



ERIE GAY NEWS

Serving the Regional LGBTQIA+ Community Since 1992



Erie community comes out to celebrate the annual Erie Pride Parade organized by NW PA Pride Alliance on Sunday, June 30th, along State Street. Photo by Andrea Shaffer

Pride Flag Vandalized at Moxi Salon

On June 27, as Pride month was about to end, a petty vandalism of a pride flag occurred at Moxi Salon on W 8th Street. Owner Sarah McMillan was informed that the pride flag adorning the front of her salon had been ripped down.

McMillan prides her salon to be an all-inclusive establishment that has not lost focus following the petty vandalism. To help combat the passive-aggressive response that motivated the nameless individual(s), McMillan went as far as to donate to the Northwest Pennsylvania Pride Alliance. One senseless action replaced one with respect and dignity. It is a testament to the resilience of our allies who help carry our message of inclusivity throughout the community.

Aging with Pride Pampered Chef Fundraiser

The local Aging with Pride group is doing a Fundraiser with Pampered Chef. Anyone can make a Pampered Chef purchase using the following link, and Pampered Chef will donate 30% of the sales to Aging with Pride (Erie). Orders must be placed by Thursday, August 29, 2024. The Online Order Link

is: www.pamperedchef.com/party/agingwithpride

In addition, there is a Facebook Group for the Fundraiser. The PC Consultant, Pete Genco, will post information about products, special sales, recipes, and other food/cooking tips. You are most welcome to join the Facebook Group:

Aging With Pride Erie - Fundraiser with Pampered Chef | Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/7989367477793276>)

Orders are processed on the day the order is placed and will ship directly to you! Questions, please text or email Pete Genco, 814.384.9785 / pcunclepete@gmail.com

Poetry Mixer at French Creek Coffee & Tea

The Pennsylvania Equality Project will be holding a mixer for the LGBTQIA+ community and our allies at French Creek Coffee and Tea, 285 Chestnut Street, Meadville, from 1 to 3 PM on Saturday, August 17. Coffee, tea, and light refreshments will be provided. Guests are welcome to bring poetry selections that they would like to share with the group. PA Equality Project President, David Moore said that this event is intended to be a non-alcoholic alternative for bringing together the community in Crawford and surrounding counties. For more information, go to our website, <https://paequality.com> or call (814) 350-6635.

Compton's Table Back To School

As Erie Gay News was going to press, the annual Compton's Table and Macy's Back to School dates had not been finalized. Sources indicated that it will most likely be the third week in August. After confirming the dates, Compton's Table will have more information on its website and social media pages. This event helps get Erie queer students to get free backpacks with school supplies and gently used clothing. Also, Macy's will open its doors to Compton's Table for the third year and welcome selected youth to a private shopping event with store credit! You read that right - free clothes & private shopping event!

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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	1 5/8" 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, Deb, Jeff Hill, Johauna, Kim Conti, Laurie Finch, Maggie Watts, Rex Apps, Sarah, and Steve Siwiecki for folding; Brett Staskiewicz, Deb, Jeff Hill, Johauna, Kim Conti, Rex Apps, and Steve Siwiecki for distribution; Wheel! Design for logo. If you're interested in helping out, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or info@eriegaynews.com.

A Night of Celebration and Support: “40 Shades of Purple”

On June 21st, Compton’s Table celebrated with a vibrant gathering at the “40 Shades of Purple” event, marking the 40th birthday of our founder. This special evening brought together over 130 attendees, including community members, supporters, and advocates, all united in our mission to empower queer youth and young adults.

The event was not only a celebration but also a powerful platform to highlight the various free programs and services offered by Compton’s Table. The goal to elevate awareness about the importance of celebrating and supporting trans and nonbinary people while they are alive resonated throughout the evening. Guests enjoyed exquisite culinary delights prepared by La Bella’s and Sundae Desserts. The musical lineup featured the talented Matt Texter and DJ Adam Holquist, who filled the air with lively tunes that kept the energy high. The highlight of the entertainment was the spectacular performances by drag queen Rebecca Mae, adding a sass and glamour.

