



EGN

Erie Gay News



Celebrating Jamestown Pride on June 12. Photo by Michael Mahler

Pride Picnic on August 14

NWPA Pride is happy to announce the 28th Annual Pride Picnic will be held this year!

This event is free and open to the public, so bring your buns down to the beach and see what's cooking!

The Northwest Pennsylvania Pride Alliance, inc. would like to invite you to join us for the Erie Pride Picnic 2021 on Saturday, August 14th at the Rotary Pavilion at Presque Isle (near Beach 7) from 1 to 6 PM.

Food will be served from 2 to 4 PM. Note that state law does not permit alcohol in the park, and we respectfully ask that you abide by rules the good folks at Presque Isle State Park have set for everyone's safety.

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

your name badge.

If your group or organization wants to set up an info table, please let us know by July 31st. There is no charge for an info table, but vending at the park is not permitted. If you can bring your own table, that is very much appreciated, but not required.

As always, there will be a collection taken for Second Harvest Food Bank of NW PA (non-perishables, Please and Thank You).

Family-Friendly and open to those of all ages.

The picnic area and Beach 7 area are accessible.

For more information or if you have questions, you are welcome to call (814) 314-9075 or email president@nwpride.org

FACE Drag Show Returns to 3rd Sundays at The Zone

by Michelle Michaels

FACE Shows will return to The Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie PA, starting Sunday July 18 with a 10 PM showtime. FACE Show will be every third Sunday of the month, as it was before. First month back will be all of your local favorites. However, moving forward, FACE shows will have three or four local girls, a new out of town girl and a couple of open mic night performers that could be singers, dancers, comedians. They will compete and the audience will pick the winner. That night's winner moves on to a final against other winners that will be held months down the road.

Jamestown Pride's First Pride Fest A Grand Success

Around 1,000 Attended Headlining Performance by Pandora Boxx

Jamestown Pride's first Pride Festival held Saturday, June 12th in Downtown Jamestown has been declared a success. The Festival took place alongside the Jamestown Public Market, included a Pride flag raising ceremony with Jamestown Mayor Eddie Sundquist, a "safe space" information and resources area, as well as a free music, dance, and

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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.



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
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To Lake Erie Counseling Associates for hosting!
 Andrea Shaffer, Audrey, Jeff Hill, Johauna, Kim Conti,
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 Johauna, Kim Conti, Michael Mongera, 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.

drag show headlined by Drag Star and Jamestown native Pandora Box.

The day kicked off with around 100 people gathering on Tracy Plaza for the Pride Flag raising. Mayor Eddie Sundquist presented a proclamation declaring the month of June as “Pride Month” in Jamestown.

Jamestown Pride Coordinator Sheridan Smith said one of the questions he’s received most over the last few weeks is “Why do we need Pride?” He said while the Queer community has made amazing strides, there is still work to do, especially with other oppressed identities in the fight for equality and equity, “The other thing is when we’re fighting, we need to celebrate. We need something to bring joy. We need something to bring happiness. We need to have that celebration in our action, in our activism. We need the community around us. We need a place where we can be who we are unapologetically in a celebratory way. And the other reason is just because it’s fun.”

