



ERIE GAY NEWS

Serving the Regional LGBTQIA+ Community Since 1992



*Enjoying GEAE's 12th Annual Afternoon for Equality.
Photo by Michael Mahler.*

Twelfth Annual Afternoon for Equality by GEAE on June 4

Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) hosted its 12th signature annual event, Afternoon for Equality, at the Watson-Curtze Mansion at the Hagen History Center on Sunday, June 4. This annual event was moved back to June to kick off Pride Month! Guests and sponsors of GEAE gathered together for friendship and equality amongst spring and summer flowers by Potratz Floral Shop & Greenhouses while being treated to heavy Italian/Mediterranean hors' d'oeuvres by Make It Fabulous Catering, music by the Stephen Trohoske Trio, and an open bar. GEAE's board of directors, Cody Empey, president; Kyle Hannon, vice president; Kim Moscatello-Seastone, secretary; and directors Marsha Dietrich-McLean, Darrin Kinander, April Knapp, Carol Rodgers, and Evan Tucker, host this event as a significant fundraiser that helps empower GEAE to support the

region's LGBTQ+ community and its allies through educational programs, social events, and service opportunities. These programs and events strengthen our voice, improve the quality of life in northwestern Pennsylvania, and propel us toward our mission to create a safe and welcoming community for all, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Meadville Pride 2023 on July 29

NW PA Pride Alliance will return to Meadville for Meadville Pride 2023. The date will be Saturday, July 29, from 1 - 5 pm. This event will be held on upper Chestnut Street and Diamond Park and will include a Pride March, street festival, food trucks, and exhibits by local vendors and artists. Opening Ceremonies will feature speakers and performances to be announced later. After the Opening Ceremonies, please join us in a Pride March around Diamond Park to the Street Fair.

Vendor and table requests can be made by filling out the registration form on our website. All vendors are required to bring their own table and/or tents. There is no cost, but you must register. Weights are suggested for all tents as they will be set up on the street.

For more information or to register for a table spot, please visit NWPAPride.org.

TransFamily of NWPA Erie Meetings Moving to Compton's Table Office in July

After pausing regular support group meetings for Pride in June, TransFamily of NW PA will move their Erie meetings to Compton's Table, 3104 State Street, Erie, PA, beginning in July. The Erie meetings are on the fourth Saturday of each month from 2 to 5 PM. Compton's Table office is in the same building as Central Outreach Wellness Center. TransFamily of NW PA additionally has a meeting in Meadville at Empowerment With Grace LLC, 941 Federal Ct Ste 104 (across the street from Julian's Bar

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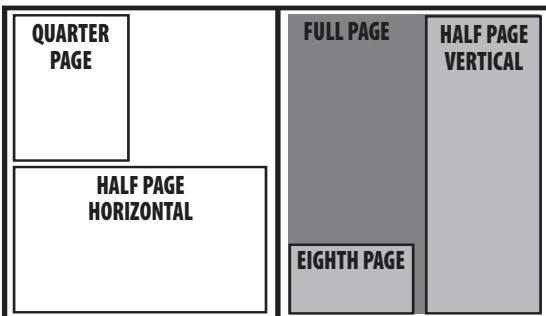
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The *Erie Gay News* is published monthly as a source of news, events, information, and support for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgender people (GLBTs), their families, friends, and supporters in the Erie PA area.

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.

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



AD SIZE	PRICE/ISSUE	DIMENSIONS
EIGHTH	\$50 - \$45 Prepaid	15/8" high X 2 7/8" wide
QUARTER	\$80 - \$72 Prepaid	3 1/2" high X 2 7/8" wide
HALF VERT.	\$150 - \$135 Prepaid	3 1/2" high X 6" wide
HALF HORZ.	\$150 - \$135 Prepaid	7" high X 2 7/8" wide
FULL PAGE	\$250 - \$225 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, Audrey, Jeff Hill, Johauna, Kim Conti, Mulnah Kronis, Rex Apps, and Steve Siwiecki for folding; Brett Staskiewicz, Jeff Hill, Johauna, Kim Conti, Rex Apps, and Steve Siwiecki for distribution; Whee! Design for logo. If you're interested in helping out, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or info@eriegaynews.com.

& Grill) on the second Saturday of the month, from 2 to 5 PM.

Come join the Erie Gladigaytors

Not sure what to do on Monday nights?

