



*Jasse Camacho Vera performs at Virtual Pride Fest on June 26. Photo by Bobbie Fenno.*

## Erie Virtual Pride Fest

*from NW PA Pride Alliance*

The weekend of June 26th and June 27th was Pride weekend in Erie. This year's Pridefest was held virtually in collaboration with the Erie Playhouse. It featured performances from the Erie Playhouse actors, local drag entertainment, and speakers ranging from local activists to local and federal government officials. The show can still be watched on the Erie Playhouse YouTube page.

Speakers include Erie City Mayor Joe Schember, Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper, US Senator Bob Casey Jr, and TransFamily of NW PA member Dana Rasmussen. Performers included Rebecca Mae, Debbie, Alysinn Wonderland, Pissi Gabune, Lovin Heart, Shea D'Heaux, Porsha Lajay, Patrick Vahey & Alex Staley, Zayna Darres, Amelia Wisinski, and Jasse Camacho Vera

We look forward to a second Pride Weekend on 8/14 and 8/15, where we will host the 28th Annual Pride Picnic and Pride Day at Waldameer Park and Water World. For more info on both, please check our Facebook Page or NWPApride.org.

## TransFamily Summer Picnic July 24

Join TransFamily of NWPA for our Summer Picnic at Glenwood Park by the Zoo on July 24 from 12-4 pm. TransFamily of NWPA will supply the main meal dishes of pulled pork and vegetarian burgers & dogs. We ask you to bring a side dish and or chips to share and your non-alcoholic beverage of choice.

## Queer in July Cookout LGBTQ Erie

Queer In July cookout on Saturday, July 3 was a successful event at Central Outreach Wellness Center, 3104 State St, Erie PA, with just under 100 attendees throughout the event. Many folks received wellness screenings and gained access to prep. Erie's New Ballroom Scene leaders performed as well as local Drag Artist. We look forward to collaborating with LGBTQErie for more events this fall. For more about LGBTQErie, find them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/LGBTQERIE> or their website at <https://www.lgbtqerie.com/>

## Drag Queen Brunch on Aug 1

On August 1, there will be a Drag Queen Brunch at the Saga Club, 3828 Washington Ave, Erie, PA. Tickets are \$25 and will include a buffet-style brunch and one complimentary drink. Doors open at 10:30, brunch opens at 11, and the show begins at noon. Performers include Alysinn Wonderland, Rose Winters Wonderland, Debbie, and Shari Turner from Cleveland, OH. The event registration should be live soon.

## Pride Night with the Erie Seawolves on August 12

*from NW PA Pride Alliance*

NW PA Pride Alliance and Erie Seawolves are happy to announce the return of Pride Night at the Erie Seawolves on August 12 at 7:05 PM at UPMC Park, 110 E 10th St, Erie, PA! This year we have teamed up to create a new shirt that will come with your ticket to the game.

Tickets will be left at Will Call, along with instructions on how to pick up your shirt the night

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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**

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**Folding and distribution is Tue, Aug 24 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.

## EGN Rates & Data

<b>QUARTER PAGE</b>	<b>FULL PAGE</b>	<b>HALF PAGE VERTICAL</b>
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AD SIZE	PRICE/ISSUE	DIMENSIONS
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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***<sup>®</sup>  
 with Full Text Index &  
 Six LGBT Archives  
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## THANKS

From Your Friends at Erie Gay News

To Lake Erie Counseling Associates for hosting!  
 Andrea Shaffer, Audrey, Jeff Hill, Johauna, Kim Conti, Rex Apps, and Sarah Simkovitch for folding; Audrey, Johauna, Kim Conti, Rex Apps, and Sarah Simkovitch 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.

of the game.

The last day to purchase the Ticket and Shirt combo is 7/28/21.

## Hundreds gather for Warren County Pride, “Proud to Be Me”

by Rex Apps

Saturday, June 26, was proclaimed “Warren County Pride Day” in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by Gov. Tom Wolf. In the proclamation, the governor wrote, “I encourage all Pennsylvanians to celebrate this important observance and continue to work towards true liberty and justice for all.”

This message was echoed in the VIP Keynote by Lt Gov. John Fetterman, who was the first elected official to solemnize same-sex marriage in the state and did so before it was legal.

