

# **ERIE GAY NEWS**

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Queering The Vote Rally by Erie Dems Queer Caucus on Oct 17. Photo by Michael Mahler

# **Queering The Vote Rally By Erie Dems Queer Caucus**

The Erie Dems Queer Caucus hosted a "Queering the Vote" rally on Thursday, October 17, bringing together people from the city, the county, and even canvassers from out of state for the Harris/Walz campaign. The event was a vibrant celebration, but it also raised awareness about the high stakes of the upcoming election. There was plenty of delicious homemade food, complete with a DIY taco bar that included vegetarian options, and the atmosphere was buzzing with excitement. Entertainment came in all forms, from speeches by city council member Tyler Titus and Senate candidate Jim Wertz, to inspiring words from local advocacy group, the Erie Spiritual Coalition. Local LGBTQ bands like The Nancy Boys, The Lamplighters, and Odd Atrocity set the tone, and an amazing drag performance by Shea D'Heaux evolved into a full-blown lip sync battle. A costume contest with a cash prize added even more energy to the room. What really made the event incredible was the feeling of radical joy that everyone shared. New connections were made, and people left with a sense of camaraderie and purpose in these challenging political times. In the midst of all the campaign mailers and texts flooding our lives, this event felt like the muchneeded "touching of grass" for local LGBTQ folks. The Erie Dems Queer Caucus created a space for everyone to feel welcome in the political conversation ahead, reminding us all to stay engaged and ready for the upcoming election.

#### **LGBTQIA+ Health Focus Group**

The Erie County Department of Health is in the process of conducting our Community Health Needs Assessment. We are holding focus groups to learn more about the assets and barriers certain populations experience related to their health. We are seeking participants from the LGBTQIA+ community to participate in a focus group on Monday November 25th from 5:30 – 7:00 PM at Journey to a Trauma Informed Life. Participants will receive a gift card for their time and food and beverages will be provided. To register, please complete this survey: https://arcg.is/1fnaui1 or call 814-451-6769. Registration is limited to ensure that all participants are heard, so please register by 11/18. Thank you.

# Stitch And B\*tch At Compton's Table

You're reading that right! By popular demand, Compton's Table is starting a STITCH AND B\*TCH! This group will meet at Compton's Table, 3104 State St, Erie, PA, bi-weekly on Wednesdays, beginning on November 13th. Bring your knitting needles, crochet projects, yarn, or whatever you're working on at the moment, and come hang out with us. This event is bring your own materials, and we encourage you to bring anything extra you may have to share with the group!

# Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20 in Erie

Join TransFamily of NWPA on Wednesday, November 20, for Transgender Day of Remembrance. We will come together to remember and honor our transgender siblings who have been lost to senseless acts of anti-transgender violence, marginalization, and stigma by reading their names and short bios aloud. The vigil will be at 1020 East 10th, Sarah Reed

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Camera ready art or manuscript and/or photos, illustrations and logos must be received by the 15th of the month. Photos and Illustrations should be PDF or TIFF and HIRES. All hardcopy ads submitted will be reproduced as close as possible.



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**Editor/Layout: Mike Mahler** 

Deadline for next issue: Fri, Nov 15 Folding and distribution is Tue, Nov 26 at Lake Erie Counseling, 1932 W 8th.

#### ISSN 2159-1792

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

We welcome and encourage all readers to submit timely news, comments, and opinions of interest to local GLBTs for publication in these pages. Please include your contact information with any piece you submit.

If you are restarting events or are moving to hosting events/meetings virtually, or want to change your copies received for distribution, please email info@eriegaynews.com

# THANKS From Your Friends at Erie Gay News

To Lake Erie Counseling Associates for hosting! David, Jeff Hill, Johauna, Maggie Watts, Mason Bracken, Michael Mancinelli, Rex Apps, and Steve Siwiecki for folding; Brett Staskiewicz, Jeff Hill, Johauna, Kim Conti, Mason Bracken, Michael Mancinelli, Rex Apps, and Steve Siwiecki for distribution; Whee! Design for logo. If you're interested in helping out, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or info@eriegaynews.com.

St. Ann's Campus. A candlelight vigil and name reading will be held from 7-8 pm, with time for refreshments and reflection afterward. Please note that this is a different location than years past.

# All-New Drag Competition Coming To Meadville

An all-new drag competition is coming to Meadville. Local drag queen Cherry Falwell is partnering with Travis Smith and the Meadville Council on the Arts for Who Wants To Be A Drag Star: Round One on November 16th. In each round, drag performers will showcase their individual talents and compete in an on-stage challenge. The winner of each round will advance to the spring finale.

