Erie Gay News

of Serving the LGBTQIA+ Community!



Buddy, Elaine, and Richard at the GEAE End of Year Celebration on Dec 5. Photo by Michael Mahler

Erie Dems LGBTQIA+ Caucus Meeting & Election Jan 13

from Erie Dems LGBTQLA+ Caucus

Come join the Erie County Democratic Party's LGBTQIA+ Caucus at our January meeting! We will be electing our board and officers at our January 13 meeting at ECDP HQ, 1305 State St, Erie PA. This is obviously a very important election year. and we need your involvement! There are a large number of anti LGBT actions being taken not only by the White House, but also by some of our state and federal representatives! Board members must be a registered Democrat living in Erie County, but do not need to be LGBTQIA+ themselves (allies welcome!) For more info, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or mmahler@eriedems.com

First Jamestown Pride 2020 Planning Meeting Held

from Southern Tier Queer Peers

The Mental Health Association in Chautauqua County and their LGBTQIA+ support group, Southern Tier Queer Peers, hosted on Tuesday, December 10th the first planning meeting for Jamestown Pride 2020. Jamestown Pride will be held the second weekend of June 2020.

Certified Peer Specialist Sheridan A. Smith said, "We had a great turnout with many organizations sending representatives to be included in the planning to support the LGBTQIA+ community. Mayor-Elect

Eddie Sundquist also attended to lend his voice and support for the event."

Smith said the idea to revive a pride event in Jamestown came out of the Southern Tier Queer Peers support group with the goal of the event to highlight the area as a place for families to live safely and happily, and to bring together the LGBTQIA+community and allies.

"We have a large and vibrant community, and through communication we can create a wonderful festival to add to all the other wonderful events Chautauqua County has every year."

The next Jamestown Pride planning meeting will be held at the MHA in Chautauqua County from 7:00-9:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 7, 2020. For more information, contact Sheridan A. Smith at (716) 490-4438, sheridan.smith@mhachautauqua.org, or JamestownPride@mhachautauqua.org.

GEAE End of Year Celebration

from Greater Erie Alliance for Equality

December 5, 2019 The Greater Erie Alliance for Equality hosted their annual year end celebration. The celebration is an evening spent with members of the LGBTQ community, allies, and supporters for good food, music and friendship. This year the celebration was held at Room 33 Speakeasy & Café. Approximately 70 guests enjoyed the night together with entertainment by Max Schang's Jazz Trio. GEAE President, Leah Manino, made brief remarks to thank supporters, the Board of Directors and Advisory Council for their dedication and the community's combined efforts to advance equality in our region. Donations of warm socks and blankets were also collected from guests that go to support the Ryan White Program in Erie County.

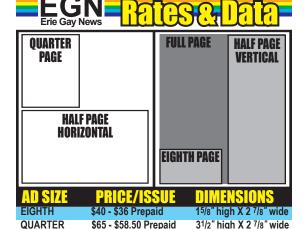
World AIDS Day Program

from Erie County HIV Task Force

On Monday, December 2, the Erie County HIV Task Force presented a program for World AIDS Day at Blasco Public Library, 160 East Front St, Erie PA. Joy Henry, Disease Intervention Specialist Chair for of Erie County Department of Health served as

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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.



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.

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

Fax: (440) 551-5985 info@eriegaynews.com www.eriegaynews.com

Editor/Layout: Mike Mahler

Deadline for next issue: Jan 13 Folding and distribution is Tue, Jan 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.



THANKS From Your Friends at Erie Gay News

To Lake Erie Counseling Associates for hosting! Andrea Shaffer, Becky Merry, Dan, Josh, K. David Taylor, Kyle Hannon, Melina Harden, and Rex Apps for folding; Audrey, Dan, Jerry McCumber, Johauna, Josh, K. David Taylor, Kim Conti, 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.

31/2" high X 6" wide

7" high X 2 7/8" wide

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HALF VERT.

