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and allied communities. The Alliance serves an advisory role to the WPA Advocacy Initiative, which is funded by the Delta Foundation.

A resident of Sewickley, Mr. Crighton has a long history of advocacy work from his work as a Field Organizer with the Human Rights Campaign “Campaign College” in Washington, DC, and as a Regional Field Organizer with the Hillary Clinton for President Campaign. He is a graduate of West Liberty University.

“Never before has Western Pennsylvania had
(continued on page 4)

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Erie Gay News
 1115 West 7th St.
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Editors: Deb Spilko and Mike Mahler
Ad Design: Mike Lipiec
Deadline for next issue: Mon, Jun 14; Folding and distribution is Thurs, Jun 24 at Mike Kohler's. Please check night before!

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.



To the Mike Kohler for hosting; Alex Bolla, Andrea, Anthony S, Bruce Shrou, C. Michael, Erin M. M., James von Loewe, Janice Hanusik, Jeff, Jerry McCumber, Jim, Johauna, Kelly Kidd, Kim, Kirsten, Laurie Finch, Lee Marinus, Mags, Michael Kohler & Suzanne Marinus for folding; Andrea, Anthony S, Bruce Shrou, C. Michael, Erin M. M., James von Loewe, Janice Hanusik, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Kim, Laurie Finch & Mags 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.

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Community News

an LGBT field organizer focus 100% of their time and energy towards helping the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and allied friends develop the skills needed to meet with their legislators,” said Thomas C. Waters, Board Member and Advocacy Chair of the Delta Foundation.

“We believe that as legislators all across Western PA get to know their LGBT constituents, they will see why non-discrimination protections, hate-crimes prevention, anti-bullying measure, and other civil rights issues will improve the quality of life for all Pennsylvania residents”

Originally incorporated on July 17, 1996 as a spin-off of the Lambda Foundation, the Delta Foundation of Pittsburgh is dedicated to improving the quality of life for and visibility of the members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transgendered community in the Pittsburgh region. The organization’s major initiatives are Pittsburgh Pride Week, which takes place June 4-13, (Pittsburgh) RED, which will take place on Wednesday, December 1, and The Western PA Advocacy Initiative,

in cooperation with the Western PA Advocacy Alliance. For details, visit pittsburghpride.org.

100+ Family Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie Garage Sale

from Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie

The 100+ Family Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie Garage Sale is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, June 11 and 12, 2010 from 9AM until 1PM each day. There will be numbers at the door beginning at 8AM.

We also need donations for the sale and you are welcome to drop them off any evening between 6PM until 9PM, starting Sunday, June 6, through Thursday, June 10. We can use clean, wearable clothing, books (no encyclopedias or condensed books), furniture (no TVs, computer monitors or stuffed animals), housewares, etc. Join us to assist with the setup and make new friends!

On the day of the sale you can see what we have, so come and find yourself a bargain! Grab a bite to snack on from our kitchen and buy some yummy

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JULY 3rd INDEPENDENCE DAY AND LUMINARY WEEKEND! Potluck Dinner/ Covered Dish or Donation- 5 PM	JULY 10th Hag Drag Weekend	JULY 17th Underwear Night I	



Community News

baked goods!!

You can find us at 7180 New Perry Highway (1/2 mile north from Exit 27 & I-90 or 2-1/2 miles south of the Erie Zoo on Glenwood Park Avenue). Phone: 864-9300 between 9AM and noon if you have any questions.

Pride Picnic on June 12

by Michael Mahler

Plans are humming along for the 18th Annual Erie Gay News Family Pride Picnic on Saturday, June 12 from 1 to 6 PM at the Rotary Pavilion at Presque Isle State Park, Erie PA. Everyone is welcome! We will be providing hot dogs, meat balls and beverages. Please bring a dish to pass.

As always, we will also be collecting non-perishable items for the Second Harvest Food Bank of NW PA. In addition, this year there will be cafeteria ladies collecting milk money for the food bank as well.

In addition to the face photos and photos by our roving photographers, we will also have a special photo

project, "Love Is Not a Crime." If you do not wish to have your photo taken, please get a red dot when you check in at arrival.

Some donors have already stepped forward to help with the picnic. Thanks! This includes ie County, Erie Sisters, Glass Growers Gallery, JR's Last Laugh, Latino's Restaurant & Bar, LBT Women, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) Erie Affiliate, Smith's Hot Dogs and Wegman's W Ridge Road.

