



ERIE GAY NEWS

Serving the Regional LGBTQIA+ Community Since 1992

Erie County HIV Task Force Presents World AIDS Day Program on Dec 1

From Erie County HIV Task Force

On Thursday December 1, 2022, the Erie County HIV Task Force [ECHTF] will present this year's World AIDS Day program at the H.O. Hirt Auditorium inside the Blasco Library at 160 East Front Street, Erie PA 16507. Doors will open at 5:30pm followed by the program beginning at 6pm. This year's focus is on achieving equity for treatment and testing in the Erie region. The program will include a memorial segment for those no longer with us due to HIV / AIDS. If you would like a loved one to be recognized, you can submit their name via email to Gary Snyder, the chair of the Erie County HIV Task Force at gsnyder@eriecountypa.gov. Panels from the AIDS Memorial Quilt will be loaned for display at the event as part of a small portion of the world's largest mobile visual project which recognized over 100,000 lives ended prematurely by HIV. Red ribbons for awareness will be provided to wear in conjunction with red ribbons with names written upon them will be displayed on the library lobby windows for the month of December.

The ECHTF is a collaboration of local organizations and individuals dedicated to educating, supporting, and advocating for people living with HIV/AIDS along with preventing the spread of HIV. With the COVID-19 pandemic last year, testing and treatment services were limited for HIV and STIs across the nation as well as Erie County. In 2022, 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,



NWPA Pride Alliance board members and supporters in the Meadville Halloween Parade on October 29, 2022. Photo by Michael Mahler.

please visit echiv.org for additional information including the county map of testing locations, clinic services, and free condoms locally or mailed to you home. You may also call 814-315-3375.

Erie Gay News Advertising Rates for 2023

Erie Gay News has been working hard on expanding our distribution. We are proud that we now have more distributors than ever before! However, due to increased postage and printing costs, we need to adjust our rates for 2023. The new rates will take effect with the issue that comes out on January 24, 2023, and ad sizes will remain the same.

The new ad rates are \$50 (\$45 with prepay discount) for an eighth-page ad, \$80 (\$72 with prepay discount) for a quarter-page ad, \$150 (\$135 with prepay discount) for a half-page ad, and \$250 (\$225 with prepay discount) for a full-page ad.

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



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Serving the Regional LGBTQIA+ Community Since 1992

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Editor/Layout: Mike Mahler

Deadline for next issue: Mon, Dec 12
Folding and distribution is Tue, Dec 20 at
Lake Erie Counseling, 1932 W 8th.

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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.

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, Emily Levi, Emma Galbraith, Hannah Khamis, Jeff Hill, Johauna, Khang Nguyen, Kim Conti, Kolton Mehlaiko, N Khamis, Nathan Murarik, Oli Tilton, Rex Apps, Robin Marihugh, Sarah, Steve Siwiecki, and Tyler Cottrill for folding; Brett Staskiewicz, Jeff Hill, Johauna, Kim Conti, Rex Apps, Sarah, and Steve Siwiecki for distribution; If you're interested in helping out, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or info@eriegaynews.com.

Pennsylvania Equality Project and Meadville Public Library #FreeShop2022

The Pennsylvania Equality Project in cooperation with the Meadville Public Library is hosting #FreeShop2022. PA Equality Project will be gathering donated items such as non-perishable canned food items, clothing, blankets, books, CDs, DVDs, and small furniture items such as desk lamps, toasters, mixers, and other kitchen items and making them available to the public for free. While contributions are not required, cash and personal check donations on site are welcome. Checks should be made payable to "Pennsylvania Equality Project." Use of debit and credit cards, and PayPal should be made through our website. The #FreeShop runs from 9 AM until 5 PM, and we will be taking donations until 5 PM on November 28.

