

April 2011



# EGN

## Erie Gay News



### Help Design Erie Pride 2011 logo!

by Mike Mahler

The Pride Planning committee is working hard on events for this summer, including the Pride Picnic on June 11 and the March/Rally on August 27. We plan on selling T-shirts that will feature a new logo for Erie Pride, and a listing of area special events. We are looking at organizations and groups being able to have their logo included as well on the T-shirt.

This is where you come in! We are inviting community members to submit a logo to represent Erie Pride 2011 by Friday, April 15 to [info@eriegaynews.com](mailto:info@eriegaynews.com). We will be picking the winning logo by Sunday, April 17, so please be timely! Acceptable graphic file formats are PDF, JPG, TIFF or CorelDraw. The Pride Planning committee will chose the winning entry. Digital submissions are strongly preferred, but you can also mail hard copy to 1115 W 7th St, Erie PA.

This year's Pride events are a cooperative effort between several groups and individuals, so the logo should NOT contain any currently existing group's logo. The slogan for this year's Pride is **Unity in Our Community**. We will be using this logo for both the Picnic and the March/Rally, as well as other events, so it should NOT be specific to any event.

### WNY's Dining Out For Life is Apr 26

from Laurie L. Matson, AIDS Community Services of WNY

Dining Out For Life, an annual one-night event, taking place across Western New York on Tuesday, April 26, 2011, in which committed restaurants contribute 25% or more of proceeds to, AIDS Community Services of Western NY. 2011 marks our ninth year presenting Dining Out For Life. This year the Southern Tier area has 12 restaurants...the most ever! Details Info: Laurie L Matson, 716-664-7855.

The following are this year's participating restaurants:

#### In Lakewood, NY:

Scallion Bistro, 60 Chautauqua Avenue, (716)763-0051



Comedian William Brown returns to Drenched Fur as emcee and performer. For more on Drenched Fur 7, check page 15.

#### In Fredonia, NY

The Brick Room, 49 West Main Street, (716) 672-5547  
Ellicottville Brewing Company West, 34 West Main Street, (716)679-7939

#### In Jamestown, NY:

Alfie's Restaurant, 986 Fairmount Avenue, (716)488-7410

Cooper's Cyber Café, 102 East Third Street, (716)338-0344

Fenton Grill 2-6 East Second Street, (716)664-6204

Fortel! The Restaurant, 114 East Third Street, (716)484-6063

House of Petillo, 382 Hunt Road, (716)664-7457

Home Town Grill. 114 East Third Street, (716)720-

(this list continued on page 3)

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**Erie Gay News**  
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**Editors: Deb Spilko and Mike Mahler**  
**Ad Design: Mike Lipiec**  
**Deadline for next issue: Fri, Apr 15; Folding  
 and distribution is Thu, Apr 28 at The Zone.**  
**Please check night before!**

**ISSN 2159-1792**

The *Erie Gay News* is published monthly as a source of news, events, information, and support for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered people (GLBT's), 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.



<b>QUARTER PAGE</b>	<b>FULL PAGE</b>	<b>HALF PAGE VERTICAL</b>
<b>HALF PAGE HORIZONTAL</b>	<b>EIGHTH PAGE</b>	

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
HALF VERT.	\$90 - \$81 Prepaid	7" high X 2 7/8" wide
HALF HORZ.	\$90 - \$81 Prepaid	3 1/2" high X 6" wide
FULL PAGE	\$160 - \$144 Prepaid	7 1/2" high X 6" wide

Camera ready art or manuscript and/or photos, illustrations and logos must be received by the 15th of the month.

Photos and Illustrations should be PDF or TIFF and HIRES.

All hardcopy ads submitted will be reproduced as close as possible.

**Erie Gay News is now included  
 in the EBSCO *LGBT Life*® with  
*Full Text* index and six LGBT  
 archives around the world**



To Zone Dance Club for hosting; Alex Bolla, Amy Terrizzi, Andrea, Erin M. M., James von Loewe, Jeff, Johauna, Kim & Paul Gee for folding; Andrea, Erin M. M., James von Loewe, Jeff, Jerry McCumber, Johauna & Kim 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

5033

Jones 212 Bakery, 212 Pine Street, (716) 338-9720  
Labyrinth Press Company, 12 E 4th Street, (716) 484-0777