HALF HORZ.

FULL PAGE

moderator. Erie City Mayor Joe Schember spoke about HIV effects. Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper gave an overview on HIV, and pointed out that the HIV cases per capita were lower in Erie County than the state and national averages, crediting the work of Erie County HIV Task Force partners. Sonny Concepcion, High Impact HIV Prevention Specialist at Northwest Alliance, gave a history of the AIDS Quilt. Panels from the AIDS Quilt have been displayed in Erie as far back as the late 90's. Andi Fair, nurse practitioner at Adagio Health, presented info about PrEP and HIV risk. PrEP is available at Adagio Health and Community Health Net, and there is also an online PrEP locator linked at https:// echiv.org/prep-locator/. Preston gave a personal story about living with HIV. The event concluded with a candlelight service in front of the library in honor of those living with HIV and remembering those who had died of HIV/AIDS.

Erie Regional GSA Update

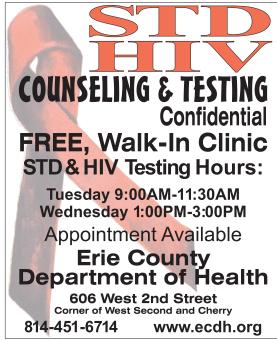
from Greater Erie Alliance for Equality

The Erie Regional GSA (a partnership between GEAE and Blasco Library) hosted a Friendsgiving for the LGBTQ youth to celebrate and give a safe space to young people while enjoying a holiday meal. Twelve young people attended, enjoyed food, brought desserts, and met new friends, that was hosted by the Erie Day School. Meetings for the GSA will continue throughout the winter with the addition of movie nights and some other special events. Check out the calendar for all updates: http://greatereriealliance.com/gsa-program/



Members and supporters of Erie County HIV Task Force held a World AIDS Day event with candlelight vigil on Dec 2 at Blaso Public Library.





Meeting about LGBTQ+ Dating & Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking

A meeting was held Monday, November 25, 2019, concerning LGBTQ+ Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking. Representatives from TransFamily, Safe Journey, SafeNet, Crime Victim Center, GEAE, NWPA Pride Alliance, and Erie Gay News were present.

The newly formed group is focusing on education, integration, and communication. They seek to increase knowledge of available services among members of the LGBTQ+ community, to integrate those services into the community, and to ensure that service providers and others are aware of the full extent of services available to LGBTQ+ clients. They seek to better communicate client needs among the groups and to make all of Erie County better aware of the issues, implications, and impacts of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking among our community.

In discussing domestic violence and sexual assault services and education for community members, the service agencies stressed that all services are confidential, free of charge, and available to everyone, regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation. For Erie County residents north of I-90, SafeNet provides emergency shelter services and transitional housing to domestic violence victims. South of I-90, those services are provided by Safe Journey. Crime

Victim Center serves all victim of crime, including sexual violence, throughout Erie County.

The group hopes to conduct a community needs assessment among LGBTQ+ community members and will meet again in January. More information about domestic violence is available at www.safejourney.org; or www.safenet.org. Information for other victims of crime is available at www.cvcerie.org. For more info, contact Lori Palisin of Safe Journey at (814) 438-2675 or safejourney@safejourney.org

NW PA Pride Looks Back at 2019

from NW PA Pride Alliance

Thanks to our donors and community partners, 2019 was a great year for the NWPA Pride Alliance! This year's Pride events were special because 2019 was the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, which were the start of modern Pride events.

Pride Fest held on June 29 again set an all-time record for attendance. We estimate over 2,500 people attended, making it the largest Pride event in local history. We were honored that Erie City Major Joe Schember walked with his staff in the Pride Parade again, and also spoke at Pride Fest. In addition, the City of Erie painted a rainbow crosswalk between City Hall and Perry Square again with an even more inclusive Pride design than last year. Commissioners of the Pennsylvania Commission on LGBTQ+ Affairs read a proclamation from Governor Wolf that was presented at Pride. We were also very pleased





Erie Sisters and Brothers Transgender Support Group held the Lake Erie Gala at the Bel Aire Hotel Nov 20-23, Photo by Michael Mahler.





