

Suggestion box email for NW PA Pride

from NW PA Pride Alliance

It's a brand new year for us at the Northwest PA Pride Alliance.

We are committed to providing the best experience to all our community members as well to as our visitors. So to help us better serve you as a community, we'd like a little input from you. What do you like about our events and resources? How could we improve? Anything you'd like to see us add to our events or website? If you don't usually attend our events, why not?

We encourage you to participate in our continuous improvement program by submitting a constructive suggestion in regards to our events, our services, or even our website. Your feedback is a valuable part of our program and your suggestion will be reviewed in a timely manner and considered for possible further action.

Submit your suggestions by sending an email to suggestionbox@nwpapride.org

For more on NW PA Pride Alliance browse to www.nwpapride.org

Empire Pride Agenda to conclude major operations in 2016; cites priorities achieved

from Empire Pride Agenda

In a press release dated Dec. 12, 2015, Empire Pride Agenda made this announcement: "After 25 years of groundbreaking advocacy and service to New York's LGBT community resulting in over 100 state legislative and policy victories, The Empire State Pride Agenda, New York's statewide lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) civil rights organization, will conclude major operations in 2016. In the coming months, the Pride Agenda will identify aspects of its policy work to transition to partner LGBT organizations. The organization will maintain its Political Action Committee



The Laramie Project and The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later will be performed at SUNY Fredonia Feb. 25 - Mar. 5, with Judy Shepard speaking on Mar. 2. Details page 6 of this issue.

Contributed photo.

(PAC) in order to play a continuing role in electoral politics." The complete press release can be seen at www.prideagenda.org

Group forming for LGBT individuals 55+

from Dale Allgeier

Lake Erie Counseling is pleased to announce the formation of a new group focusing on the needs of LGBT individuals 55 years of age and older. This monthly group will offer a safe, comfortable space for the older LGBT individual to seek support, friendship, social opportunities and discussion of issues of importance such as medical/health needs, housing, legal/ financial concerns, discrimination, disabilities and social isolation.

The group will meet the second Sunday of the month from 4pm to 6pm at the offices of Lake Erie Counseling Inc, 301 West 10th Street, Erie, PA 16502. The initial meeting will be Sunday, February 14, 2016.

For more information contact Dale Allgeier, LCSW at 814-455-4009 or daleallgeier@outlook.com

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previous issues of EGN from 1992. Also, check out our Photo Galleries, Videos, Contests, Reviews & much more!



Erie Gay News				
QUARTER PAGE		FULL PAGE	HALF PAGE VERTICAL	
HALF PAGE HORIZONTAL		EIGHTH PAGE		
AN CITE DRICE/ICCHE DIMENCIONS				

AD SIZE	PRICE/ISSUE	DIMENSIONS
EIGHTH	\$30 - \$27 Prepaid	15/8" high X 27/8" wide
QUARTER	\$50 - \$45 Prepaid	31/2" high X 27/8" wide
HALF VERT.	\$90 - \$81 Prepaid	7" high X 27/8" wide
HALF HORZ.	\$90 - \$81 Prepaid	31/2" high X 6" wide
FULL PAGE	\$160 - \$144 Prepaid	71/2" 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

Erie Gay News 1115 West 7th St. Erie PA 16502-1105 (814) 456-9833

Fax: (530) 451-9833 info@eriegaynews.com www.eriegaynews.com

Editor: Mike Mahler

Assistant Editor and Layout: Deb Spilko

Ad Design: Mike Lipiec

Deadline for next issue: Feb 15; Folding and distribution is Tue, February 23 at Griffin Room at Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel.

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.



