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10/8/14	How to Produce a Product Video	10:00 – Noon
10/16/14	Planning Your Holiday Advertising & Promotions	9:00 – 11:00
10/22/14	Influencer Marketing: The New PR	9:00 – 11:00
10/30/14	Creating & Promoting Your YouTube Channel	9:00 – 11:00
11/5/14	HTML & CSS: Learn to Code a Webpage	9:00 – 3:30

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FROM THE EDITORS

The polls are officially open. After collecting nominations for nearly a month from you, our readership, we have closed the nomination period for our Best Of Erie Awards, and now proudly present to you the complete and finalized list of nominees eligible to win.

In short, if a nominee fit the bill — as in, it was accurate and applicable — it made the ballot. If it wasn't — say you nominated what you thought was a locally-made product and turns out it's actually made in Buffalo, we disqualified it from having a chance to be voted on.

See your favorite person, place, or thing in multiple categories? That's because it was nominated in each category — and is eligible — and could win multiple Best Of Erie honors. That is, the same establishment — if it gets the most votes — could take home the hardware for Best Restaurant, Best Cocktail, Best Wine List, Best Dessert, and more.

Don't see your favorite person, place, or thing on the Best Of ballot? That means it wasn't nominated; but don't fret, there's always next year.

So, how does one vote now that the polls are open?

It's simple: Visit ErieReader.com and click the link in this very column or click on the

Best Of Erie image on our homepage. From there, you'll be prompted to enter your name and your email address. Don't worry; we're not looking to spam you. Instead, we'll send you a verification via email that'll confirm you're registered to vote.

That email will also contain a link to the voting polls. Once you click that, your browser will automatically open and welcome you to the polls. Then you can begin voting.

Once there, you'll see the four main Best Of Erie categories: Goods & Services; Culture & Nightlife; Food & Drink; and People & Places. You can easily navigate from one category to the next and your votes will be saved as you remain active throughout the ballot.

You'll also see a note, reading: "Each vote is placed and saved when clicking 'Place Vote.'" It's as simple as that.

Second-guessing your decision later? You can go back into your ballot and change your answer before the polls close — and you can change your answer as many times as you'd like. However, you can vote only once — we're trying to keep things as fair as possible when it comes to the voting process — so if you change your selection, it doesn't add a second, third, or seventh vote in the process.

Want to vote on the go? You can do that eas-

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ily. The voting process is mobile-friendly, so if you're out and about and want to cast your ballot from your smartphone or tablet, you can.

The cool thing about all of this, too, is that we're giving you plenty of time to cast your Best Of Erie ballot. You have from now until 11:59 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10 to vote. Once the clock strikes midnight, the polls will be officially closed for the 2014 Best Of Erie Awards and we'll begin tallying the votes.

When you pick up our Oct. 15 issue, you'll see the top-three vote-getters published for all the available categories. We'll then announce the winners at the 2014 Best Of Erie Awards Party we're hosting Thursday, Oct. 16 (that's a hint to mark your calendars now).

We've said it before, and it bears repeating: We love our city and our region, and we love the work we get to do here at the *Reader in bringing you the issues that matter and creating a forum for ideas and discussion. And we love that many of you took the time to submit thousands of nominations. Now we're looking forward to you voting on what you think is the Best Of Erie — because after all, this city and this region belongs to all of us and we have much here to celebrate.

Happy voting!

Street Corner Soap Box

America's New Two Minutes of Hate: The Tale of ISIS and the Media

By: Jay Stevens

Here's how government officials are talking about ISIS – the “Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant,” the militant group that recently took over a swath of territory in northern Iraq.

ISIS is an “imminent threat to every interest we have,” according to U.S. Secretary of Defense, Chuck Hagel. “This is beyond anything that we've seen.”

“This is an organization that has an apocalyptic, end-of-days strategic vision that will eventually have to be defeated,” said Joint Chiefs of Staff chair, General Martin Dempsey. Dempsey warned that ISIS wanted to absorb Jordan, Syria, and Israel into its “caliphate.” “If it were to achieve that vision,” said Dempsey, it would “create a security environment that would threaten us in many ways.”

Senators John McCain and Lindsey Graham penned in a *New York Times* op-ed that ISIS is “the world's most sinister terrorist army” and that “it must be confronted.” Rear admiral John Kirby told the press that the government wasn't ignoring the group's “global aspirations.” President Obama called the group “a cancer.”

The media, too, has pitched in, repeatedly publishing video and images of the beheading of U.S. journalist James Foley by masked ISIS members. Newspapers talk of the “war on ISIS.” Bloggers and cable news networks report on ISIS plots to kill the Pope and attack a Carlsberg beer brewery. “Saudi king warns jihadists could attack U.S.,” proclaims one Fox News headline; “ISIS crisis: Will next terror attack on American soil come from a British jihadist?” reads another. ISIS is massacring dissidents. ISIS is killing Christians. ISIS is beheading children.

Look familiar? It should to anyone who has lived through our recent war-making in the Middle East. It's our “Two Minutes Hate” – from George Orwell's 1984 – the short, televised programs intended to inflame citizens of a state perpetually at war by showing them exaggerated images of their “enemies.” “The horrible thing about the Two Minutes Hate was not that one was obliged to act a part,” wrote Orwell, “but that it was impossible to avoid joining in.”

Ever since 9/11, in fact, we've been subjected to blaring propaganda campaigns against one regional group after another. The Taliban beat girls for attending school. Saddam Hussein stockpiled chemical weapons and aided al Qaeda. The Iraqi insurgent suicide bombers. Iran's nuclear bomb. The Syrian government gassing its own people.

Many news reports are accurate. The Taliban did forbid education for girls and women, for example, and enforced that ban through brutal tactics. But the images

and causes end as soon as our military targets shift. Do you think girls and women now have ready access to education in Afghanistan? Has Bashar al-Assad stopped kidnapping and torturing children? Has Iran abandoned its nuclear program?

And, of course, like everything in the Middle East, ISIS is more complicated than how it's portrayed by the mainstream media.

Comprised mainly of Sunni, former Baathist leaders – the political party of former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein –

Like everything in the Middle East, ISIS is more complicated than how it's portrayed by the mainstream media.

ISIS is an insurgent group looking to gain territory in Iraq. It's likely its Islamic extremist rhetoric and identity is manufactured to attract foreign fighters. ISIS' roots stem from the U.S. invasion of Iraq and its aftermath. The leaders of ISIS today were turned away from participating in Iraq's new government because of their ties to the former regime. They turned to war to oppose the U.S. occupation and the increasing marginalization of Sunnis in Iraq. Their gains, too, aren't merely a result of terror and will. After all, ISIS is a relatively small group compared to, say, the Iraqi army. But they have support from the Sunni population in the north.

