



# EGN

## Erie Gay News



*On Saturday, November 20, 2021, TransFamily of NW PA held a Transgender Day of Remembrance Vigil in Griswold Park. About 25 people attended. The names of 60 trans individuals, many of them people of color, were read by attendees with loving memories by their friends and family. TransFamily has a video with all of the names on their Facebook page. Photo by Michael Mahler.*



### **NAMI Peer-To-Peer Recovery Program Wednesdays at The Zone Nov 17-Jan 5**

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness of Erie County) is partnering with The Zone to host a Peer-To-Peer Support Program on Wednesdays at The Zone, 133 W 18th St, Erie PA November 17 through January 5 from 9-aa AM. We are offering our signature Peer-to-Peer program: NAMI Peer-to-Peer is a free, eight-session educational program for adults with mental health conditions who are looking to better understand themselves and their recovery. The program is taught by trained leaders with lived experience, this program includes activities, discussions, and informative videos. There will be FREE refreshments and peer support from your friends. You must be 21 or over to attend. Register at (814) 456-1773 or online at [NAMIErie.org/application](https://NAMIErie.org/application)

What you'll gain: NAMI Peer-to-Peer is a safe, confidential space. The course provides an opportunity for mutual support and growth. Experience compassion and understanding from people who relate to your experiences. This is a place to learn more about recovery in an accepting environment.

### **Erie County HIV Task Force World AIDS Day Program**

On Wednesday December 1, 2021, the Erie County HIV Task Force will present this year's World AIDS Day program at the H.O. Hirt Auditorium inside the Blasco Library, 160 East Front Street, Erie PA 16507. Program begins at 5:15pm. Frontier Park, Erie PA. This year marks the milestone of 40 years since the first HIV cases were reported here in the United States. Earlier this year the '40 Years of Progress' theme was introduced to look back on four decades of research, advocacy, and ground work accomplished to date. Since 1981, Erie County has been affected by HIV in personal and community wide ways. The program will reflect on those individuals no longer with us due to HIV / AIDS. If you would like a loved one to be recognized, you can submit their name to the Erie County HIV Task Force via email to Gary Snyder, the EC HIV Task Force Chair – [gsnyder@eriecountypa.gov](mailto:gsnyder@eriecountypa.gov). Panels from the AIDS Memorial Quilt will be on display for attendees to see a small portion of the world's largest mobile visual project that recognizes over 100,000 lives ended prematurely by HIV. Red ribbons for HIV / AIDS Awareness will be provided and participants can enjoy refreshments

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**Deadline for next issue: Dec 13**  
**Folding and distribution is Tue, Dec 21 at**  
**Lake Erie Counseling, 1932 W 8th.**

**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.



<b>QUARTER PAGE</b>	<b>FULL PAGE</b>	<b>HALF PAGE VERTICAL</b>
<b>HALF PAGE HORIZONTAL</b>	<b>EIGHTH PAGE</b>	

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

as well as educational opportunities.

The ECHTF is a collaboration of local organizations and individuals dedicated to educating, supporting, and advocating for people living with HIV/AIDS along with preventing the spread of HIV. With the COVID-19 pandemic last year, testing and treatment services were limited for HIV and STIs across the nation as well as Erie County. In 2021, significant increases have been reported in HIV / AIDS and STI cases overall. Communicable diseases including HIV/STIs are preventable with education and access to medications, prophylactics, and services. Today medications and programs are available to not only prevent HIV transmission, but allow individuals to live full productive lives. For more information, please visit [echiv.org](http://echiv.org) for additional information including the county map of testing locations, clinic services, and free condoms or call 814-451-6786.

## **NGLCC Recognizes Journey to a Trauma Informed Life as an LGBT Owned Business**

Journey to a Trauma Informed Life is proud to be recognized as an LGBT Business Enterprise by the NGLCC. Journey is only the second business in Erie,


PA, to receive this recognition. The National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC) brings visibility to the City of Erie and accountability to its members. The NGLCC is the exclusive certifying body of LGBT owned business enterprises.

Not only does this national recognition as an LGBT-owned business highlight the diversity present in Erie, but it also strengthens Journey's integrity as a business committed to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. The arduous application process began in January 2021 while Journey's owner was enrolled in Paramount Pursuits' Thrive in Erie program. Paramount Pursuits is a small business incubator and economic development consulting partner, concentrating on empowering entrepreneurs. The City of Erie partnered with Paramount Pursuits in 2020 to help upcoming entrepreneurs grow into their full potential.

