



# EGN

## Erie Gay News



### 20th Anniversary Family Portrait to be taken at Pride Fest on Aug. 29

*from NW PA Pride Alliance*

It's hard to believe, but 2015 marks the 20th anniversary of the first-ever LGBT Family Portrait. To celebrate this milestone, everyone is invited to be in the Family Portrait that will be taken at the start of Pride Fest on Saturday, August 29 in Griswold Park, 150 W 14th St, Erie PA. The day will begin with assembling beginning at noon for the Pride Parade from the Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th S, and step off at 1 PM. The parade will end up in Griswold Park. As we arrive in Griswold, anyone who wants to be in the Family Portrait should gather in front of and facing the stage. A photographer will take the Family Portrait from the stage, and that will then kick off Pride Fest at 2 PM.

The first-ever Family Portrait was taken on the steps of the Erie County Courthouse, 140 W 6th St, on Saturday, October 28, 1995. This was taken to be in the City of Erie's Bicentennial Time Capsule and is now included in the Bicentennial Time Capsule at Dobbins Landing, due to be opened in 2095. We want to especially invite anyone in the original photo, and we also want to encourage as many other groups and individuals as possible, to show the growth of the local LGBT community.

### An Evening with 'Invisible Thread' creators at Mercyhurst Sept. 9

*from Mercyhurst University*

From the rolling hills of Uganda to a stifling NYC apartment, *Invisible Thread* (formerly titled *Witness Uganda*) engages audiences as it weaves poetic lyricism throughout spoken word, musical theatre and gospel. Our opening night performance features show creators Griffin Matthews and Matt Gould, alongside a local gospel choir, presenting the music from their award-winning show before it premieres on Broadway this fall. Griffin, a black American volunteer, arrives in Uganda from New York City to help build a school and escape



*Todd Simpson proposes to current Miss Erie, Valerie Valentino, at the end of the August FACE show at the Zone. More photos on our website.*

*Photo by Mike Mahler*

his church's probing into his sexuality. But when he meets a group of destitute, orphaned teenagers, he becomes obsessed with a mission that will change his and their lives forever. Fresh off a workshop at Disney hosted by music theatre legend Steven Schwartz, the score from this two-time winner of the Richard Rogers Award for Musical Theater will come alive in Erie for one night only. *Invisible Thread* is the story of a man battling to find his place in a world full of injustice as he asks "is changing the world even possible?"

Performance info: September 9 at Mercyhurst University - Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center, 501 E 38th St, Erie, PA 16546, 7:30 PM. Box Seats: \$30; Adult Tier 1: \$20; Adult Tier 2: \$17; Senior &

*(continued on page 3)*

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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.



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

AD SIZE	PRICE/ISSUE	DIMENSIONS
EIGHTH	\$30 - \$27 Prepaid	1 5/8" high X 27/8" wide
QUARTER	\$50 - \$45 Prepaid	3 1/2" high X 27/8" wide
HALF VERT.	\$90 - \$81 Prepaid	7" high X 27/8" wide
HALF HORZ.	\$90 - \$81 Prepaid	3 1/2" high X 6" wide
FULL PAGE	\$160 - \$144 Prepaid	7 1/2" high X 6" wide

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

Photos and Illustrations should be PDF or TIFF and HIRES.

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

**Erie Gay News is now included in The EBSCO *LGBT Life*® with Full Text Index & Six LGBT Archives WORLDWIDE!**



To Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel for hosting! Andrea, Bill, Kim, and Rex Apps for folding; Andrea, Bill, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Kim, and Rex Apps 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

Military Tier 1: \$17; Senior & Military Tier 2: \$14; Student & Youth Tier 1: \$14; Student & Youth Tier 2: \$11;; Mercyhurst Student Rush Tickets (Day of only): \$5 (814) 824-2000. [www.mercyhurst.edu](http://www.mercyhurst.edu). [www.witnessuganda.com](http://www.witnessuganda.com)

## Afternoon for Equality Recap

*from Greater Erie Alliance for Equality*

The Greater Erie Alliance for Equality, Inc. (GEAE) would like to thank those who helped make its fifth annual Afternoon for Equality social and fundraiser the most successful one to date. On July 19th, Erie community members gathered at 21 La Rue Dix to celebrate this year's advances and advocates for the LGBTQ community from the historic SCOTUS decision on marriage equality in June to the local trans-youth that have emerged as their own advocates in area schools. This year, GEAE was proud to present the first local LGBT Community Progress Awards to two long-standing corporate allies: GE Transportation and Erie

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# Community News

Insurance. At the event, GEAE Board President, Will Koehler, presented GEAE's 5-year vision to work with local allies in order to increase Erie's Municipal Equality Index (MEI) from its current rating of 57/100 to 100/100 by 2020 (Human Rights Campaign, 2014). His address highlighted the first phase of this vision which is to conduct a multi-phase LGBT community needs assessment. This assessment includes working with NWPAPride Alliance to form a community roundtable discussion group and working with Edinboro University's Social Work Department to conduct a needs assessment survey. Over 80 people participated in the Afternoon including State Representative Ryan Bizzaro, City Council Member Bob Merski, and founding Board member, Bob Howden. We are grateful to this year's Hosts, Friends, Partners, and Equality Advocates that enabled us to raise over \$10,000 towards our efforts to improve Erie's MEI! We look forward to working with these resources to complete our needs assessment, offer quality educational programming such as the 2nd Biennial Intersections of Equality on November 7th, and other

service opportunities and social events throughout the remainder of 2015 and beyond. Please visit our website [GreaterErieAlliance.org](http://GreaterErieAlliance.org) to take our survey, learn more about us, and to donate to our 2020 vision.