Who Wants To Be A Drag Star is open to drag performers of any gender, 18 or older, at any skill level. "This is a space where newcomers can break into the local scene. Queens, kings, non-binary artists, gender non-conforming performers, we want to see it all," said Cherry Falwell, who is hosting the four-part series. "Whether it's the first time you've been on a stage or maybe you're just new to the area, this is a great way to showcase your art. We want to

encourage individuality. There's no one right way to do drag, and hopefully, we get to see a lot of different points of view."

Two rotating drag artists will join Travis Smith to round out the judges panel. Local favorites Shea D'Heaux and Snarebear will be on the panel for the first round.

The Meadville Council on the Arts theater is located on the second floor of the historic Market House at 910 Market St. Doors open at 7pm and Showtime at 8 pm. Tickets are available through Eventbrite. For more information or to sign up to compete in round two in January, contact dragstarmeadville@gmail.com.

# Chat & Chill Returns to Compton's Table on November 7

It's happening! Chat & Chill is officially BACK at Compton's Table, 3104 State Street, Erie PA, and better than ever. 18+ groups are every first Thursday of each month from 6-8 pm. Each month will have a different theme to keep the conversation going. November's theme is centered all around YOU and caring for yourself. We'll share some tips and ways







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814-452-4451 assistance@atozlawerie.com to explore and care for yourself through journaling.

November's meeting will be on Thursday the 7th from 6-8 pm. Registration required at https://comptonstable.org/chatnchill

We encourage attendees to mask up as it is cold and flu season! And as always, if you are feeling sick, please stay home!

# Dec 2 - Erie County HIV Task Force Hosts World AIDS Day Program

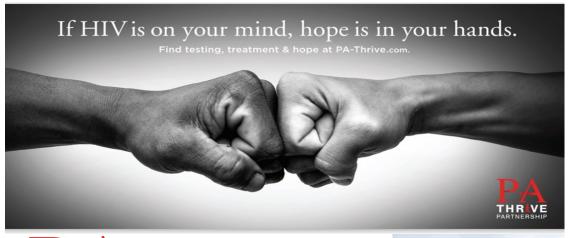
Gary Snyder, Erie County Department of Health

On Monday, December 2, 2024, the Erie County HIV Task Force [ECHTF] will present this year's "Let's Talk About HIV" World AIDS Day program at the H.O. Hirt Auditorium inside the Blasco Library at 160 East Front Street, Erie PA 16507. Doors will open at 5:00 pm, followed by the program at 5:30 pm. This year's focus is on encouraging everyone to talk about HIV and its impact on the lives of Erie County residents.

The program will include a memorial segment for those no longer with us due to HIV / AIDS. If you would like a loved one to be recognized, you

can submit their name via email to Gary Snyder, the chair of the Erie County HIV Task Force, at gsnyder@ eriecountypa.gov. Panels from the AIDS Memorial Quilt will be loaned for display at the event as part of a small portion of the world's largest mobile visual project, which recognized over 100,000 lives ended prematurely by HIV. Red ribbons for awareness will be provided to wear in conjunction with red ribbons with names written upon them, which will be displayed on the library lobby windows for the month of December.

The ECHTF is a collaboration of local organizations and individuals dedicated to educating, supporting, and advocating for people living with HIV/AIDS, along with preventing the spread of HIV. Today, medications and programs are available to not only prevent HIV transmission but allow individuals to live full, productive lives. For more information, please visit echiv.org for additional information, including the county map of testing locations, clinic services, and free condoms locally or mailed to your home. You may also call 814-315-3375 for info on HIV and the task force. Interested in testing for HIV or STIs? Sexual Health Clinic appointments are





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available on Tuesdays 9 am-11 am and Wednesdays 1 pm-3 pm at the Erie County Department of Health. For more information, call 814-451-6700.

#### TransFamily of Erie's Annual TransGiving Potluck meal on November 23

Join us on November 23 for our annual "Trans-Giving Feast" potluck meal to show thanks for our chosen family! It will occur at Compton's Table (inside the Community Outreach Center, 3104 State St. Erie, PA) from 2-5 pm. TransFamily of NWPA will provide the turkey, stuffing, and drinks. Please bring a dish to share, and we hope to see you there!

#### 20th Anniversary Breast Cancer Awareness Weekend raises \$3,380

This year's Pink Party weekend was October 4 & 5 at The Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St. The benefit was a three-night event with \$3,380.00 going to Linked By Pink. Michelle Michaels would like to thank the Zone Dance Club owners, Lou, and the entire staff at the bar for unconditionally allowing her to do what she does every year. Over the past 20 years, the event has raised close to \$100,000.

This year was the 20th anniversary, and without the help of some great people, she could not do half of what she did.

Thank you to our basket auction options to The Watsons, Sandy H., Kathie G., Gina S., Mary, Marty and Josh, Shay, Brenda Dugan and Mama Dugan, Sherry, Ralph and Jess, Brittany, Mike from Like My Thai restaurant, Matt and Scott, Season, Cindi, Shay, Debbie Y, Sue and Nancy, Sam's Club, Miss Erie 2024 Katrina Twerk Island, Dori, Carly M., Sunglass Hut, Macy's, and Robert E.