Two Ten Town Club 210 Pine Street, (716)664-6210

## HIV/AIDS Benefit raises \$1,000 for Ryan White Program at Community Health Net of Erie

*from Angelica Redd*

On Friday, March 4, 2011, The Erie Divas of the Zone, the Imperial Court of Buffalo (ICOB) and friends from Jamestown put on an HIV/AIDS benefit for the Ryan White program at Community Health Net of Erie. Performers included Angelica Redd, Michelle Michaels, Celine Dashawn, Miss Erie 2010 Buffy Lynn Hayes, Empress XX Jade Jett of the ICOB, Mr Manny, Dana and Ciara Chaleen from Jamestown. Volunteers helping with the ticket raffle and ribbon sales included

Misty Kal and Jimbo. Gene was a major help to all aspects of the event. Donors for the ticket raffle included Drew Riggs, Celine, Tommie and Brenda, Michelle Michaels, Tanglez Hair and Nail Studio, Emily Treichel, and the door prize was a digital camera donated by Jade Jett. The Zone Dance Club also made a donation, bringing the amount raised to \$1,000, which was twice the original goal. There was also a great turnout for the onsite HIV testing performed by Community Health Net. This was part of a weekend of fundraising by drag performers for HIV/AIDS taking place in Erie and Jamestown.

## "Hanging With The Beans" - Get your new "BeanWear" now!

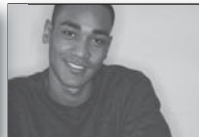
*from Laurie Finch*

The LBT Women of Erie are getting together a second order of "Hanging With The Beans" shirts. Here is how that works:

You must get your shirt(s) or sweatshirt(s) to Laurie with payment by Sunday, April 10th. This is our

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# Community News

monthly meeting date. You can just bring them to the meeting or if you want to drop them at my house, you can e-mail me (Laurie) at LFinch003@neo.rr.com and we can make arrangements that way.

You must note if you want just the small 4" crest on the front left of your shirt, or if you also want the larger crest across the back of your shirt. Prices are \$9.00 for the crest on front and \$14.00 for both front and back. Payment is needed at the time you drop off your shirt(s). You can pay by cash, or by check made out to Laurie Finch. I will be getting all the payments and shirts together to take to the screenprinters as one order. We need 24 pieces for this pricing so "get shopping!"

Shirts must be *new* and *unwashed*. This is so the logo will look and hold up better. If you leave the tags on the shirts, and write your name on them, that would be great to help identify them when we get the order back. I will have the shirts done to hand back to you at the next meeting, in May, or you can pick them up at my home.

It's fun and fashionable to be *out* and about,

sporting your "BeanWear" while "hanging with the beans". I like wearing it while we do things as a group. People can see us out in the community, having fun, and often will ask what the logo means. This will give you a great opportunity to interact with them and explain just what the LBT Women of Erie group is all about. It also helps new members find us in a crowd of people while we are enjoying one of our many events! So get shopping, find that shirt, sweat shirt, or hoodie that looks just right on you, and have this great logo added to it! You'll be "Hanging With The Beans" in style!

## Mahoning Valley Pride Center update

*from Mahoning Valley Pride Center*

The Mahoning Valley Pride Center, Community Hub for the GLBT Community in the Valley, is bringing back its weekly Koffee Klatches every Saturday from 10am to 2pm at the Center, 1523 Poland Avenue, Youngstown, OH. Coffee, tea, and sodas will be available.

There will be different events each weekend everyone is invited to drop in at any time. On the first and third Saturdays of each month, the Klatches will be followed by Soft Drink Social for teens 13-19. There will be separate events for the teen group.

The first Saturday of each month will be Social Mixers and Game Days. We will have themed Potluck buffets and have some organized board, card and group games. We ask everyone to bring some type of brunch type goodies to share. Don't have the time or money to bring something? Come on by anyway, there is always plenty of food to go around.



Adult Situations April 1 & 2, 7-10, 13-17

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**Family United Counseling**

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[FamilyUnitedCounseling@gmail.com](mailto:FamilyUnitedCounseling@gmail.com)

# Community News

The second Saturday of each month will be dedicated to Health and Wellness. We will have different programs ranging from Yoga, to Meditation, Chiropractic Care to Holistic Healing, and much more. We will also be offering free confidential HIV testing at the Center on these second Saturdays. If you have any program to offer in the way of health and wellness, we would be happy to hear from you about putting on a presentation.

The third Saturday of each month we will be having a guest speaker or seminar. Topics will range from protecting your rights, to GLBT travel destinations, to GLBT history. Speakers will be from the local area, as well as special guests visiting from around the country. The speakers or presentation will begin at noon on these third Saturdays, and there will be light refreshments provided by the Center.