Why not come out to Beach 6 on Presque Isle for some friendly fun in the sun volleyball? Right now, the Erie Gladigaytors are planning on starting on Mondays at 7 PM with possibly dinner and drinks afterward.

Potential Rise for New Mpox Cases

Erie County Department of Health, CDC

In the US, mpox cases (formerly monkeypox) have reduced since August 2022. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention gets reports of cases from ongoing transmission in the US. From April 17 to May 5, 2023, a total of 12 confirmed and one probable case of mpox were reported to the Chicago Department of Public Health. All cases were men showing symptoms. None of the patients have been hospitalized. Nine cases were among men who had received 2 JYNNEOS vaccine doses. Vaccination

is one of the best prevention measures. New cases among vaccinated people can occur. People who have completed their two-dose JYNNEOS vaccine series may experience less severe symptoms than those who have not. Anyone, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, who has been in close, personal contact with someone who has mpox is at risk. There are recommended prevention steps and including vaccination if you are exposed to mpox or have a higher risk of being exposed. Vaccination can help protect yourself and your loved ones.

There four steps we can take to protect ourselves from getting mpox are: 1) avoid close, skin-to-skin contact with people who have a rash [which may appear as pimples, blisters, or scabs], 2) avoid contact with objects and materials that a person with mpox has used, 3) wash your hands often with soap and water; especially before touching your face and after using the bathroom, 4) get vaccinated – JYNNEOS is a 2-dose vaccine developed to protect against mpox and smallpox infections. People need to get both doses of the vaccine for the best protection against

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Family Services of NWPA



Jen and Katie - Erie, PA

mpox. The second dose should be given 4 weeks after the first dose. Mpox vaccines are free, but providers may bill a program or plan to cover the mpox vaccine administration fee (like your private insurance or Medicare/Medicaid). To schedule an appointment for the JYNNEOS vaccine approved for prevention mpox, please call Central Outreach Wellness Center Erie [814-619-4009] or the Erie County Department of Health [814-451-6777].

Yellow Brick Roads LGBTQIA+ Ally Organization Forms to Offer Support

By Wayne & Cheri Howard

Raising 2 LGBTQIA+ children was a challenge as we struggled to solidify our own marriage and simultaneously meet the individual needs of our other children. There are a million unanswered questions and lessons to be learned and unlearned. The “Yellow Brick Roads LGBTQIA+ Ally Organization” was created to assist parents, family, and friends of LGBTQIA+ individuals with information to help them better understand and support their loved ones.

It has been said that “The worst thing that you can do is to make someone feel like something is wrong with them just because they are being themselves.” I would like to say to the LGBTQIA+ community that I am sorry for the pain that we have made you feel due to our ignorance and narrow-mindedness. Please use this organization to help strengthen your relationship with your loved ones. The easy-to-access website attempts to provide some basic understanding of the challenges that the LGBTQIA+ community faces. In addition, the website also provides your loved ones with some incredibly good educational material, communication support tools, suggested activities to join the fight, and links to other support resources.

Send your parents, family, and friends to: www.YellowBrickRoads.info

Lotz of Tea Talk Show on Facebook and YouTube

Lotz of Tea with Mona Lotz is back with an all new and improved outlined that’s focused on “Helping Hurting Hearts!” Hostess Mona Lotz and her cohost, Licensed Therapist Large Marge, bring forth topics that many face within the LGBTQ+ commu-

nity. Along with their guest, they discuss the power of overcoming the pain and finding peace within. Join them on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 7PM EST. on Facebook (Lotz of Tea and Mona Lotz page) and YouTube (@lotzofteawithmona232

Warren County Pride Speaks at Be Well Collaborative Luncheon

Warren County Pride, Incorporated (WCPI) was invited to speak at Be Well Collaborative’s monthly luncheon held at the YMCA of Warren County, PA.

Jill Sumner, the vice-president of WCPI, traced the history of WCPI across the past four years and discussed the evolution of the event from a 40-person rally in a tiny corner park to an all-day festival with performers, a live DJ, costume contests, and nearly 100 tables that hosts thousands of people. She talked about the year-round event-planning process and the dedication of the WCPI teams.

Sumner spoke on the history of pride month, including the Stonewall riots. She reviewed the basic LGBTQ flags. She also talked about the importance of allies not only in the general community, but also, in the workplace, and provided some examples of ally-ship.

