



PFLAG Meetings in Meadville

NEW! There will now be PFLAG meetings the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7 PM at Stone United Methodist Church, 956 S Main St, Meadville PA. The next meeting is Tuesday, October 28. The meeting is co-sponsored by Stone United Methodist Church and Unitarian Universalist Church of Meadville. For more info, call (814) 724-6736 or email sroncola@allegheny.edu (Stone UMC) or (814) 724-4023 (UU Meadville.) Meetings will also continue in Erie the 2nd Monday of the month at 7 PM at Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie.

Lake Erie Gala Nov 19-23

by *Melanie*

The annual Lake Erie Gala will be held Nov 19-20-23 at the Avalon Hotel in Erie.

The Gala, now in its 15th year had its origins at the Riverside Inn in Cambridge Springs PA, and this year's event, themed, "Return to Riverside" features revisiting the historic Riverside Inn on Thursday evening the 20th.

The annual Gala attracts transgenders from all across North America and sometimes beyond. Other events during the Gala include fine dining, a tour of local wineries and shopping centers, entertainment Friday evening by the popular duet, Dueling Pianos, a disco-themed evening with Disco Night at Billie's Bar Friday evening at the Avalon (which will be open to the public), DJ and Karaoke by Brad Kepler, a fashion show on Saturday afternoon, and our traditional "Glitter Ball" on Saturday evening, which is also open to the general public.

The Gala management team will be offering two scholarships for those otherwise unable to attend this year, as well as our regular raffle with a first prize of a package A for all events next year. This year also will see a marked increase in sponsors and vendors for the event. More information, or to sponsor or become a Gala vendor, a complete schedule of events and registration can be found on the Erie Sisters website



Michelle Michaels performs at the Pink FACE Breast Cancer Weekend held at The Zone Oct. 10-12. Michelle organizes the annual benefit, and announced that this year's event had raised \$2,047 for StringsforaCURE®

Photo by David Reese

at erisisters.ning.com or by contacting Erie Sisters president and Gala director, Melanie Shubitowski at (440) 265-8191 or via her e-mail at shub1@suite224.net

2014 Transgender Day of Remembrance Vigil Nov 23

By *Caitlyn Strohmeyer*

This year, at 1pm on Sunday, November 23rd, the TransFamily of Erie and Erie Sisters transgender support groups are proud to host a candlelight vigil in the Avalon Hotel courtyard to honor those who were lost during the past year to the horrendous violence that our community continues to endure around the world as a result of transgender- or prejudice-based hate.

The Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR), officially observed on November 20, is an annual observance to memorialize those who have been killed as a result of transphobia, or the hatred or fear

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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.

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info@eriegaynews.com
www.eriegaynews.com

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Assistant Editor and Layout: Deb Spilko

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Deadline for next issue:

November 15; Folding and distribution is Tue, November 25 at Mental Health Association.

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 & Six LGBT Archives WORLDWIDE!



THANKS
 From Your Friends at Erie Gay News

To Mental Health Association of Northwestern Pennsylvania for hosting! Andrea, Audrey, Christina, Johauna, Julie, Julie, Kim, and Melanie Shubitowski for folding; Andrea, Christina, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Julie, Julie, Kim, and Melanie Shubitowski 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

(continued from front page)

of transgender and gender non-conforming people, and brings attention to the continued acts of abject violence endured by the global transgender community.

We live in times more sensitive than ever to hatred-based violence, especially since the events of September 11th. Yet even now, the deaths of those based on anti-transgender hatred or prejudice are largely ignored. Over the last decade, more than one person per month has died due to transgender-based hate or prejudice, regardless of any other factors in their lives. This trend shows no sign of abating.

The Transgender Day of Remembrance serves several purposes. It raises public awareness of hate crimes against transgender people, an action that current media doesn't perform and it publicly mourns and honors the lives of our brothers and sisters who might otherwise be forgotten. Through the vigil, we express love and respect for our brothers and sisters in the face of national indifference and hatred. The Day of Remembrance reminds non-transgender people that we are their sons, daughters, siblings, parents, friends and lovers.