## **Pier Kids Screening & Discussion December 9th**



The POV Season 34 feature film Pier Kids explores the lives of homeless queer and trans youth of color on Christopher Street Pier in New York City. It's


# **OVERALL HIV INFECTIONS HAVE INCREASED IN ERIE COUNTY**



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# Pier Kids

Screening &  
Panel Discussion

Thursday, December 9th at 6pm  
The Zone Dance Club: 133 W. 18th Street

Register at: [WQLN.org/POV](http://WQLN.org/POV)



**Pier Kids** explores the lives of homeless queer and trans youth of color on Christopher Street Pier in New York City. In support of the film, WQLN PBS is hosting an intimate screening followed by a panel discussion with local leaders of the LGBTQ+ community around themes of the film (homelessness, found families, mental and physical health) and how they relate to what we see in our own backyard.

**POV** OPEN SOCIETY  
FOUNDATIONS

*This program is made possible by a grant from American Documentary | POV,  
with funding provided by the Open Society Foundations.*



directed by Elegance Bratton and produced by Chester Algenal Gordon. These creative minds use the film as a vehicle to transport you to this historic area where homeless Black youth navigate the streets to find safety and stability, showcasing an underground community of “Pier Kids.”

In support of the film, WQLN PBS is hosting an intimate screening followed by a panel discussion around themes of the film and how they pertain to experiences in our own backyard. These difficult points of discussion include homelessness, found families, mental health, and physical health.

The film itself highlights how these individuals forge friendships and chosen families, withstanding tremendous amounts of abuse while working tirelessly to find autonomy in their lives. Viewers can expect an intimate, immersive look at the precarity and resilience of a community many choose to ignore as these fearless young people share their stories.

Visit [www.wqln.org/POV](http://www.wqln.org/POV) to register for the film screening and panel discussion on Thursday, December 9th at The Zone. This event is presented in partnership with Erie Gay News, TransFamily of NWPA, and Greater Erie Alliance for Equality.

This program is made possible by a grant from American Documentary | POV, with funding provided by the Open Society Foundations.

## **LGBT Funds of the Erie Community Foundation**

The LGBT Funds of The Erie Community Foundation represent an intentional approach to support programs, activities, and initiatives that strengthen the LGBTQ+ community in the Erie Region.

The LGBTQ+ community has seen improvement in recent years. But despite the progress, many in the LGBTQ+ community still face challenges to their health, safety, and education. The top three issues affecting Erie’s LGBTQ+ community are depression, suicide, and isolation. Nearly 20% of LGBTQ+ individuals have experienced homelessness and nearly 30% are food insecure.

The LGBT Funds of The Erie Community Foundation has offered funding to programs around Erie that aim to make a difference. Some recent examples include: a support group for LGBTQ+ students at Edinboro University with the Erie branch

of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, counseling services for LGBTQ+ students in collaboration with Erie’s Crime Victim Center, and an LGBTQ+ Youth Summit in 2020, organized by the Greater Erie Alliance for Equality.

There are several ways you can make a difference with the LGBT Funds of The Erie Community Foundation. Contributing to our endowment maximizes your philanthropic impact by combining your gift with others. This is one way to make real and dynamic change. You can also choose to create a named fund at the foundation. You can choose from a variety of different fund types including, Donor Advised, Designated, or Scholarship to perpetually support LGBTQ+ causes. We appreciate your support in the mission of making Erie a more inclusive place for all.

**Share your thoughts on our  
#SpillTheTeaTuesday question  
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The LGBT Funds  
OF THE ERIE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

# Depression, suicide, and loneliness are common in the Erie LGBTQ+ Community.

But the LGBT Funds of The Erie Community Foundation are making an intentional effort for real change. The LGBT Funds support programs, activities, and initiatives that strengthen the LGBTQ+ community in the Erie Region.

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The Erie  
Community  
Foundation

## Ariel Versace and Chastity St. Cartier Headliners at The Zone on November 27

Join us at The Zone, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA, as we bring ARIEL VERSACE from RuPaul's Drag Race Season 11 and Chastity St. Cartier!