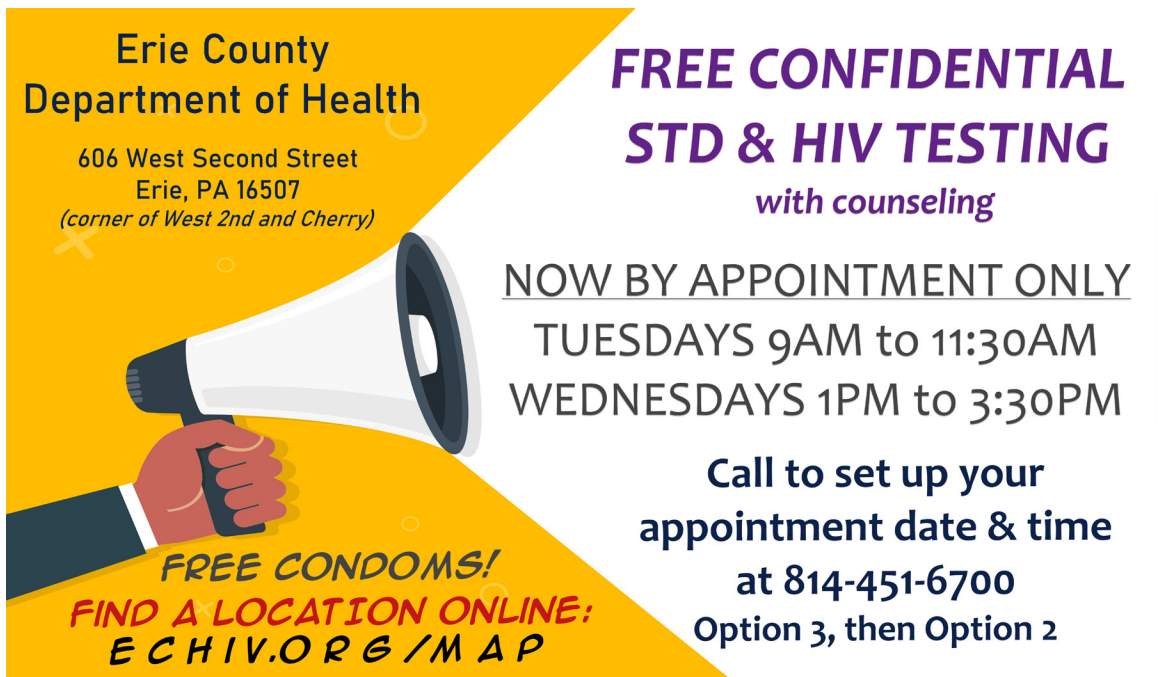
Local LGBTQ activist and transgender woman Helen Walther said Pride is the defense against the shame people try to lay on the community. She said people should stand up and feel belonging in seeing

the Pride flag next to the American flag, “So I always advocate that for every Pride celebration there needs to be as many American flags as there are rainbow flags. Because we need to claim our citizenship as well as our pride in who we are. So, be proud, have fun, be safe.”

Mayor Sundquist took a moment of silence to honor the memory of the 49 people killed and 53 wounded in the Pulse Nightclub shooting in Orlando, Florida five years ago. The shooting was the single deadliest mass shooting event against the LGBTQ community in United States history.

Sundquist said the Jamestown Pride festival was one of the only major in-person Pride events in Western New York. He said while Pride is being able to celebrate one’s self openly and authentically, there is so much more to do to be a truly equal society, “Across this country, we see a wave of anti-trans legislation targeting our brothers, our sisters, our fathers, our mothers, our children. We must speak out against these falsehoods pushed in legislation that is rooted in hatred, fear, and misunderstanding. My friends, hatred is a virus.”

Jamestown Pride’s presence at the Public



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Market included a Drag Queen Story Time booth, a pronoun button tent sponsored by Jamestown Trans, a “Gender Bread Person” booth, and an “Identity Flower” booth by PreventionWorks. A chalk-walk area filled the alley between the Market and the Wintergarden Plaza “safe space” that featured information and resource tables by around a dozen organizations. A free yoga and Zumba class were provided as well as a “Escape The Closet” game sponsored by Jamestown Escape Rooms.

Around 1,000 people attended the evening performance on the Wintergarden Plaza that featured local band Ion Sky, a choreographed dance “Full Blown” by SUNY Fredonia Dance Professor Anthony Altiero, vocalist Derek DeVlieger, and “Dancing With Victoria” competition dancers. Drag Star Pandora Boxx headlined the show to an ecstatic audience. The night ended with audience members participating in a “Drag U” activity where a few participants were dressed in drag before walking the catwalk with others to showcase their pride.

Jamestown Pride events were presented by Evergreen Health Services, 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.

Reporting provided by WRFA News Public Affairs Director Julia Ciesla-Hanley and Jamestown Pride

Jamestown NY Pride, A Beginner’s Perspective

by Michael Mongera - He/Him

Jamestown NY Pride kicked off at 9:30 AM, on Saturday June 12th. Numerous vendors took to Wintergarden Plaza and the Jamestown Public Market to celebrate Pride. As a first timer to a Pride event, it was reassuring to see enthusiastic crowds embrace the LGBTQIA community.

Different booths invited an eclectic array of goods, such as herbal remedies and medicines, rainbow cladded merchandise, and a Drag Time Story Hour tent. The latter booth included drag queens such as Erie’s Alysia Wonderland and Jamestown native Miss Keisha read children’s books to kids.

Towards the middle of the day, the Wintergreen Plaza on North Street was a buzz with a variety of different events. A few booths were dedicated to in-

formation to local gay friendly organizations, such as the Pride Center of Western New York, which offers a wide array of health services for the gay community.