The fourth Saturday of each month we will be starting a book club, meeting at noon. We will pick a book each month to read in the following month

and we will discuss it at the next months meeting. For the first book club meeting on Saturday, March 26, everyone interested should bring one of their favorite books they would like to tell a little bit about, and why they loved it. Our first book we will read together will be, "Feeling Backward: Loss and the Politics of Queer History," by Heather Love. We will discuss this at our second book club meeting in April. It is available on Amazon.com and you can order it from Barnes and Noble and Borders.

Our Soft Drink Socials for teens 13-19 will be a place for the Valley's GLBT Youth and their allies to come together and socialize with other gay youth and to realize they are not alone and there are safe places to go. The first meeting of each month will be just a drop-in time to get to know each other, play some games, watch a movie, or just hang out. The third Saturday of each month there will be a guest speaker or seminar on something of interest to the GLBT Youth.

Details Scott 330-770-5054

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# Youth

## Gay-Straight Alliance for Butler

*from Butler PFLAG*

The Butler Area Intermediate and Senior High Schools now have a Gay-Straight Alliance! Meeting for the first time as a group on February 28 organizer Damon Schnur says, "It was awesome!"

They are now meeting weekly. Their faculty advisor Jim Kasparek

Can you believe it?!?! We are so proud of them and their commitment to the cause of human equality and partnership with everyone. We stand ready to help in any and every way.

Email us if you'd like to participate with that: PFLAGButler@gmail.com

## Student Non-Discrimination Bills introduced

*from Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network*

Mar 10—Two bills were introduced in the Senate and House that address the well-being of youth across the country.

Introduced by Rep. Jared Polis (D-CO) in the House and Sen. Al Franken (D-MN) in the Senate, the Student Non-Discrimination Act (SNDA) would make discrimination in schools based on sexual orientation or gender identity against the law. SNDA seeks to prevent the exclusion of students from full participation in school sanctioned events, and includes an exemption for religious schools. SNDA would be a monumental step toward giving LGBT students, and those perceived to be LGBT, the same equal access to educational opportunities as every other student. SNDA ended the last Congress with 126 and 31 bipartisan cosponsors in the House and Senate, respectively.

Also today, Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ) and Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) introduced the Tyler Clementi Higher Education Anti-Harassment Act, which would require higher education institutions receiving federal student aid to develop bullying policies that draw specific attention to harassment fueled by bias against race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and other characteristics. The Tyler Clementi Act also instructs institutions to address cyber-bullying.

These bills add to growing federal leadership

to address the safety and well-being of all youth. The Safe Schools Improvement Act (SSIA), which would require bullying policies similar to those in the Tyler Clementi Act for K-12 schools, was introduced in the Senate this week with bipartisan support.

## White House holds Conference on Bullying

*from White House Office of Press Secretary*

On March 10, President Barack Obama, First Lady Michelle Obama, the Department of Education, and the Department of Health and Human Services welcomed students, parents, and teachers in addition to non-profit leaders, advocates, and policymakers to the White House for a Conference on Bullying Prevention. The Conference brought together communities from across the nation that have been affected by bullying as well as those who are taking action to address it. Participants spoke about the effects of bullying and the work of students, parents, and teachers nationwide. The Conference also showcased the work and commitments made by several non-profit and corporate leaders on this issue. StopBullying.gov provides information from various government agencies on how kids, teens, young adults, parents, educators and others in the community can prevent or stop bullying.

Visit the EGN website to watch video from the conference (Click on "Video Gallery")

## 2011 Pride Events update

*by Mike Mahler*

Plans are proceeding for the 19th Annual Pride Picnic on June 11, the March/Rally on August 27, and other events. Our next meeting will be Sunday, March 6 at 2 PM at Tim Horton's, 209 E 12th St, Erie PA. For more info, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or [info@eriegaynews.com](mailto:info@eriegaynews.com). For info about Pride planning, sign up for the Picnic email list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com>.

# Spring is in the Air

By Rick Moyer

Pastor, Community United Church

For Christians around the world the Lenten Season begins on Ash Wednesday. The word Lent is derived from "lencton", an old Anglo-Saxon word meaning spring-tide. It was the Saxon word for March – the month of lengthening days.

Even though winter stubbornly holds on here in Erie, there are signs that spring is on the way. Before we see the first robin or observe the early flowers, we notice that the days are getting longer and we are thankful for the extra hours of natural light.