THANKS From Your Friends at Erie Gay News

To Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel for hosting! Andrea, Audrey, Bill, Bradley Ford, Johauna, Julie, Kim, Lori Kuzma, Melanie Shubitowski, Rex Apps, and Trish Catalano for folding; Andrea, Bill, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Julie, Kim, Lori Kuzma, Melanie Shubitowski, Rex Apps, and Trish Catalano 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

Become a 2016 NW PA Pride Donor!

from NW PA Pride Alliance

As the Northwest PA (NW PA) Pride Alliance begins its first full year as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, we are delighted to see how much we have grown. The support of individuals and organizations in our community has been the catalyst for furthering the Alliance's mission: Improving the visibility of the LGBTQIA community and facilitating communication and collaboration between groups and individuals. We are asking for your support in 2016 as we enter with a unified theme of "Invite, Unite, Ignite!"

Donors like you make it possible for the Alliance to organize, sponsor, and/or host events such as the Pride Festival and the Pride Picnic. The Alliance also participates in various community events to promote awareness of LGBTQIA issues, and supports the efforts and activities of other groups dedicated to the health and well-being of the LGBTQIA community.

To maximize the impact of your tax deductible contribution and to be included on promotional ma-

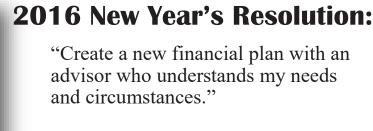
terials, please send donations by Friday, April 22, 2016. Checks should be made payable to NW PA Pride Alliance, Inc. See our web site at http://www.nwpapride.org for details on donor levels.

Please feel free to contact donations@nwpapride.org or call (814) 314-9075 if you need any additional info.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Speaker: Photographer of black South African lesbian life Feb 6

The Cleveland Museum of Art will be hosting: Contemporary Artist Lecture Series: Zanele Muholi on February 6 at 2pm. Zanele is an artist and visual activist who records the lives of black lesbian women in South Africa through photography, installation, and video. She seeks to illuminate the contradictions of life in a country that recognizes the legality of same-sex marriages but is plagued by hate crimes and intolerance for LGBTI individuals. She will be speaking at the Recital Hall of the Cleveland Museum of Art, 11150 East



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Community News

Boulevard, Cleveland OH. Free; registration recommended. Reserve tickets at tickets.clevelandart.org, or call the ticket desk at 216-421-7350.

LGBT Rainbow Alliance Meets

from Dale Allgeier

Erie's LGBT Rainbow Alliance is proud to announce a new support group that provides a safe, confidential space for LGBT community members to come together and share stories, struggles and resources about the LGBT experience especially those involving the medical and legal system. This support group will meet on the second Saturday of each month from 1pm to 3pm at the office of Lake Erie Counseling Inc. 301 West 10th Street, Erie, PA 16502. The initial meeting will be Saturday, February 13, 2016. The group is cofacilitated by Chelsea Nicole and Dale Allgeier, LCSW.

Please contact ErieLGBTRainbowAlliance@gmail.com with any questions.

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Community News

Board members and officers for NW PA Pride Alliance

from NW PA Pride Alliance

NW PA Pride Alliance, Inc has begun 2016 with the announcement of its board of directors and officers. Returning to the board this year are Diana Ames, Season Crannell, Chris Dye, Finu Lukose, Michael Mahler, Michael Mooney, Melanie Shubitowski, Alex Sphon and Daniel Thomas.

New additions to the board are Anthony Gressley and Dr. Alfred Dwayne Jenkins, MD.

Alex Sphon has been elected the organization's president, with Season Crannell as Vice President. Michael Mahler will serve as the group's secretary and Daniel Thomas will take the duties of treasurer.

Incorporated in March, 2012, NW PA Pride Alliance, Inc works to improve visibility of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersexed and Ally/Asexual (LGBTQIA) community. We also facilitate communication and collaboration between groups and individuals within the region's LGBTQIA community and the greater region's community, while respecting individual and group identity. We are 501(C)(3) as of May 30, 2015.

Please refer to the website www.nwpapride. org for upcoming events and news.

More news and features are at our website!

Visit www.eriegaynews.com







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The Laramie Project at SUNY Fredonia

from Paul W. Mockovak SUNY Fredonia and the Tectonic Theater Project.

