



ERIE GAY NEWS

Serving the Regional LGBTQIA+ Community Since 1992



Greeting arrivals at Warren County Pride on June 15. Photo by Michael Mahler

Warren County Pride on June 15

The North PA Ghostbusters kicked off the fifth annual Warren County Pride Day (WCPD) at Betts Park in Warren, Pennsylvania, on June 15th, 2024. The event featured Buffalo's Willa DeWhisp, Jamestown's Miss Kimzie, Que Queer, Telly Tease, Pittsburgh's Ms. Kristy Kreme and XNX Kameleon, and Warren's Miss Jessica Rabbit.

Sara Culver, president of Warren County Pride Incorporated (WCPI), the group coordinating WCPD, said, "People were well-entertained, and it was 100% family friendly. It had an uplifting, empowering theme throughout the acts."

The all-ages event included costume contests, games, a live DJ, and BINGO hosted by Ms. Kristy Kreme. Hoop artists Brandy Welch and Transcendence circulated among over 3,500 tri-state region attendees and over 70 agencies and vendors. Paws Along the River Humane Society brought adoptable dogs and kittens to their tree-shaded grassy spot; one dog was adopted, and many applications were received. Michael Kenton Mahler of the Erie Gay News declared WCPD to be an absurdly wholesome and entertaining event.

Ms. Kristy Kreme and XNX Kameleon were selected as 2024 WCPD Queen and King, respectively. "Warren County Pride is an amazing event run by an amazing team, and with an amazing community backing it," 2024 WCPD Queen Ms. Kristy Kreme said. WCPD talent coordinator Chad Schuler said, "I am proud to produce a family-friendly show for all to enjoy, and I thank all of the performers for their hard work."

Two after-hours shows were featured at Struthers Library Theatre, and an aftershow party was held at Jamestown's Sneakers bar.

Erie Dems LGBTQ Caucus New Leadership

The Erie County Democratic Party LGBTQ Caucus will be under new leadership. Mr. Michael Mahler (he/him) has stepped down as chair, passing the torch to Dr. Tyler Titus (they/them), as appointed by Democratic County Chair Sam Talerico. Mr. Mahler's tenure was marked by steadfast advocacy for LGBTQ rights and ensuring the community's representation within the party. Dr. Titus, who currently serves as the Secretary for the Democratic State Committee LGBTQ Caucus, expressed enthusiasm about building on Mr. Mahler's legacy. They are committed to maintaining equity as a central theme in all party discussions and actions, ensuring that the progress made will continue to grow. Contact Dr. Titus at tylertitusLPC@gmail.com

Meadville Pride and Street Fair

NW PA Pride Alliance will return to Meadville for Meadville Pride 2024 and be held on the upper Chestnut Street and Diamond Park from 1 to 5 PM.

Opening ceremonies will be hosted by NW PA Pride Alliance President Alex Sphon and will feature local speakers and performers. Following the Opening Ceremonies, please join in a Pride March around Diamond Park to the Street Fair. At the Street Fair, you can shop and receive information from over 60 vendors, including crafters, local organizations, and food vendors. For more info go to nwpapride.org.

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Erie Gay News

1115 West 7th St.

Erie PA 16502-1105

(814) 456-9833

Fax: (440) 551-5985

info@eriegaynews.com

www.eriegaynews.com

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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

Rates & Data

QUARTER PAGE	FULL PAGE	HALF PAGE VERTICAL
HALF PAGE HORIZONTAL	EIGHTH PAGE	

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, Kim Hackbarth, Michael Mancinelli, Nelly, Reba Hackbarth, Rex Apps, Sarah, and Steve Siwiecki for folding; Brett Staskiewicz, Jeff Hill, Johauna, Kim Conti, Rex Apps, Sarah, 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.

13th Annual Afternoon for Equality by GEAE on June 2

Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) hosted its 13th signature annual event, Afternoon for Equality, at the Watson-Curtze Mansion at the Hagen History Center on Sunday, June 2. Guests and sponsors of GEAE gathered together for friendship and equality. Stephen Trohoske Trio performed cool jazz music, and there was an open bar. President Cody Empey mentioned educational presentations that GEAE is planning for this fall. Christopher Wrobel, Erie Food Co-op Human Resource Manager, also spoke about coming out at work and supporting LG-BTQ employees. Fairness Pennsylvania's new State Director, Sarah Hammond, discussed the importance of activism and shared Fairness Pennsylvania's plans for advancing LGBTQ equality. GEAE hosts 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.

