

 **EGN** 
Erie Gay News



Sipping and schmoozing at the Drenched Fur 15 winery tour. Photo by Andrew Ealy

DF15 Celebrates WOOFstock

from Gary Snyder/Drenched Fur

Erie hosted Drenched Fur 15 April 11-15. DF-15 is a regional bear weekend, celebrating its 15th year with the theme of WOOFstock—a goof on the cultural phenom Woodstock Music Festival from 1969. DF15 put together a weekend vacation where hundreds of men came from across North America stayed at the Clarion Lake Erie and Bel-Aire Conference Center. Guests traveled from coast-to-coast, as far as Canada, California, Rhode Island, Florida, and in-between plus around the tri-state area. Erie has been annually hosting Drenched Fur for over a decade and a half as a weekend of activities where men who appreciate each other and their natural masculinity can let off some winter doldrums.

The Drenched Fur 15 weekend included live musical performances, pool socials, beer/wine tours, games, and the return of DJ Tony Ruiz. The

(Continued on page 6)

Erie LGBTQ+ Health Provider Symposium on May 31

On Friday, May 31, the Erie County Department of Health, in partnership with UPMC Hamot and TransFamily of NW PA, will present the Erie LGBTQ+ Health Provider Symposium at Crystal Ballroom at the Ambassador Banquet and Conference Center, behind the Courtyard by Marriott at 7794 Peach St., Erie, Pa. This symposium has been designed to provide up-to-date education to health care providers in order to improve health outcomes in the LGBTQ+ community. New recommendations and guidelines will be addressed through a series of lectures from professionals across the medical, mental health, and public health fields. HAM_CME@upmc.edu or call (814) 877-4011. ecdh.org. RSVP/Register/Tickets at cehs.upmc.com.

Bishop Gene Robinson at Wayside Presbyterian May 5

from Wayside Presbyterian Church

Wayside Presbyterian Church, 1208 Asbury Road, Erie PA will be hosting retired Episcopal Bishop Gene Robinson on Sunday, May 5th. Bishop Robinson will be preaching at both the 8:30 and 11:00 services.



The title of his sermon is “The Greatest Coming Out Story of All Time,” based on the story of the burning bush in Deuteronomy 3. He will also offer a lecture on the history of the LGBTQ community since Stonewall during the Sunday School hour.

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Erie Gay News
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Deadline for next issue: May 13; Folding and distribution is Tue, May 21 at Lake Erie Counseling, 301 W 10th.

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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.



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
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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!

From Your Friends at Erie Gay News

To Lake Erie Counseling Associates for hosting! Andrea Shaffer, Jewels Frantz, Johauna, Josh, Kim Conti, Kim Hackbarth, Linda Thomas, Melina Harden, Rex Apps, Richard Guy, and Shawn for folding; Andrea Shaffer, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Kim Conti, Kim Hackbarth, Melina Harden, 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

(Continued from front page)

That program will begin at 9:45 am. There is no cost for the day and reservations are not necessary. The church is located just north of the airport.

Check our website at www.wayside-erie.org/ For more information call 814-833-7653.

Special Pride Pull Out Section Next Issue

from Erie Gay News

The upcoming issue of Erie Gay News will have a special pull out section for Pride events. EGN is seeking ads for this special section—a great way for businesses and organizations to reach out to the LGBTQIA+ community. There are a lot of Pride events happening in June!

The next issue has a deadline of May 13 and comes out the night of May 21.

Contact info Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or info@eriegaynews.com

Building An Inclusive Church training Apr 26-27

Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, 1603 W 32nd St, Erie, PA will host Building an Inclusive Church training April 26-27.

This training is geared for people who are interested at starting or continuing a conversation at their church on how to welcome our LGBTQIA community into your church without sparking division and debate. All denominations are welcome as well as churches who are already “welcoming” or “affirming”. The training will be presented by Reconciling Works, Lutherans for Full Participation. Normal registration fee is \$100, restricted income fee is \$50, and student fee is \$25. Free beverage and snack will be provided on Friday night, and free continental breakfast and lunch will be provided on Saturday. For more information go to Reconciling Works at www.ReconcilingWorks.org, or call 651-665-0861. Mount Calvary Lutheran Church office mclcoffice1603@gmail.com 814-864-6831, Pastor Kristen Papson at

Northwest PA Rural AIDS Alliance

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Community News

Kristen.m.papson@gmail.com, or Cheryl LaBenne at clabenne8595@gmail.com.