The generosity of several local businesses and artists, who donated items to the raffle and silent

auction, played a crucial role in the success of the fundraiser. Thanks to their contributions and the spirited participation of the guests, the event raised several thousand dollars, which will directly support Compton’s ongoing efforts to create a welcoming and supportive environment for queer individuals.

“Compton’s extend a heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us for the “40 Shades of Purple” event. Your support and enthusiasm not only made the night memorable but also reinforced Compton’s commitment offering free services to reach our mission and vision. We look forward to continuing our work together, empowered by the community’s unwavering support.” said Founder and Board Chair, Dr. Tyler Titus (they/them)

Pride Day at Waldameer Park and Water World

Bring your friends and family to celebrate summer with the NW PA Pride Alliance at Waldameer Park and Water World on Sunday, August 11. You can purchase discounted tickets for \$35 (regularly \$48) at nwpapride.org.

The main park will open at noon, and Water



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World will be open from 11 AM to 7 PM. NW PA Pride Alliance has reserved the Coaster 2 pavilion, and you can pick up reserved tickets there on the morning of the event. You must pick up your tickets by 4 PM on the event day. You can also use the picnic area there throughout the day. Please note that if you want to grill, you must bring your own supplies.

Waldameer Park and Water Work are also cashless, so all purchases inside the park require a Credit/Debit or Wally Card, which can be purchased at the park or ahead of time on their website.

FreeShop 2024, Fall Edition

The Pennsylvania Equality Project will be holding Fall FreeShop at the Meadville Public Library on Friday, September 27 from 12:30 PM – 4:30 PM and on Saturday, September 28 from 10 AM – 4 PM. We are seeking donations of food, clothing, blankets, non-perishable food items, kitchen items, books, toys, games, etc. both days of the event. Anyone who needs the donated items can take what they like for free during both days of the event. There is no cost for admission to this event. FreeShop 2024, Fall Edition is being held at the Meadville Public Library

in the Community Room on the Upper floor, 848 North Main Street, Meadville, PA 16335. For more information, go to our website, <https://paequality.com> or call (814) 350-6635.

US House Proposes Cuts in HIV Funds

from Erie County Department of Health

Recently, the US House Appropriations Committee advanced on a party-line vote a legislative package that would slash funding for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for fiscal 2025 by \$7.5 billion, or 6.4 percent, below the fiscal 2024 level. The bill cleared the committee 31 to 25 and now heads to the full House, which is scheduled to vote on it before August. The House's proposal drastically reducing funding to Title X, the Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative, and other critical programs, as well as the House's inclusion of language restricting access to abortion, limiting care for LGBTQ individuals, and drastically restructuring the National Institutes of Health. This bill would cut the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) injury prevention program and its opioid overdose preven-

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Español

2024

English: bit.ly/2024lgbtq Español: bit.ly/2024lgbtq_s

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The US Senate is expected to mark up its version of the Labor-HHS bill before August and has allocated additional funds for non-defense discretionary funding compared to the House. The final negotiations on the Fiscal Year 2025 Labor-HHS bill are not expected until after the November elections this year. When the current fiscal year ends on September 30th, programs will likely be funded under a continuing resolution at the current Fiscal Year 2024 levels through sometime in December late this year. While work is progressing to reduce the number of HIV infections in the US, taking away money from valuable programs makes it harder for people working in HIV care and prevention to continue making improvements.

The Erie County Department of Health uses Federal and State funding to provide free testing 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 9 am-11 am and Wednesdays 1 pm-3 pm. For more info, call us at the Erie County Department of Health at 814-451-6700.

LBT Women's Picnic September 7

The annual LBT Women's Picnic is just around the corner, scheduled for September 7 at Kim and Andrea's home. This event promises good conversations, delicious food, and enjoyable activities for all attendees.

Whether catching up with old friends or making new ones, the picnic provides the perfect setting for building connections within the LBT community. With a warm and inclusive ambiance, everyone is encouraged to join in and feel at ease.