PA Equality Project will send donors tax receipts upon request. All funds that are raised during this event will be used toward opening a Community Resource Center in Meadville. Donation sites are being added to our website, but all donations can be sent to:

639 Russell Ave
Meadville, PA 16335
or can be arranged for pick up.

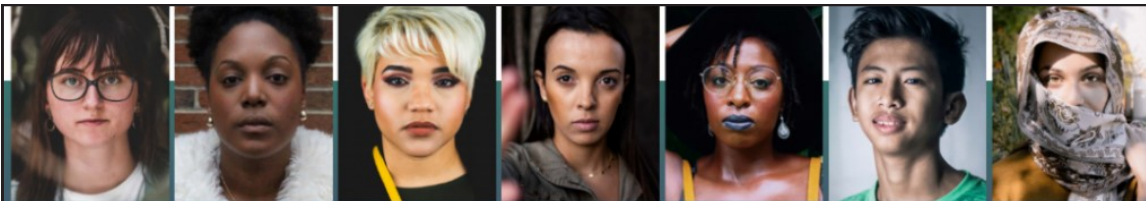
Anyone interested in assisting as a volunteer for set up on November 28 or take down of the event on November 29 should inquire at info@paequality.com.

SAGE Hosts a Conversation on LGBTQ+ Elder Housing in Pennsylvania

SAGE's National LGBTQ+ Elder Housing Initiative (NHI) hosts their biannual roundtable event on LGBTQ+ affirming housing for older adults. This Fall's event focuses on LGBTQ+ housing needs and advocacy for older adults in Pennsylvania.

This year, SAGE, partnering with organizations across the state, will host a virtual event to discuss LGBTQ+ elder housing advocacy efforts in Pennsylvania. The virtual event, Creating Home: A Roundtable to Discuss LGBTQ+ Elder Housing in Pennsylvania, will be hosted on December 7th from 9am-12pm, Eastern Time.

The event will emphasize data that highlights the need for more affordable and inclusive older adult



YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

Crime Victim Center of Erie County offers free and confidential services to all survivors of sexual assault and their families and friends. Trained volunteers and staff are available 24 hours a day to provide crisis intervention and emotional support; advocacy with medical, police, and court systems, should you choose that path. Short-term group and individual counseling; resources and referrals are also available.

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housing in Pennsylvania. It will include a panel of community housing advocates in various industries: anti-discrimination representation, non-profit services, housing development, and property management. The event will also convene breakout sessions during which participants enter more intimate conversation to discuss LGBTQ+ elder housing issues across the state.

The event, focusing on housing advocacy efforts, will welcome housing developers, service providers, property managers, and other professionals who are interested in creating a more inclusive housing environment for LGBTQ+ older adults in Pennsylvania. It will also welcome LGBTQ+ elders and community members from across the state.

Interested participants can register for the event at www.sageusa.org/pa-roundtable.

Event speakers include representatives from SAGE, The William Way Community Center in Philadelphia, a Pennsylvania Branch of the Walters-Group, the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, and Openhouse in San Francisco.

SAGE's state partners for this event include The William Way Community Center, The LGBT Elder Initiative, The Persad Center, Presbyterian Senior Care, The Western PA Advocacy Team, and The Mayor's Office of LGBT Affairs in Philadelphia.

This event is made possible by the generous support of the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation.

LGBTQ-Friendly Senior Housing Community To Be Built in Pittsburgh

In 2017, a group of community leaders met to discuss the idea of building an LGBTQ-friendly housing community. Five years later, Persad Center is excited to share that Presbyterian SeniorCare Network has received critical funding needed to build the first LGBTQ-friendly senior housing community in Pittsburgh!

Working with UPMC Health System to secure the real estate, a 52-unit building will be built at the intersection of Forbes and Craft Avenue, close to the universities, hospitals and readily accessible to public transportation. There are approximately 12-15 other cities who offer this similar type of housing and we can now add Pittsburgh to the list!

"With the Pittsburgh region continuing to have

an older age demographic than the rest of the U.S., it only makes sense that LGBTQ-friendly housing will be successful," said Marty Healey, Chief Executive Officer at Persad Center. "As our LGBTQ population continues to age, we often hear from our clients that finding a place to live that is safe and accepting is a concern for them. Older people often experience isolation and loneliness which affects their mental health. This housing community will offer a welcoming place, where people can feel free to be themselves, in an environment where they will be treated respectfully and compassionately." Persad Center is the leading mental health agency in the region and has been serving the LGBTQ+ community since 1972.

It is estimated that by 2030 the population of LGBTQ elders will be 7 million. SAGE, the national organization that offers supportive services and consumer resources to LGBTQ older people and their caregivers, estimates that this population is twice as likely to be single, live alone, and four times less likely to have children. In the recent Pennsylvania LGBTQ Health Needs Assessment released by the PA Department of Health, 53.3% of older Pennsylvanians said they have faced discrimination for being LGBTQ.

