

EGN

Erie Gay News



RECORD ATTENDANCE AT PRIDEFEST Organizers at Erie Pride Fest estimate attendance at 750, making it the largest local Pride event to date. Recap article on page 4, photo gallery at both NW PA Pride and *Erie Gay News* sites. Photo: Andrea Shaffer

25th Annual Pride Picnic on Aug 26

from NW PA Pride Alliance

NW PA Pride Alliance would like to invite you to join us for the 25th Annual Erie Pride Picnic on Saturday, August 26th at the Rotary Pavilion at Presque Isle (near Beach 7) from 1 to 6 PM. Please note that this year's picnic is in August rather than in June.

Hot dogs, ox roast, soft drinks, water and table settings are provided. Please bring a side dish, dessert, or salad to share. Food will be served from 2 to 4 PM. Note that state law does not permit alcohol in the park and we respectfully ask that you abide by rules the good folks at Presque Isle State Park have set for everyone's safety.

Be sure to check in at the registration table when you arrive. We will be taking the annual Family Portrait around 4:30 PM, and there will also be roving photographers. If you prefer to not be included in photos, put a red dot on your name badge.

If your group or organization would like to set up an info table, please let us know by July 31st. There

is no charge for an info table, but vending at the park is not permitted. If you can bring your own table, that is very much appreciated, but not required. As always, there will be a collection taken for Second Harvest Food Bank of NW PA (non-perishables, Please and Thank You). The picnic area and Beach 7 area are accessible.

For more information (814) 314-9075 or email president@nwpapride.org

PFLAG Meadville is now Crawford Area LGBT+

from Crawford Area LGBT+

We have finalized the decision to not pursue becoming an official PFLAG charter and have instead decided to remain a local independent group. With that decision made, we also have changed the name of the group to 'Crawford Area LGBT+'. We will continue to meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7pm. New location: Unitarian Universalist Church Universalist Church of Meadville, 346 Chestnut. Find on Facebook: Crawford Area LGBT+

(Continued on page 4)

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 info@eriegaynews.com
 www.eriegaynews.com

On our website

Check out photo galleries of recent local events at www.eriegaynews.com

- NW PA Pride Fest
- Miss Erie Pageant
- GEAE Progress Towards Equality

Photo galleries go back to 1995!

Editor: Mike Mahler
Assistant Editor and Layout: Deb Spilko
Ad Design: Mike Lipiec
Deadline for next issue: Aug 14; Folding and distribution is Tue, Aug 22 at Lake Erie Counseling, 301 W 10th.

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.



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

AD SIZE	PRICE/ISSUE	DIMENSIONS
EIGHTH	\$40 - \$36 Prepaid	1 5/8" high X 2 7/8" wide
QUARTER	\$65 - \$58.50 Prepaid	3 1/2" high X 2 7/8" wide
HALF VERT.	\$120 - \$108 Prepaid	3 1/2" high X 6" wide
HALF HORZ.	\$120 - \$108 Prepaid	7" high X 2 7/8" wide
FULL PAGE	\$200 - \$180 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 Lake Erie Counseling Associates for hosting! Andrea, Audrey, David Moore, Erica, Johauna, Kim, Kyle Hannon, Meredith Moore, Paige Bosnyak, Rex Apps, and Rose Surima for folding; Audrey, David Moore, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Kim, Meredith Moore, Paige Bosnyak, 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.

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Community News

Miss Erie Pageant

from Zone Dance Club

On Sunday, June 25, The Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie PA hosted the Miss Erie Pageant. Brionna Brooks was crowned Miss Erie 2017, with Britney Shea as runner up. Performers at the pageant included former Miss Erie title holders Misty Michaels Kall (2011), Michelle Michaels (2002), Mistress Vanitay (2009), Veronica Lace (2014), Buffy Lynne Hayes (2010), Danyel Vasquez (2016 - the outgoing title holder), Valerie Valentino (2015), Angelica Redd (2003) and Rhiannon Angelina (2008). Judges were Rhiannon Angelina, Thomas J, and Ashley Lauria.

AA Meeting Live & Let Live is an LGBTQA-friendly AA meeting that meets every Sunday, at 7PM, at Community United Church, 1011 West 38th St., Erie, PA. For more information, visit www.aaeriepa.org.

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Pride March & Fest Record Turnout

from NW PA Pride Alliance

On June 24, 2017, Erie celebrated 25 years of local Pride events with the 2017 Erie Pride March and Fest. It is estimated that about 750 people attended the festivities. Both local TV crews as well as the *Erie Times News* covered the event. MIC.com was back again this year to cover Erie Pride as part of the "Small City, Big Pride" series for Google.

