

#### 2012's Landmark Elections!

by Michael Mahler

This was a landmark election for LGBTQ rights. President Barack Obama (D) was re-elected after publicly endorsing marriage equality. Tammy Baldwin D-WI, became the first openly LGBT person elected to the US Senate. Stacey Laughton (D) became the first openly transgender person elected to state office in New Hampshire, as well as the first trans person elected in the nation. All four marriage related ballot initiatives had pro gay results. Maine, Maryland and Washington passed marriage equality, and a constitional amendment banning marriage equality in Minnesota was defeated; this ends a 32-state series of defeats for the LGBT community. Also, there was a record number of LGBT people elected to Congress and Senate. Several LGBT friendly candidates were elected in Erie County including Sean Wiley (PA Senate 49-D), Ryan Bizzarro (PA Assembly 3-D), Flo Fabrizio (PA Assembly 1-D), and Pat Harkins (PA Assembly 2-D.) Many LGBT people were active in campaigns in both parties.

#### **Design Dreams of Hope's Logo**

from Dreams of Hope

As Dreams of Hope embarks on our tenth year as an organization dedicated to advocating for LGBTQ and Allied youth and educating audiences, we are excited to create new outreach materials that match the needs of the community and our mission. We invite professional and novice designers to submit ideas using these guidelines: Create a high-resolution JPEG image (at least 300 dpi.) Email your design to info@dreamsofhope.org. Due Date: November 30.

### Board Members Sought for NW PA Pride Alliance, Inc

#### from NW PA Pride Alliance

NWPA Pride Alliance is looking for applicants to fill positions with our Board of Directors. We are looking for people who want to become more involved with the LGBT community, working with our mem-



November 6, 2012, Tammy Baldwin (D-Wisconsin) became the first openly gay candidate to be elected to the U.S. Senate. See item on elections on this page.

bers to extend outreach to the community as a whole. Board members organize events within the community, represent the LGBT community at local events, and work with local businesses and organizations to raise awareness of LGBT issues. Please send a resume that outlines your experience and qualifications by **January 1** to mmahler@nwpapride.org or NW PA Pride Alliance Inc., 1115 W 7th St, Erie PA 16502. If you have any questions, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833

#### Next Issue is Our 20th Anniversary

by Michael Mahler

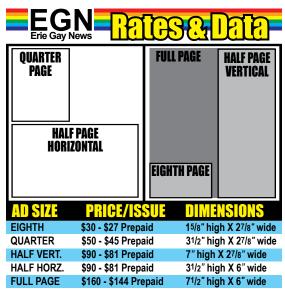
Please note that the issue that comes out next month on December 18 will be our 20th anniversary! Erie Gay News began in December of 1992, and we are thrilled to be starting our 3rd decade of serving the

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Check out our special bonus contest online at eriegaynews.com! Photo galleries, videos, contests, reviews and so much more!



Camera ready art or manuscript and/or photos, illustrations and logos must be received by the 15th of the month. Photos and Illustrations should be PDF or TIFF and HIRES. All hardcopy ads submitted will be reproduced as close as possible.



Erie Gay News 1115 West 7th St. Erie PA 16502-1105 Phone: (814) 456-9833 Fax: (530) 451-9833 info@eriegaynews.com www.eriegaynews.com

**Editor: Mike Mahler** 

Assistant Editor and Layout: Deb Spilko Ad Design: Mike Lipiec Deadline for next issue: December 10; Folding and distribution is Tue, December 18 at Zone Dance Club. 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, transgender people (GLBTs), their families, friends, and supporters in the Erie PA area.

We welcome and encourage all readers to submit timely news, comments, and opinions of interest to local GLBTs for publication in these pages. Please include your contact information with any piece you submit.

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

THANKS

To Zone Dance Club for hosting! Amy Terrizzi, Dan Ryder, Erin Moll, Joe Totleben, Johauna, Julie, and Sharon Dunfee for folding; Dan Ryder, Erin Moll, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Julie, and Sharon Dunfee 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**

community! Please also note that the deadline for next issue is December 10 because of how the holidays fall.

#### Equality PA President Engaged

from Equality PA

Equality Pennsylvania President, Adrian Shanker, and his partner of three and a half years, Brandon Pariser, a nurse, are engaged and plan to get married in 2013. The couple plans to get legally married in a state where it is legal and have a Jewish wedding ceremony in Pennsylvania.