## Wedding Expo in Cleveland Sep 27

*from Wedding Rainbow Network*

You and your partner are invited to the 1st Annual 'Same Love, Same Rights' LGBT Wedding Expo on September 27! Dozens of gay-friendly exhibitors will participate, eager to help you and your fiancée plan the ceremony of your dreams! Couples, singles, and allies interested in marriage rights are all invited to attend.

Please reserve tickets at [www.SameLoveSameRights.com](http://www.SameLoveSameRights.com). RainbowWeddingNetwork has produced 100 Gay & Lesbian Wedding Expos throughout the nation. This is our first event in Cleveland ((12:30 PM - 3:30 PM. Holiday Inn Cleveland East/Mentor, 7701 Reynolds Road, Mentor, OH) (828) 645-8750. [events@rainbowweddingnetwork.com](mailto:events@rainbowweddingnetwork.com). [www.RainbowWeddingNetwork.com](http://www.RainbowWeddingNetwork.com).

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## Billy Wynn performs at Erie's Pride Fest Aug. 29

Pop/Electronic/Dance - Urban Electro recording artist and Pittsburgh native **Billy Wynn** will perform at this year's Pride Fest Saturday Aug. 29 at Griswold Park, 14th & Peach..



# Community News

## Fall Candidate Forum on September 23 at MHA of NW PA

*from NW PA Pride Alliance*

On Wednesday, September 23, 2015, the Mental Health Association (MHA) of Northwestern PA and NW PA Pride Alliance will jointly present a fall candidate forum at 6:30 PM (doors open at 5:30 PM) at the Mental Health Association of Northwestern PA, 1101 Peach St, Erie PA.

The event will include a meet and greet with candidates, light refreshments, a demonstration of a voting machine, and voter registration. It is free and open to the public, and we encourage you to speak one on one with candidates about the issues that matter to you!

This event is part of National Voter Registration Day. The deadline to register to vote in the November 5 municipal election is Monday, October 5.

For more information visit [www.nwpapride.org](http://www.nwpapride.org)

## The 2015 U.S. Trans Survey

*from National Center for Transgender Equality*

The 2015 U.S. Trans Survey is the new name of the largest survey ever devoted to the lives and experiences of trans people. It's the follow-up to the groundbreaking National Transgender Discrimination Survey, which was released in the 2011 report: Injustice At Every Turn.

Much of what we know about trans people in the U.S. has come from this study, and it has been an important source of information about who we are for advocates, policy makers, and the public.

But first and foremost, the 2015 U.S. Trans Survey is our community's survey. It is a survey for all trans identities, including trans, genderqueer, and non-binary people. It is for us, about us, and by us. As the community's survey, the 2015 U.S. Trans Survey data set and results will be available to community advocates, organizations, and researchers for years to come.

Visit [www.ustranssurvey.org](http://www.ustranssurvey.org)

# Candidate =F=O=R=U=M=

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## Wednesday

**Sept. 23rd at 6:30 PM**  
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This ad made possible by a Federal Grant under  
the Ryan White Care Act of 1990.

## Community News

### Free Health Screening at Pride Fest on August 29

*from NW PA Pride Alliance*

The NW PA Pride Alliance is pleased to offer FREE health screenings again at this year's Pride Fest! Pride Fest will take place on Saturday, August 29th, from 2 PM until 4 PM in Griswold Park, 150 W 14th St, Erie PA. Blood pressure and BMI screenings will be provided by Great Lakes Institute of Technology (GLIT). HIV testing will be provided by the Erie County Department of Health and Community Health Net. In addition to OraSure tests (oral swab; results in 2 – 3 weeks), OraQuick rapid testing will be available (small finger stick; results in 30 minutes). The newest addition to our health and wellness efforts is chair massages, courtesy of GLIT. NW PA Pride Alliance is proud to help everyone in our LGBTQ be happy, healthy, safe, and relaxed! Looking forward to seeing all of you at this year's Pride Fest!