When the sun shines and the hint of spring is in the air, we feel refreshed as we anticipate warmer days and outside activities that will release us from the curse of cabin fever that plagues us through the winter months.

Even for those of us who enjoy winter, we come to March and April ready for a change. Winter may have a beauty and charm all its own, but it also can wear out its welcome a few months into the new year. "Enough is enough" is an expression we often hear from those who complain about snow in March, and, God forbid, snow in April; a real possibility in this part of the country.

Actually, there is something most of us can find attractive in each of the four seasons. I like the winter snow as much as I welcome spring flowers. I am glad to see green grass in summer as much as I like the colorful leaves of autumn.

In the Christian Byzantine liturgy for daily vespers, the 104th Psalm is recited. It is the Psalmist's belief that God, in wisdom, has created each of the seasons for the enjoyment and benefit of all creation. The Psalmist implies that the changing of the seasons gives life variety.

For the Christian, Lent has to do with spending 40 days in an attempt to get closer to God. The spring season lends itself to those kinds of quiet moments and

warm thoughts that remind us of God's love and care.

These are important and significant days for those of us who practice the Christian faith. For those who do not observe Lent, these are also days in which new life and renewed beauty are anticipated and welcomed. It is a time to celebrate life!

As we approach spring, the changing season makes us feel good. We appreciate the gifts we have been given. And we are inspired to find ways to make our lives count, reaching out in love to those with whom we share our joy of living. The coming of spring reminds us that we are to care for the earth and enjoy its beauty.

Spring is ushered in; the days lengthen and the sun is brighter. We take pleasure in all the beauty of God's creation.

*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. . 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/commuceriepa.html](http://www.uccwebsites.net/commuceriepa.html)*

**We provide** access to testing, education, & medical, financial, & supportive **services** to those infected with HIV/AIDS in 13 counties of Northwest PA. HIV Specialty Clinics are held in Erie, Meadville, Clearfield, DuBois, Warren, Clarion, Seneca, Greenville & Farrell, staffed by HIV specialists. Support Groups are also offered.

## Northwest PA Rural AIDS Alliance

**For more info., contact:**

**Erie Office:** 900 State St.  
Suite 213, Erie, PA 16501

**814-454-3811 or 1-800-400-AIDS**

**Clarion Office:** 15870 Rt. 322  
Suite 2, Clarion, PA 16214

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Erie GLBT mailing list!  
Visit [www.eriegaynews.com](http://www.eriegaynews.com)

# Equality Forum 2011 Apr 25-May 1

The 19th annual Equality Forum, will take place April 25- May 1 in Philadelphia. It will feature over 40 programs, 25 panels, eight parties and seven special events, making it the largest annual national and international LGBT civil rights summit. This year Latin America is the international focus for the event. There is no registration fee and all panels are free.

## Program highlights:

*25 Major Panels including:*

National Religious Colloquy, A Conversation with Bishop Mary Glasspool, the first openly lesbian Episcopal bishop, on Tuesday, April 26

National Seniors Panel, moderated by SAGE (Seniors in a Gay Environment) Executive Director Michael Adams, on Wednesday, April 27

National Politics Panel, moderated by Washington Blade Editor Kevin Naff, on Saturday, April 30

National Families Panel, with leading experts on same-sex family issues, on Saturday, April 30

National Youth Panel, including Yale undergraduate Katherine Miller, who as a West Point cadet outed herself and was discharged under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," on Saturday, April 30

*International Equality Dinner*

The International Equality Dinner at the National Constitution Center honors Lt. Dan Choi and Patrick Murphy with the 16th annual International Role Model Award for their activism and leadership in the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," on Saturday, April 30  
*SundayOUT! at The Piazza*

SundayOUT! at The Piazza, the region's largest LGBT street festival with over 150 vendors, artisans, galleries, bars, boutiques, cafés and restaurants, music, live entertainment, a Drag Brunch, RETRO Party and Absolut Tea Dance at Tendenza, on Sunday, May 1

For more information about the panels, parties, films, art exhibit, Zane Booker Dance Tribute and special events, visit [www.equalityforum.com](http://www.equalityforum.com).