Michelle would like to thank the people who helped with the baked goods: Sam's Club, Sheri E., Gracie, and Gina.

For promotional merchandise, thanks go out to Jessica and Michelle, Gracie and Michael, Patrick, and Ash and Joe.

Michelle would also like to thank her fellow queens for always stepping up to help. Performers at the drag show on Friday included Debbie, Shea D'Heaux, Snarebear, Cherry Falwell, Alysin Wonderland, and Misty Michaels Kall.









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Erie County Department





G2H2 held their monthly get-together on Friday, October 4, at Room 33 Speakeasy, 1033 State St, Erie, PA. The group usually meets the first Friday of each month. The next G2H2 on Friday, November 1, will also be at Room 33.

# Please support our advertisers! They make Erie Gay News possible!



On September 26, Aging With Pride had their monthly dinner at Thai Taste Cuisine, 35 Peninsula Dry, Erie, PA. Aging With Pride dinners are usually on the last Thursday of the month, but October and November this year will be one week earlier because of Halloween and Thanksgiving. The next dinner will be on October 24 at Valerio's Italian Restaurant and Pizzeria, 724 Powell Ave, Erie PA. In addition to monthly dinners, Aging With Pride meets twice a month for planning and discussion, as well as a book club on the third Saturday of the month and a game night on the second Wednesday of the month.



Erie Gay News staff at Asbury Woods Nature Center on October 5. (L-R). Michael Mahler, Gary Snyder, Rex Apps, Kim Conti, and Andrea Shaffer





Costume contest and attendees at Queering The Vote by Erie Dems Queer Caucus on October 17. Photos by Michael Mahler.

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### **Voters Guide**

Candidates for US Senator, US Congress (PA-16), PA State Senate District 49, and PA State House for areas that included Erie County were asked about their positions on LGBTQIA+ issues for the November 5 General Election. The last day to register to vote is October 21, and the last day to apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot is October 29

These were the questions asked for all races:

We, as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Asexual individuals experience discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations. What action, as an elected official, would you take to reduce this in our community?

What actions can you take for protecting the rights and safety of LGBTQ youth, especially our transgender youth?

In terms of healthcare, how will you work to improve and expand access with focus on affordability and inclusivity? For example, gender affirming healthcare for transgender individuals?

What is one thing we should know about you as relating to the LGBTQ community?

#### **US Senator**

Not Responding: David H McCormick (R), Marty Selker (Constitution), John C Thomas, Jr (Libertarian)

No Contact Info Available: Erik Messina (American Solidarity), Leila Hazou (Green)

#### Anti Discrimination Bob Casey (D-Inc)

I believe no one should be discriminated against due to their gender and sexuality, and I have a long record in the U.S. Senate defending LGBTQ+ rights in our country. As a U.S. Senator, I have fought to undo many of the harmful policies that contributed to the historic discrimination of the LGBTQ+ com-

munity in the United States.

In 2022, I co-sponsored the historic Respect for Marriage Act, which repealed the discriminatory Defense of Marriage Act and now ensures that same-sex marriages are treated equally under the law. I also backed repealing Don't Ask Don't Tell, allowing LGBTQ+ Americans to proudly serve in the military. I am an original co-sponsor of the Equality Act, which would prohibit discrimination on the basis of several factors, including gender identity and sexual orientation. I am an original co-sponsor of the LGBTQ+ Panic Defense Prohibition Act, which would ban so-called "panic" defenses based on gender identity or expression, and sexual orientation in federal court.

I will continue to support federal legislation that brings discrimination against members of the LGBTQ+ community to an end.

#### Youth Bob Casey (D-Inc)

I believe that LGBTQ youth deserve safe and welcoming environments at home and at school.

I am the sponsor of the Safe Schools Improvement Act, legislation to require local educational agencies to establish policies barring bullying in elementary and secondary schools. Among other things, these policies must prohibit bullying and harassment on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. I am an original co-sponsor of legislation that would require colleges and universities to adopt policies to prevent harassment against LGBTQ+ college students and other students in minority groups. I have also made enforcement of existing civil rights protections for college students a priority. Just recently, I introduced the Showing Up for Students Act, which would provide mandatory funding to double existing funding for the Office of Civil Rights at the Department of Education. I also know the toll that conversion therapy continues to take on LGBTO+ youth across the country, and so I am an original co-sponsor of the Therapeutic Fraud Prevention Act, which would prohibit gender identity or sexual orientation "conversion therapy" as a fraudulent practice.

I know that members of the trans community, particularly transgender women of color, are disproportionately impacted by fatal violence. I introduced the Disarm Hate Act to fight back against hate crimes, which is endorsed by groups including the Human

Rights Campaign. This legislation was introduced, in part, in response to the horrific Pulse nightclub shootings, and would prevent those convicted of misdemeanor hate crimes from possessing firearms.