31st Annual Pride Picnic at Rotary Pavilion

NW PA Pride Alliance will host the 31st Annual Pride Picnic at the Rotary Pavilion on Presque Isle (near Beach 7) from 1 to 6 PM on Saturday, August 10th.

This event is free and open to the public. While NW PA Pride Alliance will provide meat and beverages, they ask individuals to bring something to share. What you bring could be as simple as a bag of chips, a tray of cookies, or even a dish you have made.

Food will be served from 2 to 4 PM. Note that state law does not permit alcohol in the park, and NW PA Pride Alliance respectfully asks that you abide by rules the good folks at Presque Isle State Park have set for everyone's safety.

Be sure to check in at the registration table when you arrive and all the groups and organizations with information tables set up around the pavilion. The traditional family picture will be taken around 4:30 PM, followed by drawing the raffle baskets.



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PA Equality Project Goodwill Fundraising Donation Drive

Pennsylvania Equality Project will be hosting a fundraising donation drive in cooperation with Goodwill of Northwest Pennsylvania on Saturday, July 13, from 11 AM until 5 PM at Diamond Park in Meadville. The fundraising drive will happen during the Crawford County Pride event.

PA Equality Project is asking all donors to bring their gently used blankets, clothing items, shoes, small kitchen appliances, books, toys, games, jewelry and more to Diamond Park, where attendants from Goodwill will help load them into 4 cubic foot totes. Each filled tote will provide \$50 to Pennsylvania Equality Project, which will in turn be used to purchase equipment for PEP Radio, Pennsylvania's first LGBTQ+ radio station.

For further information about this fundraising drive, please contact David Moore at dmoore@paequality.com.

Nanoparticles in HIV Vaccine?

from Erie County Department of Health

Over the past 40 years of the HIV epidemic, scientists have been trying to find a way to prevent HIV from infecting cells. Researchers made a nanovaccine as a new way to fight HIV infections. This new study looks at making the immune system respond with B cells to make antibodies that stop HIV. HIV quickly evolves making it hard to target. Researchers created immunogens on nanoparticles to start producing antibodies for a large number of HIV variants. The animal study showed how to make a future vaccine that allows our immune system to prevent HIV infections. This is promising research news as we look for new ways to prevent future cases of HIV around the globe. [Source: Vaccination induces broadly neutralizing antibody precursors to HIV gp41 | Nature Immunology]

The Erie County Department of Health tests for STIs and HIV. We can help you learn about treatments here in Erie County. Would you like some FREE condoms? We provide free condoms and lubricants to clients in our Sexual Health Clinic. Weekly clinic is Tuesdays 9am-11am and Wednesdays 1pm-3pm. For more info, give us a call at the Erie County Department of Health, 814-451-6700.

Entertainment Notes

Melissa Etheridge and Indigo Girls will be performing at Chautauqua Institute Amphitheatre August 16th, 2024 @ 7:30 pm \$2 from every single ticket will go to the co-headliners charities: Etheridge Foundation and First Peoples Fund. <https://www.chq.org/event/melissa-etheridge-and-indigo-girls/> Also, upcoming documentaries: Melissa Etheridge's "I'm Not Broken" documentary premieres July 9 on Paramount+ <https://www.memorabletv.com/news/paramount-announces-melissa-etheridge-im-not-broken-docuseries-for-july-9/> Indigo Girls doc "It's Only Life After All" is now streaming on Amazon Prime, Google Play, Fandango, and Apple. <https://www.multitudefilms.com/its-only-life-after-all>

Cyndi Lauper's Girls Just Wanna Have Fun Farewell Tour will be in Columbus, Ohio November 3 at the Schottenstein Center at 7 pm <https://cyndilauper.com/> Also her documentary "Let the Canary Sing" was released and is now streaming on Paramount+

LGBTQ+ History Prize awarded at National History Day in PA

The LGBT Center of Central PA and the LGBT History Network sponsored the third annual LGBTQ+ History Prize at National History Day in Pennsylvania, held on April 21 at the University of Scranton.

