



EGN

Erie Gay News



Journey to a Trauma-Informed Life at their 2nd anniversary on July 26 at their 3104 State St office.

Join the Erie County HIV / AIDS Awareness Walk on Sep 27

The Erie County Department of Health and members of the Erie County HIV Task Force will host the 4th Annual Erie County HIV / AIDS Awareness Walk on Monday, Sept. 27, 2021, at 6 p.m.

Walkers will gather at the LEAF Education Center / Arboretum Building at Frontier Park for the approximate 1.5-mile walk. We invite all to walk and help to raise awareness about HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Participants can enjoy refreshments, testing, and education opportunities.

The EC HIV Task Force and the Erie County Department of Health are working together to combat this disease by building a culture of compassion, understanding and care to those living with HIV and those at risk for contracting the infection. HIV has been a part of the US experience for 40 years. The annual awareness walk is one aspect of the task force's collaborative efforts to meet the needs of the HIV community in Erie County.

We strongly encourage everyone ages 15 to 65 in Erie County, who is sexually active or IV drug users, to get tested annually for HIV. It's important

that HIV testing becomes a routine practice in all healthcare settings. Erie County residents are encouraged to make their personal health a priority and request screening and testing for HIV as part of their medical care.

Everyone can help prevent the spread of HIV. Talk to your healthcare provider about HIV testing and discuss ways you can reduce your risk of HIV. Please visit echiv.org/map for a list of organizations throughout the county that offer free confidential HIV testing as well as sites that provide free condoms. If we work together, we can make a positive difference in the fight against HIV in Erie County.

HIV & STI Testing on Aug 30

There will be free and confidential HIV and STI testing on August 30, 2021, at Liberty Plaza from 5 to 8 PM. Each person tested will receive a Central Outreach shirt, Dickey's BBQ coupon, and a \$20 Giant Eagle gift card.

Testing is open to anyone 14 years of age and older. These will be rapid tests, and results will be given right at the event.

This event is co-sponsored by NW PA Pride Alliance, Greater Erie Alliance for Equality, Stumpy's Hatchet House, City of Erie, Erie Gay News, and Dickey's BBQ Pit.

NW PA Pride Alliance Hosts Annual Picnic at Presque Isle

by Michael Mongera

On August 14th, 2021, NW PA Pride Alliance held the 28th Annual Pride Picnic at Presque Isle. The event was located at the Rotary Pavilion, next to Beach 7. The LGBTQIA community of Erie was invited for a day of fun, friends, and food provided by the Pride Alliance. The event was also a part of 814 Day. A day dedicated to the city of Erie and the communities that make it possible.

The picnic started at 2 pm to give back to the LGBTQIA community, where members could freely express their pride and visit information tables for organizations. Organizations with info tables at the

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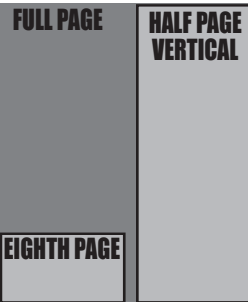

Deadline for next issue: Sep 13
Folding and distribution is Tue, Sep 21 at Lake Erie Counseling, 301 W 10th.

ISSN 2159-1792

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!



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

picnic included Adagio Health, Allegheny Health Network (AHN), Cathedral of St Paul, Crime Victim Center of Erie County, Erie Homes for Children and Adults (EHCA), Family Services of NW PA, Journey To A Trauma Informed Life, Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, New York Life, PNC Bank, SafeNet Center, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, TransFamily of NWPA Transgender Support Group, and UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Safe Harbor. Otto of the Erie Otters also paid a visit! A raffle was later held for an array of prizes such as LGBTQIA merch from local Erie vendors.

During the event, the Erie County Health Department was also giving out COVID-19 vaccinations to the public., while The Central Outreach Wellness Center offered free HIV/AIDS and STD testing as well.

The event was a very enjoyable time. After a previous summer kept most of the community inside, the perfect weather and joyful faces reminded us of the sun behind the clouds. Until next summer, there is a rainbow at the end of the rain.

Leftover perishable food was taken to the Erie City Mission and 401 pounds of non-perishable items

were donated from the picnic to Second Harvest Food Bank of NW PA.

