



ERIE GAY NEWS

Serving the Regional LGBTQIA+ Community Since 1992



Volunteers at Macy's and Compton's Table Back To School event on August 25.

Compton's Table Back To School

On Sunday, August 25th, Macy's teamed up with Compton's Table for a back-to-school bash that was anything but basic. Thirteen queer youth and young adults strutted through the aisles, handpicking gender-affirming clothing, accessories, and school supplies that screamed, "This is me!" And the best part? The entire store was theirs.

For the third year running, Macy's Give Back program chose Compton's Table to host this fab, completely free event, making sure our local queer youth head back to school or work with confidence and style. The store's affirming staff was on hand to serve up some serious fashion advice, while Macy's kept everyone fueled with donuts, muffins, juice, and coffee.

Shopping spree + supportive space + sweet treats = one unforgettable Sunday morning. Here's to another year of serving up authenticity, one fabulous outfit at a time!

20th Anniversary Pink Party Benefit Coming Soon

The 20th annual Pink Party for breast cancer awareness is on the horizon! Join us on October 4th and 5th! The Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA, will have auction items such as breast cancer

merchandise and a fabulous bake sale. The auction winners will be drawn on Friday and Saturday in a live feed. Follow Michelle Michaels on Facebook for details about the live feed.

Don't forget that Saturday night includes the Pink Dance Party as well. Jello shots will be provided that same evening.

The proceeds from this annual celebration will benefit Linked By Pink, a non-profit organization that increases breast cancer awareness. This group consists of individual survivors of breast cancer who help with financial and emotional support for local families affected.

Ace Week is October 20-26

By Marshall Blount

It's almost that time of year again! Ace Week 2024 is from October 20th to the 26th, A week that is all about Asexual representation, activism, education, and celebration. Grab yourself a slice of cake and join the fun. For more information about Asexuality, check us out at Asexual Outreach (<https://asexualoutreach.org/>), An Asexual nonprofit organization that serves both the United States and Canada. An organization that I proudly serve as a board member

LGBT Fund Open for Applications

The LGBT Fund grant at the Erie Community Foundation is opening for applications on 9/9/24 and will close on 10/16/24.

The LGBT Fund of The Erie Community Foundation offers an annual grant to support projects that address various needs in the LGBTQ+ community, which include but are not limited to Safe schools, Youth homelessness, Mental health, substance use and suicide prevention. Health and wellness, Housing, and workplace equality, Family support and recognition This year, applicants can apply for up to \$7,500 in funding.

Please visit the grant website: Grants — LGBT Fund (erielgbtfunds.org) or jump over to apply: Apply for a Grant | Erie Community Foundation

The LGBT Fund of The Erie Community Foundation was established to provide financial support to

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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, Deb, Jeff Hill, Kim Conti, Laurie Finch, Maggie Watts, Rex Apps, Robin Green, and Steve Siwiecki for folding; Brett Staskiewicz, Jeff Hill, 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.

nonprofits that address the unique challenges faced by the LGBTQ+ community. The LGBTQ Community Endowment, a component fund of this group, issues annual Request for Proposals.

They are seeking proposals for projects that address various needs in the LGBTQ+ community, which include but are not limited to:

- Safe schools
- Youth homelessness
- Mental health, substance use, and suicide prevention
- Housing and workplace equality
- Family support and recognition

For questions or information about applying, contact Mandy Fauble, PhD, LCSW (she/her) at faublem2@upmc.edu or (814) 451-2225

2024's Miss Erie is Crowned

All hail the queen! On August 16, a new inductee to the Miss Erie Pageant was crowned. This year, Cherry Falwell, Katrina Twerk Island, and Snarebear took to the Zone Dance Club's stage to duke it out for the title. Before a new winner was crowned, 2023's reigning Miss Erie performed before crowning her successor.

Other performances included Debbie Does Drag, Indi Skies, Taylor Morgan, Valerie Valentino, Misty Michaels Kall, and Danyel Vasquez.

After a tight race, Katrina Twerk Island snatched the crown and left the crowd cheering. Congratulations to Katrina!

