



ERIE GAY NEWS

Serving the Regional LGBTQIA+ Community Since 1992



At the Transgender Day of Visibility in Perry Square organized by TransFamily of NW PA on March 31, 2022. Photo by Michael Mahler

Erie Celebrates International Transgender Day of Visibility

by Rex Apps

A walk was held around Perry Square in Erie Thursday, March 31, celebrating International Transgender Day of Visibility.

Transgender activist Rachel Crandel of Michigan organized the first Transgender Day of Visibility back in 2009. This was in reaction to the lack of transgender-focused events in the larger LGBTQ+ calendar. Until 2009, the only well-known day was the Transgender Day of Remembrance, which is held on November 20, mourning the murders of transgender people and did not acknowledge and celebrate

the living members of the transgender community.

Crandel hoped Transgender Day of Visibility would raise awareness of the discrimination faced by transgender people worldwide and be a celebration of their contributions to society.

For more information and to find more events hosted by TransFamily of NWP, please visit their website transfamilynwpa.org or like and follow them on Facebook at TransFamily of NWP.

HIV/AIDS Awareness Walk May 21

The Erie County HIV Task Force invites everyone to participate in the 5th Annual HIV / AIDS Awareness Walk on Saturday, May 21. We will meet in the parking lot of Adagio Health, 3530 Peach Street, Erie PA at 12 PM. We will walk around the Erie High School neighborhood and everyone is encouraged to wear red to help raise HIV awareness. All ages are welcome and the event is child and pet friendly. (Please be prepared to clean up after your own pets.) People participating as organizations are welcome to represent their group/organization. If you don't wish to walk the entire route, you are welcome to join us at any point along the route.

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. 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 for additional information including the county map of testing locations, clinic services. Free condoms can be mailed to you, place an order online at condoms.echiv.org, or visit our Erie County HIV & STI testing map for

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Serving the Regional LGBTQIA+ Community Since 1992

Erie Gay News

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Editor/Layout: Mike Mahler

Deadline for next issue: May 15

**Folding and distribution is Tue, May 24 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.

If you are restarting events or are moving to hosting events/meetings virtually, or want to change your copies received for distribution, please email info@eriegaynews.com

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.

THANKS

From Your Friends at Erie Gay News

To Lake Erie Counseling Associates for hosting! Andrea Shaffer, Jeff Hill, Kim Conti, Michael Mongera, Raven Jane Cammarata, Rex Apps, and Richard Guy for folding; Jeff Hill, Johauna, Kim Conti, Raven Jane Cammarata, Rex Apps, and Richard Guy 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.

locations to test/treat plus free condoms at echiv.org/map or call 814-451-6786 for information.

419 Artifacts Opening at New Location

Antiques store 419 Artifacts will be opening at their new location 301 W 10th St, Erie PA as part of Gallery Night on Friday, April 29 at 7 PM. Please be sure to check them out!

Popular Scams and How To Avoid Them Virtual Workshop on May 26

On May 26, the PA Department of Banking and Securities will be presenting a virtual workshop - Popular Scams and How To Avoid Them. You can register online at <https://tinyurl.com/regscamworkshop>. Every day people are getting scammed out of THOUSANDS of dollars by so called “professionals” looking to separate them from their hard-earned money. This presentation introduces us to commonly used tactics, what to look for and how to avoid them. Register via the link to get the Zoom meeting info.

NW PA Pride Shirts for 2022 Are Now Available!

NWPA Pride is happy to announce that pre-orders have started for this year’s Pride shirt, tank top, and hoodies. Orders will be delivered or shipped in mid-May. All items will be available in adult unisex sizes ranging from small to 3XL. Quantities are limited, so order early. If you have any questions, please email us at President@nwpapride.org.

Truth Seekers of the LGBTQ+ Coalition of Ashtabula County Begins Meeting

Truth Seekers of the LGBTQ+ Coalition of Ashtabula County, People of faith coming together, will hold its first meeting on Thursday, May 5 at 6:30 PM at the Ashtabula Library, 4335 Park Avenue, Ashtabula, OH. “We are people of faith coming together to discuss reconciling our faith with our sexuality. “ Meetings will be held on the first Thursday of every month.

HOW WE BUILD SAFE SPACE



A Safe Space is a place that anyone can relax and be able to fully express themselves without fear of being made to feel uncomfortable, unwelcome, or unsafe.

Empowerment: We stand for an environment in which individuals can make decisions and move forward with their lives free from bias, coercion and fear.

Respect: We practice compassionate treatment of others without regard to age, race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, disability, income, sexual orientation, marital status, politics, or religion. We believe in the inherent worth of all people and in honest, open communication.

Safety: We uphold the right of all individuals to be free from harm and to enjoy relationships based on fairness and trust.

Accessibility: We are committed to overcoming cultural, geographic and other barriers to share our expertise and extend our services into every corner of the community.



24/7 Helpline 814-455-9414 • cvcerie.org

Erie LGBTQ+ Social Hour hosted by Underdog BBQ

by Rex Apps

Thank you to all who attended the social hour on Wednesday, March 30 at Underdog BBQ, 3040 W Lake Rd, Erie PA. Underdog BBQ was a wonderful host. Thank you to our info tables who attended Central Outreach Erie, Journey to a Trauma-Informed Life, and UPMC Tobacco cessation group.

NW PA Pride was also excited to unveil our new logo. Sales have gone live on our website for this year's Pride merchandise. Order now and get them to show your Pride when we gather in person on Saturday, June 25 for Erie's Pride in Perry's Square.



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The Zone Dance Club presents Drag Brunch on May 1

The Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie PA, is presenting a Drag Brunch hosted by Alysin Wonderland & DJ Tony G on Sunday, May 1. No cover. Erie's one and only gay bar is bringing drag brunches back home!

This will be a brunch as only The Zone can do! Featuring performances by Alysin, Misty Michaels Kall, and Midwest Comedy Queen 2022 Vivian Vendetta-Sinclair.

Doors open at 11am. Showtime 12pm. Buffet will be available during intermission.

Tickets are \$30.88 (includes service fees). Included in ticket prices are the show, brunch buffet (catered by La Bella), and mimosas.

Voodoo Brewery will be taking over our beer taps for this event.

Full bar service will also be available (Reminder: Zone is CASH ONLY but has an ATM on site).

THIS EVENT WILL BE SMOKE FREE



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MAY 14TH

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Games @ 7:15pm

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www.ErieDragQueenBingo.com



Friday
May 13 @ 7:15

Naughty BINGO

Featuring AleXXX & Friends



DRAG QUEEN PARTY BUS to the WINERIES

SAT, May 28

Take the Party Bus to the Wineries with Rebecca Mae & Michelle Michaels. A tour of four wineries that you'll never forget!!

www.SignatureEventsErie.com



NW PA Pride Alliance Meadville Pride Event on July 23

Plans are being made for the very first NWPA Pride Alliance event in Meadville. The date will be July 23, 2022 from 1 pm to 5 pm. This event will be held on upper Chestnut Street and Diamond Park, and will include a pride walk, street festival, food trucks, and exhibits by local vendors and artists. More information to follow. For more information or if you wish to be part of the event, please contact Brett Staskiewicz at 814-720-1737 or stask@zoominternet.net. More details to follow!

