



EGN

Erie Gay News



Marriage Equality Rally draws over 100 people locally

On Tuesday, March 26, Marriage Equality for Pennsylvania held a vigil in front of the Federal Courthouse at 6th and State, Erie PA in response to the US Supreme Court hearing arguments about the California's Proposition 8 and the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA).

The event was organized in conjunction with the national organization Get Equal, and there were other vigils across Pennsylvania and the nation. Over 100 people attended, and there was coverage by both local TV broadcast outlets.

Speakers included Brit Wager and her fiancée Kathy Eads, Heather Burrows, ME4PA founder David Moore and ME4PA co-founder Joshua Szczesny, Democratic candidate for governor John Hanger, and engaged couple Erin Moll and Amy Terrizzi.

Local organizations present at the vigil included NW PA Pride Alliance, Erie Gay News, Identity, LBT Women of Erie, Allegheny College Queers & Allies, and Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie.

For more info about Marriage Equality for Pennsylvania, visit www.me4pa.org or find on Facebook. You can sign up for their email list at <http://lists.eriegaynews.com>



David Moore, founder of Marriage Equality for Pennsylvania, speaks at March 26 rally at Federal Courthouse in Erie. More photos from the rally on our website.

Drenched Fur 9 enjoys record attendance



Attendees at the 9th Drench Fur event pose at the DF9 Splash Lagoon Party in early April. Over 250 attended the weekend's events. Details on page 6. Photo gallery on our website.

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Deadline for next issue: May 13; Folding and distribution is Tue, May 21 at Mike Kohler's. Please check night before!

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The *Erie Gay News* is published monthly as a source of news, events, information, and support for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgender people (GLBTs), their families, friends, and supporters in the Erie PA area.

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

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



QUARTER PAGE	FULL PAGE	HALF PAGE VERTICAL
HALF PAGE HORIZONTAL	EIGHTH PAGE	

AD SIZE	PRICE/ISSUE	DIMENSIONS
EIGHTH	\$30 - \$27 Prepaid	1 5/8" high X 2 7/8" wide
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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 & Six LGBT Archives WORLDWIDE!



To Mike Kohler for hosting! Amy Terrizzi, Andrea, Erin Moll, Hayley Borgia, Janice Hanusik, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Julie, Kim, Marchae Peters, Melanie Shubitowski, Paul Gee, Rajwhant Marshall, Stephen Marshall, Tina Philips, and Tom Wiler for folding; Andrea, Erin Moll, Janice Hanusik, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Julie, Kim, Melanie Shubitowski, Michael Kohler, Paul Gee, Ted Hoover, and Tina Philips 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

Float in Perry 200 Parade on May 25

from NW PA Pride Alliance

On Saturday, May 25, NW PA Pride Alliance and other groups will be participating in the Perry 200 Parade, which is expected to draw up to 100,000 people. If you would like to be on our float or march next to us, please contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or president@nwpapride.org. We encourage groups to bring their banners and marchers can wear shirts with their group names.

Buffalo Brunch recognizes Greg Rabb

The work of Jamestown City Council president Greg Rabb will be recognized at this year's annual Buffalo Brunch. The event will be held at noon on Sunday, April 28 at Salvatore's Italian Gardens, 6461 Transit Rd, Depew, NY 14043. Over 500 people are expected to attend this important event, celebrating Buffalo's Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transgendered (LGBT) community and its friends for 17 years.

A community citation will go to Greg Rabb. Shari Jo Reich will be honored for her long time community activism. WNED-TV for consistently televising shows regarding issues that affect the LGBT community. Unity Fellowship of Christ Church will be honored for being a welcoming and inclusive congregation.

Tickets are \$50; sponsorships are also available. Proceeds from the Buffalo Brunch are disbursed through embraceWNY in the form of community grants and sponsorships, as well as educational scholarships. For tickets call Judy Dumitru at (716)983-9212 or visit www.buffalobrunch.org

Western PA Regional PFLAG hosts Allies Awareness Month

by PFLAG Erie and Crawford Counties

Erie, PA – The 40 year old national organization, PFLAG (Parents, Families, Friends of Lesbian and Gays) reports that 1 out of 4 families have a member who is lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered. In May, The Western PA Regional PFLAG Coalition of local chap-

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Community News

ters (Pittsburgh, Butler, Erie, Greensburg, New Castle, and Washington), is hosting "Straight to PFLAG," a month-long campaign raising awareness about the importance of straight allies to the LGBT community.

Straight allies are the backbone of PFLAG and are defined as people who support LGBT family members and friends and challenge homophobia and transphobia.

As the mother of a gay son, in 1973 Jean Manford saw the cultural and legal oppression faced by the LGBT community and established the first PFLAG chapter in New York City. Having grown to over 350 chapters worldwide, PFLAG provides support, education, and advocacy to the LGBT community and their family and friends.

This year, The Western PA Regional PFLAG Coalition's "Straight to PFLAG" campaign honors the memory of Ms. Manford and the role straight allies play in the community. During the month of May, each PFLAG chapter encourages straight allies to come and learn more about PFLAG, its history, and its mission.

PFLAG Erie & Crawford Counties will be having their monthly meeting on Monday, May 13 at 7 PM at the Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Highway, Erie PA. We hope that you can help us spread the word about "Straight to PFLAG" and we are happy to make available to you, local chapter members in your area to share their stories. For more information about PFLAG Erie and Crawford Counties' plans for the month long campaign, please contact the following:

PFLAG Erie, Jayne May, President, (814) 367-3311 pflag.erie.crawford@gmail.com

PFLAG National's Pennsylvania State Coordinator Liz de Jesus (724) 312-7622 info@pflagpg.org

Local Lambda Car Club kicks off activities

The Allegheny and Great Lakes of Ohio regions of the Lambda Car Club will kick-off the 2013 season of activities with a combined Spring Tour on Sunday, May 19. The participants will be meeting at the Canton Classic Car Museum (Canton, OH) for a tour of that great automobile collection.

From there, the group will be going to the McKinley Grand Hotel where they will view a consignment collection of Motor Cars Portfolio (all vehicles are for sale) and then have lunch. After lunch, it is on to the McKinley Presidential Library and Museum.