The SUNY Fredonia Department of Theatre and Dance will present *The Laramie Project* and its epilogue between Feb. 25 and March 5.

About the play: In October 1998 Matthew Shepard—a gay university student— was kidnapped, severely beaten and left to die, tied to a fence on the outskirts of Laramie, Wyoming. Five weeks later, Moisés Kaufman and fellow members of the Tectonic Theater Project went to Laramie, and over the course of the next year, conducted more than 200 interviews with people of the town. From these interviews they wrote the play *The Laramie Project*, a chronicle of the life of the town of Laramie in the year after the murder. *The Laramie Project* is one of the most performed plays in America today.

The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later will also be presented. It is an epilogue and a bold new work, which asks the question, "How does society write its own history?"

Contains Strong Language.

Performances:

The Laramie Project:

Thursday, February 25, 2016 @ 7:30 pm Saturday, February 27, 2016 @ 2:00 pm Thursday, March 3, 2016 @ 7:30 pm Saturday, March 5, 2016 @ 2:00 pm

The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later

Friday, February 26, 2016 @ 7:30 pm Saturday, February 27, @ 7:30 pm Friday, March 4, 2016 @ 7:30 pm Saturday, March 5 2016, @ 7:30 pm

Tickets are: General Public - \$20.00, Student/child - \$18.00 SUNY Student - \$12.00 The Laramie Project and The Laramie Project Ten Years Later will run from Feb 25 to Mar 5 at the Bartlett Theatre of the Rockefeller Arts Center, SUNY Fredonia, in Fredonia NY. Ticket Office 716-673-3501 www. fredonia.edu/tickets.

Judy Shepard at SUNY Fredonia Mar 2

Judy Shepard will be speaking on "The Legacy of Matthew Shepard" Wednesday, March 2, 2016 at 7:00 pm in King Concert Hall in the Rockefeller Arts Center on the SUNY Fredonia Campus, Fredonia NY.

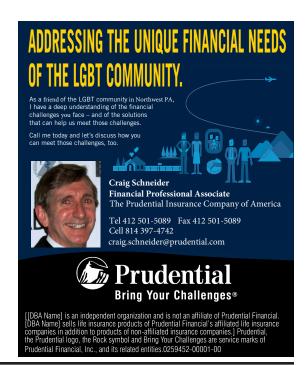


This event was made possible with support from

the Carnahan Jackson Humanities Fund of the Fredonia College Foundation.

The event is open seating and free to the public, but ticketed. Tickets are free at the Campus box office or at the event, and there is a a nominal charge for phone or online ticket orders.

Fredonia Ticket Office: 716-673-3501 www. fredonia.edu/tickets



Detailed calendar listings in our online calendar 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.

Feb 3 (Wed) - The Table Worship (3176 W. 41st Street, Erie, PA) 7 PM. pastrixjodi@gmail.com. www. thetableerie.com/.

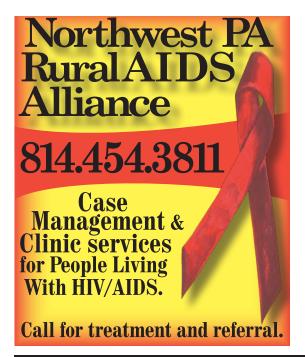
Feb 5 (Fri) - G2H2/ERIE - 'Fighting the Winter Blues' (Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St, Erie, PA) 6 PM - 8 PM.

Feb 5 (Fri) - Beer Pong (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) BYOB, membership required, purchase from bartender. www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge. Feb 6 (Sat) - Drag Show (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge. Feb 6 (Sat) - The Imperial Masquerade ICP Ball

432 Franklin St, Buffalo NY Benefits Imperial Court of Buffalo charities www.imperialcourtofbuffalo.com Feb 6 (Sat) - Speaker Zanele Muholi (Cleveland Museum of Art, Recital Hall, 11150 East Blvd, Cleveland OH) 2pm. Zanele is an artist and visual activist who records the lives of black lesbian women in South Africa Free; registration recommended. Reserve tickets at tickets.clevelandart.org, or call ticket desk at 216-421-7350.