About 270 people marched in the Pride Parade, which stepped up from the Zone Dance Club. Parade units included NW PA Pride Alliance, Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper (who was there with staff and her openly gay son, Nate), Trigon, LBT Women, GE Transportation GLBTA Alliance, Community United Church, TransFamily of NW PA, Erie Roller Girls, Keystone Progress, Schember for Mayor committee, Temple Anshe Hessed, McDowell High School GSA, Planned Parenthood of PA Advocates, Erie Feminists United, Erie Sisters and Brothers, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, Greater Erie Alliance for Equality, and Pennsylvania Equality Project.

Pride Fest in Perry Square began with a presentation to longstanding LGBT groups in the region, including Identity, Erie Sisters and Brothers, Trigon, *Erie Gay News*, Drenched Fur, and LBT Women of Erie, as well as a lifetime achievement award to Michael Mahler. Entertainment included Snarebear, Michelle Michaels, Jill Jamison, Misty Michaels Kall, sing Matthew Crays, and the band Honest Mistake.

For the 4th consecutive year, Erie County Health Department and Community Health Net provided free HIV and STD testing. Info tables at Pride Fest included Adagio Health, American Cancer Society, American Civil Liberties Union of PA Northwest Chapter, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Canine Partners for Life, Community United Church, Crime Victim Center of Erie County, Drenched Fur, Erie Roller Girls, Erie County Human Relations Commission, Erie County Suicide Prevention Task Force, Erie Vegan and Vegetarian Society, Families United Network, Inc., Lake Erie Counseling Associates, LBT Women, National Organization for Women, NWPA Chapter (NWPANOW), Pennsylvania Youth Congress, Persad Center, PNC Bank, SafeNet Center, TransFamily of NWPA Transgender Support Group, Whispering

Community News

Lake Grove, and Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie. Vendors included adultmart, Chalk It Up!, Chinese Lagoon, Dream Weaver Star, Elite Jewelry By Jasmine, Gardens of Eternity, Le-Vel, Lily's Land of Literacy (UBAM), LuLaRoe by Anita, Pampered Chef (Uncle Pete), Phoenix Rising, Planned Parenthood Pennsylvania Advocates, Rainbow Creations, Scentsy by Sharon, and The Cookielady

Photo gallery at both NW PA Pride and Erie Gay News sites.

Fire at Jamestown gay bar

A fire set in the early morning hours of July 13 has temporarily closed Sneakers, located at 100 Harrison Street in Jamestown NY.

The fire was confined to the first floor and did not affect the apartments on the second floor.

The fire is still under investigation. At the present time it is not being treated as a hate crime by the Jamestown Police Department. The bar's owner, Mary Green, also made it clear that she doesn't think it is a hate crime. "I have never stated I thought it was a hate crime," she wrote on her Facebook account. "I stated it is more likely to be someone who knows me/Sneakers because of their knowledge in gaining entry."

If you have information that can help in the investigation, contact the Jamestown Police Department.

Common Ground on September 16

from Whispering Lake Grove

Whispering Lake Grove, a local Druid spiritual group, will be sponsoring a Pagan Pride event, "Common Ground" on Saturday, September 16th at the St. Nick's Grove at 5131 Old French Road, Erie, PA.

The gates will open at 11:00am and close around 9:00pm. The event is free to the public, although donations will be accepted throughout the event to benefit a local charity organization. There will be ritual presentations, workshops, vendors, readers (Tarot, Rune, etc.), music and food.

Whispering Lake Grove is accepting applications for groups to come with information booths and/or presentations, and would welcome participation from the LGBT community.

For more information, please feel free to contact Christopher Temple at grollwynn72@hotmail.com or (814) 720-1560.

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Community News

“Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead” Aug 11-13

Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead
By Bert V. Royal will be presented at Ashtabula Arts
Center, 2928 West 13th St., Ashtabula OH Aug.
11-13. The play is a “Rescued from the Mess” pro-
duction, and is directed by Douglas Eric Anderson.

The play is a re-imagining of the “Peanuts”
gang as teenagers. *The Orlando Sentinel* says the play-
wright “cleverly captures the essence of Schulz’s
characters: Marcie’s blandness, Sally’s everchanging
obsessions. And, like Schulz did, he addresses the
issues of the times — in this case, coming out as gay
and school bullying.”