QPR Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Training Offered By UPMC

In 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found suicide to be the second leading cause of death among young people with LGBTQ youth being four times more likely to seriously consider suicide, and to attempt suicide versus their peers.

The Trevor Project estimates that at least one LGBTQ youth between the ages of 13 - 24 attempts suicide every 45 seconds in the United States.

UPMC is offering a training virtual training program funded by the PA Department of Health's Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant.

The two hour educational program is designed to teach professionals and lay "gatekeepers" the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to respond using QPR.

1. Question the person's desire or intent regarding suicide.
2. Persuade the person to seek help.
3. Refer the person to appropriate resources.

Free CEUs will be provided. Sessions are scheduled for:

- Tuesday, April 26 from 10 am to 12 pm
 - Wednesday, May 4 from 12 to 2 pm
 - Tuesday, May 24 from 10 am to 2 pm
 - Wednesday, June 1 from 12 to 2 pm
 - Thursday, June 16, from 10 am to 12 pm
- Space is limited. To register, contact Kim Cleary-Herman via email at clearhermankm@upmc.edu.

HB 972 Passes PA House And Now Moves On To The Senate

by Rex Apps

Tuesday, April 12, the PA House passed HB 972, Tuesday, April 12, the PA House passed HB 972, also known as the "Protect Women In Sports Act," by a vote of 115 - 84. The vote was largely along party lines, with one Republican voting against the bill and four Democrats voting for the bill.

House Bill 972 would restrict trans girls and women from playing scholastic and collegiate sports. The bill calls for express designations of male, female, and coed or mixed applied to sports and teams to separate athletes by biological sex.

There is no express language in the reverse that would prevent cisgender females and transgender males from competing against cisgender females and transgender male athletes. Cisgender refers to a person whose gender identity and sex assigned at birth are the same.

The bill is seen as an effort to fuel a culture war. At least fourteen other states have recently passed or are considering similar legislation. It now moves on to the PA Senate for consideration. Gov. Tom Wolf has pledged to veto it if and when it gets to his desk.

PWR That's Cool Event at Saga Club on May 14 includes LGBTQ Wrestler Paris Sahara

Pro Wrestling Rampage's That's Cool Event on May 14 at the Saga Club, 3828 Washington Ave, Erie PA headlines WWE Superstar Carlito. Doors open at 5 PM and first bell is at 6 PM. The event also includes LGBTQ wrestler Paris Sahara.

From Paris Sahara: I'm very grateful to be a part of the PWR roster, this company has given me the opportunity to wrestle in front of very supportive fans. I made my singles debut at PWR in 2019 against Jimi the Hippie. After the match I was honored by the fans of PWR. I was accepted and loved imme-



diately. As an LGBTQ wrestler, I was given a home to be myself and feel accepted. Now that I've built a fan base, it gives me more confidence to be 100% unapologetic. When I walk out the curtains, I feel the love from the fans. Now that I've been able to wrestle at other promotions in Pennsylvania, such as IWC, 2pw, and AON wrestling, it drives me to continue to inspire at all promotions. The best moment is walking out there knowing that I'm loved for being myself. Knowing that I'm a role model for other LGBTQ fans; it motivates me to continue to follow my heart and passion. One of my greatest memories was when a woman that adopted LGBTQ children came up to me and told me her children loved me because they were adopted based on their sexuality. After that I told myself that I would continue to be myself and inspire fans. I knew that if I followed my heart, I was gonna be happier, but to know that I'm inspiring others along the way is even more precious. This is why I will forever be grateful that pro wrestling has given me this opportunity to perform and inspire.



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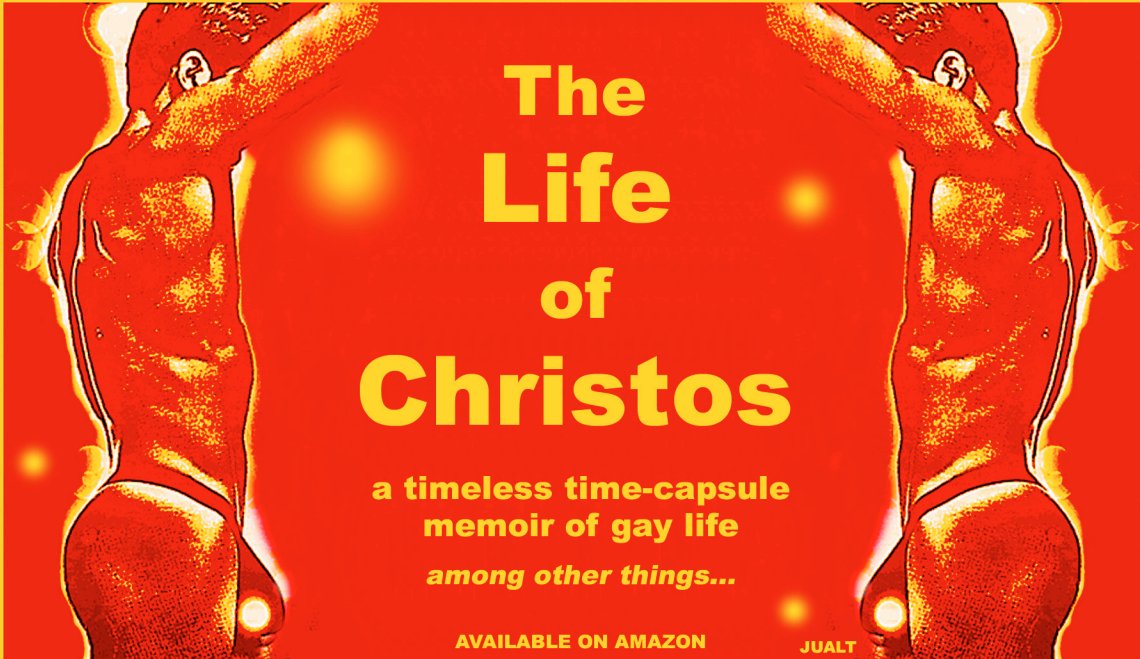
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Asexual folk EXIST

by Marshall John Blount

Someone who is Asexual is someone who has little to absent sexual attraction towards other people. What if I told you that libido has nothing to do with Asexuality? What if I told you that we have been around as long as everyone else? What if I told you that you can be Asexual and STILL like sex? What if I told you that we Asexual folk are NOT broken and that we are NOT sick? Asexuality is a valid sexual orientation, and we deserve the same protections as everyone else in the LGBTQIA+ community. We are the “A” in LGBTQIA+ after all (along with Aromantic and Agender). If you want to learn more about our community, you should pay an online visit to AsexualOutreach.org and AVEN (Asexual Visibility and Education Network).