As always, there will be info tables from various organizations, currently, that includes Community United Church, Drenched Fur, Erie County Democratic Party, Erie County Department of Health/Safe Kids Coalition, JR's Last Laugh, Kathy Dahlkemper for Congress, LBT Women, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) Erie Affiliate, Pennsylvania Coalition to End Homelessness, PFLAG Erie/Crawford County and Mahoning Valley Pride Center.

We encourage everyone to register online at www.eriegaynews.com/pride/register.php. Read more about the picnic at <http://picnic.eriegaynews.com>.

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Community News

Drenched Fur 6 Makes a Splash

from Gary

This past March, Erie was host to the sixth installment of Erie's Exclusive Bear Weekend known as Drenched Fur. Lots of incredible fun was had by over 200 men from around the tri-state area and as far away as Georgia, Arkansas and Missouri. The bear community has been a part of the broader GLBTQA community since it began in the 1980s. Erie has been the annual host to Drenched Fur as an event weekend for the men of the bear community that appreciate themselves and each other in their natural masculinity.

One of the things that has helped make Erie—and Drenched Fur—a destination for the bear community is the highlight of having an exclusive night time private event at Splash Lagoon, our local indoor water park resort. In addition to enjoying the fun wet times there, the weekend this year also included several social events at the host hotel as well as a bar crawl to Craze and The Zone. Part of the bar crawl this year included the premier of Bearapalooza performing at

Craze on Friday night.

Bearapalooza is a concert event that pulls together musicians and performers from the bear community and began in 2002. Founder Freddy Freeman says "Bearapalooza has something to offer everyone whether you are a bear or not, because we celebrate diversity, positive body image, and positive attitudes about gender. Plus, the music was top notch quality work by amazing artists, crossing all genre lines." Drenched Fur 6 was proud to once again showcase talented artists this year which included Elijah Black, Kendall, RockCub, Freddy Freeman and William Brown.

On Saturday night, the guys enjoyed a banquet dinner after choosing to spend the afternoon on a winery tour, playing slots at Presque Isle Downs and Casino or seeing the sites around Erie. This year's banquet dinner included a performance by Comedian William Brown who entertained the crowd and serving staff with great wit and humor focusing on gay men, their activities and personalities.

The Drenched Fur 6 Committee worked hard to bring together one of the biggest events for Erie's GLBTQA community and thanks all the individuals and businesses that helped make this year a success. To find out more about Drenched Fur, you can visit our website to review photos from over the years as well as reading the history of what has happened thus far. And don't miss out on next years' installment of DF7 being held April 7th – 10th 2011. We'll see you there! www.drenchedfur.com



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Abbey Atkinson Memorial Galleries online

Abbey Atkinson passed away April 19, 2010.

Two galleries in Abbey's memory have been posted on our website. Visit www.eriegaynews.com and click on "Photos."



Calendar

This calendar is also online at www.eriegaynews.com/news/calendar.php

May 28 - 29 (Fri - Sat) - Memorial Day Weekend at Craze 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. The CRAZE Patio is officially *open!* Come Celebrate! Happy Memorial Day! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.crazeerie.com.

May 29-30 - Camp Davis: Memorial Day Holiday Weekend Red Party 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA. Saturday - Red Party, Sunday - Potluck Dinner, 5 PM. Covered Dish or Donation. Donations go towards main course for those who do not have a covered dish. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: campd@aol.com. Browse to www.campdavicampground.com.

May 30 (Sun) - Erie Pride & PFLAG Bingo Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie, PA 16508) 8 PM. \$25 admission. Bingo, instant tickets, Chinese auction, food and much more. Contact: (814) 746-2087 after 5 p.m., The week of event. Fundraiser benefits PFLAG Erie & Crawford Counties & Erie Gay Pride Inc (EGPI). Both organizations 501(c) tax exempt. Venue Phone: (814) 864-9300. Browse to <http://www.eriegaypride.org>. Browse to venue web site <http://www.uuerie.org>.

May 31 (Mon) - 22nd Annual Memorial Day Picnic North Park, Babcock Blvd & E Ingomar Rd, Allison Park, PA 15101) 12 PM - 6 PM. Hot dogs, hamburgers and all the beer you can drink. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$30 at the gate. Purchase advance tickets at PittsburghPride.org or call 1.888.71.TICKETS. Phone: (888) 718-4253. Venue Phone: (724) 935-1766. Browse to www.pittsburghpride.org/. Browse to venue web site www.county.allegheeny.pa.us/parks/npfac.aspx.