Shanker has been a leader on LGBT relationship recognition in Pennsylvania, having led efforts to win same-sex partner benefits for the Cities of Allentown and Easton and the Bethlehem Area School District, and at the request of Philadelphia Councilwoman Blondell Reynolds Brown, testified to the Philadelphia City Council Committee on Law and Government in favor of the Equal Benefits Bill. Shanker and Pariser live in Bethlehem, PA.

### Clarion University presents play about Prop 8

Info from Clarion University

Clarion University Theatre Department will present a one-night-only reading of "8," a play chronicling the historic trial in the federal constitutional challenge to California's Proposition 8, written by Academy Awardwinning screenwriter Dustin Lance Black.

"8" is an unprecedented account of the Federal District Court trial in *Perry v. Schwarzenegger* (now *Perry v. Brown*), the case filed to overturn Proposition 8, which banned gay and lesbian marriage in California.

Black, who penned the Academy Award-winning feature film "Milk," as well as the film "J. Edgar," based "8" on the actual words of the trial transcripts, firsthand observations of the courtroom proceedings and interviews with the plaintiffs and their families.

"8" will be performed in the Marwick-Boyd Little Theatre (main campus) at 8 p.m. Dec. 7, details: www. clarion.edu/365473/



### Children learn many things by watching adults.



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### **Community News**

### LBT Women's Laurie Finch witness at recent bank robbery

On Novermber 10, Laurie Finch, grand poobah of LBT Women, had the misfortune of walking into the 8th & Pittsburgh PNC Bank behind the man who was about to rob it. As soon as the robbery occured, she began sending updates on Facebook, never losing her well-known sense of humor, After she and the other customers were allowed to leave, she posted this update:

November 10 -"effin great! I AM LOCKED IN MY BANK...Apparently the guy who walked in right in front of me robbed it. he is gone, all is fine... this just sucks

2:28pm - "Okay here is how it happend. I ran to the bank to get some cash for today. The ATM was out of order so I parked and went in. A young guy entered in front of me. (I remember thinking he was rude cause he didn't hold the door for me) I was waiting my turn and instead of the teller calling me up after she waited on him...she closed her window, and then she walked to the back. She came right back out with another woman who immediately walked to the front door, locked it, and announced for everyone to remain calm, but the bank had just been robbed. She said we should stay there till the cops came. Then she took the customers ... maybe 3 or 4 and had us fill out statements. I didn't remember much, just he was young, maybe blonde and was wearing jeans...I don't notice guys that much ... anyhow ... then I had to talk to a cop, and then they said I could go. Then the bank lady asked me if I got my money, and I told her no...she told me where the closest branch was. I asked her if I didn't even get a lollipop or anything? Ha! they only had Tootsie Rolls! Then when I walked out the guys from ch. 24 news got me. and I had to do an on camera interview...I told them they were too late, I had already posted it on Facebook! But I ended up talking to them anyhow...sheesh..>this day has to get better

3:49pm - "I did get to talk to a good looking female cop though!

5:10pm - "Now I can cross being in a bank robbery off my bucket list...LOL..but I gotta tell you, the rest of my day has been pretty boring.LOL"

Editors note: Video of the news story is on our website.

#### NEXT DEADLINE DECEMBER 10

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# **Lake Eric Counseling, Inc.** Proudly celebrating our 20th year of providing quality services to the LGBT community.

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Thru Dec 8 - Buffalo United Artists "The Irish Curse" www.buffalobua.org

Nov 23 (Fri) - Black Flashback Friday at Craze 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA. The hottest music from the last 5 decades! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Nov 24 (Sat) - TransFamily of Erie Support Group meets 2 - 5pm at Mental Health Association of Northwest PA 1101 Peach St. Erie, PA) Group discussion around some topic of interest, followed by time for social interaction. Please bring some type of snack to share. Parking in the MHA parking lot is free. Contact: Caitlyn Strohmeyer. Phone: (814) 823-1969. Email: caitlyn\_xpress@verizon.net.

Nov 24 (Sat) - Erie Sisters meets (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy, Erie, PA 16508) 7 PM. Local transgender support group that provides support and encouragement for both MTF and FTM transgender individuals. Followed by dinner at a local restaurant and dancing at The Zone Dance Club. Phone: (440) 265-8191. Email: shub1@suite224.net. Browse to http://

#### Text for Testing

Text "PAtest" to 41411 to fiind free HIV testing near you.

