

EGN

Erie Gay News



Show your Pride with a yard sign from NW PA Pride Alliance. Yard signs, shirts, and tank tops are available at NWPAPride.org

2021 Pride Shirt and Yard sign now available!

This summer NWPA Pride are bringing back the Pride shirt and tank tops. This design is a remastered version of the 2020 Shirt contest winner from Whee! Design. This summer there is also a limited edition Pride yard sign that will be available for a small donation. Shirts, tank tops, and yard signs available in limited quantities at NWPAPride.org. Also look for Social media announcements for special in person popup shops during June. Any questions please email President@nwpapride.org

Tyler Titus Wins Democratic Nomination for Erie County Executive

Titus: Now is the time for unity to deliver for Erie County families

Erie, PA — Today in an historic victory, Tyler Titus won the Democratic nomination for Erie County

Executive. This puts Titus on a path to becoming the first transgender county executive in United States history in November. Titus released the following statement:

“This victory belongs to the people of Erie County who know we need new leadership to build a prosperous future for all of us. From investing in our schools and infrastructure to expanding broadband access and creating good-paying jobs across the county, it’s time to unite and deliver results for families across Erie County.”

“I grew up in poverty in rural Pennsylvania. I’m the child of a logger and a nurse. I know what it’s like to struggle—to be failed by government. As a small business owner and as President of the Erie County School Board, I’ve seen how investing in our small businesses and our local schools are the key to our economic future. It’s imperative that we build back from this pandemic in a way that puts our families and communities first.

“Congratulations to Carl Anderson, Rita Bishop, and Dylanna Grasinger on running strong campaigns and for their dedication to Erie County. I look forward to continuing to work with them on the critical priorities for our county, and I am grateful to every person that made their voice heard in this election.

“I’m running for County Executive to deliver a quality education for all our kids and create safe, prosperous communities where our families can thrive. That’s what our campaign has been about since day one and will be through the General Election, and those are the priorities I will deliver on as Erie County Executive.”

ECDH Resumes FREE Confidential HIV & STD Testing

Starting in June, the Erie County Department of Health is resuming their free, confidential HIV & STD testing with counseling. Clinic hours are by appointment only weekly on Tuesdays from 9AM to 11:30AM and on Wednesdays from 1PM to 3:30PM. To set up your appointment date and time, call the

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Erie Gay News
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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.

EGN Rates & Data

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!



THANKS

From Your Friends at Erie Gay News

To Lake Erie Counseling Associates for hosting! Andrea Shaffer, Audrey, Johauna, Kim Conti, Marty Sargent, and Rex Apps for folding; Audrey, Johauna, Kim Conti, Marty Sargent, 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.

ECDH at (814) 451-6700, selection Option 3, and then Option 2. The Erie County Department of Health is located at 606 West 2nd Street, Erie PA; on Route 31 with the EMTA. You can also find where to get FREE CONDOMS by browsing the online map supplied by the Erie County HIV Task Force at: ECHIV.org/map

Erie Drag Queen Bingo on May 29 & Jun 25

Due to the overwhelming response, another Erie Drag Queen Bingo is scheduled at Zem Zem – Shrine Club for Saturday, May 29 and also Friday, June 25. Both events begin at 7:15 PM.

Come out and have fun at Erie's Drag Queen Bingo.

OVER \$2000 in CASH PRIZES!!

And some crazy door prizes!!

Join your favorite Drag Queens, Rebecca Mae, Michelle Michael*, and Priscilla Godzilla for a crazy night of Bingo and fun.

Be warned... No one is safe from the Queens! Prepare for 2 hours of dirty jokes, ruthless insults, and side-splitting laughs! Not for the easily offended!

Tickets & Reservations can be made online at: www.riedragqueenbingo.com/
Limited Seating Available.
MUST be 18 and older to attend.
Tickets are NON-TRANSFERABLE.
NO REFUND

HIV Testing at The Zone on June 4

This will be the second of four HIV testing events in 2021 organized by NWPAA Pride Alliance, Northwest Alliance, Greater Erie Alliance for Equality, City Of Erie, Erie Gay News, Dickey's BBQ, and more. Northwest Alliance will be conducting free and confidential using their new Mobile Testing Unit. Testing available to those 14 years of age and up with no parental consent required. We will use rapid testing using a finger prick, and results will be given after 2 minutes.

The event takes place at the Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie PA, on 6/4 from 6 pm-9 pm. This will be outside in the parking lot—no ticket required to get tested.

Giveaways!!

Each person Tested will receive a \$5 Country

Erie County Department of Health

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If you are unable or not comfortable going out in Public for a test, please contact Emily Crofoot at ECROFOOT@CLARION.EDU to determine how you can still get tested.

Pride Ashtabula on June 5

Pride Ashtabula kicks off at The Cove Nightclub, 5326 Lake Road. E. Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio 44041 on June 4th at 9 pm. On June 5th, there will be a Family Friendly PG – Pride at 1498 State Route 46 South, Jefferson, OH 40047, from 12-5. Drag show hostesses are Mona Lotz and Vivian Vendetta Sinclair. Other performers include Desiree Monroe (Miss GBO Newcomer), Danyel Vasquez (Miss Ohio FI), McKenzie Chrystal Rose (Miss Funky Skunk), Sasha Mizrahe, OMEGA, Ashtabula Native GINGERELLA, Dakota Cox, Anhedonia Delight, Zoey Zegai, Keyanna Diamond, Infiniti Sinclair, and Maelstrom West. The Pride event will include vendors, food, unicorn rides, crafts, and games for the kids. There will also be a private 21 and older After Pride Party for donations of \$50+. Email bdawalt1@icloud.com if you have any questions, would like to volunteer and or donate! Booths are \$10.