Erin Wallace, YMCA program coordinator, and collaborative facilitator, went on to discuss the high rate of suicide and attempted suicide among the LGBTQ community, especially LGBTQ youth. Wallace talked about support groups such as the Trevor Project, and why these supports are vital to building safe communities.

Be Well Collaborative was created to address mental wellness using a community care model. They focus on mental health through the use of health wellness for all. The collaborative is a group of like-minded agencies, businesses, and individuals that have joined together to create a network of support within the Warren community and is coordinated through the Warren County YMCA.

Their mission statement reads: Be Well Collaborative elevates well-being among all in mind, body, and spirit by fostering communication and collaboration.

Be Well Collaborative’s vision statement: Be Well Collaborative is the hub connecting people in a thriving community.



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4th Crawford County Pride

The 4th Crawford County Pride, hosted by Glenn Tuttle for Meadville City Council, The Libertarian Party of Crawford Pennsylvania, and Adam Leute, will be the first, best, and only Pride celebrating Crawford County. This year's event brings even more businesses, non-profits, food trucks, Odd Atrocity, DJ Jerod Miller, Voter registrations with nominations, family-friendly activities, and an amazing drag show hosted by Misha Michael and friends. Come one, come all to the best and brightest "GayDay" in Crawford County on July 8th, 2023, from 12:00 pm to 7:00 pm in Diamond Park. We look forward to seeing you there.

Sweet Treats at Romolo Chocolates

By *Steve Simviecki*

Looking for a sweet treat? Go no further than Romolo Chocolates. I had the opportunity to talk with owner Tony Stefanelli, chocolatier, about this longtime business. Tony's grandfather, Romolo Stefanelli (for whom Romolo's is named), immigrated to the United States in the early 1900's settling in New York City. In 1926, he and his wife Elizabeth moved to Erie and opened Stefanelli's Candies. It was from his grandfather that Tony learned the art of the chocolatier. In 1993 Stefanelli's Candies was sold outside of the family. Unable to carry on his grandfather's business then, he and his wife Jennie opened Romolo Chocolates a year later in a 3000-square-foot space on West 12th Street. In 2003 they moved the business to a 14,000-square-foot space at its current location



Romolo Chocolates. 1525 W 8th St, Erie PA. Photo by Andrea Shaffer.

in the Frontier Park area. After several expansions, they now occupy a 30,000-square-foot space at that location, adding the Cocoa Cafe and the Mercato Gift Shop to the site. Thanks in part to COVID, they have also expanded their shipping operations.

A family business, Tony's two sons work to carry the business into the future. His son Anthony works as a chocolatier, and his son Roman works as a cook, preparing all those delicious insides. Tony's wife, Jennie, is the chef for the cafe. She and her staff prepare a wide range of treats that are available at the cafe. In keeping with the traditions established by Romolo, they insist on using the best ingredients for both their candy and cafe products, even if they have to spend a little more. Following these traditions, a piece of Romolo candy made today will taste exactly like it did when the store first opened. In addition to baked goods, they also serve ice cream made on site at the cafe. While most ice cream made in the U.S. goes through a process that adds air to the mixture,

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more flavor in the end product.

Tony takes pride in his diverse workforce, and there is no room for intolerance. On a brief tour of the facilities, I saw a clean, well organized, and friendly work environment. So if you are looking for a sweet treat or some nice gifts, or you just want to relax with a cup of coffee at the cafe, visit Romolo Chocolates at 1525 West 8th Street from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM Saturday, and 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM Sunday. (And save some sponge candy for me!)

Community Spotlight #7: Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE)

What began as Erie Gay Pride, Inc in 2006 evolved in 2011 to become the Greater Erie Alliance for Equality. Under the leadership of Bob Howden and Patrick Smith, with the new name came a new focus as well.

The Greater Erie Alliance for Equality, Inc. (GEAE) is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the region's LGBT 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.

GEAE offers competency training to businesses and organizations throughout our region. These are programs which work to ensure businesses are a safe and welcoming place for customers/clients regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Companies that have taken advantage of this training in the region are GE Transportation, Erie Insurance, Scott Enterprises, Visit Erie, and Presque Isle Downs & Casino. There have also been symposiums hosting local workers addressing many topics regarding the LGBT community.

In continuing the conversation of equality for all and helping to better connect the LGBTQ community to one another and provide support, GEAE formed a regional Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) for LGBTQ youth, as well as hosting educational events for seniors and networking opportunities with other like-minded organizations.