RSVP/Registration required, visit RWKS.org/BIC.

Free Hepatitis A Vaccine

Info from Erie County Department of Health

The Pennsylvania Department of Health is recommending Hepatitis A vaccine to populations determined by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) to be at particular risk for contracting Hepatitis A (HAV), including men who have sex with men.

HAV is a highly contagious liver infection caused by the Hepatitis A virus with symptoms ranging in severity from a mild illness lasting a few weeks to severe disease lasting several months. According to the CDC, the disease usually spreads when a person unknowingly ingests the virus from objects, food, or drinks contaminated by small, undetected amounts of stool from an infected person. Hepatitis A can also spread from close personal contact with an infected person such as through sex or caring for someone who is ill.

Although there have been no new cases of

Hepatitis A recently reported in Erie County, Pennsylvania has had a 300% increase in 2019, when compared to the same time period in the previous 5 years. Multiple states have been experiencing large, ongoing HAV outbreaks, including neighboring states of Ohio and West Virginia.

Given the significant HAV outbreaks seen in other states, there is concern that transmission could rapidly increase in Pennsylvania. Prompt action now can help prevent this from happening. If you are at high risk, schedule an appointment for vaccination with your physician today. The uninsured and under-insured may contact the ECDH Immunization Clinic at (814)-451-6777.

PA Commission LGBTQ Affairs

On Friday, February 8, 2019, the Pennsylvania Commission on LGBTQ Affairs held their quarterly meeting at the Center on Strawberry in Washington, PA. The commission came up with four major initiatives. Four groups were formed – two within Schools That Teach and one each for Government That Works and Jobs That Pay.

The two Schools That Teach initiatives are Gender education & inclusive sexual health education (this would include LGBT-inclusive curricula in school, similar to legislation recently passed in New Jersey) and Positively impact school climate (which would include creating a toolkit, creating best/promising practices, etc)

The Jobs That Pay initiative includes breaking down regulatory obstacles that prevent access to housing, resources, etc. and also providing access to job/training resources to homeless LGBTQ+ youth

The Government That Works initiative includes implementation of statewide nondiscrimination legislation and also auditing new laws for inclusion or discrimination recognizing these groups: homeless, youth, seniors

These four groups welcome participation from community members outside the commissioners.

The commission will next be meeting on May 3 in Philadelphia, and the following meeting will be here in Erie on August 9, the day before the 27th Annual Erie Pride Picnic.

Advertise in Pride Month Special Section

The upcoming (June) issue of Erie Gay News will have a special pull out section for Pride events.

EGN is seeking ads for this special section. Advertising in the Pride section is a great way for businesses and organizations to reach out to the LGBTQIA+ community! The June issue has a deadline of May 13 and comes out the night of May 21.

Contact info Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or info@eriegaynews.com

Community News

SAGE praises bipartisan LGBT aging bill introduced in Congress

From a SAGE press release

(Washington, D.C.) — The Inclusive Aging Act was **introduced April 12 by Senators Bob Casey (D-PA), Michael Bennet (D-CO), and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK),** This bipartisan legislative proposal aims to support inclusive aging and sexual health care services for older Americans while specifically addressing the unique needs of LGBT older people.

If passed, the first-of-its-kind bill would, among other things, ensure that LGBT elders have access to much-needed aging services and supports, permanently establish the National Resource Center on LGBT Aging, and create an Office of Inclusivity and Sexual Health in the Administration for Community Living.

The office would facilitate data collection on LGBT older adults, issue funding opportunities that would support older LGBT people—including a rural outreach grant program to connect rural LGBT older people with services and supports—and promote the adoption of policies across federal programs to help address the specific needs of LGBT elders.

“SAGE thanks Senators Michael Bennet, Lisa Murkowski, and Bob Casey for taking this critically important step to address the unique needs of LGBT older people, especially those suffering from severe isolation because of who they are or where they live,” said SAGE CEO Michael Adams. “Many LGBT elders face high levels of discrimination and barriers to accessing services and care. Although there are a variety of federal programs designed to assist them,

none are specifically designed to provide equal access to services for LGBT older people. This legislation would change that,” said Adams.