The top prize of \$500 went to Chloe Thompson in the senior high school division, from Upper Darby Senior High School, Upper Darby, PA, for their website titled "The turning point of LGBTQ+ media." Their teacher is Susan Beck.

Two honorable mention awards of \$150 each were also presented. One went to Miah Skelly, in the senior high school division, from North East High School, North East, PA, for their paper titled "LGBTQIA+ Turn to Justice: How Trans-People of the 1970s Address the Court System." Their teacher is Morgan Gully.

The second honorable mention went to Nevaeh Govan and Toby Jacobs in the senior high school division from Constitution High School, Philadelphia, PA, for their group documentary titled Stonewall Riots: Turning Point in Queer History. Their teacher is Jennifer Luneau.

The judges were Liz Bradbury of Allentown and Randal Baron of Philadelphia. Congratulations to the winning students.

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Vermont is the only other state in the nation that we know of that has a similar statewide LGBTQ+ history prize for their state competition for National History Day.

5th Annual Crawford County Pride

The 5th Annual ORIGINAL Crawford County Pride will be on Saturday, July 13, 2024, from 12:00 - 5:30 PM at Diamond Park Square, Meadville, PA. Join us for a fun day at this family-friendly event, with Vendors, Live Concerts by Odd Atrocity and Nancy Boys, Pride Drag Showcase hosted by Cher Michaels, Rebecca Mae, Mona Lotz, and more!

There will also be a fundraiser for Epilepsy Foundation Of America, hosted by Scents2Love, as well as a food and pet supply drive for Crawford County Humane Society, accepting aet food, new supplies, clean blankets (for bedding), and cash donations! Parking around Diamond Square (while availability lasts.)

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The Mental Health Association of Northwestern PA (MHA) is an organization founded and operated by people served in the mental health and drug & alcohol systems. MHA serves mental health consumers over 18 years of age residing within Erie County. Some services we provide are:

- **Consumer Recovery/Drop-In Center**
- **Peer Navigators at the Blasco Library**
- **Peer Support Services**
- **Consumer Family Satisfaction Team**
- **External (Patient) Advocate at Warren State Hospital**

The Consumer Recovery Center provides the opportunity for adults who are consumers of mental health services to interact with peers in social, educational, and recreational activities in an environment in which they feel safe and respected.

Activities/services provided include but are not limited to:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Free daily lunch | Arts & Crafts |
| Free access to WIFI | Laundry facilities |
| Computer lab | Shower facilities |
| Bowling field trips | Movie field trips |
| Game, pool, and Card Tournaments | Grocery Shopping |
| N/A and A/A Group Meetings | Locker Facilities |

Consumer Center Hours of Operation:

Monday: 9:00 AM – 3:45 PM
Tuesday: 9:00 AM – 3:45 PM
Wednesday: 10:00 AM – 3:45 PM
Thursday: 9:00 AM – 3:45 PM
Friday: 9:00 AM – 3:45 PM

MHA Mission Statement

The Mental Health Association provides support and advocacy to those in Recovery – to be themselves and to feel accepted and connected to others with shared experiences.

Calendar

For latest updates, see www.eriegaynews.com

Live & Let Live is an LGBTQA-friendly AA meeting that meets every Sunday, at 7PM, at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, 1603 W 32 St. Erie PA 16508. For more information, visit www.aaeriepa.org or contact jmwilliams3603@aol.com or (814) (814) 844-2600.

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 Tuesday Game Night, 133 W 18th St, Doors open at 8 PM. Bring your own game or use ours. (Must submit an ID for us to hold while game is in use.) Happy hour 8-10 PM. \$1 off bottled beers. \$2 well drinks. No cover. 21 & over with ID.

Zone Trivia Wednesday Night, 133 W 18th St, Hosted by Rebecca Mae. Doors open at 8 pm. Play right on your phone! Fabulous prizes! Trivia begins at 9:30 pm. Happy hour 8 PM-10 PM. \$1 off bottled beer. \$2 well drinks. No cover. 21+ with valid state-issued ID.

Zone Fierce Fridays 2.0, 133 W 18th St, 10:30 PM. With special guests every week. Doors open at 8 pm. \$5 cover. 21+ with valid state-issued ID.