We ask all of our friends and allies to step forward with us and stand in vigil, memorializing those of us who've died at the hands of anti-transgender violence.

Panel Discussion on LGBT Rights at Edinboro University Oct 23

One Campus Experience presents a panel discussion on LGBT Rights in Pennsylvania and the US: How Far Have We Come, and How Far Do We Have to Go? The event happens Oct. 23 at 7:00 PM in Butterfield Hall 134 at Edinboro University, Edinboro PA. Panelists: include Reverend Shanea Leonard, Head of Equality Pennsylvania for Western Pennsylvania; T.J. and Wendy Titus, A married couple from Erie who have filed a lawsuit challenging Pennsylvania's marriage laws; and Dr. Robert Rhodes, Professor Emeritus of Edinboro University, representing ACLU Erie. Moderator: Dr. Gerald Hoffman, Professor of Chemistry. Sponsors: President's Commission on the Status of LGBTQIA and the student organization, Identity. One Campus Experience is program of the Diversity, Inclusion, and Multicultural Education Committee of the President's University Diversity Council.

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Extension 477



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Community News

Board Members sought for NW PA Pride Alliance, Inc

from NW PA Pride Alliance Board of Directors

NWPA Pride Alliance is looking for applicants to fill positions with our board of directors, as well as establish a volunteer corps to assist with event set up and advisory panel. NWPA Pride Alliance is seeking to diversify its membership to best address the needs of the LGBT community, persons of all sexual orientations, gender identifications, marital status, ethnic backgrounds and educational experiences are welcome to apply. All positions are unpaid, volunteer positions. We are looking for people who want to become more involved with the LGBT community, working with our members 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. Board members meet

monthly and additionally as needed in preparation for specific events.

Volunteer corps members will work with the board to set up, staff and tear down following public events such as the Millcreek July 4th Parade, Pride Fest, Candidate Forums etc. Volunteer corps meetings will be on an as needed basis specific to each event. If someone is unavailable for full board membership, volunteer corps participation is an excellent way to stay involved.

Advisory panel members are to provide guidance for the board of directors in specific matters upon request. Meetings will be as needed and may be irregular. Specific areas of expertise being sought are accounting, legal counselor, community education, publicity, medical backgrounds and non profit administration. The board or directors will seek advice from the advisory panel on issues as they arise.

If you are interested, please send a resume that outlines your experience and qualifications by Saturday, November 29 to president@nwpapride.org or NW PA Pride Alliance Inc., 1115 W 7th St, Erie PA 16502. All resumes will be considered, please note if you wish to apply for membership to the board of directors, advisory panel or volunteer corps. You can only hold one of these position, but you may apply for more than one.



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Community News

Candidate Night update

from NW PA Pride Alliance

About 30 people attended the Oct. 2 "Meet the Candidates" night organized by NW PA Pride Alliance. Candidates attended included Patrick Harkins (PA State House District 1 D-Incumbent), Juanita Shutsa (PA State House District 6 - D) and Chris Mitchell, representing Curt Smith (PA State House District 4 - D).

Co-sponsors for the event included NW PA Pride Alliance, Erie Gay News, Erie Sisters, Greater Erie Alliance for Equality, Identity/EUP, LBT Women of Erie, Mental Health Association of NW PA, NW PA NOW, Pennsylvania Student Equality Coalition, Persad Center, PFLAG Erie and Crawford Counties, and TransFamily of Erie Support Group.

Check out the page 11-15 this issue of *Erie Gay News* for NW PA Pride's Voters Guide.

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Calendar

Detailed calendar listings in our online calendar
www.eriegaynews.com

Oct 22-26 "Cabaret" Taylor Little Theatre, Mercyhurst University. Info: 824-3000, miac.mercyhurst.edu.