Feb 7 (Sun) - TransFamily Youth meets (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA) 2 -5 PM. "We provide a safe space for all youth who fit somewhere in the gender spectrum, or who are questioning, to share their experiences and to obtain support from others who have had similar experiences. We welcome anyone 21 and younger who identifies as gender-variant." Contact: Char Newport. cmn0626@ gmail.com. www.facebook.com/TransfamilyOfErie.

Feb 7 (Sun) - PFLAG Butler meets (Covenant Presbyterian Church, 230 E Jefferson St, Butler PA, PA) 5 PM - 8 PM. president@pflagbutler.com. www.





pflagbutler.com/.

Feb 9 (Tue) - Bears Do Dinner (Millcreek Brewing Company, 4102 W Lake Rd, Erie, PA) 6:30 PM. Dinner is on your own. Contact: Gary Snyder. (814) 446-2327. info@drenchedfur.com. www.drenchedfur.com.

Feb 9 (Tue) - Youngstown PFLAG meets (St. John's Episcopal Church, 323 Wick Ave, Youngstown, OH) 6:30 PM. Support groups are open to public, light refreshments available. Contact: Marguerite youngstownpflag@aol.com. www.youngstownpflag.org/.

Feb 10 (Wed) - LBT Women go to Film Screening (Erie Art Museum, 411 State St, Erie, PA) 6 PM. \$5 admission, 6p.m. doors open. First film is Room, Contact: Kim (814) 314-9512. ErieBeans@aol.com. www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE.

Feb 10 (Wed) - Theology on Tap (Calamari's Squid Row, 1317 State St, Erie, PA) 7 PM. pastrixjodi@gmail. com. www.thetableerie.com/.

Feb 12 (Fri) - Zone Red Hot Diva Show (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub.

Andrea Shaffer shows off her loot from the gift exchange at the LBT Women Holiday Dinner on Jan. 10. More photos on our website. Photo by Mike Mahler.

Feb 12 (Fri) - Singles Night (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge. Feb 13 (Sat) - Erie LGBT Rainbow Alliance meets (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA) 1 - 3 PM. A new support group that provides a safe, confidential space for LGBT community members to come together and share stories, struggles and resources about the LGBT experience especially those involving the medical and legal system. The group is co-facilitated by Chelsea Nicole and Dale Allgeier, LCSW. (814) 455-4009. ErieLGBTRainbowAlliance@gmail.com.

Feb 13 (Sat) - TransFamily of Meadville meets (Counseling Center, 898 Park Ave., 2nd fl., Meadville, PA) 2 - 5 PM. "We provide a safe space for all who fit somewhere in the gender spectrum, or who are questioning, to share their experiences and to obtain support from others who have had similar experiences. We welcome anyone who identifies as gender-variant, their family, friends, and allies of the community. We also support the community through advocacy efforts and education to the larger cisgender community." Contact: Richelle Kohler. richellekohler@hotmail.com.

Read EGN Print Version ONLINE

Just go to our website and click on the image of the print edition!



www.facebook.com/TransfamilyOfErie.

Feb 13 (Sat) - Valentine's Day Party (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Feb 13 (Sat) - Veronyca's Showgirls: *V* & D'Yan's Birthday Gala (Loyal Order of the Moose Lodge No. 119, 201 West State Street, Olean, NY) 9 PM. Bringing Back the 90's. \$6 cover

Feb 14 (Sun) - LBT Women meets (Brew Ha Ha at the Colony, 2612 W 8th St, Erie, PA) Meets 2nd Sunday of the month at noon at Brew Ha Ha. Contact: Kim (814) 314-9512. ErieBeans@aol.com. www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE.