Friends celebrating Transgender Day of Visibility event organized by TransFamily of NW PA in Perry Square on March 31. Photo by Michael Mahler.

Northwest Alliance is Rebranding as PA Thrive Partnership

Northwest Pennsylvania Rural AIDS Alliance was founded in 1991 and has brought their services to 13 counties throughout the northwest part of the state. Since then, they’ve expanded to include 12 north-central counties. In 2022, they are changing their name to PA Thrive Partnership and are continuing to bring hope and empowerment to those that need it.

PA Thrive Partnership’s goal is to work with and for the communities of northwest and north-central Pennsylvania. By being their partner in treating HIV and AIDS, they hope to improve, protect, and promote their health.



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Voters Guide

Candidates for US Senator, US Congress (PA-16) , PA Governor, and PA State House for areas that included Erie County were asked about their positions on LGBTQIA+ issues.

These were the questions asked for all races:

We, as LGBTQ individuals experience discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations. What action, as an elected official, would you take to reduce this in our community?

What actions can you take to protect the right and safety of the LGBTQ youth, especially the transgender youth?

What is one thing we should know about you as relating to the LGBTQ community?

US Senator

Not Responding: Kevin Baumlin (D), Kathy Barnette (R), Jeff Bartos (R), George Bochetto (R), Sean Gale (R), Dave McCormick (R), Mehmet Oz (R), Carla Sands (R)

Anti Discrimination

John Fetterman (D)

Unfortunately the LGBTQ+ community still faces discrimination in the workplace, in healthcare settings, when trying to obtain housing, and in the criminal justice system among other areas. The LGBTQ+ community has also become subject to

alarming increases in violence, particularly against Black and Brown transgender women, as a result of lacking protection at the highest levels of government. From using my office as a bully pulpit to championing specific legislation to remedy these injustices, I have been proud to stand as an ally with communities that are too often discriminated against and marginalized.

I would support legislative efforts like the Equality Act, to explicitly guarantee LGBTQ+ Americans are protected from discrimination; the BE HEARD Act to strengthen protections in the workplace for LGBTQ+ and others; and the Fair and Equal Housing Act to ensure the LGBTQ+ community is protected from discrimination in housing..

Malcolm Kenyatta (D)

I'm in this race to make sure the basic bargain is accessible to all folks. That's good jobs backed by a union, the ability to go to the doctor and to afford the prescription you may need, and to go to a safe school and get an education. For LGBTQ+ particularly, our trans siblings, this is more than out of reach. We have to change it by passing the equality act, PA LGBTQ Civil Rights Act, and increasing protections and opportunities for the non-binary and trans communities.


Alex Khalil (D)

Pennsylvania does not provide protection against discrimination in hiring, serving and renting to the LGBTQA community, I will work to enact laws at the Federal level to protect the LGBTQ when it comes to jobs, housing, accommodations, healthcare and education. Following through on these must be a number one priority and when they are not we must impose fines or take away any government funding that they receive. Hiring qualified LGBTQ employees in our legislative offices will be a priority so that immediate assistance can aid in helping those facing discrimination in a timely manner. We need to establish a commission to help with the serious and often deadly issue of homophobia and anti LGBTQ hate.

On an international scale, I will speak out against anti LGBTQ laws and homophobia.

Conor Lamb (D)

The best thing the federal government can do to protect LGBTQ people is for the Senate to pass H.R. 5, The Equality Act, which contains widespread protections for LGBTQ people. I am proud to have




VOTERS' GUIDE
MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

PRIMARY ELECTION
MAY 17

Last Day to Register to Vote
MAY 2

Last Day to Request a Mail In Ballot
MAY 10



cosponsored and voted for it. Because of the Senate filibuster, this bill can't even go up for a vote in the Senate. This is one of many reasons that I support eliminating the filibuster. LGBTQ Americans deserve a vote on this and many other important pieces of legislation and if I'm fortunate enough to be elected to the Senate, I'll vote to eliminate the filibuster and pass the Equality Act as soon as possible.

LGBTQ Youth **John Fetterman (D)**

Recently we have seen increased attacks on our LGBTQ+ youth around the country. In states like Florida, they've passed "don't say gay" legislation, prohibiting schools from discussion on LGBTQ+ topics. In 11 states there are now anti-transgender laws that prohibit students from joining sports teams that align with their gender identity. And in other states, lawmakers are introducing legislation that makes it difficult or even illegal for youth to get gender reassignment surgeries.

To combat these attacks I believe that we can take several measures, starting with electing members of Congress and state legislators who will vote against this type of discriminatory legislation. I would also support legislation like the Protecting LGBTQ Youth Act, which would strengthen support for children across the country. We must also invest in LGBTQ youth suicide prevention and mental health programs. With LGBTQ youth suicides on the rise I believe that investing in programs like The Trevor Project will be tremendously helpful in helping our LGBTQ youth. Lastly, LGBTQ youth are 120% more likely to experience homelessness. We have to ensure funding for service providers that can help combat this issue and get our youth off of the streets..

Malcolm Kenyatta (D)

Safe communities are one of the most important things that the government has to deliver to families. My detailed 3 point plan outlines what I think needs to be done. We have to address poverty, underfunded schools, and jobs without dignity, which increase desperation that leads to crime. We need to pass stalled gun legislation that I am cosigned on in Harrisburg. Which include measures to combat ghost guns, lost and stolen weapons and background checks. These should all be passed on the Federal level. We need a whole-of-government response to treat this like the crisis that it is.

As Vice-Chair of the Philadelphia delegation, I worked to get the entire delegation to support William Ways, an LGBTQ+ center, R-Cap request to fix and expand their facilities which is a major lifeline to the community. I continued to push for increases in the budget for affordable housing. I worked with project home as they continued to expand their housing portfolio, including the Gloria Casarez house in my district.

Alex Khalil (D)

First and foremost the government must stay out of families personal business. This is a serious and personal issue that is between parents and their child. A right to education, healthcare and participation is absolutely necessary for the family dynamics but for the development of our children is imperative. This IS NOT child abuse and when the community and schools are reporting this as such everyone is effected. School officials, medical personnel and the community must be educated so they can better understand the mental anguish that a child endures. Anti-bullying and hate crime laws must be enforced across the board and treated as such. These transgender youth are like any other children, they want to be accepted and live fruitful lives and it is our responsibility to help with this

Conor Lamb (D)

H.R. 5, the Equality Act, would do more to protect LGBTQ Americans (and particularly transgender youth) than any other federal legislation in history. But we can absolutely do more. The House Equality Caucus, of which I am a member, is currently drafting legislation aimed specifically at protections for LGBTQ youth that I'm hopeful will be voted on before the end of this Congress. I also support several other pieces of legislation to extend further protections to the LGBTQ community. For example, I support a bill to eliminate Medicaid funding for the deplorable practice of "conversion therapy". Our tax dollars should be spent on supporting our LGBTQ youth, not on discrimination.