Along with the resource booths, Zumba and yoga classes were held at the center of the plaza. It was reassuring to see vital information for our community, contrasted with a lively energy that made the day more exciting.

Lastly, Jamestown Pride concluded with a special performance from RuPaul’s Drag Race Alum, Pandora Boxx. The crowd lit up to her performance, as Pandora has been fresh off press junkets for RPDR All Stars 6. Local band, Ion Sky, also performed throughout the day and ended up on stage.

As a beginner’s perspective to his first pride, it was as exciting as it was nurturing. The information booths for local LGBTQIA resources offered a wider outreach of support to queer and gay individuals that are still fighting every day for their rights.

The Jamestown community came together and offered a vibrant atmosphere, and quality entertainment.

NWPA Pride Alliance presents Pride Day at Waldameer 2021!

We’re doing it again!

End your Pride Picnic Weekend with unlimited rides and slides at a discounted price of \$31 (normal price \$43.00)

To join us on Sunday August 15th for some family fun at one of Erie’s favorite summertime spots, you just need to:

1. Use the handy ticket link to get your discounted day passes to the main park and newly expanded water park.
2. Then just stop by our reserved pavilion, Coaster 2, to pick up your passes. (Tickets must be picked up by 4pm day of the event)
3. Enjoy your day in the park with friends and family!

The Main Park will be open from 12 noon until 10 P.M. that day and Water World will be open from 11 A.M until 7 P.M., so bring your suits and towels and get ready to get wet!

We’ve reserved Coaster 2 Pavilion this year; so, you’re welcome to take a break from the fun to relax in the shade and eat or use the grills there to cook up something tasty.

Please note that Waldameer & Water World are cashless so all purchases inside the park require

a credit/debit or Wally Card which can be purchased at the park or ahead of time on their website.

In the interest of everyone enjoying the day, we'd like to ask everyone to please abide by the rules the good folks at Waldameer Park & Water World have established for everyone's safety, a complete list of the parks guidelines is available at waldameer.com

You attend at your own risk, NWPA Pride Alliance Inc. assumes no responsibility for personal belongings you leave at our reserved pavilion, and you are responsible for your own childcare

AHN Virtual Town Hall Meeting about Transgender Health Community Advisory Board

Allegheny Health Network (AHN) is forming a Transgender Health Community Advisory Board and will have a virtual town hall on July 27, 2021, from 6:00 to 7:30 PM via Zoom. As health care providers, it is essential that we be accountable to the trans community that we serve. The purpose of this meeting is to connect anyone who wants to be involved, answer some questions, talk about roles and expectations, and to make sure we're setting up the Advisory Board for the benefit of the community.

As much as we appreciate allies, this is a space for trans people only. The meeting ID is 625 971 7109 and the passcode is 375666. The Zoom meeting URL is in the online version of this article.

Do you have an accessibility need that is a listed? Don't feel comfortable speaking to a large group?

Call, text, or email questions or concerns to charlie.borowicz@ahn.org or (412) 779-4671.

Southern Tier Queer Peers meetings

Southern Tier Queer Peers, a wellness group for the LGBTQIA+ community to support your peers through resources, acceptance, and stories put on by Mental Health Association in Chautauqua County, meets on Zoom every Tuesday at 5:30pm. Join at <https://zoom.us/j/5892507875>, passcode is 14701.

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Erie Native Superstar Returns to The Zone

by Michael Mongera - He/Him

On Friday, June 4th, the Zone Dance Club got a visitor from Glamatron 5000, and her name is Alaska. Erie native, and RuPaul's Drag Race All Stars 2 winner, Alaska Thunderfuck 5000, hosted a benefit show alongside Rebecca Mae for Erie's Zone Dance Club. Two separate shows were held during the evening. Each sold out within a day of the event's listing.

The Zone saw a massive crowd for the two separate performances. Local performers such as Priscilla Godzilla, Shea D'Heaux, and Debbie performed lip-syncs with high-energy performances. Each queen brought a unique performance to their respective drag styles. Including Alaska, who lip-synced to a few of their own songs, such as "ROY G BIV BBT." After each show concluded, guests who purchased a special ticket got a meet and greet with Alaska. Guests got to meet Alaska, along with her family, and a photo with the pink clad star.