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# Community News

## Crime Victim Center holds “Moonlight on the Bay” Sept 11

*Crime Victim Center of Erie County*

Crime Victim Center will host our 4th annual Moonlight on the Bay gala at the Perry Monument on September 11, 2015. This unique event will be sure to amaze as we bring together the best Erie has to offer including gourmet Hors d'Oeuvres, local wines and locally brewed craft beers. Performing this year are the Mercyhurst D'Angelo Department of Music's string quartet followed by The Sam Hyman Band. Food and beverages, great company with the leaders. With your help we can make a huge impact on crime in our region.

For the past three years we have enjoyed a stunningly beautiful evening on Presque Isle with more than 1200 people attending to raise more than \$110,000. Sponsors and individual tickets sold are both critical for our center to provide completely no-cost services to children that have been victims of sexual abuse in Erie County. Visit [www.cvcerie.org](http://www.cvcerie.org)



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## Community News

### NWPA NOW Auction on Sep 12

*from NWPA NOW*

Mark your calendars and see the date to attend **NOW's annual fundraising auction party on Saturday, September 12, 2015.** Come join the fun is once again celebrate Northwest Pennsylvania NOW's annual auction at the beautiful Goodell Gardens and Homestead on Route 6N in Edinboro. The fund begins at 4 PM and last until whenever. NW PA NOW Board member Tracie Andrews and her musical partner, known as The Flapjacks, will provide musical entertainment for the first hour. You don't want to miss this chance to gather with other feminists for great food and drinks in excellent company. Plan on coming out is a look forward to her wanted to be here that funds are chapters activities around women's issues. The food, wine, beer, soffits, and a lot of laughs. **It's \$10 per person and that fee will be waived for anyone who contributes an auction item.**

Your donation of items for the auction is greatly appreciated! All items offered must be donated in advance. (Will be happy to pick them up.) **No items will be accepted at the door.** At our discretion, to prevent the auction for being overly long, we group some items together, offer the raffle, please some of the silent auction table.

This is our major source of funding for NW PA NOW's work throughout the year, and as you well know there's still so much to do. With your help, we can continue to educate and lobby on the issues that concern us all to help us plan for a day of fun and fundraising, please mail in your registration by Friday, September 4 (the sooner the better). Last minute guests are also welcomed. If you cannot attend, but want to contribute to NWPA NOW, will be grateful for your donation. We very much appreciate your interest and support. If you have an auction item, please call Diana Ziemniak at 814-835-3392 or Betty Young at 814-734-5467. These same numbers apply for directions and other information.

**Read the EGN print  
edition online!**

Visit [www.eriegaynews.com](http://www.eriegaynews.com)



# TransFamily of Erie is expanding

by Caitlyn Strohmeier, *TransFamily of Erie*

No matter what your feelings are on Caitlyn Jenner, there is no disputing that she is having a very positive impact on our community. She may not know all the right things to say yet, but she is working hard on learning. No one can ask for more than that. Aside from Chaz Bono, she is by far the most high profile person ever to come out as transgender, and she is challenging a lot of people's thinking on what it means to be male or female.

Locally, her coming out is making a difference. Since her appearance on ABC with Diane Sawyer, and the resulting local media attention, TransFamily of Erie has doubled in size. Most interesting is the explosion of attendance by trans youth, as well as people from the more rural areas of NW PA. Launched in February 2013, TransFamily started with about eight people, many of whom were already out and part of the Erie Sisters and Brothers. Since then, our group has grown to roughly 60 attendees, with our largest single attendance of 36 in June! Our attendees come from all over northwest PA and northeast OH.

While this growth has been an unexpected and encouraging development, it has also presented challenges that we have not faced before. Managing a group of this size can be daunting, but we are working on ways to make it more beneficial to everyone who attends, such as splitting up into breakout sessions when attendance warrants it. Another way we are working to manage growth is by creating satellite groups in outlying areas to assist people who cannot travel to Erie.

With that in mind, we are happy to announce that beginning in October, we will be holding monthly meetings in Meadville, PA. Meetings will be held on

thesecond Saturday of each month from 2-5pm on the second floor of Counseling Corner, which is located at 898 Park Avenue in Meadville. The first meeting will occur on October 10. For more information, please contact Richelle Koehler at [richellekoehler@hotmail.com](mailto:richellekoehler@hotmail.com).

In addition, to better serve the transgender youth in our area, we are starting another group called Trans-Family Youth. The group will provide a safe space for local transgender, non-binary, and gender fluid youth, as well as their allies to discuss their challenges and work on building self-awareness and the confidence to live as their authentic selves. Details for this group are still being worked out, so please watch for more information. I invite you to like our group on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/TransfamilyOfErie> for up to date information and to leave comments, questions, relevant news and info, or just to start a discussion!

**Deadline for next issue is Sept. 14**



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# Addressing needs of LGBT seniors

Ray Maholtz, AA,BA,CBMS

Past President, Independent Council on Aging, INC.

With the aging of the baby boomers, nearly 80 million Americans born between 1946 and 1965 will need some types of service in their senior years. Of these 80 million approximately 2.4 million to 8 million are LGBT approaching the retirement age (*Source: Senior Action in a Gay Environment*).