Founded in 1981 as the Gay Old Car Owners Society, the Lambda Car Club International (LCCI) has kept expanding and is now the largest gay/lesbian antique/classic car club in the country. The Allegheny Region of LCCI serves Western Pennsylvania (including the Erie region) and Northeastern Ohio.

Established in 2005, the Allegheny Region maintains a year round schedule of activities, offering a variety of events and social gatherings. Past outings have included visits to area car museums, road trips through rural country settings, attendance at area antique/classic car shows, winter dinner gatherings, and participation in Pride events. You do not need to own an antique/classic car to be a club member, just have an interest in and enjoy these vehicles.

Anyone interested in attending this event, or who would like more information on the club may email LCCIAAllegheny@yahoo.com or call Bob at 572-2195. Visit the Allegheny Region LCCI website at www.alleghenyregionlcci.com.

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In Congress, Kathy Dahlkemper voted repeatedly to protect the rights of all Pennsylvanians, including:

- ✓ Voting to repeal “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” so all soldiers can serve with pride in our nation’s military
- ✓ Voting in favor of the Matthew Shepard hate crimes bill to strengthen penalties for hate crimes

Now Kathy is running for Erie County Executive, where she will continue her record of standing up for equal rights and protections for all Erie citizens.

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Community News

DF9 Sets Record Attendance

by Gary Snyder

During the first weekend of April, the Erie community hosted once again to Erie's Exclusive Bear Weekend known as Drenched Fur. This time the 'Best Little Run for Fun' brought together a record 250+ men from around the tri-state area and as far away as Chicago, Houston, DC, and Toronto. Erie has been hosting Drenched Fur for nine years allowing men to appreciate themselves and each other in their natural masculinity.

The main event for Drenched Fur is 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 Bear-e-oke, BEAR Bingo, a winery tour to North East, PA and this year's newest game show spoof, The Holybear Squares.

On Friday night, the guys also took over The Zone Dance Club for a Military Themed bar outing to help support NWPAPA, our local Northwest Pennsylvania Pride Alliance organization, by selling paper dog tags for one dollar each. The Zone will be posting/taking donations for them through the month of April allowing you to help donate for this worthy group as well.

The Drenched Fur 9 Committee did a fantastic job hosting 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 and to review our photo gallery from over the years, you can visit our website at www.drenchedfur.com. And don't miss out on next years' installment of DF10 to be held April 3-6, 2014!

Obituary

William David Stanley

William David Stanley, age 59, of Erie, died Saturday, March 16, 2013 at Saint Vincent Healthcare Center. He was born July 17, 1953 in Erie, son of the late William and Rita Haraczy Stanley.

Bill attended Westminster College and graduated from Gannon University. He received his Master's in Clinical Social Work from West Virginia University. Bill worked in various positions as a clinical social worker in Pittsburgh, until starting his own counseling service in 1993 at Lake Erie Counseling with his best friend and loving companion, Dale Allgeier. Bill and Dale met in Erie in 1985. They opened Lake Erie Counseling in 1993. Bill and Dale worked together for the past 28 years. Bill developed his reputation as a skilled psychotherapist, and will be greatly missed by his clients, friends, and family. Bill and Dale were also known in the world of antiques, often advertising "Big Red Tent" sales. Bill is already missed by his two cherished pups, "Scoobie" and "Maggie".

In addition to his parents, Bill was also preceded in death by his grandparents, and several aunts, uncles and cousins. He is survived by his best friend and cherished companion, Dale Allgeier; his two sisters, Lynda Height (Robert) of Orange Park, Florida and Cynthia Toale (Ben Pike) of Erie; two nieces, Rebecca Height of New York City and Christine Laurin (Patrick) of Orange Park, Florida; one nephew, Timothy Toale (Katy) of Houston, Texas; and two great-nephews, Sean and Zachary Laurin.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family in care of the Dusckas Funeral Home. To send condolences, visit www.dusckasfuneralhome.com.

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Calendar

Apr 26 (Fri) - Marriage Equality for PA: Rally for Marriage Equality at Gov Corbett's Erie office (In front of Gov. Tom Corbett's Erie regional office, 100 State St Erie, PA) 6 PM - 7 PM. There will be a rally in support of marriage equality, non-discrimination, and banning conversion therapy in our fine Commonwealth. The Governor has expressed his opposition to marriage equality and our organization wishes to show him the tremendous support that exists within our communities for the constitutional right of true equality as described in the 14th amendment. Contact: Joshua Adam Szczesny. Phone: (814) 923-3149 . Email: joshua.szczesny@gmail.com. Browse to www.me4pa.org.

Apr 26 (Fri) - First Annual Festival of Community PRIDE (Promoting Respect for Individual Differences for Everyone) (Lillian V. Ney Renaissance Center, 119 West Third St., Jamestown, NY) Potluck buffet at 5:30pm, community discussion at 6:00pm. Many organizations participating: Congregation Heshed Abraham, PFLAG, Cornell Co-Operative Extension,

Catholic Charities, Jamestown Community College, YMCA Eastside, YWCA Jamestown and The Resource Center. Info: YWCA Jamestown at 716-488-2237

Apr 26 - 28 (Fri - Sun) - Opening Weekend- Welcome Cocktail Party (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) Open your trailer, book your first cabin and get acquainted with old friends once again. Cozy BYOB Cocktail Party at the back of the barn Saturday at 4pm. (585) 567-8100 info@jonespond.com. www.jonespond.com.

Apr 27 (Sat) - Camp Davis Opens (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA) Camp Opens 10 AM - No Dance - Dinner for Seasonals 5 PM Contact: Jim. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: campd@aol.com. Browse to www.campdavicampground.com.

Apr 27 (Sat) - Drag Show & Miss or Mr. M&J's Lounge Pageant (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) Come and vote for the New M&J's Lounge Queen or King. (724) 602-8447. JoshuaSean2009@AOL.COM. www.facebook.com/MandJslounge.

Apr 27 (Sat) - TransFamily of Erie Support Group



Meet Me in the Woods!



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CampD@aol.com
www.CampDavisCampground.com
See Website for Complete Schedule

Calendar

meets 2 - 5pm at Mental Health Association of Northwest PA (MHA - 1101 Peach St. Erie, PA) Support group created to serve the transgender community of Northwestern PA and surrounding region. Provides a safe space for all who fit somewhere in the gender spectrum, or are searching. Includes all transgender subcategories, including FTM, MTF, cross dresser, genderqueer, questioning, etc. Contact: Caitlyn Strohmeier. (814) 823-1969. caitlyn_xpress@verizon.net.

