



ERIE GAY NEWS

Serving the Regional LGBTQIA+ Community Since 1992



Enjoying Jamestown Pride. Photo by Michael Mahler. More Pride photos at eriegaynews.com.

Jamestown Pride on June 11

by Sheridan Smith

The 2nd Annual Jamestown Pride Festival, presented by Evergreen Health, was a successful follow up, establishing the annual tradition of Pride festivals in Chautauqua County. Kicking off on Friday, June 10th with the Pride Slow Roll and Laced Up Ladies Burlesque at Sneakers Bar, the main festival on June 11th had grown to three blocks of events.

During the Pride Market organizations were on hand to support the queer community, and there were games and educational events, including a storytime tent with free books for kids, youth led activities, face painting, and more. The evening performance kicked off with Thee Ukaladz, a ukulele duo from the local area and their tribute to their lost member Lexi, DJ Little Italy from Buffalo, and finally the headliners Thee Suburbia with Islaya and Daphne Always. And the festival ended on Sunday with a Pride service at St. Luke's Episcopal Church.

Thanks to Evergreen Health, presenting sponsor, Jamestown Pride has grown from last year, and the focus on the youth community was more apparent than ever. The MHA, home of Jamestown Pride, and event sponsors the Jamestown Public Market, The

Chautauqua Center, HOPE Chautauqua/Prevention Works, The Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, Shultz Auto Group, and Purina all supported this celebration of the queer community. Through their support, we mobilized dozens of volunteers, secured equipment for future events, and made sure that this event is here to stay.

Jamestown Pride will be back in June 2023, bigger and better than ever.

NW PA Pride to host their first Pride in Meadville

by Rex Apps

NW PA Pride has been hosting Happy Hours in Meadville since December 2021 and were approached by a group of Meadville residents to help make an event for the Meadville area.

On Saturday, July 23, from 1 pm to 5pm NW PA Pride will have their first Pride in Meadville. 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.

Opening Ceremonies at Diamond Park will be hosted by NWPA Pride President Alex Sphon, speakers and the sickening drag performers Aysin Wonderland, Debbie and Rose Winters will be performing. After the Opening Ceremonies please join us in a Pride March around Diamond Park to the Street Fair.

For more information or if you wish to be part of the event please email President@nwpapride.org.

TransFamily of NW PA at Pride Fest on June 25

from Raven Cammarata

In celebration of Pride month, TransFamily NWPA will be attending Erie Pride on June 25. Unfortunately, this means we will not be holding the monthly group meeting at the Crime Victim Center. However, we have our own table and are marching

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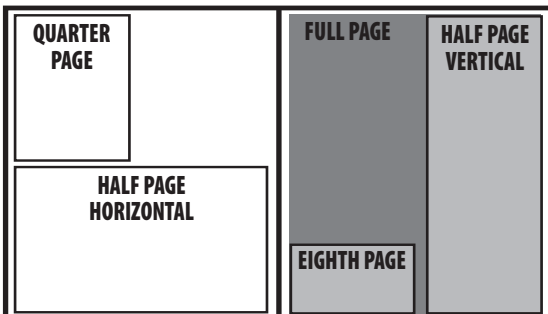
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The *Erie Gay News* is published monthly as a source of news, events, information, and support for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgender people (GLBTs), their families, friends, and supporters in the Erie PA area.

We welcome and encourage all readers to submit timely news, comments, and opinions of interest to local GLBTs for publication in these pages. Please include your contact information with any piece you submit.

Erie Gay News is now included in **The EBSCO LGBT Life®** with Full Text Index & Six LGBT Archives **WORLDWIDE!**

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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

THANKS

From Your Friends at Erie Gay News

To Lake Erie Counseling Associates for hosting! Andrea Shaffer, Audrey, Cheryl LaBenne, Jeff Hill, Johauna, Julian LaBenne, Kim Conti, Michael Mancinelli, Rex Apps, and Steve Siwiecki for folding; Brett Staskiewicz, Cheryl LaBenne, Jeff Hill, Johauna, Julian LaBenne, Kim Conti, Michael Mancinelli, 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.

in the parade, so we hope to see you there marching with us! Happy Pride, everyone!.