#### Healthcare Bob Casey (D-Inc)

I am fighting to make sure Americans have access to safe, reliable, and affordable health care, including members of the LGBTQ community. Recently, I called out efforts to ban coverage of gender affirming care at the federal level, making clear I stand against these dangerous policies. I also have taken on insurance and pharmaceutical companies to lower drug and health care costs and health costs. I backed the Inflation Reduction Act, which will cap out-of-pocket costs for those on Medicare Part D, and cap the price of insulin at \$35 a month for those on Medicare. I will continue to support legislation that lowers the cost of health care and increases access for Pennsylvanians.

# Other Bob Casey (D-Inc)

In addition to advancing policies that protect LGBTQ+ rights and support the community, I have also worked to foster a welcoming and inclusive environment in my office. In June of 2023, my office was ranked with the highest percentage of LGBTQ+



Ronald Crist, Medicare Specialist for HUB International, Inc., came to Aging With Pride's September 22, 2024, meeting at Lake Erie Counseling to present information on options for coverage and answer questions. Photo by Michael Mahler

staff in the entire Senate Democratic caucus. I value the perspectives that my staff bring as they work to make the lives of Pennsylvanians better.

#### **US Congress (PA-16)**

*Not Responding:* Mike Kelly (R-Inc)

#### Anti Discrimination Preston Nouri (D)

I would support legislation such as the Equality Act that would be able to extend protections against all aforementioned discrimination to the LGBTQIA+community. I would additionally work with organizations such as the Trevor Project to help craft policy that addresses our mental health crisis that incorporates a sensitivity to the needs of LGBTQIA+individuals.

#### Youth Preston Nouri (D)

I am able to take action to support legislation such as the Equality Act that is able to establish protections for sexual orientation and gender identity, and I will work to bring community project funding back to the district to support institutions that are able to help our LGBTQIA+ youth, especially our trans youth, thrive.

#### Healthcare Preston Nouri (D)

Healthcare expansion is a major part of my platform, and I am working to help establish single payer healthcare/healthcare for all. As legislation develops, I will ensure a focus on inclusivity as the legislation is written to include care that is both affordable and accessible to all.

# Other Preston Nouri (D)

Aside from my personal commitments to friends and family who are members of the LGBTQ-IA+ community, I will stand strong for all members of the LGBTQIA+ community to ensure that they are able to thrive in our community and have the protections needed to feel safe and secure in who they are.

#### PA State Senate (District 49)

Not Responding: Dan Laughlin (R-Inc)

#### Anti Discrimination Jim Wertz (D)

The Pennsylvania Human Relations Act prohibits discrimination in the areas of employment, housing and public accommodations based on an individual's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, education status, handicap, or disability, but it does not cover sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. As a member of the State Senate, I would fully support the Fairness Act, which prohibits discrimination in our state based on sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. A Democratic majority in the State Senate would all but guarantee its passage.

#### Youth Jim Wertz (D)

Like many efforts to address safety, security, and belonging, efforts and actions to protect the rights and safety of LGBTQ+ youth require a holistic approach that engages a complex network of stakeholders and allies throughout the community, at large. These actions include ensuring that existinganti-discrimination policies in schools and other public spaces are enforced to protect queer youth from bullying and harassment, among other forms of discrimination. This means providing proper training and education to the teachers and support staff so that they are equipped to support queer youth and to properly identify and address forms of bullying and harassment.

Policies that protect the safety of LGBTQ+ youth, and transgender youth, in particular, should be codified at the state level, and the educational programs for teachers and staff who support them should be fully funded to ensure that everyone can expect and find inclusive environments throughout the Commonwealth.

#### Healthcare Jim Wertz (D)

All people deserve access to comprehensive healthcare and multifaceted approaches that transcend











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systemic barriers and promote inclusivity. For those seeking gender-affirming care, including hormone therapy and gender-affirming surgery, healthcare facilities should establish policies and protocols that affirm the identity of patients and ensure their access to respectful, non-discriminatory care. Additionally, I will advocate for insurance policies that expand access to mental health treatment and make coverage of gender-affirming treatment more accessible and affordable.

# Other Jim Wertz (D)

For my entire life, fairness has served as an abiding principle. For as long as I can remember I have been an ally of the LGBTQ+ community. I've tried to promote fairness, equality, and acceptance, when I've been lucky enough to have a platform that allowed me to do so, and I've put my money where my mouth is by supporting businesses that share those values and by boycotting those businesses (or business leaders) that use their profits to invest in the oppression of my friends and loved ones.