Pieffer anticipates that the total development cost will range between \$26-27 million. The \$4 million in credits announced on Thursday should result in \$14 million in investment for the project. The project has secured zoning and planning approvals from the City of Pittsburgh and, if all goes according to plan, construction should begin in Summer 2023. The new community could open in Fall 2024.

Presbyterian SeniorCare Network has partnered with Affirmative Investments, a nationally known developer of affordable housing, for this project. "Affirmative Investments is very excited to work on its fifth project with Presbyterian SeniorCare Network to meet the needs of Pittsburgh seniors," said David Ennis, President of Affirmative Investments.

Persad Center is proud to join Presbyterian SeniorCare Network as a partner on this exciting project. Stay tuned for additional details!

PA HIV Planning Group 5-Year Plan Submitted to CDC

From Erie County HIV Task Force

Throughout the 2022 year, the Pennsylvania HIV Planning Group (HPG) [a collaboration between

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**Erie County
Department
of Health**

This program is supported by a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Health

stakeholders and the PA Department of Health (PA-DOH)] worked toward developing the new 2022-2026 Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan. This document is a comprehensive plan presented by PADOH to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as guidelines for the work to be completed in the coming years. The Integrated Plan has built off of decades of work by many PA residents to improve the lives of persons living with HIV along with reducing HIV infections within the commonwealth. Between September and November, provided the new plan for review internally and HPG received notice that the new five-year plan has been submitted to the CDC prior to the December 9th deadline.

The HIV Planning Group is made up of two main parties; Community Members that apply and are selected to represent the breadth of PA residents affected by HIV, as well as Planning Partners which are relevant agencies of PA government and partner organizations to assist with executing the HPG five year plan. Together these individuals not only develop the five-year plan, but also evaluate and assess its impact throughout the years of coverage.

The HPG is guided by the Vision Statement of the Division of HIV Disease and the National HIV/AIDS Strategy: Pennsylvania will become a place where new HIV infections are rare and when they do occur, every person, regardless of age, gender, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or socio-economic circumstance, will have unfettered access to high quality, life extending care, free from stigma and discrimination.

To learn more about the HPG, check out www.stophiv.com. And you can reach out to the Erie County HIV Task Force for additional details/feedback to provide to the HIV Planning Group.



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WORLD AIDS DAY | 1 DEC 2022



FREE TO THE PUBLIC ~ Refreshments Provided After Program

DOORS OPEN: 5:30pm, PROGRAM STARTS: 6:00pm

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

Program event includes:

AIDS Memorial Quilt panels on display

Guest Speakers, as well as...

"PrEP for HIV" by Adagio Health

HIV Peer Survivor Story by PA Thrive Partnership

**Memorial Names Recognition: Remembrance of those
that have lost their lives due to HIV**

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



MADE POSSIBLE BY
THE ERIE COUNTY HIV TASK FORCE AND
THE ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



Wolf Signs HB 103 Against HIV Advocates Pleas

Erie County HIV Task Force

The first week of November 2022, PA Governor Tom Wolf signed a new law making it a felony to pass on a communicable disease when individuals 'should have known' they already had it. The law, known as HB 103, punishes people with 7 years in prison and \$15,000 in fines for 'expelling' saliva, blood, or another bodily fluid onto a police officer. This law also charges people with a second-degree felony if they knew or 'should have known' they had a communi-

cable disease after transmission to another person. The offense is punishable by up to 10 years in prison and \$25,000 in fines. Communicable diseases under this new law would include HIV as well as hepatitis, influenza, chickenpox, and COVID-19. Yes, if you have COVID-19 and do not know it but infect another person unintentionally, you could be in prison for a decade. Got your attention now?

The bill has been opposed by many national organizations including the Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation, as well as the American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania HIV Justice Alliance, and others including members of the PA HIV Planning Group. As of 2022, 35 states have laws that criminalize HIV exposure, according to the CDC. To learn more about how to work toward reversing this law, visit the PA HIV Justice Alliance online at: facebook.com/PAHIVJusticeAlliance. This article was edited from LGBTQnation.com/2022/11/democratic-governor-signs-law-punishing-hiv-transmission-10-years-prison/



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University** - The Future of
the American Presidency,
with John Dickerson
- **Monday, December 12 at
7:30 p.m. at Gannon
University** - An Evening
with Al Hunt & Judy
Woodruff
- **Tuesday, December 13 at
7:30 p.m. at the Jefferson
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Email: info@pathrive.com



Mobile HIV Testing
Available

Calendar

For latest updates, see www.eriegaynews.com

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

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

Compton's Table Chat and Chill Social Hour for Youth every Monday from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. Register with info@comptonstable.org for location.