Adams singled out Alaska Senator Lisa Murkowski for her strong leadership in providing bipartisan sponsorship for the legislation. “In an era when there is too little bipartisan cooperation, we express our deep gratitude to Senator Murkowski for her visionary leadership in making the well-being of all elders—regardless of who they are and whom they love—her highest priority,” said Adams.

SAGE is the world’s largest and oldest organization dedicated to improving the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) older people.

**Deadline for Next EGN issue
MAY 13**

ABC’s of BUILDING BETTER LIVES

Mary Lynn Rote, LPC, CADC | Sarah McGill, LPC
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Community News

SEE COMPLETE VOTERS GUIDE ONLINE

Due to the number of candidates in these races, Voters Guide is posted online.

View at www.eriegaynews.com



Free Smoking Cessation Classes

Greater Erie Action for Equality (GEAE) is hosting two separate smoking cessation groups, which will meet at 301 W. 10th, Erie. Programming made possible by Erie County Department of Health. Classes are both six weeks long; Group 1 begins May 8, Group 2 begins May 10. For information and to sign up contact Rachel Lohr geaeinfo@gmail.com FB: Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE)

Local LGBT History Project On Display for June at 419 Artifacts

from 419 Artifacts

The Erie LGBTQ+ History Committee will be presenting A Look Back: LGBTQ+ Community in Erie for the month of June at 419 Artifacts, 419 State St, Erie PA. There will be an opening reception on Saturday, June 1 from 1 to 4 PM at 419 Artifacts. The submission deadline is MAY 1, 2019. Please contact Dale Allgeier at (814) 455-4009 or daleallgeier@outlook.com to submit items for consideration.

Casting call (volunteer actors, crew)

Nightscape Cinema is looking for volunteers for their latest horror movie. Meet May 5 between 1pm and 5pm in Conference Room B at Chautauqua County Airport 3163 Airport Dr. Jamestown, NY. More info or confirmation: jason_a_perdue@yahoo.com, or message Jason Perdue on Facebook.

DF15 WOOFstock

(Continued from front page)

main event for every year of Drenched Fur is going to Splash Lagoon, our local indoor water park resort. This year was the event's 12th exclusive Saturday night time private event at Splash Lagoon; making DF the longest consistent group event for the water park.

The Drenched Fur 15 Committee and staff of volunteers rose to the occasion creating one of the biggest events for Erie's LGBTQA community. Many thanks to all the individuals, sponsors, and businesses that were involved in making DF15 a success! To find out more about Drenched Fur, visit drenchedfur.com to find out when you can attend DF16 next year in 2020 and enjoy the 'Best Little Run for Fun.'



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Calendar

Detailed calendar listings in our online calendar

www.eriegaynews.com

Every Thursday - Viewing Parties at The Zone Watch RuPaul's Drag Race at Zone every Thursday through the season finale. Doors open 8pm, show airs @ 9pm. Follow Rebecca Mae on FB or rebeccamaeofficial on IG for updates.

Apr 25 (Thu) - Sexual Orientation and Gender Issues in Employment Law Crime Victim Center, 125 W.18th St Erie PA 1 6 PM-7:30 PM Free to attend, registration is requested but not required. FB: Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE)

Apr 26 (Wed) - "She-Ra and The Princess of Power" Season 2 (Netflix) "She-Ra has an all-female writer's room, and its showrunner, the openly queer Noelle Stevenson, has been telling queer stories for years. Those influences shine through. She-Ra is about girls of different ethnicities, sizes, sexualities, and personalities, all rendered with color and curves and brightness, who come together in celebration of their differences, not in spite of them."~them.

Apr 26 (Fri) - LBT Women of Erie goes to Erie Art Museum Gallery Night (Erie Art Museum, 411 State St, Erie, PA) 7 PM - 10 PM. Free night. Contact: Kim (814) 490-3994. ErieBeans@aol.com. FB: LBT Women of Erie

Apr 26 - May 4 (Fri - Sat) - Staged Reading: "A Bright Room Called Day" (Dramashop, 1001 State Street 2nd Floor, Erie, PA) "From the brilliant author of Angels in America" dramashop.org

Apr 26-May 11 - "An American Daughter" by Wendy Wasserstein PACA 1505 State 2 fl. Erie PA "A modern day parable that humorously plumbs the intersection of feminism, politics, and the media." paca1505.com

Apr 26 - 27 (Fri - Sat) - Building An Inclusive Church training (Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, 1603 W 32nd St, Erie, PA) Church office: 814-864-6831 mclcoffice1603@gmail.com, Pastor Kristen Papon (Kristen.m.papon@gmail.com) or Cheryl LaBenne (clabenne8595@gmail.com) Details page 3 this issue.