May 31 (Mon) - College Night Entertainment Series at Craze 1607 Raspberry St. Show starts at 11:30 PM. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.crazeerie.com.

Jun 3 (Thu) - Nocturnal Asylum at Craze 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.crazeerie.com.

Jun 3 (Thu) - LBT Women go to Wild Rib Cook Off (Perry Square, W 6th and State St, Erie, PA) 6:30 PM. Meet Laurie and Janice, Kim and Andrea on State St. Phone: (814) 452-6645. <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>

Jun 3 (Thu) - Mahoning Valley Stonewall Democrats (Mahoning Valley Pride Center, 1523 Poland Avenue, Youngstown, OH 44502) 7 PM - 9 PM. Open business meeting from 7 to 9 PM at the Mahoning Valley Pride Center. Email: mvstonewall@yahoo.com. Browse to <http://mvstonewall.com/>. Browse to venue web site www.mvpridecenter.com.

Jun 4 (Fri) - Mr. and Miss Pride Youngstown At Utopia Night www.mvpridecenter.com

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation
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Last Bike in at 4PM at Coconut Joe's N. Park Row Includes food, beverages, prizes and giveaways, and music provided by Rick and the Roadhouse Rockers from 2 to 6PM

Calendar

Jun 4 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour)
(Location TBA) 6-8 PM. G2H2/Erie takes place every month in a new location around town, providing GLBT professionals, and our colleagues and friends, the opportunity to meet, network or just hang out once a month. You can also sign up for the Erie Gay Business Alliance email list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com>. Venue Phone: (814) 864-5589. Find on Facebook.

Jun 5 (Sat) - Camp Davis: Construction Weekend - Outfits and Gear (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Contact: Jim. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: campd@aol.com. Browse to <http://www.campdavisground.com>.

Jun 5 (Sat) - Pride Youngstown Festival Parade (Youngstown, OH) 1 PM - 9 PM. Parade at 12. With special guest Shannel From Rupauls Drag Race Season 1. a day of fun, entertainment, food and Pride. Looking for volunteers to run the Pride booth, donation booth, beer tent, etc. Email us at Prideyoungstown@gmail.com Phone: (330) 518-4718. Email: Prideyoungstown@gmail.com. Browse to www.prideyoungstown.com/.

Jun 5 (Sat) - LBT Women go to Erie Illusions Football 'Pink Day' (Erie Veterans Memorial Stadium, W 26th and State St, Erie, PA) 4 PM. Phone: (814) 452-6645. <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>

Jun 6 (Sun) - LBT Women go to Fish for Free Day in PA (W Pier, Presque Isle State Park, Erie, PA) 9 AM. Bring picnic food. Phone: (814) 452-6645. <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>

Jun 6 (Sun) - Pride Youngstown Community Picnic Churchhill Park in Liberty Ohio, noon until 8pm. Delicious food, great dance music and kids entertainment. Pride Youngstown will provide the hot dogs, families and friends are encouraged to pack a picnic basket. Water balloons, toys and games are welcomed. This is a dry event. Details www.prideyoungstown.com

Jun 6 (Sun) - 2010 Picnic Planning Committee meets (Rotary Pavilion, Erie, PA) 6 PM. The 18th Annual Erie Gay News Family Pride Picnic will be Saturday, June 12, 2010 at the Rotary Pavilion. Volunteers needed to make this picnic the best one yet! You can sign up for the list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com> and see more about the picnic at <http://picnic.eriegaynews.com>. Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Phone: (814) 833-9101. Email: info@eriegaynews.com. Browse to www.eriegaynews.com.

Jun 8 (Tue) - HIV/AIDS Support Group meets (St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E Grandview Blvd, Erie, PA 16504) 6 PM. HIV/AIDS Support Group for those infected and affected meet the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 6 PM. Contact: Cheryl A Kobel. Phone: (814) 452-6113 ext 2. Email: cheryl1027@aol.com.

Jun 8 (Tue) - Support group for those dealing with loss (Hospice of Metropolitan Erie, 202 E 10th St,

William J. Koehler, LCSW Elizabeth Stroup, LCSW

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Calendar

Erie, PA 16503) 7 PM. Meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7 PM and also the third Thursday of each month at 10 AM. Phone: (814) 456-6689. Email: hospice@velocity.net.

Jun 11 (Fri) - Watchfire Alliance meets (Contact for location, Jamestown, NY 14701) 7 PM. Social group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered (GLBT) people in Chautauqua County. Contact: Bethany Robson. Phone: (716)499-4817. Venue Phone: (814) 864-9300. Email: brobson515@msn.com. Browse to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/watchfirealliance/>.