Nov 23 (Wed) – LGBTQ+ and Allies Happy Hour – All welcome (Julian's Bar & Grill, 299 Chestnut St, Meadville, PA 16335) 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM.

Nov 23 (Wed) - Zone Thanksgiving Eve (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 8 PM. The Zone will be open normal hours the night before Thanksgiving. Phone: (814) 452-0125. Email: info@thezonedanceclub.com. Browse to <https://thezonedanceclub.com/>.

Nov 24 (Thu) - Zone Thanksgiving (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 8 PM. The Zone will be open from 8 PM to 2 AM for Thanksgiving. Phone: (814) 452-0125. Email: info@thezonedanceclub.com. Browse to <https://thezonedanceclub.com/>.

Nov 25 (Fri) - Black Friday Divas (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 8 PM. After a day of shopping, give your feet (or fingers) some rest and join Misty and her Divas for a sick show! They'll be joined by Bootsie LeFaris from NYC! Doors open at 8pm. Showtime 10pm. \$5 cover. 21+ with valid state-issued ID.

Nov 26 (Sat) - TransFamily of NWPA (Erie) Transgender Support Group Transgiving Potluck (Crime Victim Center of Erie County, 125 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 2 PM - 5 PM. Transfamily will be having our yearly Transgiving event instead of our usual monthly meeting. We will be providing dressings, turkey, mashed potatoes, and gravy. Feel free to bring your favorite dish to share if you'd like. Please make sure to RSVP on our Facebook page. We'll see you there!

Nov 26 (Sat) - Don Julio 70 Tasting Event (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 10 PM - 11:30 PM. Doors open 8 PM. No cover. 21 and over.

Nov 27 (Sun) – Full Spectrum LGBTQIA+ Youth

Peer Support & Social Group (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 5060 Youngstown Poland Rd, Youngstown, OH 44514) 3 PM – 5 PM. Ages 14-17, under 14 with signed parental consent form.

Nov 27 (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/.

Dec 1 (Thu) - World AIDS Day World AIDS Day is held on the 1st December each year and is an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against HIV, show their support for people living with HIV and to commemorate people who have died. World AIDS Day was the first ever global health day, held for the first time in 1988. Browse to <http://www.worldaidsday.org/>.

Dec 1 (Thu) - Connected: A Different Perspective on Erie's "Brain Drain" (Erie Center for Arts & Technology, 650 East Ave. Suite 120, Erie, PA 16503) 7 PM. Connected: A Different Perspective on Erie's "Brain Drain". Featuring panelists: Charles Rush, J.D.; Autumn Parker, M.Ed.; Claye Greene, M.S.; and Regina Gaston, PMP. FREE panel discussion hosted by the Jefferson Educational Society. Please register in advance by visiting our website at www.JESErie.org/ events or by calling our office at 814.459.8000.

Dec 1 (Thu) - Erie County HIV Task Force World AIDS Day Program (Blasco Memorial Erie County Public Library, 160 East Front Street, Erie, PA 16507) 5:30 PM. This year's World AIDS Day program will be reflecting on HIV in Erie County to date while looking toward the future for our community. Refreshments provided. AIDS Memorial quilts on display. Memorial Red Ribbons for HIV / AIDS Awareness will be provided and displayed on the library's front windows for the month of December.

Dec 1 (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.

Dec 2 (Fri) - G2H2 Erie - December Happy Hour (Room 33 Speakeasy & Cafe, 1033 State St, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM - 8 PM. Holiday Happy Hour - All Are Welcome!

Dec 2 (Fri) - Backlog Performs at Sneakers (Sneakers, 100 W Harrison St, Jamestown, NY 14701) 9 PM - 1 AM. Contact: Mary Green. Phone: (716) 484-8816.

Browse to <https://www.facebook.com/sneakersjamestown/>.