This SPECIAL EVENT will be run differently than our previous RPDR shows. No video cameras will follow the queens around. Just a good ol' classic show with TWO very special guests! Sponsored in part by Andora's Bubble and Donatos Pizza!

Ariel Versace is a drag queen, recording artist, and performer that appeared on RuPaul's Drag Race Season 11.

Chastity St. Cartier is a drag queen and business owner based in Cherry Hill, NJ. Along with Ariel, they co-own "Drag by Chariel."

This show will be hosted by Rebecca Mae. Special performances by Priscilla Godzilla, Shea D'Heaux, and Debbie. This event is 21+ and a valid state-issued ID must be presented at the door!

Doors will open at 8pm. Showtime will be 8:30pm. \*\*\*THIS SHOW WILL ALLOW SMOKING\*\*\*

**PARKING:** Please be aware of other businesses being open during these shows and allow their customers to park. Additional parking is available across 18th street in the Dollar General parking lot.

Anyone with a wristband from this show is welcome to stay after and continue the party with us!

## Armstrong Trans Student Attacked in Kittanning

A 14-year-old transgender girl, Willow Andring, suffered a concussion after being called names then physically attacked inside Armstrong Junior-

Senior High School in Kittanning. The October 27 attack was recorded.

"She is incredibly strong," said Willow's mother, Heather Andring. "She has been called names before and sort of has articulated that she could bear it, she could handle it, but she indicated that she never thought this would happen to her. At the same time, as a mom, it's always been my biggest worry."

At the November 8 school board meeting, Heather and others asked the board for a change in the culture of the school. She additionally referred to the fact that Armstrong students were recently banned from hockey games after they chanted vulgar comments at the opposing team's female goalie.

During the meeting, the board said, "We are listening, and we are certainly willing to work with the community and the administration to do whatever it takes to be proactive and not reactive to this problem and promote change."

Heather Andring said an inclusivity group has formed at Armstrong. Willow is back in school.

Armstrong County parents and supporters have set up a Facebook page, as well as Facebook group, both called STOP the Hate Armstrong County to try

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to address bullying and intolerance for the Armstrong community. It has about 700 members at this point

## Greater Erie Alliance for Equality Year-End Celebration on Dec 8

Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) will hold their Year End Celebration on Wednesday, December 8 from 6 to 9 PM at Room 33 Speakeasy, 1033 State St, Erie PA. Enjoy appetizers and a cash bar. Entertainment is by Jesse James Weston. Tickets may be purchased at [GreaterErieAlliance.com](http://GreaterErieAlliance.com). Proof of vaccination or negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of the event is required.

## Erie Drag Queen Bingo Dec 4

Join The Erie Drag Queens Saturday, December 4, 2021, at 7:15 PM, at the Zem Zem Shrine Center, 2525 W 38th St, Erie PA 16506, for an evening of glitz, glamour, and good times! With over \$2000 in cash money given away, this event has always been sold out.

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.

The theme for December's Bingo is SANTA

AND HIS NAUGHTY ELVES.

\$100 CASH PRIZE for the best-decorated table. Come in costume for bonus points.

\$25 includes your admission, bingo tickets, and drawings of multiple door prizes. Performances from three of Erie's premier Drag Queens throughout the games.

Drag Queen Bingo is an 18+ event and is fun for ALL! We offer refreshments from the cash bar, and food will be available for purchase.

## RuPaul's Drag Race Star Tatiana Sweeps the Zone

*by Michael Mongera*

Tatianna, famous for her appearances on RuPaul's Drag Race season 2 and RuPaul's Drag Race All Stars Season 2, brought the house down with a special appearance this past October 23rd. Drag enthusiasts far and wide flocked to the Zone to watch the highly anticipated drag shows, both set at 4:30 PM and 9 PM.

The event was hosted by Rebecca Mae, along with special guests such as Luna Skye and current reigning Miss Erie, Indi Skies. House queens such





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# Drag Queen BINGO ERIE, PA

**Saturday  
December 4 @ 7:15**

**SANTA  
& HIS  
NAUGHTY ELVES**



Special Guest  
Misty Michaels Kall

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as Misty Michaels Kall, Priscilla Godzilla, Shea D'Heaux, and Pissi Gabune also performed to booming applause. Each queen brought an intricate style to their performances, highlighting the best of Erie. Tatianna's crowd exchanges and sharp wit livened the crowd, relaying stories of her time on RuPaul's Drag Race, as well as her cherished memories with her former cast members.