We need to be sure that we here in our LGBT community in Erie (and the tri-state area) are taking care of our own senior gay community. We need to look at all the possibilities for aging in place and allowing the senior to remain in their home or in a "comfortable and acceptable" senior community. We need to hire agencies, caregivers and patronize senior communities that understand the LGBT community and accept and embrace our uniqueness. We need to support political leaders who respect and acknowledge our community and we need to abide by the mission of one of our local senior organizations, The Independent Council on Aging, Inc (ICA). The ICA's mission statement is very simple and concise: "to improve the quality of life for mature adults, while fostering a positive image of aging".

To me, it is quite amazing that locally we have done so little for seniors to have a place that they can afford that offers them respect and safety. Although anti-discrimination laws prohibit gay-only housing and hiring, some buildings (senior living communities) can be made LGBT-friendly through marketing and location. Providers need to do the same for in-home care aides. They need to hire and train aides who live and function within their/ own culture and communities. We need to remember that most of these gay seniors are birthed out of the baby boomer era, and make up

all of the seniors who blazed a trail for gay rights.

Working in the elder care business, I see that many of our caregivers are uneducated about LGBT senior needs. Few acknowledge and overtly hire members of the LGBT community to care for LGBT seniors. Few, if any, advertise that they understand the needs of "all seniors" and have the qualified, educated caregivers on hand to help. I know of none that offer diversity training that includes LGBT. "We know that caregivers are uneducated about LGBT senior needs," says Rod Hensel, a Buffalo area gay activist who helped to organize the Silver Pride Project. "And consequently we know that after sacrificing so much to come out, LGBT seniors feel the need to go back in the closet in their last days to avoid the discrimination and mistreatment they fought all their lives." More of our senior care community in the area need to start coming out and supporting the LGBT consumer by learning their culture and understanding the fears, desires and needs of the entire elderly population. They need to hire LGBT caregivers and match them to the appropriate senior. Having a caregiver who understands you, your lifestyle and your culture is paramount in a healthy, happy, and loving end of life experience. The agencies need to advertise and market "culture diversity".

The LGBT member needs to practice due diligence as well in choosing and seeking out providers, caregivers and agencies who understand them. They need to be pro-active in directing their own care, ask questions and ask for exactly what they expect of their caregiver and of the agencies that they hire.

Take a look online for agencies and organizations that cater to the senior community. Call, ask questions, and don't be afraid to express your needs and desires.

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# Calendar

**Detailed calendar listings in our online calendar**  
[www.eriegaynews.com](http://www.eriegaynews.com)

*Live & Let Live is an LGBTQA-friendly AA meeting that meets every Sunday, at 7PM, at Community United Church, 1011 West 38th Street, Erie, PA 16508. For more information, visit [www.aaeriepa.org](http://www.aaeriepa.org).*

**Aug 28 (Fri) - Asexuality Visibility & Community Group (AVCG) meets** (Mental Health Association of NW PA, 1101 Peach St., Erie, PA) 4-8PM. Contact: Joshua. joshuabeckey814@gmail.com.

**Aug 28 - 30 (Fri - Sun) - Cowboy Weekend - 400 Block Party** (Jones Pond, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) (585) 567-8100. [www.jonespond.com](http://www.jonespond.com).

**Aug 28 (Fri) - Pride Kickoff Drag Show** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) (814) 452-0125. [TheZoneDanceClub@aol.com](mailto:TheZoneDanceClub@aol.com). [www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub](http://www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub).

**Aug 29 (Sat) - Erie Pride Parade and Fest** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St) 12 PM. Parade begins assembling at the Zone at noon, step off is at 1 PM. Parade will go oto Pride Fest, which starts at 2 PM. Pride Fest will be held at Griswold Park this year. Performers, vendors, info tables, *fun!* Contact: Michael Mahler. (814) 456-9833. [mmahler@nwpapride.org](mailto:mmahler@nwpapride.org). [www.nwpapride.org](http://www.nwpapride.org).

**Aug 29 (Sat) - Camouflage/Military Night** (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA) (724) 637-2402. [campd@aol.com](mailto:campd@aol.com). [www.campdavisground.com](http://www.campdavisground.com).

**Aug 29 (Sat) - COLORS 3rd Annual Pride Picnic** (Firemen's Park, Vandermark Rd, Scio NY) 3:00 pm. Entry is \$5 for non-members. Free for children under 18. RSVP ASAP Ray at [rayw.colors@gmail.com](mailto:rayw.colors@gmail.com) with number of attendees, number of hotdogs and/or hamburgers and your dish to pass.

**Aug 30 (Sun) - North by Northwest Progressive Summit** (Avalon Hotel & Conference Center, 16 W 10th St, Erie, PA 16501) 9 AM - 5 PM. The Erie Progressive Summit includes inspiring speakers, panels and training sessions designed to educate and empower progressive leaders. Join social justice advocates, labor organizers and grassroots activists who come together to sharpen their skills, build power in NW PA, and develop relationships with others working on issues that matter. Phone: (610) 990-6300. Venue Phone: (814) 459-2220. Email: [info@keystoneprogress.org](mailto:info@keystoneprogress.org).