“Can you imagine the fact that we are eight years removed from being criminally charged simply for reaffirming everyone’s right to love who you love? Now, we have marriage equality, but in Pennsylvania, we still don’t have true, full, equal protection under the law for our gay and trans communities here in Pennsylvania. I don’t understand that either.

Why would you want to make anyone feel less than or other? Or any of these issues, when they deserve the same basic protections that somebody like me deserves, I’ll never get that.”

In addition to Fetterman, Dr. Tyler Titus, Malcolm Kenyatta, D-PA 181, Pastor Julia DiFiore, Dr. Greg Rabb, and Dr. Dale Haight were guest speakers at the family-friendly event, and there were drag performances by Miss Jessica Rabbit and Miss Kimmie Pinchwhistle.

## More Work to be Done at Penncrest

by Nerissa Galt

PENNCREST School Board meetings resumed in their typical location Tuesday, July 6. The school board had yet to address the recent anti-LGBTQIA+ comments made by board member David Valesky on social media. Still, it was standing room only as supporters of PENNCREST’s queer youth and of Valesky filled the room.

The Tuesday work session progressed as usual until the call for new business. Then board member Bob Johnston proposed a resolution to ban Critical Race Theory. Board member Jeff Brooks voiced

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his opposition stating, the curriculum had already been approved. Several argued with Brooks stating they believe CRT is anti-Christian, anti-white, and a socialist ploy they felt the board had a responsibility to stop before it became an issue. The meeting ended with an acknowledgment that more information was needed, but the resolution would be voted on at the next meeting.

At the meeting, five spoke in support of PENNCREST students still hoping the board would acknowledge the elephant in the room. Most of the meeting was spent discussing the CRT resolution which the board eventually voted to table until the public could respond.

In closing, several board members spoke of the bullying that had been one focus of the public's statements, while others directly addressed the anti-LGBTQIA+ rhetoric amongst other board members. Valesky himself stood by his statements, stating he'd already made himself clear. The last board member to speak, Luigi DeFrancesco, went on a rambling tirade decrying the existence of any discrimination against marginalized groups.

In essence, the takeaway from PENNCREST's allies and LGBTQIA+ community is this: there is much more work to be done.

## Second Annual Drive Your Pride

*from NW PA Pride Alliance*

On Sunday, June 27, 2021, NW PA Pride Alliance organized the Second Annual Drive Your Pride event. About 70 cars decorated in all the Pride colors assembled at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center parking lot and drove around the Peninsula. There was coverage by local TV news.

## Pride Youth Alliance of Crawford County Meetings

Pride Youth Alliance of Crawford County is a support group for LGBTQ+ youth, their families, friends, and allies. All ages are welcome. We offer a safe space to get together, socialize, and grow. We meet Saturday afternoons at local parks in Crawford County.

Our next meetings are

7/24 - Fireman's Beach in Conneaut Lake 3pm-5pm

7/31 - Shadybrook Park in Meadville 3pm-5pm

8/7 - Woodcock Creek Park in Saegertown 3pm-

5pm

8/14 - NO MEETING

8/21 - Shadybrook Park in Meadville 3pm - 5pm

8/28 - Woodcock Creek Park in Saegertown 3pm - 5pm

Reach out to Pride Youth Alliance by email [prideyouthalliancecrawfordpa@gmail.com](mailto:prideyouthalliancecrawfordpa@gmail.com), at our website at <http://prideyouthallianceofcrawfordcountypa.com/>, or on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PrideYouthAllianceOfCrawfordCounty>

## Keira Desantis Award Nominations Sought

The Pennsylvania Department of Health is proud to announce the call for nominations for the 2nd Annual Keira Kristine DeSantis Award for Transgender Advocacy in Pennsylvania.

Nominations should be submitted to Jamie MaGee at [jamagee@phmc.org](mailto:jamagee@phmc.org) by August 15, 2021.

The award will be presented at the 2021 PA LGBTQIA Health Conference October 12-14, 2021.

Keira announced herself to the world as a transgender woman in Spring of 2017 after years of internal struggle and quickly found her voice as an advocate for the transgender community in her hometown of Erie, Pennsylvania. Keira was employed as a Customer Service Representative and Transgender Liaison at UPMC Health Plan and served on the UPMC Transgender Task Force. Keira was a visible fixture in the community, fighting for the rights of trans communities.