Pip-Skey's 2nd Annual Fundraiser

Jamestown, NY - Pip-Skey's Foundation for Homeless Animals Inc. is proud to announce its second annual Halloween-themed fundraiser supporting its mission to provide financial support to local animal shelters, rescues, and pet owners.

On Sunday, October 13th, from 2-6 pm, Pip-Skey's will hold an event at Sneakers Bar, 100 Harrison Street in Jamestown, to continue their fundraising efforts for animal rescues in Chautauqua, Warren, and Cattaraugus Counties. This event will feature music, basket raffles, 50/50, a door prize, and a grand prize raffle of \$1,000! Pre-sale tickets for the grand prize are available at Sneakers Bar and online through Pip-Skey's social media pages.

Entry to this event is free and open to the public (21+). We hope our fellow animal-loving friends will



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attend the event and support our cause! While you are there, learn about our mission, and resources in the community, and hear how you can help animals and be a hero too!

About Pip-Skey's Foundation for Homeless Animals Inc.:

Pip-Skey's strives to raise funds and advocate for animal rescues and shelters in Chautauqua County through creative and innovative fundraising efforts. As we raise funds, we can provide funding for, vet bills, food, and general supplies. We work with local rescues and individuals in the community who dedicate their time and efforts to assisting animals in need.

Pride on the Rocks Oct 11-13

Philly on the Rocks is celebrating National Coming Out Day (Oct 11th) all weekend. Philly on the Rocks is at 401 West 18th St, Erie, PA.

They will have Queer featured bands and solo musicians, as well as local Queer artists and vendors.

There are three days planned, with different themes happening each day:

Friday - Queer Folk Punk Doors open at 6 pm

Saturday - Block Party Style theme with two

different staged areas. Doors open at 3 pm. Starting the day off with Indie and rock and ending the day with some Queer pop and drag.

Sunday - Queer Open Mic Night. Doors open at 6 pm . Any artist, poet, dancer, etc who wants to take the stage for 2 or 3 numbers.

Admission is \$8 per day or \$15 for the whole weekend. 21+ with ID.

The cost of doors will go towards the bands/artist, sound tech, and to Compton's Table

Event Brought to you by Philly on the Rocks & Nash

Drag MC: Roxanne M. F. Lewinsky

Event made possible by all the wonderful volunteers within OddCity Entertainment and our community here in the local music scene

Philly on the Rocks is located at 401 West 18th St, Erie, PA. (814) 315-1193

16th Annual Diversity Service at Community United Church Oct 27

from Rev. Dr. Richard W. McCarty, Senior Pastor

The staff and congregation of Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA, warmly

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invite you to join us on Sunday, October 27, at 11:00 AM as we celebrate our sixteenth year as a nationally certified Open and Affirming faith community in the United Church of Christ. As an Open and Affirming Christian congregation, we boldly accept and affirm LGBTQ+ people and relationships. We proudly march in our city's Pride parade and offer regular educational opportunities on LGBTQ+ inclusion. We are a faith community that grounds our understanding of God in unconditional love -and although we do not claim to be perfect, we do seek to embody that love through radical welcome, helping those in need, honoring boundaries, worship, study, small groups, and standing for restorative justice. Please join us as we celebrate our sixteenth year of Open and Affirming certification.

Erie Pride 365 Training Information

Erie Pride 365 has expanded its efforts to promote inclusion and safety in the region by offering new training programs on workplace diversity and S.O.G.I.E. (Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Expression). These trainings, which religious organizations can also use, aim to address gaps in

understanding around gender identity and sexual orientation in various settings, helping to create safer and more inclusive environments throughout Erie and its surrounding communities. By offering educational programs catering to professional and religious groups, Erie Pride 365 is working to reduce discrimination and foster a culture of respect, positioning itself as a key player in driving positive social change in the area.

Voters Guide next month

Please note that the next issue of Erie Gay News, which will come out the night of Tuesday, October 22, will feature our Voters Guide. The Queer community must show up to vote in every election, and the November 5 national and state election is no exception. We will have responses from our LG-BTQIA+ candidate questionnaire that we hope will

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enable you to make an informed choice when you go to the polls. Polls are open from 7 AM to 8 PM on Tuesday, November 5. The last day to register to vote in the upcoming election is October 21, and the deadline to apply for an absentee or mail-in ballot is October 29.