Jun 1 - 30 (Sat - Sun) - 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 26 (Wed) - DIY Pride Craft Night (Werner Books & Coffee, 3608 Liberty St, Erie, PA 16508) 5 PM - 7:30 PM. Get ready for Pride with us! Personalize your own buttons, signs, clothes, and other essentials! Some materials provided, but we encourage you to bring your own as well!

Jun 26 (Wed) - LGBTQ+ and Allies Happy Hour - All welcome (Cussewago Creek Distillery, 42243 Water St., Meadville, PA 16335) 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM.

Jun 27 (Thu) - 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

Jun 27 (Thu) - Aging with Pride Social Hour & Fundraiser (Primanti Brps Restaurant and Bar, 5800 Peach St, Erie PA) 6 PM. Primanti Bros. is donating 20% of checks (excluding alcohol) to Aging with Pride. Must present flyer when ordering in-person or online.



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Jun 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. Browse to <http://gafamilyservices.org/>.

Jun 27 (Thu) - Pride Night with the Erie Seawolves (UPMC Park, 110 E 10th St, Erie, PA) 6:05 PM. Join NWPA Pride Alliance and cheer on the Erie Seawolves as they take the field for Pride Night! First pitch: 6:05 PM. Tickets: \$30 (includes a limited-edition Pride t-shirt!) Get yours at the NWPA Pride Alliance website

Jun 28 (Fri) - Stonewall Riots Anniversary To remember the Stonewall Riots that are described as the start of the Trans and Gay Liberation Movement in the United States. It's a day for people to remember the biracial lesbian and drag king Stormé DeLarverie whose scuffle with the police started the rebellion, and the trans woman of colour Marsha P. Johnson who would have thrown the first brick.

Jun 29 (Sat) - Olean's Pride in the Park (War Veterans Park, 551 E State St, Olean, NY 14760) 12 PM - 4 PM. COLORS and Veronyca's Showgirls collaborate with Cattaraugus County Pride Coalition. Veronyca's Showgirls to grace the stage at 230p. Hosted by: Veronyca DeVaine-Paige and Justin Tyme (Mr. Northeast USofA MI Classic 2024) Performances by Justin, Dakota, Landen, Willow, Damian, and Camden Summers (Mr. Gay Virginia United States MI)

Jun 29 (Sat) - Pride On The Bay (Liberty Park, Lawrence Pier, Erie, PA 16507) 12-6 PM.

Jun 29 (Sat) - Erie Roller Derby's Pride Double-header (Bayfront Convention Center, 1 Sassfras Pier, Erie, PA 16507) 4:30 PM. ERD is bringing you more derby than ever this year, and you're not going to want to miss it! Join us for our Pride Month double header. Doors open at 4:30pm, and our first game starts at 5:30 pm. Tickets are \$10 in advance, and kids under 10 are always free!

Jun 29 - 30 (Sat - Sun) - Why We Sing! Renaissance City Choir Pride Concerts (East Liberty Presbyterian Church, 116 S. Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15406) 4 PM. Join the Renaissance City Choir as we celebrate the reason behind Why We Sing, PRIDE! Love is Love is Love and we welcome you to join us as we sing together. This concert features a world-premiere piece written by choir member Amy Vermillion with music by Artistic Director Dr. Kym Scott. This concert will round out your PRIDE month with a high note.

Jun 30 (Sun) - Erie Pride Parade Line up noon, step off 1 PM

Jul 3 (Wed) - Erie's Queer Happy Hour (Oasis Pub, 3122 W Lake Rd, Erie, PA 16505) 6 PM - 9 PM. This event will be held in the backroom at Oasis. This event

is open to everyone. However, those under 18 years of age will need a guardian to attend. In accordance with State law, only those 21+ can have alcoholic beverages.

Jul 3 (Wed) +++ - LGBTQ+ Drum Circle (St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 410 North Main Street, Jamestown, NY 14701) 7 PM - 8:30 PM.

Jul 4 +++ (Thu) - Lotz of Tea with Mona 7 PM. With co-host Large Marge. Live streaming on Facebook, YouTube, and TikTok. Browse to <https://www.facebook.com/LotzofTea>.

Jul 5 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour) meets (Sloppy Duck Saloon, 726 Bayfront Bikeway # 1 Erie, PA) 6 PM - 8 PM. All Are Welcome!