Apr 27 (Sat) - Erie Sisters meets (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy, Erie, PA) 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://eriesisters.ning.com/>.

Apr 28 (Sun) - LBT Women go to Erie Explosion Indoor Arena Football Game (Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St, Erie) 2 PM. \$12. If you plan to attend e-mail me ASAP, so we can get seats together. We also

have vouchers for a couple *free* tickets if you can't afford it. LFinch003@neo.rr.com.

Apr 28 (Sun) - 17th Annual Buffalo Brunch (Salvatore's Italian Gardens, 6461 Transit Rd, Depew, NY) Buffalo Brunch will present its community service awards, with a community citation going to Jamestown City Council President Greg Rabb. The Buffalo Brunch honors individuals, groups, organizations, and businesses that help celebrate and embrace the LGBT community within the greater Western NY community. Contact: Judy Dumitru. (716) 983-9212. info@buffalobrunch.org. Visit www.buffalobrunch.org.

Apr 28 (Sun) - American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), NWPA Chapter Annual Meeting (La bella, 802 W 18th St, Erie, PA) 3-5 M. Join the Northwest Chapter for its annual meeting. Keynote speaker will ACLU-PA Legislative Director Andy Hoover. RSVPs are greatly appreciated: Call 881-3788 and leave your name and phone number. The title of Andy Hoover's talk: "The State of Our Union Under the Dome, Undermining Liberties." We will also have our an-

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Calendar

nual elections of board members. In addition, we will provide information about upcoming events, meetings and actions. We encourage all ACLU members to get involved, and if you want to join, you can do so at the meeting. Email: northwestchapter@aclupa.org.

Browse to www.aclupa.org/chapters/northwestpa/

Apr 30 – “The Invisible War” 6:00 pm At Mercyhurst University, Taylor Little Theater 501 E. 38th St. Erie, PA Groundbreaking documentary about one of America’s most shameful and best kept secrets: the epidemic of rape within the U.S. military. Presented by Crime Victim Center of Erie Co. and Mercyhurst Veterans Association. Info:(814)455-9414 www.cvcerie.org

May 2-5 - Equality Forum 2013 Panels, International Equality Dinner, SundayOUT! Cinco de Mayo Party, parties, LGBT Art Exhibit, theatre production, and special events. www.equalityforum.com. Philadelphia.

May 3 - 5 (Fri - Sun) - Cinco de Mayo - Margarita Madness (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) It’s Margarita madness time with our Mexican Pot luck in the Barn Saturday



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Calendar

at 6pm. (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to www.jonespond.com.

May 4 (Sat) - Long Johns / Flannels Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16) Contact: Jim. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: campd@aol.com. Browse to www.campdaviscampground.com.

May 4 (Sat) - LGBTQ Panel Forum 2- 4pm Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of N. Chautauqua Fredonia NY. www.uucnc.org

May 4 - The Rainbow Party: Presented by STARZ (NOTE DATE CHANGE) at Sky Bar Featuring your hosts Liza Summers and Anita Waistline. With Miss Gay Jamestown Newcomer 2013-2014 Anna Lee, Serenity Chambers, Anita Mandalay, Xanya Charmichael Jayme Coxx and more! Wear your pride colors to win great prizes in the Creative Pride wear contest and the Sexiest Pride Wear contest! Hot music, amazing performances. 11pm. \$5 cover.

May 6 (Mon) - Real Time (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA) 6-8 PM. *Real Time is for LGBTQ friends and allies (ages 14-21) who reject negative labels and want to overcome difficulties in a positive way. Real Time, Real Talk, Real Friends! Everyone faces tough situations at home, at school and around town. But no one should ever be bullied or harassed for who they are. Real Time is about finding ways to deal with tough times. Real Time is about taking care of yourself and standing up for others. Fun, food, friends, free!* Check it out at Persad-Erie, 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. Contact: Leann Rommitti. Phone: (412) 538-7862. Email: lromitti@persadcenter.org. www.facebook.com/PersadErie.

May 10 (Fri) - Mahoning Valley Gay/Straight

Coalition Dinner and a Show Fundraiser (Regency House, 3704 Mahoning Ave., Austintown, OH) Area entertainers, Chinese auction, 50/50, and some surprises. \$20 advance/\$25 door. You can get tickets online at www.mvgaystraightcoalition.com. (330) 787-4884. info@mvgaystraightcoalition.com. www.mvgaystraightcoalition.com.

May 10 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour) (Location TBA Erie PA) 6-8 PM. NOTE DATE CHANGE! Provides GLBT professionals, and our colleagues and friends, the opportunity to meet, network or just hang out once a month. Sign up for the email list at http://lists.eriegaynews.com.

May 10 - 12 (Fri - Sun) - Game Show Weekend! (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) Games, games, games... JP will add a "little extra \$\$" to the final bingo game Friday night to kick things off. Saturday will be a game-filled day and we'll cap off the evening with a classic game show in the Barn. Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to www.jonespond.com.

May 11 (Sat) - Camp Davis - Dance to the 70's (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA) Contact: Jim. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: campd@aol.com. Browse to www.campdaviscampground.com.

May 13 (Mon) - Art for Change: A Benefit for Persad Center (August Wilson Center for African American Culture, 980 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA) 6PM-11PM. Our Signature Event 'Art for Change,' the 25th year of Art for AIDS, is Persad Center's largest fundraiser. Once again UPMC will be presenting as the Title Sponsor. Since its inception in 1988, the auction has raised more than \$3.75 million for Persad's Free Care Fund, allowing the organization to offer quality services to eligible clients regardless of their ability to pay. Details at www.persadartforchange.com/



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Calendar

Phone: (412) 441-9786.

May 13 (Mon) - PFLAG Erie/Crawford County meets (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy, Erie, PA) 7- 8:30 PM. Support group for parents, friends and families of gay, lesbian and transgendered people. Meets 2nd Mon. each month
Contact: Jayne May. Phone: (814) 367-3311. Email: pflag.erie.crawford@gmail.com. Find on Facebook.

May 13 (Mon) - Deadline for Erie Gay News June 2013 print edition Erie Gay News, 1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA. This issue will be released the evening of May 21. 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.