Browse to [www.nxnwsummit.org/](http://www.nxnwsummit.org/).

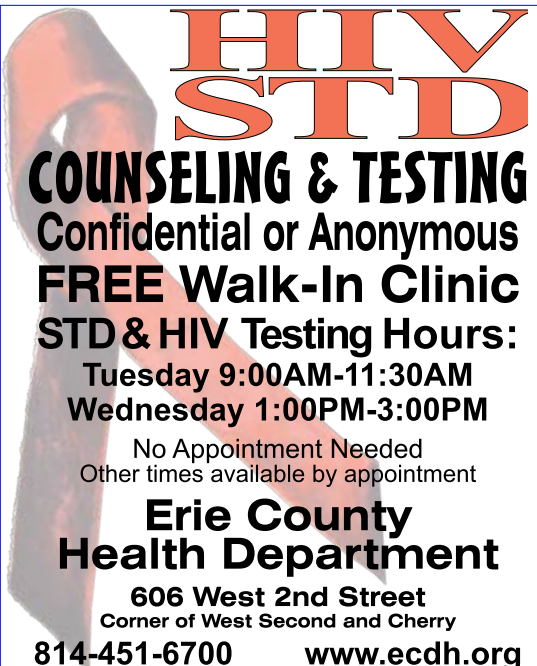
**Sep 2 (Wed) - The Table Worship Gathering** (Frontier Park - Labyrinth, W 8th and Bayfront Highway, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Email: [pastrixjodi@gmail.com](mailto:pastrixjodi@gmail.com). Browse to [www.thetableerie.com](http://www.thetableerie.com)

**Sep 4 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour)** (Cloud 9 Wine Bar, 25 E 10th St, Erie, PA) 6 PM - 8 PM. Venue (814) 870-9007.

**Sep 4 (Fri) - "Rocky Horror Picture Show" (1975)** (Erie Movie House, 3424 W Lake Rd, Erie, PA ) Screenings at 8PM and midnight. (814) 636-1662. [eriemoviehouse@gmail.com](mailto:eriemoviehouse@gmail.com). [eriemoviehouse.wix.com/erie-movie-house](http://eriemoviehouse.wix.com/erie-movie-house).

**Sep 4 - 19 (Fri - Sat) - "Angels in America Part Two: Perestroika"** (Dramashop, 1001 State Street 2nd Floor, Erie, PA ) Play by Tony Kushner [info@dramashop.org](mailto:info@dramashop.org). [dramashop.org](http://dramashop.org).

**Sep 4 - 7 (Fri - Mon) - Labour Day Weekend- 25th Anniversary Celebration!** (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) Highlight will be our Sunday night 25th Anniversary Spec-



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 No Appointment Needed  
 Other times available by appointment  
**Erie County**  
**Health Department**  
**606 West 2nd Street**  
**Corner of West Second and Cherry**  
**814-451-6700      [www.ecdh.org](http://www.ecdh.org)**

# Calendar

tacular Show, (585) 567-8100. [info@jonespond.com](mailto:info@jonespond.com). [www.jonespond.com](http://www.jonespond.com).

**Sep 8 (Tue) - Youngstown PFLAG meets** (St. John's Episcopal Church, 323 Wick Ave, Youngstown, OH) 6:30pm. [www.youngstownpflag.org](http://www.youngstownpflag.org)

**Sep 9 (Wed) - J-Pride - LGBT Social Group meets** (Mental Health Assoc. in Chautauqua Co., 31 Water St. Ste 7, Jamestown, NY) 6 PM. Contact: Steven Michael Cobb. (716) 661-9044.

**Sep 9 (Wed) - Theology on Tap** (Plymouth Tavern, 1109 State Street, Erie, PA 16501) 7 PM. Venue Phone: (814) 453-6454. Email: [pastrixjodi@gmail.com](mailto:pastrixjodi@gmail.com). Browse to <http://www.thetableerie.com/>. Browse to venue web site <http://www.plymouthtavern.com/>.

**Sep 9 (Wed) - An Evening with the Creators of 'Invisible Thread'** (Mercyhurst University - Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center, 501 E 38th St, Erie, PA) 7:30 PM. Phone: (814) 824-2000. [www.mercyhurst.edu](http://www.mercyhurst.edu). [www.witnessuganda.com/](http://www.witnessuganda.com/)

**Sep 10 (Thu) - Bears Do Dinner** (U Pick 6 Public House, 4575 W Ridge Rd, Erie, PA) 6:30 PM. Join the Bears for a casual night of food and fun! Dinner is on your own. Contact: Gary Snyder. (814) 446-2327. [info@drenchedfur.com](mailto:info@drenchedfur.com). [www.drenchedfur.com](http://www.drenchedfur.com)