Ashtabula Pride June 11

A crowd of over 2,000 people from every age and identity, attended Pride Ashtabula County 2022, held June 11 at the Ashtabula County Fair Grounds in Jefferson, Ohio. Those in attendance were entertained by several acts including Jungle Terry, who captivated the audience with his wildlife show, singer song writer Sue Hagan played her guitar and sang while yoga instructor Leah Hartman lead a Rainbow Yoga class, and Drag Queen Mona Lotz, who hosted the several Drag Shows throughout the day at the grandstand. Guest shopped the 120 vendors who brought hand made goods, jewelry, candles and so much more or pleased their taste buds by eating from the 12 food trucks and stand at the event. The LGBTQ Coalition of Ashtabula County, Inc stated that the second Saturday in June will be the festival's annual date for all future prides and looks forward to June 10, 2023 at the same location. Be sure to keep a watch for future events like the annual fundraiser

DRAG IN THE NEW YEAR and a Drag pageant in early Spring of 2023.

The LGBTQ Coalition of Ashtabula County, Inc. would like to thank everyone who came out to celebrate who they were Saturday for Pride Ashtabula County 2022. A huge thank you to our sponsors, our 120 vendors, and the entertainers who made it all possible! We will see you next year on June 10, 2023.

Infection Risks Increasing for Sexually Active Men

Gary Snyder, HIV Prevention, Erie County Department of Health

Let's talk about sex. But we need to think beyond the usual bump and grind hazards. Men that are sexually active are being infected at higher rates for various diseases beyond HIV. For example, Erie County in the past year has seen increases in Gonorrhea and Syphilis among the MSM [Men having Sex with Men] residents. However sexually transmitted diseases are not the only things guys are coming into contact with these days. Perhaps you've heard about the monkeypox outbreak that is happening around



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the world. In May of 2022, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) began informing the public of multiple cases of monkeypox – a very rare disease typically associated with international travel or importing animals from outside the US. The cases reported recently [with one case in Pennsylvania] have included ‘people who self-identify as men who have sex with men.’ While it is not clear how they were exposed, being aware of the potential for exposure and infection is key in making our health a priority. The incubation period for Monkeypox ranges from 7 to 17 days. The illness begins with fever, headache, muscle aches, backache, swollen lymph nodes, a general feeling of discomfort, and exhaustion. Typically, within 1 to 3 days after the appearance of fever, the patient develops a rash of raised fluid-filled bumps, often first on the face but sometimes initially on other parts of the body, lasting 2 to 4 weeks. The CDC recommends JYNNEOSTM (also known as Imvamune or Imvanex), an attenuated live virus vaccine, which has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for the prevention of monkeypox. Contact your personal care doctor to set up an appointment for your vaccination. To learn

more about Monkeypox and Sex, check out this link/PDF: <https://bit.ly/3x5TYDs>

And while we’re going over rising infections beyond HIV and STIs, the CDC this year also reported an outbreak of Meningococcal disease; a rare, but very serious illness caused by a type of bacteria. Their reporting has found “a large, ongoing outbreak of serogroup C meningococcal disease in Florida, primarily among gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men, including those living with HIV. Recent data show that about half of the cases associated with this outbreak are among Hispanic men. This outbreak is mostly affecting people who live in Florida but has also affected some people who have traveled to Florida.” Seek medical attention immediately if you or your child develops symptoms of meningococcal disease. Symptoms of meningococcal disease can first appear as a flu-like illness and rapidly worsen. Symptoms may include: fever and chills, fatigue (feeling tired), vomiting, cold hands and feet, severe aches or pain in the muscles, joints, chest, or abdomen (belly), rapid breathing, and/or diarrhea. The best way to protect yourself during an outbreak – just like the ongoing pandemic of COVID-19, is to get vac-

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inated. Public health staff recommend keeping up to date with your vaccines as the best protection. Even if treated quickly, meningococcal disease can cause long term problems or be deadly. If you do not have insurance or Medicaid/Medicare, the Erie County Department of Health can provide your vaccine; call 814-451-5700 to set up an appointment. If you have insurance/Medicaid/Medicare, contact your personal care doctor to set up an appointment for your vaccination. To learn more about meningococcal disease as it relates to the MSM community, check out this link/PDF: <https://bit.ly/3GGDrDH>

For more information, contact the Erie County Department of Health at 814-451-6700 or ecdhinfo@eriecountypa.gov.

GEAE Afternoon for Equality Aug 21

Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) is excited to announce its 11th annual Afternoon for Equality will be Sunday, August 21, 2022, at the Erie Yacht Club! Join GEAE at 5 PM as we celebrate moving towards LGBTQ+ equality while enjoying food, wine, beer, and music.