May 15 (Wed) - GEAE 3rd Wednesday Happy Hour (Craze Night Club, 1607 Raspberry St, Erie, PA) 5PM-8PM. The 3rd Wed. of every month, GEAE will be hosting a happy hour at Craze Nightclub. We launch this in coordination with G2H2, the first Friday of

the month, and now GEAE's happy hour two weeks later. GEAE will provide a cheese or vegetable tray, as well as a case of water bottles for those not interested in cocktails, but who would like to spend time with friends (and meet new ones). Please join us--and invite your friends, LGBT and straight! (866) 229-1974. GEAEinfo@gmail.com. <http://greatereriealliance.com/>.

May 17 (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.

May 17 - 19 (Fri - Sun) - College Boys Weekend - Bring On The Boys! (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) Calling all College Students (21 and Over). This is *your* weekend! Wear your college colors and join us for a weekend of sporting events and a Keg Party courtesy of Jones Pond! 15% of all bookings with your college ID. Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to www.jonespond.com.

May 17 - 18 (Fri - Sat) - 3rd Annual PFLAG Butler

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Calendar

Rummage Sale (Blind Association of Butler and Armstrong, 322 N. Cedar St., Butler, PA) 9AM-4PM. Proceeds benefit PFLAG Butler. (724) 290-9674. Email: info@pflagbutler.com. www.pflagbutler.com.

May 17 (Fri) - Bear Bar Night (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 11 PM. Join the Bears for a night of fun! Contact: Gary Snyder. Phone: (814) 446-2327. Email: info@drenchedfur.com. Browse to www.drenchedfur.com.

May 18 (Sat) - Camouflage Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA) Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: campd@aol.com. Browse to www.campdavis-campground.com.

May 18 (Sat) - LBT Women go to Edinboro Art and Music Festival (Goodell Gardens and Homestead, 221 Waterford St., Edinboro, PA) 11 AM. www.edinboroartandmusic.com Free admission, food and drink are available for purchase along with awesome crafts, etc. If you are planning on attending, please e-mail Laurie at LFinch003@neo.rr.com .

May 18 (Sat) - STARZ 3 Year Anniversary Show (Skybar, 108 Fairmount Pkwy, Jamestown, NY) 9 PM. Starz brings back all of your favorite performers from the past 3 years in a mega show. The most performers, your favorite performances and a reunion of everyone who has made Starz a success for the past 3 years! Special start time: 9pm. \$5 cover. . Phone: (716) 661-3214.

May 19 (Sun) - LBT Women meets (Zodiac Diner, 2516 State St, Erie, PA) 12 PM. NOTE DATE CHANGE FOR THIS MONTH BECAUSE OF MOTHER'S DAY! Normally meets the 2nd Sunday of each month. After the meeting we will head to the TREC Center to see "Tornado Alley" at 3PM. \$5.00. Email: LFinch003@neo.rr.com.

May 19 (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 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

May 20 (Mon) - Real Time (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA 16508) 6 PM - 8 PM. *Real Time is for LGBTQ friends and allies (ages 14-21)* who reject negative labels and want to overcome difficulties in a positive way. Real Time, Real Talk, Real Friends! Everyone faces tough situations at home, at school and around town. But no one should ever

Help Re-Elect a Supporter and a Friend County Executive, Barry Grossman



Erie County Director of Human Services, Shari Gross meeting with Erie County Executive, Barry Grossman

County Executive, Barry Grossman and his Administration has shown their support of LGBT Citizens in Erie County by:

- Including a voice for LGBT concerns within the highest level of County government.
- Encouraging the creation of a 24/7 youth SAFELINE (814) 456-7233, where young people can reach out for help if they are being bullied, are feeling depressed or desperate, or are worried about a friend. SAFELINE is a service of Safe Harbor Behavioral Health, a partner agency with the Erie County Department of Human Services.
- Providing funding, for the first time in Erie's history, to establish a local office of the Persad Center. Located at the Community United Church on West 38th Street in Erie, Persad is a resource for counseling, prevention, education and advocacy on LGBT issues for the community. Contact (814) 388-0195 or wkoehler@persadcenter.org to get connected.
- Providing education for social service professionals on LGBT needs and issues, with the help of the Persad Center.

STD/HIV

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**Erie County
Department of Health**

606 West 2nd Street

Corner of 2nd and Cherry

814-451-6700

www.ECDH.org

STD Testing Hours:

Monday 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Wednesday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Thursday 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM



Calendar

be bullied or harassed for who they are. Real Time is about finding ways to deal with tough times. Real Time is about taking care of yourself and standing up for others. Fun, food, friends, *free!* Come check it out at Persad-Erie, 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. Contact: Leann Rommitti. Phone: (412) 538-7862. Email: lromitti@persadcenter.org. Browse to www.facebook.com/PersadErie.

May 21 (Tue) - Spirituality and Sexuality Discussion Group meets (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA) 7 PM. , 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. 866-229-1974 (toll free). richmccarty@msn.com.

May 21 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party (Mike Kohler's, 614 Cherry St Erie, PA) 7PM. We'll be folding and distributing the copies. All ages welcome! Contact: Mike Mahler. (814) 456-9833. info@eriegaynews.com. www.eriegaynews.com.

May 24 - 26 (Fri - Sun) - Memorial Day Military Weekend Jones Pond, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) "In the Navy" is the theme. Get out your best nautical outfits and have fun at our Sunday afternoon T-Dance. Memorial Day weekend dances all three nights! Yah, the pool is open! (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. www.jonespond.com.

May 25 (Sat) - Holiday Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA) Dance Saturday and Sunday Night (724) 637-2402. Email: campd@aol.com. www.campdavicampground.com.

May 25 (Sat) - LGBT Float in Perry 200 Parade (Perry 200 Parade, W. 12th & Cherry, Erie, PA) We are looking for other groups and individuals to help with building the float and also to be on it. If your group wants to display their banner, that's terrific! This Grand Patriotic Parade is scheduled to take place from 1-4 PM. The parade route is 1.8 miles long - from W. 12th Street and Liberty to 3rd and State Street. The parade will consist of civic dignitaries - including the governor of Pennsylvania leading the parade, military and marching bands, veterans, floats of American wars - especially from the War of 1812, Erie history floats,

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<http://gayellowpages.com>

Calendar

special wave dancers, ethnic groups from the area, Erie organizational floats, large balloons of cartoon characters, clowns, antique cars, and much more! Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: president@nwpapride.org.