**Sep 11 (Fri) - "Moonlight on the Bay" Gala** (Perry Monument, Presque Isle) Hosted by Crime Victim Center of Erie County. Gourmet Hors d'Oeuvres, local wines and locally brewed craft beers. Performing: Mercyhurst D'Angelo Department of Music's string quartet and The Sam Hyman Band. To provide completely no-cost services to children that have been victims of sexual abuse in Erie County. [www.cvcerie.org](http://www.cvcerie.org)

**Sep 12 (Sat) - Annual NW PA NOW Fundraising Auction** (Goodell Gardens & Homestead, 221 Waterford St, Edinboro, PA) 4 PM. The Flapjacks

will provide musical entertainment for the first hour. Food, wine, beer, soffits, and a lot of laughs. It's \$10 per person, fee will be waived for anyone who contributes an auction item. All items offered must be donated in advance. Contact: Diane Zemniak. Phone: (814) 835-3392. Venue Phone: (814) 734-6699. Email: [suswood219@gmail.com](mailto:suswood219@gmail.com).

**Sep 13 (Sun) - LBT Women meets** (Brew Ha Ha at the Colony, 2612 W 8th St, Erie, PA) 12 PM. (814) 314-9512. [ErieBeans@aol.com](mailto:ErieBeans@aol.com). [www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE](http://www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE).

**Sep 14 (Mon) - Deadline for Erie Gay News October 2015 print edition** (Erie Gay News, 1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA) Please have all articles, ads, and submissions in by this date. This issue will be released the evening of Sep 22. For complete list of upcoming deadlines and release dates, check schedule at [www.eriegaynews.com/printedition/deadlineschedule.php](http://www.eriegaynews.com/printedition/deadlineschedule.php) Contact: Michael Mahler. (814) 456-9833. [info@eriegaynews.com](mailto:info@eriegaynews.com). [www.eriegaynews.com](http://www.eriegaynews.com).

**Sep 15 (Tue) - Spirituality and Sexuality Discussion Group meets** (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Every third Tuesday of the month, the Rev. Dr. Rich McCarty facilitates a discussion group on spirituality and sexuality at Community United Church (an open and affirming congregation). Contact: Rich McCarty. Phone: 1-866-229-1974 (toll free).

**Sep 16 (Wed) - The Table Worship Gathering** (Asbury Woods Picnic Pavilion, 4105 Asbury Rd, Erie, PA) 7 PM. [pastrixjodi@gmail.com](mailto:pastrixjodi@gmail.com). [www.thetableerie.com](http://www.thetableerie.com)

**Sep 18 - 20 (Fri - Sun) - HALLOWEEN WEEK-END - Horror in the Woods** (Jones Pond, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) (585) 567-8100. [info@jonespond.com](mailto:info@jonespond.com). [www.jonespond.com](http://www.jonespond.com).

**Sep 19 (Sat) - Be Yourself - Come as You Are** (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA) C (724) 637-2402. [campd@aol.com](mailto:campd@aol.com). [www.campdavicampground.com](http://www.campdavicampground.com).

**Sep 20 (Sun) - Donut Dash 2015** (South Side Works, Hot Metal St and Water St, Pittsburgh, PA) 9 AM. Benefits PERSAD'S services to the LGBTQ Community and people living with HIV. Registration and info: [www.persadcenter.org/](http://www.persadcenter.org/).

**Sep 20 (Sun) - Michelle Michaels presents FACE Drag Show** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie,

**PLEASE  
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# Calendar

PA) 11 PM. "Great entertainment with all of your favorite drag queens, new drag queens and special guests" (814) 452-0125. [www.thezonedanceclub.com/](http://www.thezonedanceclub.com/).

**Sep 22 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party** (Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel, Griffin Room, 55 West Bay Dr Erie, PA) 7 PM. Help us get out the print edition of EGN. All ages welcome! [info@eriegaynews.com](mailto:info@eriegaynews.com). [www.eriegaynews.com](http://www.eriegaynews.com).

**Sep 22 (Tue) - PFLAG Meeting in Meadville** (Stone United Methodist Church, 956 S Main St, Meadville, PA) 7 PM. Meeting is co-sponsored by Stone United Methodist Church and Unitarian Universalist Church of Meadville. (814) 724-6736 [sroncola@allegheny.edu](mailto:sroncola@allegheny.edu), Contact: Sarah Roncolata. [www.facebook.com/pages/PFLAG-Erie-Crawford-Counties/1](http://www.facebook.com/pages/PFLAG-Erie-Crawford-Counties/1).

**Sep 23 (Wed) - J-Pride - LGBT Social Group meets** (Mental Health Assoc. in Chautauqua Co., 31 Water St. Ste 7, Jamestown, NY) 6 PM. Contact: Steven Michael Cobb. (716) 661-9044.