Feb 14 (Sun) - LGBT 55+ Support Group (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA) 4 PM - 6 PM. New group offering a safe, comfortable space for the older LGBT individual to seek support, friendship, social opportunities and discussion of issues of importance such as medical/health needs, housing, legal/ financial concerns, discrimination, disabilities and social isolation. Meets second Saturday of the month at Lake Erie Counseling. (814) 455-4009. daleallgeier@outlook.com. www.lakeeriecounseling.com/

Feb 15 (Mon) - Deadline for Erie Gay News March 2016 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 Tuesday, February 23. For a complete list of upcoming deadlines and release dates, check the print edition schedule at www.eriegaynews.com/printedition/deadlineschedule.php Contact: Michael Mahler. (814) 456-9833. info@eriegaynews.com. www.eriegaynews.com. Feb 16 (Tue) - PFLAG Meadville meets (Stone United

Methodist Church, 956 S Main St, Meadville, PA) 7 PM.

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Contact: Randy Herbert-Weed. (814) 724-6736. mead-villepflag@gmail.com. www.facebook.com/groups/PFLAGMeadville/.

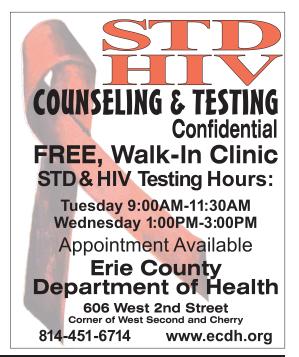
Feb 17 (Wed) - The Table Worship (3176 W. 41st Street, Erie, PA) 7 PM. pastrixjodi@gmail.com. www. thetableerie.com/.

Feb 19 (Fri) - Jenga Game Night (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Feb 20 (Sat) - LBT Women go to Mercyhurst Women's Hockey Game (Mercyhurst University, 501 E 38th St, Erie, PA) 12:15 PM. \$10 Mercyhurst Ice arena located on the campus of Mercyhurst University. Contact: Kim (814) 314-9512. ErieBeans@aol.com. www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE.

Feb 20 (Sat) - LBT Women Game Night (Kim and Andrea's, Erie, PA) 5 PM. Bring your favorite game and a snack to share. Contact Kim at Eriebeans@aol.com for our address and any questions. (814) 314-9512. www. facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE.

Feb 20 (Sat) - Music Lovers Lyrics Night (M & J's



Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Feb 21 (Sun) - "The Danish Girl" (2015) Taylor Little Theatre, Mercyhurst University, Erie PA. miac. mercyhurst.edu/events Adults \$6, Seniors/Students \$5 Mercyhurst Students \$1

Feb 21 (Sun) - LBT Women go to Even Craftier Handmade Fair (PACA, 1505 State St, Erie, PA) 12 PM - 4 PM. "Funds raised from the door donations and Chinese Auction will be donated to Team Tapper. This is to support our member and friend Laurie Finch's daughter in law Kelly Tapper who is battling MS. Donation at door for admission." Contact: Kim (814) 314-9512. ErieBeans@aol.com. www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE.

Feb 21 (Sun) - Michelle Michaels presents FACE Drag Show - 40th Birthday Bash! (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) 11 PM. Celebrating Michelle Michaels' 40th Birthday with out of town guest! 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 www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub.

Feb 23 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party (Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel, 55 West Bay Road, Erie, PA 7 PM. All ages welcome! Contact: Mike (814) 456-9833. info@eriegaynews.com. www.eriegaynews.com.

Feb 24 (Wed) - The Table meets (The Table, 3176 W. 41st Street, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Exploring the ancient spiritual practice of lectio divina. pastrixjodi@gmail.com. www.thetableerie.com/.

Feb 26-Mar 5 - The Laramie Project/The Laramie Project Ten Years Later (Bartlett Theatre of the Rockefeller Arts Center, SUNY Fredonia, Fredonia NY.) Ticket Office 716-673-3501 www.fredonia.edu/tickets. See details page 6.

