



# ERIE GAY NEWS

Serving the Regional LGBTQIA+ Community Since 1992



*At the crowning of Miss Erie Pageant of August 22, 2025. Photo by Michael Mahler.*

## Alejandra J-Love is Miss Erie 2025

by David Gurzenski-Lukes

Congratulations to Alejandra J-love, who was crowned Miss Erie 2025 at The Zone on August 22. The 1st runner-up was Alysia Wonderland. There was a tie for 2nd runner-up with Katherine Glamour and Morticia Monroe taking the honor. During the evening, special recognition was given to Katrina Twerk Island, Miss Erie 2024, for her many appearances in various surrounding communities in the last year.

“I so much appreciate the wonderful recognition I received at the pageant this year. It was very humbling,” said Katrina. Josh Smolinsky was the show director of the pageant.

Those in attendance were entertained by a dozen performers, some of whom had been on stage for years, while others had only been performing for a few months. However, all of them were rewarded with resounding applause when they exited the stage.

Another highlight of the evening was the announcement of the theme of the 2026 Miss Erie Pageant: “Quarter Quell. The name was selected because it will be the 25th presentation of the Miss Erie Pageant. It promises to be an all-star event. All

former Miss Eries will be able to compete for a second reign! “I definitely plan to compete again next year,” said Katrina. Michelle Michaels will be there as well. She says she isn’t coming to play, “I’m coming to slay! Don’t sleep on the old school queen.” Michelle will be “50 and fabulous” next year.

## National Coming Out Day: Erie Family Photo

by Bobbie Feno

2025 marks the 30th anniversary of Erie’s first Family Photo, and Erie Gay News (EGN) is inviting YOU to be part of this historic moment. On **National Coming Out Day, Saturday, October 11, 2025**, the LGBTQ+ community and allies will gather on the steps of the Erie County Courthouse from **11 AM to 1 PM** to celebrate three decades of strength, diversity, and progress.

At the heart of the celebration is the **Family Photo**, taken at **noon**. This will be a powerful and unforgettable visual testament to our resilience, unity, and pride. To honor this milestone, a professional photographer will capture not only the iconic group photo but also portraits of organizations and groups highlighting their impact in our region.

For the first time in its history, EGN will publish a **full-color special edition**, featuring these vibrant images as a lasting tribute to the people and organizations who have shaped Erie’s LGBTQ+ movement.

We want YOU there! Bring your friends, your colors, and your pride, and help us show the world just how strong, diverse, and united our community truly is!

### Help Make It Happen

To make this special anniversary possible, EGN is also seeking sponsors to help cover the costs of the photographer and printing the color edition. Sponsorship is an opportunity to both support the community and gain visibility in this historic publication.

#### Sponsorship Levels

- Friends (\$10–\$99): Help us create the cel-

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Serving the Regional LGBTQIA+ Community Since 1992

### Erie Gay News

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**Deadline for next issue: Mon, Oct 13**

**Folding and distribution is Tue, Oct 21 at**  
**Lake Erie Counseling, 1932 W 8th.**

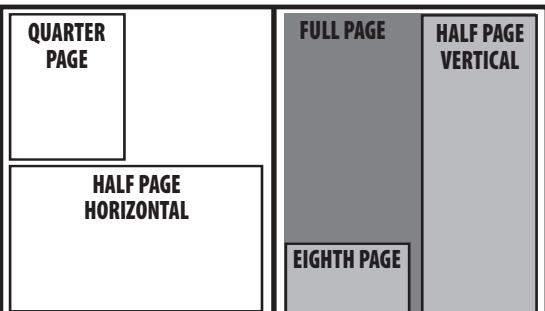
**ISSN 2159-1792**

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.



## Rates & Data



AD SIZE	PRICE/ISSUE	DIMENSIONS
EIGHTH	\$50 - \$45 Prepaid	15/8" high X 2 7/8" wide
QUARTER	\$80 - \$72 Prepaid	31/2" high X 2 7/8" wide
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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 HIRERS.

All hardcopy ads submitted will be reproduced as close as possible.

## THANKS

From Your Friends at Erie Gay News

To Lake Erie Counseling Associates for hosting! Andrea Shaffer, Audrey, Bobbie Fenno, Jeff Hill, Johauna, Kim Conti, Rex Apps, Steve Siwiecki, and Valerie Dutton for folding; Andrea Shaffer, Brett Staskiewicz, Jeff Hill, Johauna, Kim Conti, Rex Apps, Steve Siwiecki, and Valerie Dutton for distribution; Whee! Design for logo. If you're interested in helping out, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or info@eriegaynews.com.

- ebratory color issue.
- Family (\$100–\$499): Name listed on the banner (small print).
- Community (\$500–\$999): Banner name (medium print) + half-page ad.
- Society (\$1,000+): Banner name (large print) + full-page ad.

To sponsor or donate, contact Michael Mahler at [info@eriegaynews.com](mailto:info@eriegaynews.com) or (814) 456-9833.

Event details: <https://www.facebook.com/share/19UUBeMFFy/e>

Together, let's celebrate this incredible milestone!

## Come to Canvases of Caring on October 11

The Canvases of Caring fundraiser is taking place on October 11 to benefit Journey: Healing Together, a mental health facility located at 201 W. 11th Street in downtown Erie.

The October 11th event coincides with National Coming Out Day. William Koehler of Journey: Healing Together encourages our community to “Come Out to Care.” In today’s climate, visibility and

allyship matter more than ever, believes Koehler. Through this event, local LGBTQ and allied artists will donate 40 percent of the sale price of their submitted artwork to support trauma-informed wellness and community-building initiatives developed through the non-profit organization.

The event begins with a pre-sale VIP Happy Hour at 5:30 pm, during which those in attendance will be able to meet many of the artists present to discuss their pieces on display. Refreshments will be served as well. Tickets for the Happy Hour are \$25 and are to be purchased in advance at [www.journeyht.org](http://www.journeyht.org). Tickets for the Main Event are \$10 and can be purchased at the door. A gift basket raffle will also take place during the Main Event; its proceeds will add to the total raised by the benefit during the night.

## Ace Week Oct 26-Nov 1

By Marshall Blount

Ace Week 2025 is from October 19th to the 25th. This year, I encourage you to connect with the community and make sure YOU are taking care of yourself because these days, self-care is so important. Get that slice of cake and celebrate!