One of the highlights of the year for GEAE is the Afternoon For Equality which was recently held on Sunday, June 4 at the Watson-Curtze Mansion

The advertisement for Whee! PRIDESHOP features a vibrant design with a rainbow background. At the top left, the text "Whee! PRIDESHOP" is displayed in a mix of red and black fonts, with a yellow exclamation point. Below this is the website "wheepride.shop" and a QR code. The central focus is on "LOCAL QUEER DESIGNER" with two images: a woman in a purple "Support Local Drag" t-shirt and a man in a black "QUEER" t-shirt. To the right, there are images of "HAWAIIAN SHIRT PRIDE DESIGNS" and two women in "SEATTLE PRIDE" and "PORTLAND PRIDE" t-shirts. At the bottom, it says "DESIGN, APPAREL, GIFTS, AND MORE" with social media handles for Facebook (/WheePride) and Instagram (@wheepride). A rainbow flag is visible at the bottom left of the ad.

in Erie.

If you would like to donate to help with any of these initiatives, or to find out more about GEAE's upcoming events, check out their website greatereriealliance.org, or like and follow them on Facebook.



GEAE board members at Afternoon for Equality on June 4, 2023. Photo by Michael Mahler



Community Spotlight is a monthly series in which Erie Gay News features a group in our community. Next month: LGBT Funds of The Erie Community Foundation!



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Aging with Pride Social at Oasis Pub on June 8

Aging with Pride held their kickoff social event on June 8, 2023 at Oasis Pub and Tiki Bar, 3122 W Lake Rd, Erie, PA, 16505. About 25 people attended, and Aging with Pride was thrilled at the turnout. Aging with Pride continues to have variety of meetings and events, including a planning meeting two Sundays a month at 1 PM at Lake Erie Counseling, 1932 W 8th St, Erie PA, a book club the third Saturday of the month at Werner Books, 3514 Liberty St, Erie PA, and other events. The next Aging with Pride social will be July 27 from 6 to 8 PM at Oasis Pub and Tiki Bar. Be sure to stop by their table at Pride Fest on June 24, at Meadville Pride and Street Fair on July 29, and at the 30th Annual Erie Pride Picnic on August 12 at the Rotary Pavilion at Presque Isle. Aging with Pride is an organization of senior LGBT+ members and allies, that develops and sponsors social/recreational and educational events to promote healthy leisure activities, community, and an active, enjoyable lifestyle.



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Erie Pride Picnic 2023

This event is free and open to the public, so bring your buns down to the beach and see what's cooking!

The NW PA Pride Alliance would like to invite you to join us for the family-friendly and open to all ages 30th Annual Pride Picnic on Saturday, August 12th, at the Rotary Pavilion at Presque Isle (near Beach 7 - which is handicap accessible) from 1 - 6 pm.

This event is sponsored by Central Outreach Erie, and they will be providing HIV and STI testing.

Food will be served from 2 - 4 pm. Note that state law does not permit alcohol in the park, and we respectfully ask that you abide by the rules set forth by Presque Isle State Park for everyone's safety.

Be sure to check in at the registration table when you arrive. We will take the annual Family Portrait around 4:30 pm, right before the raffle, and there will also be roving photographers.

If your group or organization wants to set up an info table, please register at NWPAPride.org. There is no charge for an info table, but bending at the park is not permitted. If you can bring your own table, that is very much appreciated, but not required.

As always, there will be a collection for the Second Harvest Food Bank of NW PA (non-perishable, Please, and thank you!)



Hanging out at G2H2 on June 2 at Piertop 6 Rooftop and and Restaurant. Photo by Michael Mahler.

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

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.

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.

Erie Gladigaytors Monday Night Volleyball every Monday from 7-9 PM. Join us at Beach 6 on Presque Isle for some friendly fun in the sun volleyball! Right now we are planning on starting at 7pm with maybe dinner and drinks afterward. We need at least 8 players in order to play so feel free to invite others to group.

Zone Monday Night Karaoke with DJ Nitro at The Zone, 133 W 18th St, 9 PM-midnight.. No cover. 21+ with valid state-issued ID.

Zone Trivia Wednesdays, 133 W 18th St, Erie PA. Hosted by Rebecca Mae, no cover, free to play (bring a charger cell phone), and amazing prizes! Doors open at 8 pm. Trivia begins at 9 pm. No cover. 21+ with valid state-issued ID.