Keira joined the board of TransFamily of NWPA and advocated for improvements in trans healthcare in the NW PA region, including proudly serving on the first planning committee for the Erie County LGBTQ Health Conference in 2019.

Keira was a poet, as well as a prolific and very talented writer. She documented her journey through articles written for the website Medium and The Transition Transmission, videos on YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, and any other medium she could find. Through this, she helped many people in the community through their gender journey. In the Spring of 2019, during recovery from gender affirmation surgery, Keira suffered unexpected complications and passed away. Her sudden passing was greatly felt by her family, friends, and a global community she developed.

In honor of the tireless efforts of Keira to il-

lustrate the societal barrier experienced by trans communities and advocate for advancements in the social and human rights of the trans community, the KEIRA KRISTINE DESANTIS AWARD was created. This award is meant to recognize others like Keira who do whatever it takes, without question, to make the path easier for those who follow a similar journey.

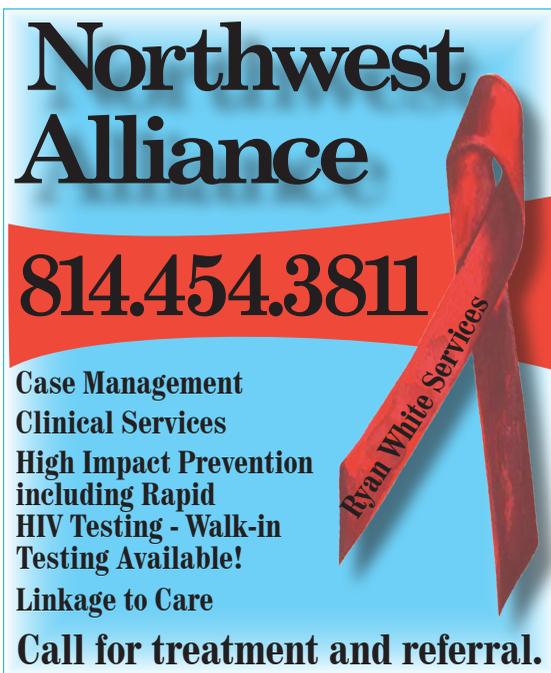
**Requirements for Nomination**

1. Nominees must identify as transgender/non-binary.
2. Nominees must reside and work in Pennsylvania.
3. Nominations may be submitted either by people who recognize the impact of the work done by the nominee, or by the nominee themselves.
4. The nominee must demonstrate a history of advocacy work to improve the services available to transgender people in historically underserved areas, where services are not readily available or served with cultural competence.
5. Advocacy work must demonstrably show real, lasting, and significant change in the nominee's geographic area of residence. All nominations should include the following:
  1. Name
  2. Organization (if applicable)
  3. Address, phone, e-mail address
  4. A description of the advocacy work performed by the nominee to advocate for the rights of trans communities, including the lasting impact of the work (500 words or less).

**Workshop in Teaching LGBTQ+ History on Aug 4**

The Pennsylvania LGBT History Network is presenting a workshop, Teaching LGBTQ+ History in Pennsylvania, on Wednesday August 4, 2021 from 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM.

Designed for social studies and history teachers, Gay/Straight Alliance (GSA) student organization advisors, and consultants and students in the education field, the workshop will provide opportunities for attendees to find LGBTQ+ history resources in Pennsylvania and beyond; get ideas from examples of lesson plans, curricula and topics; and learn how to create their own customized lesson plans for their



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students.

The workshop agenda is in the online version of this article and will include a series of presentations by archivists and educators leading a tour of digital archival collections and online exhibits in LGBTQ+ history with a particular focus on Pennsylvania. These sources provide access to documents, photographs and other materials for creating lessons in LGBTQ+ history. The second part of the agenda will include presentations by teachers and educators of sample lesson plans and curricula they have created. There will be a presentation about National History Day in PA projects with an LGBTQ+ theme. The final section of the agenda will be devoted to creating lesson plans in LGBTQ+ history using online tools and other resources.

This virtual workshop is free of charge and will be accessed over Zoom. To register and receive the Zoom invitation, use this link: <https://bit.ly/teachinglgbtqa>. For general inquiries, contact me at my contact information below. Feel free to share this information with anyone who you feel may be interested in this workshop.