Jun 11 - 13 (Fri - Sun) - Jones Pond: Trailer Trash at noon until 8pm. Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY. Trailer Trash Party Sponsored by the 200 Block of Seasonal Campers; Airstream Camper Rally Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to www.jonespond.com.

Jun 11 (Fri) - LBT Women go to Erie Seawolves Game (Jerry Uht Park, 110 E 10th St, Erie, PA 16501) 7:05 PM. Andrea, Kim, Laurie and Jan will be in Sect

202-HH seats 16-19. Join us! Phone: (814) 452-6645. <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>

Jun 11 (Fri) - Miss Erie Pageant 2010 (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Once upon a time... Join us for a "Fairy Tale" night as we crown the new Miss Erie! An elegant evening of entertainment! ...and they all lived happily ever after at the Zone! Applications and rules available at the bar or on our website! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to <http://www.thezonedanceclub.com>.

Jun 12 (Sat) - Camp Davis: Skirt Night (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Contact: Jim. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: campd@aol.com. Browse to <http://www.campdavicampground.com>.

Jun 12 (Sat) - GIFT Cruise aboard Goodtime III in Cleveland www.clevelandgift.org

Jun 12 (Sat) - 18th Annual Erie Gay News Family Pride Picnic (Rotary Pavilion, Presque Isle State Park, Erie, PA 16505) 1 PM - 6 PM. Community potluck. Table setting, soft drinks and meat balls/hot dogs provided. Please also bring a donation for the Second



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Calendar

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Jun 13 (Sun) - LBT Women of Erie meets at Presque Isle Gallery Coffeehouse 1PM, Young LBT Women meet at 2PM. (814) 452-6645

Jun 14 (Mon) - PFLAG Erie/Crawford County meets Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Hwy, Erie, PA. 7 PM - 8:30 PM. Support group for parents, friends and families of GLBT people. If you would like to become a member, please see Millie, our secretary/treasurer. Bring a family member, friend, and yourself! Coffee, tea and hot cocoa provided, feel free to bring a treat or refreshment to share. Phone: (814) 454-1392 (John). Email: pflag.erie.crawford@gmail.com.

Jun 14 (Mon) - College Night Entertainment Series at Craze 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. 11:30 PM. College Night Entertainment Series and it's Flag Day! Come on OUT and see whose flag is flying! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.crazeerie.com.

Jun 14 (Mon) - Deadline for EGN July 2010 print edition (1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA 16502-1105) Please have all articles, ads, and submissions in by this date. This issue will be released the evening of Mar 25. For a complete list of upcoming deadlines and release dates, check the print edition schedule at www.eriegaynews.com/printedition/deadlineschedule.php. Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: info@eriegaynews.com. Browse to www.eriegaynews.com.

Jun 15 (Tue) - Spirituality and Sexuality Discussion



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Erie Pride

PICNIC

Saturday, June 12, 2010



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We need volunteers for one hour shifts in the kitchen, registration table and photo table. These are great ways to meet people and have fun! Please contact Mike Mahler about volunteering. You can also sign up to volunteer when you pre-register online for the Pride Picnic. Thank You!



For more information call:
814-456-9833



email: info@eriegaynew.com
visit <http://picnic.eriegaynews>

State law prohibits
alcohol at the Park.

Calendar

Group meets Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA. 7 PM. Every third Tuesday of the month, the Rev. Dr. Rich McCarty facilitates a discussion group on spirituality and sexuality at Community United Church. Meetings are confidential. Come join the discussion! Contact: Rich McCarty. Phone: (319) 270-5140. Email: richmccarty@msn.com.

Jun 16 (Wed) - Mahoning Valley Pride Center Movie Night 1523 Poland Avenue, Youngstown, OH. 7 PM. Email: mahoningvalleypridecenter@yahoo.com. Browse to www.mvpridecenter.com.

Jun 17 (Thu) - Support group for those dealing with loss (Hospice of Metropolitan Erie, 202 E 10th St, Erie, PA 16503) 10 AM. Meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7 PM and also the third Thursday of each month at 10 AM. Phone: (814) 456-6689. Email: hospice@velocity.net.

Jun 18 - 20 (Fri - Sun) - Jones Pond: Pirates of the Pond (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Treasure Hunt; Bears on the High Seas. Phone: (585) 567-

8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to www.jonespond.com.