Afterward followed a meet and greet and night of dancing. After tiring numbers, the queens chatted aside Tatianna between her personable meet and greets with eager fans. The end ended with lots of dancing and speculation over who The Zone's next special guests will be. Come to find, Season 11 Ru-girl, Ariel Versace, and her partner, Chastity St. Cartier are next to appear at the zone! Save the date of November 27th!

## NW PA Pride Thanks 2021 Donors and Supporters

NW PA Pride Alliance is grateful for the wonderful donors and supporters who helped to bring Pride to Erie. Once again, we were forced to not have an in-person event for this year's Pride, while that may have been the case, we are looking forward to an even larger in-person event for 2022.

With COVID cases still high for the first part of the summer, we partnered again with the Erie Playhouse to stream a Virtual Pride on Saturday, June 26. Our very own Alex Sphon, Tony Gressley, and Erie Playhouse Executive Director Kate Neubert Lechner hosted the event.

On Sunday, June 27, we continued what we hope will be a new tradition here in Erie, the Drive Your Pride at Presque Isle. For this event, decorated vehicles drove from the Tom Ridge Environmental Center around the peninsula.



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In August, COVID numbers were finally at a level where we could have more in-person events. Pride Night at the Seawolves was our first event on Thursday, August 12. That following Saturday, we gathered for our annual Pride Picnic, which was then followed by Pride Day at Waldameer on Sunday. Friday, September 10, saw the return of the Miss Erie Pageant with the crowning of Indie Skies.

Finally, we know that we work best when we come together as a community. We continued to partner this year with the Greater Erie Alliance for Equality, Central Outreach, Northwest Rural Aids Alliance, the Zone, and Dickey's BBQ to offer free HIV testing around in the community.

We partnered again with GEAE for a food drive where we took 950 pounds of food and \$500.00 in donations for the Second Harvest Food Bank. In August, we worked together again collecting school supplies for Safe Journey and the Multicultural Resource Center.

For 2021, we would like to thank all our donors! The Title sponsor was Central Outreach Wellness Center Erie. Rainbow level donors were NWPB Tobacco Control Program and UPMC Hamot. Violet level were Andora's Bubble Tea Shop, Greater Erie Alliance for Equality, Lake Erie Counseling Center, and Lion's Den Adult Super Store. The Blue level were Chicory Hill Herbs, Mooney's Bakery, SafeNetCenter, State Farm Insurance Agent Natalie Braddock, and UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Safe Harbor. Green level was Scentsy by Paige Lindy. Orange level were Erie Otters and Erie Seawolves. Red level were Altered State Distillery, Homemade by Rachel, and Hoodlum Wipes and More.

## **Nov 12 PA LGBTQ Affairs meeting**

The Pennsylvania Commission on LGBTQ Affairs had its quarterly meeting on November 12, 2021, at the Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center in Allentown. Executive Director Rafael Alvarez Febo reported that the commission has been addressing issues raised by HB 1893, which would change reporting and the right to know for health info. This legislation has potential privacy concerns for people living with HIV/AIDS and other conditions.

Open enrollment for the Affordable Care Act has contracted with Bradley-Sullivan LGBT Community Center and other LGBTQ centers to boost LGBTQ enrollment. There are LGBTQ sign-up events planned across Pennsylvania. Some plans

include heavily-subsidized premiums that are reimbursed upfront, which eliminates out-of-pocket expenditures. There are some challenges still to be addressed, including gender boxes on the forms, as an example. This example will require action from the Federal government to record gender more accurately. Good news - Most plans cover Trans-affirming procedures. Some enrollment coordinators are trans or nonbinary. Unfortunately, fertility treatment is not covered in any plan.

The commission also discussed the importance of gay, lesbian, and bisexual members of the community to support trans and nonbinary people and priorities.

In a breakout session with allies of Black and Brown LGBTQ community members, ways to be supportive when hiring more than one tier for a position to consider all applicants for both levels, as some may self-select only for a lesser tier. It was also stressed that sometimes putting good policies into practice may come before fully understanding/appreciating their impact from an emotional level.