Jamestown Pride Fest Set For Saturday, June 12th

Drag Queen Star Pandora Boxx to Offer Free Performance

The Jamestown Pride Steering and Planning Committees are excited to announce that Pride festivities will happen in downtown Jamestown on Saturday, June 12, 2021. The LGBTQIA+ community has historically celebrated Pride in June to commemorate the Stonewall Riots that took place in June 1969.

The day will start at 9:30 a.m. with a Pride flag raising and Pulse Anniversary Remembrance Ceremony on Tracy Plaza with Mayor Eddie Sundquist.

Jamestown Pride will be part of the Jamestown Public Market from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Pride-themed tents will feature activities such as a "Gender Bread Person" booth, Drag Time Story Hour, and a Pronoun Button tent.

Activities also will be taking place from noon until 9:00 p.m. on the Wintergarden Plaza on North

Main Street. These will include resource tables from local organizations, a yoga class, and Zumba class.

Pride Fest will be capped off with a free performance at 8:00 p.m. at the Wintergarden Plaza by RuPaul's Drag Race Star and Jamestown native Pandora Boxx.

Pride Coordinator Sheridan Smith said, "After having to cancel most of last year's Pride events we had been planning due to the Pandemic, we are so excited to be able to hold this festival this year! It is important for the Queer community to have opportunities to celebrate our Pride of who we are with each other, while we also provide resources to our community for those who may be in the process of coming out and finding that pride in themselves."

"Pride is about finding strength through love, inclusivity and unity, and pride as a concept – as a time to reflect and raise our voices – will always remain," said Justin Azzarella, chief strategy officer of Evergreen Health. "We are thrilled to sponsor this year's festivities in Jamestown and wish everyone a safe and happy Pride!"

Attendees to all activities will be required to wear masks and social distance per CDC and Health Department guidelines.

Jamestown Pride events are presented by Evergreen Health, and are also sponsored by Media One Group, The Chautauqua Center, the Mental Health Association of Chautauqua County, the Jamestown Public Market, Chautauqua Institution, and Silver Tree Seniors.

Drag sensation Alaska as Hamlet at Dramashop

Drag sensation Alaska as you've never seen her before: Playing the title role in HAMLET, a 90-minute staged reading of William Shakespeare's play edited and directed by Jessica Flock. Join us as Alaska, winner of RuPaul's Drag Race All-Stars, takes on one of Shakespeare's most famous roles alongside a cast of Dramashop veterans in a staged reading. The performance was streamed on Friday, May 14 and is available on-demand through June 1.

Pay what you can at www.dramashop.org. Suggested minimum donation: \$5. Your donations support Dramashop! A link will be sent after your ticket purchase has been processed.

LGBTQ

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Erie Arts & Culture

Art exhibit made
possible by a grant from
Erie Arts & Culture.

GreaterErieAlliance.com

2021 LGBTQ Juried Art Exhibit at Blasco Library, June 1 – 30

The Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) has curated a 2021 LGBTQ Juried Art Exhibit, which runs all of Pride month, June 1 – 30, on the 2nd floor of Blasco Library.

The call for art entries went out to local visual arts groups, art departments and LGBTQ groups at regional college and universities, social media, and individual artists. The responses were very enthusiastic.

Supported by a grant from Erie Arts & Culture, the exhibit features over 50 artworks by 25 LGBTQ artists from northwestern PA. There is a variety of styles, subjects, and media in the exhibit, including painting, sculpture, photography, fiber, pastels, drawing, fine jewelry, and mixed media.

Some artists drew directly upon their experiences as an LGBTQ person, while others looked elsewhere for inspiration. Some pieces are provocative, others more lighthearted. The entries were juried by members of the GEAE Board and Advisory Council. Because of a recent anonymous donation, GEAE is able to designate three merit awards of \$100 each to three artists.



“Wear a Mask Ya Filthy Animal” by Steven Edwards, Photograph. This will be one of the pieces on display at the 2021 LGBTQ Art Exhibit at Blasco in June.

This 2021 exhibit is the second LGBTQ regional juried art show to be mounted by GEAE. In 2019, GEAE held the first juried art exhibit in Erie to feature only work by LGBTQ artists within a 200-mile radius of Erie. The success of that exhibit and the positive responses from the general public who attended the exhibit were encouraging to GEAE to offer an exhibit by LGBTQ artists this year. Because of COVID uncertainties and regulations, GEAE decided to keep the focus on LGBTQ artists from northwestern PA only, rather than a larger region.

The exhibit can be viewed during regular library hours. Appropriate masks must be worn in the Blasco Library.

History exhibit at Blasco for June

“A Look Back, A history of the LGBTQ+ Community in Erie, PA” is set for a second run. This local LGBTQ+ history display was first exhibited during Pride month of 2019. It will be exhibited for a second time at The Blasco Library from June 1st through June 30th. The exhibit has been refreshed and expanded and can be seen on the second floor, close to the LGBTQ+ juried art exhibit. This June, don’t miss “A Look Back: A History of the LGBTQ+ Community on Erie, PA.”