**Sep 23 (Wed) - Fall Candidate Forum** (Mental Health Association of Northwestern PA, 1101 Peach St, Erie,

PA) 6:30 PM, doors open at 5:30 PM. Meet and greet with candidates. Light refreshments, voter registration and a voting machine demonstration. Free and open to the public. Contact: Michael Mahler. (814) 456-9833. [mmahler@nwpapride.org](mailto:mmahler@nwpapride.org). [www.nwpapride.org](http://www.nwpapride.org).

**Sep 23 (Wed) - Bianca Del Rio 's Rolodex of Hate Comedy Special - Live** (Byham Theater Pittsburgh, PA) 8 PM. [trustarts.culturaldistrict.org/facilities/byham](http://trustarts.culturaldistrict.org/facilities/byham)

**Sep 25 (Fri) - Asexuality Visibility & Community Group (AVCG) meets** (Mental Health Association of NW PA, 1101 Peach St, Erie, PA) 4 PM - 8 PM. Contact: Joshua. [joshuabeckey814@gmail.com](mailto:joshuabeckey814@gmail.com).

**Sep 25 - 27 (Fri - Sun) - Moxie's Camp Y.E.T.I Euchre Tournament & Mega Bingo - Game Time!** (Jones Pond, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) In 2014 we gave away over \$4,000 in cash and prizes this weekend so expect no less as we start to close out season 25! (585) 567-8100. [www.jonespond.com](http://www.jonespond.com).

**Sep 26 (Sat) - TransFamily of Erie Support Group meets** (Mental Health Assoc. of NW PA, 1101 Peach St, Erie, PA) 2-5 PM. Support group for transgen-

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**AN EVENING WITH THE CREATORS OF**

## Invisible Thread

Wednesday, Sept. 9 • 7:30 p.m.  
Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center



Griffin, a black American volunteer, arrives in Uganda to help build a school and escape his church's probing into his sexuality. But when he meets a group of orphaned teens, he finds himself on a mission that will change his life forever.

Griffin Matthews and Matt Gould will present the music from *Invisible Thread*, blending poetic lyricism with musical theatre as they tell the story of a volunteer in Uganda and the complex realities of trying to change the world.

*This show is gifted in memory of Charlene M. Tanner by her loving partner, Doris Cipolla.*

**TICKETS:**  
814-824-3000  
[miac.mercyhurst.edu](http://miac.mercyhurst.edu)

# Calendar

der, gender non-conforming, gender-questioning, and intersex people and their loved ones in Erie Co. region. Contact: Caitlyn Strohmer. (814) 823-1969. caitlynxpress@gmail.com. www.facebook.com/TransfamilyOfErie.

**Sep 26 (Sat) - Erie Sisters and Brothers meets** (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Erie Sisters is a local transgender support group that provides support and encouragement for both MTF and FTM transgender individuals. Followed by dinner at a local restaurant and dancing at The Zone Dance Club. (440) 265-8191. shub1@suite224.net. eriesisters.ning.com/

**Sep 27 (Sun) - 1st Annual 'Same Love, Same Rights' LGBT Wedding Expo** (Holiday Inn Cleveland East/Mentor, 7701 Reynolds Road, Mentor, OH) 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM. Please RSVP at www.SameLoveSameRights.com.

**Sep 29 (Tue) - Butler LGBTQ Interfaith Network meets** (Covenant Presbyterian Church, 230 E Jefferson St, Butler PA, PA) 1 PM. (724) 287-7731. www.

facebook.com/ButlerLgbtqInterfaithNetwork.

**Sep 30 (Wed) - The Table: Gather at the Table** (Presque Isle State Park, Beach 1 Pavilion, 301 Peninsula Dr #1, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Weather permitting. bring a dish to share, table service provided. Watch website or FB page for details, changes due to weather. pastrix-jodi@gmail.com. www.thetableerie.com/.

**Oct 2 (Fri) - Paula Poundstone in Buffalo** Asbury Hall www.babevillebuffalo.com

**Oct 2-4 (Fri -Sun) - Annual Michelle Michaels Breast Cancer Weekend** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) Pink party Sat, special FACE show Sun. Bake sale, Chinese auction, ribbon sales, much more. (814) 452-0125. www.thezonedanceclub.com.

**Oct 2 - 4 (Fri - Sun) - Camp Davis Closing Weekend** (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA) (724) 637-2402. campd@aol.com. www.campdavicampground.com.

**Oct 2 - Oct 4 (Fri - Sat) - Jones Pond Closing Weekend - Thanks for another great season** (Jones Pond, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) I(585) 567-8100. info@jonespond.com. www.jonespond.com.

**Oct 6 (Tue) - Dining Out for Life** (Jamestown, NY 14701) Supporters Dine Out at a participating WNY restaurant and restaurant donates at least 25% of your food bill to Evergreen Health Services! Phone: (716) 664-7855. Email: lmatson@evergreenhs.org.

**Oct 8 (Thu) - Bears Do Dinner** (Summer House Cafe, 2605 Washington Ave, Erie, PA) 6:30 PM. Join the Bears for a casual night of food and fun! Dinner is on your own. Contact: Gary Snyder. (814) 446-2327. (814) 452-2500. info@drenchedfur.com. www.drenchedfur.com.