Board Members sought for NW PA Pride Alliance, Inc

from NW PA Pride Alliance Board of Directors

NWPA Pride Alliance is looking for applicants to join our all-volunteer board of directors for our new term beginning in January 2025. We are looking for individuals across all walks of life inclusive of all sexual orientations, gender identifications, marital status, ethnic backgrounds, and educational experiences who want to become more involved with the queer community in Northwest Pennsylvania. Applicants should reside within a 50 mile radius of the city of Erie.

Our board members work together to organize events within the community, represent the queer community at local events, and partner with local businesses and organizations to raise awareness of

LGBTQIA+ issues. This year, we are keen to add board members who specialize in the following areas of expertise: legal, community education, publicity, medical backgrounds, and nonprofit administration.

Board members are expected to volunteer at and support the major Pride events hosted by NWPA Pride Alliance including: Pride On The Bay (Saturday, June 28, 2025), Pride Parade (Sunday, June 29, 2025), Meadville Pride (Saturday, July 18, 2025), the 32nd Annual Erie Pride Picnic (Saturday, August 16, 2025) - with all of these dates being tentative. Participation at other additional events throughout the year (including Pride Night at local sporting events) is encouraged.

Presently, the board meets the first Saturday of each month at 11:15 AM via Zoom and additionally as needed in preparation for specific events. While most of our meetings are conducted over Zoom, there will be some in-person meetings scheduled during the year as well.

If you are interested, please send a resume that outlines your experience and qualifications by Monday, November 25, 2024, to VicePresident@nwppride.org. Successful applicants will receive

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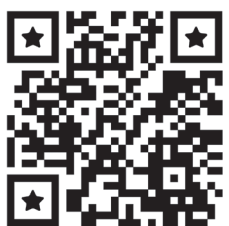
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further instructions to schedule a mandatory interview with the Board of Directors during one of our regular monthly meetings.

Celebrate LGBTQ+ History Month in Erie!

LGBTQ+ History Month is an annual month-long observance of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender history, as well as the history of gay rights and related civil rights movements. It was founded in 1994 by Missouri high school history teacher Rodney Wilson. LGBT History Month provides role models, builds community, and represents a civil rights statement about the contributions of the LGBTQ+ community. As of 2022, LGBT History Month is a month-long celebration specific to Australia, Canada, Cuba, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the United Kingdom and the United States.

In the United States, Canada, Armenia, Romania, the Netherlands, Southeast Asia, and Australia, it is celebrated in October to coincide with National Coming Out Day on October 11th October and to commemorate the first and second marches on Washington in 1979 and 1987 for LGBT rights.

Today, LGBTQ+ History Month stands as a testament to the enduring efforts of Rodney Wilson and countless others who contributed to this initiative. With each passing year, October continues to be a time for reflection, education, and celebration of LGBTQ+ history and achievements, reminding us of the diverse narratives that enrich our collective history. Through this commemorative month, the journey towards inclusivity and acceptance continues, significantly impacting society.

Erie has a long history of LGBTQ+ culture and activism. To help preserve that history, Aging with Pride, an organization for older LGBTQ+ individuals, is working on an Erie LGBTQ+ Archives Project in collaboration with Penn State University Behrend. There is already a small archive of historical LGBTQ+ materials at Behrend, and Aging with Pride is compiling other materials to add to that collection. This material only represents a small amount of the rich LGBTQ+ history in Erie. Plans are underway to develop a more comprehensive “community archive” that will capture our past and what is happening now. Groups and individuals will be invited to participate in this ongoing archives project as it moves forward. This effort will be similar to other efforts nationwide,

such as in Harrisburg and Philadelphia, to preserve local LGBTQ+ history for the future.

October is the perfect time to announce the development of this project. Please watch for more information about this Archives Project and how you may be involved.