New Events for the Zone Dance Club

by Michael Mongera

Erie’s number one gay bar is getting back into the groove, one sequin at a time. Amidst the seemingly tail end of an unprecedented pandemic, the Zone is bringing the queens out of quarantine, with two new events! Rebecca Mae is now hosting weekly shows called Fierce Friday’s. Queens near and far will have the opportunity showcase a sickening performance and entertain the crowds. Showtimes will start every Friday at 10 PM. No cover will be required.

The bar will also continue its Showstopper Monday performances during the second Monday of each month. Local Queens like Pissi Gabune and Debbie perform showtunes and musical numbers after screening of a musical of their choice. Showstopper Mondays are inspired by a love of musical theatre and sharing that camaraderie with the audience. Pissi Gabune later said, “We wanted to do something to represent a side of drag that isn’t as visible in the

Erie area.”

As the CDC has officially announced that if patrons are fully vaccinated, we can only hope to see normal operating hours and procedures return to normal. Hopefully, we will see a lit-up dance floor in good time. Check out the zone at (@zonedanceclub) on Instagram and Facebook for possible updates.

The Erie Gay News Survey

The Erie Gay News needs your feedback! Our mission is to best reflect the LGBTQIA of Erie. With that, we want to get to know our readers a bit better. Over on our Facebook, (Erie Gay News), check out our Psychographic Survey. This survey is meant for use to get a better read of we can interact better with you! Your feedback is essential and much appreciated.

Erie Gay News now in PA Power Library

The Erie County Public Library, is excited to announce that the entire run of the Erie Gay news is now digitally available for patrons to search and view! Through Pennsylvania Power Library and the PA Photos and Documents initiative, patrons are able to access these records from anywhere. The collection features Erie Gay News publications from 1992 to present day. These documents are text searchable, share to social media platforms, and save and print clips.

You can access this collection by visiting <https://erielibrary.org/services/edatabases/>, then select “Local History and Genealogy”, and then click “PA Photos and Docs”. Once redirected to the PA Power Library webpage, click “search by institution”, and you’ll see the Erie Gay News collection listed under Erie County Public Library.

Bears Do Dinner Returns on June 23

Bears Do Dinner will return on Wednesday, June 23, at 6 PM. The location will be announced shortly. You will need to RSVP at the Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1475863226069226>. You can also sign up for email notifications about Bears Do Dinner at the Erie Gay News Facebook page. For questions, please contact Peter at EriePeter@gmail.com.

Drive your Pride on June 27

Join us on Sunday, June 27 for Drive Your Pride to show our pandemic friendly pride! This is a privately organized way to reclaim the experience of a parade.

Decorate your car or vehicle as your personal parade float—flags, streamers, signs, be creative! Just make you are able to safely obey all the rules of the road!

We will all drive together around the peninsula. Meet at the parking lot of the Tom Ridge Environmental Center at 1pm and then “step off” at 2:00.

We urge you to use good COVID safe practices. Please share this event and invite your friends! This should be fun!

Event will be rain or shine.

This event is not affiliated with the Tom Ridge Environmental Center.

HIV/STI Testing at Drive Your Pride

On June 27th, in honor of National HIV Testing Day, Northwest Alliance will be offering FREE and confidential HIV testing from 12pm-2pm before the Drive Your Pride parade. Northwest Alliance will be utilizing their new mobile HIV testing units, which will be parked in the Tom Ridge Environmental Center parking lot. Gift cards will be provided to anyone that gets tested. For more information, contact Emily Crofoot at ecrofoot@clarion.edu or (814) 454-3811.

GayDay Crawford in Diamond Park on July 11

Meadville will hold GayDay Crawford in Diamond Park on Saturday, July 11, from 11 AM to 6 PM. LGBT+ businesses and organizations interested in participating should contact Glenn at glenntuttle@icloud.com. There is no fee to setup.

Mayor’s LGBTQIA advisory council May 20 meeting

Mayor’s LGBTQIA+ Advisory Council Meeting on May 20

The Mayor’s LGBTQIA+ Advisory Council met on Thursday, May 20. The Mayor’s office is continuing to work on including non-discrimination clauses for contracts with city contractors and also anti-bullying in contractors for youth service provid-

ers. This should hopefully be included by the July 31 deadline for submitting to raise the City of Erie's Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Municipal Equality Index.

There was a Zoom meeting on April 29 with White House staff and over 200 LGBTQ community activists from across the USA. Erie was also represented. After the Zoom meeting, there was an email calling for a Request For Information (RFI) that is due by July 6. This listening process is designed to reach communities and sectors across the country to ensure that the perspectives of women and girls, communities of color, religious minorities, LGBTQI+ people, disabled people, rural communities and many others are represented in and can offer input to drive this work. The RFI will be open for these stakeholders to contribute their comments and suggestions for sixty days. OMB will use this information as it works on its report to the President, due in July, identifying best practices for assessing whether agency policies and actions equitably serve historically underserved communities.

The LGBTQ Health Conference that will be held virtually October 12-14 was discussed. Several advisory members for this statewide event are from Erie. Erie political figures and LGBT leaders may be included in pre-recorded videos. Additionally, both AHN and UPMC will be holding Pride flag-raising ceremonies on June 1.