Zone Flamin' Fridays, 133 W 18th St, Erie PA. A weekly drag show hosted by Rebecca Mae with different special guests every week! Showtime at 10:30pm!

Jun 1 - 30 (Thu - Fri) - LGBT Pride Month June is celebrated as Pride in honor of the Stonewall Riots, though Pride events occur all year round. It also marks the month that same-sex marriage was legalized in the United States.

Jun 21 (Wed) - Journey: Healing Together - Out & Proud - A Solstice Celebration (Journey To A Trauma Informed Life, 201 W 11th St, Erie, PA 16505) Sun Salutations yoga, contribute to the community mosaic panel, make a sun catcher (children and adults), intention setting fire rituals... all throughout the day. Visit <https://journeyht.org/pride-summer-solstice/> for details

Jun 23 - 25 (Fri - Sun) - Cowboy Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729) Cowboy Weekend is all about the dancing, the food and the boys. Save a horse and ride a cowboy with us.

Jun 24 (Sat) - Back To The 80's Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Evening sponsored by Rob & James. Phone: (724)

637-2402. Browse to <http://campdavispa.com/>.

Jun 24 (Sat) - Erie Pridefest and Pride Parade 2023 (Perry Square, 6th and State Streets, Erie, PA 16507) 11 AM - 5 PM. See article on front page

Jun 24 (Sat) - Erie Sisters & Brothers Annual Victorian Princess Dinner Cruise (Victorian Princess, 1 State St, Erie, PA 16507) 3:30 PM. Join us and take in the beautiful scenery of Presque Isle Bay as you enjoy the delicious dinner buffet on the three tier Victorian Princess paddle boat. \$44.00 per person includes Cruise and Buffet dinner (does not include alcoholic beverages).

Jun 25 (Sun) - Drive your Pride 2023 (Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr #1, Erie, PA 16505) 1 PM - 3 PM. Phone: (814) 314-9075. Venue Phone: (814) 835-1384. Email: president@nwpapride.org. Browse to <http://www.nwpapride.org>. RSVP/Register/Tickets at <https://www.facebook.com/events/551850307103059>. Browse to venue web site <http://trempi.org/>.

Jun 25 (Sun) - Full Spectrum LGBTQIA+ Youth Peer Support & Social Group meets (The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Youngstown, 1105 Elm Street, Youngstown, OH 44505) 3 PM - 5 PM. Ages 14-17, under 14 with signed parental consent form. Phone: (234) 254-8924.

Jun 25 (Sun) - Full Spectrum LGBTQIA+ Adult Peer Support Group meets (The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Youngstown, 1105 Elm Street, Youngstown, OH 44505) 6 PM - 8 PM. Ages 18+.

Jun 26 (Mon) - Aging With Pride planning meeting (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 1932 W 8th St, Erie, PA 16505) 7 PM.

Jun 27 (Tue) - National HIV Testing Day National HIV Testing Day (NHTD) was first observed on June 27, 1995. NHTD is a day to encourage people to get tested for HIV, know their status, and get linked to care and treatment. #HIVTestingDay Browse to <https://locator.hiv.gov/>.

Jun 28 (Wed) - Stonewall Riots Anniversary

Jun 28 (Wed) - NW PA Pride Alliance LGBTQIA and Allies Happy Hour (Cussewago Creek Distillery,

Jun 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. Phone: (716) 661-9044.

Jun 28 (Wed) - NW PA Pride Alliance LGBTQIA and Allies Happy Hour (Cussewago Creek Distillery, 993 Water St, Meadville, PA 16335) 5:30 PM - 9 PM. ALL are WELCOME. This is a time to network and socialize with the LBGTQ community and allies in the Meadville area. An RSVP would be appreciated by not necessary. All are welcome so please share and spread the word! Don't forget to bring your business cards for exchange.

Jun 29 (Thu) - Pride Night with the Erie Seawolves (Erie Seawolves/UPMC Park, 110 E 10th St, Erie, PA 16501) 6:05 PM. Get a limited edition ballcap when you purchase your ticket through nwpapride.org.

Jun 29 (Thu) - Teen Trans support group meets (G.A. Family Services, 210 Gustavus Ave, Jamestown, NY 14701) 5 PM. Contact: Kaden Mason. Phone: (716) 708-6161. Email: kmason@lutheran-jamestown.org. Browse to <http://gafamilyservices.org/>.