May 25 (Sat) - TransFamily of Erie Support Group meets 2 - 5pm at Mental Health Assoc. of Northwest PA (1101 Peach St. Erie, PA) Contact: Caitlyn Strohmeier. (814) 823-1969. caitlyn_xpress@verizon.net.

May 25 (Sat) - Erie Sisters meets (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie, PA 16508) 7 PM. Phone: (440) 265-8191. Venue Phone: (814) 864-9300. Email: shub1@suite224.net. Browse to <http://eriesisters.ning.com/>. Browse to venue web site www.uuerie.org.

May 26 (Sun) - LBT Women go to Troika Russian Festival (Church of the Nativity, Erie, PA) 12 PM. Email: LFinch003@neo.rr.com.

May 30 (Thu) - LBT Women go to The 23rd Annual Erie Wild Rib Cook Off and Music Festival (Perry Square, Erie, PA 1) 6 PM. LFinch003@neo.rr.com.

Text for Testing

Text "PAtest" to 41411 to find 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.



Online Contests

Here are new contests for this month...

Contest	Begins
<i>Following My Path</i>	April 26
<i>Last in Time: Erotic Romance Through the Ages</i>	April 30
<i>Lifting the Spiritual Self-Esteem of the LGBT Community</i>	May 3
Kristy Love Brooks - <i>Songs of Love and Peace</i>	May 7
Sophi's <i>"This Is Our Love (Asi Es El Amor)!"</i>	May 10
Rolling DVD, <i>Face 2 Face</i> DVD	May 14
<i>Out & Equal at Work</i> by Selisse Berry, <i>One Life to Live/All My Children "I <3 SOAPS Sweepstakes"</i>	May 17
<i>Damaged Angels</i>	May 21
<i>Bob and Ray, Keener than Most Persons</i>	May 24

Here are contests which are currently active...

Contest	Ends
<i>Les Miserables: From Stage to Screen</i>	April 26
<i>Love Free or Die</i>	April 30
Satellite - <i>Calling Birds</i>	May 3
<i>Satan's Angel</i> , Jessie Ware: <i>Devotion</i> , Sarah Brightman: <i>Dreamchaser</i>	May 7
<i>The Killer Wore Leather</i>	May 10
<i>D'Agostino</i> DVD	May 14

More contests at eriegaynews.com!

Sign up for the Erie GLBT News and Events list and get contest announcements and also a list of upcoming events!

Candidates for Erie County Executive, Erie County Council, Erie City Mayor and Erie City Council were asked about their positions on GLBT issues. Their responses appear on the next few pages.

These were the questions for all races:

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

Do you support legislation, such as the previous PA HB 300, which would amend the Pennsylvania Human Relations statute to include as protected categories real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity/ expression?

If you do support legislation such as HB 300, what would you be willing to do as an office-holder to promote its passage?

MARRIAGE EQUALITY

Would you support lobbying Erie’s mayor to sign onto Freedom to Marry’s Mayors for Equality (<http://www.freedomtomarry.org/pages/mayors-for-the-freedom-to-marry>), which currently has over 300 US mayors, including 7 from Pennsylvania.

ANTI-BULLYING

What is your position on comprehensive local legislation for students concerning bullying in schools? If other categories are enumerated, do you support also including sexual orientation and gender identity/ expression?

LGBT SUPPORT

If elected, would you pledge to speak about LGBT equality issues to not only the LGBT community, but at public meetings that are not LGBT-specific audiences?

OTHER

What else would you like to let gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered (GLBT) voters, and their families, friends and supporter concerned about GLBT issues know about you?

ERIE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Not Responding: Thomas Loftus (R), Thomas McGahen (R), Don Tucci (R)

Anti-Discrimination

Barry Grossman (D-Incumbent)

Yes, I would support legislation that protects individuals from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Should such legislation be proposed in Pennsylvania, I would talk with our Senator and Representatives and make it known to them that their support of such a bill is critical.

Kathleen Dahlkemper (D)

Yes, I have a proven public record of protecting citizen’s rights when it comes to their real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity/expression. While serving in Congress, I proudly voted in favor of the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which expanded existing federal hate crime law to include crimes provoked by someone’s real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity. When elected as Erie County Executive, I will ensure that our local government will not discriminate against any person based on their real or perceived sexual orientation. I will continue to support equality for every citizen of Erie County and will correspond with any level of government on the issue of equality.

Marriage Equality

Kathleen Dahlkemper (D)

Yes, I would support lobbying Erie’s mayor to sign onto the Freedom to Marry Mayors for Equality.

Barry Grossman (D-Incumbent)

I would urge all elected officials to do so. If there has been any confusion or misperception in our country, our state, or our county on the issue of marriage equality, the smoke is surely clearing. We are less

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than a 20 minute drive to New York State, where same sex marriage is legal. We now know that a number of Justices on the US Supreme Court have clearly observed the state of inequity that exists with regard to same sex marriage, and public opinion has vastly improved on this matter in a very short period of time. It is time for us all to be on the right side of history.

Anti-Bullying

Kathleen Dahlkemper (D)

I would support comprehensive local legislation for bullying not only in schools but in business and our local government offices. I believe there should be a zero tolerance policy when it comes to bullying and the intimidation of others. I would support categories that included sexual orientation and gender identity/expression.

Barry Grossman (D-Incumbent)

First of all, we all must agree unwaveringly that bullying for ANY reason is unacceptable in our society. We have a collective responsibility to ensure that everyone – especially our youth – are free to live their lives without fear of harm because of who they are or the circumstances of their life. Since LGBT youth are particularly vulnerable to this type of violence, and with horrific outcomes such as increase in depression and suicide, I support any legislation that gives support and protection to LGBT youth.

This Voters Guide is compiled by
Erie Gay News.

The EGN Voters Guide does not endorse or rate candidates, but offers each candidate the opportunity to present their positions, efforts, and experiences in their own words.

Candidates are listed in alphabetical order.

LGBT Support

Kathleen Dahlkemper (D)

As your County Executive I would represent all citizens of Erie County in public hearings including those in the LGBT community.