As chairman of the Democratic Party, I established the LGBTQIA Caucus (in addition to eight other constituency caucuses) because I wanted the Party to have pathways for inclusion through which people who might not otherwise choose to engage in Party politics could choose to do so. I'm grateful to Michael Mahler for ensuring that the caucus he leads meets regularly and provides a forum to those who would like to attend to express themselves politically.\

Forums for expression – like the LGBTQIA Caucus, the Erie Gay News, and a multitude of churches and organizations throughout our community – provide an invaluable service to our community, at large. If I'm lucky enough to earn your vote and to serve as the next State Senator for PA's 49th District, I look forward to working with and for you, as a friend and ally, in all local and state issues and especially those rooted in resolving and advancing fairness, equality, and acceptance for all.

#### **PA State House District 1**

Anti Discrimination Patrick Harkins (D-Inc)

In my eighteen years as a representative I have

a 100% voting record in support of LGBT issues. I have held public hearings in our area on a number of bills including HB 300 and I voted in favor of HB 300 when we passed it in the house.

(HB 300 is currently stalled in the senate).

# Youth Patrick Harkins (D-Inc)

I have worked on many issues dealing with bullying in schools over the years and sadly it is an issue that hasn't gone away. We are currently looking at a couple pieces of legislation that could help with bullying and intimidation. I have also pushed for more school nurses and counselors at budget time to make sure our schools provide first rate care and provide the help and assistance when needed.

# Healthcare Patrick Harkins (D-Inc)

Healthcare is a basic right that should be affordable and accessible to all. I have fought the battle to cover everyone for many years and will continue to do so. We cannot forget the cost and access to prescriptions, that is something that is critical to everyone. The PREP drug is something that has been a big issue and the promise that it may offer prevention of HIV is life changing, we now have to make sure that it is something people can afford and be able to receive when needed.

# Other Patrick Harkins (D-Inc)

As I said earlier, I have always been a strong supporter of LGBT issues over the years and I intend to do the same going forward.

There are many issues that we are facing as a society and ultimately we must make sure that LGBT people feel safe and are treated fairly when it comes to housing, education, employment and quality of life in our community.

I intend to continue to do that going forward.

#### **PA State House District 2**

Not Responding: Matthew Strupczewski (R)

Anti Discrimination Bob Merski (D-Inc)

I voted for HB 300, The Fairness Act, which

amends the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act to add explicitly, statutory protections from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity and expression. It's currently sitting in the Senate. As an elected official, I hosted townhall meetings during Pride Month focusing specifically on LGBTQ+ issues and concerns to listen and understand the needs of the LGBTQ+ community.

#### Youth Bob Merski (D-Inc)

As a former teacher, I know how hard adolescence is for our youth in today's social media world, where you're always plugged in and can't escape the direct messages from flowing into your inbox. For LGBTQ+ youth, it can be even worse. That's why I support having a mandated school counselor to student ratio, so that when our youth need someone to talk to, someone is there for them. Safety is a big issue, from bullying to physical abuse, LGBTQ+ youth are have higher rates of harassment and violence against them. For educators, we can provide professional development on inclusivity and antiharassment/anti bullying to prevent things before they start. We can also implement policies like having a staff advocate(s) or allies to support LGBTQ+ youth.

# Healthcare Bob Merski (D-Inc)

It's important to me that medical decisions are made between a patient and their doctor. As a health care industry, when private equity conflicts with health equity, it's often times the private equity wins out in our system. We need to continue to work to make sure our health care industry takes care of people and provides the care they need, not shareholders or the company's bottom line by purposely excluding care. That includes HIV/AIDS medication and prophylactic medicine like PrEP medication.

#### Other Bob Merski (D-Inc)

I believe in treating everyone with dignity and respect. The world I grew up in back in the 1980's and 1990's looks very different than the world today, and my understanding and viewpoints have evolved over time as well. My great uncle was gay when I was growing up, and he and his partner were part of our family holidays, but they were "friends" and

showed no affection towards each other around us in our Catholic family. In high school, I went to Cathedral Prep and I witnessed boys who didn't fit the stereotypical "masculine" who were all too frequently bullied and called derogatory slurs for gay people. In college, Pedro from "The Real World San Francisco" was really my first exposure to an "out" gay couple kissing and showing affection. As a young adult, my best friend was afraid to come out to our friend group because he was worried that we wouldn't like him for being gay. That really made me take a long hard look in the mirror that my best friend was worried I wouldn't like and accept him for being who he is. That forced me to think about myself, and the biases that I had learned through the years from society and my Catholic upbringing. It forced me to think about who I was and the kind of person I wanted to be. And when I distilled it down to what I truly believe in my heart, it's that everyone deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.

I'm proud of my voting record on LGBTQ+ issues in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, standing as an ally so that people in the LGBTQ+ community can have the same legal protections as everyone else. There are people serving and running for seats in the Pennsylvania House who don't share the values of inclusivity and fairness for all, especially for people who identify as LGBTQ+. They want to use religion and "freedom" to discriminate against those who don't think, pray, or love the same way they do. Your vote matters, because YOU matter! I humbly and respectfully ask for your vote and your support, so that together we can build a fair and just Pennsylvania for all.