# Become a Foster Parent!

[FosterNWPAKids.org](http://FosterNWPAKids.org)



Family Services of NWPA



Jen and Katie - Erie, PA

## Support Homeless Animals at the 3rd Annual Barks and Boo(ze) Basket Raffle!

Mark your calendars! On Sunday, October 19, 2025, from 2-6 p.m., Pip-Skey's Foundation for Homeless Animals will host the 3rd Annual Barks and Boo(ze) Basket Raffle at Sneakers Bar - and you're invited!

Thanks to incredible community support, last year's event raised \$4,644 to help local animals in need. This year, we're aiming even higher.

Proceeds benefit Pip-Skey's Fix It Fund, which supports spay/neuter services, TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return) efforts, and direct aid to local rescues across Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, and Warren Counties - where shelters are facing unprecedented demand.

Event Highlights include: Themed Raffle Baskets, 50/50 Drawings, Pip-Skey's Merchandise, Pet Supplies (available for donation), A chance to win a signed Josh Allen jersey!

The event is open house style - come and go as you please, and you don't need to be present to win.

Want to help? We're seeking raffle basket donations to support this important cause. To contribute or learn more, contact Chrissy Conklin at [pipskeysfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:pipskeysfoundation@gmail.com). Visit us on Facebook, Instagram, or at our website for details.

Join us in making a difference - one animal at a time.

## GEAE's Afternoon For Equality on October 12

Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE)'s **Afternoon for Equality** helps empower GEAE to support the region's LGBTQ+ community and its allies through educational programs, social events, and service opportunities. These programs and events strengthen our voice, improve the quality of life in northwestern Pennsylvania, and propel us toward our mission to create a safe and welcoming community for all regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. **This year's Afternoon for Equality** is Sunday, October 12 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Hagen History Center, 356 W 6th St. The event features an open bar, heavy hors d'oeuvres, and music by the Stephen Trohoske Trio.

With significant shifts in the political and social spheres, these challenging and difficult times

make it even more important for GEAE to fulfil its mission to provide LGBTQ+ competency training and educational outreach, including our new LG-BTQ+ Speaker Series, to help ensure all members of the community are treated as equals. Support of GEAE allows training to occur across many sectors, allowing employers, employees, and individuals to understand the importance of and navigate through the vast challenges the LGBTQ+ community still faces, even after all the progress that has been made in recent years. Many people in the Erie area continue to meet health, safety, and education challenges. And these challenges will continue to grow as we may see substantial past victories in the court systems resurface for overruling.

Please choose one of our sponsorship levels pertaining to the meanings behind the original rainbow flag designed by Gilbert Baker. **You can make your ticket purchase and donation to support GEAE's programs through our website at [www.GreaterErieAlliance.com](http://www.GreaterErieAlliance.com).** Your partnership will help us continue our work now and into the future when the LGBTQ+ community needs even more support.

## Community Spotlight: Erie County HIV Task Force

by *Gary Snyder and Bobbie Fenno*

Since the earliest days of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, Erie County has been directly impacted. The first local case was reported in December 1986, and by then, those diagnosed nationwide were surviving an average of just 15 months. Over the years, a number of support and advocacy groups have worked to raise awareness, support those living with HIV, and fight stigma. Out of this history, the Erie County HIV Task Force was formed in 2014 to carry that



*Erie County HIV Task Force hosted the 8th Annual HIV/AIDS Awareness Walk on May 19, 2025.*

work forward. The group brings together HIV testing and treatment providers, volunteers, and advocates to increase awareness of HIV, its treatment, and prevention.

The Erie County HIV Task Force was founded by a coalition of community leaders - Kelly Kidd and Steven Malinchik from Community Health Net, Sylvia Holland and Laura Beckes from the Erie County Department of Health, Lynn Laurence from the PA Department of Health, Matt Robison from NW PA Pride Alliance, and Michael Mahler from Erie Gay News and NW PA Pride Alliance. The group is chaired by the Erie County Department of Health and serves the entire county, which covers over 270,000 residents.

The Task Force hosts several signature events each year. **World AIDS Day**, observed annually on December 1, is a memorial honoring those lost and a call to action for continued awareness. Since 2018, the group has also organized the **HIV Awareness Walk**, typically held in May, and members are a regular presence at local LGBTQ+ events such as **Erie Pride Fest** and the **Pride Picnic**.

Looking ahead, the Task Force is preparing to launch a new initiative in late 2025 to increase

awareness of **HIV PEP (Post-Exposure Prophylaxis)**. This project will provide vital resources to both healthcare providers and the public about what steps to take if someone believes they may have been exposed to HIV.

The Erie County HIV Task Force meets monthly to discuss local and statewide HIV initiatives, share updates, and plan outreach. Community members are encouraged to get involved, whether through volunteering, attending events, or simply helping to spread awareness.

Learn more at [echiv.org](http://echiv.org), follow on Facebook at [facebook.com/EriePAHIV](https://facebook.com/EriePAHIV), or on Instagram at [instagram.com/EriePAHIV](https://instagram.com/EriePAHIV).

## Who Wants to be a Drag Star Is Returning

by *Cherry Falwell*

Who Wants to be a Drag Star, the bi-monthly drag competition show hosted by Cherry Falwell, is returning for a second season at a new venue. "We had such a great run at Meadville Council on the Arts, but unfortunately, their theater space is no longer available. The show was a surprise hit for sure; we sold out every round. Multiple times, we had to turn



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folks away at the door because there wasn't enough space in the theater. Partnering with Voodoo gives us room to grow, plus both food and drinks will be available for the audience to enjoy," said Cherry Falwell.

Each round features five contestants who are new to drag or new faces to the area, showcasing their talent. They're also given a surprise on-stage challenge that tests their ability to think on their stilettoed feet. "Open stages are a great way for newer performers to try things out and introduce themselves to the scene. Our contest is open to all genders and all kinds of drag - queens, kings, things... everybody is welcome," said host Cherry Falwell. Head judge Travis Smith (aka Lady Travesty) and DJ/occasional guest judge Snarebear will both be returning for season two. Guest judges for the season will feature local drag legends. The first round of the second season will be held November 15th at Voodoo Brewing Company in Meadville, PA.