Almost half the gay men infected with HIV don't know it. Knowing your status can help protect you from AIDS.

Text for Testing is presented by the Pitt Men's Study and the PA Prevention Project at the University of Pittsburgh's School of Public Health.

For more information visit PittMensStudy.com.



eriesisters.ning.com/.

Nov 26 (Mon) - Craze College Night (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA) Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/crazenightclub. Nov 29 (Thu) - Trigon Annual Drag Show: International (Penn State-Erie, Erie, PA) 5 PM. Free and open to public. There will also be a photo booth (Brian Fijal) will be doing his Made in America project here at 5PM, the Drag Show will follow. The theme this year for the show is "International" Phone: (814) 898-7162. Email: behrend.trigon@gmail.com.

Nov 30 (Fri) - Beans go to Mercyhurst Lady Lakers Ice Hockey VS Penn State (Mercyhurst University, 501 E 38th St, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Cost \$6.Contact: Laurie Finch. Email: LFinch003@neo.rr.com. Browse to http://womynoferie.wetpaint.com/.

Dec 1&2 - North Coast Men's Chorus: "Silver Belles" Hanna Theatre at PlayhouseSquare www. ncmchorus.org

Dec 1 (Sat) - Craze Presents "Strike-A-Pose for Equality, a Made in America, Where are my rights" event 1607 Raspberry St, Erie. 9 PM - 2 AM. Spend the evening with the Made in America, Where are my rights crew at Craze Nightclub! You'll have a chance to get official Made in America photos and apparel. Dog tags and photos are available for \$6 each; shirts cost \$15. There are two promos you can take advantage of: get a dog tag and picture for \$10 or *all three* for only \$22. Your dog tags not only show your support for MIA and equality, but will also be a VIP pass for future events. MIngle with Erie's hottest shot girl and boy. Raffles and free door prizes will be drawn throughout the night. (814) 456-3027. Email: wherearemyrights@gmail.com. Browse to www.face-



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book.com/MadeInAmericaWheresMyRights. www. facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Dec 2 (Sun) - 4th Annual LBT Women of Erie Holiday Dinner (Calamari's Squid Row, 1317 State St, Erie, PA) 3 PM. Dinner will be from a limited menu. Reservations will be mandatory as there is a cut-off on how many women can attend. *For reservations call Robin at 455-3127*. If we fill up the dinner again this year, we will move to a bigger venue next year. No Bean Left Behind! Contact: Robin. Phone: (814) 455-3127. Email: LFinch003@neo.rr.com.

Dec 2 (Sun) - Erie Awareness Outreach Presents: This Joy at Zone, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. Featuring Michelle Michaels with a tribute to a special guest Vernessa Mitchell. Join us as Michelle Michaels rallies some of the region's finest performers, bring awareness to testing and education. Donation at the door. Phone: (814) 452-0125. TheZoneDanceClub@aol. com. www.thezonedanceclub.com/.

**Dec 3 (Mon) - College Night Entertainment Series - World AIDS Day Event** (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA) Get the count down to zero. Sponsored by Erie Awareness Outreach. (814) 456-3027. www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Dec 7 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour) (Location TBA). 6-8 PM. 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. Sign up for email list at http://lists.eriegaynews.com.



#### **New Friends**

Gay couple new to Western PA is looking to make new friends in Crawford County and surrounding areas. We moved here from a very progressive and diverse city so living in Titusville has been a big change for us. We are anxious to to make new friends here that we can be open and honest about our life. If you are lesbian or gay, young or old, married or single, in the closet or out, we'd love to hear from you. You will find us to be very friendly, kind and supportive. Pleas Email us at newfriendsinpa@aol.com



Dec 7-9 - "Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus: "Cool Yule" buffalogaymenschorus.com/

Dec 7 (Fri) - VortexX (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA) Erie's Premiere Goth/Industrial Music Night. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www. facebook.com/crazenightclub.

**Dec 7 (Fri) - Clarion University presents "8"** Dustin Lance Black play about Prop 8 (see article on page 4.) Main campus.