The mission of the PA LGBT History Network is to engage people in discovering Pennsylvania's LGBTQ+ history, historic sites, history projects, artifacts and archival collections, and to facilitate collaboration between the organizations, institutions and individuals that provide stewardship of this heritage.

We accomplish our mission by holding regular meetings, facilitating communications, collaborating, and creating opportunities to share information, collections, resources, exhibits and programs.

There are currently about 500 people in our Network. To join our Network, send an email to [pa-lgbt-history-network+subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:pa-lgbt-history-network+subscribe@googlegroups.com). We are also on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/625853160935056/>. There is no cost to join.

## Miss Erie Pageant Returns to The Zone on September 10

On Friday, September 10 at 8:30 PM, the Miss Erie Pageant will return to The Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA. This year's theme is "Leather, Feathers, and Lace," and we will be honoring our current reigning Miss Erie, Rebecca Mae. The event is sponsored by NWPAPride Alliance, Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE), and The Zone and

will also include performances by former Miss Erie title holders. Do you have what it takes to be the next Miss Erie? Packets are now available! Contact Misty Michaels Kall/Joshua Smolinsky via Facebook for a packet or more information! Packets can also be picked up at The Zone.

## CVC Victim Advocates Can Help!

*from Crime Victim Center of Erie County*

Victim advocates are trained to support victims of crime. They offer emotional support, victims' rights information, and assistance filling out crime victim-related forms. Advocates often accompany victims and families to criminal justice proceedings. While sometimes overlooked, personal attacks such as burglary, identity theft, and other "nonviolent" crimes can leave a lasting impression on a person's life. The Crime Victim Center of Erie County offers victim advocacy free of charge, and confidentially. Our staff can also help victims make arrangements with other agencies in the human service system, including emergency shelter and transportation if necessary. The Crime Victim Center strives to serve victims of all crimes through counseling, court accompaniment, and even a guiding hand throughout the court system. Families, friends, and crime witnesses can also find out about how the courts handle both juvenile and criminal cases. The Crime Victim Center has a 24/7 helpline available at no cost and is confidential. Call 814-455-9414 for more information or any questions.

## Remember LGBT Community Endowment on Erie Gives

Erie Gives is an opportunity to support the LGBT Community Endowment whose mission is to provide financial support to the organizations that address the community's unique challenges and to create a positive, thriving environment for all.

Through the power of collective philanthropy, contributions to the LGBT Advisory Fund generate impactful grants to nonprofit organizations and projects throughout NWPAP. These grants address wide-ranging needs focused on key priorities, examples of which are: creating safe schools for LGBT students, alleviating homelessness among our youth, addressing substance abuse and health challenges, promoting equality at work, in housing, and in all facets of community life, encouraging family support and

recognition, and supporting a more LGBT-inclusive, strong and vibrant home region.

Now more than ever, the community needs the generosity of its residents.

Last year, the Erie Community Foundation's Erie Gives Day raised over 6.3 million dollars for local nonprofit organizations. This year, the goal is to climb even higher!

Support on Erie Gives helps to make for a better community! Erie Gives is Tuesday, August 10th from 8am to 8pm and you can donate online at [www.eriegives.org](http://www.eriegives.org).

If you wish to donate by check, you can do so by downloading a check form from the [eriegives.org](http://eriegives.org) website and mailing it along with a check to The Erie Community Foundation (459 West 6th St. Erie, PA 16507) by Monday, August 9th.

For Required Minimum Distribution from IRAs: Please contact your advisor or call us at 814-454-0843.

## Zone Drag Events

*from The Zone Dance Club*

The Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie PA, is proud to host Rebecca Mae's Watch Party for "RuPaul's Drag Race: All Stars 6" every Thursday. Doors open at 8 pm, watch party starts at 9 pm, followed by a live performance from Rebecca Mae. Also hosted by Rebecca Mae at The Zone is her weekly show, "Fierce Fridays," with a rotating cast of the best Queens from Erie and the Tri-State area! Doors open at 8 pm with no cover until 9 pm. After 9 pm, there's a \$5 cover. Showtime is 9:30 pm. Also, Michelle Michaels will continue to present FACE Drag Show on the third Sunday of the month at 10 pm.