## **March and Rally in Harrisburg on Oct 26**

The Pennsylvania Coalition of LGBTQ+ organizations will be holding a March and Rally at the Capitol in Harrisburg on Sunday, October 26, 2025. We are calling on the LGBTQIA+ community and our allies to join us at the Capitol steps at 1 PM for a march immediately followed by a rally for the following four points:

- LGBTQ+ Rights are Human Rights
- Healthcare is a Human Right
- Healthcare Needs to be Fully Funded
- LGBTQ+ Rights must be Affirmed In the Law

Now more than ever, our healthcare is at risk. Most hospitals that once provided gender-affirming services for people 19 years old and younger have stopped offering such care. HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has cut funding for HIV preventive medications and rolled back vaccine prevention options for other illnesses.

Marriage equality is at risk with upcoming Supreme Court cases. Because of the *Mahmoud v. Taylor* case from the US Supreme Court, public schools are at risk of pulling LGBTQIA+ books from school libraries. Our rights and existence are on the line, and we want to send a clear message to government officials at the local, state, and national levels that we are one unified community. For details on the march

and rally, visit the Action page on the Pennsylvania Equality Project website at [paequality.com](http://paequality.com).

## **17th Annual Diversity Service at Community United Church Oct 26**

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

The staff and congregation of Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA, warmly invite you to join us on Sunday, October 26, at 11:00 AM as we celebrate our seventeenth 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 seventeenth year of Open and Affirming certification.

## **Aging with Pride on the Three Rivers**

On Friday, September 5th, members of Aging with Pride Erie traveled to Pittsburgh to meet with the OWLS (Older, Wiser Leaders) of the PERSAD Center in Pittsburgh. This is the second meeting between the two groups, and interest is high in continuing this new friendship. The day started with lunch at the Sheraton at Station Square, where about 20 OWLS met with Aging with Pride members. Following that, everyone headed to the Gateway Clipper dock, where everybody boarded a boat (The Three Rivers Queen) for a tour of the three rivers. The weather was beautiful, the tour guide was very informative, and everyone learned about Pittsburgh's 466 bridges (most in the world), the beautiful Pittsburgh skyline, and the rivers themselves. There was even a short lesson on "Pittsburghese" for those unfamiliar with the dialect and the accent. Everyone had a great time, lots of photos were taken, and ideas were being proposed for the next get-together later in the fall.

Aging with Pride Erie: Aging with Pride, an organization of senior LGBT+ members and allies, develops and sponsors social/recreational and edu-

cational events to promote healthy leisure activities, community, and an active, enjoyable lifestyle. <https://www.agingwithprideerie.org>

PERSAD Center Pittsburgh: Persad Center, is the nation's second oldest licensed mental health center (1972) specifically created to serve the LGBTQ+ community. <https://www.persadcenter.org>

## Miss Erie Alejandra J-love conveys her thoughts on winning the crown

"I was very nervous that night, of course," admits the new Miss Erie 2025, Alejandra J-love. "When competing, you never know what the judges are looking for. When my name was announced as the winner of the pageant, I remember a voice in my head saying, "We did it!" according to Alejandra.

Her talent in the contest was an impersonation of Selena Quintanilla with the purple costume she wore in her last concert. Another outfit she wore for the pageant was a custom-created mermaid sequin gown fully encrusted in green crystal stones inspired by the world-renowned emerald gemstones of Colombia. Alejandra's upcoming appearances as Miss Erie include monthly performances at The Zone nightclub. She will also be a performer at Erie Pride Day.

Alejandra, who has been doing drag for 16 years, says it gets easier the longer she performs. "Still, I always get nervous when I'm in a new place where I've never performed before. But normally, when the DJ is playing my music, nothing in the world can describe how much I enjoy being on stage. Drag to me is art where I can express myself. The process of making my costumes, as well as mixing and applying my makeup, is a way of making more love every day."

## Lead with Pride: Join the NWPA Pride Alliance Board of Directors

Are you passionate about creating a more inclusive and visible LGBTQ+ community in Northwest Pennsylvania? Do you have the leadership skills and dedication to help guide our organization into the future? The NWPA Pride Alliance is seeking dynamic and committed individuals to join our volunteer Board of Directors.

### Our Mission

Since 2012, the NWPA Pride Alliance has been dedicated to improving the visibility of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, In-

## Get paid to be a LGBTQ+ research participant!

Are you between the ages 21 and 65?

Do you want to help healthcare providers learn how to make cervical cancer screening (aka a pap smear) a better experience for you?

If you are interested in participating in a research interview to talk about your experiences with cervical cancer screening, please contact

Andi Fair at [ajf28@case.edu](mailto:ajf28@case.edu).



Do you have a cervix?

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If you meet the criteria, you will be scheduled for an interview that will take about 1 hour. You will be thanked for your time and participation with a \$25 Visa gift card.

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Greater Erie Alliance for  
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tersex, and Ally/Asexual (LGBTQIA+) community. We foster equality, respect, and diversity through our events and community-building initiatives, including our annual Pride on the Bay celebration. Our goal is to create a safe and welcoming environment where everyone can be their authentic selves.

### ***The Role of a Board Member***

As a member of our Board of Directors, you will play a crucial role in shaping the strategic direction of the NWPA Pride Alliance. This leadership position involves providing essential governance and oversight, actively participating in fundraising and donor cultivation, and serving as a key ambassador for our mission throughout the community. Fulfilling these responsibilities requires a dedicated commitment to attending regular board meetings and engaging in vital committee work.

### ***Who We're Looking For***

We are looking for passionate community and professional leaders who are deeply committed to our mission of creating a more inclusive Northwest Pennsylvania. The ideal candidate is an advocate for the LGBTQ+ community, ready to dedicate their time, talent, and resources to help our organization thrive and support its vital work.

We are particularly interested in candidates with experience in:

- Fundraising and development
- Marketing and communications
- Non-profit governance
- Legal and financial expertise
- Community organizing and outreach

The NWPA Pride Alliance is committed to building a board that reflects the diversity of the community we serve. We strongly encourage people of color, transgender and gender-diverse individuals, and people of all ages and abilities to apply.