The Policy and Legislation committee reports that there is not much going on during the end of the year. There has fortunately not been any movement on legislation that would ban trans girls from participating in sports in school. Homosexuality is still on the books for some legislation, and there is legislation to have this removed. This should have been removed after the Supreme Court's *Lawrence v Texas* decision in 2003.

Legislation is being explored for an easier and more streamlined name change process.

The Youth and Education committee's top three priorities are enacting a conversion therapy ban by working with The Trevor Project, working with the PA Department of Health to simplify name changes to better support trans community members, and focusing on youth and child welfare systems.

The Health committee noticed that the 2022 Pennsylvania LGBTQIA+ Health Needs Assessment launches in January, and many LGBTQ organizations across the state will be partnering to maximize participation.

The Housing Committee will work more closely with the PA Human Relations Commission. It is expected the PA HRC regulations should be done by Thanksgiving, and there will be a public comment period, possibly in December/January.

The next meeting is February 12 in Harrisburg.

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# Calendar

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

*Live & Let Live is an LGBTQA-friendly AA meeting that meets every Sunday, at 7PM, at Community United Church, 1011 West 38th Street, Erie, PA 16508. For more information, visit [www.aaeriepa.org](http://www.aaeriepa.org) or contact [cmn0626@gmail.com](mailto:cmn0626@gmail.com). or (814) 504-1507*

*Southern Tier Queer Peers meets every Tuesday at 5:30 PM and is a wellness group for the LGBTQIA+ community to support your peers through resources, acceptance, and stories. For more information: [stqp@mhachautauqua.org](mailto:stqp@mhachautauqua.org) Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/5892507875>, Passcode - 14701*

*Fierce Fridays every Friday at The Zone, 133 W 18th St, doors open 8 PM. (except when there's a DIVA show).*

**Nov 25 (Thu) - LGBTQ+ Coalition Of Ashtabula County Friendsgiving** (First Congregational UCC Jefferson, 41 E. Jefferson St., Jefferson, OH 44047) 1 PM - 4 PM. Celebrate Thanksgiving with a good old-fashioned potluck feast! Bring a dish to share, your own place setting, and friends! Phone: (440) 749-3900. Venue Phone: (440) 213-4745. Email: [bdaywalt1@icloud.com](mailto:bdaywalt1@icloud.com). Browse to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/176893776756950/>. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdD-Bcm5-KRjI4M-dDh3ScM6H9GEpZuGHYjllu7ZQH-FuM3DXQ/viewform>. Browse to venue web site <https://www.fcuccjefferson.org/>.

**Nov 27 (Sat) - Drag Show Featuring Ariel Versace and Chastity St. Cartier** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 8 PM - 11 PM. Next up in our RuPaul's Drag Race series, we're bringing ARIEL VERSACE from Season 11 to The Zone! BUT WAIT! THERE'S MORE! We're ALSO bringing CHASITY ST CARTIER! One show only. Tickets are available NOW at <https://the-zone-dance-club.square.site>. Sponsored in part by Andora's Bubble and Donatos Pizza Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to <https://www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub>. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://the-zone-dance-club.square.site>.

**Nov 27 (Sat) - DJ Giulia with Star Sirch at Sneakers** (Sneakers, 100 W Harrison St, Jamestown, NY 14701) 9 PM - 1 AM. Dance Music.

**Nov 28 (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.

**Nov 28 (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. [info@fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org](mailto:info@fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org). [www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org](http://www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org).

**Dec 1 (Wed) - World AIDS Day**

**Dec 1 (Wed) - 2021 World AIDS Day program** (Blasco Memorial Erie County Public Library - Hirt Auditorium, 160 East Front Street, Erie, PA 16507) 5:15 PM. Theme is 40 years of progress: it's time to end the epidemic. Refreshments provided. AIDS Memorial quilts on display. Guest speakers as well as World AIDS Day History by Erie County Department of Health. PrEP & the Future of HIV by Adagio Health. Reflection : HIV survivor story by Northwest Alliance. Memorial Names Recognition: Remembrance of those no longer with us. Contact: Gary Snyder. Phone: (814) 451-6786. Venue Phone: (814) 451-6900. Email: [gsnyder@eriecountypa.gov](mailto:gsnyder@eriecountypa.gov). Browse to <https://echiv.org/>. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://www.facebook.com/events/3227160524232166>. Browse to venue web site <http://www.erielibrary.org/>.