Other

John Fetterman (D)

I have been a champion of LGBTQ+ rights throughout my career in public service. In 2013, I was the first elected official in western Pennsylvania to start officiating same-sex marriages. Back then, I did this in defiance of Pennsylvania's still standing

NWPA **PRIDE**
ALLIANCE



Erie PRIDEFEST PARADE

2 0 2 2

SATURDAY, JUNE 25TH

PARADE KICK OFF AT THE ZONE
NOON

PRIDEFEST AT PERRY SQUARE
6TH & STATE

1 PM - 3:30 PM

Celebrating 30 Years of Pride Events in Erie

 nwpapride.org

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same-sex marriage ban because I believed it was the right thing to do, despite the threat of legal sanction from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and Governor Corbett.

As Lieutenant Governor, I have tried my best to use my office as a bully pulpit to fight for LGBTQ+ issues. During Pride month, I have regularly ordered the display of Pride flags from my balcony at the state capitol in Harrisburg along with the Trans Pride Flag during the Transgender Day of Remembrance. Despite being banned by Republican lawmakers, I have continued, and will continue, to proudly fly these flags from my balcony because they are more than just pieces of cloth. They are a signal to the state and the whole country that we are still fighting for LGBTQ+ rights receiving full protection under law, and I won't stop flying these flags until LGBTQ+ community receives that full protection.

As Lieutenant Governor, I have also fought for state and local laws to prohibit anti-LGBTQ+ discrimination, hosted a same-sex wedding when a wedding venue refused to do so, joined with lieutenant governors across the country to urge the lifting of restrictions on LGBTQ+ men from giving blood, and fought for equality for LGBTQ+ couples in the provision of adoption services.

Malcolm Kenyatta (D)

As an elected official, I led PA LGBTQ civil rights bill, which would provide non-discrimination protections. An Amendment I offered where I told my coming out story garnered 100 votes, the most ever for anything put on the floor of PA House that would have led to non-discrimination legislation. With Rep. Jess Benham, I also co-sponsored Data for LGBT lives, a bill that would add a voluntary SOGI question to all state forms that collect demographic information to better understand and serve our community. I also serve on the Governor's LGBTQ affairs commission and was an inaugural member of the Mayor's LGBTQ Commission.

Alex Khalil (D)

Acceptance, kindness and love. I cannot imagine what the LGBTQ are going through but as a human being and ally I will not stand by and let hate hurt members of our community.

Conor Lamb (D)

I have a clear voting record on every bill that's important to LGBTQ Pennsylvanians, and on many important issues that affect all Pennsylvanians such

as voting rights and reproductive freedom. I haven't just talked about my support for the LGBTQ community – I've taken action by voting for your rights and your safety every chance I've had, and proudly campaigned and won on those votes even in Republican districts. That's what I'll continue to do in this campaign and in the Senate.

US Congress (PA-16)

Not Responding: Rick Telesz (D), Mike Kelly (R-Inc)

Anti Discrimination Dan Pastore (D)

Discrimination is wrong regardless of the reason. If elected, I will co-sponsor and vote for the Equality Act which would prohibit discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation and gender identity in employment, housing, public accommodations, education, federally funded programs, credit, and jury service.

LGBTQ Youth Dan Pastore (D)

I will oppose any legislation targeting LGBTQ-IA+ youth by opposing the attacks we see in so many states today. This includes so-called "bathroom" bills, "don't say gay" bills, or any legislation that targets the LGBTQIA+ community.

Other Dan Pastore (D)

I am committed to equality for all, and I will be an ally to the LGBTQIA+ community if elected to Congress.

PA Governor

Not Responding: Lou Barletta (R), Jacob Corman (R), Joseph Gale (R), Charles Gerow (R), Melissa Hart (R), Doug Mastriano (R), William McSwain (R), Jason Richey (R), David White (R), Nche Zama (R)

Anti Discrimination Josh Shapiro (D)

From co-sponsoring legislation to prohibit discrimination as a State Representative, to helping the first LGBTQ+ couple marry in Pennsylvania as the leader of Montgomery County, to fighting against the

5th Annual Erie County HIV / AIDS Awareness Walk



**Saturday May 21st, Noon
@ Adagio Health Solutions**

Meet in the parking lot in front of Adagio Health
at 3530 Peach Street, Erie PA 16508

Provided and Sponsored by:

adagio
health



SafeNet



**Erie County
HIV Task Force**

Trump administration's efforts to roll back protections as Attorney General, I've spent my career fighting for LGBTQ+ Pennsylvanians and their rights.

As Governor, I will put real political capital behind the effort to finally pass nondiscrimination legislation to ensure that LGBTQ+ Pennsylvanians are protected equally under the law and discrimination in employment, housing, education, and public accommodations is banned in Pennsylvania. Furthermore, I will also sign legislation to expand Pennsylvania's hate crime laws to include crimes against the LGBTQ+ community.

Throughout my career, I've brought people together to get things done, and that's exactly what I'll do as Governor so that we can finally pass non-discrimination legislation.

LGBTQ Youth **Josh Shapiro (D)**

It's disgusting that some politicians are focused on demonizing children, pushing cruel, divisive legislation that will do nothing to address the real concerns I hear about from Pennsylvanians every day. As Attorney General, I've seen firsthand the impact of threats and violence against LGBTQ+ youth – including the alarmingly high rates of suicide among transgender children – and I know we must do more to address these issues.

As Governor, I will continue my work of defending Pennsylvanians' rights and advancing equality, putting real political capital behind the effort to finally pass nondiscrimination legislation, expanding hate crimes laws to cover LGBTQ+ individuals, eliminating the "Gay and Trans Panic" defense, banning conversion therapy for minors, and investing in mental health resources for LGBTQ+ youth.

Furthermore, through the budget process, I will increase funding for schools to hire mental health counselors in every school, increase access to health care for trans youth, and ensure that a continuous funding stream is established for LGBTQ+ homeless youth housing.

Other **Josh Shapiro (D)**

At a time when LGBTQ+ rights are under attack – here in Pennsylvania and across the country – we need a Governor who will stand up for equality and ensure Pennsylvania is safe and welcoming for all. I will be that Governor.

I have fought to advance equality and protect LGBTQ+ Pennsylvanians' rights throughout my career. I was proud to help the first LGBTQ+ couples marry in Pennsylvania as Montgomery County commissioner, and I fought the Trump administration's efforts to roll back LGBTQ+ rights time and time again. I will continue that fight as Governor. My administration will always stand with the LGBTQ+ community, and we will take real steps to protect LGBTQ+ Pennsylvanians by banning discrimination against LGBTQ+ individuals, expanding our hate crime laws to cover our LGBTQ+ communities, and investing in mental health resources to support LGBTQ+ youth.