### ***How to Apply***

If you are ready to make a difference and lead with Pride, we invite you to apply for a position on our Board of Directors. Please complete our online application form at [nwpapride.org/board-application](http://nwpapride.org/board-application).

For more information, please contact Patrick Hiller at [vicepresident@nwpapride.org](mailto:vicepresident@nwpapride.org).

## **Miss Great Lakes Comedy Queen**

### **2025**

by *Cherry Falwell*

Miss Great Lakes Comedy Queen, a preliminary to the National Miss Comedy Queen pageant, was held in Batavia, NY, on Saturday, September 6th, celebrating the reign of Great Lakes Comedy Queen 2024, Morticia Monroe. Five contestants representing Northwest Pennsylvania and New York competed for the title. Miss Viola of Elmira, NY, was crowned Miss Great Lakes Comedy Queen 2025, winning awards for Best Outrageous Evening Gown, Best Presentation, and Best 60 Second Spokeswoman. Cherry Falwell of Meadville, PA, was named first alternate, winning awards for Best Interview, Best Comedic Talent, and the audience vote for funniest performer. The evening included entertainment from Erie's own Debbie Does Drag, the current reigning National Miss Comedy Queen. Miss Viola and Cherry Falwell both qualified to compete at National Miss Comedy Queen 2026 in March in Orlando, FL.

## **Ohio LGBTQ+ Intersectionality Listening Sessions**

The Greater Mahoning Valley LGBTQ+ Community Needs Assessment invites you to participate in an intersectionality listening session as part of a local LGBTQ+ research study. This research is important because it helps us understand the needs of the LGBTQ+ community in our area and find ways to support them better. There are six different sessions scheduled to run from October 7 through November 13.

Who can join? Anyone aged eighteen (18) or older who identifies as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, or Questioning who lives in certain counties in Ohio, including Trumbull, Mahoning, Columbiana, or Ashtabula, or those living in the surrounding areas who depend on the Greater Mahoning Valley to meet their needs. One session is scheduled for LGBTQ+ youth ages twelve to seventeen (12-17).

Please note that each participant is eligible to attend a maximum of two (2) intersectionality listening sessions. Please choose the session(s) that best align with your identity and availability, as attending more than two (2) sessions is not permitted. Click 'Sign-Up' for your selected session.

During the listening session, a facilitator will guide the group through a series of activities

where you can share your experiences, perceptions, concerns, and needs as a member of the LGBTQ+ community of the Greater Mahoning Valley. It will take about 90 minutes, and as a thank-you, you will receive a \$30 gift card. Gift cards must be claimed in person to avoid scams and artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots from falsely obtaining incentives.

Your privacy is important! We won't use your name or personal info in any reports. If you're under 18, your parent or guardian needs to sign a permission form for you to participate and receive your gift card.

We don't expect any big risks, but you can choose not to answer any questions you don't want to. If you have any concerns or questions, contact Andrew M. Snyder at [asnyde20@kent.edu](mailto:asnyde20@kent.edu) or call 216.672.7330. This research has been approved by Kent State University Institutional Review Board and is being facilitated by The Center for Community Solutions.

**Next issue will include our  
Voters Guide for the Nov 4  
General Election!**



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# Calendar

For latest updates, see [www.eriegaynews.com](http://www.eriegaynews.com)

*Live & Let Live is an LGBTQQA-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](http://www.aaeriepa.org) or contact jmwiliams3603@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. Please drink responsibly.*

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

*Zone Wednesday Trivia Night, 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.*

*Thursdays- LGBTQIA+ Discussion Group (UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Safe Harbor, 1330 W 26th St, Erie, PA) 1 PM. This is a no-cost group facilitated by an experienced moderator and member of the LGBT+ community. This is also a place to share our struggles, journeys, triumphs, and setbacks and an opportunity to find community and support each other. Mental health and substance use present unique challenges to our community. For questions contact Michelle Wolf at [wolfmfe@upmc.edu](mailto:wolfmfe@upmc.edu) or 716-465-8736*

*Zone Thirsty Thursday (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 8 PM. Quench your thirst. Doors open at 8 PM. No cover. Cash only. 21+ with ID. Please drink responsibly. Browse to <https://thezonendanceclub.com/>.*

*Zone Friday Night Dance Party, 133 W 18th St, 7 PM. With DJ Joe & MC Buffy. Kick off the weekend! Doors open at 7 PM. \$5 cover after 8 PM. Cash only. 21 and over with ID.*

*Zone Saturday Night Dance Party, 8 PM. Dance, drink, fun, food. With DJ Joe & MC Buffy. Doors open at 8 PM. \$5 cover. Cash only. 21 and over with ID.*

*Zone Sunday Funday, 8 PM. Reset, unwind, recharge, relax. Doors open at 8 PM. No cover. Cash only. Happy hour 8 PM - 10 PM. \$1 off bottled beer, \$2 well drinks. 21 and over with ID.*

**Sep 12 - 26 (Fri - Fri) - Buffalo United Artists: The Last Croissant** (Compass Performing Arts Center, 545

Elmwood Ave, Buffalo, NY 14222) Two couples, an obituary writer and their stoner brother find themselves sharing a cramped campground. Soon, chaos erupts as they are all sent spiraling trying to find themselves in the woods. The Last Croissant is a farce about Camping, Bears, Origami Paper Cranes, and that time when you were saving something, and you didn't enjoy it soon enough.

**Sep 24 (Wed) - Meadville Queer Happy Hour** (Julian's Bar & Grill, 299 Chestnut St, Meadville, PA 16335) 5:30 PM - 9 PM.

**Sep 25 (Thu) - Queer Youth support group meets** (James Prendergast Library Association, 509 Cherry St, Jamestown, NY 14701) 5 PM. For ages 12-21. Please contact Kaden Mason at (716) 720-8712 or [kmason@lutheran-jamestown.org](mailto:kmason@lutheran-jamestown.org) or Lisa Schmid-Miller at (716) 338-8702 or [lschmidmiller@lutheran.jamestown.org](mailto:lschmidmiller@lutheran.jamestown.org) with any questions.