Dec 3 (Sat) - Vogue Erie (1843 Buffalo Rd, Erie, PA 16510) 6 PM - 12 AM. Dec 3rd: in honor of World Aids Day! Entry Fee (suggested donations): BEST DRESSED JUST BRING IT - \$100, VIRGIN VOGUE JUST BRING IT - 1 Trophy, New Runway - 1 Trophy, COMMENTATOR VS COMMENTATOR - 1 Trophy, Butch vs Stud Realness - \$100, Everyday Realness - \$100, OTA PERFORMANCE JUST BRING IT - \$ 1,000, OTA RUNWAY JUST BRING IT - \$200, OTA SEX SIREN \$\$\$ - \$100. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1131100401114380/>.

Dec 3 (Sat) - Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus - All Wrapped Up Concert (Lafayette Presbyterian Church, 875 Elmwood Ave, Buffalo, NY 14127) 7:30 PM. The Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus presents a holiday concert, ALL WRAPPED UP, including a range of selections from Baroque to pop/rock and back again. Tickets are \$20 presale and \$25 at the door. Visit thebgmc.org for more information.

Dec 3 (Sat) - Holiday Greetings & Gay Happy Meetings — Renaissance City Choir 2022 Holiday Concert (East Liberty Presbyterian Church, 116 S. Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15406) 7:30 PM. Pittsburgh's LGBTQIA+ chorus is thrilled to invite you to our first in-person holiday concert since 2019! Join Renaissance City Choir for our annual holiday concert. In addition to fun holiday favorites with RCC's signature twist, we'll be joined by special guests Vocal Confluence, Pittsburgh's all-voice barbershop chorus. Tickets: <https://rccpittsburgh.ticketleap.com/rccholiday22/> Can't be here in person? Live stream tickets are also available so you can join in the joy from the comfort of home! Masks are required for all attendees, regardless of vaccination status. East Liberty Presbyterian Church is wheelchair accessible. A sign language interpreter is provided. Please contact accessibility@rccpittsburgh.com with any access concerns. This program is generously supported by Allegheny Regional Asset District, Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council, and Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

Dec 4 (Sun) - Zone Dance Club Presents Drag Brunch (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 12 PM. Doors open 11 AM, show time at noon. Hosted by DJ Tony G and Alysia Wonderland, with Michelle Michaels, Debbie, and Calipso. 21 and over. VIP tickets \$40, premium tickets \$35. Non smoking event..

Dec 4 (Sun) - Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus - All Wrapped Up Concert (Orchard Park United Methodist Church, 3700 S. Buffalo Street, Orchard Park, NY

14127) 3 PM. The Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus presents a holiday concert, ALL WRAPPED UP, including a range of selections from Baroque to pop/rock and back again. Tickets are \$20 presale and \$25 at the door. Visit thebgmc.org for more information.

Dec 4 (Sun) - Urban Ministries and Erie Awareness Outreach Presents World AIDS Awareness Concert (New Life Spirit & Revival Center, 315 E 9th St, Erie, PA 16503) 5 PM. Featuring special guest artist Dorinda Clark-Cole "The Power of Love." Also featuring Wynette McElveen, Mary Glover & Company, Malcolm F. Wilson & Joshua' Generation, Mike Jones, The Collins 4, and Curtis Lewis Jr. Phone: (814) 449-0646. Email: tsoundsproduction@yahoo.com. Browse to <https://www.facebook.com/Erie-Awareness-Outreach-208426856508/>.

Dec 7 (Wed) - Creating Home: A Roundtable Conversation to Discuss LGBTQ+ Elder Housing in Pennsylvania 9 AM - 12 PM. Virtual event. We will be discussing the need for affirming and inclusive housing, and we will explore innovative solutions to housing insecurity experienced by LGBTQ+ elders.

Dec 7 (Wed) - Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) Year End Celebration (Room 33 Speakeasy & Cafe, 1033 State St, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM - 9 PM.



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Dec 10 (Sat) - Human Rights Day <http://www.un.org/en/events/humanrightsday/>.

Dec 11 (Sun) – LBT Women of Erie meets (Zoom) 12 PM – 12:30 PM. Meeting ID: 770 9886 1291. Passcode: F4fwNr. u C

Dec 11 (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/>.