Better Together, a project of the City of Erie, is still working on a grant for hiring a Diversity, Equity & Inclusion consultant, who will be working with several groups, including the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Council.

Alex Sphon and Leroy Oglesby from the council have been appointed to the Erie County Human Relations Advisory Board, serving until summer 2022. Other authority, board, and commission appointments were discussed.

The City of Erie continues to partner on HIV testing events. The next HIV testing event will be June 4 at The Zone. The City of Erie will also be including a presentation on Pride Fest for the June 24 weekly Mayor's press conference.

Upcoming events discussed included GEAE's LGBT+ Artshow at Blasco Public Library for June, which will run concurrently with the local LGBT+ history exhibit; GEAE's youth events on June 9, 15, and 24; NW PA Pride Alliance's Virtual Pride Fest on June 26 and Drive Your Pride on June 27; GEAE's

scholarship open to students 17-25 years old, which has a deadline to apply of July 15; Bears Do Dinner returning to meeting monthly beginning May 27; LBT Women continuing to meet via Zoom the 2nd Sunday of the month; Dr. Will Koehler's Dragons & Disco Socks book launch at Artlore on May 25; Ashtabula Pride on June 5; Jamestown Pride on June 12; Warren PA Pride on June 26; and Gay Day at Diamon Park in Meadville on July 11.

The next LGBTQIA+ Advisory Council meeting will be on July 1.

PA commission on LGBTQ affairs meeting on May 21

The Pennsylvania Commission on LGBTQ Affairs held its quarterly spring meeting via Zoom on May 21. Executive Director Rafael Alvarez-Febo reported that the commission has been working on COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy, particularly in LGBTQ intersectional communities. There will be a Pride flag-raising ceremony on June 15 at noon in Harrisburg, and there are other significant LGBTQ initiatives expected to be announced at that time.

The Aging workgroup is currently working on adding a page on living with HIV as a chronic disease on the Pennsylvania Department of Aging's website. The workgroup will also be presenting on June 9 to a statewide meeting of area agencies on aging (AAA.) Most counties have a regional area agency on aging, and the workgroup will present resources and share information on best practices for working with the LGBTQ community. Additionally, since most Pennsylvania state-level departments have similar regional agencies, this will also be a good model for other departments.

The Health workgroup has been chiefly focused on COVID-19 for the past year but discussed non-COVID issues at this meeting. Topics included working with the PA Insurance commission on fertility coverage equity, as some current requirements don't apply to couples that don't have complementary gametes. (I.e. same-sex or couples that include someone who is transgender.) Some LGBTQ community centers across the commonwealth have been holding COVID-19 vaccination clinics.

The Legislative and Policy workgroup is working on the non-discrimination bill by engaging with faith communities. They encouraged everyone to keep an eye out for PA Fairness Act co-sponsors.



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The workgroup is also monitoring possible proposed bills that would be against the interest of the LGBTQ community.

The Youth and Youth Services workgroup is working on being trauma-informed when working with youth and addressing mistrust of vaccines by youth in intersectional identities. There is a need for mental and emotional health by youth, and many programs are at maximum capacity.

The Housing committee reminds everyone that they are looking for members, and they meet every other Tuesday via Zoom at 2 PM.

The commission's next meeting will be a hybrid meeting on August 21 that includes in-person in Pittsburgh.

Central Outreach Brings PrEP 2 Me

reprinted from QBurgh

After a year of what seems to have been a constant state of limbo, 2021 is finally beginning to look upwards. Here at Central Outreach Wellness Center, we are striving to continue with ever-changing health care practices that are game changers in the way we are helping to eradicate the spread and stigma of



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Not Fancy, Just Good!

STDs and HIV/AIDS.

We are pleased to announce the start of our new initiative, PrEP2ME (Powered by Central Outreach Wellness Center). This “tele-PrEP” service is available nationwide and encourages routine check ins with a physician here at the office. And even better, there is no out-of-pocket charge. It’s a new alternative to those who are having difficulty coming in to the clinic to be seen or are newer to the community and have questions.

Central Outreach Wellness Center seeks to remove every obstacle possible to patients who are at a high risk for HIV in receiving PrEP and PEP (Post-Exposure Prophylaxis), the two most important medications to prevent HIV available today, through the PrEP 2 Me service.

For more information regarding the PrEP2Me Program, please contact us at (412) 844-7737.

The LGBT Community Endowment fund RFP for Grants due May 28

The LGBT Community Endowment fund at the Erie Community Foundation has issued an RFP for grants that support the LGBTQIA community. A link can be found at <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=Erie>. The application deadline is May 28.

Mini-Grant RFP

The LGBT Community Endowment, a donor advised fund of The Erie Community Foundation, is, therefore, issuing this Request for Proposals.

We are currently seeking proposals for projects that address various needs in the LGBTQIA community, which include but are not limited to:

- Safe schools
- Youth homelessness
- Substance abuse and other health challenges
- Housing and workplace equality
- Family support and recognition

The LGBT Community Endowment has committed \$5,000 for this mini-grant cycle. Individual proposals will be accepted for any amount between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

Eligibility: any Erie County 501(c)3 nonprofit

Ineligibility: for-profit, sectarian religious activities, fund-raising solely, hospitality projects

Deadline: Applications must be submitted by May 28, 2021 by clicking here.