**Sep 26 - 27 (Fri - Sat) - David Rousseve/REALITY: Becoming Daddy AF** (Kelly Strayhorn Theater, 5941 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15206) 7:30 PM. Celebrated dance-theater artist David Rousseve returns to KST with the world premiere of *Becoming Daddy AF*, his first full-length solo in over 20 years. This intimate performance is a powerful meditation on life's purpose, blending 600 years of ancestral genealogy, from France, Portugal, Germany, Mali, Senegal, Haiti, and Cuba, with Rousseve's journey living with HIV and the profound loss of his husband of 26 years. Revisiting 35 years of dance-making, Rousseve explores what "virtuosity" means for a 64-year-old body.

**Sep 26 (Fri) - Full Spectrum LGBTQIA+ Adult Group** (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 660 W Earle Ave, Youngstown, OH 44511) 5:30 PM - 7 PM. Group for adults who identify as LGBTQIA+ in a casual environment where we can discuss current events and get to know each other in this new and improved monthly group! Light refreshments and snacks available. FREE!

**Sep 26 (Fri) - Death Becomes Pissi Gabune** (Boro Bar, 117 Meadville St, Erie, PA 16412) 9:30 PM. Featuring Pissi Gabune, Miss Wonda, and Tiny Richard. 21+ with valid ID

**Sep 27 (Sat) - 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

**Sep 27 (Sat) - TransFamily of NWPA (Erie) Transgender Support Group** meets (Compton's Table, 3104 State St, Erie, PA 16508) 2 PM - 5 PM. Come join us

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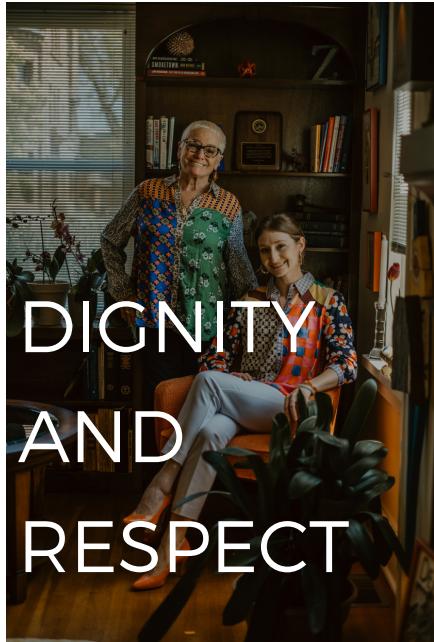
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for our monthly support meeting at Compton's Table in the Central Outreach Building. Enter through the rear entrance. Light snacks and refreshments provided. Join us for a community in a comfy, no pressure environment! All are welcome!

**Sep 27 (Sat) - Female Feature Fest Centennial Hall (formerly Basement Transmissions)** (Centennial Hall, 145 W 11th St, Erie, PA 16501) 2 PM - 11 PM. By Dread Metal Productions, Erie Siren Productions & Mayhem Music Promotions. "Join us for a day of performances, workshops, and networking. Connect with amazing female artists and get inspired by their creativity. This event is all about empowering women and showcasing their talents.

**Sep 30 (Tue) - Aging with Pride Dinner** (McGarrey's Oakwood Cafe, 1624 W 38th st, Erie PA) 6 PM. Everyone is on their own for the meal. RSVP to Peter at (814) 384-9785 (text or voice).

**Oct 1 - 31 (Wed - Fri) - 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 1 (Wed) - Erie Queer Happy Hour (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St St, Erie PA, 16501)** 6 PM. All members and allies are welcome!

**Oct 2 (Thu) - Compton's Table Chat & Chill Group (18+)** (Compton's Table, 3104 State St, Erie, PA 16508) 6 PM - 8 PM. Looking to boost your social skills, make new connections or just hang out in a chill, judgment-free zone? Chat N Chill is the place to be! We're all about creating a relaxed, sober space where you can be yourself, whether you're introverted or outgoing. It's a safe haven for the Queer community, where everyone's welcome and respect is the vibe. Join us to build confidence, learn new social cues, or some enjoy good conversation with great people. Chill vibes, real connections, all in a space that celebrates you. 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. Registration required to be sure that enough supplies are available. Register at <https://comptonstable.org/chatnchill>

**Oct 2 (Thu) - Lotz of Tea with Mona** 7 PM. With co-host Large Marge. Live streaming on Facebook, YouTube, and TikTok. <https://www.facebook.com/LotzofTea>.

**Oct 3 (Fri) - The 9th Annual Mark Pacheco WOW Fund Lip Sync Battle (American Legion Herman Kent Post 777, 26 Jackson Ave, Jamestown, NY 14701)** 6 PM - 2 AM. It's the largest lip sync battle in the Southern Tier and Western New York! There will

be (2) 50/50, live DJ Synergy entertainment, raffles, VIP seating, an amazing host with special guest appearances, the lip-sync battle, and affordable drinks and food will be available for purchase. It's a night of raising money for people with developmental disabilities to make their wishes and dreams come true. So grab a group of people and mark your calendars because this night will be epic, and you do not want to miss this must-attend fun event! For contestant and VIP seating, please reach out to Marcos on Facebook or 716-951-6118.

**Oct 3 (Fri) - G2H2 (Gay Guy/Gal Happy Hour)** meets (El Amigo Mexican Grill, 333 State St, Erie, PA 16507) 6 PM - 8 PM

**Oct 3 - 4 (Fri - Sat) - Michelle Michaels' Pink Party Weekend at the Zone A Tradition of Hope: The 21st Annual Pink Party Benefit Weekend** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) For 21 years, our community has come together to show its incredible heart, and it's time to do it again. Join us for the beloved Michelle Michaels' Pink Party Benefit Weekend, a two-night event where we party with a powerful purpose. This year, all proceeds from the weekend will be donated to Linked by Pink, a fantastic local organization dedicated to supporting individuals and families affected by breast cancer. The celebration kicks off Friday, October 3rd, with a spectacular Drag Show at 9:45 PM, hosted by the one and only Michelle Michaels. Throughout the weekend, you can show your support through our huge Basket Auction, a delicious Bake Sale, fun Jello Shots, and special merchandise. It's a weekend all about community, celebration, and making a real difference. Please Note: Winners for the basket auction will be drawn on Sunday before the bar opens. Doors open at 8PM. \$5 Cover. 21+ with ID. Cash Only.