Jun 30 - Jul 4 (Fri - Tue) - Independence Day & Canada Day Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)

Jul 1 (Sat) - Red, White & Blue Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219)

Jul 3 (Mon) - Camp Davis Peach Peekers (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219)

Jul 3 - 7 (Mon - Fri) - Vacation Week - July (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)

Jul 5 (Wed) - Harborcreek Historical Society: Collecting Harborcreek's History (Harborcreek Township Building, 5601 Buffalo Rd, Harborcreek, PA 16421) Featuring Melinda Meyer, MBA. Free lecture 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.

Jul 7 (Fri) - Journey: Healing Together - LGBTQ+ Affirmative Game Night (Journey: Healing Together, 201 W. 11th Street, Erie, PA 16501) 5 PM. Gather around 5pm for a couple of hours to geek out with fellow gamers. Ages 18+ choose from a variety of board, card, dice, games. As the group grows, smaller groups can split off and play different games. There are plenty of quiet spaces available to regroup for those of us who can get over stimulated sometimes. Hosted by Eric Reiche, Milo Orr, and Leo Ferko, there are opportunities to meet up with friends new and familiar. We are definitely an LGBTQ+ affirming space! Allies and Accomplices welcome! \$5 suggested donation. Phone: (814) 867-5309. Browse to <https://journeyht.org/>.

Jul 7 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour) meets (Sloppy Duck Saloon, 726 Bayfront Bikeway # 1, Erie, PA 16507) 6 PM - 8 PM. June Happy Hour - All Are Welcome!

Jul 7 - 9 (Fri - Sun) - Survivor Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)

Jul 8 (Sat) - Twinkie With A Dinky (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219)

Jul 8 (Sat) - 4th Annual Crawford County Pride (Diamond Park, Meadville, PA 16335) 12 PM - 7 PM.

Jul 8 (Sat) - TransFamily of NWPA (Meadville) Transgender Support Group meets (Empowerment with Grace, 941 Federal Ct Ste 104, Meadville, PA 16335) 2 PM. For GPS use: the address is 296 Chestnut Street - it's the old post office building. Our entrance is on the side of the building, off of Federal court (which is the smaller side street.) We are basically across the street from Julian's. Contact: Raven Jane Cammarata. Venue Phone: (814) 332-0359. Email: transfamilynwpabod@gmail.com. Browse to <https://transfamilynwpa.org/>.

Jul 9 (Sun) - Aging With Pride planning meeting (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 1932 W 8th St, Erie, PA 16505) 1 PM. Planning meetings are open to anyone interested in helping to plan activities for Aging with Pride. Meetings generally run about 2 hours

ABC's

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Jul 10 (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.

Jul 11 (Tue) - LGBTQ+ Coalition of Ashtabula County Community Meeting (Ashtabula County District Library, 4335 Park Ave, Ashtabula, OH 44004) 6 PM. Join us for our monthly meetings: a safe place for discussion, understanding, and community. Learn about the current activities of the Coalition and how you can participate. Connect with others in the LGBTQ+ Community in Ashtabula County. All are welcome who come in the spirit of inclusivity, diversity, equality, and nonjudgement.

Jul 10 (Tue) - Youngstown PFLAG meets (St. John's Episcopal Church, 323 Wick Ave, Youngstown, OH 44503) 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM.

Jul 13 (Thu) - From Erie to Broadway: A Local Writer's Journey and Lessons Learned (Erie Center

for Arts & Technology, 650 East Ave. Suite 120, Erie, PA 16503) 7 PM. Featuring Visiting Speaker Lenore Skomal, M.A. Please register in advance by visiting our website at www.JESErie.org/events or by calling our office at 814.459.8000.

Jul 14 (Fri) - 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 14 - 16 (Fri - Sun) - Illumination Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)

Jul 14 - 15 (Fri - Sat) - Kristmas Kink Weekend (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219)

Jul 14 - 30 (Fri - Sun) - RENT (Academy Theatre, 275 Chestnut St, Meadville, PA 16335) La Vie Boheme! Jonathan Larson's iconic Pulitzer Prize-winning musical that shaped a generation of audiences and taught us all to measure our life in love.