## Gay Day in Diamond Park

On Sunday, July 11, 2021, Meadville, PA, had its second Gay Day in Diamond Park. Glenn Tuttle for Meadville Mayor and volunteers organized the event, which included vendors, food trucks, community groups, drag performers, and story reading. Candidates for office spoke, including Nerissa Galt for Penncrest School Board, Rianna Czech for PA State Senate District 50, and Glenn Tuttle for Meadville Mayor. Galt is running a write-in campaign as a Democrat for this fall's general election, Czech is running as an openly transgender woman for the Democratic nomination next spring, and Tuttle is

running as a Libertarian for this fall's election.

## GEAE LGBTQ Juried Art Exhibit Winners

The Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) presented an LGBTQ Juried Art Exhibit, which ran all of Pride month, June 1 – 30 at Blasco Library.

Supported by a grant from Erie Arts & Culture, the exhibit featured 58 artworks by 28 LGBTQ artists from northwestern PA. There was a variety of styles, subjects, and media in the exhibit, including painting, sculpture, photography, fiber, pastels, drawing, and mixed media.

Three merit awards of \$100 each were given to Shawn Washburn for his mixed media work "Current Urban Migration," to Forrest Hensley for his oil painting "Jenn," and to Jennifer Freno for her wood & mixed media sculptural series, "Dysphoria," which contained three thematically-related sculptures titled, "Abnegation," "Liberation," and "Sudden Impact."

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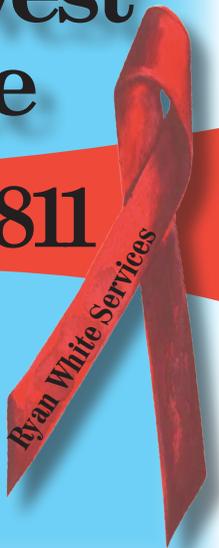
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## LGBTQ+ Youth Programs On Break for the Summer

The LGBTQ+ youth programs organized by Greater Erie Alliance for Equality, Journey to a Trauma-Informed Life, and Compton's Table are taking a break this summer. Monthly programming will resume in the fall. It is expected that there should be a whole school year calendar rolled out in mid-August

## U.S. Supreme Court Rules Philadelphia Discriminated Against Catholic Foster Care Agency

*Summary by Rex Apps*

On June 17, 2021, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled the City of Philadelphia demonstrated anti-religious bias in refusing to contract with Catholic Social Services (CSS) for recruiting and licensing foster parents because CSS excludes same-sex couples from its licensing process. This runs contrary to the nondiscrimination requirements the City has put forth in its contracts. The Court held the City's system violated CSS's religious rights because it permits agencies to obtain exceptions for the nondiscrimination

rules for some reasons, but not for religious reasons. Lambda Legal called the ruling "troubling but, importantly, it refused to give a free pass to people or agencies that want to discriminate against LGBTQ people for religious reasons." Foster care is a government function, and all governments have a compelling interest in ensuring their contract agencies, including those that are faith-based, treat all children and families equally. At least for now, different-sex married couples have access to all city agencies, while same-sex couples do not. It is not all about the couples either. Data shows, LGBTQ foster children constitute almost one-third of all children in the foster care system and are over-represented in group homes and facilities because of a lack of foster homes. These children need a child care system that is welcoming to all. Unfortunately, it is maybe those children who will suffer the most from not having the opportunity to have a loving home to be placed with.



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Please remember SafeNet on August 10.

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# Calendar

For latest updates, see [www.eriegaynews.com](http://www.eriegaynews.com)

**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](mailto:info@jonespond.com). Browse to [www.jonespond.com](http://www.jonespond.com).

**Jul 23 (Fri) - The Big Easy in Bloom, Annual Garden Party** (The Big Backyard, 254 E 10th St, Erie, PA 16503) 7 PM. Join us for a great time in the Big Backyard for SafeNet's annual garden party, The Big Easy in Bloom, Gardens of New Orleans. Enjoy the lush greenery, food with a French flair from Sabella's Catering, and jazz and blues from Steve Trohoske and Friends as we celebrate the Big Easy. We hope we can count on your support and attendance. Sponsorships still available by calling (814) 455-1774 Email: [info@safeneterie.org](mailto:info@safeneterie.org). Browse to <http://www.safeneterie.org>. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://www.facebook.com/events/237092224525229>.