**Oct 4 (Sat) - LGBT Venango Support Group** meets (Franklin Public Library, 421 12th St, Franklin, PA 16323) 10:30 AM. Peer-led support group for LGBTQ+ adults. We meet once a month upstairs at the Franklin Library.

**Oct 4 (Sat) - Cher-Nobyl: A Post-Apocalyptic Drag Tribute to Cher** (French Creek Coffee and Tea Co., 285 Chestnut St, Meadville, PA 16335) Hosted by Cherry Falwell. Featuring SnareBear, Pissi Gabune, Hydroxyzine, and Veronica Ville. Doors open 8 PM, show time 9 PM. 18+. \$5 cover.

**Oct 5 (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.

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Oct 6 (Mon) - Monthly Free HIV Testing at Full Spectrum (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 660 W Earle Ave, Youngstown, OH 44511) 1 PM - 4 PM. Help raise awareness about the importance of HIV testing to fight the spread of HIV virus. Free Condoms, HIV Prevention and support. Tests are confidential and use a small finger prick. Tests are provided by The Warren City Health Department.

**Oct 8 (Wed) - Dining Out for Life - WNY 2025** (Various Restaurants in Western NY) SAVE THE DATE: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2025 - WE HAVE DINNER PLANS! The most satisfying meal you'll ever eat! How does Dining Out For Life work? Make plans to dine out or order take out on Wednesday, October 8 (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 8 (Wed) - Bears Do Dinner #132** (Wooden Ladle Ramen & Rice Bowl, 4753 West Lake Rd, Erie, PA) 6 PM. Join the Bears for a casual dinner of food and conversation! Dinner is on your own. Contact: Peter Genco (814) 384-9785

**Oct 9 (Thu) - Aging with Pride Game Night** (Werner Books & Coffee, 3608 Liberty St, Erie, PA 16508) 5 PM - 8 PM. Bring games and/or cards with you, or just come to play what others bring

**Oct 9 (Thu) - ASCEND Erie Queer Scouts Climbing Club** (ASCEND Erie, 426 State St, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM - 8 PM. Queer Scouts is a LGBTQ+ climbing club, with the goal of creating connection and a safer and more inclusive outdoors community. Just look for the Queer Scout mascot, the tiny rainbow unicorn! Please check in at the front desk upon arrival. Not an ASCEND member? Enjoy a discounted \$15 Club Day Pass while attending these meetups.

**Oct 11 (Sat) - 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.

**Oct 11 (Sat) - National Coming Out Day 30th Anniversary Erie Family Photo** (Erie County Courthouse, 140 W 6th St, Erie, PA 16501) 11 AM - 1 PM. 2025 marks the 30th anniversary of Erie's first Family Photo. To commemorate, Erie Gay News has arranged for a professional photographer to capture the iconic group photo and also portraits of organizations and groups that wish to highlight their involvement. PLUS, for the first time in its history, EGN plans to publish a special edition featuring these photos in full color! Come join us

in making history and bringing the community together for the Erie Family Photo.

**Oct 11 (Sat) - National Coming Out Day Brunch is a Drag** (Cedars: West End, 706 Steel St, Youngstown, OH 44509) 11 AM. Hosted by the ever-fabulous Starlet O'Hara. Featuring dazzling performances by Kitty Katastrophy, The Wicked Wiz, and Maxxx Hysteria! Doors open at 10:30 am, event is 11:00 am - 2:00 pm. 18+ Only with ID at the door. Tickets in advance: \$25/person, \$45/couple, \$65/trio! or \$35 per person at the door! This event is a benefit of Full Spectrum Community Outreach

**Oct 11 (Sat) - Greater Erie Alliance for Equality (GEAE) "Beyond the Closet: Why Coming Out Still Matters"** (Brewerie at Union Station, 123 W 14th St, Erie, PA 16501) 3 PM - 4:30 PM. Brandon Wiley, Founder and CEO of Opened Eyes, will do a presentation on the importance of coming out from a counseling perspective followed by a Q & A session. Food will be provided along with a cash bar. Space is limited. Please RSVP to [etucker640@gmail.com](mailto:etucker640@gmail.com) no later than Wednesday, October 8th.

**Oct 11 (Sat) - Journey: Healing Together - Canvases of Caring** (Journey: Healing Together, 201 W. 11th Street, Erie, PA 16501) 5:30 PM. See article in this issue

**Oct 11 (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 11 (Sat) - ASCEND Erie Affinity Session for QFTW** (ASCEND Erie, 426 State St, Erie, PA 16501) 8 PM - 10 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 odd-numbered months and QFTW (Queer, Femme, Trans, Women) in even-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.

**Oct 12 (Sun) - Bricks & Booze: An Adult LEGO Building Night** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) 9 PM. Join our friends from the Northwest Pennsylvania LEGO User Group (NWPALUG) for a

casual, creative night here at The Zone. Bring the cool sets you just bought, show off your finds, and just relax with other adult builders. You can bring your own bricks or just come and play with ours! This is a 21+ only night, please bring your ID. No cover charge to build and hang out! The bar is cash only.

**Oct 13 (Mon) - Deadline for Erie Gay News November 2025 print edition (#360)** (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 21. For a complete list of upcoming deadlines and release dates, check the print edition schedule at [www.eriegaynews.com/printedit/deadlineschedule.php](http://www.eriegaynews.com/printedit/deadlineschedule.php)

**Oct 14 (Tue) - PFLAG of Chautauqua meeting** (Secret Undisclosed Location, 100 E 2nd St 2nd Floor, Jamestown, NY 14701) 6:00 PM. This is a safe, inclusive space where allies and queer community members can come together for support, discussion, and connection. Whether you've attended before or are joining us for the first time, we'd love to have you with us. Let's continue building our community, sharing our stories, and supporting one another. Please visit our Facebook group, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/594395124695283>.

**Oct 14 (Tue) - TransFamily of NWPA (Meadville) Transgender Support Group meets** (Empowerment with Grace, 941 Federal Ct Ste 104, Meadville, PA 16335) 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM. Join us for our monthly Crawford Support Group meeting! Please use the side entrance of the building on 296 Chestnut. It will have signage as Empowerment with Grace but this may not show up on your GPS.