Jun 19 (Sat) - Camp Davis: Pride Weekend - Celebrate Diversity 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA.) Contact: Jim. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: campd@aol.com. Browse to www.campdaviscampground.com.

Jun 20 (Sun) - Youngstown Area PFLAG meets Mahoning Valley Pride Center, 1523 Poland Avenue, Youngstown, OH. 3 PM - 5 PM. Phone: (330) 747-2696. Email: YoungstownPFLAG@aol.com. Browse to www.angelfire.com/oh4/pflag/. Browse to venue web site www.mvpridecenter.com.

Jun 22 (Tue) - HIV/AIDS Support Group meets (St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E Grandview Blvd, Erie, PA 16504) 6 PM. HIV/AIDS Support Group for those infected and affected meet the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 6 PM. Contact: Cheryl A Kobel. Phone: (814) 452-6113 ext 2. Email: cheryl11027@aol.com.

Jun 23 (Wed) - LBT Women play pool (Andy's Pub and Crown Billiards, 3866 Peach St, Erie, PA) 6:30 PM. Contact: Lisa. Phone: (814) 452-6645. Browse to <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>.

Jun 24 (Thu) - Erie Gay News folding/distributing work party Mike Kohler's, 614 Cherry St, Erie PA. 7 PM. Please contact the night before to verify that we are on schedule! Help us get out the print edition of *Erie Gay News*. We'll be folding and distributing the copies. All ages welcome! It is also a great way to hang out and chat with folks! Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: info@erie-gaynews.com.

Jun 25 - 27 (Fri - Sun) - Jones Pond: Levi-Leather Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Dungeon Black Leather Ball. Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to <http://www.jonespond.com>.

Jun 26 (Sat) - Camp Davis: Briefs and Tees (311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA. Contact: Jim. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: campd@aol.com. Browse to <http://www.campdaviscampground.com>.

Jun 26 (Sat) - All Families Matter (Youngstown) meets (Mahoning Valley Pride Center, 1523 Poland Avenue, Youngstown, OH. 2 PM. Bringing friends and families together for friendship, support, education and advocacy. Open to all natural, foster, adoptive



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and prospective LGBTQ and Ally families. Email: allfamiliesmatter@sbcglobal.net. Browse to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/allfamiliesmatter/>. Browse to venue web site www.mypridecenter.com.

Jun 26 (Sat) - LBT Women go to Erie Seawolves Game (Jerry Uht Park, 110 E 10th St, Erie, PA 16501) 7:05 PM. Kim, Andrea, Laurie and Jan will be in Section 202, Row HH Seats 16-9/ Contact: Laurie Finch. Phone: (814) 452-6645. <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>.

Jun 28 (Mon) - Craze Entertainment Series 1607 Raspberry St. 11:30 PM. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.crazeerie.com.

Jun 29 (Tue) - Cyndi Lauper in Cleveland at House of Blues

Jul 3 (Sat) - Craze: Fourth of July Party 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA 16502) Happy Fourth! Come celebrate with everyone at CRAZE! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.crazeerie.com.

Jul 6 (Tue) - LBT Women go to Rusted Root and One World Tribe (Pepsi Liberty Park Amphitheatre,

Pier III, Liberty Park, Erie, PA) 6:30 PM. Browse to <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>

Jul 14 (Wed) - Lady Gaga Monster Ball in Cleveland Quicken Loans Arena

Jul 27 (Tue)- Lilith Fair in Cuyahoga Falls OH Cleveland line-up: Court Yard Hounds, Mary J. Blige, Sarah McLachlan, Nikki Jean, Sara Bareilles & more! Clarkson, Lights, Serena Ryder, Winning Our Stage Artist, Zee Avi, Anjulie www.lilithfair.com

Aug 5-28 - "Rent" at Erie Playhouse The groundbreaking rock musical and winner of 4 Tony Awards including Best Musical and the Pulitzer Prize for drama, has its Erie Playhouse premiere. Adult Situations/Language. 13 W. 10th St, Box office 814-454-2852 ext 0 www.erieplayhouse.org

Aug 22 (Sun) - LBT Women: Fireworks Cruise on Victorian Princess. 8:45PM The fireworks the climax of our Celebrate Erie Celebration. You can get your tickets at the Victorian Princess Cruise Line office located at 1030 W Bayfront Highway. Tickets are \$15. *This is a friends and family event.* For more info call

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the office at 814-459-9696. Don't wait too long, this cruise sells out fast! LBT Women of Erie: (814) 452-6645. <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/> Victorian Princess: www.victorianprincess.com