Discrimination Survey 2024

On October 1, the Pennsylvania Equality Project is launching a new survey about discrimination in education and the workplace. The new survey will run while the current Housing Affordability and Sustainability survey is in progress. The discrimination survey will focus on issues related to intimidation, harassment, bullying, and other related behaviors in the classroom and the work environment. All survey responses will remain confidential. The survey is open to all Pennsylvanians in the LGBTQ+ community and our allies who have faced discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation and gender identity issues. There are no age restrictions for this survey. Both the Housing survey and the Discrimination survey end December 31, 2024. To take the survey, go to paequality.com and click on the Survey link at the top of the page. For more information, send an email to info@paequality.com.

Who Wants To Be a Drag Star Is Looking For New Drag Performers

Have you always wanted to give drag a try? Are you a new queen, king, or performer looking to break into the local drag scene? Sign up for round one of Who Wants To Be A Drag Star and show us what you've got to earn your spot in the spring finale. Who Wants to Be a Drag Star is an all-new drag competition hosted by Cherry Falwell with head judge Travis Smith. It is open to drag performers of any gender who are 18 or over. Round one will be on November 16 in downtown Meadville. Email MeadvilleDragStar@Gmail.com for info or to sign up. If you're interested in performing, reach out ASAP - we only have five spaces available for the first round!

Intersex Awareness Day

The annual Intersex Awareness Day will be celebrated on Saturday, October 26. On this day back in 1996, the first public demonstration of intersex people took place in Boston, MA, at the annual conference of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

At that time, the now defunct Intersex Society

of North America and their allies demonstrated and shared their pains, denouncing non-consensual infant genital surgery, and demanding the medical industries to take notice. Sadly, doctors dismissed the activities as a vocal minority in a New York Times article the following year.

Intersex Awareness Day highlights the fact that intersex people face violence, discrimination, stigma, harassment, and persecution on account of their characteristics, which do not fit the binary notion of typical male or female bodies. Further, we are reminded that all people everywhere are created equal and should be afforded equal dignity and respect regardless of their sex characteristics.

For more information, you can check out intersexday.org.

LBT Women Picnic on Sep 7

On September 7th, Kim and Andrea hosted the annual LBT women's picnic at their home. Despite the uncooperative weather, we had a great time with 22 attendees. Friends from Pittsburgh and Buffalo returned to join in on the food and fun. We also welcomed a few new faces, curious to see what our group was all about.

Due to the weather, we had to huddle together in the garage, but that didn't stop us from enjoying lots of delicious food, engaging conversations, and laughter. Thank you to everyone who joined us, and we are already looking forward to doing it again next year.



Rainy weather did not dampen the mood at LBT Women Picnic on Sep 7. Photo by Michael Mahler.

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.

Sep 25 (Wed) – LGBTQ+ and Allies Happy Hour – All welcome (Julian's Bar & Grill, 299 Chestnut St, Meadville, PA 16335) 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM.

Sep 26 (Thu) - Aging with Pride Dinner (Thai Taste Cruise, 35 Peninsula Drv, Erie, PA 16505) 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.

Sep 26 (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/>.

Sep 27 (Fri) - National Gay Men's HIV/AIDS Awareness Day In 2008 the National Association of People with AIDS launched this observance day to recognize the disproportionate impact of the epidemic on gay men. #NGMHAAD Browse to <https://www.hiv.gov/events/awareness-days/gay-mens>.

Sep 27 & 28 (Fri - Sat) - Meadville FreeShop 2024, Fall Edition (Meadville Public Library, 848 N Main St, Meadville, PA 16335) 12:30 PM - 4:30 PM. Donate your gently used clothing, blankets, toys, games, kitchen items, non-perishable food items, and baby items.

Sep 27 (Fri) - Platonic Boyfriends, Nancy Boys, and Common Spence (Philly On The Rocks, 401 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16502) 6:30 PM. Lets Welcome Detroit touring band Platonic Boyfriends! ? Instagram.com/platonicboyfriendz They are a high energy, show stopping, punk band that you DONT want to miss! With Special guest and local favorites, Nancy Boys and Common Spence! \$5 entry Doors open at 6:30 pm All at the one place to get the BEST Philly Cheesesteaks & Drinks

Sep 28 (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.

Sep 28 (Sat) - 80's Night and 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.

Oct 1 - 31 (Tue - Thu) - LGBT History Month First celebrated in 1994 in October. It was declared a national History month by President Barack Obama in 2009. The month was created with the intent to encourage openness and education about LGBT history and rights.