Important Dates: Finalist(s) will be selected

by June 30, 2021 and grant recipient(s) will be announced in July.

Questions? Contact Susannah Weis Frigon, CFP®, Vice President, Philanthropic Services, Erie Community Foundation at 814-454-0843.

Decision Day coming!

Last year, the U.S. Supreme Court heard the case *Fulton v Philadelphia* ([link to www.DecisionDay.org/Cases](http://www.DecisionDay.org/Cases)), which could profoundly affect protections for LGBTQ+ people, people of color, people of faith and more. The court will issue its opinion sometime between now and the end of June and when that happens, we want you to be one of the first to know how it will affect all of us.

So we’re inviting you to join us on #DecisionDay** for both our Virtual Rally followed by our Virtual Town Hall. The rally will be a chance for us to gather together as a community to react to the decision, support each other and hear from speakers and performances. Then the Town Hall will feature experts providing analysis of the opinion, how it will affect our lives, and what still needs to be done. RSVP to those events at www.DecisionDay.org.

Fulton, on its surface, is about whether a private foster care agency that receives public funds can use their religious beliefs to justify not serving LGBTQ+ people. Their refusal has already had a devastating impact on foster kids who are being denied a loving home. But if the court rules in favor of a right to discriminate, it could allow any private agency that receives taxpayer-funding to provide government services – – such as adoption, food banks, homeless shelters, disaster relief and more – – to deny services to anyone they don’t approve of, including LGBTQ+, Jewish, Muslim, Mormon, single women, those previously divorced and more.

We hope you’ll RSVP to join us on #DecisionDay at www.DecisionDay.org for both the Virtual Rally and Town Hall.

*** The U.S. Supreme Court doesn’t give advance notice so we won’t know the exact date for #DecisionDay until that morning.

Cybersecurity Workshop on May 13

On May 13, 2021, organizations including Erie Gay News, Greater Erie Alliance for Equality, Lake Erie Counseling, LBT Women of Erie, Northwest Alliance, NW PA Pride Alliance, Pennsylvania Equality Project, Safe Harbor, SafeNet, and TransFamily of

NW PA partnered on a Zoom presentation on cybersecurity by the Pennsylvania Department of Banking and Security. George Dillman, Consumer Outreach Specialist for PA Department of Banking and Securities, presented ways to keep safe online and to avoid scams. The video of the presentation is on the online version of this article. We will continue to pursue collaborative opportunities to keep our local LGBT community informed, safe, and healthy!

CALL FOR PRESENTERS: 4th Annual Pennsylvania LGBTQIA Virtual Health Conference

We invite you to submit an application to present information on the following topics related to the LGBTQIA population:

- Mental health and wellness
- Healthcare engagement and quality improvement
- Cultural competency and sensitivity training
- Considerations for and perspectives of all groups within the LGBTQIA community
- Other relevant topics will be considered

The conference will include topics relevant to all health professionals, public health specialists, and members of community-based organizations with an emphasis on the future of the LGBTQIA community.

Participant levels of knowledge will range from beginner to advanced and sessions should be designated as targeting a 100 level (Beginner) or 200 level (Advanced) audience.

Breakout session presenters will have a total of 60 minutes; 45 minutes for presentation and 15 minutes for question and answer.

In order to complete the application, you will need to include the following:

- Presentation title
 - Three learning objectives
 - Presenter bio (150 word maximum)
- Criteria for evaluating the presentations will include:

- Topic relevance to providing services for the LGBTQIA community
 - Support of increasing access and quality of care
 - Ability to replicate or use information/design in health and community settings
- Process for Submitting a Presentation:
Go to the Survey Monkey in the online ver-

sion of this article to complete the online form and print off a copy for your records.

- Assign no more than two presenters per submission
- Submit your presentation form by July 7, 2021

Contact conference staff with any questions at conference@lgbtqiahealth.org

Pride Sports USA Forming Leagues in Erie

Pride Sports USA, <http://PrideSportsUSA.com> founded by Keith London in 2020, is a sports organization for the LGBTQ+ community and our allies! Our goal is to provide a fun, organized and affordable league to all. Located in several cities around the country and 25,000+ players!

We offer kickball, dodgeball, softball, volleyball, tennis, soccer, football and cornhole.

We are currently looking to start leagues in Erie, PA and surrounding areas. Please join us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/pridesportserie> to learn more about leagues forming in your area. For additional information please email info@pridesportsusa.com

Warren County Pride Day on June 26

Warren County Pride Day is a celebration of the LGBT community and culture and will feature a variety of quality out-of-town speakers, entertainment, and attractions. All are welcome at this all-day festival. The event is being held on Saturday, June 26 from 11 AM to 7 PM at Betts Park, 400 Ludlow St, Warren PA 16365. The Facebook event page is at <https://www.facebook.com/events/489975058909949/>. For more info, email WarrenCountyPride@gmail.com.

Share your thoughts on our #SpillTheTeaTuesday question every week on our Facebook page!