Apr 26-28 (Fri-Sun) - ReelQ Film Festival (5530 Penn Ave Pittsburgh PA) Films, panels, art. reelq.org

Apr 27 (Sat) - LBT Women of Erie goes to Earth Day Festival 2019 (Gannon Hammertmill Center, 620 Peach St, Erie, PA) 1 - 5 PM. Contact: Kim (814) 490-3994. ErieBeans@aol.com. FB: LBT Women of Erie

Apr 27 (Sat) - Disco Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Red-

brush Rd, Boyers, PA) campdavispa.com

Apr 28 (Sun) - Michelle Michaels presents FACE Drag Show - Roulette: Are You Not Entertained? (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) 8 PM. Stage manager Season joins host DJ Tony G for Roulette. Also NW PA Pride Alliance, Inc. will reveal 2019 Erie Pride shirts! Doors open at 8pm. Showtime is 9pm, 21+ event, no cover. FB: The Zone

Apr 29 (Mon) - "The Show Must Go On: The Queen and Adam Lambert Story" ABC 8pm

May 3 (Fri) - Extended Deadline for Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) Scholarship Applications (Greater Erie Alliance for Equality, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA) Details geaeinfo@gmail.com.

May 3 (Fri) - G2H2 - Erie - Let's Get The Summer Started! (Room 33 Speakeasy & Cafe, 1033 State St, Erie, PA) 6 - 8 PM. "providing GLBT professionals, our colleagues and friends, the opportunity to meet, network or just hang out." FB: G2H2/Erie

May 4 (Sat) - Cinco de Mayo Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA) campdavispa.com/.

May 5 (Sun) - ACLU Northwest Chapter Annual



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Calendar

Meeting (La Bella Restaurant, 802 W 18th Street, Erie, PA) Hosted by ACLU of Pennsylvania 3 - 5 PM aclupa.org

May 5 (Sun) - Bishop Gene Robinson at Wayside Presbyterian Wayside Presbyterian Church, 1208 Asbury Road, will be hosting retired Episcopal Bishop Gene Robinson, will be preaching at both the 8:30 and 11:00 services. Also 9:45am a lecture on the history of the LGBTQ community since Stonewall during the Sunday School hour. . Free, reservations not necessary. wayside-erie.org 814-833-7653.

May 5-19 - Speak Your Peace Youngstown OH Hosted by Youngstown PFLAG. FB: Speak your Peace. life from a teen's perspective.

May 5 (Sun) - Casting Call (Actors and Crew) for Horror Movie! (Chautauqua County-Jamestown Airport, 3163 Airport Dr, Jamestown, NY

May 5 (Sun) - Whispering Lake Grove Beltane (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy, Erie, PA) Ritual 6pm potluck after.. Contact: Rev. Christopher Temple. (814) 720-1560. senior.druid@wlg-adf.org. wlg-adf.org.

May 10 - 12 (Fri - Sun) - Opening Weekend - Welcome Back Boys! (Jones Pond, 9835 Old State Rd,

Angelica, NY) jonespond.com.

May 11 (Sat) - Prom Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA) campdavispa.com/.

May 11 (Sat) - LBGT+ @ Erie Bank Sports Park (Allies Welcome) (Erie Bank Sports Park, 8159 Oliver Rd, Erie, PA) 12:15 PM - 2 PM. FB: LBGT+ Erie County, PA

May 13 (Mon) – Deadline for Erie Gay News June 2019 print edition eriegaynews.com.

May 13 (Mon) - “Desi Lydic: Abroad” 11:00 PM Available to stream on cc.com, the Comedy Central App, on-demand, and download-to-own platforms on 5/14.