Jul 5 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour) meets (Sloppy Duck Saloon, 726 Bayfront Bikeway # 1 Erie, PA) 6 PM - 8 PM. All Are Welcome!

Jul 5 (Fri) - My Heart Will Go On: A Celine Dion Tribute (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 10:30 PM. Join us at The Zone for an unforgettable night of entertainment! We're celebrating America's Independence Day in a unique way - with a tribute show to Canada's own Celine Dion. Hosted by the sensational Debbie Does Drag, this drag show promises to be a night of incredible performances and non-stop fun. Our star-studded lineup includes Debbie Does Drag, Vivian Vendetta-Sinclair (National Miss Comedy Queen 2024), Batonya Dumplin, Misty Michaels Kall, and Snarebear. Doors open at 8 pm, and the show starts at 10:30 pm. With a \$5 cover charge, this is the perfect way to keep the holiday spirit alive. Must be 21 and over with a valid ID. What better way to celebrate America's Independence Day than with a tribute to a Canadian icon? Join us for a night filled with music, laughter, and unforgettable drag performances. Don't miss out on the fun - come early and grab your spot for a night you won't forget!

Jul 7 (Sun) - Aging with Pride planning meeting (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 1932 W 8th St, Erie, PA 16505) 1 PM - 3 PM. Planning meetings are open to anyone interested in helping to plan activities for Aging with Pride.

Jul 7 (Sun) - Full Spectrum LGBTQIA+ Youth Peer Support & Social Group meets (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 660 W Earle Ave, Youngstown, OH 44511) 4 PM - 6 PM. Ages 14-17, under 14 with signed parental consent form.

Jul 9 (Tue) - ASCEND Erie Queer Scouts Climbing Club (ASCEND Erie, 426 State St, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM - 8 PM. Queer Scouts is an LGBTQ+ climbing club with the goal of creating connection and a safer and more inclusive community. Just look for the Queer Scout mascot, the tiny rainbow unicorn! Bring your

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Jul 9 (Tue) - TransFamily of NWPA (Meadville) Transgender Support Group meets (Empowerment with Grace, 941 Federal Ct Ste 104, Meadville, PA 16335) 6:30 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.

Jul 9 (Tue) - PFLAG of Chautauqua meeting (Secret Undisclosed Location, 100 E 2nd St 2nd Floor, Jamestown, NY 14701) 6:30 PM. PFLAG of Chautauqua, a support group for allies, loved ones and the entire Queer community. Please visit our Facebook group, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/594395124695283>, or email PFLAGCHQ@GMAIL.COM or call (814) 313-4495 for details.

Jul 9 (Tue) - Youngstown PFLAG meets (St. John's Episcopal Church, 323 Wick Ave, Youngstown, OH 44503) 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM.

Jul 10 (Wed) - Aging with Pride Game Night (Werner Books & Coffee, 3608 Liberty St, Erie, PA 16508) 5-8 PM. Bring games and/or cards with you or just come to play what others bring.

Jul 13 (Sat) - 5th Annual Crawford County Pride (Diamond Park, Meadville, PA 16335) 12 PM - 5:30 PM. It will feature vendors, non-profits, two bands this year, a DJ, activities, and a drag show featuring local queens from our area. This is a family-friendly event for all to celebrate diversity and inclusion in the free market and the community.

Jul 13 (Sat) - M & J's Lounge Drag Show (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA 16001) We are a BYOB establishment. Cover charge \$6.00. We sell mixers. No outside mixers are permitted

Jul 14 (Sun) - 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 (Sun) - TransFamily of NWPA Summer Picnic 2024 (Presque Isle State Park Perry Monument Pavilion, 301 Peninsula Dr #1, Erie, PA 16507) 12 PM - 5 PM. Join us in celebrating another year of creating and supporting trans joy and family bonds at our annual summer picnic! We will be at the Perry Monument Pavilion this year, site 007. We provide drinks, hot dogs, hamburgers, and vegan options. Bring your favorite dish to share! Contact us if you have any questions!

Jul 15 (Mon) - Deadline for Erie Gay News August 2024 print edition (#345) (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, July 23.