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Thursday 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

**HIV Testing Hours:**

Tuesday 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

HIV Testing Available at Corry Office by Calling: **814-663-3891**



# Calendar

This calendar is also online at [www.eriegaynews.com/news/calendar.php](http://www.eriegaynews.com/news/calendar.php)

**Mar 24 (Thu) "Latinos and LGBTQI Issues"** 3PM Edinboro University, Hendricks 124. Presented by Dr. Elizabeth Iglesias, School of Education. Moderator: Dr. John Hoggard. Part of LGBTQIA Speaker Series

**Mar 29 (Tue) - Community Safe Zone: Town Hall Meeting presented by Persad Center** (Butler Area Public Library, 218 N. McKean St, Butler, PA 16001) 6:30 PM. Rights and Responsibilities: legal issues for the LGBT community. Presented by Persad Center. Town Hall Forum on Hate Crime and LGBT Discrimination. FBI agents, PA State Police and Butler Police discuss reporting Hate Violence and how to be safe. Family Law and the LGBT Community: Adoption, medical directives, wills. With Kathleen Schneider, Attorney & CPA. Sue Frietsche, Senior Staff Attorney with the Women's Law Project discusses LGBT discrimination. Audience Q & A to follow. Phone: (888) 873-7723 ext 218. Venue Phone: (724) 287-1715. Browse to [www.persadcenter.org/](http://www.persadcenter.org/).

**Mar 30 (Wed) - Homicide Grief Support Group** (Crime Victim Center of Erie County, 125 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 5 PM - 6:30 PM. Info Darlene at (814) 451-7496. Browse to [www.cvcerie.org](http://www.cvcerie.org).

**Apr 1 (Fri) - April Fool's Day - Nocturnal Asylum (Vortex)** 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA 9 PM. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to [www.facebook.com/crazenightclub](http://www.facebook.com/crazenightclub).

**Apr 1 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour)** (Senor Coyotes Cantina & Grille, 213 State St, Erie, PA 16507) 6 PM - 8 PM. G2H2/Erie takes place every month in a new location around town, providing GLBT professionals, and our colleagues and friends, the opportunity to meet, network or just hang out once a month. If you have not been to Senor Coyotes yet, it's definitely worth a try. We are all set for "the den" at the back of the restaurant. Hope to see you there. You can also sign up for the email list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com>. Venue Phone: (814) 456-4695. Details and RSVP at Facebook: G2H2/Erie

e-rot-i-ca (ĩ-rõt'ĩ-kə) - noun.  
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# Calendar

**Apr 1-17 - "Dreamgirls" at Erie Playhouse** Story of an up-and-coming, 1960s girl-singing group and the triumphs and tribulations that come with fame and fortune. Winner of 6 Tony Awards. [www.erieplayhouse.org](http://www.erieplayhouse.org)

**Apr 2 (Sat) - YLBT & LBT Game Night** (Erin's, 3026 French St, Erie, PA) 3 PM. **Note date change!** Social group for lesbian, bisexual and transgendered women. Join us for an afternoon guaranteed full of laughs and maybe we will even play some games this time. RSVP to Erin at (814) 464-3204. Sign up for email list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com/> Contact: Erin. Phone: (814) 464-3204. Email: LFinch003@neo.rr.com. Browse to <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>.

**Apr 3 (Sun) - Pride Planning Meeting** (Tim Horton's, 209 E 12th St, Erie, PA 16503) 2 PM. We will be planning for the picnic on June 11 and the march/rally on August 27. Come find out how to get involved! All are welcome! Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Venue Phone: (814) 874-3000. Email: [info@](mailto:info@)

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<http://gayellowpages.com>

eriegaynews.com. Browse to [www.eriegaynews.com](http://www.eriegaynews.com).

**Apr 3 (Sun) - Tom Goss in Concert** (The Latonia Theatre, 1 East First Street, Oil City, PA 16301) 6 PM. Ticket price is \$10. For more about Tom, browse to [www.tomgossmusic.com](http://www.tomgossmusic.com), and for more about the Latonia, find the Latonia Ballroom on Facebook. Contact: Roxanne. Phone: (814) 673-8400. **Apr 3 (Sun) - Craze Karaoke Night** 1607 Raspberry St, Erie. 9 PM. Every Sunday with \$2.25 Long Island Ice Teas! \$Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to [www.facebook.com/crazenightclub](http://www.facebook.com/crazenightclub).

**Apr 4 (Mon) - "The Color Purple" The musical, at Warner Theatre** Erie <http://eriebroadwayseries.com/>

**Apr 4 (Mon) - Craze Entertainment Series** 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA 11:30 PM. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Find on Facebook.