Barry Grossman (D-Incumbent)

YES

Other

Kathleen Dahlkemper (D)

I am the proud mother of a gay son and have a personal understanding of the issues that the LGBT community faces each day. As a legislator, I proudly cosponsored and voted in favor of legislation that repealed Don't Ask - Don't Tell, so that every person can serve our nation proudly and as your County Executive I will continue to push for equality for every citizen.

Barry Grossman (D-Incumbent)

As County Executive, I have actively supported the LGBT community. Under my administration, the County has invited in and has provided funding for the first-ever counseling/outreach center for LGBT citizens (the Persad Center) in our community's history. We have sponsored trainings for hundreds of social service professionals in support of sensitivity and deeper understanding of LGBT concerns. My administration has also encouraged the establishment of project SafeLine at Safe Harbor Behavioral Health, a hotline dedicated to taking calls from youth who are being bullied, or those who are worried about a youngster who is being bullied. I personally have participated in events and forums that support LGBT concerns and equality.

I also want you to know that I have on my own cabinet a leader who is a fine professional who also happens to be gay. In 2010 I selected Shari Gross to be the Director of Human Services and invited her to be a member of my cabinet. She is responsible for the largest single department in our county government. She has encouraged me to let people know that she hopes to marry her partner Judy here in Pennsylvania someday soon, and that I support her in that dream. Her voice at the table gives voice to LGBT citizens every day within county government.

COUNTY COUNCIL District 2

Anti Discrimination

Lisa Austin (D)

I believe in *human* rights. Housing discrimination or employment discrimination based on gender, creed, age, race or sexual orientation is illegal. As a member of Erie County Council I would not take these laws for granted. With your help, I would remain vigilant in protecting the rights of all Erie County residents.

Joe Giles (D-Incumbent)

During the past several years, Erie County re-invigorated and created a county wide Human Relations Commission. As a leader in that process, I am proud to say that we included gender and sexual orientation as a “protected class”. In this way all of Erie County’s residents are protected equally under the terms of our H.R. Commission. In order to expand our HRC resources, I conducted meetings in DC with HUD and HEW officials and secured multiple years of federal funding for both community education and case processing at the local level regarding housing discrimination in Erie county. The bill in Harrisburg, PA HB 300 extends the same protection on a state wide basis. Therefore, my support of this legislation is strong and consistent with my ongoing work toward total equality.

Andre Horton (D)

My whole life has been shaped, molded and centered on service. I learned at a very early age that all people are created and should be treated equal. I learned the Golden Rule. My parents were activist and Freedom Fighters. I’ve been discriminated against in ways one shouldn’t have to be subjected to. I know the sting of being stereotyped solely on the color of my skin. Ouch, still to this day in 2013.

With all of those things in mind, I say not yes but HELL YEAH to the question on anti-discrimination....

Dave Pamula (D)

Yes. I would ask Council to pass a resolution in favor of it.

Renee Vendetti (D)

Yes. We have the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights that our forefathers wrote to protect all citizens.

Ned Smith (R)

Yes. I would encourage our legislative delegation to introduce and/or support such legislation through resolution and other appropriate means.

Marriage Equality

Lisa Austin (D)

Partners of same-sex relationships have sometimes been penalized by inheritance taxes that create difficult financial burdens for the surviving partner. During a medical crisis, partners may be denied the opportunity to serve as an advocate or as a decision-maker for their incapacitated loved one. Both of these problems deserve a solution

Joe Giles (D-Incumbent)

While I support marriage equality, I would caution all that it would be inappropriate for the county to formally adopt any resolution that attempts to control or dictate policy to any other local govt. level. While we work in a spirit of respect for the autonomy of each borough, township and city in Erie County, we work as partners. Any attempt to dictate to other local governing bodies would be perceived as an intrusion. Typically we work together while maintaining independence. For the county to request and require the city’s mayor to perform some public function, exceeds the authority of Erie County. However, it would be appropriate for the county itself to adopt a supportive resolution regarding this issue.

Andre Horton (D)

I have no problem supporting Marriage Equality myself because that is what I believe, but I have to say NO; I would not try to legislate what the City of Erie’s Mayor’s position on signing his signature to such a document or not. I would share with the mayor my personal thoughts and beliefs on the matter. I see nothing wrong with EGN asking the mayor to clarify his position.

Dave Pamula (D)

Yes. I prefer it to be called civil union.

Renee Vendetti (D)

Love has no sexual preference, color, nationality. Love truly comes from the heart. Why has it come to this? There is the Constitution and Bill of Rights to protect all Americans.

Ned Smith (R)

No. I do not think it is Council's place to tell an elected official of a jurisdiction that has no influence on legislative outcomes what to do, think or say. This is the mayor's decision to make.

Anti-Bullying

Lisa Austin (D)

Like discrimination, bullying demands an aspiration of "zero tolerance" in Erie County schools and workplaces, no matter who the target is or why the bullying takes place. I believe that a diverse, accepting community of people is the best antidote to bullying and discrimination.

Joe Giles (D-Incumbent)

To date, we have joined forces in our community actively to engage in anti-bullying programs. I serve on the "Steward Team" for the Erie Together Initiative. (Anti-Poverty Program administered by the United Way.) I am a founding board member of the Erie Policy and Planning Council for Families and Children. (Administered by the Mercyhurst Civic Institute.) I continue to actively provide leadership on the latest local version of Communities that Care Initiative. (Administered by Mr. Joe Markiewicz, Penn State Behrend.) As a pioneer founder of the 1st local Edition, I continue to remain committed to the CTC initiative as advanced and lead by U.S. Attorney Marshall Pachininni in its 2nd Edition. Each of these local efforts bring a different set of tools to respond to local social issues including positive youth development and related bullying issues. All three efforts are varied in approach and all are equally concerned about any and every form of bullying.

Andre Horton (D)

At present I don't have a position on comprehensive local legislation. In fact I'm not even sure what the question is. (Too broad for interpretation. Willing to look at it though). My views on bullying and violence are widely known. My record and the work that I do in the community speaks for itself. One would be hardpressed to find any Public Servant (Elected Official) that is more hands on in that area. Of course I support this.

Dave Pamula (D)

Yes, if other categories have been enumerated.

Renee Vendetti (D)

Yes. All of our children should be protected. No child should be abused by anyone. It should be up to parents and teachers to guide our children.