Jul 16 (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 17 (Wed) - Bears Do Dinner #117 (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 (Thu) - LGBTQIA+ Recovery Support Group (UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Safe Harbor, 1330 W 26th St, Erie, PA) 5 PM - 6 PM. Our mission is to provide a supportive and empowering space for LGBTQIA+ individuals who are dealing with sub-

stance use disorders. We strive to create an inclusive, strengths-based community where participants can find understanding, acceptance, and inspiration to overcome any challenges they may be facing. Through support, education, and resources, we aim to foster personal growth, resilience, and long-term recovery. For more information about the LGBTQIA+ Recovery Support Group, please call 814-451-2247.

Jul 18 (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

Jul 18 (Thu) - Lotz of Tea with Mona 7 PM. With co-host Large Marge. Live streaming on Facebook, YouTube, and TikTok. Browse to <https://www.facebook.com/LotzofTea>.

Jul 19 (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.



On Saturday, June 8, 2024, Jamestown Pride held their annual Pride in downtown Jamestown NY. Photo by Michael Mahler.



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Mental Health Awareness Month

In the LGBTQ+ community, mental health is not just a personal concern; it's a vital aspect of community well-being. Facing stigma, discrimination, and societal pressures, LGBTQ+ individuals often contend with unique challenges that can significantly impact their mental well-being. From navigating identity acceptance to confronting prejudice and facing inequalities in healthcare, the journey toward self-acceptance and authentic living can be fraught with emotional turmoil. Therefore, fostering a supportive environment that embraces diversity, promotes acceptance, and provides accessible mental health resources is essential. Acknowledging and addressing the intersectionality of identities within the LGBTQ+ community is crucial for promoting mental health equity and ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to thrive and live authentically.

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G2H2 held their monthly get together on Friday, June 7, at Pier 6 Rooftop Bar & Restaurant, 6 Sassafras Pier, Erie, PA.

Jul 19 (Fri) - Benefit Show for Danyel Vasquez (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Benefit show for Danyel Vasquez (former Miss Erie) to go to National Showgirl pageant

Jul 20 (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).

Jul 20 (Sat) - Aging with Pride Book Club - Kit & Basie by Tess Carletta (Werner Books & Coffee 3608 Liberty St, Erie, PA 16508) 1 PM. Werner Books offers a 20% discount on books purchased for the book club.

Jul 20 (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 21 (Sun) - Aging with Pride planning meeting (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 1932 W 8th St, Erie, PA 16505) 1 PM - 3 PM. Planning meetings are open to anyone interested in helping to plan activities for Aging with Pride.

Jul 21 (Sun) - Journey: Healing Together - Gentle Yoga with Serene Bear Yoga (Journey: Healing Together, 201 W. 11th Street, Erie, PA 16501) 5 PM.

Jul 23 (Tue) - ASCEND Erie Queer Scouts Climbing Club (ASCEND Erie, 426 State St, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM - 8 PM. Queer Scouts is an LGBTQ+ climbing

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Family Services of NWPA



Jen and Katie - Erie, PA

club with the goal of creating connection and a safer and more inclusive community. Just look for the Queer Scout mascot, the tiny rainbow unicorn!

Jul 23 (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. Volunteers are very much welcome and needed!

Jul 24 (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 25 (Thu) - Aging with Pride Dinner (Wooden Ladle Ramen & Rice Bowl, 4753 West Lake Rd, Erie, PA 16505) 6 PM. Aging with Pride, an organization of senior LGBTQ+ members and allies, is meeting for dinner. Everyone is on their own for the meal.

Jul 25 (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. Browse to <http://gafamilyservices.org/>.

Jul 27 (Sat) - Meadville Pride and Street Fair (Diamond Park, Meadville, PA 16335) 1 PM. Join the celebration at Meadville Pride! Festivities kick off with an Opening Ceremony at 1 PM, followed by a vibrant Pride Street Fair from 2 PM - 5 PM along Chestnut Street. The event will feature live entertainment, local vendors, and community organizations. It's a day to celebrate diversity, promote inclusivity, and have fun with friends and family. Whether you're marching, volunteering, or simply enjoying the festivities, your presence supports the spirit of Pride in Meadville!

Jul 27 (Sat) - TransFamily of NWPA (Erie) Trans-gender 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.



On Thursday, May 30, 2024, Aging With Pride held its annual monthly dinner at Underdog BBQ, 2714 W 8th St, Erie, PA.



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