Oct 2 (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.

Oct 3 (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.

Oct 3 (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>.

Oct 4 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour) meets (Room 33 Speakeasy & Cafe, 1033 State St, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM - 8 PM. All Are welcome.

Oct 4 (Fri) - Drag Me to the Stage Presents: The Kindness Connection (O'Connell & Company, 4110 Bailey Ave, Amherst, NY 14226) 7 PM. Don't miss this extraordinary evening of entertainment, where you'll be inspired by the power of kindness and community. Join Mrs. Kasha Davis and Nina West for a night that promises to leave you with a smile on your face and warmth in your heart.

Oct 4 - 5 (Fri - Sat) - Michelle Michaels' Pink Party Benefit Weekend - 20th Anniversary (Zone Dance

Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Basket auction, bake sale, and fun merch! Drag show 10 PM Friday night. Proceeds benefit Linked By Pink. Doors open at 8 PM. 21 & over with ID. \$5 cover Fri & Sat.

Oct 4 (Fri) - Slay & Skate Glow Party (Gem City Skate, 3162 W Lake Rd, Erie, PA 16505) 11 PM - 2 AM. Central Outreach Wellness Center (Erie) will be there providing their services! Get tested and receive FREE entry, skates, and a beverage!

Oct 5 (Sat) - 2nd Annual Female Feature Fest (Basement Transmissions, 145 W 11th St, Erie, PA 16501) 2 PM. 18+ bands, vendors, food trucks and more. ALL AGES! \$15 presale, \$20 at door, Free 10 and under

Oct 6 (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.

Oct 6 (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.

Oct 7 (Mon) - Bears Do Dinner #120 (Brewerie at Union Station, 123 W 14th St, Erie PA) 6 PM. Join the Bears for a casual dinner of food and conversation! Dinner is on your own. Contact: Peter. Phone: (814) 384-9785.

Oct 8 (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.

Oct 8 (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.

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

Oct 9 (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.

Oct 9 (Wed) - Dining Out For Life - Western NY

2024 (Various Restaurants in Western NY) **THE MOST SATISFYING MEAL YOU'LL EVER EAT. HOW DOES DINING OUT FOR LIFE WORK?** Make plans to dine out or order takeout on Wednesday, October 9 (see <https://www.diningoutforlife.com/city/wny/> for a full list of restaurants) for breakfast, lunch, dinner, or all the above! Invite everyone you know to do the same. Spread the word via email and on Facebook, Instagram, EVERYWHERE! Donate to Evergreen Health's HIV supportive services and be entered to win a prize!

Oct 10 (Thu) - 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](https://ascendclimbing.com/programs/community/community-schedule)

Oct 11 (Fri) - National Coming Out Day Every year on National Coming Out Day, we celebrate coming out as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ) or as an ally. First celebrated in 1988. Browse to <http://www.hrc.org/resources/national-coming-out-day>.

Oct 11 (Fri) - Aging with Pride Movie Night - Maurice (Erie Movie House, 3424 W Lake Rd, Erie, PA 16505) 7 PM. Doors open at 7 PM, and show time is 7:15 PM.



Miss Erie 2023 Shea D'Heaux, Misty Michaels Kall, Miss Erie 2024 Kattrina Twerk Island, and DJ TonyG at Miss Erie Pageant. Photo by Michael Mahler

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Free admission. We will be watching the 1987 gay classic, Maurice, based on E.M. Forster's novel. The seating capacity is 35.

Oct 11 - 13 (Fri - Sun) - Pride On The Rocks (Philly On The Rocks, 401 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16502) Come join Philly on the Rocks as we celebrate National Coming Out Day (Oct 11th) all weekend! See article in this issue.

Oct 12 (Sat) - Erie Sisters & Brothers Transgender Group Bimonthly Meeting (Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Highway, Erie, PA 16508) 5 PM - 9 PM. Changing rooms will be available if needed

Oct 13 (Sun) - 2nd Annual Barks & Booze Basket Raffle for Pip-Skey's! (Sneakers, 100 W Harrison St, Jamestown, NY 14701) 2 PM - 6 PM. Join us for our 2nd Annual Barks & Booze Basket Raffle! Pip-skey's Foundation for Homeless Animals & Sneakers Bar are teaming up for an awesome day of raffles, baskets, drinks, and fun for a great cause!