#### **PA State House District 3**

Not Responding: Micah Goring (R)

#### Anti Discrimination Ryan Bizzarro (D-Inc)

I was proud to support my friends and colleagues Rep. Malcolm Kenyatta and Rep. Jessica Benham in voting to support the Fairness Act earlier this session

#### Youth Ryan Bizzarro (D-Inc)

First, we need to continue to work to get the

Fairness Act to the Governor's desk, fair and equal treatment under the law is not just the minimum of guaranteed rights to our citizens, but the minimum to attract and retain the employees and businesses we need to ensure a stable future for our commonwealth. Second, we need to ban conversion therapy and any other attacks on the intrinsic right of LGBTQ people to live and express themselves, no one should have to justify their existence or be forced to try and change who they are.

#### Healthcare Ryan Bizzarro (D-Inc)

Absolutely, in the wake of the fall of Roe v. Wade I have hosted five hearings on reproductive healthcare access issues as well as three hearings on prenatal care and inclusivity. We have to talk about these issues and destigmatize the language around healthcare to ensure not just access but also that our laws support those healthcare workers as they do their jobs

#### Other Ryan Bizzarro (D-Inc)

I am a fighter, I have a long track record of legislative accomplishments and I'm proud of that. We have only had one year in the majority and yet have made more progress on LGBTQ issues than in the previous 20 years and yet there is still more work to do. With your help, we will continue to fight for inclusion, equity, and making PA a safe place for all.

#### **PA State House District 4**

Not Responding: Jacob Banta (R-Inc)

#### Anti Discrimination Joseph Cancilla (D)

To support LGBTQ+ against discrimination in employment housing and public accommodations I will introduce, support, and defend legislation that protects the LGBTQ+ community by making sure our rights are protected in labor laws, equality laws, and fight to make sure there is no wage gap. I will work with my peers in Harrisburg and fight for LGBTQ+ rights. In addition, I will be an advocate by using my voice and influence in the House of Representatives by speaking with US Congress members to make sure we are also protected at the Federal level. We

as elected officials must make sure the employment laws and housing laws have the language in there to protect and represent everyone. That is why it is crucial to know who is running for office not just in your district but neighboring districts to make sure we are electing the right candidates. If I win, we will have strong Democrat hold in our region. We cannot let Jake Banta win again with his views and vague answers shown in the November 2022 issue of Erie Gay News.

#### Youth Joseph Cancilla (D)

As your next State Representative, I will support/introduce legislation that protects our LGBTQ+youth, holds public schools accountable by making sure we have high quality education and safe schools for all students. Also, we must look at guidance counselors and mental health more in today's age in our schools. Students need those resources more than ever to make sure they have someone to talk to, ask questions, and lean on. I will fight to make sure our schools are appropriately funded for not only teachers, but all support staff-including guidance counselors and mental health resources.

#### Healthcare Joseph Cancilla (D)

Insurance companies must be accountable for everyone. As a State Representative it is my job to make sure that happens. Healthcare should be available and accessible to everyone, and we must make sure LGBTQ+ rights are protected. I will always admit when I don't know something or have the answer. Therefore, I will surround myself with, work with, and seek out solutions with people that do.

# Other Joseph Cancilla (D)

As a bi-sexual person I have the unique insights on the challenges of the LGBTQ+ community and I will always advocate on our behalf. As your next State Representative, you can be assured you have a voice in Harrisburg.

#### **PA State House District 6**

Not Responding: Michael Charles Walker (D), Brad Roae (R-Inc)

## **WORLD AIDS DAY EVENT**



About





Monday December 2nd 2024

Doors Open: 5:00pm

**Program Starts: 5:30pm** 



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

#### **Program event includes:**

AIDS Memorial Quilt panels on display,
Guest Speakers, as well as...
HIV Peer Survivor Story by PA Thrive Partnership,
Memorial Names Recognition: Remembering
those that have lost their lives due to HIV,
"Let's Talk about HIV" interactive visual exhibit
during post-program reception with refreshments

For details & to submit a loved ones name, send an email to admin@echiv.org.

Get tested for HIV and STIs at the Erie County Department of Health by calling 814-451-6700.

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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 November 6 - Zone Wednesday Trivia Night, 133 W 18th St, Think you're a trivia whiz? Prove it! Play night on your phone! New hosts! New challenges! Doors open at 8 PM. Happy hour 8-10 PM. \$1 off bottled beers. \$2 well drinks. No cover. 21 & over with ID.

Every Thursday in November- Zone Thursday Night Flow, 133 W 18th St, Hosted by Ashen Giove. all are welcome! Get your body flowing with high energy hits! Join the FLOW: all experience levels welcome. Doors open at 8 PM. Happy hour 8-10 PM. \$1 off bottled beers. \$2 well drinks. No cover. 21 & over with ID.