For more information about GEAE events and to purchase tickets and sponsorships to Afternoon for Equality, please go to greatereriealliance.comv

Erie's LGBTQIA Social Hour at Underdog BBQ on June 8

by Rex Apps

On June 8, 2022. NW PA Pride was once again proud to partner with Underdog BBQ to prove a safe space for the LGBTQIA+ Community. Underdog offered food and drink specials (both with and without alcohol). We were also happy to be joined by representatives from the Erie Community College sharing the programs they offer. NW PA Pride is excited to continue to partner with local organizations like these to offer these opportunities to our LGBTQ+ Community.

5th Annual HIV Awareness Walk

Gary Snyder, HIV Prevention, Erie County Department of Health

On Saturday May 21, 2022, the Erie County HIV Task Force held the 5th Annual HIV / AIDS Awareness Walk. The Erie County HIV Task Force is a collaboration of local organizations and individuals dedicated to educating, supporting, and advocating for people living with HIV/AIDS and preventing the

spread of infection. The HIV / AIDS walk provides a reminder to the local community that making personal health a priority is everyone's right. This year's awareness walk enjoyed a new location as Adagio Health of Erie on Peach Street served as the host site for the Erie High residential are. Participants enjoyed educational materials, refreshments and testing opportunities via the Pa Thrive Partnership mobile unit at the event. Awareness walk attendees also received complimentary gift bags of materials from the task force as well as event sponsors Adagio Health, Central Outreach Wellness Center Erie, Community HealthNet, the Erie County Department of Health, Erie Gay News, Northwest Pennsylvania Pride Alliance, and SafeNet. Medical Reserve Corps volunteers and Public Health Staff were on hand for participants to ask questions and receive additional information regarding COVID-19, and the services of Nicotine Free Northwest PA plus other Erie County HIV Task Force partners. For more information on local services, testing, and free condom, visit the Erie County HIV Task Force at ECHIV.ORG or follow their Twitter account @EriePAHIV and like their Facebook page.

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Allow Older LGBT Individuals to Age Their Way by Passing the Equality Act

by *Stephanie Cole*

May was Older Americans Month. The theme of this year's observance was "Age My Way," a phrase I continue to reflect upon as we find ourselves in the midst of Pride Month celebration activities. For LGBTQ older adults, ageism piles onto the homophobia, transphobia, xenophobia, and societal rejection that many of the nation's estimated three million LGBTQ people over 50 years old have experienced most of their lives.

If you've lived beyond 50 years without feeling the sting, first-hand, of our society's many unfairisms, then buckle up because each subsequent decade that passes will give you that dose of reality when you experience the ageist attitudes and placating terms of endearment of those who don't realize they'll be older themselves someday. It can easily make one begin to question their purpose and self-worth.

I see this sting in my cisgender (same gender today as gender assigned at birth) male and female parents, my dad nearly 80 and mother not far behind. My father is as mentally sharp as I've always known him to be; however, he often remarks that since his mobility has declined, people treat him like less of a person, and it hurts him. My parents are lucky to still be here for each other for 59 years of marriage, and just like marriages between older LGBTQ couples, they assist where the other needs help.

For the last four years, I've had the privilege of leading LGBTQ initiatives at the PA Department of Aging as part of my overall role. I often chat with my parents about the isolating circumstances of some older individuals. I've explained that "yes," older [and all] LGBTQ people can and do face discrimination in housing, medical care, and business just by virtue of going about their lives as their authentic

selves. I believe my parents' pain in hearing this comes from empathy, knowing that even for them, not facing any discrimination, aging can be tough. Trying to imagine existing in their community with mobility issues, hearing and vision loss, worrying that anywhere they frequent could pull up the welcome mat and not do business with them for no good reason, is devastating.

Reflecting on this issue takes me back to my childhood and something my mother would say when I sought her advice while negotiating a problem with the neighborhood kids. She would say "play fair." There wasn't any qualifying of who deserved fairness, but everyone should be treated fairly. Shouldn't this simple premise apply throughout our lives? Realistically, we know it doesn't or there wouldn't be a need for a Civil Rights Act or Americans with Disabilities Act.