Oct 14 (Mon) - Deadline for Erie Gay News November 2024 print edition (#348) (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, October 22.

Oct 15 (Tue) - National Latinx AIDS Awareness Day The Latino Commission on AIDS (LCOA), the Hispanic Federation and other organizations organize this day to build capacity for non-profit organizations and health departments to reach Latino/Hispanic communities, promote HIV testing, and provide HIV prevention information and access to care. #NLAAD Browse to <http://www.nlaad.org/>.

Oct 15 (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. Join via Zoom at <https://bit.ly/Zoom-ECHTF>

Oct 16 (Wed) - International Pronouns Day International Pronouns Day seeks to make respecting, sharing, and educating about personal pronouns commonplace. Referring to people by the pronouns they determine for themselves is basic to human dignity. Being referred to by the wrong pronouns particularly affects transgender and gender nonconforming people. Together, we can transform society to celebrate people's multiple, intersecting identities

Oct 17 (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.

Oct 17 (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

Oct 18 (Fri) - Coffee Social for LGBTQ+ Veterans (Perkins Restaurant and Bakery, 4403 Peach St, Erie, PA 16509) 10 AM. The Coffee Social is meant to bring Erie's local LGBTQ+ Veterans together to connect and foster ongoing relationships of support and friendship. The group will start off with facilitation by Erie VA staff, Brittany and Alisha, with the goal to be an independently run community Veteran group for like-minded individuals. Contact: Brittany Miklos. Phone: (814) 844-5944.

Oct 18 (Fri) - Mark Pacheco Working On Wonders (WOW) Fund 8th Annual Lip Sync Battle (American Legion Herman Kent Post 777, 26 Jackson Ave, Jamestown, NY 14701) 6 PM. Doors open at 6:00 pm, and the contest begins at 8pm - \$ 20 at door. 21+ "Money raised through the Lip Sync Battle benefits the Mark Pacheco WOW (Working on Wonders) Fund, one of The Resource Center funds managed by the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation. The WOW Fund was established to memorialize Mark's life and his many contributions to TRC and to the community at large. Mark was a TRC employee who died in 2010. The WOW Funds purpose is to make wishes and dreams come true for people with disabilities by providing funds to enable them to enjoy events or experiences they couldn't otherwise."

Oct 18 (Fri) - Pissi Gabune's Super Spooky Takeover 2! Electric Booooo-Galoo (Edinboro Hotel Bar, 100 Meadville St, Edinboro, PA 16412) 9:30 PM. Doors open at 8:00 PM. 21+ with valid ID. NO COVER.

Oct 18 (Fri) - Divas Witches' Ball (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 10:30 PM. Hosted by Misty Michaels Kall. Bewitching performances by Shea D'Heaux, Alysins Wonderland, and Anhedonia De-



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light. Doors open at 8 PM. 21 & over with ID. \$5 cover.

Oct 19 (Sat) - Aging with Pride Book Club - The Song of Achilles by Madeline Miller (Werner Books & Coffee 3608 Liberty St, Erie, PA 16508) 1 PM . Werner Books offers a 20% discount on books purchased for the book club.

Oct 20 - 26 (Sun - Sat) - Ace Week (Ace Week) Ace Week, formerly Asexual Awareness Week, is an international campaign that seeks to educate about asexual, aromantic, demisexual, and grey-asexual experiences and to create materials that are accessible to our community and our allies around the world. Browse to <https://www.aceweek.org/>.

Oct 20 (Sun) - Aging with Pride planning meeting (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 1932 W 8th St, Erie, PA 16505) 1 PM - 3 PM.

Oct 21 (Mon) - Last Day to Register to Vote for General Election General Election is Tuesday, November 5. You must already be registered to vote to apply for an absentee or mail-in ballot. Browse to <https://www.vote.pa.gov/Register-to-Vote/Pages/How-to-Register-to-Vote.aspx>.