**Dec 9 (Sun) - Renaissance City Choirs Holiday Concert: Warm by the Fire** (Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA) "Join us for a concert of beautiful and sassy music to banish the winter chill. With guest artists: the Edgewood Symphony Orchestra, LGBTA youth performance troupe Dreams of Hope, flutist Peggy Holleran Greb, oboist Erin Marion, and harpist Marissa Knaub." (412) 362-9484. rcc@rccpittsburgh.org.

Dec 10 (Mon) - PFLAG Érie/Crawford County meets Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy Erie, PA) 7 PM - 8:30 PM. PFLAG



is a support group for parents, friends and families of gay, lesbian and transgendered people. Contact: Jayne May. Phone: (814) 397-7133. Email: pflag.erie. crawford@gmail.com.

Dec 10 (Mon) - Deadline for Erie Gay News January 2013 print edition Erie Gay News, 1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA. PLEASE NOTE! This will be our 20th Anniversary issue, and the date is earlier than usual due to the holidays!! Please have all articles, ads, and submissions in by this date. This issue will be released the evening of December 18. For complete list of upcoming deadlines and release dates, check print edition schedule at www.eriegaynews.com/printedition/deadlineschedule.php. Contact: Michael Mahler. (814) 456-9833. Email: info@eriegaynews.com. www.eriegaynews.com.

Dec 11 - 12 (Tue - Wed) - David Sedaris' "Santaland Diaries (PACA - Performing Arts Center & Theater, 1505 State St, Erie, PA) 8 PM. Part of the Erie Reader Staged Reading Series, the critically acclaimed and fan adored "Santaland Diaries" by David Sedaris. Perfectly



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suited for the holidays, Sedaris' sardonic wit fits terribly with his chosen profession as a Macy's elf during the Christmas season. The resulting friction gave rise to this autobiographical piece that offers a very different perspective on the holiday season. 8 PM performance time both nights. Free admission — no reservations needed. (814) 434-0687 www.paca1505.com.

Dec 14 (Fri) - Bear Bar Night at Zone 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. 11 PM. Join the Bears for a night of fun! Contact: Gary Snyder. (814) 446-2327. info@ drenchedfur.com. www.drenchedfur.com.

**Dec 15 (Sat) - Pride Planning meeting** (Panera's - Yorktown, 2501 W 12th St, Erie, PA 16505) 2:30 PM. NW PA Pride Alliance meets to plan our events for next year! All are welcome to help out. Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Venue Phone: (814) 833-9101. Email: mmahler@nwpapride.org. Browse to www.nwpapride.org.

**Dec 16 (Sun) - Michelle Michaels presents FACE** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) Don't miss a fun-filled night of great entertainment with all

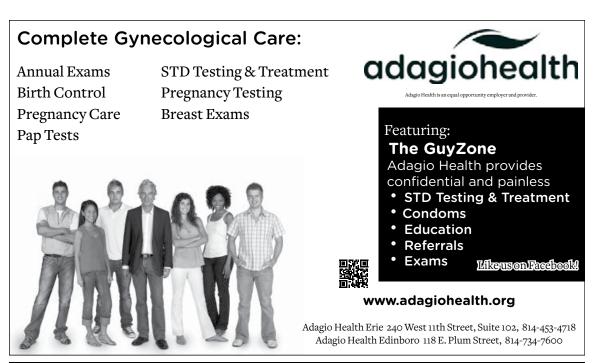


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For an application to be listed (no charge), current editions, and prices, mailing lables, etc. please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Renaissance House, PO Box 533-EGN, Village Station, New York, NY 10014 646-213-0263 or email gypages@gmail.com

#### http://gayellowpages.com



### Calendar

of your favorite drag queens, new drag queens and special guests the third Sunday of the month at 11 PM. (814) 452-0125. www.thezonedanceclub.com

Dec 17 (Mon) - Last College Night Entertainment Series of 2012 (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie) Help us say goodbye to 2012! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/crazenightclub. Dec 18 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA1) 7 PM. 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. Browse to www.eriegaynews.com. Browse to venue

Dec 18 (Tue) - Spirituality and Sexuality Discussion Group meets (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Every 3rd Tuesday of the month (September - May), the Rev. Dr. Rich McCarty facilitates a discussion group on spirituality and sexuality at Community United Church (an open and affirming congregation). This group provides LGBTQA people the confidential opportunity to share questions, stories, and experiences about what it means to be both a sexual and spiritual person. Contact: Rich McCarty. 1-866-229-1974 (toll free). richmccarty@msn.com.