Dec 12 (Mon) – Deadline for Erie Gay News Jan 2023 print edition (#327) Please have all articles, ads, and submissions in by this date. This issue will be released on the evening of Tuesday, Dec 20.

Dec 13 (Tue) - LGBTQ+ Coalition of Ashtabula County Community Meeting (Ashtabula County District Library, 4335 Park Ave, Ashtabula, OH 44004) 6 PM.

Dec 13 (Tue) - Bears Do Dinner #98 (Location TBA) 6 PM. Join the Bears for a casual dinner of food and conversation! Dinner is on your own. Contact: Peter. Phone: (814) 384-9785.

Dec 13 (Tue) - Youngstown PFLAG meets (St. John's Episcopal Church, 323 Wick Ave, Youngstown, OH

44503) 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM.

Dec 15 (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.

Dec 15 (Thu) - When a Child is Worth More than the Worst Mistake He Ever Made (Erie Center for Arts & Technology, 650 East Ave. Suite 120, Erie, PA 16503) 7 PM. Featuring Antonio Howard. FREE lecture followed by a book signing hosted by the Jefferson Educational Society. Please register in advance by visiting our website at www.JESErie.org/events or by calling our office at 814.459.8000.

Dec 17 (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.

Dec 18 (Sun) - Whispering Lake Grove - Yule (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Highway, Erie, PA 16508) 5 PM. Doors open



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at 5:00pm, ritual at 6:00pm and a community potluck following rites.

Dec 18 (Sun) - Holiday FACE Show with Misty Michaels Kall (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 10 PM. Join Misty and the house cast for their annual Holiday show! Come find out! Doors open at 8 pm. Showtime 10:00 pm. No cover. 21+ with valid, state-issued ID.

Dec 20 (Tue) - Erie County HIV Task Force meets (Hybrid) (Erie County Department of Health (ECDH), 606 W 2nd St, Erie, PA 16507) 1 PM.

Dec 20 (Tue) – Erie Gay News folding/distribution work party (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 1932 W 8th St, Erie, PA 16505) 7 PM. Help us get out the new issue. Vounteers appreciated!

Dec 21 (Wed) - Coming Out of The Dark (Journey: Healing Together, 201 W 11th St, Erie, PA 16505) 3 PM - 6:30 PM. Celebrating resilience and post-traumatic growth Phone: (814)636-0821. Browse to <http://www.journeyht.org/>.

Dec 22 (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/>.


Dec 22 (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.

Dec 23 (Fri) - Holiday Divas (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 10:30 PM. Join host Misty Michaels Kall, current Miss Erie Debbie, former Miss Eries and special guests for the kickoff of Christmas weekend. Doors open at 8 PM. Showtime 10:30 PM. \$5 cover. 21+ with valid state-issued id. Phone: (814) 452-0125. Email: info@thezonedanceclub.com. Browse to <https://thezonedanceclub.com/>.

Dec 24 & 25 (Sat & Sun) - Zone Open for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501)

Dec 28 (Wed) – LGBTQ+ and Allies Happy Hour – All welcome (Cussewago Creek Distillery, 993 Water St, Meadville, PA 16335) 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM. *Note new location for even-numbered months!*

Dec 31 (Sat) - Drag in The New Year (Norman D Banquet Center, 2720 Carpenter Rd, Ashtabula, OH 44004) 7 PM - 1 AM. A formal affair to benefit the outreach and education program. Hosted by Mona Lotz. Music by Jeremy James. Tickets are \$65 per person or \$120 per couple and include dinner, dessert, open bar,



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dancing, DJ and drag show, door prize entry, 50/50, and 12 AM champagne toast. Tickets can be requested from LGBTQ Coalition of Ashtabula County web site

Dec 31 (Sat) - New Year's Eve (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 8 PM. Celebrate the end of 2022 and help us ring in 2023! Complementary buffet AND champagne toast at midnight. \$10 cover. 21+ with valid state-issued id. Phone: (814) 452-0125. Email: info@thezonedanceclub.com. Browse to <https://thezonedanceclub.com/>.

Dec 31 (Sat) - M & J's Lounge New Year's Eve Party (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA 16001) Tickets are 20.00 includes food. Limited tickets. Phone: (724) 602-8447. Email: JoshuaSean2009@AOL.COM. Browse to <http://www.facebook.com/MandJsLounge>.

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