To understand why Sunnis would support a violent terror group like ISIS, you have to understand Iraqi internal politics and the prime ministry of Nouri al-Maliki and his campaign to consolidate federal power in the hands of Iraq's Shia population – a campaign that saw the disqualification of Sunni political candidates from elections and the arrest of sitting Sunni government leaders, as well as the arrests and beatings by Iraqi Shia-dominated police and military of Sunnis, all of which culminated in the violent government crackdown of a Sunni protest camp in Ramadi.

ISIS, despite their atrocities, may be the popular alternative in northern Iraq to

the country's federal government. And ISIS probably isn't the international terror threat Fox News makes it out to be.

And then there's ISIS' role in the tangled insurgency in Syria, where rival groups are just as bad as ISIS and our best possible ally in that theater may be Syria's brutal dictator, whose campaign of terror against his own people make ISIS look like choir boys. Or Shia-dominated Iran, which also has strong interest in preserving Iraq's federal government and opposing ISIS. Even Foley's death at the hands of ISIS is more complicated when you consider more than 100 journalists have been killed in Syria since the civil war started in the winter of 2011-12, as well as more than 70,000 civilians. It's an ugly, dangerous region, and ISIS is hardly the first or only group who has murdered a reporter.

Why do we single out ISIS then? Why are some banging the drum for war when there are no good choices, no good outcome from any U.S. intervention?

Politics.

Congressional Republicans saw in ISIS' capture of Mosul and Falluja a chance to attack President Obama over the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq, as well as to re-imagine the Republican-led invasion and occupation of Iraq into something positive. In response, the Obama administration upped its rhetoric, likely so as not to appear “weak” on foreign policy issues. The press responded by upping its lurid coverage of ISIS to prepare the rest of us for more U.S. bombs and money heading to the Middle East. Or maybe it's about the oil.

And so, our Two Minutes of Hate.

Here's the thing: ISIS might actually be a threat. But thanks to the endless propaganda campaigns to get us to flush trillions of dollars and nearly 6,000 of our men and women down the bottomless hole of Iraq and Afghanistan – and all to only make the region less stable – it's hard for us to separate fact from fiction any more.

What I do know is that there are bigger threats in the States. Police kill two black men a week in American cities. Car accidents kill over 500 each week. An MIT study revealed domestic air pollution kills 200,000 Americans a year. Global warming threatens our economy, way of life. Only these problems can't be bombed.

Our best option in northern Iraq may be to do nothing. War is not peace.

Jay Stevens can be contacted at Jay@ErieReader.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @ [Snevets_Yaj](https://twitter.com/Snevets_Yaj). To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or visit <http://erindr.com/2p13f>



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TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING,
IS STILL A GOOD THING.

Considering the City

Waterfront Development

By: CIVITAS members Lisa Austin and Stephen Sonnenberg

John O. Norquist (the Mayor of Milwaukee during that city's dramatic revitalization) says that if communities "want their waterfronts to come alive [they should build] small cafes, bars, and retail outlets to reflect the people and the culture." Marilyn Jordan Taylor, dean of the University of Pennsylvania School of Design reports that "high-quality public spaces spur private development." The renowned former Mayor of Bogota, Colombia, Enrique Penalosa, claims that "good pedestrian space" is the key to vital cities.

Instead of focusing on waterfront hotels, waterfront parking lots, and private housing on the waterfront, Erie should be creating "high quality public spaces" to "spur private development" of "small cafes, bars, and retail outlets" that reflect Erie's rich past – and present. The twin barriers of the bluff and highway must be overcome and embraced – to showcase the city's unique geography and history – and to connect the city to the water.

Three waterfront projects currently underway could be modified to create a pedestrian-friendly environment and spur more economic development in Erie.

No. 1. Kennedy's Cobblestone Hotel

At the foot of Liberty Street, Tom Kennedy is building a Cobblestone Hotel on the south side of the Bayfront Highway. Instead of a freestanding suburban structure, the Cobblestone could be built directly against the bluff. A rooftop hotel deck connecting with a Liberty Street pedestrian highway overpass would make the Cobblestone a regional landmark while helping to revitalize West Bayfront neighborhoods.

Guests at the Cobblestone could walk four blocks south along the historic, tree-lined boulevard to enjoy a rack of "St. Louis Style Ribs" at Three B's Saloon on the corner of Liberty and West Fourth streets or pick up some cold-cuts at Sammy's Food Deli on the 700 block to enjoy lunch in stately Gridley Park. Fans of architecture could take a walking tour of Millionaire's Row along West Sixth Street, admire the Villa Complex filling a city block at West Eighth, or stroll by the historic synagogue on West Tenth Street. Shoppers could check out the artwork for sale at U Frame It or browse at the secondhand store on West Eighth Street.

No. 2. Scott Enterprises Development

Scott Enterprises is planning a welcome mixed-use development project along Front Street to complement the Erie Maritime Museum and Blasco Library. Another parking deck will be constructed to serve this construction as well as UPMC Hamot. But, instead of viewing a parking deck from the Bayfront Highway, a band of commercial development (or architecturally-scaled pub-



lic art) could be designed to hide the parked cars.

In July, the Zoning Hearing Board voted to allow the Scott project's hotel a height variance with a condition stating that "for each additional square footage of real estate created by the height variance, an additional square foot of open space is to be dedicated to the public, excluding parking lots," providing tangible "community benefit" there. Scott's plans call for more public space, but the residential development proposed along the public access path adjacent to both of his waterfront parcels will not help revitalize the city. Along the public path and water's edge, Scott should be encouraged to build, "small cafes, bars, and retail outlets" that will attract residents and visitors year-round (residences can be constructed above commercial spaces.).

No. 3. Convention Center Hotel

A new hotel adjacent to the Sheraton Hotel will be constructed on the small site west of the Convention Center as a lower-priced alternative to the existing hotel. Access to the hotel's lobby and waterfront restaurant seating will be available from the public walkway as well as the main south-facing hotel entrance, but no public access was planned beyond the required walkway.

After ongoing discussions about public amenities at the waterfront, on Aug. 20, City Councilman Dave Brennan proposed a requirement for "an 800-square-foot landscaped plaza" to permit residents, as well as hotel guests, a chance to enjoy Erie's amazing sunsets. Like the zoning board's July approval of a height variance for Scott Enterprises (with the condition of increased public space) Brennan's condition will provide a "community benefit" to balance the corporate benefit of increased height on the waterfront.