Oct 23 (Thu) - Panel Discussion: LGBT Rights in Pennsylvania and the U. S.: How Far Have We Come, and How Far Do We Have to Go? (Edinboro University/Butterfield Hall, 219 Meadville St., Edinboro, PA) 7 PM. "In honor of Edinboro University's LGBT History Month, and the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act, we are hosting a panel discussion. Panelists are Rev. Shanea Leonard, Head of Equality Pennsylvania for Western PA; T. J. and Wendy Titus, of Erie, who have filed a lawsuit challenging marriage laws in Pennsylvania; Dr. Robert Rhodes, Emeritus Professor at Edinboro University, representing ACLU Erie. Prof. Gerry Hoffman will moderate."

Oct 24-25 "Rocky Horror Picture Show" Barrow Civic Theater 1223 Liberty St, Franklin, PA. Box Office: 814-437-3440 www.barrowtheatre.com

Oct 24 (Fri) - Zone Divas Halloween Drag Show (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) (814) 452-0125. TheZoneDanceClub@aol.com. www.thezonedanceclub.com/.

Oct 25 - "Rocky Horror Picture Show" Sing-Along at Academy Theatre 275 Chestnut St, Meadville, PA) (814) 337-8211 www.theacademytheatre.org

Oct 25 (Sat) - TransFamily of Erie Support Group meets (Mental Health Association of NW Pennsylvania, 1101 Peach St, Erie, PA) 2-5 PM. Refreshments, free parking is available in a lot to the south of MHA. Please bring a snack to share. Caitlyn (814) 823-1969.

Oct 25 (Sat) - Erie Sisters meets (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Provides support and encouragement for both MTF and FTM transgender individuals. Followed by dinner at a local restaurant and dancing at Zone (440) 265-8191. shub1@suite224.net. eriesisters.ning.com/.

Oct 26 (Sun) - Diversity Sunday (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA) Sermon by Rev. Dr. Rich McCarty Contact: Rev. Richard A Moyer. (814)

LGBTQ QUESTIONS? WE HAVE ANSWERS

► PERSAD CENTER'S COMMUNITY SAFE ZONE PROGRAM



PERSAD

CONTACT SAFE ZONE
COORDINATOR
TED HOOVER

PERSAD CENTER's Community Safe Zone program works to eliminate bullying, hate crimes and discrimination aimed at LGBTQ people in western PA. Community Safe Zone partners with law enforcement, schools, social service agencies, churches, community groups and other organizations to create safe communities. If you, or someone you know, have been the victim of a bias-related incident, PERSAD can assist you in getting the help you need.

1-888-873-7723 ext. 218 • persadcenter.org

Calendar

864-4429. communityunitedchurch@yahoo.com.
www.uccwebsites.net/commuceriepa.html.

Oct 26 (Sun) - Whispering Lake Grove Samhain Celebration (Unitarian-Universalist Cong. of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy Erie, PA) Info: Rev. Christopher Temple at grollwynn72@hotmail.com. (814) 720-1560. www.whisperinglakegrove.org/.

Oct 28 (Tue) - Butler LGBTQ Interfaith Network meets (Covenant Presbyterian Church, 230 E. Jefferson Street, Butler, PA) 1 PM. (412) 518-1515. www.facebook.com/ButlerLgbtqInterfaithNetwork

Oct 28 (Tue) - PFLAG Meeting in Meadville (Stone United Methodist Church, 956 S. Main St. Meadville, PA) 7 PM. There will now be a PFLAG meeting the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7 PM in Meadville. Meeting is co-sponsored by Stone United Methodist Church and Unitarian Universalist Church of Meadville. Info (814) 724-6736 or email sroncola@allegheny.edu (Stone UMC) or (814) 724-4023 (UU Meadville.)

Oct 29 (Wed) - LBT Women of Erie go to Film at the Erie Art Museum (Erie Art Museum, 411 State

St, Erie, PA) \$5 Doors open 6, movie 7PM. (814) 314-9512. ErieBeans@aol.com. www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE.