Sep 18 (Sat) - LBT Women Set Sail on Brig Niagara
4-5 hour Day Sail on our own tall ship, the Brig NIAGARA. Sets sail 3 PM. We'll sail about the bay, thru the channel into lake so we can experience the thrill of cruising while under full sail. You can choose to "work" on the cruise, which consists of mainly pulling ropes for the sails, or you can just hang out and enjoy the ride, or you can do some of each. Tickets \$60 from Erie Maritime Museum, 150 E Front Street, along the Bayfront. 452-2744. Five of us have already gotten our tickets for this sail. *This is a friends and family event, but children must be at least 12 years of age.* ACT SOON, THEY SELL OUT FAST! You will need to fill out a form and sign a waiver, so if you will be purchasing a ticket for someone other than yourself, you can download the form at their website, www.flagshipniagara.org

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Pride events

Jun 5-7- Buffalo Pride Weekend <http://pridecenterwny.org> Click on "Pride Parade" for list of events.

Jun 5-6-Youngstown Pride Festival & Picnic *Saturday is the Festival* in downtown Youngstown, special guest Shannel from RuPaul's Drag Race. *The picnic is on Sunday*, in Churchhill Park, Girard, OH. Noon until 8pm. Food, dance music, kids' entertainment. Hot dogs and soda provided, bring picnic basket. Prideyoungstown@prideyoungstown.org. (330) 518-4718. Details: www.prideyoungstown.com.

Jun 12-18th Annual Erie Family Pride Picnic Presque Isle, Rotary Pavilion. See page 11 this issue for details. www.eriegaynews.com

Jun 12 -13- Pittsburgh Pride www.pittsburghpride.org

Jun 26 - Cleveland Pride Parade and Festival www.clevelandpride.org

Jul 3-4 - Toronto Pride www.pridetoronto.com

July 17- Rochester Pride www.gayalliance.org

Jul 24- Hotter Than July Black GLBT Pride celebration. Held in Detroit. <http://blackpridesociety.org>

Jul 23-25-Pride of Central PA www.prideofcentralpa.org

Jul 23-25 Pittsburgh Black Pride Phone: (412)261-1692 Email: pghblackpride@hotmail.com

Jul 23-25 MOCHA Black Pride in Buffalo Phone: 716-852-1142 Email: dhumes@mochaproject.org

Jul 29-Aug 1 - Toronto Splash Black Pride Phone: 416-662-2585 Email: contactpolly@gmail.com

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The Bible Does Not Tell Me So

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

A few days ago I received an e-mail from a man who described himself as a Christian evangelist. He wrote that he had seen our church advertised on the internet as a congregation that is open and affirming. It seemed to bother him a great deal that we would welcome LGBT persons into the life, ministry and fellowship of our church. He stated that he had a background in Biblical studies. He asked why I do not preach Jesus' teaching against homosexuality to my congregation.

I was amazed that a person who claims to have a background in Biblical studies would imply that Jesus preached against homosexuality. Most everyone who is reading this article already knows that he did not. Jesus is never recorded in the gospels as mentioning homosexuality. On that subject, Jesus is completely silent. It's always interesting to me that the very subject that has created so much hurt and turmoil in the Christian church does not seem to be a subject Jesus had much concern about at all.

I decided not to reply to this evangelist's e-mail since he obviously did not seem to know what he was talking about. If he had challenged me to respond to the teaching of Paul on his references to homosexuality or to the references about homosexuality in the Hebrew Scriptures, I would have e-mailed him back.

The Apostle Paul does make reference to what some Bibles scholars have translated as references to homosexuality in three of his Epistles. The references are found in I Corinthians, I Timothy and Romans. However, it is the understanding of most Biblical scholars that the word homosexual does not appear in

the New Testament at all.

Any Bible scholar or theologian who is legitimate is going to agree that Paul's reference to sexuality in I Corinthians has uncertain meaning. While The New International Version of the New Testament does insert the word "homosexual", the New Revised Standard Version translates it as Paul's objection to male prostitution. Even in the original Revised Standard Version there is a footnote that the English translation of the word is uncertain.

The reference in I Timothy is a little ambiguous. This is not a reference to homosexuality but to pedophilia where sexual abuse of children by an adult (both homosexual and heterosexual) is condemned.


I am convinced that neither of the above references are about homosexuality per se.