Still, a GAF site master plan is needed and should delineate multiple paths to entice both residents and hotel guests to stroll over to the Sloppy Duck, Liberty Park and other, future destinations.

Unfortunately, the Convention Center man-

The Sea Organ in Zadar Croatia. The Sea Organ creates music when water interacts with tubes located beneath the surface

agers are planning to build a city-block-long parking deck on GAF site. The parking deck should be installed on the large Convention Center parking

lot, something Brennan proposed in a 2012 Times-News letter to the editor, suggesting it would create "more area on the GAF site for additional development or public space."

The justification for the garage's construction on the GAF site (claims of securing the GAF's toxic waste) doesn't make sense. Once "entombed," the GAF's toxic materials do not present a hazard. Any non-residential commercial or public space could be pursued. The real reasons for putting the parking deck on the GAF site may be a desire to preserve highway views of the Convention Center, or a preference for keeping parking as close as possible to the new hotel.


To make the most of its waterfront, Erie needs a plan to create vital public spaces, and more connecting paths to attract commercial development – rather than adding to the more than 2,000 existing waterfront parking spots (many of which are empty most of the time.)

Kennedy should be encouraged to connect Liberty Street to the waterfront as a part of his Cobblestone Hotel development. The Convention Center Authority should move the proposed parking deck to the existing parking lot east of Sassafra. The city needs to find a way to influence Scott Enterprises to abandon its perfectly legal plan to build private residences on the ground floor of waterfront buildings and instead help these investors to establish the small, diverse commercial establishments that our Gem City needs.

One hundred and one years ago, a famed planner (John Nolen) said that Erie "faces a promising future" if the residents plan "wisely and unselfishly." The question remains: Will we?

Civitas members can be reached at their website www.civitaserie.com, via Facebook at CivitasErie, by emailing Lisa@lisaustinpa.com or by scheduling a Friday morning meeting at the Civitas office in the Masonic Building, 32 W. Eighth Street. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or visit <http://eridr.com/24qxx>





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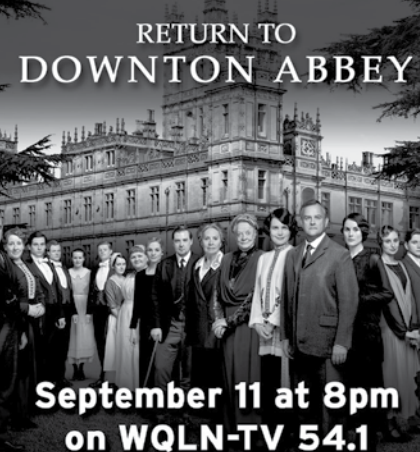
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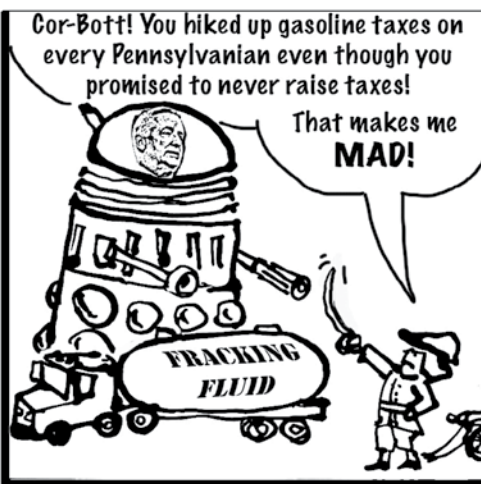
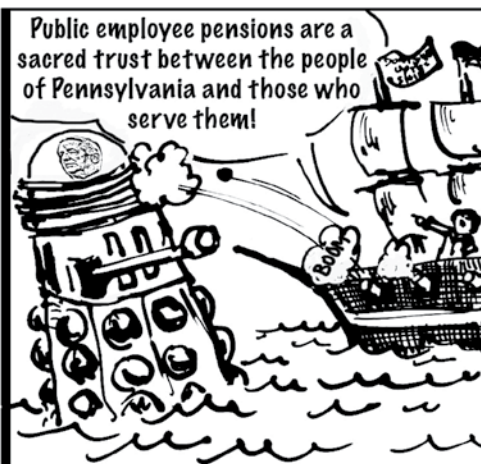
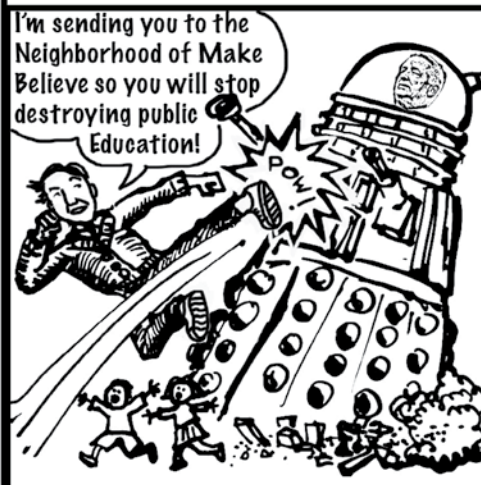
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Port Authority Names New Director

What does it mean for the future of the Keystone State's only port city?

By: Jim Wertz

The Port of Erie could very well be the region's most important resource. It provides a critical aesthetic to the bayfront and lakefront that governs the way visitors – both native and foreign – think about this community. It also serves one of the most legitimate economic development functions in Northwest Pennsylvania.

This critical resource is primarily governed by the Erie-Western Pennsylvania Port Authority. A change in power at that organization could be seismic, affecting the Port's industrial and community landscape.

Port Authority Executive Director Ray Schreckengost announced his retirement in July and will leave the post on Oct. 31.

"He's a tough guy to replace," says Jeff Johnson, chairman of the Port Authority board of directors, of the man who's filled the post since 1994.

Schreckengost was a prominent and sometimes controversial fig-

ure, and his decisiveness about the form and function of bayfront development sometimes took an adversarial tone. But such controversy isn't outside the scope of that position.

On Tuesday, Aug. 26, the Port Authority board of directors announced that Schreckengost would be replaced by Brenda Sandberg, director of the City of Erie's Department of Economic and Community Development.

The board began its search for Schreckengost's replacement in July by publicizing the opening in local media and "a number of publications," according to Johnson.

The search yielded only eight applicants, all from Pennsylvania.

"Three were from Harrisburg – two of whom were from Erie and wanted to return – one was from Philadelphia and the others were local," says Johnson.

The region has experienced a dearth of applicants for executive positions at public institutions in recent years.