Ned Smith (R)

Since 2008, Pennsylvania law mandates that all school districts have an anti-bullying policy and program in place, and that policy be updated every three years. Many of the school districts include sexual orientation as one category of bullying; by all means, those that do not include such wording should do so. I support House Bill 156, recently introduced and referred to committee, as an improved anti-bullying bill.

LGBT Support

Joe Giles (D-Incumbent)

When re-elected to county council, I remain strongly committed to all LGBT people within our community and county. As the economic pressures continue, we need more than ever to value each other and appreciate our diversity.

Andre Horton (D)

No I will not make this Pledge. Not necessary that I do so. I just resigned from the Presidency of the Local NAACP Branch. I vow to always speak out against any form of discrimination, Regardless of one's race, ethnicity, creed, religion, disability, sexual identity, whatever. and not because you're asking because I want to serve. That's not what I do, that's who I am.

☆☆☆ VOTERS GUIDE ☆☆☆

Dave Pamula (D)

Yes

Renee Vendetti (D)

Yes, I have spoken out many times on family rights and equality. It is my opinion that I do not have the right to force my personal opinion on anyone. This is a free country and everyone has a right to their own beliefs

Ned Smith (R)

Yes.

Other

Lisa Austin (D)

As a candidate running on economic development issues, I am acutely aware that the GLBT community has been a key component in creating thriving economies in other cities. I believe that a diverse and accepting community in Erie County will help promote sustainable economic development in the region.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my thoughts in advance of the Democratic Primary on May 21.

Andre Horton (D)

Thank you again for this opportunity to engage on such very important matters. Keep up the good work and I look forward to serving as your Representative in the 2nd Legislative District of County Council.

Dave Pamula (D)

I am running to make Erie County better for everyone. I can be found on Facebook - Pamula for Council.

Renee Vendetti (D)

I believe in this country, our constitution. I am who will speak out if I feel that there rights are being violated. I have been attending County Council Meeting from 2005 to present. I am a family right and mental health advocate and have helped many families in Erie County. I have 20 years of experience in the accounting field.

I would like to know how you would like me to

represent you. I work for you, the constituents, not my own personal agenda.

Ned Smith (R)

I am a lifelong Erie resident and have lived on the west bayfront for the last 26 years, My career has been spent in educational technology, I have served on the Erie School Board (2003-2007) and am a Commissioner of the Housing Authority of the City of Erie, appointed by the mayor. I am honest, fair and dedicated to efficient and effective government on all levels.

COUNTY COUNCIL District 4

Not Responding: Ronald 'Whitey' Cleaver (D-Incumbent)

Anti Discrimination

Jay Breneman (D)

Yes I do. I will do everything within my power to demonstrate to the Commonwealth that justice cannot wait, and that their inaction or failure to act justly is not acceptable.

Marriage Equality

Jay Breneman (D)

I believe all public servants have an obligation to actively work for equality. I will do more than call on the mayor to do the right thing and stand for equality (as I have already done), I will call on all public servants to be accountable to justice and the greater good of all our citizens.

Anti-Bullying

Jay Breneman (D)

I have actively worked on localized anti-bullying, safe-zone, and GSA recognition campaigns across the country, and on larger equality campaigns across the world. Lives are truly at risk until we afford the protections that all people--particularly our children--deserve. All levels of our community must work proactively on this matter, and I will continue to pursue this by every means possible.

LGBT Support

Jay Breneman (D)

Absolutely. I will do more than attend GLBT events and declare my support; I will continue to serve as a true Ally by pursuing and achieving victories for justice and equality through true and earnest action, because equality has been--and will continue to be--a top priority for my life's work.

Other

Jay Breneman (D)

I believe Erie County should follow the example set by Pittsburgh and Philadelphia by providing a Domestic Partner Registry and extending health care benefits to the partners of Erie County employees.

Furthermore, as a member of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania, Erie County must push for equality to be included in their organizational platform.

But this is not enough. Erie can no longer stay idle on the matter of equality. We must break our self-imposed shackles and make our Erie Region a true leader for justice and equality in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and our great nation.

COUNTY COUNCIL District 6

Not Responding: Edward DiMattio (R-Incumbent), Trish Shoulders (R)

The Pennsylvania Primary Election will be held May 21, 2013.
 Contact your county voter registration office if you have questions about your registration.

ERIE CITY MAYOR

Anti Discrimination

Joe Sinnott (D - Incumbent)

I do not object to legislation amending the PA Human Relations statue to protect from discrimination against those with real sexual orientation or gender identity/expression. I do not support a category for perceived sexual orientation or gender identity/expression because the definition of perception has been problematic in other discrimination areas such as Title VII and the American with Disabilities Act. This is to say that I am against according a right to an individual who in fact does not have a disability or a sexual orientation, but seeks protected class status by charging organizations like the City with an ill motive because of an alleged "perception" of an individual. The intention of such legislation is noble but its practice has been imperfect.

I will make my position known to our local state government delegation.

Marriage Equality

Joe Sinnott (D - Incumbent)

At this time, I am not intending to sign onto the Freedom to Marry's Mayors for Equality.

Anti-Bullying

Joe Sinnott (D - Incumbent)

I am against bullying of any kind. With that said, I do not favor local legislation to address bullying in schools. I do not believe such local legislation will have a deterrent effect. At present, local municipalities have the limited authority to enact penal statutes for summary offenses only. Any greater penalty must be enacted by the State Assembly. Further, our public schools employ their own security force which is better suited to enforce school rules forbidding bullying.

LGBT Support

Joe Sinnott (D - Incumbent)

It has not been my practice nor do I feel it comes within the duties of the Mayor to advocate on behalf of any particular group's rights. As a general matter, I support all individual liberties that are embraced by or enacted into Pennsylvania statutes or derived from court decision construing Pennsylvania law or the constitutions of Pennsylvania and the United States.

ERIE CITY COUNCIL

Not Responding: Curtis Jones Jr (D-Incumbent), Jim Winarski (D-Incumbent), Jeff Evans (R-Incumbent)

Anti Discrimination

Dave Brennan (D-Incumbent)

As a member of Erie City Council for the past year, I have, and always will, represent and serve all of the citizens of Erie regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity / expression, religious beliefs, age, race, or gender. I would be in support of legislation that provides equal protection to all persons regardless of these attributes.