Jul 15 (Sat) - Deadline for Erie Gay News August 2023 print edition (#333) (Erie Gay News, 1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA 16502-1105) Please have all articles, ads, and submissions in by this date. This issue will be released on the evening of Tuesday, Jul 25

Jul 15 (Sat) - Journey: Healing Together - LGBTQ+ Crafternoon (Journey: Healing Together, 201 W. 11th Street, Erie, PA 16501) 11 AM - 2 PM. CottageCore and Curious Crafter's alike are welcome! Journey: Healing Together hosts a casual time of crafting and conversation. Crafting is a great anxiety reducer and being around great people while you're creating is even better! We are a Queer-Affirming space so LGBTQ+, Allies and Accomplices are welcome! \$5 suggested donation per person or \$10 max per family (Children welcome, although we do not provide any childcare or facilitation). Phone: (814) 867-5309. Browse to <https://journeyht.org/>.

Jul 15 (Sat) - Aging with Pride Book Club - Metropolitan Life by Fran Liebowitz (Werner Books, 3514 Liberty St, Erie, PA 16508) 1 PM. Werner Books offers a 20% discount on books purchased for the book club.

Jul 16 (Sun) - Journey: Healing Together - Banned Book Club (Journey: Healing Together, 201 W. 11th Street, Erie, PA 16501) 2 PM - 4 PM. Phone: (814) 867-5309. Browse to <https://journeyht.org/>.

Jul 17 (Mon) - Guide to Local Archaeology (Lincoln Community Center Library, 1255 Manchester Road, Erie, PA 16505) 6 PM. Featuring John Sites. Free lecture 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

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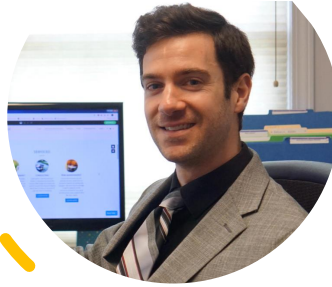
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Jul 18 (Tue) - Erie County HIV Task Force meets (Hybrid) (Erie County Department of Health (ECDH), 606 W 2nd St, Erie, PA 16507) 1 PM. The Erie County HIV Task Force is a collaboration of local organizations and individuals dedicated to educating, supporting, and advocating for people living with HIV/AIDS and preventing the spread of infection.

Jul 18 (Tue) - Bears Do Dinner #105 (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.

Jul 18 (Tue) - Marquis de Lafayette's Visit to Northwestern PA 200 Years Ago (Corry Higher Education Council, 221 N. Center St., Corry, PA 16407) 6 PM. Featuring JES Scholar-in-Residence, Judy Lynch, Ph.D. Please register in advance by visiting our website at www.JESErie.org/events or by calling our office at 814.459.8000.

Jul 19 (Wed) - The Complicated Saga of Downtown Erie's Transitway Mall (Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St, Erie, PA 16508) 7 PM. Featuring Ed Whitbred, B.S. Please register in advance by visiting our website at www.JESErie.org/events or by calling our office at 814.459.8000.

Jul 20 (Thu) - Queer Open Mic (Compton's Table, 3104 State St, Erie, PA 16508) 6 PM - 10 PM. Come hang out at our monthly open mics hosted by the awesome, talented, and slaying Gwen Elaine! FREE! BYOB (wrist bands provided for anyone with alcohol). if you want to register as a performer, email info@comptonstable.org Contact: Gwen Elaine. Phone: (814) 580-8185. Browse to <https://comptonstable.org/>.

Jul 20 (Thu) - New Americans: Demographic Trends and Immigration Patterns in Erie, PA (Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St, Erie, PA 16508) 7 PM. Featuring JES Scholar-in-Residence, Baher Ghosheh, Ph.D. Please register in advance by visiting our website at www.JESErie.org/events or by calling our office at 814.459.8000.

Jul 20 (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.

Jul 21 - 23 (Fri - Sun) - 3rd Annual Naked Games (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219)

Jul 21 - 23 (Fri - Sun) - Bear Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)

Jul 22 (Sat) - TransFamily of NWPA (Erie) Transgender Support Group meets (Compton's Table, 3104

State St, Erie, PA 16508) 2 PM - 5 PM. Meetings are hosted at Compton's Table, 3401 State St, Erie PA. All current CDC, state, and local guidelines for meeting indoors will be observed. Meetings are always confidential and completely free.

Jul 23 (Sun) - Aging With Pride planning meeting (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 1932 W 8th St, Erie, PA 16505) 1 PM. Planning meetings are open to anyone interested in helping to plan activities for Aging with Pride. Meetings generally run about 2 hours with coffee and light refreshments provided. Use the entrance at 1934 W 8th.