Feb 27 (Sat) - TransFamily of Erie Support Group meets (Mental Health Assoc. of NW PA, 1101 Peach St, Erie, PA) 2 - 5 PM. Safe space for all who fit somewhere in the gender spectrum, or who are questioning. Contact: Caitlyn (814) 823-1969. caitlynxpress@gmail.

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

http://gayellowpages.com

com. www.facebook.com/TransfamilyOfErie.

Feb 27 (Sat) - Erie Sisters & Brothers Transgender Support Group meets (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Highway, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Erie Sisters & Brothers Transgender Support Group provides support and encouragement for both MTF and FTM transgender individuals. (440) 265-8191. shub1@suite224.net. eriesisters.ning.com/.

Feb 27 (Sat) - Naughty or Nice Treasure Hunt (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Mar 2 (Wed) - Judy Shepard: "The Legacy of Matthew Shephard" (King Concert Hall in the Rockefeller Arts Center on the SUNY Fredonia Fredonia NY.) 7PM. Details page 6 of this issue.

Mar 22 (Tue) - Elton John Covelli Centre, Youngstown OH www.eltonjohn.com

Mar 25 (Fri) - Melissa Ferrick w/ Mo Kenney At The 9th Ward, Buffalo NY www.babevillebuffalo.com Apr 11 (Mon) - David Sedaris at the Warner Theatre 811 State St., Erie PA, 7:30PM. (814) 453-7117 eriewarnertheatre.com

Apr 23 (Sat) - Pride Prom Buffalo 2016 Hamlin House Restaurant 432 Franklin St, Buffalo, NY (716) 885-8084 hamlinhouse432@hotmail.com FB: Pride Prom Buffalo 2016

PLEASE RECYCLE US!





Online Contests

Here are new contests for this month..

Contest	Begins
Dirty Dates: Erotic Fantasies for Couples	January 29
The Big Book of Kink	February 2
Grief Matters	February 5
Naz & Maalik; Pulse II	Feburary 9
Hugo Duchamp Investigates: Un Homme Qui Attend	February 12
Portrait of a Serial Mo- nogamist	February 16
How To Win at Checkers (Every Time)	February 19
And Then There Were Three: 67 Letters to Sasha	February 23

Here are contests which are currently active...

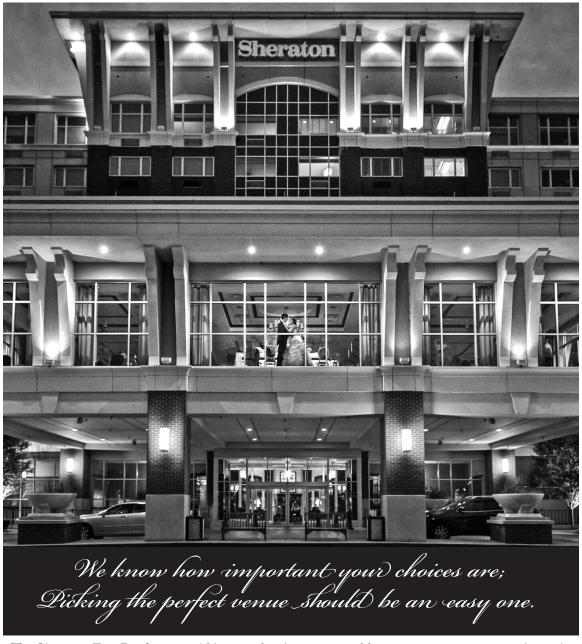
Contest	Ends
Matt Shepard is a Friend of Mine	January 29
David Goes Home: Growing Up Gay in the Dust Bowl	February 2
The Twilight Zone FAQ	February 5
Complete set of Eating Out DVDs	February 9
Gym Boys: Gay Erotic Stories	February 12
TV Finales FAQ	February 16

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!

Stay updated!

Subscribe to the Erie GLBT List

www.eriegaynews.com



The Sheraton Erie Bayfront would be proud to host your wedding ceremony, reception, rehearsal dinner and more. Focus on starting your life together, while our wedding experts help plan the celebration you've always wanted.

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