As a representative of the citizens of Erie, I would contact our State Representatives in order to advocate for the passage of this type of Bill with the end goal of eliminating discrimination.

Selena King (D)

I wholeheartedly support legislation such as PA HB 300 and any other legislation which prevents discrimination of any individual on the basis of race, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity.

As an office-holder, I would call awareness to issues of discrimination and advocate for individuals or classes who are being discriminated against, in order to ensure equal treatment and provision of services.

Casimir J ‘Kaz’ Kwitowski (D)

Yes I do. I have many friends who are state legislators, and were co-sponsors to this bill. I will contact those and others soliciting their support to pass this bill. Why will I do this? Because it is the right thing to do.

Marriage Equality

Dave Brennan (D-Incumbent)

I believe that local government works best when elected officials can work collaboratively towards common goals. To that end, I will work with the Mayor and my fellow council members to determine the City’s most effective role to ensure that all residents have equal protections and opportunities in Pennsylvania.

Selena King (D)

Ms. King did not respond to the marriage equality question. She did however make her feelings known by posting a photo of herself on Facebook, at Chik-Fil-A Appreciation Day, with the caption, “Supporting Chik-fil-A today! #standupforwhatyoubelievein” and further commented “I have & will always believe in the sanctity of marriage as a union between a man and a woman because of its establishment in the Word of God; however, I still love and care for those who believe/practice otherwise.”

Casimir J ‘Kaz’ Kwitowski (D)

Yes I would.

Anti-Bullying

Dave Brennan (D-Incumbent)

I am the father of a two children, one in grade school and one in high school. Bullying has been a subject discussed many times in our household. Bullying can be physical or verbal abuse and can lower a child’s self esteem and also cause long term emotional damage. Our community should stand up against bullying in all forms.

Selena King (D)

I support the current policy and procedures which are implemented throughout the City of Erie School District. The ESD currently utilizes a Zero Tolerance Policy, which prohibit bullying, harassment and any other forms of violence among the students, faculty and staff. I support legislation which is inclusive of all individuals and fosters an environment conducive to learning and safety.

Casimir J ‘Kaz’ Kwitowski (D)

We need legislation at all levels to protect everyone from bullying. Bullying is an all-inclusive problem. No one is safe. And yes sexual orientation and gender Identity/expression should be included. As I taught my kids, People who make fun of people in front of other people. All people deserve respect and consideration.

LGBT Support

Dave Brennan (D-Incumbent)

As an elected official and also as a private citizen, I support equality on ANY issue and would be willing to speak out in support of equality regardless of the

audience.

Selena King (D)

As an elected official, I will speak up and speak out for equality issues which violate an individual's rights.

Casimir J 'Kaz' Kwitowski (D)

Yes I would. All issues are relevant at all public meetings. As an elected public official I represent all the citizens of the City of Erie. I always have and always will. That is my promise.

Other

Dave Brennan (D-Incumbent)

I am a "hands-on" community leader, a professional architect / planner and I am truly committed my hometown of Erie! As a forward thinking and innovative member of Erie City Council, I am uniquely qualified to creatively tackle the complexity of challenges that currently face our City. My education, skills, and experience has enabled me to define problems, listen to citizen's concerns and needs, and present creative solutions. I am also the Director of Planning & Design for the Economic Development Corporation.

Being a professional architect and planner, I am a trained "consensus builder". I am not a career politician and I will continue to represent, collaborate, and proactively engage the citizens and community groups of Erie who share the same vision to make Erie a prosperous place to live. My vision includes; healthy neighborhoods, a thriving downtown, a strong economy, and a vibrant quality of life! I strongly believe that the future prosperity of our City will be determined by our local leader's ability to build relationships with our community and work as a team to solve our problems and plan for our future. For more information on my EXPERIENCE, EDUCATION, and VISION, please visit my website and Facebook pages at the following locations: www.DaveBrennaErie.com and <https://www.facebook.com/DavidBrennanforErie>

Planning our Future Together!

Julia Calipo (D)

Julia Calipo for City Council. Not your average bear - I CARE! Advocate for Erie who votes NO new taxes! Stop gouging the city with taxes and penalties, while officials get pay raises. My emphasis #1... PEOPLE!

There is a new war on America to take away family planning, cuts to education from preschool to college, elder rights, poor rights, and unprecedented cuts to the very poorest. Here in PA, Republican Governor Corbett, has senior citizen and veterans denied care and CRI employees unpaid, and these people are at risk of DEATH. Corbett's cuts to WIC will make infants starve and be nutritionally deficient. We are battling our own government by letters, lawsuits, and rallies for our dignities as humans! We have \$260 million being cut from Erie County by Corbett. Our lottery is being exported to another country, our liquor stores destroyed to oust the unions and force more minimum wage slaves. What cookie jar will Corbett raid next???

Qualified: yup, I do volunteer and fundraising for our city and am forming a nonprofit named Cali Cares which will focus on a new homeless shelter for the hundreds who aimlessly wander our streets for shelter and scavenge for food in trash cans. I beg you to help in the search for a building which can be rehabbed to house those hundreds, and to write grants and join me in procuring funds. I have lawn signs and banners so please contact me for materials at 454-0736 or juliaanncalipo@FB.

I want to make clear to you that I am in fact... DEMOCRAT. I have a belief in freedom! I support, (and only vote) pro choice, gay marriage & insurance rights, gay & alternate lifestyles, and equal Civil rights for ALL! My campaign is focused on building a homeless shelter, putting people before concrete, and dealing with blight and pork spending. I believe in a fair LIVING wage. I believe that people matter more than dollar bills, bribes, and political opinion. Please join me in standing for the Democrats, our freedoms should never be compromised! Freedom is not free and we have a duty to vote on May 21. Erie is not on the chopping block and we must stand for what is ours. Justice.

Casimir J 'Kaz' Kwitowski (D)

As an elected official I have always had an open door policy. Anyone can find my phone number in the book. I have taken many oaths both as a soldier and an elected official. I believe in the constitution and the protection of its citizens and the rights bestowed upon them. What makes our country great is its diversity. Sometimes we forget that. I have many friends, from all facets of this world. Know this about me. I'm open minded and will always listen to your concerns.



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