Water and a small selection of other beverages will be provided. However, if you have a specific drink preference, please bring it along. If you can, attendees are encouraged to bring a dish to share. To ensure your comfort throughout the event, consider bringing a chair of your preference.

For those seeking further details and updates about the event, check out the LBT Women of Erie Facebook page. This will be your go-to source for any additional information, last-minute announcements, and the opportunity to connect with others attending.

We look forward to seeing you there!



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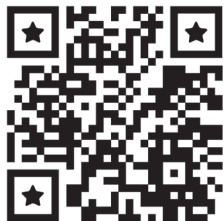
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Local Queer Nonprofits Participate in Erie Gives 2024

Erie Gives will take place on Tuesday, August 13, from midnight to midnight. This is a great day to help your favorite nonprofits. Last year, a record \$8.2 million was donated to 492 nonprofits. The local LGBT nonprofits participating in this year's campaign are Compton's Table, Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE), Journey: Healing Together, The LGBT Community Endowment, and NW PA Pride Alliance.

The minimum gift is \$25. There is no limit to the amount of money you may give. There is no limit to the number of nonprofits you can donate to in a transaction. For more information, go to eriegives.org.

14-Year-Old Transgender Girl Pauly Likens Brutally Murdered in Western PA

from Pennsylvania Youth Congress

SHARON, Pa. Mercer County officials have confirmed that Pauly Likens, a 14-year-old transgender girl from Sharon who was last seen on June 22, 2024, has been found brutally murdered. The Mercer County Coroner announced on Wednesday that the dismembered human remains found on June 25, 2024 around the Shenango River Lake by Pennsylvania State Police were of Pauly Likens. The Coroner shared that she died by sharp force trauma to her head before being sawed into pieces and abandoned in locations around the lake. DaShawn Watkins, a 29-year-old man from Sharon, was arrested by State Police on July 2, 2024, and has been charged with first-degree murder, abuse of a corpse, aggravated assault, and tampering with physical evidence involving Likens' death. He is being held without bail at the Mercer County Prison. The suspect's preliminary hearing has been rescheduled for July 25, 2024. Today, July 6, 2024, would have been Pauly's 15th birthday.

Police executed a search warrant at the suspect's apartment on July 2, 2024, when blood was found throughout the unit following preliminary tests, as well as a receipt for a purchase of a saw on June 23, 2024. According to reporting from WFMJ 21, the suspect told police he arranged to meet someone that evening through a dating app, and that police used Pauly's phone tracking to place her at the Budd Street

Public Park and Canoe Launch in the early morning hours of June 23, 2024, with security footage appearing to show someone waiting for another person.

Preston Heldibridle, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Youth Congress said "We are beyond outraged and devastated at Pauly's murder. She was just 14 years old and should have had the opportunity to live a beautiful life ahead of her. Our hearts are shattered for her family and friends. We call on law enforcement to press for the highest charges they can make and to ensure there is a conviction so the man who murdered Pauly never sees freedom again."

See the full text of this article online at ErieGayNews.com

Compton's Table Starting Another True North Cohort

Compton's Table is starting another True North cohort beginning September 3 for four consecutive Tuesdays from 6-8 pm. True North is a program for young queer people who are building up their independence. It is entirely free! Register at <https://comptonstable.org/truenorth>

Mother Nature vs Pride & Safety

OpEd by Gary Snyder

The challenge with bringing together our LGBTQIA+ family for pride is that inevitably we cannot make everyone happy. That was apparent before, during, and after this year's Pride on the Bay 2024 Pridefest hosted by Northwest PA Pride Alliance. Ultimately a concern for the safety of attendees, vendors, and volunteers due to a tornado watch resulted in ending the delayed event. As someone who has hosted, organized, coordinated, participated in, and volunteered with gatherings from a handful to thousands of people, this was not easy nor could it be.