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to have a great time with everyone who came to the 27th annual Pride Picnic in August.

NW PA Pride sponsored the Miss Erie Pageant and the Friday night diva shows at The Zone Dance Club. NW PA Pride also sponsored Drag Bingo at the Erie Art Museum and Dramashop's production of Crumble (Lay Me Down, Justin Timberlake.)

We also continued to focus on increasing the visibility of NWPA Pride, building connections to community partners and promoting issues important to the LGBTQIA community. We marched in the Edinboro University Homecoming Parade with Identity, Edinboro University's LGBTQIA student organization. We had a float in Millcreek's annual Fourth of July Parade. We also continued our partnership with the Erie Seawolves for Pride Night at the Erie Seawolves. We donated gift baskets for the Pink Party Breast Cancer Awareness Weekend at the Zone. and hosted the fifth annual Pride Day at Waldameer Park and Water World.

We are already hard at work planning for 2020 with the goal of building on the growth we enjoyed in 2019, and we look forward to the continued support of our donors and our community partners. We thank you again for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you in 2020 at Pride Night at the Erie Otters on January 25, Pridefest on June 27, and the Pride Picnic on August 8, as well as other events to be announced soon.

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TransFamily of NW PA Sixth Annual TransGiving

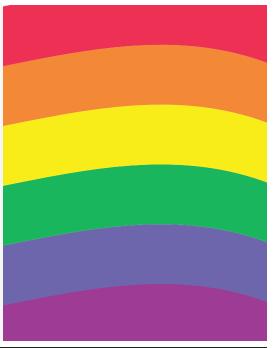
TransFamily of NW PA held their sixth annual TransGiving potluck dinner on Nov 23 at Crime Victim Center, 125 W 18th St. In addition to great food and friends, there was also a Trans Pride flag signed by members and allies, as well as a display of the recent proclamations recognizing Transgender Day of Remembrance by Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper and Erie City Mayor Joe Schember.



Domestic Violence can affect individuals of every age, race, gender, and sexual orientation.



24/7 crisis hotline: (814) 454-8161 www.SafeNetErie.org All are welcome.



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

Dec 20 (Fri) - Zone Diva Show (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to https://www.facebook.com/TheZoneDance-Club.

Dec 21 (Sat) - Candy Cane Christmas Party (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to https://www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub.

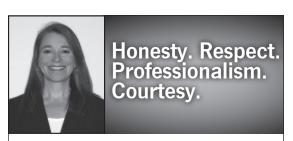
Dec 22 (Sun) - Whispering Lake Grove Yule/Winter Solstice (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Highway, Erie, PA 16508) 5 PM. Contact: Rev. Christopher Temple. Phone: (814) 720-1560. Venue Phone: (814) 864-9300. Email: senior.druid@wlg-adf.org. Browse to http://www.wlg-adf.org/. Browse to venue web site http://www.uuerie.org.

Dec 22 (Sun) - Full Spectrum Holiday Hang-Out (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 5060 Youngstown Poland Rd, Youngstown, OH 44514) 5:30 PM - 8 PM. FJoin us for a casual hang out at our center to celebrate the holidays! Come meet new people, socialize, listen to holiday music, enjoy some hot chocolate and cookies, partake in painting ornaments, and compete for a prize in our Ugly Sweater contest! This event is all ages/family friendly! Free, but donations are appreciated. Phone: (234) 254-8924. Email: info@fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org. Browse to https://www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org/.

Dec 31 (Tue) - New Year's Eve Bash (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) \$10 cover. Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to https://www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub.