Tickets can be reserved in advance by calling
the Arts Center at 440-964-3396, or purchased at
the door. Contains very strong language, emotionally
intense scenes, and adult themes

Visit www.ashtabulaartscenter.org

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Extension 477





NW PA Pride Alliance Presents the

25th Annual Pride Picnic

**Saturday, August 26th
1-6 PM**

**Rotary Pavilion - Presque Isle State Park
(across from Waterworks Cabin)**

Food - Raffle

Drinks - Information

Family friendly, all ages welcome.

Pavilion and nearby beach are ramp accessible

facebook.com/NWPAPride - nwpa.pride.org



Calendar

Detailed calendar listings in our online calendar

www.eriegaynews.com

Jul 24 - 30 (Mon - Sun) - Pittsburgh Black Pride
www.pittsburghblackpride.org/.

Jul 26 (Wed) - The Right Reverend V. Gene Robinson
 (Chautauqua Institution Hall of Philosophy, 1 Ames Ave, Chautauqua, NY) 2 PM. (716) 357-6250.
ciweb.org/.

Jul 28 - 29 (Fri - Sat) - Island Heat Weekend (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) 8 PM - 2 AM.
 FB: The Zone

Jul 28 - 30 (Fri - Sun) - Game Show Weekend - Let's Make A Deal
 (Jones Pond, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) www.jonespond.com.

Jul 29 (Sat) - TransFamily of NWPA 5th Anniversary Celebration Picnic
 (Erie Zoo picnic grounds, 423 W 38th St, Erie, PA) Picnic grounds are on south side of zoo) 12 PM - 6 PM. Contact: Caitlyn (814) 823-1969. Caitlynxpress@gmail.com. FB: Transfam-

ily of NWPA.

Jul 29 (Sat) - Christmas in July Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA) Gift exchange 8pm. www.campdavispa.com.

Jul 29 (Sat) - Youngstown Pride Parade & Festival
 (Federal Plaza E, Youngstown, OH) Parade at noon, Festival at 1PM. FB: Youngstown Pride Festival

Jul 29 (Sat) - Singles Night (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) BYOB, membership required, purchase from bartender. FB: M&J's Lounge.

Jul 30 (Sun) - PFLAG Butler Annual Picnic (Alameda Park Pavilion #3, 184 Alameda Park Rd, Butler, PA) 12 PM - 5 PM. "We will provide the hamburgers, veggie burgers, hotdogs, and all the fixings. If you're able to bring a side dish or dessert to share it would be greatly appreciated." Games, kid-friendly. Non-alcohol event. (724) 290-9674 www.pflagbutler.com/.

Jul 31 (Mon) - HIV Awareness Walk (Bayfront Convention Center, 1 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA) 6:30 PM. (814) 451-6786. FB: Erie County HIV Task Force

Jul 31 - Aug 4 (Mon - Fri) - Vacation Week - Five days of activities and events
 (Jones Pond, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) www.jonespond.com.

Aug 1 (Tue) - LBT Women of Erie go to 8 Great Tuesdays
 (Liberty Park, Lawrence Pier, Erie, PA) 6:30 PM. Contact: Kim (814) 314-9512. ErieBeans@aol.com FB: LBT WOMEN of ERIE

Aug 3 (Thu) - LBT Women of Erie go to Arts in the Arboretum Concert
 (Frontier Park, W 8th and Bayfront Pkwy, Erie, PA) 7 PM - 8:30 PM. Contact: Kim (814) 314-9512. ErieBeans@aol.com. FB: LBT WOMEN of ERIE

Aug 4 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour) meets
 (Cloud 9 Wine Bar, 25 E 10th St, Erie, PA) 6



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To make an appointment

Calendar

- 8 PM. "providing GLBT professionals, and our colleagues and friends, the opportunity to meet, network or just hang out once a month."

Aug 4 - 6 (Fri - Sun) - Mardi Gras Weekend - 100 Block Party (Jones Pond, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) www.jonespond.com.

Aug 5 (Sat) - Pittsburgh Bridge Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA) Bear-sponsored event. www.campdavispa.com.

Aug 5 (Sat) - Beer Pong (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) FB: M&J's Lounge.

Aug 8 (Tue) - Bears Do Dinner #50 - Alto Cucina (Alto Cucina, 3531 West Lake Rd., Erie, PA) 6:30 PM. Food and conversation, dinner is on your own. Contact: Gary (814) 446-2327. info@drenchedfur.com. www.drenchedfur.com.