Bar familiars and newcomers not only enjoyed the drag numbers but the now accessible dancefloor after the show ended. After months on lockdown, the Zone was revitalized overnight. Not only from the support of the community but of the synergy that COVID-19 temporarily shelved.

In the end, the benefit show raised \$14,000 for the bar.

Pride Ashtabula County on June 5

On June 5, 2021, Bill Daywalt and Rev. John Werner organized the inaugural Pride Ashtabula County, with the support of the LGBTQ Community Club. The event was held at the Hamper family farm in Jefferson OH. Attendance was estimated to

be several thousand, and First Congregation United Church of Christ in Jefferson provided a shuttle bus to handle the crowd. The family-friendly event included speakers, local and regional businesses and organizations, a drag show, and a talent show. Drag performers Mona Lotz and Vivian Vendetta Sinclair hosted the event. Another organizer, A.J. Petro, read a proclamation from the Ashtabula County Board of Commissioners.

"Ashtabula County has a diverse community which includes those who self-identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered; queer (LGBTQ+) and others who gather today to celebrate how far they have come and the important roles they play in our community," the proclamation read. "The Board of Ashtabula County Commissioners recognizes the rights and protections of all members of our community and believes they should be able to live peacefully and be treated with dignity and respect."

Petro told the attendees, "Welcome to history in the making."

Kids enjoyed a playground, face painting, and a petting zoo. Adults — and teens of age — could register to vote, get COVID-19 vaccinations from the county health department and take HIV tests offered by a local hospital.

Pride Ashtabula County 2021 and the LGBTQ Community Club both have pages on Facebook.



Drag performer Danyel Vasquez performs at Pride Ashtabula County on June 5. Children from the audience joined in on stage for a fun time for all! Danyel is a former Miss Erie. Photo by Michael Mahler



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Gov. Wolf Supports Fairness Act, Highlights Need for LGBTQIA+ Protections Under State Law

Harrisburg, PA - June 15, 2021— Governor Tom Wolf joined state lawmakers and members of the LGBTQIA+ community to reintroduce the Fairness Act. The Fairness Act is bipartisan legislation that extends non-discrimination provisions in state law to protect against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression or identity.

“This legislation is long overdue in our commonwealth and will provide needed protections to members of our LGBTQIA+ community,” Gov. Wolf said. “As public servants, we have a duty to all of our constituents, to ensure that their rights are protected, and their interests are served. It is past time for our commonwealth to stop ignoring this infringement on the rights of LGBTQ Pennsylvanians and pass the Fairness Act.”

While some nondiscrimination protections exist at the municipal, state and federal levels to protect gender identity or expression and sexual orientation, there is no comprehensive nondiscrimination protection that covers employment, housing and public accommodations.

GEAE Scholarships

GEAE is now accepting scholarship applications for the 2021-2022 school year. This year, GEAE will award up to three \$1,000 scholarships to applicants between the age of 17-25. Applicants must be residents of Erie County, Pennsylvania. This application is open to those who are seeking scholarship money to any university, community college, technical school, art school, or para-professional program. Applicants can be currently enrolled in their program. Any eligible candidate who identifies as a member of the LGBTQ+ community is invited to apply. Current board members, advisory members, and their families are not eligible for this scholarship.

The recipients will receive \$1,000 made payable, and sent directly, to the educational institution indicated in their application.

Recipients will be chosen based on their application, which should be submitted via the GEAE website (www.greatereriealliance.com). The scholarship will be awarded to the applicant who best demonstrates a commitment to make an impact on their

community as a LGBTQ+ advocate. Though we ask for the applicant to submit their GPA, the GEAE Pride Scholarship is not purely an academic scholarship.

Requirements:

1. 500 minimum word essay answering the following: Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure associated with being a part of the LGBTQIA+ community. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience? Essays will be judged on content as well as grammar and punctuation rules.

2. Admission to an educational institution

3. Letter or recommendation from a teacher, coach, employer, or mentor (not required)

The application deadline is July 15. GEAE will present the awards at our Afternoon for Equality event at the Erie Yacht Club on August 15. The recipients will be invited to receive their award at this event but are not required to attend. All applicants will be notified by the first week of August.

Visit the GEAE website at www.greatereriealliance.com to apply for the scholarship. If you have questions, please contact us at geaeinfo@gmail.com.

A Pride Flag of Progress

by Michael Mongera - He/Him

The newly updated pride flag showcases the LGBTQIA's mission to include and represent the community.