**Dec 1 (Wed) - Drag Queen Bingo by Alysinn Wonderland** (Voodoo Brewing Co (Erie), 101 Boston Store Place, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM. With Performances by Alysinn Wonderland and Your Current Reigning Miss Erie 2021/2022 Indi Skies and Also including Luna Skye and Virena Peppers. Bring your \$\$\$ for your drinks and nosh and singles for the girls (men or bills preferred)! Doors will open at 6pm for a Meet and Greet with the cast and games to begin at 7pm. \$25/ ticket will get you 10 games and an additional 5\$ at the door for additional cards. Prizes will be awarded



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Venue Phone: (814) 520-6990. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/drag-queen-bingo-tickets-213089034037>. Browse to venue web site <http://www.voodooobrewery.com/locations/erie/>.

**Dec 1 (Wed) - A Sermon From the Second Pew** (Light Center Ministries, 1711 Plum St, Erie, PA 16502) 7 PM. "When nothing else could really help... a journey to unconditional love." Presented by Erie Theater Company in association with Urban Ministries. A play in one act conceived by T.D. Lee. Written & performed by Kellie C. Turner (a member of Actor's Equity Association) for World AIDS Day. Contact: Tom Lee. Phone: (814) 449-0646. Browse to <https://www.facebook.com/UrbanMinistriesErie>. Browse to venue web site <https://www.facebook.com/lightcenterministries/>.

**Dec 1 (Wed) - World AIDS Day Candlelight Vigil** (First Congregational UCC Jefferson, 41 E. Jefferson St., Jefferson, OH 44047) 7 PM. Special guests are Dr. Evan Howe MD and Mona Lotz. Free HIV testing by Signature Health. Phone: (440) 749-3900. Venue Phone: (440) 213-4745. Email: [bdaywalt1@icloud.com](mailto:bdaywalt1@icloud.com). Browse to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/176893776756950/>. Browse to venue web site <https://www.fcuccjefferson.org/>.

**Dec 2 (Thu) - Journey To A Trauma Informed Life - Art Wellness Space** (Journey To A Trauma Informed

# Northwest Alliance

## 814.454.3811

Case Management

Clinical Services

High Impact Prevention

including Rapid

HIV Testing - Walk-in

Testing Available!

Linkage to Care

Call for treatment and referral.



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## Family Services of NWPA



Life, 2230 W. 8th St. #2, Erie, PA 16505) This is a hybrid event meaning you can attend virtually or in person (following CDC guidelines for masking, social distancing, and other measures). The event will be led by Eric Reiche, an Edinboro University Art Therapy/Counseling masters student completing their practicum here at Journey. Phone: (833) 487-5769. Venue Phone: (833) 487-5769. ERandazzo@4urjny.com. <https://www.atraumainformedlife.com/>. venue web site <https://www.atraumainformedlife.com/>.

**Dec 2 (Thu) - Queen of the Universe Viewing Party** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 9:30 PM. Hosted by Pissi Gabune. Doors open at 8 PM. 9:30 PM show time. No cover charge. Live vocal performance. 21 & over. In addition to watching each episode, Pissi will also be singing live! In the coming weeks, stay tuned for special guests, all of which will ALSO be singing for you. That's right, y'all. NO LIP SYNCING! Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to <https://www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub>.

**Dec 4 (Sat) - Erie Drag Queen Bingo** (Zem Zem Shrine Club, 2525 W 38th St, Erie, PA 16506) 7:15 PM. Join The Erie Drag Queens for an evening of glitz, glamour, and good times! With over \$2000 in cash money given away, this event has always been sold out. 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. The theme for December's Bingo is SANTA AND HIS NAUGHTY ELVES. \$100 CASH PRIZE for the best-decorated table. Come in costume for bonus points. \$25 includes your admission, bingo tickets, and drawings of multiple door prizes. Performances from three of Erie's premier Drag Queens throughout the games. Drag Queen Bingo is an 18+ event and is fun for ALL! We offer refreshments from the cash bar and food will be available for purchase. Phone: (814) 397-9415. Venue Phone: (814) 833-3391. Email: [info@Gears-N-Grub.com](mailto:info@Gears-N-Grub.com). Browse to <http://www.ErieDragQueenBingo.com/>. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/191182330497>. Browse to venue web site <http://www.zemzem.us/>.