May 15 (Wed) - Bears Do Dinner #71 (Samurai Kitchen + Sushi, 2767 W 12th St, Erie, PA) 6:30 PM. “Casual dinner of food and conversation! Dinner is on your own.” Contact: Peter (814) 384-9785. eriepeter@gmail.com. FB: Bears Do Dinner - Erie, PA

May 17 - 19 (Fri - Sun) - Throwback Weekend - Studio 54 Discotheque (Jones Pond, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, N) jonespond.com.

May 18 (Sat) - MARVEL Superhero/ Villain Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA) campdavispa.com/.

May 18 (Sat) - “The Music of Queen with the Philharmonic” (Warner Theatre, Erie PA) 8PM. eriephil.org

May 19 (Sun) - Michelle Michaels presents FACE Drag Show (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) 11 PM. “Don’t miss a fun-filled night of great entertainment with all of your favorite drag queens, new drag queens and special guests.” FB: The Zone

May 21 (Tue) - “Wanda Sykes: Not Normal” Netflix Wanda’s fifth comedy standup special. #NotNormal

May 21 (Tue) - Pennsylvania Primary Election 7 AM - 8 PM.

May 21 (Tue) – Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 301 W 10th Street, Erie, PA) 7PM. All ages! Contact: Mike (814) 456-9833. Venue (814) 455-4009. info@eriegaynews.com

May 24 - 27 (Fri - Mon) - Memorial Day Weekend - In The Navy! (Jones Pond, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) jonespond.com.

May 24 (Fri) - “She’s Gotta Have It” Season 2 Netflix

May 24-26 (Fri-Sun) - Imperial Court of Buffalo Coronation 29 (Various events and venues) FB: Imperial Court Of Buffalo

May 25 (Sat) - Memorial Day Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA)



“Wild Nights with Emily” (2019) In the mid-19th century, Emily Dickinson is writing prolifically, baking gingerbread, and enjoying a passionate, lifelong romantic relationship with another woman, her friend and sister-in-law Susan...yes this is the iconic American poet, popularly thought to have been a recluse. Beloved comic Molly Shannon leads in this humorous yet bold reappraisal of Dickinson, informed by her private letters... A timely critique of how women’s history is rewritten, Wild Nights with Emily remains vibrant, irreverent and tender--a perhaps closer depiction of Emily Dickinson’s real life than anything seen before. Watch for it in theatres. wildnightswithemily.com

Calendar

May 26 (Sun) - "Vida" Season 2 Starz . All episodes available on Starz app beginning May 23.

May 28 (Tue) - Cleve Jones: AIDS & LGBT Rights Advocate (Performing Arts Center @ Niagara Falls High School 4455 Porter Road, Niagara Falls NY) Founder of NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, Author (When We Rise) Speaking *free* 6 p.m. No ticket needed. All are welcome. FB: Speakers Series: Cleve Jones

May 30 - Jun 3 (Thu - Mon) - Friends & Family - Hat Party & Ice Cream Social (Jones Pond, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY) jonespond.com.

May 31 (Fri) - "Rocketman" Release Story of Sir Elton John's breakthrough years. #Rocketman

May 31 (Fri) - Erie LGBTQ+ Health Provider Symposium (Ambassador Banquet & Conference Center, 7794 Peach St. Erie, PA.) 7:30 AM - 2:45 PM. Presented by Erie County Department of Public Health in partnership with UPMC Hamot and TransFamily of NW PA. (814) 877-4011. ecdh.org.

Jun 2 - Amy Ray Band in the 9th Ward at Babeville (341 Delaware Ave Buffalo NY) babevillebuffalo.com

Jun 5 (Wed) - "Handmaid's Tale" Season 3 Hulu

Jun 7 (Fri) - "XY Chelsea" Showtime. Follows military whistleblower Chelsea Manning, a transgender woman whose 35-year sentence was commuted in 2017 by President Obama.

Jun 7 (Fri) - "Tales of the City" Netflix. Based on the novel series by Armistead Maupin. #talesofthecity

Jun 9 (Sun) - "Pose" Season 2 FX 9pm #PoseFX

UPCOMING

Jun 18-19 (Tue-Wed) - Third Annual Pennsylvania LGBTQA Health Conference (Cranberry PA) tobacocofreeallegeny.org FB: Third Annual Pennsylvania LGBTQA Health Conference

Jun 21 - Miss Erie Pageant (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA) 11 PM. Partnering with NW PA Pride Alliance. Theme is "Show your Colors" FB: The Zone

Jun 29 (Sat) - Drag Queen Story Hour (419 Artifacts, 419 State St, Erie, PA) 10 AM - 11 AM. Story hour with Alyson Wonderland. Refreshments served. Contact: Dale Allgeier. (814) 454-4946.