As a long-standing symbol of the LGBTQIA community, the Rainbow flag has seen many iterations to include all facets of our community. The newest rendition includes the intersex pride symbol. The intersex flag itself features a yellow channel with a purple circle to represent those who identify as intersex individuals. Intersex designer Valentina Vecchiatti worked with Intersex Equality Rights U.K. to incorporate the yellow channel and purple circle into the Progress Flag.

These colors now rest along the white, pink, light blue, brown, and black chevron of the Progress Pride. The latter colors were introduced in 2018 to include marginalized people of color, trans individuals, and those living with HIV/AIDS, whether alive or to those we have lost. Visually, those communities are represented by chevron along the hoist of the flag.

The Pride flag has adapted to previous movements to represent pressing issues. Other variants of the pride flag include an American flag styled



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rainbow, with the red and white stripes replaced with rainbow colors.

Fun Fact: The original pride flag incorporated a pink stripe to represent sexuality but was unable to make it to print due to a lack of available colored fabric.

Tyler Titus on MSNBC's The Sunday Show with Jonathan Capehart

Erie, PA - On Sunday, June 6, Tyler Titus joined Jonathan Capehart on MSNBC's The Sunday Show. The 5 minute interview was Titus' first national television interview as the Democratic nominee for Erie County executive. The interview opened by featuring Titus' viral campaign video, and focused on the historic nature of the race: if Titus wins, they'll become the first transgender county executive in United States history. Titus' MSNBC interview demonstrates the growing national interest in the Erie County campaign heading to the November general.

SafeNet Annual Garden Party on July 23

SafeNet's annual garden party will be held on July 23, 2021 at 7 pm in the Big Backyard. The Big Easy in Bloom, Gardens of New Orleans. Enjoy the lush greenery, food with a French flair, jazz and blues as we celebrate the Big Easy. We hope we can count on your support and attendance. Be on the lookout for sponsorship information and invitations arriving by mail.

Although things are a bit different this year due to COVID-19, we are excited to be able to continue with our tradition and bring you a wonderful, safe event. Please be assured that all safety precautions will be taken and the latest government recommendations and standards will be followed.

We ask that you please consider becoming a sponsor of this event. All of the funds we raise from our Garden Party benefit the children's programs at SafeNet. Adult victims of domestic violence are supported in part by grant funding; but there are no grants specifically for the needs of accompanying children. We are grateful that we have been able to provide continuity of services during this past year. SafeNet has experienced challenges and additional expenses during the pandemic particularly providing for children—no school, no daycare and sometimes involving hoteling the family.

Your continued support of our mission is very much appreciated at this time. Experts agree that children are significantly affected by witnessing domestic violence. The good news is that children are malleable and resilient and the significant effects can be overcome. Some of our children continue with support group and individual counseling for a year or more. Children are the key to stopping this generational cycle of abuse.

Thank you again for supporting our mission.

Call SafeNet at (814) 454-1774 ext 247 for more information.

We greatly appreciate your continual support.

Pride in the Valley on July 31

Saturday, July 31, 2021 12PM-8PM

Courthouse Square Park - 161 High St. NW, Warren, OH 44481

"Pride in the Valley is an annual festival packed full of vendors, speakers, entertainment, networking, and social opportunities not only for those who identify as LGBTQIA+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, agender, etc.) but also their friends, allies and community supporters. The event is provided by Full Spectrum Community Outreach, the Mahoning Valley's LGBTQIA+ Center.

The parade & festival are free to attend and family-friendly. We will be including bounce houses, games, and entertainment with children in mind in a dedicated family area to ensure those of all ages have fun!

The parade, with Robert Dennick Joki as Grand Marshal, will step off at 12:00PM from Perkins Dr. NW, traveling down Mahoning Ave., where it will then circle the festival grounds. The festival officially opens at the commencement of the parade and will remain open until 8 PM.

Entertainment provided throughout the day including Denise Russell, Crash the Great, James Major Burns, Starrlet O'Hara, The Rust Belt Theater Co., fire-breather Shane Glaeser, a drag show you won't want to miss, and the all-trans band DreamStates from Akron, OH.

Alcohol will be sold in the Beer Garden and is sponsored by local brewery Penguin City Beer (including a new cider-ale collaboration with locally owned DOPE Cider House & Winery) and Absolut Watermelon.