Over the past few years, Erie's Pridefest has grown immensely. So much so, Perry Square as the host venue became difficult to manage from a crowd flow and overall safety perspective. Last year SWAT vehicles were deployed in response to protest activities reported at other prides in the United States. Prior to this year, Liberty Park was a consideration but consistently was booked the same date for another event. That changed for 2024. Months of research for multiple venues was conducted for a comparison of options that would allow the event to not only grow in size, but also address the growing safety needs of

thousands of attendees.

When it comes to working with teams of staff from Public Safety, Emergency Response units, Law Enforcement, and beyond, the ability to assure everyone has an opportunity to be proud without concern for harassment or harm gets very complex. This included contractually mandated security detail, establishing safety checks, while accounting for constant updates from the National Weather Service, and balancing the wants / needs of sponsors, vendors, entertainers, and volunteers.

This is all behind-the-scenes and not really seen or known by the public that lines up to be seen, heard, accepted, and welcomed at Pride. And honestly, they shouldn't have to think much about these things. We take a lot for granted during public activities when we show up to have a good time. And yes, it is completely fair to be critical when things do not turn out like we want or meet expectations.

Immediately after making the decision to cancel the event for everyone's health and safety, online opinions began posting. You should have... Well I would've... Absolutely we that volunteered to organize / manage the event could have done things differently. No one is perfect and to expect as much is futile. Ultimately a tough call was made that broke many hearts including myself and others that were soaked to the bone working to pull off a new version of Pridefest for Erie County.

My hope is that lessons learned from this year will inform the development of future events. This could include contingency plans for outdoor activities that have to quickly pivot to contractual indoor venue spaces with either sponsors or the attendees incurring the costs. Celebrating pride can be joyful but it takes human power, involvement, and in today's society – funding to make it happen. It usually takes rain to make a rainbow, let's shine on.



Aging With Pride Dinner at Primanti Bos on June 27. Photo by Michael Mahler.



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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.

Starts August 7! 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.

Starts August 21! Zone Flawless Fridays, 133 W 18th St, 10:30 PM. This season featuring fabulous drag performers from across the nation! Plus special nights you don't want to miss! Doors open at 8 pm. \$5 cover. 21+ with valid state-issued ID.

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 26 (Fri) - Journey's 5th Anniversary Celebration (Journey To A Trauma Informed Life, 201 W 11th St, Erie, PA 16505) 5 PM - 8 PM. Join us to celebrate Journey's 5th anniversary, a trauma-focused therapy collective dedicated to the new global majority: BI-POC, Q+, and New American communities. We've created a safe space for those historically marginalized from mainstream treatment, serving Erie and beyond. And we want to celebrate with YOU! Sundae Vegan

Desserts & Ice Cream Truck, Light Refreshments, Photo Booth with Props, Small Plant Station, Jenga & Connect 4 Competitions (with prizes), Pong Tournament (bragging rights, of course!) Come celebrate our achievements together and future goals!

Jul 27 (Sat) - Pride In July Block Party (Erie Pride 365, 3104 State St, Erie, PA 16508) 12 PM - 6 PM. June is over. Our Pride isn't. Music, Queens, food trucks, vendors. All ages. Admission is free.

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) 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 28 (Sun) - Valley LGBTQIA+ and Ally "Family Reunion" Picnic (Scholl Park Pavilion, Bears Den Rd. & Normandy Dr., Youngstown, OH 44511) 1 PM - 6 PM. Join Mahoning Valley Queer Action for a free fun day, an affirming and inclusive "family reunion" style picnic celebrating our awesome Valley LGBTQIA+ community. All affirming folx are welcome! Scholl Pavilion is an awesome part of Mill Creek Park on the West Side of Youngstown. It has a great, accessible pavilion, large ball field, active playground, rudimentary toilets, and a splash zone Note: We are a family friendly LGBTQIA+ event - we need folx under 18 to be with a parent or guardian. Thanks for understanding! Thanks to the Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley, we will have affirming and wonderful security staff on site as well, so everyone can be maximally relaxed.

Aug 1 (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 substance 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.