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 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 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) - State of LGBTQ+ Pennsylvania Town Hall — Northwestern PA (Blasco Memorial Erie County Public Library - Admiral Room, 160 East Front Street, Erie, PA 16507) 5:30 PM - 7 PM. Please join us for an important forum on the current state of LGBTQ+ civil rights protections in Pennsylvania. All are welcome. RSVP is highly encouraged, but not re-

quired: payouthcongress.org/northwesternpatownhall. Please contact PYC at info@payouthcongress.org with any questions about the town hall. Thank you! The 2024 State of LGBTQ+ Pennsylvania Town Hall forum for Northwestern PA is supported by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation, the ACLU of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Youth Congress, Keystone Equality, the Pennsylvania Equality Project, Compton's Table, and the Northwestern PA Pride Alliance

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 LGBT+ 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 RuPauls 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) - Sneakers Halloween Party (Sneakers, 100 W Harrison St, Jamestown, NY 14701) 9 PM - 1 AM. Come down to Sneakers Bar Saturday before Halloween for a howling good time! Music, Karaoke provided by Star Sirch with drinks, costumes, and more it's sure to be a scary great event!

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.

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/.

Nov 1 (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.

Nov 1 (Fri) - Halloween Drag Show (Penn State Behrend - McGarvey Commons, 5103 Station Rd, Erie, PA 16563) 7 PM - 9 PM. Hosted by Debbie. Performers include Monica Lexin, V-Master Chad, Maya Bizness, and Vivian Vendetta-Sinclaire. Featuring a costume contest with prizes. Open to the public, and all are welcome!

Nov 1 (Fri) - Snowbelt Enterprises presents Ohio Invasion (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Ohio Invasion, a spectacular event presented by Snowbelt Enterprises, is coming to the Zone! Hosted by Debbie DoesDrag, this incredible show features the talents of Vivian Vendetta-Sinclaire, Monica Mod, Maya Bizness, and V-Master Chad. Get ready to be amazed as these Ohio-based performers take over the stage. Don't miss this fabulous event on Friday, November 1st. Doors open at 8 PM, and the show starts at 10:30 PM. Admission is \$5. 21+ with valid state-issued ID

**Nov 3 (Sun) - Trans Parent Day** Celebrates life and the love between Transgender parents and their children. And parents and their Transgender children. Browse to http://transparentday.org/.

Nov 3 (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.

Nov 3 (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.

**Nov 5 (Tue) - General Election** 7 AM - 8 PM. Polls are open from 7 AM to 8 PM.

Nov 6 (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.

Nov 7 (Thu) - LGBTQIA+ Recovery Support Group (UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Safe Harbor, 1330 W 26th St, Erie, PA) 5 PM - 6 PM. Our mission



Aging With Pride had a screening of the Merchant Ivory film, Maurice, at Erie Movie House, 3424 W Lake Rd, Erie, PA on October 11. Photo by Michael Mahler



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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.

Nov 7 (Thu) - Bears Do Dinner #121 (Location TBA, 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.

Nov 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.

Nov 8 (Fri) - Intersex Day of Remembrance Intersex Day of Remembrance, also known as Intersex Solidarity Day, is an internationally observed civil awareness day designed to highlight issues faced by intersex people. It marks the birthday of Herculine Barbin, a French intersex person whose memoirs were later published by Michel Foucault in Herculine Barbin: Being the Recently Discovered Memoirs of a Nineteenth-century French Hermaphrodite.

Nov 9 (Sat) - ASCEND Erie Affinity Session for OFTW (ASCEND Erie, 426 State St. Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM - 8 PM. Join ASCEND as we celebrate our diverse communities with Affinity Sessions - climbing sessions dedicated to individuals who haven't always had equal access to or treatment within the sport. It's a space dedicated to intentional inclusivity, not exclusivity, and we invite you to participate and be a part of these efforts. Sessions are the second Saturday of the month and alternate between BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) in even-numbered months and OFTW (Queer. Femme, Trans, Women) in odd-numbered months. Please register for session at https://www.ascendclimbing.com/programs/community/community-schedule or by contacting the front desk These FREE climbing sessions are intended only for those in our community who identify with these affinity groups. Rental gear included.

Nov 12 (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.

Nov 12 (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.

Nov 12 (Tue) - Youngstown PFLAG meets (St. John's Episcopal Church, 323 Wick Ave, Youngstown, OH 44503) 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM.

Nov 13 - 17 (Wed - Sun) - 25th Anniversary Lake Erie Gala (Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel, 55 West Bay Road, Erie, PA 16507) Hosted by Erie Sisters and Brothers. This year, we are celebrating our 25th annual Lake Erie Gala! The Lake Erie Gala attracts crossdressers, transgender persons, and their loved ones from across North America and beyond our borders. This year's theme is a 'Red Carpet Affair,' so make sure that you pack your best Glitz, Glam, and High Fashion.