I'm grateful when someone asks me what makes LGBTQ older adults any different than other older people. First, most have faced a lifelong history of discrimination and social stigma, which leaves LGBTQ older adults wondering is it safe to reveal their sexual orientation or gender identity to aging services and health providers. LGBTQ people are twice as likely to be single, twice as likely to live alone, and four times less likely to have children than their contemporaries who are not LGBTQ. These factors can reduce a person's available informal support system, making it even more important to ensure equitable access to services and supports exists. For older LGBTQ people in underserved communities, matters of age, race, ethnicity, English-proficiency, religion, disability, geography, and family dynamics can intersect in different ways, making the disparities experienced by LGBTQ older adults truly unique.

A little over a year ago, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the federal Equality Act, which builds on the current civil rights laws and would protect LGBTQ people from discrimination in all fifty states but is still sitting in the U.S. Senate without action. Currently, less than half of states have some version of fairness laws supporting the LGBTQ community. Here in Pennsylvania, the older LGBTQ population benefits from a supportive administration in state government and leadership at the Department of Aging forwarding initiatives that are culturally

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sensitive and inclusive. Additionally, the PA Commission on LGBTQ Affairs and PA Human Relations Commission advocate tirelessly for the rights of all LGBTQ people, but laws that support them would go a long way.

I believe in our department’s vision of a Pennsylvania where older adults are embraced and empowered to live and age with dignity and respect, for every older adult, because that’s what is fair. It is time for the U.S. Senate to take action and pass the Equality Act.

Stephanie Cole is Special Assistant to the Secretary & Director of Special Projects at the Pennsylvania Department of Aging, and a recipient of the Governor’s Award for Excellence.



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nwpride.org [/nwpride](https://www.facebook.com/nwpride) [@nwpride](https://www.instagram.com/nwpride)

Sexual Assault and the LGBTQ+ Community



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.

As a community, it is rarely talked about how sexual violence affects LGBTQ+ people or what their unique needs are when it comes to preventing sexual assault and supporting and caring for survivors of sexual violence. For LGBTQ+ survivors of sexual assault, their identities – and the inequity they face surrounding those identities – often make them hesitant to seek help from police, hospitals, shelters or rape crisis centers, the very resources that are supposed to help them. Crime Victim Center is here to help regardless of your choice to seek criminal justice. We see you, we hear you and are here to help.

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Calendar

For latest updates, see www.eriegaynews.com

Live & Let Live is an LGBTQIA-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

1st and 3rd Monday at 8 pm until compete, Everyone's Comedy Open-Mic Night at RandyBillDuck, 4th Floor of the Paca 1505 State.

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

*RuPaul's Drag Race All-Stars 7 Viewing Party/F*ck It Friday (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 8 PM. Join host Rebecca Mae for another episode of the All-Stars/All-Winners season! Stick around for F*ck It Fridays with two of your favorite local queens. Doors open at 8 pm. Viewing Party begins at 9 pm. Drag show begins at 10 pm. \$5 cover. 21+ with valid, state-issued ID.*

Jun 23 (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.

Jun 23 (Thu) - Pride Night with the Erie Seawolves (UPMC Park, 110 E 10th St, Erie, PA) 6 PM.

Jun 24 - 26 (Fri - Sun) - Jones Pond Trailer Trash Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)

Jun 24 (Fri) - F*ck It Fridays - Pride Edition (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 8 PM. After the Drag Race Viewing Party, Rebecca Mae hosts the Kick-Off to our PRIDE WEEKEND! Special guests and all of the rainbows! Doors open at 7:30 PM. No cover before 8 PM/ \$5 after 8 PM. 21+ with valid state-issued ID. Phone: (814) 452-0125. Email: info@thezonedanceclub.com. Browse to <https://thezonedanceclub.com/>.

Jun 24 (Fri) - RuPaul's Drag Race All-Stars 7 Viewing Party (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA

16501) 8 PM. Join host Rebecca Mae for another episode of the All-Stars/All-Winners season! Doors open at 7:30 pm. Show starts 8pm. No cover before 8 pm, \$5 after 8 pm. 21+ with valid state-issued ID Phone: (814) 452-0125. Browse to <https://thezonedanceclub.com/>.

Jun 25 (Sat) - 2022 Erie Pridefest and Pride Parade (Perry Square, 6th and State Streets, Erie, PA 16507) 11 AM - 4 PM.