Thanks to the 2021 Pride season donors: Central Outreach Wellness Center (Erie), NWPA Tobacco Control Program, UPMC Hamot, Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE), Lake Erie Counseling Associates, Lion's Den Adult Super Store, Chicory Hill Herbs, Mooney's Bakery, SafeNet Center, State Farm Insurance Agent Natalie Braddock, UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Safe Harbor, Scentsy by Paige Lindy, Erie Otters, Erie Seawolves, Altered State Distillery, Homemade by Rachel, and Hoodlum Wipes & More.

TransFamily Summer Picnic July 24

TransFamily of NWPA held its annual summer picnic on July 24th at Glenwood Park in Erie, PA. There were approximately 50 people in attendance, making it the largest picnic the group has held. Name tags encouraged the sharing of pronouns, vaccination status, and hug status. The main meal dishes of pulled pork, hotdogs, and veggie burgers were complimented potluck style with side dishes provided





Drag Queen



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by those in attendance. The event was scheduled for 4 hours but ran slightly longer as many friends and chosen families, new and old, had their first chance to relax and enjoy each other's company since before the pandemic. We, the TransFamily of NWPB Board of Directors, feel that the event was a huge success. We also look forward to seeing many of you again soon in our monthly support group meetings and in November for Transgiving! Please refer to our website <https://transfamilynwpb.org/> for our calendar of events.

Drag Queen Bingo on Sep 12

Join The Erie Drag Queens Sunday afternoon September 12, at the Zem Zem Shrine Center for a night of glitz, glamour, and good times! But be warned, this isn't your grandmother's bingo, this is a rude, crude, tipsy-time hosted by your very own Drag Queens of Erie.

Laugh 'til your face hurts! This show is NOT for the easily offended! Join Erie's favorite Drag Queens for an afternoon of laughs and outrageous unforgettable fun at Drag Queen Bingo with over \$2000 in CASH prizes & fun door prizes!

Extra dirty, hysterically offensive, and deliciously shady! Be warned... No one is safe from the Queens! Prepare for 3 hours of jokes, ruthless insults, and side-splitting laughs!

Upcoming Events from the Zone Dance Club

by Michael Mongera

These next few months are going to have show-stopping events at the Zone Dance Club!

While a few months away, famous drag queen Tatianna will be appearing at the Zone Dance Club on October 23rd, 2021! Tatianna appeared on RuPaul's Drag Race season 2 and All Stars 2, the latter which she received runaway success. The event will be hosted by Rebecca Mae and special guests such as Luna Skye and Indie Skies. House cast queens such as Misty Michaels Kall, Priscilla Godzilla, Shea D'Heaux, and Pissi Gabune will also be performing. Tickets go on sale on August 30th at 5:00 PM.

Lastly, The Miss Erie Pageant is coming back to Zone Dance Club! The 20th Annual Miss Erie Pageant will take place on September 10th, 2021. The show starts at 8:30 PM and will be hosted by Misty Michaels Kall. Doors open at 7 PM, and there will




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be a \$10 cover. Come one, come all to see performances from former winners as we honor Rebecca Mae and crown her successor. This year's theme will be "Leather, Feathers, and Lace." Event packets are now available. For further information, please contact Misty Michaels Kall/Joshua Smolinsky via Facebook

GEAE Afternoon for Equality

On Sunday, August 15, Greater Erie Alliance for Equality held their 10th Annual Afternoon for Equality at the Erie Yacht Club. President Leah Manino thanked board members and supporters for the past year. GEAE was proud to sponsor and also partner with other organizations for several initiatives including a virtual youth conference, a back to school drive, a food drive and more. GEAE also presented 4 area students with a \$1,000 scholarship for continuing education at college or trade school.

LGBTQ+ Youth Programs Resumes with Art Wellness Group Sep 9

The LGBTQ+ youth programs sponsored by Greater Erie Alliance for Equality have been taking a break this summer. Monthly programming will resume soon with an Art Wellness group on September 9th. Head to: <https://atraumainformedlife.com/resources/lgbtq/youth/> to register and meet our new program director and youth advocates. Sign up for the newsletter to see what else is happening.

Pennsylvania Equality Project Announces New Initiatives

The Pennsylvania Equality Project (PEP) has launched a new program on YouTube and Facebook called "PEP Talks Uncut." Each episode is unedited, unscripted and lasts about 30 minutes. PEP Talks Uncut features members of the LGBTQ+ community or allies, and is particularly interested in interviewing

married couples in which at least one person is part of the community. We are also doing some episodes about polyamorous relationships, and would like to interview people who are in such relationships. Each new episode is published on our YouTube and Facebook channels on Sundays at 1 PM.