**Apr 7-10 Drenched Fur 7** [www.drenchedfur.com/](http://www.drenchedfur.com/)

**Apr 7 (Thu) - Mahoning Valley Stonewall Democrats meets** Mahoning Valley Pride Center, 1523 Poland Ave, Youngstown, OH 44502. 7 PM.

**Apr 8 (Fri) - Craze Retro Fridays** (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA 16502) We're playing all your favorites! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to <http://www.facebook.com/crazenightclub>.

**Apr 10 (Sun) - LBT Women of Erie meets** (Presque Isle Gallery Coffeehouse, 35 Peninsula Drv, Erie, "Hanging With the Beans" shirts and money duel! See article on page 3. Sign up for email list at [lists.eriegaynews.com/](mailto:lists.eriegaynews.com) Email: LFinch003@neo.rr.com. Browse to [womynoferie.wetpaint.com/](http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/).

**Apr 11 (Mon) - PFLAG Erie/Crawford County meets** Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Hwy, Erie, PA. 7 PM - 8:30 PM.

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# Calendar

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) 456-0901. Email: pflag.erie.crawford@gmail.com.

**Apr 11 (Mon) - Out In the Silence screening at Allegheny** Allegheny College, Meadville, PA. 5 PM - 7 PM. Queers and Allies is bringing the Emmy winning movie "Out in the Silence" with co-directors Joe Wilson and Dean Hamer, to Allegheny College. This documentary examines views on homosexuality in nearby Oil City, Pennsylvania after Joe Wilson published a marriage announcement for the wedding with his partner, Dean Hamer. We hope to have a community dialogue surrounding this issue within the Meadville community and invite all who are interested to attend. Contact: Joe Wilson. Phone: (202) 320-4172. Email: QwavesJoe@yahoo.com. Browse to [www.outinthesilence.com](http://www.outinthesilence.com).

**Apr 12 (Tue) - Support group for those dealing with loss** (Hospice of Metropolitan Erie, 202 E 10th St, Erie, PA 16503) 7 PM. Meets 2nd Tues of month 7 PM and also the 3rd Thurs at 10 AM. Phone: (814) 456-6689. Email: [hospice@velocity.net](mailto:hospice@velocity.net).

**Apr 13 (Wed) - "LGBTQI and Islam"** 3:30PM, Edinboro University, Hendricks 200. Presenter: Dr. Baher Ghosheh, Department of Geosciences. Moderator: Dr. Steven Sullivan. LGBTQIA Speaker Series Spring 2011

**Apr 14 (Thu) - LGBT Parent Support Group meets** Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie. 6 PM - 8 PM. As gay dads and lesbian moms in the Erie area, we have a lot of concerns for our children. Will

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**Apr 14? (contact for details) (Thu) - PFLAG Butler meets** (Butler Area Public Library, 218 N. McKean St, Butler, PA 16001) 6 PM - 8:30 PM. Support group for parents, friends and families of lesbians, gays and transgendered people. Contact: Joe Tomlinson. Email: [pflagbutler@gmail.com](mailto:pflagbutler@gmail.com). Browse to [www.butlerpflag.weebly.com](http://www.butlerpflag.weebly.com).

**Apr 15- Penn State Altoona Pride** [www.gaylifeneews-letter.com](http://www.gaylifeneews-letter.com)

**Apr 15 (Fri) - Deadline for EGN May 2011 print**

## Win Prizes from Erie Gay News

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

Contest	Starts
<i>Turn it Around</i> by Tom Goss	March 30
<i>Shifting Sands</i>	April 1
<i>Cockeyed</i>	April 8
<i>GLBTQ: The Survival Guide for Teens</i>	April 12
<i>Over the Mountain of the Moon</i>	April 15
<i>Never Be Longely Again</i>	April 20
<i>Fairy Tales</i> by Nomi Mad-ness?	April 22
<i>Unnatural</i> by Michael Griffo	April 27
<i>Pick Your Battles</i> by Steve Hofstetter	April 29
<i>Music on Film</i> books	May 6

Here are contests which are currently active...

Contest	Ends
<i>Death by Misfortune</i>	April 1
<i>Grit</i>	April 8
<i>Glee</i> Graphic Novel	April 13
<i>Shadows in Time</i>	April 25

You can always see a complete list of contests at our web site! Members of the Erie GLBT News and Events list get first notice of contests. Sign up today!

## Calendar

**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 April 28. For a complete list of upcoming deadlines and release dates, check the print edition schedule at [www.eriegaynews.com/printedition/deadlineschedule.php](http://www.eriegaynews.com/printedition/deadlineschedule.php).