Jun 25 (Sat) - All Ages Pride Post-Party (Voodoo Brewing Co (Erie), 101 Boston Store Place, Erie, PA 16501) 4 PM - 7 PM. Brought to you by Greater Erie Alliance for Equality. Hosted by Rebecca Mae. Performances by: Rebecca Mae, Vivian Vendetta-Sinclair, Shari Turner, and Pissi Gabune. Family-friendly event. Phone: (866) 229-1974. Venue Phone: (814) 520-6990. Email: GEAEinfo@gmail.com. Browse to <http://greatereriance.com/>. Browse to venue web site <http://www.voodoobrewery.com/locations/erie/>.

Jun 25 (Sat) - Zone After PRIDE Party (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 4 PM. Immediately following the festival downtown, join Erie's ONLY LGBTQIA+ bar for the BIGGEST party of the year! Free food buffet until it runs out! No cover until 8 pm (\$5 cover after 8 pm). Pop-up performances by Rebecca Mae, Michelle Michaels, Pissi Gabune, Priscilla Godzilla, Aysin Wonderland, and Shea D'Heaux! Doors open at 4 pm. 21+ with valid state-issued ID.

Jun 25 (Sat) - Camp Davis Underwear Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Briefs, Boxers or Tightly Whities? Phone: (724) 637-2402. Browse to <http://campdavispa.com/>.

Jun 26 (Sun) - The Zone Dance Club presents Drag Brunch (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 11 AM. Finish off Erie's Pride Weekend with a brunch as only the Zone can do! Hosted by Aysin Wonderland and DJ Tony G, catered by La Bella, and featuring performances some special guests! Tickets available at thezonedanceclub.com/events.

Jun 26 (Sun) - Drive Your Pride 2022 (Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr #1, Erie, PA 16505) 1 PM - 3 PM.

Jun 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.

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

Jun 27 (Mon) - National HIV Testing Day

Jun 28 (Tue) - Stonewall Riots Anniversary .

Jun 30 (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/>.

Jul 7 (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-shtabulaco.org/>. venue web site <https://www.acdl.info/>.

Jul 1 - 4 (Fri - Mon) - Camp Davis 4th of July Holiday Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) 2nd: Leather. 3rd: Piggies & Puppies. 3rd: Pig Roast 4pm Poolside. Special Guests Dirty South Leather Phone: (724) 637-2402. Browse to <http://campdavispa.com/>.

Jul 1 - 4 (Fri - Mon) - Jones Pond Trailer Independence Day & Canada Day (300 block Party) (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)

Jul 4 - 8 (Mon - Fri) - Jones Pond July Vacation Week (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)

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Jul 8 - 10 (Fri - Sun) - Jones Pond Illumination Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)

Jul 9 (Sat) - Crawford County Pride (Diamond Park, Meadville, PA 16335) 10 AM - 5 PM. A day to celebrate those who support all orientations and identities in Crawford County. Vendors, non-profits, political candidates, a drag show and music will accompany a day for local vendors and those who support love for all in Crawford County, PA. if you are interested in a space at the event, please IM Glenn Tuttle. Contact: Glenn Tuttle. Email: glenntuttle@icloud.com.

Jul 10 (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.

Jul 10 (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.fullspectrumcommunityoutreach.org/.

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

Jul 15 (Fri) - Deadline for Erie Gay News Aug 2022 print edition (#321) Please have all articles, ads, and submissions in by this date. This issue will be released on the evening of Tuesday, Jul 26.

Jul 19 (Tue) - Erie County HIV Task Force meets via Zoom 1 PM - 2:30 PM. Zoom Meeting ID: 927 9128 9996. Passcode: 940728

Jul 15 - 17 (Fri - Sun) - Jones Pond Cowboy Weekend (400 block party) (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)

Jul 15 (Fri) - WTF Weekend Dance Party (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 8 PM. Ever wonder what it would be like to drink green beer while wearing a Halloween costume and standing next to a Christmas tree? Join us as we cram all of the holidays into one massive weekend! Dance the night away with today's hits and some holiday favorites! \$5 cover. 21+ with valid, state-issued ID.

Jul 16 (Sat) - Camp Davis Naked Foam Party (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) (724) 637-2402. Browse to <http://campdavispa.com/>.

Jul 16 (Sat) - WTF Weekend Holiday Blowout (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 8 PM. Dress in your best Halloween costume and take part of the costume contest for a chance to win CASH prizes! Cheers getting through the first half of the year with a champagne toast at midnight! \$5 cover. 21+ with valid, state-issued ID. Phone: (814) 452-0125. Email: info@thezonedanceclub.com. Browse to <https://thezonedanceclub.com/>.