**Jul 24 (Sat) - Camp Davis Illuminary Weekend** (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) **Jul 24 (Sat) - TransFamily of NWPAA Summer Picnic** (Glenwood Park by Erie Zoo, 423 W 38th St, Erie, PA 16508) 12 PM - 4 PM. TransFamily of NWPAA will supply the main meal dishes of pulled pork and vegetarian burgers & dogs. We ask you to bring a side dish and or chips to share and your non-alcoholic beverage of choice. **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](mailto:info@fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org). Browse to [www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org/](http://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](mailto:info@fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org). Browse to [www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org/](http://www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org/).

**Jul 26 (Mon) - 2-year Anniversary Party for Journey To A Trauma Informed Life** (Central Outreach Wellness Center (Erie), 3104 State Street, Erie, PA 16508) 5 PM - 7 PM. Join us as we celebrate 2-years of our Journey! Food, Gifts, Meet our Staff and see our 3rd

and newest location - 3104 State St. - Central Outreach Wellness Center. .

**Jul 27 (Tue) - AHN Virtual Town Hall Meeting about Transgender Health Community Advisory Board** (Zoom) 6 PM - 7:30 PM. 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. Contact: Charlie Borowicz. Phone: (412) 779-4671. Email: [charlie.borowicz@ahn.org](mailto:charlie.borowicz@ahn.org). Browse to <https://erie.ahn.org/>.

**Jul 28 (Wed) - LGBTQ+ and Allies Happy Hour-All welcome** (Silver Shores Restaurant, 11934 Conneaut Lake Rd, Conneaut Lake, PA 16316) 5:30 PM - 8 PM. Travis and Brett came up with the idea of having a monthly happy hour get together for the LGBT and allies community in Crawford County. We are proposing the 4th Wednesday of each month with the location to change each month. The next month's location will be determined at the previous month's get together. This is a time to network and socialize with the LGBTQ community and allies in the Meadville area, make new friends and meet people you may not know. An RSVP would be appreciated by not necessary. June's event was well attended and well received, please join us. All are welcome and please share and spread the word! Don't forget to bring your business cards for exchange. Venue Phone: (814) 382-4471. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://www.facebook.com/>



**Randy Shannon**  
Sales Associate

O: 814-833-1000  
703-472-7063  
[randyshannon@howardhanna.com](mailto:randyshannon@howardhanna.com)

**Howard Hanna**  
Real Estate Services

4248 W 12th St, Erie, PA 16505

events/1929742303858923. Browse to venue web site <https://silvershores.net/>.

**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) .

**Jul 31 (Sat) - Camp Davis Xmas-2-NYE Weekend** (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219)

**Jul 31 (Sat) - Pride In the Valley** (Courthouse Square Park, 161 High Street NW, Warren, OH 44481) 12 PM - 8 PM. 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!

**Aug 1 (Sun) - Drag Queen Brunch** (Saga Club, 3828 Washington Ave, Erie, PA 16509) 10:30 AM. Tickets are \$25 and will include a buffet-style brunch and one complimentary drink. Doors open at 10:30, brunch opens at 11, and the show begins at noon. Performers include Alysín Wonderland, Rose Winters Wonderland, Debbie, and Shari Turner from Cleveland, OH.

**Aug 2 - 6 (Mon - Fri) - Vacation Week #2** (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) We look forward to welcoming you to Jones Pond for Vacation Week. Come play with us this week. Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: [info@jonespond.com](mailto:info@jonespond.com). Browse to <http://www.jonespond.com>.

**Aug 6 - 8 (Fri - Sun) - Camp Davis OMG! Nude-lympics Weekend** (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219)

**Aug 6 - 8 (Fri - Sun) - Jones Pond Olympics** (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Mt Olympus Toga Party! The Jones Pond Olympics will go on. Planning continues to take place with your safety as our #1 priority. Go for the gold at the Pond! Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: [info@jonespond.com](mailto:info@jonespond.com). Browse to <http://www.jonespond.com>.