Dec 21 (Fri) - The Zone Divas Annual Christmas Drag Show (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Don your "GAY" apparel for this night of show-stopping fun! Come spend time with your friends and family here at the Zone! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Email: TheZoneDanceClub@aol.com. Browse to www.thezonedanceclub.com/.

Dec 22 (Sat) - TransFamily of Erie Support Group meets 2 - 5pm at Mental Health Association of



Northwest PA (MHA - 1101 Peach St. Erie, PA, 16501) Group discussion around some topic of interest, followed by time for social interaction. Please bring some type of snack to share. Parking in the MHA parking lot is free. Contact: Caitlyn Strohmeyer. Phone: (814) 823-1969. Venue Phone: (814) 452-4462 ext 117. Email: caitlyn\_xpress@verizon.net.

Dec 22 (Sat) - Erie Sisters meets (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Highway, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Erie Sisters is a local transgender support group that provides support and encouragement for both MTF and FTM transgender individuals. Followed by dinner at a local restaurant and dancing at The Zone Dance Club. Phone: (440) 265-8191. Email: shub1@ suite224.net. Browse to http://eriesisters.ning.com/.

Dec 22 (Sat) - Craze: "Christmas With the Stars!" 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA 16502) Making her Erie debut, Angelina Ducati from Lincoln, NE! She will be joined by show host Destiny Divine and the fishiest queens in Erie! Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/crazenightclub.

Dec 24 (Mon) - Craze Closed Christmas Eve www. facebook.com/crazenightclub.

**Dec 31 (Mon) - Craze New Years Eve Gala** (1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA) NOT A COLLEGE NIGHT. Stay tuned to Facebook for more details. Phone: (814) 456-3027. Browse to www.facebook.com/ crazenightclub.

Dec 31 (Mon) - Buffalo United Artists presents "Jeffrey" (Buffalo United Artists, 119 Chippewa, Buffalo, NY 13205) One night only, celebrating BUA's 20th anniversary. Phone: (716) 886-9239. Browse to www.buffalobua.org.



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### **Online Contests**

Here are new contests for this month...

Here are new contests for this month	
Contest	Starts
Dragons Walk Among Us; Kylie Minogue 'The Ab- bey Road Sessions'	November 23
<i>Need</i> by Todd Gregory; Chris Mann <i>Roads</i>	November 27
Heart - Kicking and Dream- ing; Tracey Thorn Tinsel and Lights and She & Him A Very She & Him Christ- mas	November 30
The Man WIth The Iron Fists Soundtrack; Sunset Boulevard on Blu-ray <sup>TM</sup>	December 4
Comediennes: Laugh be a Lady; Kathy Griffin Collec- tion: Red, White & Raw	December 7
Heart - Fanatic; A Mu- siCares Tribute to Barbra Streisand	December 11
Here are contests which are currently active	
	_
Contest	Ends
<b>Contest</b> An Askew View 2: The Films of Kevin Smith; Brandy Two Eleven'	-
An Askew View 2: The Films of Kevin Smith; Brandy	Ends
An Askew View 2: The Films of Kevin Smith; Brandy Two Eleven' Fall To Grace by Paloma Faith; The Truth About Love	Ends November 23
An Askew View 2: The Films of Kevin Smith; Brandy Two Eleven' Fall To Grace by Paloma Faith; The Truth About Love from P!nk Doubling Up by Paul Verity; Bridgit Mendler Hello, My	Ends November 23 November 27
An Askew View 2: The Films of Kevin Smith; Brandy Two Eleven' Fall To Grace by Paloma Faith; The Truth About Love from P!nk Doubling Up by Paul Verity; Bridgit Mendler Hello, My Name Is' The Emerson Gospel by Rob-	Ends November 23 November 27 November 30
An Askew View 2: The Films of Kevin Smith; Brandy Two Eleven' Fall To Grace by Paloma Faith; The Truth About Love from P!nk Doubling Up by Paul Verity; Bridgit Mendler Hello, My Name Is' The Emerson Gospel by Rob- byn Burger; ONOMIX Bob Mould Silver Age; Free Dimensional from Dia-	Ends November 23 November 27 November 30 December 4 December 7 December 11

# Persad Center Counseling Services

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- Sexual Identity Issues
- Gender Transitions
- Issues of Aging
- · Youth and Family Conflicts

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