Aug 4 (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.

Aug 4 (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.

Aug 7 (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.

Aug 7 (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>.

Aug 9 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour) meets (The Cove Bay-Side Restaurant & Tavern, 2 State St, Erie, PA 16507) 6 PM - 8 PM. August Happy Hour.

Aug 10 (Sat) - 31st Annual Erie Pride Picnic (Rotary Pavilion at Presque Isle, 301 Peninsula Drive, Suite 1, Erie, PA 16505) 1 PM - 6 PM. Join us for a relaxed Pride Picnic! Enjoy food, drinks, raffle baskets, family portraits, and good company. Feel free to bring a dish to share for a potluck-style celebration. It's a great opportunity to connect with the community, enjoy the beautiful surroundings, and celebrate Pride in a laid-back, welcoming atmosphere. Don't miss out on this family-friendly event!

Aug 10 (Sat) - Erie Sisters & Brothers Transgender Group Bimonthly Meeting (Motel 6, 7455 Schultztz Rd, Erie, PA 16509) 5 PM - 9 PM. Changing rooms will be available if needed

Aug 11 (Sun) - Pride Day at Waldameer Park and Water World (Waldameer Park & Water World, 220 Peninsula Dr, Erie, PA 16505) 11 AM - 7 PM.

Aug 12 (Mon) - Deadline for Erie Gay News August 2024 print edition (#346) (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, August 20.

Aug 13 (Tue) - Bears Do Dinner #118 (Location TBA) 6 PM. Join the Bears for a casual dinner of food and



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conversation! Dinner is on your own. Contact: Peter. Phone: (814) 384-9785.

Aug 13 (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 authentic self and enjoy an evening of climbing and fun! We'll climb some walls and get to know each other. Club meetups are open to allies as well! Enjoy a discounted day pass when you attend a club meetup, and look out for our FREE QFTW Affinity Sessions every other month. No climbing experience is necessary, and your climbing shoes and chalk rental are free the first time you visit ASCEND. Check out the full club's schedule at AscendClimbing.com/programs/community/community-schedule

Aug 13 (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.

Aug 13 (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.

Aug 13 (Tue) - Youngstown PFLAG meets (St. John's Episcopal Church, 323 Wick Ave, Youngstown, OH 44503) 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM.

Aug 14 (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.

Aug 15 (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 substance 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.

Aug 15 (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

Aug 16 (Fri) - Drop Dead Gorgeous: The 23rd Presentation of Miss Erie (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 8:30 PM. Join us for Drop Dead Gorgeous: The 23rd Presentation of Miss Erie at The Zone Dance Club on Friday, Aug 16th! Sponsored by the Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE), this glamorous drag pageant promises a night of elegance and excitement. Doors open at 7 pm, with the pageant kicking off at 8:30 pm. Our fabulous host, Misty Michaels Kall, will guide you through a dazzling evening featuring performances by a stellar lineup of former Miss Eries. Contestants will compete in the categories of "Drop Dead Gorgeous" presentation, talent, and evening wear. Don't miss this spectacular night of competition, beauty, and entertainment!

Aug 17 (Sat) - Aging with Pride Book Club - The Gift of Years by Joan Chittester (Werner Books &

insightSalon

ERIE'S CHOICE AWARDS 2024 FINALIST
LOCALLY OWNED SINCE 2020

"THE SALON IS
BEAUTIFUL,
BUT ALSO
COMFORTABLE
AND
WELCOMING"
-TANHA

"THE VIBE IS
EXCELLENT.. AND
I'M ALWAYS
AMAZED AT THE
CUTTING EDGE
STUFF THEY'RE
DOING HERE"
-MICHELLE

"AMAZING STAFF
WHO REALLY
TAKE PRIDE IN
WHAT THEY DO"
-CARRIE



MILLCREEK MALL, ERIE PA
814-866-6777
@INSIGHTSALONERIE
INSIGHTSALONERIE.COM

MONDAY-SATURDAY
10 AM-9 PM
SUNDAY
11 AM- 6 PM



Transgender History Month

This year marks the inaugural Transgender History Month, a time dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the rich history, struggles, and achievements of the transgender community. This significant month provides an opportunity for education, reflection, and solidarity as we honor the past and work towards a more inclusive future.