The one New Testament reference that has had more interest for me is the Romans passage. Here Paul does speak out against what he calls "unnatural" sexual relationships. However, for the person who is homosexual in orientation it is natural to be attracted to a person of the same sex. It is more likely that Paul is here speaking about persons who are heterosexual but acting as homosexuals – against their own sexual orientation.

It goes without saying that people who quote Scripture need to be very careful. The Bible, of course, was not written in English. And, it is always an extraordinary effort to translate any document from one language to another. When it comes to the Bible, translation takes great skill, especially when we consider that the Bible was not written in our lifetime. Biblical times, customs, concerns and lifestyles must be taken into consideration if we are going to interpret the Bible with integrity for our generation.

I chose not to respond to the evangelist who sent the e-mail; not out of disrespect or disgust. I just have a feeling that he has already made up his mind and does not want to be confused by the facts.

The Community United Church is an open and affirming congregation and is a member of United Church of Christ and Church of the Brethren denomination. . It is located at 1011 W 38th St. in Erie. Services are Sunday at 11am. (814) 864-4429. The pastor is Richard A. Moyer and his assistant is Dr. Richard McCarty. Website is www.uccwebsites.net/com-muceriepa.html



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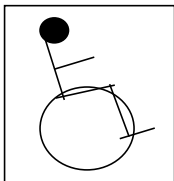
by Michael Mahler

I was very sorry to hear of the sudden and unexpected passing of Abbey Atkinson. She was truly a selfless, cheerful and decent human being. One of the best examples of her character occurred when she organized a Pride event consisting of a march and then a rally back in 2001. There had just been a picnic the year before, and Abbey wanted to bring the rally back and expand on it. Unfortunately, there were some logistical problems, and the turnout was rather light. The rally was held at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, rather than downtown, and I remember noticing that Abbey looked rather down and was almost in tears. I think that she felt that she hadn't been as successful as she would have liked, but because she truly did things for the right reasons, she came back the next year (in 2002) and organized a fantastic Pride Weekend. The Pride Weekend that happened in 2003 was also phenomenal. As impressive as 2002 and 2003's Pride Weekends were, I think that they were all the more impressive because she faced an earlier disappointment and triumphed. Abbey was a winner in the best sense of the word!

Improving accessibility at the Picnic

NOTE: Persons who have difficulty standing are welcome to go to the front of the food line. Also, if you need assistance with getting your food, please don't hesitate to ask one of the volunteers.

Also, if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions about accessibility at the picnic site., please feel free to contact Deb at deb@eriegaynews.com or (814)572-4239



Act fast to get tickets to 2 LBT Women Special events Firework on the Princess and Brig Niagara Friends & Family events. I am continually amazed by the wonderful things that the LBT Women's group does, and what a terrific sense of friendly community they create!

We are getting ready for the 18th Annual Erie Gay News Family Pride Picnic on Saturday, June 12 from 1 to 6 PM at the Rotary Pavilion at Presque Isle State Park, Erie PA. I am so hoping that you can join us! A lot of people put in a great deal of effort to make this an enjoyable and friendly event. It is most definitely a labor of love! Please note that on the registration page on our web site and also on the page about the picnic, there is a list of donors and info tables in the left sidebar. Please support these organizations that support our community!

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie had a lovely Stonewall Celebration service on Sunday, May 23. There were some excellent speakers and performers. The UU folks have been awesome in their support of the LGBT community, as well as so many other marginalized populations.

One of my favorite silly moments occurred just before the service. I walked in and saw my friend Laurie sitting. She happened to have a basket of pineapple, bananas and that sort of thing. She very graciously said, "I can move this basket of exotic fruit if you'd like to sit here." (The exotic fruit was for the Stonewall Seder part of the service.) I responded with "So, you are going to move the exotic fruit so that you can sit next to the exotic fruit??"

Very cool news about the Delta Foundation hiring a full time person to coordinate LGBT activist efforts in Western PA. We have been emailing back and forth about having a meet and greet in the near future. Keep checking with Erie Gay News for the date and details. Hope that you can make it.

I had a very fun time at Vertigo, Butler PA's LGBT bar. I hadn't been in a while, and everyone was very friendly and welcoming. I am also looking forward to going to the Pittsburgh Memorial Day Picnic and Pride Youngstown. I have enjoyed dancing and hanging out at Pittsburgh's picnic for several years now, and I was really impressed with Youngstown's first Pride festival last year. Fun times!

Win Prizes from Erie Gay News

Here are contests that will be premiering this month...