Jan 3 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour) meets (Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM - 8 PM. G2H2/Erie takes place every month in a new location around town, providing GLBT professionals, and our colleagues and friends, the opportunity to meet, network or just hang out once a month. Venue Phone: (814) 452-3000. Browse to http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=54742829807. Browse to venue web site http://www.bourbonbarrelerie.com/.

Jan 13 (Mon) - Deadline for Erie Gay News February 2020 print edition (#291) (Erie Gay News, 1115 W



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7th St, Erie, PA 16502-1105) Please have all articles, ads, and submissions in by this date. This issue will be released the evening of Tuesday, January 21. 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. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Email: info@eriegaynews.com. Browse to https://www.eriegaynews.com.

Jan 14 (Tue) - Bears Do Dinner #79 (Erie Brewing Company West Side, 4102 W Lake Rd, Erie, PA 16505) 6:30 PM. Join the Bears for a casual dinner of food and conversation! Dinner is on your own. Contact: Peter. Phone: (814) 384-9785. Venue Phone: (814) 616-2739. Email: eriepeter@gmail.com. Browse to https://www.facebook.com/groups/BearsDoDinnerEriePA/. Browse to venue web site https://www.eriebrewingco.com/.

Jan 18 (Sat) - Drag Bingo (Erie Art Museum, 411 State St, Erie, PA 16501-1106) 7 PM. It's bingo, but with a hell of a lot more pizzazz! Between games enjoy performances by Erie's favorite queen Rebecca Mae and others. Cash bar, prizes and more. \$30 for non-members and \$15 for members. Entrance fee covers your first six games. Additional games \$3 each. Become a member for as little as \$15. You get into the Museum free for a year and then can buy a member ticket for just \$15. Phone: (814) 459-5477. Browse to http://www.erieartmuseum.org.

Jan 21 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA 16502) 7 PM. Help us get out the print edition of Erie Gay News. We'll be folding and distributing the copies. All ages welcome! It is also a great way to hang out and chat with folks! You can also sign up for the Erie GLBT News and Events list

at https://lists.eriegaynews.com/. Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833.

Jan 25 (Sat) - Pride Night at the Erie Otters (Erie

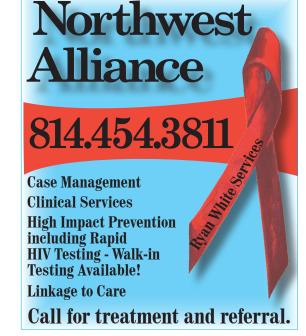
Jan 25 (Sat) - Pride Night at the Erie Otters (Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St, Erie, PA 16501) 7 PM. Come out to the NW P {A Pride Alliance Pride Night with the ERIE Otters. Tickets and shirt combo are just 25 plus fees and available now. Phone: (814) 314-9075. Venue Phone: (814) 453-7117. Email: president@nwpapride.org. Browse to http://www.nwpapride.org. RSVP/Register/Tickets at https://groupmatics.events/event/OttersPrideNight. Browse to venue web site http://www.erieevents.com/.

Awareness Days

Jan 27 (Mon) - Holocaust Remembrance Day Day to remember all of the victims of the Nazi era. Browse to https://www.yadvashem.org/27th/index.asp.

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. aaeriepa.org. MISC.

Jan 12 (Sun) – Full Spectrum Sexuality Support (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 5060 Youngstown Poland Rd, Youngstown, OH) 3-5PM.

Jan 12 (Sun) - Over 40? So What / Aging With Pride meets (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA 16502) 4 PM - 6 PM. Contact: Dale Allgeier. Phone: (814) 455-4009. Email: daleallgeier@outlook.com.