County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper, and her predecessor Barry Grossman, asked County Council for wage increases for top positions in county government – including warden of the Erie County Prison – in order to attract a more competitive pool of qualified candidates.

Salaries for executive directors at other Great Lakes port authorities range from \$108,000 to \$300,000, according to published reports.

Sandberg will earn an annual salary of \$95,000 at Erie's Port Authority.

Most executive directors at member ports of the American Great Lakes Ports Association – which includes the Erie-Western Pennsylvania Port Authority – have extensive experience in port operations, engineering, and business administration.

Sandberg's experience is primarily in urban planning and economic development.

Nevertheless, Johnson contends that Sandberg's experience and

temperament qualify her for this job.

"She knows how to deal with the public. She'll handle the job," Johnson says.

Before working in economic and community development for the Sinnott Administration, Sandberg was the CEO of the Erie Downtown Partnership. Both roles gave her extensive experience with grant writing, which the Port Authority board identified as a key criterion in its search to replace Schreckengost.

"I see the work of the Port Authority as such a huge economic driver," says Sandberg. "It's a natural transition. I've worked with developers on the zoning side, with downtown business owners, and this office (economic and community development) does a lot of grant seeking, so this is the perfect package."

The Port Authority board of directors has several priorities, including infrastructure improvements to the Liberty Park amphitheater, but it also wants to see more development of industrial shipping needs.

"The industrial end of the Port of Erie is of critical importance," says Johnson. "Fifteen locomotives recently went to Mozambique from

the Port of Erie. We need to do more of that. Brenda has the financial background. She knows how to write grants, and she's been inside the political ring and has contacts at the State and Federal levels."

The Port of Erie will play as important a role in Erie's future as it has in its past. It will require dynamic leadership that can move the region forward without alienating the community and its needs with regard to waterfront access and related amenities.

"It's a tricky balance," Sandberg says. "The port – being the keeper of the bayfront master plan – can work with developers to work their way through what makes economic business sense to them while respecting what our community's need is."

Sandberg leaves her job at city hall on Sept. 5 to serve as assistant executive director of the Authority. She officially takes the reigns from Schreckengost on Nov. 1.

Jim Wertz can be contacted at jWertz@ErieReader.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @ [Jim_Wertz](https://twitter.com/Jim_Wertz). To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or visit <http://eridr.com/zi2cn>



2014 Fall Schedule

All programs are held at times scheduled at the Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State Street.

Breakdown of Program Costs (unless otherwise noted):

Distinguished Visiting Speaker Lectures: \$15/person; \$25 with a guest

Distinguished Visiting Speaker Luncheon: \$20/person; \$30 with a guest

Lectures: \$10/person; \$15 with a guest

Historical Boat Tours: \$10/person

Historical Tour: \$800 per person; \$1,500 with a guest (an extra \$150 will be charged to those who want a single occupancy hotel room)

Payments must be made at registration.

Act 48 hours for the Erie Catholic Diocese, Erie Day School, Erie School District, Corry, Fort LeBoeuf, Girard, Harborcreek, and Wattsburg teachers apply to ALL programs at no additional cost.

For more information or to register, call 814-459-8000 or visit www.JESerie.org. Visa, MasterCard, AMEX and Discover accepted. SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Day / Date /Time	Title	Instructor	Program Type
Mon./Sept. 8/7:00-8:30	Judging a Work of Art (And Having Them Return the Favor)	Michael DeSanctis, Ph.D.	Free Lecture
Tues./Sept. 9/7:00-8:30	England's Most Unforgettable King: Henry VIII and his Struggles with the Church and Marriage	William P. Garvey, Ph.D.	Lecture
Wed./Sept. 10/7:00-8:30	And War Came to "The World of Tomorrow"	David Cope, M.Ed.	Lecture
Thurs./Sept. 11 and Sept. 18/5:00-7:00	Historical Boat Tour: Erie's Evolving Waterfront	Jerry Skrypzak, B.A. & David Frew, Ph.D.	Presque Isle Aquabus Tour/Lecture***
Mon./Sept. 15/7:00-8:30	Shipwrecks of Lake Erie: A Return to the Quadrangle	David Frew, Ph.D.	Free Lecture
Wed./Sept. 17/7:00-8:30	ISIS: The New Face of Terror in the 21 st Century	Baher Ghosheh, Ph.D.	Lecture
Sat./Sept. 20 – Tues./Sept. 23	Virginia Dynasty Tour	Jefferson Society Staff	Historical Tour
Mon./Sept. 22/7:00-8:30	Albert Einstein: Analyzing Genius	Douglas Stone, Ph.D.*	Distinguished Visiting Speaker Lecture
Tues./Sept. 23/11:30-1:30	Unique Health Challenges of Minorities: Causes and Solution	Charles Modlin, M.D., M.B.A.*	Distinguished Visiting Speaker Luncheon**
Wed./Sept. 24/7:00-8:30	The Golden Age of Science: An Update on the Science of Tomorrow	Carl Hultman, Ph.D.	Lecture
Mon./Sept. 29/7:00-8:30	The Uses and Misuses of Standardized Testing	Robert Longworth, Ph.D.*	Distinguished Visiting Speaker Lecture
Wed./Oct. 1/7:00-8:30	Mid-Term Elections of 2014: Overview and Analysis	David Kozak, Ph.D.	Free Lecture
Thurs./Oct. 2/7:00-8:30	Remarkable American Women: Maya Angelou	Corrine Egan, B.A.	Lecture
Mon./Oct. 6/7:00-8:30	The Importance of Mindset for Innovational Thinking in Shaping the Futures of China & the U.S.	William Johnson, Ph.D.	Lecture
FRACKING LECTURE SERIES			
Tues./Oct. 7/7:00-8:30	Unconventional Shale Development: Is Your Health at Risk?	Jan Hendryx, D.O.	Free Lecture
Thurs./Oct. 9/7:00-8:30	The Mechanics and Geopolitical Future of Fracking	Dan Doyle, M.F.A.	Free Lecture
Sat./Oct. 11/7:00-8:30	An Evening of Acappella	Lake Erie Sound/ Flagship City Show Chorus	Free Performance
COURSES/Discussion GROUPS Limited Registration			
Tues./Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30, Oct. 7, Oct. 14/4:00-5:30	Great Books Discussion Group: Great Conversations	Corrine Egan, B.A.	Course/Discussion Group
Thurs./Sept. 18, 25, Oct. 2, and 9/4:00-6:00	The Art of the Tale: An International Anthology	Marjorie Podolsky, M.Ed.	Course/Discussion Group

*Denotes Visiting Lecturer from outside the Erie Community
 **Advanced registration for luncheons is REQUIRED.
 ***Advanced registration for Historical Boat Tours is REQUIRED. Space is limited to 30 individuals per tour.