Oct 22 (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



The Red Zone

The "Red Zone" is a critical and often overlooked period on college campuses, referring to the first six to eight weeks of the academic year when students, particularly freshmen, are at the highest risk for sexual assault. This period is marked by a convergence of factors that make new students especially vulnerable, including their unfamiliarity with campus resources, a desire to fit in, and increased social activity, often involving alcohol.

During the Red Zone, incoming students are navigating new social environments and building relationships, which can sometimes lead to situations where boundaries are crossed. The pressures of adapting to college life can also make students less likely to recognize or avoid risky situations.

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much welcome and needed! You can also sign up for the Erie GLBT News and Events list at <https://lists.eriegaynews.com/>.

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

Oct 24 (Thu) - Get Top(Roped) By A (Spooky) Queen (ASCEND Erie, 426 State St, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM. SPECIAL EVENT ** By Erie Queer Scouts! Join us for a night of Halloween-themed Drag and Climb! We will have our fabulous QUEENS waiting to belay you on the top-rope wall. You can also just come and watch or enjoy the company. (All attendees must register at the desk and fill out waiver; climbers get the discounted club night rate.) Queer Scouts is an LGBTQ+ climbing club with the goal of creating connection and a safer and more inclusive community. No experience is necessary. Plus, it's only \$15 for your day pass on a club night, which includes the rental of shoes and chalk.

Oct 24 (Thu) - Aging with Pride Dinner (Valerio's Italian Restaurant and Pizzeria, 724 Powell Ave, Erie PA) 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.

Oct 25 (Fri) - Big Wigs with Mrs. Kasha Davis and Aggy Dune (Shea's 710 Theatre, 710 Main St, Buffalo, NY 14202) 8 PM. Big Wigs is a Las Vegas-style impersonation show starring Mrs. Kasha Davis from RuPaul's Drag Race and her longtime gal pal Aggy Dune. Its two men and many women. Impersonations include Judy Garland, Liza Minnelli, Barbra Streisand, Celine Dion, Bette Midler, Adele, Reba McEntire, Katy Perry, Lady Gaga, Joan Rivers, Tina Turner, and Cher. Kasha and Aggy have been performing this show to sell-out crowds for over 20 years.

Oct 25 - 26 (Fri - Sat) - Spirits & Shadows - The Graveyard Gala (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Halloween comes early! Friday Night October 25 Dance Party with DJ Joe and MC Buffy. Saturday, October 26 Costume Party at Midnight with cash prized! Doors open at 8 PM. 21 & over with ID. \$5 cover.

Oct 26 (Sat) - (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.

Oct 26 (Sat) - Halloween Costume Party and 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.

Oct 26 (Sat) - The Rocky Horror Picture Show screening (Reg Lenna Center For The Arts, 116 East Third St, Jamestown, NY 14701) 10 PM. Rated R. 101 minutes. In this cult classic, sweethearts Brad (Barry Bostwick) and Janet (Susan Sarandon), stuck with a flat tire during a storm, discover the eerie mansion of Dr. Frank-N-Furter (Tim Curry), a transvestite scientist. As their innocence is lost, Brad and Janet meet a houseful of wild characters, including a rocking biker (Meat Loaf) and a creepy butler (Richard O'Brien). Through elaborate dances and rock songs, Frank-N-Furter unveils his latest creation: a muscular man named "Rocky." \$15 per admission at Box Office. \$17 per admission online or by phone. Online ticket sales end 2 hours before movies and events.

Oct 27 (Sun) - 16th Annual Diversity Worship Service (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA 16508-2540) 11 AM. Please join us as we celebrate our xxth Annual Diversity Service, recognizing our national Open and Affirming status as a Christian congregation. Here, LGBTQ people are warmly welcome!

Oct 29 (Tue) - Last Day to Request a Mail-In Ballot for General Election General Election is Tuesday, November 5. You must already be registered to vote to apply for an absentee or mail-in ballot. Browse to <https://www.vote.pa.gov/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail->

[and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx](https://www.vote.pa.gov/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx).

Oct 31 (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/>.



NW PA Pride Alliance's Meadville Happy Hour at Julian's Bar & Grill, 299 Chestnut St, Meadville, PA, on August 28. Photo by Michael Mahler.

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