Aug 8 (Tue) - LBT Women of Erie go to 8 Great Tuesdays (Liberty Park, Lawrence Pier, Erie, PA) 6:30 PM. Contact: Kim (814) 314-9512. ErieBeans@aol.com FB: LBT WOMEN of ERIE

Aug 8 (Tue) - Youngstown PFLAG meets (St. John's Episcopal Church, 323 Wick Ave, Youngstown, OH) 6:30 PM. Contact: Marguerite youngstownpflag@gmail.com. www.youngstownpflag.org

Aug 10 (Thu) - LBT Women of Erie go to Arts in the Arboretum Concert (Frontier Park, W 8th and West Bayfront Pkwy, Erie, PA) 7 PM - 8:30 PM. Contact: Kim (814) 314-9512. ErieBeans@aol.com. FB: LBT WOMEN of ERIE

Aug 11 - 13 (Fri - Sun) - "Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead" (Ashtabula Arts Center, 2928 W. 13th St., Ashtabula, OH) (440) 964-3396/. www.ashtabulaartscenter.org/.

Aug 11 - 13 (Fri - Sun) - Leather Weekend - Mr. Jones

Pond Leather Contest (Jones Pond, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) www.jonespond.com.

Aug 12 (Sat) - Leather & Levi Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA) www.campdavispa.com.

Aug 12 (Sat) - Erie LGBT Rainbow Alliance meets (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA) 1-3 PM. Co-facilitators: Chelsea Nicole, Dale Allgeier, LCSW. (814) 455-4009. ErieLGBTRainbowAlliance@gmail.com

Aug 12 (Sat) TransFamily of Meadville Transgender Support Group (CHAPS Building, first floor, 944 Liberty St., Meadville, PA) 2-5 PM. Contact: Linda Thomas. imhzwoman4586@msn.com. (814) 232-1778 FB: Transfamily of NWPA.

Aug 12 (Sat) - Leather Night (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) BYOB, membership required, purchase from bartender. m FB: M&J's Lounge.

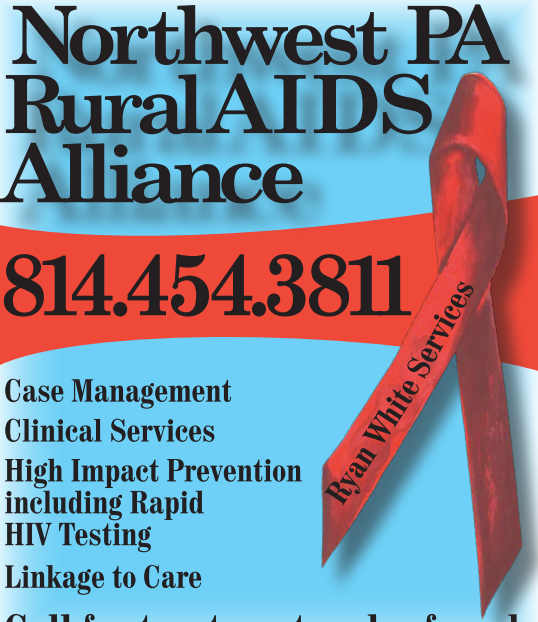
Aug 12 (Sat) - Veronya's Showgirls presents A COLORS Country Ho-Down Fundraiser (Loyal Order of the Moose Lodge No. 119, 201 West State St., Olean, NY) 10 PM. Featuring Velvet Lynn Paige.



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Calendar

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Aug 13 (Sun) - Aging With Pride meets (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA) 4 - 6 PM. (814) 455-4009. daleallgeier@outlook.com.

Aug 13 (Sun) - Full Spectrum Transgender Support Group meets (St. John's Episcopal Church, 323 Wick Ave, Youngstown, OH) 6 PM - 8 PM. www.unitycommunityfoundation.org/

Aug 14 (Mon) - Deadline for Erie Gay News September 2017 print edition

Aug 14 (Mon) - TransFamily of Warren Transgender Support Group meets (Jefferson DeFrees Family Center - Hawke Room, 207 2nd Ave, Warren, PA) 6 - 8 PM. Contact: Monica (814) 730-0021. yankees.jeter@yahoo.com. FB: Transfamily of NWPA.