Jul 17 (Sun) - FACE Show with Misty Michaels Kall (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 10 PM. Come join Misty and her girls for a sick show. Will they do a dance number or will they do a holiday classic to help close out WTF weekend? Come find out! Doors open at 8 pm. Showtime 10:00 pm. No cover. 21+ with valid, state-issued ID.

Jul 21 (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. aoede2149@yahoo.com.

Jul 22 - 24 (Fri - Sun) - Jones Pond Bear Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) **Jul 23 (Sat) - Camp Davis Christmas in July** (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Best decorated seasonal site can win FREE electric for July up to \$30. Sponsored by Robb & David Phone: (724) 637-2402. Browse to <http://campdavispa.com/>.

Jul 23 (Sat) - NW PA Pride Alliance Meadville Pride and Street Fair (Diamond Park, Meadville, PA 16335) 1 PM - 5 PM. NWPA Pride Alliance will host our first Pride event in Meadville. 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. Opening Ceremonies will be hosted by NWPA Pride President Alex Sphon, speaker and the sickening drag performers Alysia Wonderland, Debbie and Rose Winters will be performing. After the Opening Ceremonies, please join us in a Pride March around Diamond Park to the Street Fair. For more information or if you wish to be part of the event please email President@nwpapride.org.

Jul 23 (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. We will be making T-shirts at this meeting. 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/Transfami>

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lyOfNWPA.

Jul 23 (Sat) - Drag for Democracy (Betts Park, 100 Ludlow St, Warren, PA 16365) 4 PM - 7 PM. Starring Miss Jessica Rabbit and friends! Presented by Young Democrats of Warren County. We will have a guest speaker along with Drag Queen and Drag King performers. This is just a fun way to get people interested in voting, to connect with the community, and to have fun. Venue Phone: (814) 723-6300. Email: youngdemswarrenpa@gmail.com.

Jul 26 (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!

Jul 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.

Jul 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.

Jul 29 - 31 (Fri - Sun) - Camp Davis Luminary Light Up (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Special Guest: Pittsburgh Hashers.

Jul 29 - 31 (Fri - Sun) - Jones Pond Mardi Gras Weekend (100 block party) (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)



After 5th Annual HIV/AIDS Awareness Walk. Photo by Michael Mahler

GEAE Board Leadership Announcement

The Board of Directors of the Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) is very pleased to announce the appointment of a new president of the Board: Cody Empey, formerly treasurer and director of the Finance Committee for six and a half years.

Cody, an Erie native, works at Erie Insurance and has worked in the banking and insurance financial services industry for twelve years. Cody holds a business administration and accounting degree from Mercyhurst University and has several designations and certificates in insurance, premium auditing, and training. He and his long-time partner, Michael Pruzinsky, have served on GEAE’s Board and Advisory Council for many years, in addition to serving on various other boards and committees in the Erie area. Cody hopes to guide the organization toward even more growth and success in GEAE’s educational and youth programming. This focus will help expand competency training in the healthcare space and continue to grow support for the area’s LGBTQ+ youth community, while continuing the excellent work of his predecessor, Leah Manino, who served GEAE with dedication and verve for three years, and remains extremely active on the Board.

Organized in 2006, GEAE is a federally recognized, official 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the Erie County region’s LGBTQ+ community and its straight allies through educational programs, social events, and opportunities for service, which are designed to strengthen our voice and improve the quality of life in northwestern Pennsylvania.

For more information about GEAE events, to become a supporter, or to volunteer, please go to greatereriealliance.com.

A real estate advertisement for Brett Staskiewicz, Realtor. On the left is a headshot of Brett, a man with short brown hair wearing a dark red polo shirt. To the right is a blue and white graphic with the ERA logo (a red house icon) and the text "Richmond Real Estate SERVICE". Below this, the address "751 N. Main Street Meadville, Pa 16335" is listed, along with phone numbers "814-337-6000 ext 8347" and "814-720-1737 mobile 814-333-1927 fax", and the email "stask@zoominternet.net". At the bottom, it says "Brett Staskiewicz-Realtor" and "www.ERA-RICHMOND.COM". There are also small icons for "REALTOR" and "NMLS" in the bottom right corner.



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