Jul 2 (Tue) - Judy Shepard in conversation James Fallows Conversation with Matthew Shepard's mother. (Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua NY) chq.org

Aug 24 - Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo and Melissa Etheridge (Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua NY) chq.org

OUT NOW

"America in Transition" Revry. Documentary series exploring relationships, community, and social issues with trans people of color. There are a lot of Pride events happening in June! FB: America in Transition
"J.T. Leroy" Kristen Stewart, Laura Dern, Diane Kruger, and Courtney Love. "Based on the incredible true lie." In Select Theaters, On Demand & Digital. #JTLLeRoyFilm

PRIDE FESTIVALS

Jun 1- Pride in the CLE March and Festival lgbtcleveland.org

Jun 2 - Buffalo Pride Parade buffalopridefestival.com


Jun 8 & 9 - Pittsburgh Pride pittsburghpride.org

Jun 8 & 9 - Peoples Pride Parade & Celebration (Pittsburgh) FB: SisTers PGH

Jun 21-23 -Pride Toronto pridetoronto.com

Jun 26-30 World Pride NYC worldpride.org

Jun 29 - 2019 Erie Pridefest and Parade Presented by Erie Insurance 11AM-3:30PM nwpapride.org FB: NW PA Pride Alliance, Inc.



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<http://gayellowpages.com>

VOTERS GUIDE AT EGN WEBSITE

To read the full voters guide, visit eriegaynews.com

Because of the large number of candidates in this year's primary, the Erie County Voter's Guide is posted on the EGN website.

Here is a quick look at the questions they were asked, the races that are included, and who responded.

Candidates for Erie County Council and Erie City Council were asked about their positions on GLBT issues. Their responses appear in the online version of this article.

These questions were asked for all races:

1. The Human Rights Campaign's (HRC) Municipal Equality Index (MEI) at <https://www.hrc.org/mei/search/pennsylvania/ericscored> Erie at 0 points for 1) transgender-inclusive benefits & 2) domestic partner benefits for city/county employees. What strategies would you use to address these two items?

2. How would you assure that Erie implements city/county contractor non-discrimination policies?

3. To what extent have you participated in LGBTQIA+ Cultural Competency Training? (For the purposes of this question, such training is defined as follows: "Training in the preferred language & terminology, group-specific concerns, opportunities for inclusion & engagement, & general aspirations of LGBTQIA+ community.") What types of training would you recommend for 1) city staff & 2) council members?

4. What strategies would you use to include and engage LGBTQIA+ organizations & community members in developing policy and legislation?

COUNTY COUNCIL District 1

Responded (responses posted online): Kim Clear (D), Veronica Rexford (D), Terry Scutella (D), Robert Yates (R)

Not responding: Charles Foht (R)

COUNTY COUNCIL District 3

Responded (responses posted online): Mary Rennie (D) Freda Tepfer (D)

Not responding: Fiore Leone (D-Incumbent)

COUNTY COUNCIL District 5

Not responding: Kyle Foust (D-Incumbent), Joseph Cancilla (R), Brian Shank (R)

COUNTY COUNCIL District 7

Responded (responses posted online): William Driver (D), Clayton Schulze (R)

Not responding: Rita Bishop (D), Jason Gibbs (R), Ellen Schauerman (R), Frederick Wienecke (R)

Erie City Council

Responded (responses posted online): Vanessa Belen (D), Jasmine Flores (D), Michael Keys (D), Christal Lepak (D), Chuck Nelson (D), Davona Pacley (D), Antonio S. Stapp (D), Tom Staszewski (D), Shawn Lyons (R)

Not Responding: Ed Brzezinski (D), Tony Ratliff (D), Melvin Witherspoon (D-Incumbent),



Social & support groups

ADDICTION & RECOVERY

AA Meeting Live & Let Live LGBTQA-friendly AA meeting every Sun. 7PM, at Community United Church, 1011 W. 38th St., Erie, PA. aeriepa.org.