In late May, PEP launched another program on YouTube called, "What's Trans or Gay in PA?" The show which ran from Monday through Saturday was a news and events show featuring stories predominantly from Pennsylvania. With declining viewership, PEP leaders decided to re-tool the show and move it from YouTube to TikTok. The new version of the show will have shorter episodes and launches September 1.

PEP is also conducting our third annual survey on discrimination in Pennsylvania. If you are interested in participating in the survey, go to our website at paequality.com/survey.html. The purpose of the survey is to assess where discrimination is happening in Pennsylvania, and whether there has been an overall increase or decrease in the number of reports of discrimination. The survey runs through October 31.

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Calendar

For latest updates, see www.eriegaynews.com

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)

Aug 28 (Sat) - TransFamily of NWPA (Erie) Transgender Support Group meets (Crime Victim Center of Erie County, 125 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 2 PM. Meetings are hosted at the Crime Victim Center of Erie County. All current CDC, state, and local guidelines for meeting indoors will be observed. Meetings are always confidential and completely free. Pop and chips are provided. Please feel free to bring other snacks or a dish to share with the group, if you are able, but this is not required.

Aug 28 (Sat) - Drag Show (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA 16001) Largest Drag Show here! No membership is needed. \$5.00 cover.

Sep 3 - 6 (Fri - Mon) - Labor Day Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)

Sep 4 - 5 (Sat - Sun) - Camp Davis Labor Day Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219).

Sep 9 - 13 (Thu - Mon) - Friends & Family Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)

Sep 10 (Fri) - 20th Annual Miss Erie Pageant - Leathers, Feathers, and Lace (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 8:30 PM. Doors open at 7 PM. \$10 cover. 21 and over. Sponsored by NW PA Pride Alliance, The Zone, and Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE.) Honoring Miss Erie 2019-2020 Rebecca Mae. Hosted by Misty Michaels Kall. Performances by former Miss Eries. .

Sep 11 (Sat) - Camp Davis Fall Festival Weekend

Sep 12 (Sun) - Erie Drag Queen Bingo (Zem Zem Shrine Club, 2525 W 38th St, Erie, PA 16506) 12 PM. Join The Erie Drag Queens for a night of glitz, glamour, **Sep 12 (Sun) - LBT Women of Erie meets (Zoom)** 12 PM - 12:30 PM. Meeting ID: 770 9886 1291. Passcode: F4fwNr. u Contact: Kim Conti. (814) 490-3994. ErieBeans@yahoo.com. www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE.

Sep 13 (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.

Sep 13 (Mon) - Deadline for Erie Gay News October 2021 print edition (#311) Please have all articles, ads, and submissions in by this date. This issue will be released on the evening of Tuesday, September 21.

Sep 14 (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

Sep 16 (Thu) - Bears Do Dinner #87 (Location TBA) 6 PM. .

Sep 16 - 23 (Thu - Thu) - Bisexual Awareness Week
Sep 17 - 19 (Fri - Sun) - Halloween Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park,)

Sep 18 (Sat) - Camp Davis Country Cow Poke Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-121)

Sep 18 (Sat) - National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day

Sep 19 (Sun) - Michelle Michaels presents FACE Drag Show (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 <https://www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub>.

Sep 21 (Tue) - Erie County HIV Task Force meets via Zoom 1 PM - 2:30 PM. Zoom Meeting ID: 927 9128 9996. Passcode: 940728

Sep 21 (Tue) - Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA 16502) 7 PM. Help us get out the new issue. Vounteers appreciated!

Sep 22 (Wed) - LGBTQ+ and Allies Happy Hour-All welcome (Ranz Bar & Grill, 10950 Liberty Street,



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Meadville, PA 16335) 5:30 PM - 8 PM.

Sep 24 - 26 (Fri - Sun) - Bear Weekend #2 (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park)

Sep 25 (Sat) - Camp Davis Party in your Pants Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Place an object in your pants and allow others to figure what it is. Go, go Sweet but Psycho!, go go...spin them "tunes! Phone: (724) 637-2402. Email: info@campdavispa.com. Browse to <http://campdavispa.com/>.

Sep 25 (Sat) - TransFamily of NWPA (Erie) Transgender Support Group meets (Crime Victim Center of Erie County, 125 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 2 PM.

Sep 26 (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.

Sep 26 (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@fullspectrum-communityoutreach.org. Browse to www.fullspectrum-communityoutreach.org/.

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