**Oct 14 (Tue) - Youngstown PFLAG meets** (St. John's Episcopal Church, 323 Wick Ave, Youngstown, OH 44503) 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM. If you're GLBT, a parent of someone who is, or an ally and you're looking for emotional support, we encourage you to attend Youngstown PFLAG's monthly support group. You will be surrounded by understanding peers from the valley who will be able to listen and help. Support groups are open to the public, and it starts at 6:30pm. Light refreshments will be available.

**Oct 15 (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. <https://pronounsday.org/>.

**Oct 15 (Wed) - National Latinx AIDS Awareness**



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**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 16 (Thu) - Empowerment Through Advocacy: Building your Advocacy Toolbox - Webinar 2: From Harrisburg to DC** (Zoom) 11 AM - 12:30 PM. Presented by the Western PA LGBTQ+ Older Adult Advocacy Team and Age-Friendly Greater Pittsburgh, this webinar will provide attendees with a sense of hope for more positive days ahead. Josh will discuss advocacy to combat the negative efforts of politicians against LGBTQ+ and other older adults. Josh Dubinsky is a Housing Policy Advocate at SAGE and a representative of Pennsylvania LGBTQ+ Caucus

**Oct 16 (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](mailto:info@comptonstable.org)

**Oct 16 (Thu) - Lotz of Tea with Mona** 7 PM. With co-host Large Marge. Live streaming on Facebook, YouTube, and TikTok. <https://www.facebook.com/LotzofTea>.

**Oct 17 (Fri) - Erie VA LGBTQ+ Veterans Coffee Social** (Erie VA Medical Center, 135 E 38th St, Erie, PA 16504) 10 AM. The Erie VA Medical Center will have a coffee social for LGBTQ+ veterans at the Erie VA Veteran Canteen, located in the Erie VA basement at 135 E 38th St., Erie, PA 16504. Times are subject to change based on availability. The Coffee Social is meant to bring Erie's local LGBTQ+ Veterans together to connect and foster ongoing relationships of support and friendship. Veterans will learn about VA services available including: Hormone treatment, Substance use/alcohol treatment & tobacco cessation treatment, Treatment and information on prevention of sexually transmitted infections/PrEP, Mental Health, and Fitness (Diet and Exercise). For more information, contact Brittany Miklos at 814-844-5944. This event is open to all LGBTQ+ Veterans in all counties served by the Erie VA. LGBTQ+ Veterans interested in enrolling in VA Healthcare are encouraged to attend.

**Oct 17 (Fri) - Game Night** (Journey: Healing Together, 201 W. 11th Street, Erie, PA 16501) 5 PM. Part of Journey: Healing Together's Wellness Weekend.

**Oct 18 (Sat) - Journey: Healing Together - Crafter-**

**noon** (Journey: Healing Together, 201 W. 11th Street, Erie, PA 16501) 11 AM - 2 PM. Part of Journey: Healing Together's Wellness Weekend.

**Oct 17 (Fri) - Full Spectrum LGBTQIA+ Young Adult Group** (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 660 W Earle Ave, Youngstown, OH 44511) 5 PM. Sponsored by Natura Behavioral Healthcare! For young adults 18-24 who identify as LGBTQIA+ and questioning. FREE! Doors open at 5pm, light refreshments and snacks available! With Reanna Torres, LPC with Natura Behavioral Health and Katie from Full Spectrum Community Outreach

**Oct 18 (Sat) - Aging with Pride Book Club - Red, White & Royal Blue by Casey McQuiston** (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 18 (Sat) - Halloween Hangout at Full Spectrum Community Outreach** (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 660 W Earle Ave, Youngstown, OH 44511) 4 PM. Come join us for our annual Halloween Hangout opened to everyone across the Mahoning Valley!

**Oct 19 (Sun) - Crepes & Queens Halloween Drag Brunch** (Give A Crepe. La CrepErie, 1909 Chestnut St, Erie, PA 16502) 11 AM. Join hostess Cherry Falwell and featuring performers Misty Michaels Kall, Snare-bear, and Alysin Wonderland for some delicious crepes and a show full of ghouls, gals, and whatever Snare is. Plus, we might have one more special guest joining the cast - stay tuned! Steph's full menu will be available for purchase. This event is BYOB - bring your own bottle! 18+ to enter, 21+ to drink. Costumes are encouraged! We'll be having an audience costume contest.

**Oct 19 (Sun) - 3rd Annual Barks & Boo(ze) Basket Raffle with Pip-Skeys** (Sneakers, 100 W Harrison St, Jamestown, NY 14701) 2 PM - 6 PM. Featuring Basket Raffles, 50/50 Drawings, Pet supplies (by donation), Live music from Star Sirch Productions. MUST BE 21 TO ATTEND EVENT. Tickets: 1 for \$10 or 3 for \$20

**Oct 19 (Sun) - Journey to Recovery** (Journey: Healing Together, 201 W. 11th Street, Erie, PA 16501) 12 PM - 1:30 PM. Hear Q+ Community Members share their lead and how being queer impacted their Journey to Recovery. Part of Journey: Healing Together's Wellness Weekend.

**Oct 19 (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 18 (Sat) - Journey: Healing Together- Dissocia-**



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**tive Identity Group meets** (Journey: Healing Together, 201 W. 11th Street, Erie, PA 16501) 3 PM - 5 PM. For those with or family members of those with Dissociative Identity Disorder. Part of Journey: Healing Together's Wellness Weekend.

**Oct 19 (Sun) - Full Spectrum FREE Food Pantry** (Open to Anyone) (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 660 W Earle Ave, Youngstown, OH 44511) 2 PM - 4 PM. Join Full Spectrum community for our free monthly Food Party. This pantry is open to everyone not just members of the LGBTQIA+ Community. If you are a member of the LGBTQIA+ Community, please contact us for support with food and other services any time of the month text/call: 330.718.1859 NO RSVP REQUIRED.

**Oct 20 - 26 (Mon - Sun) - 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.

**Oct 20 (Mon) - Last Day to Register to Vote for General Election** General Election is Tuesday, November 4. You must already be registered to vote to apply for an absentee or mail-in ballot.