Transgender History Month is an initiative that aims to:

1. **Acknowledge Contributions:** Highlight the contributions of transgender individuals in various fields, including the arts, sciences, politics, and activism.
2. **Promote Understanding:** Increase awareness and understanding of the transgender experience, fostering empathy and acceptance within the broader community.
3. **Honor Pioneers:** Celebrate the pioneers who have fought for transgender rights and visibility, paving the way for future generations.
4. **Address Challenges:** Draw attention to the ongoing challenges and discrimination faced by the transgender community, advocating for continued progress and equality.

Crime Victim Center (CVC) stands in solidarity with the transgender community during this important month. We are committed to providing resources and support to transgender individuals who have experienced crime or discrimination.

125 West 18th Street 814-455-9414 cvcerie.org



Zachary Honess of
PacelineFinancialLLC.com

Helping the LGBTQ+ Community set the
PACE for ...

- Asset Transition
- Income Readiness
- Starting up
& Starting Over
- Building Wealth
& Wealth
Management



zhoness@ae.cadaretgrant.com
814-734-0377
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Coffee 3608 Liberty St, Erie, PA 16508) 1 PM . Werner Books offers a 20% discount on books purchased for the book club.

Aug 17 (Sat) - PA Equality Project Poetry Mixer at French Creek Coffee and Tea (French Creek Coffee and Tea Co., 285 Chestnut St, Meadville, PA 16335) 1 PM - 3 PM. We are hosting a social mixer and poetry reading time. We will provide coffee, tea, and light refreshments. Other beverages and food options are available on the main level. We will be in the conference room and have opportunities to use the adjacent library at the event. No charge for the event.

Aug 17 (Sat) - Colors Unity Family Picnic (Bethany Lutheran Pavilion, 6 Leo Moss Dr, Olean, NY 14760) 2 PM - 5 PM. COLORS will provide the hot dogs and condiments. This is a family event where children are present. Alcohol is not permitted. Non-member price is \$3 single, \$5 couple, \$7 family/poly. BYO(non-alcoholic)B and dish to pass. Please check the comments on the Colors Unity Facebook page to see how many are attending and what others are bringing. RSVP by commenting on your Facebook post with what you are bringing by August 10

Aug 18 (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.

Aug 20 (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



On Saturday, July 14, 2024, TransFamily of NW PA held their annual picnic at Presque Isle. Photo by Michael Mahler.

and individuals dedicated to educating, supporting, and advocating for people living with HIV/AIDS and preventing the spread of infection.

Aug 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 print edition of Erie Gay News. Volunteers are very much welcome and needed!

Aug 24 (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.

Aug 27 (Tue) - ASCEND Erie Queer Scouts Climbing Club (ASCEND Erie, 426 State St, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM - 8 PM.

Aug 28 (Wed) - LGBTQ+ and Allies Happy Hour - All welcome (Cussewago Creek Distillery, 42243 Water St., Meadville, PA 16335) 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM.

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

Aug 29 (Thu) - Aging with Pride Dinner (Brewerie at Union Station 123 W 14th St, Erie PA) 6 PM. Aging

with Pride, an organization of senior LGBT+ members and allies, is meeting for dinner. Everyone is on their own for the meal.

Aug 30 (Fri) - 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.



40 Shades of Purple event on June 21 at Erie Art Museum. Photo by Michael Mahler.

Become a Foster Parent!

FosterNWPAKids.org



Family Services of NWPA



Jen and Katie - Erie, PA



LET'S BE FRIENDS WITH BENEFITS

Discover Comprehensive LGBTQ+ Care at Central
Outreach Including Walk-In STI Services, PrEP,
HIV(+) Treatment, Mpox, and More.

No Insurance? No Problem!