News of the Weird

By Chuck Shepard

All War Is Weird, But This ISIS War ...

As summed up by a Vox.com writer: “The absurdity runs deep.” America uses American military equipment to bomb American military equipment that ISIS captured (from inept Iraqi soldiers, inept in part since America disbanded Iraq’s professional military in 2003). America’s Kurdish allies, fighting ISIS, use inferior Russian weapons they captured in the 1980s. ISIS has a so-far-safer haven in Syria because America declined to arm moderate Syrian rebels, largely out of fear that radicals like the future ISIS would capture weapons America provided. “So now (America is) bombing the guns that (it) didn’t mean to give ISIS because (America) didn’t give guns to their enemies because then ISIS might get guns.” [Vox.com, 8-8-2014]

Compelling Explanations

Thomas Clark, 28, of Crawley, England, beat one of society’s most foreboding charges in July when he was acquitted of voyeurism even after admitting that he had hidden that video camera in a workplace rest room, and even despite evidence that he formerly worked in the pornography industry. Clark persuaded a Horsham Magistrates Court judge that he suffered an extreme phobia of diarrhea and vomit and that, by hiding the camera, he was thinking only of ascertaining that the rest room was clean before he entered. [Crawley News, 7-25-2014]

In America, We’re All Great Parents: (1) Kayla McKenzie, 22, was charged with DUI in Bismarck, North Dakota, a condition that led her to crash into five separate vehicles or structures on Aug. 12 -- while, according to police, three unsecured children were in her car, including a year-old infant riding in her lap. Nonetheless, said the 0.252 blood-alcohol driver, “I look like a bad mother, but I’m not. I’m actually a really good mom.” (2) Rayvon Campos, 22, pleaded guilty in San Antonio in August to first-degree felony assault of his 1-month-old daughter that resulted in brain hemorrhaging. Nonetheless, he reassured the judge, “This is the first time I’ve ever been in trouble. ... I’m a real good dude.” [Bismarck Tribune, 8-13-2014] [San Antonio Express-News, 8-14-2014]

Suspicious Confirmed

A fire hydrant at 393 University Ave. has brought in more parking ticket revenue (since 2008) than any other hydrant in Toronto -- \$289,620 on 2,962 violations, according to an August Toronto Star report. While hydrants are usually located at curbside to facilitate fire-engine access, the one at 393 University Ave. was placed about 20 feet from the curb, in the middle of a sidewalk, and obscured by a tree in a planter about 8 feet long. (Nonetheless, the law’s wording treats the hydrant, for illegal-park-

ing and revenue-earning purposes, as if it were curbside.) [Toronto Star, 8-11-2014]

A woman hiking in Down Valley Park near Placerville, Colorado, told Denver’s KUSA-TV in August of her narrow escape from a mountain lion that had stalked her for a half-hour (crouching menacingly each time she attempted to retreat). At the closest point, recalled Kyra Kopestonsky, it was about 8 feet away. At that point, she told the reporter, “I don’t know why,” but “I just started singing opera really loud.” The mountain lion “sort of put its ears down and ... backed away.” (Only then was she able to call a friend, who alerted rescuers.) [KUSA-TV, 8-5-2014]

Police Report

Arrest Him at Your Peril: In July, a jury in Brooklyn, New York, awarded Kevin Jarman, 50, \$510,000 from the city for the broken ankle he suffered during his arrest for shoplifting in May 2011 (a charge to which he eventually pleaded guilty). Among his other New York City income: a \$20,000 settlement for false arrest on a drug charge in 2013 and another, for \$15,000, in 2005. [New York Post, 7-17-2014]

I Know the Feeling, But: (1) Gloria Baca-Lucero, 48, was arrested in Albuquerque in July after allegedly holding a Comcast cable installer’s tool bag at gunpoint in her home. She said she believed that her service call was free, but the installer told her otherwise, and she apparently decided to detain the tool bag. (2) German truck driver Michael Harry K., 58, went to trial in August in Wuerzburg, Bavaria, charged with firing his gun in the direction of drivers more than 700 times in five years out of displeasure with their poor road habits. He never actually hit anyone (but police said he caused at least one serious injury by frightening a driver into a collision). [Albuquerque Journal, 7-30-2014] [Agence France-Presse via Yahoo News, (London), 8-11-2014]

Immature: (1) Princeton University professor John Mulvey, 67 (who teaches financial engineering applications), was charged in July with stealing 21 yard signs around the town of Princeton -- signs for a computer repair business owned by a man with whom he was feuding. (2) Nathan McCoy, 21, sought by police near Boise, Idaho, in July on a probation violation, took off running, forcing officers to chase him onto the Eagle Hills Golf Course. McCoy sought “refuge” in a pond, standing waist-deep as deputies tried to coax him out, but even with the pond surrounded, it still took McCoy a half-hour of standing there to conclude that he did not have a Plan B. [Daily Princetonian, 7-14-2014] [Idaho Statesman, 7-23-2014]

The Way I See It

The ISIS Dilemma: Should the U.S. increase its efforts in the fight against ISIS?

By: Rebecca Styn

Whether you know it as the Islamic State, or as Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, or as media continues to cover it, as ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria), this Sunni jihadist group in the Middle East is one of the most sophisticated and powerful terrorist groups across the globe.

To put it in perspective, ISIS was tied to Al-Qaeda, the most renowned and violent global terrorist group -- but that was only until February. Al-Qaeda has since broken ties to ISIS, reportedly due to its “brutality” and “notorious intractability.”

Yes, Al Qaeda -- the group that boasts Osama bin Laden and Abdullah Azzam; they find ISIS *too* extreme.

ISIS continues to make headlines, most recently because of the brutal treatment and killing of American journalist James Foley. Foley had been missing in Syria since 2012, and on Aug. 19, ISIS murdered him in retaliation to U.S. airstrikes against ISIS in Iraq. The taped beheading was publicized globally, emphasizing the evil incarnate that emanates from this group of 50,000 militants strong -- and it’s growing.

Currently, at least 69 other journalists from countries around the world have been killed covering the war in Syria, and more than 80 have been kidnapped, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists. In addition, “approximately 20 journalists, both local and international, are currently missing in Syria,” the Committee states on its website.

Initially, journalists were welcomed in Syria. But as conflict continues to grow, they are viewed as meddlers and ultimately targets -- and as strategic components to terrorists in an effort to capture greater attention of the westernized world.