**Aug 8 (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=VVJFcloINTFrTnR3ZzlrZEVmUFEzd09 Contact: Kim Conti. (814) 490-3994. [ErieBeans@yahoo.com](mailto:ErieBeans@yahoo.com). [www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE](http://www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE).

**Aug 9 (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](mailto:mmahler@eriedems.com).

**Aug 10 (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](http://youngstownareapflag.org) Contact: Toni Schildcrout. [youngstownareapflag@gmail.com](mailto:youngstownareapflag@gmail.com). [www.youngstownpflag.org/](http://www.youngstownpflag.org/).

**Aug 12 (Thu) - Pride Night with the Erie Seawolves** (UPMC Park, 110 E 10th St, Erie, PA) 7:05 PM. NW PA Pride Alliance is happy to announce the return of Pride Night at the Erie Seawolves! This year we have teamed up to create a new shirt that will come with your ticket to the game. Tickets will be left at Will Call along with instructions on how to pick up your shirt the night of the game. Last day to purchase the Ticket and Shirt combo is 7/28/21.

**Aug 13 - 15 (Fri - Sun) - Leather Weekend** (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Mr Jones Pond Leather Contest! It's Red Hot Leather Weekend at Jones Pond. We look forward to welcoming the leather boys to the Pond this season Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: [info@jonespond.com](mailto:info@jonespond.com). Browse to <http://www.jonespond.com>.

**Aug 14 (Sat) - Camp Davis Jockstrap Weekend** (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Fun & revealing! Burn the jocks off, Lethal666, please? Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: [info@campdavispa.com](mailto:info@campdavispa.com). Browse to <http://campdavispa.com/>.

**Aug 14 (Sat) - 28th Erie Pride Picnic** (Rotary Pavilion at Presque Isle, 301 Peninsula Drive, Suite 1, Erie, PA 16505) 1 PM - 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. Contact: Alex Sphon. Phone: (814) 314-9075. Venue Phone: (814) 833-7424. Email: [president@nwpapride.org](mailto:president@nwpapride.org). Browse to <http://www.nwpapride.org>. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://www.facebook.com/events/3642607115845011>. Browse to venue web site <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Rotary-Pavilion-at-Presque-Isle/152906754724327>.

**Aug 15 (Sun) - Deadline for Erie Gay News Septemer 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.

**Aug 15 (Sun) - Pride Day at Waldameer** (Waldameer Park & Water World, 220 Peninsula Dr, Erie, PA 16505)

11 AM - 10 PM. 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).

**Aug 15 (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](http://www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub).

**Aug 16 (Mon) - Bears Do Dinner #85** (Location TBA) 6 PM. Join the Bears for a casual dinner of food and conversation! Dinner is on your own. Contact: Peter. Phone: (814) 384-9785. Email: [eriepeter@gmail.com](mailto:eriepeter@gmail.com). Browse to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Bears-DoDinnerEriePA/>.

**Aug 17 (Tue) - Erie County HIV Task Force meets via Zoom** 1 PM - 2:30 PM. Zoom Meeting ID: 927 9128 9996. Passcode: 940728

**Aug 20 - 22 (Fri - Sun) - Camp Davis Bear Weekend** (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) **Aug 20 - 22 (Fri - Sun) - Uniform Weekend** (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) A Few Good Men! Uniform Weekend returns to the Pond for the 2nd consecutive season. Phone: (585) 567-8100. Email: [info@jonespond.com](mailto:info@jonespond.com). Browse to <http://www.jonespond.com>.

**Aug 22 (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](mailto:info@fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org). Browse to [www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org/](http://www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org/).

**Aug 22 (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](mailto:info@fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org). Browse to [www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org/](http://www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org/).

**Aug 24 (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. Volunteers appreciated!

**Aug 27 (Fri) - Summer Beach Party Weekend (600 block party)** (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729).

**Aug 28 (Sat) - Camp Davis Bathhouse Weekend** (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) DJ Ray will entertain us & our visitors: Club PIT and Party Naked Pittsburgh. Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: [info@campdavispa.com](mailto:info@campdavispa.com). Browse to <http://>

[campdavispa.com/](http://campdavispa.com/).

**Aug 28 (Sat) - TransFamily of NWP (Erie) Trans-gender Support Group meets (Zoom)** 2 PM. Currently meeting via Zoom. Please message via Facebook page for meeting info.



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