Visit www.prideinthevalley.org for more info

on sponsorships, vendor details, parade participation, and volunteer opportunities.”

Penncrest School Board update

In May, Maplewood High School in Penncrest School District displayed LGBTQ books as part of a library exhibit. Penncrest School Board member David Valesky posted about the display, referring to it as “totally evil.” Fellow PENNCREST board member Luigi Difrancesco allegedly shared that post. Community members reacted angrily to the post, and there was an online petition to have both board members recalled. The petition gathered 4,500 signatures. At the previously scheduled agenda-setting meeting held on June 14 at the Saegertown Junior/Senior High School in Saegertown, supporters and opponents of Valesky’s post both attended. At the meeting, six residents spoke about Valesky’s post. Among the three supporters speaking out for LGBTQ students were Saegertown Pride Alliance (SPA) student president LaWrynn Edwards and SPA faculty advisor Stacey Hetrick. Hetrick pointed out that the Young Conservatives Club also meets at the school,

and both SPA and the Young Conservatives co-exist peacefully at the school with other clubs. The three speakers supporting Valesky and opposed to LGBTQ students did not see anything wrong or hurtful about Valesky’s post.

Separate from the controversy about LGBTQIA+ issues, Valesky spoke out against funding a previously agreed upon contract to make necessary maintenance and improvement to school buildings because it would require a slight tax increase. Several other school board members pointed out that the discussions and research had been thoroughly discussed in several meetings prior and said that not funding the previously agreed maintenance would be irresponsible.

At the next school board meeting on June 16, 12 people spoke about Valesky’s post. Although the audience seemed to have more supporters of Valesky than supporters of LGBTQ students, nine of the speakers spoke out for supporting LGBTQ students.

The Penncrest School Board has not made any decisions yet regarding the controversy about Valesky’s post.



Saegertown Jr/Sr High School students and supporters posed for a group photo after the Penncrest School Board meeting on Monday, June 14. Photo by Michael Mahler



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Calendar

For latest updates, see www.eriegaynews.com

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 greatereriealliance.com/educational-groups. Browse to 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 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 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 www.facebook.com/WarrenCountyPride. RSVP/Register/Tickets at 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 campdavispa.com/.

Jun 26 (Sat) – TransFamily of NWPA (Erie) Transgender Support Group meets (Zoom) 2 PM. Currently meeting via Zoom. Please message via Facebook page for meeting info.

Jun 27 (Sun) - End of Pride Celebration (First Congregational UCC Jefferson, 41 E. Jefferson St., Jefferson, OH 44047) 10 AM. Wear your bright colors! Brunch to follow. Mona Lotz will be singing and speaking about her life as a gay Christian man! Pastor John Werner's sermon: Love Wins! Phone: (440) 213-4745. Email: jeffersonfirstcongregational@gmail.com. Browse to www.fcuccjefferson.org/.

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 www.nwpapride.org. RSVP/Register/Tickets at www.facebook.com/events/1149925698813039. Browse to venue web site trepci.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



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care and treatment. #HIVTestingDay Browse to 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 - 4 (Sat - Sun) - Camp Davis July Fourth Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) 3 - Luau: Bring your grass skirt, & tacky hula shirt. Speaking on behalf of our DJ Crazy Bob w/Pass the Mic, it's time for coconut inspection! 4 - Annual Pig Roast - 4pm - Please bring your favorite picnic side dish to share. Weather permitting, we'll dine at the pool. (A Camp Davis sponsored event). 4 - Holiday Dance - Red, White & Blue: Celebrate our Independence in color. Sweet but Psycho! will keep you movin' on the dancefloor. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: info@campdavispa.com. Browse to campdavispa.com/.

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 www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge.

Jul 5 - 9 (Mon - Fri) - Vacation Week #1 (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Kick Off Summer With Us! Vacation week at Jones Pond is always a great time. Events are scheduled daily Monday through Friday and it's a great time to be at Jones Pond... come play with us during vacation week! Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to www.jonespond.com.

Jul 9 - 11 (Fri - Sun) - Christmas in July (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Illumination Weekend! Bring on the lights, bring on the boys. Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to www.jonespond.com.

Jul 10 (Sat) - Camp Davis Don't Mesh w/Me Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Try on a mesh fetish. See how it fits. Don't "mesh" the music up, Sweet but Psycho! Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: info@campdavispa.com. Browse to campdavispa.com/.