Jul 23 (Sun) - Full Spectrum LGBTQIA+ Youth Peer Support & Social Group meets (The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Youngstown, 1105 Elm Street, Youngstown, OH 44505) 3 PM - 5 PM. Ages 14-17, under 14 with signed parental consent form. Phone: (234) 254-8924.

Jul 23 (Sun) - Full Spectrum LGBTQIA+ Adult Peer Support Group meets (The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Youngstown, 1105 Elm Street, Youngstown, OH 44505) 6 PM - 8 PM. Ages 18+.

Jul 24 (Mon) - Is the Lake Erie Yellow Perch Heading Toward Extinction? (Lincoln Community Center Library, 1255 Manchester Road, Erie, PA 16505) 6 PM. Featuring JES Scholar-in-Residence, David Frew, Ph.D. Please register in advance by visiting our website at www.JESErie.org/events or by calling our office at 814.459.8000.

Jul 25 (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 print edition of Erie Gay News.

Jul 25 (Tue) - A Tribute to Erie Civic Leader, William "Bill" Sennett (Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St, Erie, PA 16508) 7 PM. Featuring JES Scholar-in-Residence, David Frew, Ph.D. Please register in advance by visiting our website at www.JESErie.org/events or by calling our office at 814.459.8000.

Jul 26 (Wed) - LGBTQ+ and Allies Happy Hour - All welcome (Julian's Bar & Grill, 299 Chestnut St, Meadville, PA 16335) 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM.

Jul 27 (Thu) - Teen Trans support group meets (G.A. Family Services, 210 Gustavus Ave, Jamestown, NY 14701) 5 PM. Contact: Kaden Mason. Phone: (716) 708-6161. Email: kmason@lutheran-jamestown.org. Browse to <http://gafamilyservices.org/>.

Jul 27 (Thu) - Aging with Pride Social (Oasis Pub, 3122 W Lake Rd, Erie, PA 16505) 6 PM - 8 PM. Aging with Pride, an organization of senior LGBT+ members and allies, is hosting a social. This organization develops and sponsors social/recreational and educational

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events to promote healthy leisure activities, community and an active, enjoyable lifestyle. They are sponsoring this social hour (OK, social two hours) to interact with members of the community and to get a sense of the types of activities that are of interest to senior LGBT+ individuals.

Jul 27 (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. Phone: (716) 661-9044.

Jul 27 (Thu) - What is Afrocentrism?-A Look at World History through a Different Lens (Erie Center for Arts & Technology, 650 East Ave. Suite 120, Erie, PA 16503) 7 PM. Featuring JES Scholar-in-Residence, Parris Baker, Ph.D. Free lecture 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.

Jul 28 - 30 (Fri - Sun) - Studio 54 Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)

Jul 29 (Sat) - Meadville Pride and Street Fair (Diamond Park, Meadville, PA 16335) 1 PM - 5 PM. NWPAs Pride Alliance will return to Meadville for Meadville Pride 2023. 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 NWPAs Pride President Alex Sphon, speakers and performers to be announced at a later date. After the Opening Ceremonies, please join us in a Pride March around Diamond Park to the Street Fair.

Jul 29 (Sat) - Luminary Weekend with The Hashers (Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers, PA 16020-1219) Special guests: The Pittsburgh Hashers. Midnight Show Crawl.

Jul 31 - Aug 4 (Mon - Fri) - Vacation Week - August (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)

Jul 31 - Aug 4 (Mon - Fri) - Vacation Week - August (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)

Aug 4 - 6 (Fri - Sun) - Mardi Gras Weekend (Jones Pond Campground & RV Park, 9835 Old State Rd, Angelica, NY 14709-8729)

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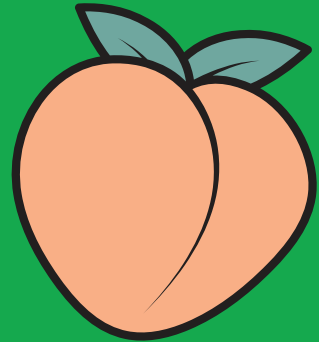
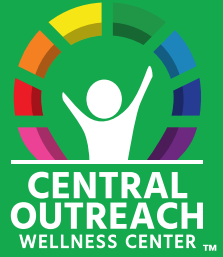
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