Oct 30 (Thu) - The Ericest Halloween Bash w/ the Groove & the Village People CANCELLED

Oct 31 - Nov 1 (Fri - Sat) - Zone Haunted Castle Weekend (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) Costume judging on Saturday night, prizes for the best costumes! (814) 452-0125. TheZoneDanceClub@aol.com. www.thezonedanceclub.com/.

Nov 2 (Sun) - PFLAG Butler meets (Covenant Presbyterian Church, 230 E. Jefferson St., Butler, PA) (724) 602-8447. www.pflagbutler.com.

Nov 4 (Tue) - General Election 7 AM - 8 PM. Voters Guide is on pages 11-15 of this issue.

Nov 5 (Wed) - LBT Women of Erie go to Film at the Erie Art Museum (Erie Art Museum, 411 State St, Erie, PA) 6 PM. Doors open 6, movie starts at 7. \$5. Contact: Kim Conti. (814) 314-9512. (814) 459-5477. ErieBeans@aol.com.

Nov 7 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour)

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Calendar

(Location TBA Erie, PA) 6 PM - 8 PM.

Nov 9 (Sun) - LBT Women meets (Brew Ha Ha, 2612 W 8th St, Erie, PA) 12 PM. Contact: Kim. (814) 314-9512. ErieBeans@aol.com. www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE.

Nov 10 (Mon) - PFLAG Erie/Crawford County meets (Unitarian Universalist Cong. of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy, Erie, PA) . 7-8:30 PM. Contact: Alex Sphon. (814) 367-3311. pflag.erie.crawford@gmail.com.

Nov 12 (Wed) - LBT Women of Erie go to Film at the Erie Art Museum (Erie Art Museum, 411 State St, Erie, PA) 6 PM. Doors open 6, movie starts at 7. \$5. Contact: Kim Conti. (814) 314-9512. (814) 459-5477. ErieBeans@aol.com.

Nov 12 (Wed) - J-Pride - LGBT Social Group meets (Mental Health Assoc. in Chautauqua Co., 31 Water St. Suite 7, Jamestown, NY) 6 PM. Drive into the big parking lot at the Gateway Center and drive to back of the building to the smaller rear parking lot. You'll see a bright light over door 14. Enter there. Contact: Steven Michael Cobb. (716) 661-9044.

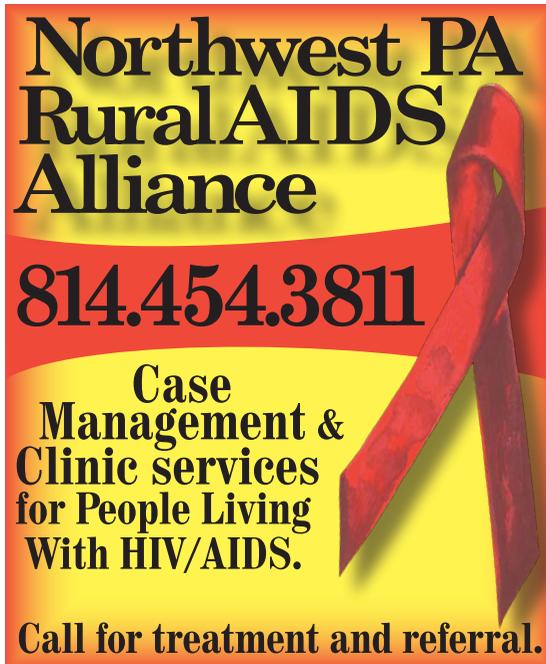
Nov 12 (Wed)- Gray Pride Thanksgiving Potluck, 6 pm, Lakewood Senior Center West, 16924 Madison Ave just west of Hilliard, Lakewood, OH. Gray Pride is a friendly monthly gathering of GLBT seniors.

Nov 15 (Sat) - Deadline for Erie Gay News December 2014 print edition EGN, 1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA. (814) 456-9833. info@eriegaynews.com. www.eriegaynews.com

Nov 16 (Sun) - Whispering Lake Grove Samhain Celebration ((Unitarian-Universalist Cong. of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy Erie, PA)Doors open 5PM, pre-briefing 5:30, ritual 6:00pm potluck after. Info: Rev. Christopher Temple at grollwynn72@hotmail.com. (814) 720-1560. www.whisperinglakegrove.org/.