Nov 13 - 19 (Wed - Tue) - Transgender Awareness Week Individuals and organizations around the country participate in Transgender Awareness Week to help raise the visibility of transgender and gender non-conforming people, and address the issues the community faces. Browse to https://www.glaad.org/transweek.

Nov 13 (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.

Nov 14 (Thu) - ASCEND Erie Queer Scouts Climbing Club (ASCEND Erie, 426 State St, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM - 8 PM. Oueer Scouts is an LGBTO+ 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

Nov 15 (Fri) - Deadline for Erie Gay News December 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, November 26.



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Nov 15 (Fri) - International STAND UP to Bullying Day International STAND UP to Bullying Day is a special event in which participants sign and wear a pink "pledge shirt" to take a visible, public stance against bullying. Browse to https://www.facebook.com/pg/standupday/.

Nov 16 (Sat) - Aging with Pride Book Club - Borrowed Time: An AIDS Memoir bu Paul Monette (Werner Books & Coffee 3608 Liberty St, Erie, PA 16508) 1 PM. Werner Books offers a 20% discount on books purchased for the book club.

Nov 16 (Sat) - Who Wants To Be A Drag Star: Round One (Meadville Council on the Arts, 910 Market St, Meadville, PA 16335, ) Doors open at 7 PM, and showtime is at 8 PM. In each round, drag performers will showcase their individual talents and compete in an on-stage challenge. The winner of each round will advance to the spring finale.

Nov 17 (Sun) - Aging with Pride planning meeting (Lake Erie Counseling Associates, 1932 W 8th St, Erie, PA 16505) 1 PM - 3 PM.

Nov 18 (Mon) - LGBTQIA+Health Focus Group Registration Deadline See article in this issue.

Nov 19 (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



#### 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.

Crime Victim Center of Erie County is available 24/7.

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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

Nov 20 (Wed) - Transgender Day of Remembrance
The Transgender Day of Remembrance was set aside
to memorialize those who were killed due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice. Browse to http://tdor.info/.
Nov 21 (Thu) - Spirit Day Each year on Spirit Day, millions go purple to support LGBTQ youth. #SpiritDay

Browse to http://www.glaad.org/spiritday.

Nov 21 (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.

Nov 21 (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

Nov 21 (Thu) - Aging with Pride Dinner (Wood Ladle Ramn & Rice Bowl, 4753 West Lake Rd, 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.

Nov 22 (Fri) - Coffee Social for LGBTQ+ Veterans (Panera Bread - Peach St, 4014 Peach St., Erie, PA 16509) 10 AM. The Coffee Social is meant to bring Erie's local LGBTQ+ Veterans together to connect and foster on going relationships of support and friend-ship. 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 likeminded individuals. Please call Brittany Miklos at 814-844-5944 or Alisha Mackey at 814-860-2174 for more information. This event is open to all LGBTQ+ Veterans in all counties served by the Erie VA. Your support will help make this an ongoing event for LG-BTQ+ Veterans to meet and connect

Nov 22 (Fri) - Thanksgiving Pre 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 Nov 23 (Sat) - TransFamily of NWPA (Erie) **Transgender Support Group TransGiving Potluck** (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. Nov 26 (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! You can also sign up for the Erie GLBT News and Events list at https://lists. eriegaynews.com/.

Nov 27 (Wed) – LGBTQ+ and Allies Happy Hour – All welcome (Julian's Bar & Grill, 299 Chestnut St, Meadville, PA 16335) 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM.

Nov 27 - 28 (Wed - Thu) - Boozegiving (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 8 PM. !Party with your chosen family! Open Thanksgiving Eve and Thanksgiving from 8 PM to 2 AM. 21 & over with ID. No cover charge

Nov 28 (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/.

Nov 30 (Sat) - Jane Lynch: A Swingin' Little Christmas (Struthers Library Theatre, 302 W 3rd Ave, Warren, PA 16365) 8 PM. Doors: 7:00PM / Show: 8:00PM. TICKETS: \$90 / \$75 / \$60. Jane Lynch: A Swingin' Little Christmas will be at Struthers Library Theatre on Saturday, November 30th, at 8PM. Presented by Northwest Bank. Classic holiday tunes come to life as Jane Lynch, Kate Flannery, Tim Davis, and the Tony Guerrero Quintet take the stage in "A Swingin' Little Christmas." This hilarious and heartwarming holiday extravaganza promises to be a delightful blend of comedy and music, ensuring a 'swingin' good time. The group has brought their joyful banter to audiences across the country, with their holiday album "A Swingin' Little Christmas" hitting Billboard's Top 10 Adult Contemporary chart. Hollywood Digest calls it "captivating," the comedy "spectacular" and the vibe "absolutely precious."

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