**Dec 5 (Sun) - Victorious Healing Worship Experience** (Friendship Baptist Church, 1719 Cascade St, Erie, PA 16502) 5 PM. Co-hosted with Urban Ministries and Erie Awareness Outreach. Doors open at 4 PM. Free will offering. Special 4:30 prayer. Min. Monica Watson, Min. Frank Hadley, Elder Durfey Wells. Local guest: The Erie Mass Choir, Anthony Collins, Lemario Crosby & others. All Lives Matter! With The Spiritual Believers, Min. Wynetta McElveen, & The Collins 4. Strict COVID protocols will be observed. Contact:

Tom Lee. Phone: (814) 449-0646. Venue Phone: (814) 454-2700. Browse to <https://www.facebook.com/UrbanMinistriesErie>. Browse to venue web site <https://www.facebook.com/friendshipstrong/>.

**Dec 8 (Wed) - Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) Year End Celebration** (Room 33 Speak-easy & Cafe, 1033 State St, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM - 9 PM. Enjoy appetizers and cash bar. Entertainment by Jess James Weston. Proof of vaccination or negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of event is required. Purchase tickets at [GreaterErieAlliance.com](http://GreaterErieAlliance.com). Phone: (866) 229-1974. Venue Phone: (814) 636-5062. Email: [GEAEinfo@gmail.com](mailto:GEAEinfo@gmail.com). Browse to <http://greatereriealliance.com/>. Browse to venue web site <http://www.room33.bar/>.

**Dec 9 (Thu) - Pier Kids Screening & Discussion** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM - 8 PM. Pier Kids explores the lives of homeless queer and trans youth of color on Christopher Street Pier in New York City. In support of the film, WQLN is hosting an intimate screening followed by a panel discussion around themes of the film and how they pertain to experiences in our own backyard. Visit [www.wqln.org/POV](http://www.wqln.org/POV) to register for the event. Presented with Erie Gay News, TransFamily of NWPA, and Greater Erie Alliance for Equality. Phone: (814) 864-3001. Venue Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to <https://www.wqln.org/>. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <http://www.wqln.org/POV>. Browse to venue web site <https://www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub>.

**Dec 10 (Fri) - Human Rights Day** Human Rights Day is observed every year on 10 December – the day the United Nations General Assembly adopted, in 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a milestone document that proclaimed the inalienable rights which everyone is inherently entitled to as a human being -- regardless of race, colour, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Browse to <http://www.un.org/en/events/humanrightsday/>.

**Dec 10 - 18 (Fri - Sat) - Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge** (PACA, 1505 State St, Erie, PA 16501) Browse to <https://www.paca1505.org/>.

**Dec 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](mailto:ErieBeans@yahoo.com). [www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE](http://www.facebook.com/LBTWOMENOFERIE).

**Dec 13 (Mon) – Deadline for Erie Gay News January 2022 print edition (#314)** Please have all articles, ads, and submissions in by this date. This issue will be released on the evening of Tuesday, December 21.

**Dec 13 (Mon) - Bears Do Dinner #89** (Golden Wok Chinese Restaurant, 3202 Pittsburgh Ave, Erie, PA 16508) 6 PM. Join the Bears for a casual dinner of food and conversation! Dinner is on your own. Contact: Peter. Phone: (814) 384-9785. Venue Phone: (814) 836-9657. Browse to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BearsDoDinnerEriePA/>. Browse to venue web site <http://www.goldenwokchineseerie.com/>.

**Dec 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](http://youngstownareapflag.org)

**Dec 15 (Wed) - LGBTQ+ and Allies Happy Hour - All welcome** (Julian's Bar & Grill, 299 Chestnut St, Meadville, PA 16335) 5:30 PM - 8:30 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. All are welcome and please share and spread the word! Don't forget to bring your business cards for exchange. Venue Phone: (814) 337-8513. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1432326990503031>. Browse to venue web site <https://www.facebook.com/Julians-Bar-Grill-1590463787848338/>.

**Dec 16 (Thu) - PFLAG Westfield NY meets** (Patterson Library, 40 S Portage St, Westfield, NY 14787) 6:30 PM. Support group for parents, friends and family of LGBTQ+ people. Contact: Patricia. Phone: (716)-450-9055. Venue Phone: (716) 326-2154. [aoede2149@yahoo.com](mailto:aoede2149@yahoo.com). venue web site <https://www.pattersonlib.org/>.