Aug 15 (Tue) - LBT Women of Erie go to 8 Great Tuesdays (Liberty Park, Lawrence Pier, Erie, PA) 6:30 PM. Contact: Kim (814) 314-9512. ErieBeans@aol.com FB: LBT WOMEN of ERIE

Aug 15 (Tue) - Crawford Area LGBT+ meets (Unitarian Universalist Church of Meadville, 346 Chestnut St,

Meadville, PA) 7 PM. Contact: Randy Herbert-Weed. (814) 724-6736. meadvillepflag@gmail.com. Formerly PFLAG Meadville (see article front page)

Aug 17 (Thu) - Butler LGBTQ Interfaith Network meets (Covenant Presbyterian Church, 230 E Jefferson St, Butler PA, PA) 1 PM. (412) 518-1515. FB: Butler LGBTQ Interfaith Network

Aug 18 - 20 (Fri - Sun) - Survivor Weekend & Jones Pond's Got Talent - Game Day & Talent Night (Jones Pond, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) (585) 567-8100. info@jonespond.com. www.jonespond.com.

Aug 18 (Fri) - 3rd Annual Mark Pacheco WOW Fund Lip Sync Battle (Shawbucks 212 W 2nd St, Jamestown, NY) 8:30PM to 2AM. "The Resource Center (resourcecenter.org) is in charge of all the money since I began this Fund in Mark's honor to raise money for individuals with Developmental disabilities" ~Marcos Antonio Figueroa. FB: 3RD Annual Mark Pacheco WOW Fund Lip Sync Battle

Aug 19 (Sat) - Bears in Foam Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA) Bear-sponsored event. www.campdavispa.com.

Aug 19 (Sat) - Open Mic Night (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA) BYOB, membership required, purchase from bartender. FB: M&J's Lounge.

Aug 20 (Sun) - Michelle Michaels presents FACE Drag Show - Turn Around Show (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) 11 PM. "Every well known local drag queen will pick and paint a non performer painting them for a good cause All your favorite drag queens, new drag queens and special guests." . FB: The Zone

Aug 21 (Mon) - LBT Women of Erie go to Labyrinth Celebration (Labyrinth at Frontier Park, W 8th and Bayfront Pkwy, Erie, PA) 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM. Contact: Kim Conti. (814) 314-9512. ErieBeans@aol.com. FB: LBT WOMEN OF ERIE

Aug 22 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party (Lake Erie Counseling, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Contact: Mike (814) 456-9833. info@



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PLEASE
RECYCLE US!



Calendar

eriegaynews.com. www.eriegaynews.com.

Aug 25 - 27 (Fri - Sun) - Cowboy Weekend - 400 Block Party (Jones Pond, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) www.jonespond.com.

Aug 26 (Sat) - 25th Annual Erie Pride Picnic (Presque Isle State Park, Rotary Pavilion, Erie, PA) e. Contact: Alex Sphon. (814) 314-9075. president@nwpapride.org. www.nwpapride.org.

Aug 26 (Sat) - Foam Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA) www.campdavispa.com.

Aug 26 (Sat) - Erie Sisters & Brothers Transgender Support Group meets (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy, Erie, PA) 7 PM. Discussion followed by dinner restaurant and dancing at The Zone (440) 265-8191. eriesisters.ning.com

Aug 26 (Sat) - Drag Show (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer

St, Butler, PA) FB: M&J's Lounge.

Aug 27 (Sun) - LBT Women of Erie go to Zabawa Polish Festival (Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 2220 Reed St, Erie) 12 PM. Contact: Kim (814) 314-9512. ErieBeans@aol.com FB: LBTWOMENOFERIE

Sep 10 & 17 (Sat) - "NT Live: Angels in America" (Mercyhurst University, Erie PA) Tickets go on sale Aug. 14. mercyhurst.edu

Sep 28 (Thu) - "Will & Grace" 2017 Season Premiere 9pm on NBC

Sep 28 (Thu) - Bernadette Peters (Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center, Mercyhurst University, Erie PA) 7:30pm

Nov 7 (Tue) - "An Evening of Classic Lily Tomlin" (Mercyhurst University, Erie PA) miac.mercyhurst.edu Single tickets go on sale Aug. 14.

Nov 16 (Thu) - Broadway in Erie: "Kinky Boots" (Warner Theatre, Erie PA) 7:30 PM www.erieevents.com



RALLY AGAINST CONVERSION THERAPY On July 9 Pennsylvania Equality Project held a rally on the Erie County Courthouse steps to call for a ban on "conversion therapy." Video of the event on the organization's Facebook page. Browse to www.paeqpro.org

Photo Deb Spilko

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Rainbow Pride Gift Shop, Buffalo, NY 716-855-0222
and many others at <http://gayellowpages.com/2buy.htm>

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