Nov 16 (Sun) - Michelle Michaels presents FACE (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) 11 PM. (814) 452-0125. www.thezonedanceclub.com/.

Nov 18 (Tue) - LBT Women go to Penn State Behrend Women's Basketball vs Thiel (Junker Center at Penn State Behrend, 5103 Station Rd, Erie, PA) 6 PM. \$3 admission Contact: Kim Conti. (814) 314-9512.



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Calendar

ErieBeans@aol.com..

Nov 18 (Tue) - Bears Do Dinner (Pufferbelly Restaurant, 414 French St, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Casual dinner of food and fun! Dinner is on your own. Info: (814) 446-2327. info@drenchedfur.com. www.drenchedfur.com

Nov 18 (Tue) - Spirituality and Sexuality Discussion Group meets (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA) 7PM. Facilitator: Rev. Dr. Rich McCarty At Community United Church (an open and affirming congregation). 1-866-229-1974 (toll free). richmccarty@msn.com.

Nov 19 (Wed) - GEAE Monthly Happy Hour/Erie Community Service Project (Calamari's SquidRow, Upper Rm, 1317 State, Erie) 5-8PM. GEAE provides light snacks and water-all welcome. (866) 229-1974. GEAEinfo@gmail.com. greatereriealliance.com/

Nov 19 (Wed) - LBT Women of Erie go to Film at the Erie Art Museum (Erie Art Museum, 411 State St, Erie, PA) Doors open 6, movie at 7. \$5. (814) 314-9512. (814) 459-5477. ErieBeans@aol.com.

Nov 19 - 23 (Wed - Sun) - Lake Erie Gala (Avalon

Hotel & Conference Center, 16 W 10th St, Erie, PA) Annual event for Erie Sisters Transgender Support Group. Info:(440) 265-8191, (814) 459-2220. shub1@suite224.net. eriesisters.ning.com/.

Nov 23 - Transgender Day of Remembrance 1pm on The TransFamily of Erie and Erie Sisters transgender support groups host a candlelight vigil in the Avalon Hotel courtyard to memorialize those killed due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice. www.transgenderdor.org

Nov 22 (Sat) - TransFamily of Erie Support Group meets (Mental Health Association of NW Pennsylvania, 1101 Peach St, Erie, PA) 2-5 PM. Refreshments, free parking is available in a lot to the south of MHA. Please bring a snack to share. Caitlyn (814) 823-1969.

Nov 25 (Tue) - Butler LGBTQ Interfaith Network meets (Covenant Presbyterian Church, 230 E. Jefferson Street, Butler, PA) 1 PM. (412) 518-1515.

Nov 25 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party (Mental Health Assoc. of NW PA, 1101 Peach St, Erie, PA) 7 PM. All ages welcome! Contact: Michael (814) 456-9833. info@eriegaynews.com. www.eriegaynews.com.

Dec 1 - World AIDS Day



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☆☆☆ VOTERS GUIDE ☆☆☆

Candidates for US Congress PA-3 and PA-5, PA State Senate and PA State House were asked about their positions on GLBT issues. Their responses appear on the next few pages.

These were the questions for PA State Offices:

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

Do you support the passage of SB/HB 300, which would amend the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act to include protecting LGBT individuals from discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodation? Please explain.

ANTI-BULLYING

Do you support the PASS Act, which would amend the Public School Code of 1949 to include protecting LGBT individuals from bullying in public schools? Please explain.

OTHER

What would you like to let the Erie area LGBT community to know?

Responses on following pages



PA Governor

Not Responding: Tom Corbett (R-Incumbent)

Anti-Discrimination

Tom Corbett (R-Incumbent)

[Editors' note]: In December, Corbett stated "If that bill comes to my desk, I'll sign it," Source: The Morning Call on 2014 Pennsylvania Governor race, Dec 18, 2013

Tom Wolf (D)

All people – regardless of sexual orientation – should be treated equally under the law. At my company, I treat all of my workers fairly and with good benefits. This includes extending benefits to same-sex partners. I do this not just because it is morally important but also because I understand the practical economic importance of extending rights regardless of sexual orientation.