I am honored to have the support of so many LGBTQ+ leaders and activists from across our Commonwealth in this campaign, and as Governor, I will ensure that LGBTQ+ communities have a seat at the table as we work to move Pennsylvania forward.

PA State House District 1

Anti Discrimination **Pat Harkins (D-Inc)**

I have always been a supporter of LGBTQ rights. I held public hearings on HB 300 in Erie and co sponsored the legislation along with my colleague Dan Frankel. I supported the Sims, Frankel amendment on January 26th, 2021 that would have extended civil rights to all Pennsylvanians regardless of race, color, creed, disability, identity or sexual orientation.

LGBTQ Youth **Pat Harkins (D-Inc)**

I strongly oppose any and all legislation equivalent to and including HB 972(Republican bill that would restrict trans girls and women from playing scholastic and collegiate sports). Any discriminatory legislation like this should not see the light of day in my opinion.

Other **Pat Harkins (D-Inc)**

My record speaks for itself. For sixteen years I have supported LGBTQ legislation and have always strived for equality, fairness and acceptance. I will continue to do that when I return to Harrisburg in the new session.

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PA State House District 2

Responded, but withdrew before election: Paul Pi-tonyak (R)

Anti Discrimination

Bob Merski (D-Inc)

Pennsylvania ranks 24th out of 50 states for legal protection of the LGBTQ community and public support of LGBTQ rights in a new study by the Williams Institute at the UCLA School of Law. In my three years in the legislature, I have co-sponsored and supported legislation to make LGBTQ discrimination illegal, including House Bill 300, the Fairness Act which would ban discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodation. When it occurs, it needs to be called out. I support local efforts to stop discrimination against the LGBTQ community, including recent efforts by Erie City Council

LGBTQ Youth

Bob Merski (D-Inc)

As a former teacher, I take the safety and rights of LGBTQ youth seriously. At Collegiate Academy, I had my first experience teaching transgender students. As transgender youth have become a focal point in the culture wars, I think it's important to always remember that these are our children. Things said negatively about them as a group affect them individually, often deeply, affecting mental and emotional health. I oppose legislation to dehumanize or diminish our LGBTQ youth.

Other

Bob Merski (D-Inc)

My wife Emily and I are LGBTQ allies. As an ally, I have made it a point every year since becoming state representative to hire interns from the LGBTQ and/or minority community to make sure we provide opportunities to those from diverse backgrounds.

PA State House District 3

Not Responding: Joseph Kujawa (R)

Anti Discrimination

Ryan Bizzarro (D-Inc)

One of the highest ideals of our Republic is that all people shall be treated equally under the law, for the sake of personal liberty and equitable justice. You can count on me to keep LGBTQ people close in mind when voting on laws that protect people from discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodations. I am also in favor of legislation like the Pennsylvania Fairness Act, and I call upon all my colleagues in the House to pass it.

LGBTQ Youth

Ryan Bizzarro (D-Inc)

When it comes to LGBTQ youth, we need to create environments in which mechanisms are in place that ensure their basic human rights, and which make them safe from prejudice and harm. To do that, we need to make sure that public school policies do not discriminate against LGBTQ youth. We need our local constituent offices to be able to direct and connect LGBTQ youth (and families) to relevant area resources. And we need to make sure that we hold all policies up to the lights of "equality under the law" and "equity in action."

Other

Ryan Bizzarro (D-Inc)

I have long supported the LGBTQ community. Some of my very good friends are LGBTQ, and I have been participating in educational and social events for the sake of LGBTQ equality. My full embrace of LGBTQ people is rooted in my family's love for people just as they are, and from my faith, which affirms that diversity is a really good part of creation, and not a flaw of it. I will continue to work for equality in the House as long as I serve.

PA State House District 4

Not Responding: Jacob Banta (R), Joe Cancilla (R), Greg Hayes (R), Jennifer Leshner (R), Jason Monn (R)

Anti Discrimination

Chelsea Oliver (D)

We are long overdue for passing laws that explicitly protect the LGBTQ+ community. To deny any individual of employment, housing, and public



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accommodations based on their sexual orientation or gender identity, whether assumed or actual, is a direct violation of equality for all people. As an elected official, I will introduce and support legislation that protects LGBTQ+ individuals from discrimination and continually work for equality.

LGBTQ Youth **Chelsea Oliver (D)**

As State Representative, I will support legislation that affirms LGBTQ+ youth, prohibits mental health professionals from engaging in conversion therapy with minors, and holds schools accountable to ensuring access to high-quality education in safe environments for all students. Our youth, especially those within the LGBTQ+ community, must know that someone cares about them. For too many, especially in rural communities like the district I serve, this is a matter of life and death. I am unwilling to lose more of our future due to harassment, shame, and discrimination.

Other **Chelsea Oliver (D)**

I have been a life-long advocate for the LGBTQ+ community and will continue to be as an elected official. Throughout my formative years as a student, I was a member of the Gay Straight Alliance and now as an adult, I am an active volunteer with Warren County Pride. I believe that all people should be able to live without fear of discrimination, harassment, and violence, and that all of us are so deeply worthy and deserving of love..

PA State House District 6

Not Responding: Brad Roae (R)

Anti Discrimination **Nerissa Galt (D)**

The language of any anti-discrimination law must be expanded to include sexual orientation and gender identity. We must also be considered a protected class of citizens. Protections must be expanded to the workplace, housing, medical care, education, and any other public service. I will be able to write and sponsor bills that will directly address these discriminations.

LGBTQ Youth **Nerissa Galt (D)**

I want to work on laws that provide better protections for LGBTQIA+ youth in schools. Hate speech by faculty, staff, and the school board should NEVER be tolerated. Pennsylvania law doesn't provide a path for the removal of school board directors who don't believe in equal access to education. I believe every school should have a gender-neutral bathroom as well, and that teachers must be required to use the correct pronouns and chosen names for every student.

Other **Nerissa Galt (D)**

I'm a half-closeted bi-sexual, in a (blissful) straight passing relationship. I have at least two children in the LGBTQ community (and a 9-year-old who once told me she might someday be bisexual). I have a lot of people in my circle in the community, online (I LOVE my online friends!) and in person. I've spoken up against hate speech at a PENNCREST school board meeting and ran a write-in campaign to try to combat the bigots on the board. I'm inspired by my oldest daughter who started the first LGBTQIA+ club of its kind at Saegertown High School, called SPA (Saegertown Pride Alliance).