**Apr 14-15 - Performing Gender 4th Annual Penn State Behrend Gender Conference** Reed Hall +++

**Apr 16 (Sat) - Spring Fling Party** (The Latonia Theatre, 1 East First Street, Oil City, PA 16301) 8 PM. BYOB. \$5 cover charge. DJ and snacks. Contact: Roxanne. Phone: (814) 673-8400.

**Apr 17 (Sun)- Youngstown Area PFLAG meets** Mahoning Valley Pride Center, 1523 Poland Ave., Youngstown, OH. 3PM. Ph: (330)747-2696. Email: [YoungstownPFLAG@aol.com](mailto:YoungstownPFLAG@aol.com). Web: [angelfire.com/oh4/pflag/](http://angelfire.com/oh4/pflag/).

**Apr 17 (Sun) - FACE: Michelle Michael's Zone Dance Club**, 133 W 18th St, Erie. 11 PM. Don't miss a fun-filled night of great entertainment with all of your favorite drag queens, new faces and special guests! Every third Sunday of the month at 11 PM. Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to [www.thezonedanceclub.com/](http://www.thezonedanceclub.com/).

**Apr 17 (Sun) - Craze Karaoke Night** 1607 Raspberry St, Erie. 9 PM. Long Island Ice Tea Special! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Find on Facebook.

**Apr 18 (Mon) - Craze Entertainment Series** 1607 Raspberry St, Erie. 11:30 PM. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to [www.facebook.com/crazenightclub](http://www.facebook.com/crazenightclub).

**Apr 19 (Tue) - Spirituality and Sexuality Discussion 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](mailto:richmccarty@msn.com).

**Apr 21 (Thu) - Support group for those dealing with loss** (Hospice of Metropolitan Erie, 202 E 10th St, Erie, PA 16503) Phone: (814) 456-6689. Email: [hospice@velocity.net](mailto:hospice@velocity.net).

**Apr 23 (Sat) - Easter Bunny Hop!** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Hop on into the Zone for a night of fun with our Easter Party! The Easter bunny will be handing out Easter eggs and treats! Guys: Hunt for a nice big basket! Ladies: find a cute cuddly chick! Dance on down the Bunny trail! Join your friends



# Calendar

for a 'hopping' good time! - Happy Easter from your friends at the Zone! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to [www.thezonedanceclub.com/](http://www.thezonedanceclub.com/).

**Apr 24 (Sun) - Craze Easter Karaoke Night** (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA 16502) *Happy Easter* from CRAZE! Hop on over for a drink and a song! Easter Karaoke tonight!!!! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to [www.facebook.com/crazenightclub](http://www.facebook.com/crazenightclub).

**Apr 24 (Sun) - Zone Dance Club OPEN Easter Sunday** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to <http://www.thezonedanceclub.com/>.

**Apr 26 (Mon) - Dining for Life** Annual benefit for AIDS Community Services of Western NY. Check "Community News" for details.

**Apr 25 (Mon) - LBT Women go to \$1 movie** (Cinemark Millcreek Cinema 6, 5800 Peach St, Erie, PA 16509) 5 PM. Meet us at 5-ish for a cheap movie (time to be announced as soon as movie times for that week are posted) Afterwards we will head to Applebee's for dinner and a birthday celebration for Julie! Sign up for email list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com/> Contact: Laurie Finch. Venue Phone: (814) 868-3223. Email: [LFinch003@neo.rr.com](mailto:LFinch003@neo.rr.com). Browse to <http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/>.

**Apr 28 (Thu) - Erie Gay News folding/distributing work party** Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie PA. 7 PM. Please check 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. 21 and over, please. It is also a great way to hang out and chat with folks! Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: [info@eriegaynews.com](mailto:info@eriegaynews.com).

**Apr 29 - Jones Pond opens** Angelica NY. [www.jonespond.com](http://www.jonespond.com)



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# It's time...to get involved

from Crime Victim Center

As spring approaches thoughts turn to cleaning projects and gardening, sweeping away the long days of winter and breathing in clean fresh air. Spring is a time of rebirth. Rebirth brings hope and a new awareness of the world around us. That is why the month of April is so important to the Crime Victim Center because during this month it is our desire to plant hope and awareness in the garden of humanity. This month holds special significance as we promote National Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Child Abuse Prevention Month, and National Crime Victims' Rights Week. Center staff will be hosting or participating in various events and we encourage you to join us.