Jul 11 (Sun) – LBT Women of Erie meets (Zoom) 12 PM – 12:30 PM. Meeting ID: 770 9886 1291. Passcode: F4fwNr.us04web.zoom.us/j/77098861291?pwd=VVJFclo1NTFrTnR3ZzlrZEVmUFEzd09 Contact: Kim

Conti. (814) 490-3994. ErieBeans@yahoo.com. www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE.

Jul 12 (Mon) – Deadline for Erie Gay News August 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, July 20. For a complete list of upcoming deadlines and release dates, check the print edition schedule at www.eriegaynews.com/printedition/deadlineschedule.php (814) 456-9833. info@eriegaynews.com. www.eriegaynews.com.

Jul 12 (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.

Jul 13 (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. www.youngstownpflag.org/.

Jul 14 (Wed) – International Non-Binary People's Day July 14 is recognized around the world as an occasion to shine a light on those who identify as non-binary and celebrates the rich diversity of the community.

Jul 16 - 18 (Fri - Sun) - 15th Annual Camp Pride Summer Leadership Academy The event will be conducted online with a digital three-day live stream, Camp Pride is one of the longest-running LGBTQ summer leadership camps for youth across the country and the only one of its kind for college students. It continues to be the premier national training academy for social justice and grassroots activism for LGBTQ and ally young adults at colleges and universities. Phone: (704) 277-6710. Email: info@campuspride.org. Browse to www.campuspride.org/. RSVP/Register/Tickets at www.campuspride.org/camppride.

Jul 16 - 18 (Fri - Sun) - Cowboy Weekend (400 block party) (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Cowboy County Fair! Giddy up boys, it's cowboy weekend with our Jones Pond County Fair sponsored by our 400 block of seasonal campers. Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to www.jonespond.com.

Jul 17 (Sat) - Camp Davis Naked FOAM Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Need I say more?? I think not. Ray the DJ will say it for us. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: info@campdavispa.com. Browse to campdavispa.com/.

Jul 18 (Sun) - Michelle Michaels presents FACE Drag Show Returns! (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th

St, Erie, PA 16501) 10 PM. Join us for some wonderful drag and other performers! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub.

Jul 20 (Tue) – Erie County HIV Task Force meets via Zoom 1 PM – 2:30 PM. Zoom Meeting ID: 927 9128 9996. Passcode: 940728

Jul 20 (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 new issue. Vounteers appreciated!

Jul 22 (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 greatereriealliance.com/educational-groups Browse to greatereriealliance.com/educational-groups.

Jul 23 - 25 (Fri - Sun) - Bear Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Jocks & Socks Party! Bring on the sexy Bears! Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse to www.jonespond.com.

Jul 24 (Sat) - Camp Davis Illuminary Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) A celebration of light. Any and all lights. Thx for the music, Ray! Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: info@campdavispa.com. Browse to campdavispa.com/.

Jul 24 (Sat) - TransFamily of NWPA (Erie) Transgender Support Group meets (Zoom) 2 PM. Currently meeting via Zoom. Please message via Facebook page for meeting info. Contact: Annie Rosenthal. Browse to www.facebook.com/TransfamilyOfNWPA.

Jul 25 (Sun) - Full Spectrum LGBTQIA+ Youth Peer Support & Social Group (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 5060 Youngstown Poland Rd, Youngstown, OH 44514) 3 PM - 5 PM. Ages 14-17, under 14 with signed parental consent form. Phone: (234) 254-8924. Email: info@fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org. Browse to www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org/.

Jul 25 (Sun) - Full Spectrum LGBTQIA+ Adult Peer Support Group meets (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 5060 Youngstown Poland Rd, Youngstown, OH 44514) 6 PM - 8 PM. Ages 18+. Phone: (234) 254-8924. Email: info@fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org. Browse to www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org/.

Jul 30 - Aug 1 (Fri - Sun) - Mardi Gras Weekend (100 block party) (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Beads, Boys & Bourbon Street! Get your beads ready boys, it's Mardi Gras Weekend at Jones Pond. Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: info@jonespond.com. Browse

to www.jonespond.com.

Jul 31 (Sat) - Camp Davis Xmas-2-NYE Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) We are combining two holidays into one special night. We'll have our annual gift exchange 8pm, Rec Hall, dancing with Lethal666, and culminate the evening with a New Year's Eve midnight toast. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: info@campdavispa.com. Browse to campdavispa.com/.



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