AGING

May 12 (Sun) – Over 40? So What? meets (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA) 4 PM. (814) 455-4009. daleallgeier@outlook.com.

May 13 (Mon) – Erie Dems LGBTQIA+ Caucus meets (Erie Dems HQ, 1305 State St, Erie PA) 7 PM. (814) 456-9833. mmahler@eriedems.com. FB: Erie Dems LGBTQIA+ Caucus

May 14 (Tue) – Youngstown PFLAG meets (St. John's Episcopal Church, 323 Wick Ave, Youngstown, OH) 6:30 PM. youngstownpflag.org.

SOCIAL

May 19 (Sun) – LBT Women of Erie meets (Brew Ha Ha at the Colony, 2612 W 8th St, Erie, PA) 12 PM. Contact: Kim (814) 490-3994. ErieBeans@aol.com. FB: LBT Women of Erie

May 21 (Tue) - Crawford Area LGBT+ meets (Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 PM at Unitarian Church of Meadville, 346 Chestnut St, Meadville PA. Contact: Randy Herbert-Weed. (814) 724-6736. crawfordarealgbt@gmail.com.

LBT Women of Erie Various events and venues.: Contact: Kim Conti. (814) 490-3994. ErieBeans@aol.com. FB: LBT Women of Erie

LGBT+ Erie County, PA FB: LGBT+ Erie County, PA

SPIRITUALITY

May 14 (Tue) - Butler LGBTQ Interfaith Network meets (Covenant Presbyterian Church, 230 E Jefferson St, Butler PA, PA) 1 PM. butlerinterfaith@zoominternet.net.

Community United Church 1011 West 38th St. Erie, PA

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie 7180 Perry Hwy Erie PA uerie.org Welcoming congregation.

STUDENT & YOUTH

Gender and Sexuality Club (GASE). LGBTQA group at Penn State Behrend. Info: (814) 898-7162. mos5744@psu.edu.

May 14 & 28 (Tue) – LGBTQIA Support Group (Ashtabula County District Library, 4335 Park Ave, Ashtabula OH) 4-5 PM. shannan.farmer@cccOhio.com

May 21 (Tue) – LGBT Teen Support & P.E.A.R.S Teen Drop-In Center (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Ctr, 5060 Youngstown Poland Rd, Youngstown, OH) 6 PM. FB: Full Spectrum Community Outreach

SUPPORT

May 26 (Sun) – Full Spectrum Sexuality Support (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 5060 Youngstown Poland Rd, Youngstown, OH) 3-5PM.

May 26 (Sun) – Parents Who Are LGBTQIA+ Support Group meets (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 5060 Youngstown Poland Rd, Youngstown, OH) 6 PM – 8 PM.

TRANS

May 11 (Sat) – TransFamily of Meadville Transgender Support Group (CHAPS Building, 1st floor, 944 Liberty St., Meadville, PA) 2-5 PM. Contact: Linda Thomas. imhzwoman4586@msn.com. (814) 232-1778
FB: Transfamily of NWP.

May 12 (Sun) – Full Spectrum Transgender Support Group meets (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 5060 Youngstown Poland Road, Youngstown, OH) 6 PM – 8 PM.

May 13 (Mon) – TransFamily of Warren Transgender Support Group meets (Jefferson DeFrees Family Center – Hawke Room, 207 Second Ave., Warren, PA) 6- 8 PM. Contact: Kingsley Reese (814) 688-5574. kreeseamon@gmail.com. FB: Transfamily of NWP.

May 19 (Sun) – Parents and Partners of Gender Variant Individuals Support Group meets (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 5060 Youngstown Poland Rd, Youngstown, OH) 6 PM

May 23 (Thu) - Transgender Support Group of Jamestown NY Meeting 4th Thursday of each month, 5:00 pm, 511 N Main St, left side entrance, upstairs. Also, every 2nd Thurs. of the month we get together for food and drink (venue changes). Text or call: Bethany (716) 499-4817 Hayley (814) 888-7525. FB: Transgender Support of Jamestown, NY

May 25 (Sat) – TransFamily of NWP (Erie) Transgender Support Group meets (Crime Victim Center of Erie County, 125 W 18th St, Erie, PA) 2 – 5 PM. Contact: Annie Rosenthal. FB: Transfamily of NWP

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