Before Foley’s death, ISIS was utilizing social media to draw attention, both to appeal and threaten -- in one capacity to recruit young westerners, in another to terrorize, such as the creation of a mock death video of Steven Sotloff, another American journalist being held by ISIS. After the U.S. airstrikes in Iraq, the terrorist group responded with a hashtag campaign, #AMessageFromISIS-toUS, threatening the U.S. with retribution. Prior, the messages were in Arabic; now, they are being distributed in English.

Things are only getting worse.

Saudi King Abdullah ibn Abdilaziz recently warned that Middle Eastern terrorists could soon reach Middle America unless something drastic is done. Thus far, the U.S. has relied on airstrikes, President Barack Obama stating the U.S. will not put boots on the ground. Since Aug. 10, the Obama administration has deployed more than one-hundred strikes through the use of drones and fighter jets to stymie ISIS’ objec-

tive: To expand its self-declared caliphate -- an Islamic state led by a supreme religious leader known as a caliph (successor) to Muhammad. While there had been talks of increased efforts in Syria [read: additional air strikes], on Aug. 28, Obama stated he had no plans to expand the effort. Media have criticized him after his most recent press conference, as he essentially stated that, presently, there is no direct strategy to address ISIS. However, the reality of the situation is there is no great present solution.

ISIS has claimed the establishment of the caliphate and announced their leader: Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. Their goal now is to grow by conquering the entire Muslim world, spreading the Caliphate farther.

They haven’t reason to surrender; they’re an ideology, not a state, without borders with civilian centers and political structures and can’t be defeated with political prowess. Their strategy is to grow in numbers *through fighting*. When attacked, they retaliate, and through their retaliation create more power and influence.

And there’s the financial cost. Any escalation of war will be expensive. Current air strikes are costing the U.S. \$7.5 million daily. The total cost of the Iraq operation against ISIS, which started June 19, stands at \$560 million. And the President, Congress, and the citizens of the U.S. have little appetite for additional U.S. debt.

Conversely, the reasons for increased involvement are significant. The point of the War on Terror, the conflict that we have been fighting for 13 years, tallying more than \$4 trillion, was to eradicate terror-based organizations. If we are to hold to George W. Bush’s 2001 declaration, it seems simple: We forge ahead and increase U.S. efforts to use the full force of the U.S. and international coalition military power and to make defeating ISIS our number-one priority.

But at what expense do we make such a decision?

Obama has already promised to not allow the U.S. to be dragged into another war in Iraq. A mission like this would substantially burden the U.S. by most likely weakening our already vulnerable economic state and depleting resources at home and globally. But if we don’t act, we risk the expansion of ISIS and its mission.

All of this lingers around one question: Members of ISIS know what they stand for, but, more importantly, do we?

Love? Hate? Agree? Disagree? I want to hear from you. Email me at rStyn@ErieReader.com, and follow me on Twitter @rStyn. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or visit <http://eridr.com/11d01>





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Anais Mitchell
09.30 // Erie Art Museum

The skinny: Prolific and powerful, this 33-year-old singer-songwriter hails from Montpelier, Vt., but travelled extensively in her youth, to which many credit her vivid and distinct storytelling ability. A true folk artist, she's released six full-length albums, of which it's difficult to pick just one stand-out, each varying in its approach and delivery but all remaining bold, poignant, and relevant.

On radars because: Aside from being an NPR and *Pitchfork* darling, she's opened for the likes of Bon Iver and released several records on Buffalo-based Ani DiFranco's Righteous Babe Records label.

Worth seeing because: Her latest effort – *Child Ballads* – features folk ballads she along with Jefferson Hamer, arranged from a collection by the same name from American folklorist Francis James Child, which results in smart, fun, thoughtful and thought-provoking narratives.

Mercy Killers
10.02 // Taylor Little Theatre

The skinny: Timely and on-point, *Mercy Killers* is a one-man political-drama that turns one man's American Dream on its head as he wakes to find his wife diagnosed with cancer and without health insurance.

On radars because: Writer/director Michael Milligan – a Julliard product – received national and international accolades after presenting this story in theatrical form at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, for which it notched the 2013 Fringe First Award.

Worth seeing because: Whether you believe health care is a privilege or a right, this production will leave you with questions about your own politics, the American system, and what the future of our health care

Clockwise from top left: Ben Sollee, Martha Graham Dance Company, Samite, Jose James. Opposite page, top: Project Trio, bottom: The Intergalactic Nemesis.

system should be. To boot, Mulligan will be joined by a panel of public health officials after the presentation to potentially provide some answers to those lingering questions.

The Official Blues Brothers Revue
10.22 // Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

The skinny: Wayne Catania and Kieron Lafferty team up to don the hats and the sunglasses and rock the essence of swagger and American Cool into two of our favorite bluesmen: Jake and Elwood Blues.

On radars because: Unless your address directs people to a dwelling situated beneath a solid, mineral-based structure, you're familiar with John Landis' hallmark 1980 flick starring John Belushi and Dan Akyroyd, which followed numerous SNL sketches years earlier. This is that – live and on stage.

Worth seeing because: There's only one Blues Brothers duo sanctioned by Dan Akyroyd and Judith Belushi – and this, ladies and gentlemen, is it. And they really know how to rock "Soul Man."

Samite
11.14 // Walker Recital Hall

The skinny: When he was just twelve years old, Uganda-native Samite – after years of playing traditional African flutes – curled his fingers around and pressed his lips to a western-style flute. Quickly he became a national phenom in his home country, but political unrest forced him to immigrate to Kenya in 1982 and later the United States in

MIAC 2014-2015 Preview

A look at the upcoming season, including performances by Anais Mitchell, Ben Sollee, and Jose James.

By: Ben Speggen

Venues to see live music and performances in Erie come and go. Sprouting up one by one, some wither, some survive, and others thrive – all for various reasons.

After some pruning and cultivating in 2011 when the performance house on the hill transformed from the Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center into an Institute with an academic component, the Mercyhurst Institute for Arts and Culture finds itself in the latter grouping as it continues to blossom.

Under the new leadership of a familiar face – Christine Olivier – MIAC is growing and expanding programming for its 2014-15 *Live Performance Series*, bringing in acts that will satisfy those looking for classic performances as well as those looking for the relevant, *they're-hot-right-now* artists.

That is, both those reveling in the established and familiar goodness of internationally recognized acts like Yamato and those looking to see the next Snarky Puppy can delight in both types of acts this year.

Olivier, an *Erie Reader* 40-Under-40 alum who was named the programming director in early 2014, came to Erie three years earlier during that transition, when she served under then-director Jamie Grady. With Grady's departure, Olivier stepped up to helm the arts organizations' programming, making this year's lineup her debut solo season.