**Dec 17 (Fri) - HIV/STI Test & PrEP Rapid Start** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 8 PM - 11 PM. Free T-shirt and other fun prizes for those getting tested. Phone: (814) 619-4009. Venue Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to <https://www.centraloutreach.com/>. Browse to venue web site <https://www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub>.

**Dec 17 (Fri) - Zone Diva Christmas Show** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 10:30 PM. Doors open at 8 PM. \$5 cover. 21 and over. Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to <https://www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub>.

**Dec 18 (Sat) - 5th Annual Full Spectrum Holiday Gala** (DiVieste's Banquet Centre, 754 N River Rd

NW, Warren, OH 44483) 6 PM - 10 PM. We are very happy to announce the return of our 5th Annual Holiday GALA event Hosted by Denise Russell! Plus our Holiday GALA Afterparty at Club Switch at 11:00 pm. Tickets went on sale October 11 2021 at 12 noon! Phone: (234) 254-8924. Venue Phone: (330) 847-7422. Email: [info@fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org](mailto:info@fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org). Browse to <https://www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org/RSVP/Register/Tickets> at <https://fullspectrumcommunity.ticketspice.com/preview/1dd4aa914c0f4fb3b28b9bb8aed6b341>. Browse to venue web site <http://diviestebanquet.com/>.

**Dec 19 (Sun) - Christmas 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. <https://www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub>.

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

**Dec 21 (Tue) – Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party** (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 1932 W 8th St, Erie, PA 16505) 7 PM. Help us get out the new issue. Vounteers appreciated!

**Dec 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.

**Dec 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. [info@fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org](mailto:info@fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org). [www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org](http://www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org).

**Dec 29 (Wed) - Queer Youth: Virtual Connect - Chat & Chill** (Zoom) 6 PM - 7:30 PM. Come join us for a night of community, laughter, and chill. No real agenda, just a safe, virtual space. Co-hosted by Compton's Table, Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) and Journey to a Trauma-Informed Life. Contact: <https://comptonstable.org/connect-events>. Browse to <https://comptonstable.org/>.

**Dec 31 (Fri) - Zone New Year's Eve Party** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 8 PM - 2 AM. Doors open at 8 PM. \$10 cover, includes food buffet. Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to <https://www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub>.

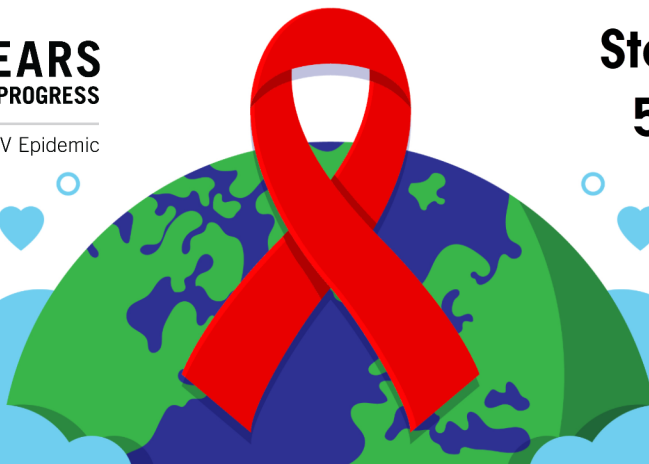
# WORLD AIDS DAY

DECEMBER 1ST

**40 YEARS**  
OF PROGRESS

It's Time to End the HIV Epidemic

**Starting at  
5:15pm**



**FREE TO THE PUBLIC ~ Refreshments Provided**

**LOCATION:** H.O. Hirt Auditorium in the  
Blasco Library, 160 East Front Street, Erie PA 16507

**Provided by: Members of the Erie County HIV Task Force**

**Program Event includes:**

**AIDS Memorial Quilt panels on display,**

**Guest Speakers, as well as...**

**World AIDS Day History** *by Erie County Health Department*

**PrEP & the Future of HIV** *by Adagio Health*

**Reflection: HIV Survivor Story** *by Northwest Alliance*

**Memorial Names Recognition:** *Remembrance of loved ones*

*For additional details and to submit a loved ones name, contact EC HIV Task Force Chair  
Gary Snyder at the Erie County Department of Health, 814-451-6786.*

**EC  
HIV  
.ORG**



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