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SEEDLINGS (K-2) 4 PM

MAY 4: HOW TO GROW TREES 7 PM

W/ BONNIE RAFFERTY & RANDY WALKER

MAY 5: GARDEN SPROUTS (PRE-K) 11 AM

YOUNG TREES (GRADES 6-8) 5:30 PM

MAY 8: GUIDED TOUR 1 PM

MAY 11: WALKING GROUP W/ MARY MCDADE 10 AM

BALANCE/PROPRIOCEPTION CLASS W/ MARY MCDADE 11 AM

HERPTILES CLASS W/ MARK LETHABY 7 PM

MAY 12: GARDEN SPROUTS (PRE-K) 11 AM

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Calendar

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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.aeriepa.org or contact 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 Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/5892507875>, Passcode – 14701

Thursdays: Trivia Night with Rebecca Mae (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 9 PM. Join host Rebecca Mae for a few rounds of trivia. Chance to win tickets to the next Drag Queen Bingo at the Zem Zem Shrine Club! Stick around after trivia for a hotspot performance by Rebecca. Doors open at 8 pm. Trivia begins 9pm(ish). No cover. 21+ with valid state-issued ID.

Apr 22 – May 8 (Fri – Sun) – tick, tick... BOOM! (Erie Playhouse, 13 West 10th Street, Erie, PA 16501) Before Rent, there was tick, tick... BOOM! This autobiographical musical, by the Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning Jonathan Larson, is the story of an aspiring composer questioning his life choices on the eve of his thirtieth birthday. His girlfriend wants to get married and move out of the city, his best friend is making big bucks on Madison Avenue, but Jon is still waiting on tables and trying to write the great American musical. This exhilarating, funny, and moving work by the late Larson will speak to anyone who's ever gotten lost on their way to finding their dreams. * PROOF OF COVID VACCINATION REQUIRED, or a negative COVID test, taken within 72 hours of event for all patrons ages 12 and up. Masks required for ages 2 and up.

Apr 28 (Thu) - Mild to Wild Discussion Group (Mental Health Association in Chautauqua County, 31 Water Street Suite 7, Jamestown, NY 14701) 6 PM - 7:30 PM. Mild to Wild is a discussion group about sex and substance use designed for gay and bisexual men and folks of trans experience. Meets in person at MHA and also on Zoom. (716) 661-9044.

Apr 27 (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. 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 but not necessary. All are welcome and please share and spread the word! Don't forget to bring your business cards for exchange.

Apr 28 (Thu) – Teen Trans support group meets (G.A. Family Services, 210 Gustavus Ave, Jamestown, NY 14701) 5 PM. Contact: Danielle Bonovitch. (716) 708-6161. <http://gafamilyservices.org/>.

Apr 28 (Thu) – Queer Youth: Virtual Connect – Chat & Chill (Zoom) 6 PM – 7:30 PM. Come join us for a night of community, laughter, and chill. No real agenda, just a safe, virtual space. Co-hosted by Compton's Table, Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) and Journey to a Trauma-Informed Life. Contact: <https://comptonstable.org/connect-events>.

Apr 28 – May 1 (Thu – Sun) – Warren Players present Rent (Struthers Library Theatre, 302 W 3rd Ave, Warren, PA 16365) RENT is a rock musical that revolves around the lives of a group of Bohemian New Yorkers, during the HIV/AIDS epidemic of the 1980's. LGBT characters make up a good portion of the cast. Their struggles with surviving everyday living, trying to find purpose in life and coping with a deadly virus, is both heartbreaking and inspirational. RENT is an R rated show, due to adult themes, language, sexual situations and drugs. No one under the age of 17 will be permitted admission. (814) 723-7231. <http://www.warrenplayers.com/>.

Apr 29 (Fri) - Gallery Night - 419 Artifacts Opening (419 Artifacts, 301 W 10th St, Erie, PA 16501) 7 PM. Come see 419 Artifacts when they open at their new location, 301 W 10th St! Contact: Dale Allgeier. (814) 454-4946. <https://www.facebook.com/pg/artifactserie/>.

Apr 30 (Sat) – Inaugural Tree Hugger Trail Run (Goodell Gardens & Homestead, 221 Waterford St, Edinboro, PA 16412) 9 AM – 12 PM. Runners during the inaugural run will be the first visitors to enjoy our newly-formed woodland and farm field trails at Goodell Gardens & Homestead! This professionally-timed race will be approximately 5k in distance. Final distance/route will be confirmed once trail conditions are assessed in the Spring. This event is part of opening weekend! Sign up to run or walk the trails and enjoy a variety of activities, including crafts and games for kids, a food truck, and more! Entry fees: \$23 for members, \$30 for non members, \$10 for youth members and \$15 for youth nonmembers. T-shirts are an additional \$5 (Cool-Dri for adults, jersey for youth.) (814) 734-

6699. <http://goodellgardens.org/>. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Edinboro/GoodellGardens>.

Apr 30 (Sat) – Camp Davis Week Onesie (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) 10 AM. Wear your Onesie to the Rec Hall. (724) 637-2402.

Apr 30 (Sat) - Star Sirch Entertainment with DJ Guilia (Sneakers, 100 W Harrison St, Jamestown, NY 14701) 9 PM - 1 AM. (716) 499-8078. Venue (716) 484-8816. starsirch@yahoo.com. <https://starsirch.wixsite.com/mysite>. venue web site <https://www.facebook.com/sneakersjamestown/>.

May 1 (Sun) - International Family Equality Day (IFED) Celebrates the Diversity of Families globally. The Council of Europe recognises the IFED as an important tool to combat homophobia and transphobia and to promote a tolerant and cohesive society. <http://internationalfamilyequalityday.org/>.

May 1 (Sun) - Zone Drag Brunch (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 11 AM. Hosted by Alysín Wonderland and DJ Tony G. Featuring performances by Alysín, Misty Michaels Kall, and Midwest Comedy Queen 2022 Vivian Vendetta-Sinclair. Doors open at 11 am. Showtime 12 pm. Buffet will be available during intermission. Tickets are \$30.88 (includes service fees). Included in ticket prices are the show, brunch buffet (catered by La Bella), and mimosas. (814) 452-0125. info@thezonedanceclub.com. <https://thezonedanceclub.com/>. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://thezonedanceclub.com/events>.

May 4 (Wed) - Drag Bingo hosted by Alysín Wonderland (Voodoo Brewing Co (Erie), 101 Boston Store Place, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM - 9 PM. Featuring Misty



Friends having a great time at LGBTQ Happy Hour at Julian's Bar and Grill in Meadville on March 23, 2022. Stop by the 4th Wednesday of each month from 5:30 to 9 PM!

Michaels Kall and Danyel Vasquez This isn't your Great Aunt Gertrude's Bingo, this is Bingo with a Twist. Hosted by Alysia Wonderland. NWPAPride and Voodoo Brewery will be hosting monthly Bingos every first Wednesday of the month! Doors will open at 5:30, and join us at 6 pm for a Meet and Greet with the cast and games to begin at 6:30 pm. \$25 advance ticket \$30 at the door, will get you access to all the fun. Cash Prizes will be awarded. Seats are limited, so book your tickets NOW! (814) 314-9075. Venue (814) 520-6990. president@nwpapride.org. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://www.facebook.com/events/3144691109123877>.

May 5 (Thu) – Journey To A Trauma Informed Life – Art Wellness Space (Journey To A Trauma Informed 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.