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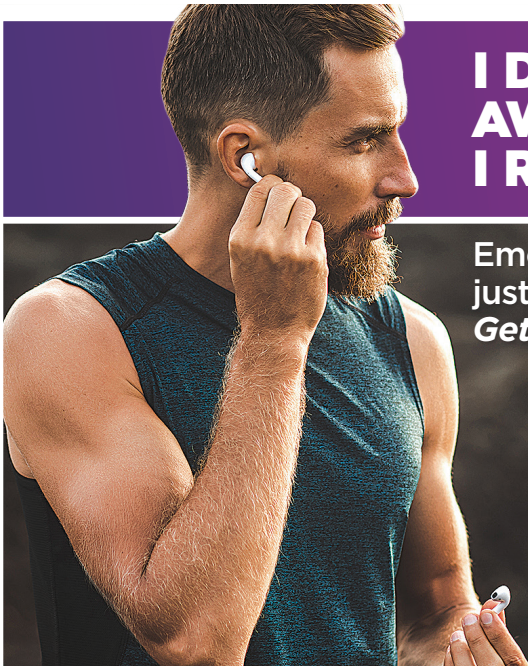
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Calendar

For latest updates, see www.eriegaynews.com

May 27 (Thu) – Queer Youth: Virtual Connect – Chat & Chill (Zoom) 6 PM – 7:30 PM. Come join us for a night of community, laughter, and chill. No real agenda, just a safe, virtual space. Co-hosted by Compton’s Table, Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) and Journey to a Trauma-Informed Life. Contact: <https://comptonstable.org/connect-events>. <https://comptonstable.org/>.

May 28 – 31 (Fri – Mon) – Memorial Day Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)

May 29 (Sat) – Erie Drag Queen Bingo (Zem Zem Shrine Club, 2525 W 38th St, Erie, PA 16506) 7:15 PM. Come out and have fun at Erie’s Drag Queen Bingo. Join your favorite Drag Queens, Rebecca Mae, Michelle Michael’s, and Priscilla Godzilla for a night of fun. Be warned... No one is safe from the Queens! Prepare for 2 hours of dirty jokes, ruthless insults, and side-splitting laughs! Not for the easily offended! Tickets & Reservations can be made online at www.ErieDragQueenBingo.com. Limited Seating Available. MUST be 18 and older to attend.

May 29 (Sat) – Camp Davis Memorial Day Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219)

Jun 1 – 30 (Tue – Wed) – LGBT Pride Month June is celebrated as Pride in honor of the Stonewall Riots, though Pride events occur all year round. It also marks the month that same-sex marriage was legalized in the United States.

Jun 1 (Tue) – Jamestown Pride Planning Meeting (Zoom) 6 PM. Helping to plan Jamestown Pride, which will be happening on Saturday, June 12. Contact: Sheridan Smith. Phone: (716) 661-9044. Email: JamestownPride@mhachautauqua.org. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85475350654>.

Jun 4 – 6 (Fri – Sun) – Friends & Family Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) It’s time to welcome our friends & family to Jones Pond for an extended weekend. It’s our time to share our little piece of paradise with everyone! **ACCOMMODATION SPECIALS THIS WEEKEND!** 3rd night free when booking two consecutive nights. Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to <http://www.jonespond.com>.

Jun 4 (Fri) – Free HIV Testing! (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM – 9 PM. FREE and confidential. Presented by Northwest Alliance, Dickey’s Barbecue Pit, City of Erie, NW PA Pride Alliance, Erie Gay News, Greater Erie Alliance for Equality, and The Zone Dance Club. Phone: (814) 314-9075. Venue Phone: (814) 452-0125. Email: president@nwpapride.org. Browse to <http://www.nwpapride.org>. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://www.facebook.com/events/938554490230404>. Browse to venue web site <https://www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub>.

Jun 5 (Sat) – Camp Davis Pittsburgh Pride Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Celebrate our history and individual uniqueness with our own DJ, and self-imposed, “Sweet but Psycho!” Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: info@campdavispa.com. Browse to <http://campdavispa.com/>.

Jun 5 (Sat) – Pride Ashtabula County (1498 State Route 46 South, Jefferson, OH 40047) 12 PM – 5 PM. Drag show hostesses are Mona Lotz and Vivian Vendetta Sinclair. Other performers include Desiree Monroe (Miss GBO Newcomer), Danyel Vasquez (Miss Ohio FI), McKenzie Chrystal Rose (Miss Funky Skunk), Sasha Mizrahe, OMEGA, Ashtabula Native GINGERELLA, Dakota Cox, Anhedonia Delight, Zoey Zegai, Keyanna Diamond, Infiniti Sinclair, and Maelstrom West. The Pride event will include vendors, food, unicorn rides, crafts, and games for the kids. Email bdaywalt1@icloud.com if you have any questions, would like to volunteer and or donate! Booths are \$10 Phone: (440) 749-3900. Email: bdaywalt1@icloud.com. Browse to <https://www.facebook.com/PrideAshtabulaCounty>

Jun 5 (Sat) – HIV Long-Term Survivors Day This day celebrates and honors long-term survivors of the epidemic and raises awareness of their needs, issues



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and journeys. Browse to <https://medium.com/hiv-long-term-survivors-awareness-day-hltsad>.

Jun 5 (Sat) – National LGBTQ Lavender Graduation
3 PM. Campus Pride and PFLAG National announced they are partnering for a second year to host a live virtual commencement ceremony to honor LGBTQ and ally graduates across the country. The free event will be live-streamed at www.CampusPride.org/2021, on Campus Pride social media channels, and on PFLAG National's Facebook page. #LAVGrads Phone: (704) 277-6710. Email: info@campuspride.org. Browse to <https://www.campuspride.org/>.