As governor, I will promote legislation, like House Bill 300, that makes sexual orientation and gender identity and expression a protected class. I will also support changes to Pennsylvania's tax code so that domestic partners can be recognized as dependents for tax purposes. This would eliminate the need for employees to pay taxes on health benefits covering their same-sex partner.

Ken Krawchuk (Libertarian)

The Libertarian Party is different from the two old parties in that we are the party of principle. Every law we support, every law we oppose, can all be traced to one central principle: that your life is yours, your property is yours, that you have the God-given, inalienable right to live your life your way, without interference, provided that you respect the rights and property of others.

That said, it's obvious how I stand: I believe that we should all be treated equally under the law, meaning no special favors for anyone, nor any special handicaps for anyone. Granting a special status to a particular group of people effectively lifts them up above others,

giving them rights and privileges that others do not share. That creates in effect a second class citizenship for those outside the protected group. I stand against second class citizenships, so therefore I would oppose any law granting special protections or quotas for gays, women, minorities, businesses, or politicians, and I would oppose any law that denied anyone full enjoyment of all rights and privileges. All must be equal in the eyes of the law.

Anti-Bullying

Tom Wolf (D)

I believe safety is a fundamental civil right, and nowhere is that more evident than in our schools. Students go there to learn and should be safe and protected. In order to create an environment where students feel comfortable testing new ideas and asking questions, there Tom Wolf for Governor www.wolf-forpa.com needs to be a positive school climate where students feel safe. Not only does the Commonwealth need to ensure that public school teachers have the knowledge and tools to prevent bullying but we also need to strengthen our anti-bullying laws so that there are real consequences.

In addition to addressing issues of in-school bullying, we also need to tackle the problem of cyber-bullying, which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have referred to as a public health emergency. As governor, I will support legislation that strengthens our current laws to create serious consequences for bullies and provide school districts with the tools needed to properly address the problem.

Ken Krawchuk (Libertarian)

Bullying is currently a high profile issue in public schools, and I feel that it has been adequately addressed, and that no further legislation is currently needed. As for explicitly including LGBT individuals in such legislation, please refer to my answer to Question 1. To repeat: I would oppose any law granting special protections or quotas for any group of people, and I would oppose any law that denied anyone full enjoyment of all rights and privileges. All must be equal in the eyes of the law.

Other

Tom Wolf (D)

William Penn founded Pennsylvania on a basis of fairness and tolerance. Our Commonwealth must continue to be a place that pays faithful tribute to those good values.

I am running for governor because I want to give Pennsylvania a fresh start – to make the Commonwealth the nation’s “Keystone” for economic growth with its abundant natural resources, vibrant agricultural sector, world class universities and colleges, and its ideal location as the transportation and telecommunications hub between the East Coast, Midwest, and world markets.

Pennsylvania is not going to get this fresh start unless we level the playing field and start treating all residents with the respect they deserve. As governor, I will work tirelessly to advance the rights of all residents, end discrimination against the LGBT community, and ensure that two people who love each other have the right to marry. Additionally, I will work recruit and actively encourage more LGBT residents to enter politics at the local, state, and national level.

Ken Krawchuk (Libertarian)

I must congratulate the LGBT community in Erie and across the country for finally receiving the recognition and respect that all people deserve. As with racial minorities, the journey toward acceptance for the LGBT community has been a long one, often a one-step-back/two-steps-forward situation. But acceptance is strengthening, and the long-term prospects are excellent. However, I would caution against overconfidence, especially in the realm of legal remedies. Asking for special privileges runs the risk of creating a backlash and undoing the achievements made to date. Equality is what we all seek, not supremacy. I wish you continued good fortune in your quest for equality.