The season kicks off with William Close & The Earth Harp collective on Sept. 5 and concludes on April 2 with Chris Brubeck's *Triple Play* – a clear example of the diversity found amongst the thirteen acts spread out over just eight months and four venues.

In order to help you best plan your calendar, here you'll find a lineup of this year's performances featuring: *The skinny*, why these acts are on the radars of people-in-the-know, and the reasons why they're worth seeing.

William Close & The Earth Harp Collective
09.05 // Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

The skinny: *Rolling Stone* called this act "one of the five coolest things about Coachella," but to be more specific, it's the marriage of music and architecture that's given birth to the world's largest string instrument that produces cello-esque sounds in an avant-garde performance that's truly an aural experience for the audience.

On radars because: This inventor and musician finished third on NBC's *America's Got Talent* back in 2012, garnering him national acclaim for his inventions and talents.

Worth seeing because: The Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center won't just serve as the stage for instruments and performers – it will be the instrument, with harp strings streaming up from the stage to the PAC balcony.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

JANETTE BECKMAN



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

'87, where he brought his musical genius.
On radars because: Samite established Musicians for World Harmony, a nonprofit organization that introduces music to African orphans.
Worth seeing because: Samite's performance concludes a weeklong artist-in-residency program in Erie. And he'll be teaming up with Northwest Pennsylvania's own Grammy Award-winning David Cullen.

Ben Sollee
 11.20 // Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center
 On Stage performance

The skinny: Not to say that the cello isn't

cool, but the thirty-year-old composer *really* makes the cello cool. It's probably because genre-bending and genre-stretching are his thing, easily navigating from the world of classical music to bluegrass and folk to jazz and R&B.
On radars because: An NPR darling - *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered*, and *Mountain Stage* have all lauded him - the Lexington, Ky.-native teamed up with Casey Driessen, Bela Fleck, and Abigail Washburn in 2005 to form The Sparrow Quartet. After the group's 2008 debut release, he released his first solo EP and first LP and hasn't slowed down since, headlining solo tours



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and collaborating with the likes of bands like My Morning Jacket.

Worth seeing because: Off the heels of his breakout performance at Carnegie Hall, Sollee will perform on stage with the audience – as in, the audience will be seated right along side of him, making for the most intimate of MIAC performances this year.

Moya Brennan Christmas

12.12 // Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

The skinny: The Irish folk singer harkens back to traditional Irish music while exploring contemporary forms, giving her performances a fresh yet educated and influential feel that have landed her gigs in front of Presidents and Popes alike.

On radars because: This Emmy Award winner's also garnered Grammy Award nominations. She's the vocal powerhouse behind Clannad, which has also featured fellow singer – and sister – Enya.

Worth seeing because: Her live performances – particularly her solo efforts – are an engaging blend of visual and aural exhibition.

Diavolo

01.13 // Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

The skinny: Renowned choreographer Jacques Heim sets architecture into motion with two distinctly different performances: *Trajectorie* and *Fluid Infinities* in one night.

On radars because: This performance has a very Cirque du Soleil-feel for good reason: Heim worked with the troupe known for not-of-this-Earth blending of acrobatics, exotic costuming, and fairytale-inspired storytelling before founding Diavolo in 1992.

Worth seeing because: *Trajectorie* captures the undulation of the human experience

awash in a sea of emotion charted for destiny and destination, while *Fluid Infinities* probes perseverance of life beyond space and time. Both feature marvelous aerobatics that augment – not distract – from Heim's rich storytelling.

José James

01.23 // Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

The skinny: The NYC-based vocalist isn't bound by genre, flowing seamlessly from jazz to hip-hop to neo soul. A product of the prestigious New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music, James expands on a rich history of soul-based artists while experimenting with genre-mixing to create a product all his own.

On radars because: From performances on *The Late Show with David Letterman* to heavy praise from NPR Music, James' innovative stylings make him a distinct yet accessible artist who demonstrates both originality and respect to those who influence him.

Worth seeing because: An artist on the rise, Jose James draws comparisons to the likes of Miguel but perhaps more of-the-moment, and fittingly, Frank Ocean. For his PAC performance, James will pay homage to Billie Holiday

The Intergalactic Nemesis: Target Earth – A Live Action Graphic Novel

02.04 // Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

The skinny: It's as if a radio-play met a comic book for drinks in a theater and together



VINCE SCACCHETTI

they spawned an entirely new art form via an all-ages adventure story – behold: The live-action graphic novel. More than a thousand full-color, hi-res comic book panels capture the sci-fi story on a movie screen while actors voice all of the characters, special effects pipe in via a Foley artist, and a cinematic score accompanies the plot on piano.

On radars because: From the *Wall Street Journal* to PBS to *The New York Post* to dozens of other media outlets, this new show has just about everyone who's anyone in showbiz talking.

Worth seeing because: Odds are, you haven't seen anything like this before. Ever.

Martha Graham Dance Company

03.04 // Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

The skinny: The renowned dance company that bears the name of a woman synonymous with the art of *dance* will present a new work by Andonis Foniadakis revolving around the myth of Narcissus and Echo with beautiful storytelling through movement, demonstrating just what gifted, athletic, and creative bodies can do and tell.

On radars because: The Martha Graham Dance Company is the oldest – and arguably the most celebrated – modern dance company in America.

Worth seeing because: This new work doesn't just hash out the same old story, but instead breathes a contemporary relevance into it to create *Myth and Transformation* – which also features an original score by longtime Foniadakis' collaborator Julien Tarride.

Project Trio

03.28 // Walker Recital Hall

The skinny: The Brooklyn-based trio of flautist Greg Pattillo, cellist Eric Stephenson, and double-bassist Peter Seymour leaves no gap between classical music, jazz, hip-hop, rock 'n' roll, Americana, and bluegrass unfilled and unexplored,

and after a week-long artists-in-residence program here, they're performing two concerts – one in the afternoon, and one in the evening.

On radars because: Both the art of combining the elements of cello and bass with a beatboxing flautist and a knack for social media groundswell have resulted in this act tallying up more than 70 million views on YouTube and more than 70,000 subscribers to their channel, FreedomWorksFilms, making them one of the most viewed chamber music ensembles on the Internet.

Worth seeing because: The fusion of classical music with hip-hop has never been cooler than with a beatboxing flautist and a cello and double bass.

Chris Brubeck's Triple Play

04.02 // Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

The skinny: Prominent American musician and composer Chris Brubeck plays a lot. But in Erie, he'll bring his Triple Play, which features a swinging Louisiana style, where classical jazz, blues, and funk flirt with contemporary interpretation and the vibes interplay in a fusion delight.