Jan 13 (Mon) - Erie County Democratic Party LG-BTQIA+ Caucus meets (Erie County Democratic Party HQ, 1305 State St, Erie, PA 16501) 7 PM. General meeting. Voting members must be a registered Democrat living in Erie County. Straight/cisgender allies welcome! Contact: Michael Mahler. Phone: (814) 456-9833. Venue Phone: (814) 520-2431. Email: mmahler@eriedems.com. Browse to https://www.facebook.com/ErieDemsLGBTQIA/. Browse to venue web site https://www.eriedems.com.

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

Jan 14 (Tue) – Full Spectrum Know Your Status Drop In Service ull Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 5060 Youngstown Poland Road, Youngstown, OH) 4 - 6 P. Free and confidential HIV testing. Free support, free information, free condoms.

Jan 21 (Tue) - Erie County HIV Task Force meets (Erie County Department of Health (ECDH), 606 W 2nd St, Erie, PA 16507) 1 PM. The Erie County HIV Task Force is a collaboration of local organizations and individuals dedicated to educating, supporting, and advocating for people living with HIV/AIDS and preventing the spread of infection. Contact: Joy Henry. Phone: (814) 451-6786. Venue Phone: (814) 451-6711. Email: jhenry@eriecountypa.gov. Browse to https://echiv.org/. Browse to venue web site http://www.ecdh.org.

SOCIAL

LGBT+ Erie County PA FB: LGBT+ Erie County, PA Southern Tier Queer Peers 31 Water St., Suite 7, Door 14, Jamestown NY "A wellness group for the LGBTQ+ community Tues. 5:30-7:30PM." Sheridan.smith@mhachautauqua.org 716-490-4438

Jan 12 (Sun) - LBT Women of Erie meets (Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr #1, Erie, PA 16505) 12 PM. Contact: Kim Conti. Phone: (814) 490-3994. Venue Phone: (814) 835-1384. Email: Erie-Beans@yahoo.com. Browse to https://www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE. Browse to venue web site http://trecpi.org/.

SPIRITUALITY

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

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

Jan 14 (Tue) - Butler LGBTQ Interfaith Network meets (Covenant Presbyterian Church, 230 E Jefferson St, Butler PA, PA 16001) 1 PM. The Butler LGBTQ Interfaith Network is a collaboration of area religious leaders, lay leaders, and community organizers working to affirm the spirituality of all persons of faith. We provide peer pastoral support, community support, and programs that promote inclusion. Email: butler-interfaith@zoominternet.net. Browse to https://www.facebook.com/ButlerLgbtqInterfaithNetwork/.

STUDENT & YOUTH

SAGA (Sexuality and Gender Alliance) LGBTQIA Support Group (Ashtabula County District Library, 4335 Park Ave, Ashtabula OH) Every Tuesday, 4-5 PM. shannan.farmer@cccohio.com

Jan 2 (Thu) - Erie Regional GSA meets (Blasco Memorial Erie County Public Library, 160 East Front Street, Erie, PA 16507) 6 PM - 8 PM. Venue Phone: (814) 451-6900. Browse to venue web site http://www.erielibrary.org/.

Jan 7 & 21 (Tue) – LGBT+ Teen Support (Full Spectrum, 5060 Youngstown Poland Rd, Youngstown, OH) 6 PM. FB: Full Spectrum Community Outreach Support

Transgender Support Group of Jamestown NY Thursdays, 6 to 8 PM. Contact for location and details. Text or call: Bethany (716) 499-4817, Hayley (814) 888-7525, Terry (716) 490-7596. FB: Transgender

Support of Jamestown NY for events.

Jan 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 NWPA.

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

Jan 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

Jan 26 (Sun) – Full Spectrum Gender Support Group meets (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 5060 Youngstown Poland Road, Youngstown, OH) 3 PM – 5 PM.

Jan 25 (Sat) – TransFamily of NWPA (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 NWPA Jan 26 (Sun) – Full Spectrum Gender Support Group meets (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 5060 Youngstown Poland Road, Youngstown, OH) 3 PM – 5 PM.

Check out www.eriegaynews.com for more photo galleries!



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