**Oct 9 - 31 (Fri - Sat) - PACA Presents: 'Rocky Horror Show'** (PACA, 1505 State St, Erie, PA) By Richard O'Brien Doors: 7:30p, Curtain: 8:00p, Tickets: \$10. BYOB w/ ID. www.paca1505.com.


**Oct 10 (Sat) - TransFamily Meadville meeting** (Counseling Corner, 898 Park Avenue, 2nd floor, Meadville PA) 2-5PM. *Beginning in October, we will be holding monthly meetings in Meadville* on the second Saturday of each month For more information, please contact Richelle Koehler at richellekoehler@hotmail.com.

**Oct 14 (Wed) - Namoli Brennet "Ditch Lilies Tour"** (Venango College, Oil City, PA) 7:00 PM www.namolibrennet.com

**Oct 15 (Thu) - Screening: "Out in the Silence"** 7pm

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**<http://gayellowpages.com>**

# Calendar

(University of Pitt at Titusville in Henne Auditorium, Titusville PA.) Emmy-award winning documentary, that follows the struggle of a gay teen growing up in the Oil region. Info: Tammy Carr at 814-827-4429. Visit [legacy.wpsu.org/outinthesilence](http://legacy.wpsu.org/outinthesilence)

**Oct 24 (Sat) - Rocky Horror Picture Show Sing-Along** (Academy Theatre, 275 Chestnut St, Meadville, PA) (814) 337-8211. [www.theacademytheatre.org](http://www.theacademytheatre.org).

**Oct 24 (Sat) - Jamestown Pride Conference** (Jamestown Savings Bank Ice Arena, 319 W 3rd St, Jamestown, NY) 1-4:15PM PM. Speakers.vendors, free luncheon, cash bar, over \$2,000 in prizes. Performances by Aidan Park, Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus, Laura Cimino, Nat Shafer and the James Miller Band! Afterwards: Miss Gay Chautauqua County Pageant and Masquerade Ball. Contact: Jason A Perdue. (716) 397-2452. [www.jamestownpride.com/](http://www.jamestownpride.com/).

**Oct 24 (Sat) - Miss Gay Chautauqua County 2015-2016 in the theme: Masquerade** Pageant Preshow begins at 7:30. Proceeds to benefit the Imperial Court of Buffalo and the Jamestown Pride Society. Masquerade Ball Schedule 11pm-1am Masquerade Ball 11-1am Midnight Costume Contest hosted by your new Miss Gay Chautauqua County: \$50 cash prize! [www.jamestownpride.com](http://www.jamestownpride.com)

**Nov 3 (Tue) - General Election** 7 AM - 8 PM. Please remember to vote!

**Nov 6 (Fri) - "Hedwig and the Angry Inch" (2001)** (Erie Movie House, 3424 W Lake Rd, Erie, PA ) (814) 636-1662. [eriemoviehouse@gmail.com](mailto:eriemoviehouse@gmail.com). [eriemoviehouse.wix.com/erie-movie-house](http://eriemoviehouse.wix.com/erie-movie-house).

**Nov 7 (Sat) - GEAE Intersections of Equality Symposium** (Penn State Behrend, 5103 Station Rd, Erie, PA 16563) (866) 229-1974. [GEAEinfo@gmail.com](mailto:GEAEinfo@gmail.com). [greatereriealliance.com/](http://greatereriealliance.com/). Playhouse Square

**Nov 12 (Thu) - Paula Poundstown in Cleveland** [www.playhousesquare.org/](http://www.playhousesquare.org/)

"I believe Jesus would approve gay marriage, but that's just my own personal belief. I think Jesus would encourage any love affair if it was honest and sincere and was not damaging to anyone else, and I don't see that gay marriage damages anyone else."

**Former President Jimmy Carter**

## Online Contests

Here are new contests for this month...

Contest	Begins
Demi Lovato - <i>Cool For Summer</i>	August 28
LOVE 3X remix CDs from ZZ Ward	September 1
<i>How Deep Is Your Love</i> from Calvin Harris + Disciples	September 4
<i>Extraordinary Hearts: Reclaiming Gay Sensibility's Central Role in the Progress of Civilization</i>	September 8

Here are contests which are currently active...

Contest	Ends
<i>Flight of the Donn T</i>	August 28
<i>Still Life Las Vegas: A Novel</i>	September 1
<i>No Good</i> from Ivy Levan	September 4
<i>White Light</i> EP from Shura	September 8
<i>Live in Cuba Jazz</i> with Wynton Marsalis	September 11
<i>Billy Winn</i> EP Billy Winn is performing LIVE at Pride Fest on August 29	September 15

More contests at [eriegaynews.com](http://eriegaynews.com)!

Sign up for the Erie GLBT News and Events list at our web site, and you will get first notice on new contests PLUS news and upcoming events!





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