The month of activities will begin on April 4th with Judge Stephanie Domitrovich holding an Awards Ceremony for the winners of the Annual Good Secrets/Bad Secrets Poster Contest. First grade classes at Pfeffer-Burleigh Elementary School participated in the contest which was sponsored by Erie Insurance. That same evening will be the Take Back the Night march and rally from 7:00-9:00 p.m. hosted by Gannon

University. The marchers will gather in Perry Square and walk through the downtown Gannon area. There will be several stopping points where brief presentations are made or personal stories are shared. The rally will end with a reception in the Yehl Ballroom.

On April 5th - known as A Day of Action - a special program sponsored by the United Methodist Women of Park United Methodist Church in North East, Pa. at 7:00 p.m., will be presented by Vicky Herrmann, one of the community educators. Her talk will focus on engaging bystanders to get involved in the fight against sexual violence.

April 10th - 16th has been designated this year as National Crime Victims' Rights Week. The Center will host its Annual Victims' Rights Rally at City Hall on April 12th at 6:00 p.m. The month will come to a close on April 27th with an Awards Luncheon at the Ambassador Banquet and Conference Center to honor two people from the community for their roles in reducing the impact of crime.

Sexual violence is a major public health, human rights and social justice issue - locally, nationally and worldwide. The goal of the month is to raise public awareness and to encourage action. It's Time ... To Get Involved...help reduce sexual violence in your community. For more details on these scheduled events, or to schedule one of your own, call (814) 455-9414.

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## NY Att. Gen on DOMA

*Statement from NY Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman on Obama Administration's decision that "Defense of Marriage Act" is unconstitutional.*

"As the state's top law enforcement officer, I agree with the Administration's view that the so-called Defense of Marriage Act is unconstitutional. Today's announcement that the Justice Department will drop its defense of this statute moves us closer to fulfilling the principle that all Americans should be treated equally under the law." ~February 23, 2011

# Drenched Fur wants you to join them for entertainment, fun and Splash Lagoon

by Gary Snyder

Drenched Fur 7's weekend (April 7-10) is arriving quickly and this year the committee is looking forward to hosting another great weekend of fun here in Erie.

As of press time, we have less than 20 registration run packages available. However, if you're unable to attend the whole weekend, we still have some great options for you to enjoy the fun with us at the Bel Aire Clarion Hotel!

On Friday April 8th, kicking off the weekend is Jeff RockCub's musical performance along with comedian William Brown as emcee. Join us for a cocktails at 8 PM followed by the musical performances from 8:30 until 10:30 PM and the cover charge at the door is just \$10 (which also covers the DJ Dance that follows). After RockCub is our SWEAT & SCRUFF Dance Party at 11 PM. Clear your calendars and grab your smartphones, 'cause not only are we excited to have DJ Barney Philly "International Renowned Circuit Kub" bringing his spinning skills to the Bel Aire, but the popular app SCRUFF is helping spread the word! Just want to join us for the dance? It's a simple \$5 cover to get in and shake your groove thing.

For the following night, Saturday, April 9th, individuals can purchase an advance Dinner and Comedy Show Combo for just \$40. The combo includes the Island Luau Themed buffet dinner service which has a cocktail hour at 6 PM (food service at 7 PM), followed by the highly entertaining comedy of William Brown at 8 PM. Then it's on to the hosting of an exclusive event at the Splash Lagoon Indoor Water Park Resort. The Drenched Fur event is from 10 PM until 2 AM and the cost will be \$40. Advance sign-up and payment

is required for the Dinner and Comedy Show Combo as well as the Splash Lagoon private event.

So there are lots of options available to enjoy the good times and fun during this year's 7th installment of Drenched Fur. If you're interested in joining us for the musical performance and/or dance, feel welcome to simply pay the door cover charge upon arrival. Or if Splash Lagoon or the Dinner and Comedy Show Combo on Saturday evening are more your style, a limited number of advance tickets can be purchased on-line. Check out the Drenched Fur website at [www.drenchedfur.com](http://www.drenchedfur.com) to get your advance tickets now.

If you have questions, please contact the DF7 Run Coordinator, Gary at [gnsnyder@drenchedfur.com](mailto:gnsnyder@drenchedfur.com) or leave a message at 814-446-2327.

We look forward to you joining us here in Erie for "The Best Little Run For Fun!"

*Drenched Fur is at [www.drenchedfur.com](http://www.drenchedfur.com) and find them on Facebook*


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