May 5 (Thu) - Truth Seekers of LGBTQ+ Coalition Of Ashtabula County meets (Ashtabula County District Library, 4335 Park Ave, Ashtabula, OH 44004) 6:30 PM. We are people of faith coming together to discuss reconciling our faith with our sexuality. (440) 749-3900. Venue (440) 997-9341. <https://www.lgbtqa-ashtabulaco.org/>. venue web site <https://www.acdl.info/>.

May 6 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour) meets (Molly Brannigans, 506 State St, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM - 8 PM. First Friday Happy Hour! G2H2/ Erie provides GLBT professionals, and our colleagues and friends, the opportunity to meet, network or just hang out. Venue (814) 453-7800.

May 6 - 22 (Fri - Sun) - What the Bellhop Saw (All An Act Theatre, 652 W 17th St, Erie, PA 16502) A nice fellow checks into an expensive suite in New York City's finest hotel, precipitating a fantastic nightmare involving a Salman Rushdie-type author, a vengeful terrorist, a vile wife from hell, a conniving bellboy, an incompetent F.B.I. agent, a nubile celebrity mad maid, a dimwitted secretary, and a little pig tailed girl. *Please see our Covid-19 Guidelines before purchasing tickets. Masks recommended but not required as of April and

proof of vaccination required. Adults \$15.00 Students & Seniors \$12.00 Children (6-11) \$5.00. \$1 of every admission benefits Community Shelter Services, providing Help, Hope and Shelter to Erie's Homeless. (814) 450-8553. director@allanact.net. <http://www.allanact.net/>. Tickets at <https://allanacttheatre.ticketleap.com/>.

May 6 - 8 (Fri - Sun) - Jones Pond Opening Weekend 2022 (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Welcome to Season 32 at Jones Pond. This weekend we look forward to getting reacquainted with old friends and making new ones. Join us for our first two dances of the season plus Bryan & Matt's welcome back cocktail party. Opening weekend we are offering 50% off all accommodations including tenting, cabins, rental RVs and our 3 bedroom guest house. Come play with us at the Pond this weekend. (585) 567-8100. info@jonespond.com. <http://www.jonespond.com>. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://www.jonespond.com/events/opening-weekend-2022>.

May 7 (Sat) - Camp Davis Drinko AFTER Cinco (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Sponsored by Paul G. (724) 637-2402. <http://campdavispa.com/>.

May 7 (Sat) - Star Sirch Entertainment with DJ Guilia (Sneakers, 100 W Harrison St, Jamestown, NY 14701) 9 PM - 1 AM. (716) 499-8078. Venue (716) 484-8816. starsirch@yahoo.com. <https://starsirch.wixsite.com/mysite>. venue web site <https://www.facebook.com/sneakersjamestown/>.

May 8 (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.

May 8 (Sun) – Full Spectrum Trans Feminine Adult Peer Support Group meets (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 5060 Youngstown Poland Rd, Youngstown, OH 44514) 3 PM – 5 PM. Trans Feminine adults 21 and over. (234) 254-8924. <https://www.fullspectrumtrans.org/>

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www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org/.

May 9 (Mon) – Erie County Democratic Party LG-BTQIA+ Caucus meets via Zoom (Zoom) 7 PM. General meeting on Zoom. Voting members must be a registered Democrat living in Erie County. Straight/cisgender allies welcome! Contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or mmahler@eriedems.com for Zoom meeting info. <https://www.facebook.com/ErieDemsLGBTQIA/>.

May 10 (Tue) – LGBTQ+ Coalition of Ashtabula County Pride Planning Party (Ashtabula County District Library, 4335 Park Ave, Ashtabula, OH 44004) 6 PM. Join us as we collaborate and plan PRIDE ASHTABULA COUNTY and continue the development of our education and outreach programs. We value your strengths, ideas, and talents that you can bring to make a difference in the LGBT+ Community in Ashtabula County!

May 10 (Tue) – Youngstown PFLAG meets (St. John's Episcopal Church, 323 Wick Ave, Youngstown, OH 44503) 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM. If you're GLBT, a parent of someone who is, or an ally and you're looking for emotional support, we encourage you to attend Youngstown PFLAG's monthly support group. You will be surrounded by understanding peers from the valley who will be able to listen and help. Support groups are open to the public, and it starts at 6:30pm. Light refreshments will be available. <http://www.youngstownpflag.org/>.

May 12 (Thu) – Teen Trans support group meets (G.A. Family Services, 210 Gustavus Ave, Jamestown, NY 14701) 5 PM. Contact: Danielle Bonovitch. (716) 708-6161. <http://gafamilyservices.org/>.

May 12 (Thu) – Journey To A Trauma Informed Life – Art Wellness Space (Journey To A Trauma Informed Life, 2230 W. 8th St. #2, Erie, PA 16505) 6 PM – 7:30 PM. 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. <https://www.atraumainformedlife.com/>.

May 13 - 15 (Fri - Sun) - Camp Davis Gender Bender (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Celebration of our Trans Family. (724) 637-2402. <http://campdavispa.com/>.

May 13 - 15 (Fri - Sun) - Jones Pond Onesie Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Onesie Weekend is back. Be sure to bring a onesie or two as we'll be wearing them to all Jones Pond events this weekend.

Wear your onesies to the dances, events and even to the cafe as you enjoy your weekend meals. We are offering 50% off all accommodations including tenting, cabins, rental RVs and our 3 bedroom guest house. Stay comfy at the Pond this weekend. (585) 567-8100. info@jonespond.com. <http://www.jonespond.com>. RSVP/ Register/Tickets at <https://www.jonespond.com/events/onesie-weekend>.

May 13 (Fri) - Naughty Bingo - Male Stripper Bingo (Zem Zem Shrine Club, 2525 W 38th St, Erie, PA 16506) 7:15 PM. Magic Mike meets Bingo! Erie's Naughty Bingo! A bingo like NO other. Come out with your friends and have some fun at Erie's Naughty Bingo. This all-male revue is guaranteed to have you hot & bothered. Oh yeah, and over \$3000 in cash prizes at Bingo. Remember...What Happens at Bingo, Stays at Bingo! (814) 397-9415. Venue (814) 833-3391. info@Gears-N-Grub.com. <https://naughtybingo.net/>. RSVP/ Register/Tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mays-drag-queen-bingo-tickets-314027794587>. venue web site <http://www.zemzem.us/>.

May 13 - 15 (Fri - Sun) - GLOW Party Weekend (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Blacklights galore! Neon tape EVERYWHERE! Wear your neons and whites and GLOW! We will be raising money for NAMI of Erie County the entire weekend! Glow games, giveaways, and SO. MUCH. GLOW. \$5 cover Friday & Saturday. 21+ with valid state-issued ID. (814) 452-0125. info@thezonedanceclub.com. <https://thezonedanceclub.com/>.