**Oct 21 (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 21 (Tue) - Radiant Faith** (Cathedral of St Paul, 134 W 7th St, Erie, PA 16501) 6 PM. 6:00 P.M. Gather around our table with the support of Compton's Table. This shared meal is more than nourishment—it's a time of fellowship, connection, and belonging. You are welcomed into a community where you are seen, valued, and loved. 7:00 P.M. Radiant Faith: A queer-centered gathering of worship, wonder, and welcome. Our gatherings are for spiritual seekers and offer a Christian-rooted encounter with the Divine—one who dwells within us and in the sacred connection we share with one another.

**Oct 21 (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!

**Oct 22 (Wed) - Meadville Queer Happy Hour** (Julian's Bar & Grill, 299 Chestnut St, Meadville, PA 16335)

5:30 PM - 9 PM. Find community and fun at NWPA Pride's Meadville Happy Hour! Join NW PA Pride Alliance for drinks & laughs. Everyone welcome

**Oct 23 (Thu) - Aging with Pride Dinner** (Habibi Mediterranean Cuisine, 127 W 14th St, Erie, PA 16565) 6 PM - 8 PM. Aging with Pride, an organization of senior LGBT+ members and allies, is meeting for dinner. Everyone is on their own for the meal. RSVP to Peter at (814) 384-9785 (text or voice).

**Oct 24 (Fri) - Full Spectrum LGBTQIA+ Adult Group** (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 660 W Earle Ave, Youngstown, OH 44511) 5:30 PM - 7 PM. Group for adults who identify as LGBTQIA+ in a casual environment where we can discuss current events and get to know each other in this new and improved monthly group! Light refreshments and snacks available. FREE!

**Oct 24 (Fri) - Compton's Table GayLa: Witch, Please** (Erie Art Museum, 20 E 5th St, Erie, PA 16507) 6 PM - 10 PM. Come out, come out, wherever you are, and get ready for a night of magic, music, and making change! The Witch, Please Gay-La is Compton's Table's biggest night of the year, featuring heavy hors d'oeuvres, signature cocktails, live entertainment, and a silent auction. Your ticket helps us raise \$25,000 to expand free programs like True North, Chat n Chill, Open Mic, and our mutual aid fund, meeting the growing needs of queer and trans youth in Erie. Witchy, whimsical, or cocktail attire encouraged. Come for the fun, stay for the impact.

**Oct 25 (Sat) - Rocky Horror Picture Show (Interactive) w/Shadow Cast** (Struthers Library Theatre, 302 W 3rd Ave, Warren, PA 16365) 9 PM. Adults: \$20 / Students & Seniors 62+: \$18 (props included.) Rated R - 100 Minutes. COSTUME CONTEST w/ PRIZES (ALL COSTUMES ENCOURAGED.) Evening Schedule: Karaoke: 7 PM. Costume Contest: 9 PM. Film begins directly after the costume contest

**Oct 26 (Sun) - Intersex Awareness Day** Intersex Awareness Day on October 26 marks the first public demonstration by intersex people in North America. Morgan Holmes and Max Beck of Intersex Society of North America (ISNA) were joined by allies from Transsexual Menace and other organizations. It took place on October 26, 1996 in Boston, Massachusetts outside a conference of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

**Oct 26 (Sun) - 17th Annual Diversity Worship Service** (Community United Church, 1011 W 38th St, Erie, PA 16508-2540) 11 AM. Please join us as we celebrate our 17th Annual Diversity Service, recognizing our national Open and Affirming status as a Christian congregation. Here, LGBTQ people are warmly welcome!

**Oct 27 (Mon) - Erie Cemetery Historical Tour** (Erie Cemetery, 2116 Chestnut St, Erie, PA 16502) 6 PM. Individuals responsible for purchasing their own tickets at [eriecemeteryassoc.com](http://eriecemeteryassoc.com)

**Oct 28 (Tue) - Last Day to Request a Mail-In Ballot for General Election** General Election is Tuesday, November 4. You must already be registered to vote to apply for an absentee or mail-in ballot.

**Oct 30 (Thu) - Queer Youth support group meets** (James Prendergast Library Association, 509 Cherry St, Jamestown, NY 14701) 5 PM. For ages 12-21. Please contact Kaden Mason at (716) 720-8712 or [kmason@lutheran-jamestown.org](mailto:kmason@lutheran-jamestown.org) or Lisa Schmid-Miller at (716) 338-8702 or [lschmidmiller@lutheran.jamestown.org](mailto:lschmidmiller@lutheran.jamestown.org) with any questions.

**Oct 31 (Fri) - Full Spectrum Halloween Homecoming** (Full Spectrum Community Outreach Center, 660 W Earle Ave, Youngstown, OH 44511) 6 PM - 10 PM. Join us if you dare! Come join us at the outreach as we celebrate Halloween surrounded by music and good company! \$5 in advance, \$10 at the door. Will have free food and drink for all attendees! We will have prizes for best costume, best couples costume and other categories, so start working on those spooktacular outfits now! All money raised will be split with The Rustbelt Theater Company, Rainbow Tree Community & Radiant Refuge Ministries! We're dying to see you!

**Oct 31 - Nov 1 (Fri - Sat) - Halloween Weekend - Whispers from the Woods** (Zone Dance Club, 133 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16501) Friday, October 31: costume contest at midnight. Cash prizes! Saturday night dance party, DJ Joe and MC Buffy. Doors open at 8 PM. \$5 cover, cash only.

**Oct 31 (Fri) - The Rocky Horror Picture Show - 50th Anniversary** (Reg Lenna Center For The Arts, 116 East Third St, Jamestown, NY 14701) 10 PM. Doors open at 9 p.m. RESTRICTED ITEMS: Super-soaker style water guns, bags/boxes of rice and hot dogs. Admission requirements subject to change. \$15 per admission at Box Office. \$17 per admission online or by phone. Online ticket sales end 2 hours before movies and events. Buy tickets through registration link, purchase at the door, or call 716.484.7070. Box office open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 12 - 5 p.m., and one hour before events.

**Oct 31 (Fri) - 14th Annual Halloween Party** (M & J's Lounge, 124 Mercer St, Butler, PA 16001) Prizes for Scariest and Funniest costumes. Surprises throughout the evening.



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**NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY**  
**30TH ANNIVERSARY**  
**ERIE FAMILY PHOTO**  
**OCTOBER 11, 2025 AT 11:00AM**

Erie County Courthouse  
140 W. 6th St Erie, PA 16501

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# 5

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