*The 2014 Voters Guide is a project of
NW PA Pride Alliance*

PA Senate District 50

Not Responding: Michele Brooks (R)

Anti-Discrimination

Michael T Muha (D)

If elected to the Pennsylvania Senate, I will not only support, but co-sponsor any legislation that bans LGBT discrimination from employment, housing, and public accommodation. Pennsylvania should be a state where we welcome people to live, work, and play.

Anti-Bullying

Michael T Muha (D)

As an anti-bullying advocate for public school children, I am a strong supporter of any legislation that protects students. Certainly sexual orientation and gender identity are two categories that should be protected.

Other

Michael T Muha (D)

That you will not have a greater ally and friend to support you and your cause. I strongly believe that all Americans, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, should be treated with respect and compassion. As your next State Senator, I will fight for you and your right to be equal under the law.

PA State House District 1

Not responding: Patrick Harkins (D-Incumbent)

[Editors' note]: Patrick Harkins is a co-sponsor of HB 300 (anti-discrimination) and the PASS Act (against bullying)

PA State House District 2

Not responding: Flo Fabrizio (D-Incumbent)

[Editors' note: At the NW PA Pride Alliance candidates forum April 16, Rep. Fabrizio stated that he "Absolutely" supports repeal of the PA DOMA law. In response to a question about HB 300, he said, "I've co-sponsored that from Day 1."]

PA State House District 3

Not Responding: Luke E Lofgren (R)

Anti-Discrimination

Ryan Bizzarro (D-Incumbent)

I absolutely support the passage of HB300, which is why I am a co-sponsor of this legislation. No employer, landlord, or business should have the right to deny another person their rights due to sex, religion, race, or sexual orientation. No one should fear loss of their job because they have a picture of their partner or family on their desk.

Anti-Bullying

Ryan Bizzarro (D-Incumbent)

I do support the passage of the PASS Act (HB 156) and have shown my support by becoming a co-sponsor of the Act.

Other

Ryan Bizzarro (D-Incumbent)

I meet on a regular bases with Rep. Brian Sims and Rep. Fleck who keep me updated on the issues dealing with the LGBT community. I would also like everyone to know that my door is always open to all. If you have any questions or concerns, please call my office to speak to me or to my staff. We can be reached at 814-835-2880 or email me at RepBizzarro@pahouse.net.

Luke E Lofgren (R)

[Editor's Note: Lofgren was a guest speaker at the Traditional Marriage Rally Sept. 6, 2014. The rally was held in opposition to same-sex marriage.]

PA State House District 4

Not Responding: Curt Sonney (R-Incumbent)

Anti-Discrimination

Curt Smith (D)

YES, This Community is worthy of equal treatment as are all Pennsylvanians.

(Continued next page)

Anti-Bullying

Curt Smith (D)

YES, As a School Director, and the Chairman of the Policy committee we look hard at our policies to prevent issues that could arise in our school system. I support to prevent bullying and defend equal rights.

Other

Curt Smith (D)

It is not a representative's responsibility to decided whether LGBT individuals are right or wrong, but to defend the rights as an individual and protect there rights that all Men & Women should be treated equally

PA State House District 6

Not Responding: Brad Roae (R-Incumbent)

Anti-Discrimination

Juanita Shutsa (D)

Yes. I believe discrimination of any group in the area of employment, housing, and public accommodation to be reprehensible and unacceptable.

Anti-Bullying

Juanita Shutsa (D)

Yes. Bullying is unacceptable in any shape or form toward any individual or group of individuals, period.

Other

Juanita Shutsa (D)

I would like to let the Erie area LGBT community know that I am a person who recognizes and will support the full equality of all persons of our district and our state. Legislation which would promote bigotry and prejudice have no place in the law books of our commonwealth. I believe in every individual's freedom of choice regardless of that choice's agreement with my or another's personal beliefs.



PA State House District 17

Not Responding: Parke Wentling (R)

Anti-Discrimination

Wayne E Hanson (D)

I support the passage of SB/HB 300. All citizens are entitled to equal opportunity and protection from discrimination. This includes discrimination based upon sexual orientation or gender identity or expression.