Jun 5 (Sat) – Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus and Buffalo Gay Bingo present Summer Cook'n Meat Raffle With Pride (Facebook Live) 6 PM. The virtual event begins at 6 PM, and there is a preshow at 5:45 PM. You need not be present to win! The event features drag performances by Jayme Coxx, Figgy Pudding, and Damsel 'N Distress. Tickets are single for \$40, double for \$70, and triple for \$90. Each ticket includes entry into every round, door prize drawings, and entry into the 50/50 split! The 50/50 split is generated by \$2 from every ticket purchased. Email: info@buffalogaymenschorus.org. Browse to <http://buffalogaymenschorus.com/>.

Jun 8 (Tue) – Youngstown PFLAG meets virtually (Zoom) 7 PM – 8:30 PM. Youngstown Area PFLAG's support group meeting will gather virtually. Any person who would like to join us can request the zoom link from youngstownareapflag.org Contact: Toni Schildcrout. youngstownareapflag@gmail.com. <http://www.youngstownpflag.org/>.

Jun 9 (Wed) – Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) Youth Group meets – Finding Your People 6 PM – 7:30 PM. Lyx formed local GSA during high school and was the president of the LGBTQ group in college. This group will be about how to find other queer youth safely. Register for at <http://greatereriealliance.com/educational-groups> Browse to <http://greatereriealliance.com/educational-groups>.

Jun 11 (Fri) – Love, Victor season 2 premiere (Hulu)
The popular teen dramedy returns as season two finds a newly out of the closet Victor entering his junior year at Creekwood High. But being out brings with it new challenges, as Victor faces a family struggling with his revelation, a heartbroken ex-girlfriend in Mia, and the difficulties of being an openly gay star athlete – all while navigating the excitement of his relationship with Benji. Browse to <https://www.hulu.com>.

Jun 11 (Fri) – In The Heights premieres (Theatres and HBO Max) The film is in theaters as well as available on HBO Max for 31 days after theatrical release. Lights up on Washington Heights, a world very much of its

place, but universal in its experience, where the streets are made of music and little dreams become big... The scent of a cafecito caliente hangs in the air just outside of the 181st Street subway stop, where a kaleidoscope of dreams rallies this vibrant and tight-knit community. At the intersection of it all is the likeable, magnetic bodega owner Usnavi, who saves every penny from his daily grind as he hopes, imagines and sings about a better life. Browse to <https://www.hbo.com/>.

Jun 12 (Sat) – Jamestown Pride Festival (Winter Garden Plaza, 313 N Main St, Jamestown, NY 14701) 9:30 AM – 9 PM. The Jamestown Pride Steering and Planning Committees are excited to announce that Pride festivities will happen in downtown Jamestown. Attendees to all activities will be required to wear masks and social distance per CDC and Health Department guidelines. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://www.facebook.com/events/198052435381117>.

Jun 12 (Sat) – Camp Davis FOAM in your Undies!
Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Better than in your mouth! So much gaggin' and spitting. Really girl! Club PIT is joining us to enjoy the fun & DJ Ray's spinning. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: info@campdavispa.com. Browse to <http://campdavispa.com/>.

Jun 12 (Sat) – Pulse Night of Remembrance Annual day of US remembrance for the loss of 49 people in the Pulse Nightclub shooting in Orlando, Florida on June 12, 2016.

Jun 13 (Sun) – LBT Women of Erie meets (Zoom) 12 PM – 12:30 PM. Meeting ID: 770 9886 1291. Passcode: F4fwNr. <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77098861291?pwd=VVJFcl01NTFrTnR3ZzlrZEVmUFExdz09> Contact: Kim Conti. (814) 490-3994. ErieBeans@yahoo.com. <https://www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE>.

Jun 14 (Mon) – Deadline for Erie Gay News July 2021 print edition (#306) (Erie Gay News, 1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA 16502-1105) Please have all articles, ads, and submissions in by this date. This issue will be released on the evening of Tuesday, June 22. For a complete list of upcoming deadlines and release dates, check the print edition schedule at www.eriegaynews.com/print-edition/deadlineschedule.php (814) 456-9833. info@eriegaynews.com. <https://www.eriegaynews.com>.

Jun 14 (Mon) – Erie County Democratic Party LGBTQIA+ Caucus meets (Zoom) 7 PM. General meeting on Zoom. Contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or mmahler@eriedems.com.

Jun 15 (Tue) – Erie County HIV Task Force meets via Zoom 1 PM – 2:30 PM. Zoom Meeting ID: 927 9128 9996. Passcode: 940728

Jun 15 (Tue) – Greater Erie Alliance for Equality

(GEAE) Youth Group meets – Setting Boundaries
6 PM – 7:30 PM. Now that you have some ideas of how to find your people we need to come up with some safe boundaries. Michelle can help with that. Register for at <http://greatereriealliance.com/educational-groups> Browse to <http://greatereriealliance.com/educational-groups>.

Jun 18 – 20 (Fri – Sun) – Jones Pond Pride Weekend
(200 block party) (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Come show your true pride colors at our Jones Pond Pride Weekend, sponsored by our 200 block of seasonal campers. This year's theme is Wigstock so as the name implies you'll want to pack a wig or two (or three). Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to <http://www.jonespond.com>.