May 14 (Sat) - Erie's Original Drag Queen Bingo (Zem Zem Shrine Club, 2525 W 38th St, Erie, PA 16506) 7:15 PM. Come out and have fun at Erie's Original Drag Queen Bingo. Join your favorite Drag

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May 15 (Sun) - FACE with Misty Michaels Kall (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 10 PM. Closing out GLOW weekend, come play with your favorite house queens and special guests! No cover. 21+ with valid state-issued ID. (814) 452-0125. <https://www.facebook.com/TheZoneDanceClub>.

May 15 (Sun) – Deadline for Erie Gay News Jun 2022 print edition (#318) Please have all articles, ads, and submissions in by this date. This issue will be released on the evening of Tuesday, May 24.

May 16 (Mon) - National Honor Our LGBT Elders Day National Honor Our LGBT Elders Day was established to draw awareness to and appreciation of the lifetime of contributions made by LGBT older adults. The gains made in recent years toward LGBT equality sit squarely on the backs of those whose struggles and victories, extraordinary courage and everyday authenticity pioneered the path toward freedom. National Honor Our LGBT Elders Day works to unite the LGBTQ community and its allies to celebrate and thank those individuals who fought on behalf of us all. #LGBTeldersDay <https://www.lgbteldersday.org/>.

May 17 (Tue) - International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia & Biphobia First celebrated in 2005, the main purpose of the May 17 mobilizations is to raise awareness of violence, discrimination, and repression of LGBT communities worldwide. <https://dayagainsthomophobia.org/>.

May 17 (Tue) - Pennsylvania Primary Election 7 AM - 8 PM.

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

May 18 (Wed) - HIV Vaccine Awareness Day This day is a chance to thank the volunteers, community members, health professionals, and scientists working

together to find a safe and effective preventive HIV vaccine. It is also a time to educate communities about the importance of preventive HIV vaccine research. National Institutes of Health's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) leads this observance. #HVAD <https://www.niaid.nih.gov/>.

May 19 (Thu) - Agender Pride Day To be agender means to not identify as any particular gender. Agender is also called genderblank, genderfree, genderless, gendervoid, non-gendered, ungended, or null gender. The agender identity falls under the nonbinary umbrella and (sometimes) the transgender umbrella.

May 19 (Thu) - National Asian & Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day A national campaign to end silence and shame about HIV/AIDS in Asian and Pacific Islander communities. #APIMay19 <http://www.banyantreeproject.org/>.

May 19 (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. (716)-450-9055. aode2149@yahoo.com.

May 20 - 22 (Fri - Sun) - Jones Pond Totally 80s Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Totally 80s weekend is all about the music. Join us for two throw-back dances this weekend including our Saturday night Ladies of the 80s Dance. Be sure to wear whatever you would have worn during the 80s and if you weren't born yet, look it up..LOL. This weekend we are offering your 3rd night free on all accommodations. Arrive Thursday or stay until Monday, it's your choice. Come



Jason Lavery with Rep. Brian Sims at April 14 Meet and Greet at Lavery Brewing. Rep Sims is openly gay and running for Lt. Gov in the Democratic primary. Photo by Michael Mahler.

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throwback with us this weekend. (585) 567-8100. info@jonespond.com. <http://www.jonespond.com>. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://www.jonespond.com/events/totally-80s-weekend>.

May 21 (Sat) - Camp Davis Fly By The Seat of Your Pants (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Prep Your Liver for Memorial Day Holiday Weekend. (724) 637-2402. <http://campdavispa.com/>.

May 22 (Sun) - Harvey Milk Day Celebrated to honor Harvey Milk, assassinated politician, on his birthday, it is celebrated officially in California, Milk's home state. <http://milkfoundation.org/>.

May 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.

May 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+. (234) 254-8924. info@fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org. www.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org/.

May 24 (Tue) - Pansexual and Panromantic Awareness and Visibility Day This is a day to celebrate the

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pansexual and panromantic community and educate others on the community. <https://thepancommunity.tumblr.com/faq>.

May 24 (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. Volunteers appreciated!

May 25 (Wed) – NW PA Pride Alliance LGBTQIA and Allies Happy Hour (Julian's Bar & Grill, 299 Chestnut St, Meadville, PA 16335) 5:30 PM – 9 PM. ALL are WELCOME. 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 but not necessary. There will be a performance by Meadville based entertainment from 6 to 9 pm.

May 26 (Thu) – Queer Youth: Virtual Connect – Chat & Chill (Zoom) 6 PM – 7:30 PM. Come join us for a night of community, laughter, and chill. No real agenda, just a safe, virtual space. Co-hosted by Compton's Table, Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) and Journey to a Trauma-Informed Life. <https://comptonstable.org/connect-events>. <https://comptonstable.org/>.

May 26 (Thu) - Mild to Wild Discussion Group (Mental Health Association in Chautauqua County, 31 Water Street Suite 7, Jamestown, NY 14701) 6 PM - 7:30 PM. Mild to Wild is a discussion group about sex and substance use designed for gay and bisexual men and folks of trans experience. Meets in person at MHA and also on Zoom. (716) 661-9044.

May 26 (Thu) - Virtual Workshop - Popular Scams and How To Avoid Them (Zoom) 7 PM - 8 PM. Every day people are getting scammed out of THOUSANDS of dollars by so called “professionals” looking to separate them from their hard-earned money. This presentation introduces us to commonly used tactics, what to look for and how to avoid them. Register via the link to get the Zoom meeting info. info@eriegaynews.com. <https://www.dobs.pa.gov/>. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://TinyUrl.com/regscamworkshop>.

May 27 - 30 (Fri - Mon) - Camp Davis Memorial Day Holiday Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Friday 27: Open Dance. Saturday 28 Uniform. Sunday 29th Camo & Dog Tags/ Sunday potluck, 4pm @ pool. (724) 637-2402. <http://campdavispa.com/>.

May 27 - 30 (Fri - Mon) - Jones Pond Memorial Day/ Armed Forces Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) It's our first long weekend of the season and it's packed with events. Want to make it an extra long weekend? Add a 4th day for free on any accommoda-

tion. Join us as we celebrate the Armed Forces and the unofficial start of summer. (585) 567-8100. info@jonespond.com. <http://www.jonespond.com>. RSVP/ Register/Tickets at <https://www.jonespond.com/events/memorial-day-weekend>.

May 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 - 5 PM. Meetings are hosted at the Crime Victim Center of Erie County (125 W. 18th St., Erie, PA). All current CDC, state, and local guidelines for meeting indoors will be observed. Meetings are always confidential and completely free. <http://www.facebook.com/TransfamilyOfNWPA>.

May 30 (Mon) - Zone open regular hours for Memorial Day (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 8 PM. (814) 452-0125. info@thezonedanceclub.com. <https://thezonedanceclub.com/>.



Pres. Alex Sphon with new NW PA Pride Alliance logo, unveiled at Erie LGBTQ+ social at Underdog BBQ on March 30. Photo by Michael Mahler.



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