Anti-Bullying

Wayne E Hanson (D)

I support the PASS Act. There are already many avenues for protecting students from bullying. Unfortunately we need special legislation to “remind” and “require” the powers to be, and all others, that “all” students deserve this protection, and this protection “must be provided”.

Other

Wayne E Hanson (D)

Citizens in the LGBT community are part of the long list of groups that have been subject to bias and discrimination. I have been an advocate against unjust treatment most of my life. One example, I was an advocate for the mentally retarded helping them obtain their right to denied education and MH/MR. Services. This was greatly needed until the 70s and is now much improved. I am now retired. Previously I was a District Justice for 18 years. Every day my goal was to insure all citizens were treaty fairly. I have always encouraged others that it is important to stand up for their rights and what is right. I have volunteered my time to help others overcome unjust practices and unsympathetic organizations. For example several years ago a college student being harassed at school because of his sexual orientation. It is important that organizations such as the Pride Alliance exist. Mutual support is the key to bring about needed change.

I viewed this questionnaire as the best I received. The NW PA Pride Alliance is providing a valuable service by reasonable questions and not editing the answers.

I will be honored if any person with the Pride Alliance would be willing to volunteer with my campaign. Home Phone 814-587-3418

VOTERS GUIDE

These were the questions for US Congress:

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

Last year, the United States Senate passed the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), providing federal protection for LGBT individuals from job discrimination. The bill has gone to the House. Do you support this bill? Please explain.

MARRIAGE EQUALITY

In the 2013 Windsor decision, the United States Supreme Court declined to decide if the LGBT community has a constitutional right to marriage equality. Conflicting state rulings have occurred since this time, causing the issue to soon be back before the Court. Do you support a constitutional right to marriage equality for the LGBT community? Please explain.

OTHER

What would you like to let the Erie area LGBT community to know?

US CONGRESS PA-3

Not Responding: Dan LaVallee (D), Mike Kelly (R-Incumbent)

Mike Kelly (R-Incumbent)

Editors' Note: Mike Kelly did not respond to the questionnaire, but did respond to a question about ENDA at a townhall meeting in Vernon Township in July 2011. A constituent asked Rep. Kelly if he supported ENDA and Kelly responded by talking about his support for DOMA (Defense of Marriage Act) which bans same-sex marriage. He then quickly changing the subject. You can view his entire response on our website, link to it from this article on our website.

US CONGRESS PA-5

Not Responding: Kerith Strano-Taylor (D), Glenn Thompson (R-Incumbent)

Online Contests

Here are new contests for this month...

Contest	Begins
<i>Men on the Make: True Gay Sex Confessions</i> ; Karine Hannah Burning Up	October 24
<i>Heterosexual Jill</i> DVD; <i>Money Sucks, Friends Rule</i> by Dillon Francis	October 28
<i>An American Queer</i> by Lee Lynch	October 31
<i>Southern Baptist Sissies</i>	November 4
<i>Grydscaen</i>	November 7
<i>The Talk Show</i> - Joe Wenke	November 11
<i>The Room: The Definitive Guide</i>	November 14
<i>Odd Girl Out</i>	November 18
<i>Men of the Manor</i> ebook	November 21
<i>The Door of the Heart</i>	November 25

Here are contests which are currently active..

Contest	Ends
<i>KINGDOM</i> prize pack; Paloma Faith <i>A Perfect Contradiction</i> ; <i>Gone with the Whim</i>	October 24
Ella Henderson <i>Ghost</i> remixes	October 28
<i>When She Was Good: Best Lesbian Erotica</i> ; Gorgon City <i>Sirens</i>	October 31
<i>Corpus Christi</i> DVD; Mary Lambert <i>Heart On My Sleeve</i> ; Pair of Tickets to <i>Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike</i>	November 4
<i>Studs: Gay Erotic Fiction</i> ; Annie Lennox <i>Nostalgia</i>	November 7
<i>Adrian and the Tree of Secrets</i>	November 11

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