Contest	Starts
Bobby Blanchard, Lesbian Gym Teacher	May 28
Laura Bell Bundy's CD Achin' and Shakin'	June 4
Brian Kent's new Single, I'll Find a Way	June 8
Hunter Valentine - Lessons from the Late Night	June 11
Prince of the Pharisees by author John Riley Myers	June 18
Icon Men Workout DVD with Jud Dean	June 22
Masculinity by Intense	June 25

Here are contests which are currently active...

Contest	Ends
Ron Perkov CD - Intimate Chill-Out	May 28
Fraternity Massacre at Hell Island DVD	June 4
Lady Gaga comic book	June 11
Homewrecker DVD	June 16

Please note that you can always see a complete list of contests at our web site! Members of the Erie GLBT News and Events list and also the Erie Gay News Facebook group get first notice of contests. Sign up today!



Youth advocate Maureen Koseff expresses appreciation to Bishop Thomas Gumbleton for his work trying to change Vatican attitudes toward GLBT people. Bishop Gumbleton was in Erie May 6 to talk about nuclear disarmament.

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For more information, contact:
Erie Office: 900 State Street, Suite 213
 Erie, PA 16501
 814-454-3811 or 1-800-400-2437
Clarion Office: 15870 Route 322
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On our website

Online now or coming soon: to www.eriegaynews.com

Videos

- Steven Colbert 's witty take on the "Ex-Gay" industry's Geoge Rekers, who took a vacation with a male escort.
- Gay Marriage Film to Have World Premiere at 2010 Spirit Quest Film Festival! - Married in Canada trailer (trailer)
- Rosie O'Donnell and Mike Huckabee debate gay adoption.
- "Glad to Be Gay" by the Tom Robinson band.

Photos

- Vertigo May 14
- Abbey Atkinson Memorial Service
- Stonewall: Standing on the Side of Love Service at UUCE

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Pennsylvania Prevention Project at the Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh

Screen

Compiled by Deb Spilko

TV

The Real L Word premieres on Showtime June 20 at 10PM. Golden Globe winner Ilene Chaiken (*The L Word*) and *Magical Elves* (Peabody Award-winning *Project Runway*) comes a documentary series about the real lives of lesbians. www.sho.com/site/reallword

Film

The documentary **Married in Canada** made its world debut at the SpiritQuest Film Festival in Erie. May 9 If you would like more information about this film, visit www.marriedincanada.com

On video

Before and After Stonewall (2010) 25th Anniversary edition. Two documentaries: *Before Stonewall* (1984) -Revealing and often humorous, this widely acclaimed film re-lives events from the 1920s up until the fevered 1969 riots. *After Stonewall* (1999) Chronicles lesbian and gay life from the 1969 Stonewall riots to the new century, capturing the hard work, tragic defeats and exciting victories experienced. It also explores the impact that AIDS had on the movement, and the new direction it took as a result. www.afterstonewall.com 6/8 *First Run Features*

Equality U (2008) Documentary following a group of 33 young activists on the Soulforce Equality Ride, a first of its kind, two-month, cross-country tour to confront antigay discrimination policies at 19 conservative religious and military colleges. www.equalityu.com 6/1 *Cinevolve Studios*

Hannah Free (2009) Feature film about the lifelong love affair between an independent spirit and the woman she calls home. Stars Sharon Gless. www.hannahfree.com 6/1 *Wolfe*

Training Rules (2008) Documentary looks at homophobia in women's college sports. www.trainin-grules.com *Wolfe*

Music

Just posted on our website of the Tom Robinson Band performing **"Glad to Be Gay,"** a snarling gay anthem about the bad old days, written for London Gay Pride in 1976. When it was released in 1978, it peaked at #18 on the UK charts. Video is a live performance on *The London Weekend Show* that same year.



"No drinking. No drugs. No lesbians." For 26 years, Penn State Lady Lions coach Rene Portland ruthlessly enforced the third rule with impunity. That is, until she threw Jennifer Harris off the team. Training Rules tells the story behind this high profile case.

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About the Gay & Lesbian Community Survey™: Tremendous strides toward full equality have been achieved by our communities over the past decade. There's Power in Our Pride. Power to make a difference!

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- Taking an annual pulse on market trends through surveys helps demonstrate the LGBT community's growing power, and influences positive change.



We respect your privacy. All personal survey data is held securely by Community Marketing, Inc., a gay-owned and operated, independent market research and communications firm based in San Francisco, and will not be sold to third parties or used for marketing purposes. CMI was founded in 1992 and is proudly NLCC-Certified. Thank you!



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