Jun 19 (Sat) – Camp Davis Do-A-Daddy Weekend
(Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) On Fathers Day, what better way to show appreciation? You think Sweet but Psycho! will go crazy w/the tunes – yeah, me too! Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: info@campdavispa.com. Browse to <http://campdavispa.com/>.

Jun 22 (Tue) – Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party
(Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA 16502) 7 PM. Limited number of volunteers welcome. You must wear a mask and practice social distancing.

Jun 24 (Thu) – Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) Youth Group meets – Chat and Chill Social Hour
6 PM – 7:30 PM. No agenda and no topics. Tonight we just hang out and socialize in a safe space. Register at <http://greatereriealliance.com/educational-groups> Browse to <http://greatereriealliance.com/educational-groups>.

Jun 25 (Fri) – Erie Drag Queen Bingo
(Zem Zem Shrine Club, 2525 W 38th St, Erie, PA 16506) 7:15 PM. Come out and have fun at Erie's Drag Queen Bingo. Join your favorite Drag Queens, Rebecca Mae, Michelle Michael's, and Priscilla Godzilla for a night of fun. Be warned... No one is safe from the Queens! Prepare for 2 hours of dirty jokes, ruthless insults, and side-splitting laughs! Not for the easily offended! Tickets & Reservations can be made online at www.ErieDragQueenBingo.com. Limited Seating Available. MUST be 18 and older to attend

Jun 25 – 27 (Fri – Sun) – Diva Weekend
(Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Get ready for some Diva time at the Pond. Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to <http://www.jonespond.com>.

Jun 26 (Sat) – Virtual Pride Erie 2021 (Zoom) 1 PM –

4 PM. NW PA Pride Alliance will be holding Pride Fest as a virtual event, partnering with the Erie Playhouse. More details at the NW PA Pride Alliance Facebook page and web site. Contact: Alex Sphon. Phone: (814) 314-9075. Email: president@nwpapride.org. Browse to <http://www.nwpapride.org>.

Jun 26 (Sat) – Warren County Pride Day
(Betts Park, 100 Ludlow St, Warren, PA 16365) 11 AM – 7 PM. Warren County Pride day is a celebration of the LGBT community and culture and will feature a variety of quality out-of-town speakers, entertainment, and attractions. All are welcome at this all-day festival. Venue Phone: (814) 723-6300. Email: warrencountypride@gmail.com. Browse to <https://www.facebook.com/WarrenCountyPride>. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://www.facebook.com/events/489975058909949>

Jun 26 (Sat) – Camp Davis Leather & Levi's Weekend
(Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Dance to the music & strut your stuff for our Camp Davis Mr. Leather 2021. Vote determined at midnight by crowd participation! Lethal & Leather look alike, but Lethal666 will burn your leather off. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: info@campdavispa.com. Browse to <http://campdavispa.com/>.

Jun 26 (Sat) – TransFamily of NWPA (Erie) Transgender Support Group meets (Zoom) 2 PM. Cur-



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rently meeting via Zoom. Please message via Facebook page for meeting info.

Jun 27 (Sun) – Drive Your Pride! (Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr #1, Erie, PA 16505) 1 PM. Join us to show our pandemic friendly pride! This is a privately organized way to reclaim the experience of a parade. Decorate your car or vehicle as your personal parade float—flags, streamers, signs, be creative! Just make you are able to safely obey all the rules of the road! We will all drive together around the peninsula. Meet at the parking lot of the Tom Ridge Center at 1pm and then “step off” at 2:00. We urge you to use good COVID safe practices. Please share this event and invite your friends! This should be fun! Event will be rain or shine. This event is not affiliated with the Tom Ridge Environmental Center Contact: Alex Sphon. Phone: (814) 314-9075. Venue Phone: (814) 835-1384. Email: president@nwpapride.org. Browse to <http://www.nwpapride.org>. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1149925698813039>. Browse to venue web site <http://trecpi.org/>.

Jun 27 (Sun) – National HIV Testing Day National HIV Testing Day (NHTD) was first observed on June 27, 1995. NHTD is a day to encourage people to get tested for HIV, know their status, and get linked to care and treatment. #HIVTestingDay Browse to <https://locator.hiv.gov/>.

Jun 28 (Mon) – Stonewall Riots Anniversary To remember the Stonewall Riots that are described as the start of the Trans and Gay Liberation Movement in the United States. It’s a day for people to remember the biracial lesbian and drag king Stormé DeLarverie whose scuffle with the police started the rebellion, and the trans woman of colour Marsha P. Johnson who would have thrown the first brick.

Jul 3 (Sat) – M & J’s Lounge Pre 4th of July Party (M & J’s Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA 16001) \$5 cover charge, membership fee waived. Phone: (724) 602-8447. Email: JoshuaSean2009@AOL.COM. Browse to <http://www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge>.

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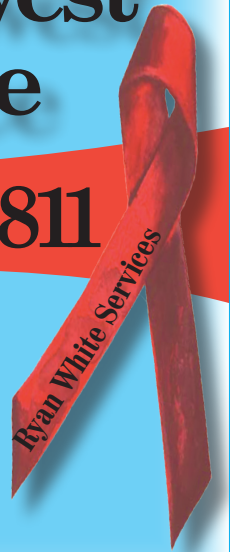
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