On radars because: Chris's father, the legendary jazz pianist and composer Dave Brubeck, took to the PAC stage six years ago. Chris joined his father in '72 – along with brothers Darius and Daniel – to form The New Brubeck Quartet. Later, he and his brothers charted out sans dad with The Brubeck Brothers Quartet.

Worth seeing because: *The Chicago Tribune* calls Chris "a 21st Century Leonard Bernstein," which is high – and accurate – praise, making this a performance for those digging the classics while wanting to dabble in the future.

Ben Speggen can be contacted at bSpeggen@ErieReader.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @ERBenSpeggen. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or visit <http://eridr.com/1xyet>



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Dig Earth's largest string instrument at Mercyhurst

Artist/innovator/experimentalist William Close's Earth Harp is what might happen if string music (lofty, larger-than-life instrumentations) courted, then married architecture – the fine, large, lofty places such music is played.

Now, take note: This Friday (Sept. 5), Mercyhurst College's Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center is that space – the place the Earth Harp Collective will become.

Invented by Close in 1999, the Earth Harp is the world's largest string instrument. It's a wild thing: Resting on a stage, with its strings attached to a balcony or other tall structure – turning theaters, festival grounds, and other venues into instruments in and of themselves, and, as Close's media reps write, "allowing audience members to look up as the music and architecture collide above them."

Don't just take their word for it, though.

"The Earth Harp is one of the five coolest things about Coachella," Rolling Stone wrote of it. Close's Collective – a live accompaniment of dancers, aerialists, musicians and other artists – have played on (and of) scores of international stages with the Earth Harp, including ones at Burning Man and major structures around the U.S., in Hong Kong, India and elsewhere. They even placed third on NBC's "America's Got Talent" before entering the studio to record two albums in the last couple of years.

They tell us the Earth Harp is one of 100-plus instruments Close has invented, and a good few of the others will also be part of the massive musical installation.

The performance kicks off this autumn's events presented by the Mercyhurst Institute for Arts and Culture, and is sponsored by WICU TV. – Ryan Smith

Friday, Sept. 5, 7:30 p.m. // Mercyhurst College Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center // Tickets, other info: miac.mercyhurst.edu/events

MUSIC

Hammered

Sept. 3 – 6:30 p.m.

Buffalo Wild Wings,
2099 Interchange
Road. 868.9464.

Bootlegger's Bible Club

Sept. 3 – 7 p.m.

Last Shot Bar and Grill,
3064 W. 12th St. 833.7106.

Marty O' Connor and Friends

Sept. 3 – 7 p.m.

Bobby's Place, 1202 W.
18th St. 455.9840.

Arts and Drafts

Sept. 4 to 8 – Noon to mid-
night

Brewerie at Union

Station, 123 W. 14th
St. Brewerie.com.

Live Jazz Band

Sept. 4 – 7 p.m.

Colony Pub and Grille, 2670
W. 8th St. ColonyPub.com.

Tommy Link

Sept. 4 – 7 p.m.

Edinboro Lake Resort, 12690
Edinboro Road, Edinboro.
EdinboroLakeResort.com.

Open Mic w/ Matty B

Sept. 4 – 9 p.m.

King's Rook Club, 1921
Peach St. 456.6439.

Court of Mayhem

Sept. 4 – 9 p.m.

Sherlock's, 508 State
St. 453.7760.

Midlife Crisis

Sept. 5 – 6 to 10 p.m.

Coconut Joe's, 28 N.
Park Row. 455.4705.

The Geek Army

Sept. 5 – 7 p.m.

Dockside Tavern, 1015
State St. 459.0099.

Sean Patrick and the Newgrass Revolution

Sept. 5 – 7 p.m.

Edinboro Lake Resort, 12670
Edinboro Road, Edinboro.
EdinboroLakeResort.com.

William Close and the Earth Harp Collective

Sept. 5 – 7:30 p.m.

Mercyhurst University,
Mary D'Angelo Performing
Arts Center, 501 E. 38th St.
MIAC.Mercyhurst.edu.

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CALENDAR

Arts & Drafts Returns to The Brewererie

For the past eight years, The Brewererie has played host to numerous creative individuals to provide them a spotlight in the community through Arts & Drafts. From Sept. 4 to 6, the bi-annual, multi-day event returns to provide locals a chance to indulge in visual and aural treats, as well as enjoying a few craft brews along the way.

"Arts & Drafts is the epitome of the Erie art and music scene," says bartender Justin Tapper, who's also the music coordinator of the festival. "We don't take commission from the artists and try to give it all back to them. It's what Erie's scene is all about - getting together to support one another to help people grow and get their names out there."

Roughly 30 different artists will be on display at The Brewererie over the course of the weekend, presenting displays of visual arts, from paintings to sculptures, that can be purchased or simply perused by event goers each day from noon to midnight. A list of 14 different bands will also perform, with shows starting at 6:30 p.m. each day, including bands like The Mighty Sea in the tap room and East Ave. trackside.

While you're enjoying all of the art on Brewererie premises, don't forget to cool down with some tasty beers brewed also on premise. Entrance is free before 8 p.m. and a donation of \$3 is required afterwards, but it's a small price to pay for a convenient congregation of some of Erie's finest creative minds. - Alex Bieler



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sept. 4 to 6 // 123 W. 14th St. // brewererie.com

Acoustics w/ Eric Oliver, Josh Travis, and Ivan Kaloshnikov

Sept. 5 - 9 p.m.

Erie Ale House, 1033 State St. facebook.com/eriealehouse.

Eric Brewer and Friends w/ Claire Stuczynski

Sept. 5 - 9 p.m.

King's Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. 456.6439.

The Groove

Sept. 5 - 9 p.m.

Presque Isle Downs Casino, 8199 Perry Highway. PresqueIsleDowns.com.

Next of Kin

Sept. 5 - 9 p.m.

Doc Holliday's, 7425 Schultz Road. DocHollidays.net.

Potwhole

Sept. 5 - 9 p.m.

Oasis Pub, 3122 West Lake Road. OasisPub.net.

Mala Sangre, OH NO! It's Mustard Gas!, Life(Liss), Dysmorphia, Brooke Surgener, and JC Nickles

Sept. 5 - 9:30 p.m.

The Beer Mug, 1108 Liberty St. 454.4753.

The Scenic Route

Sept. 6 - 6 p.m.

Sprague Farm and Brew Works, 22113 U.S. 6. SleepingChainsaw.com.

Suzi and the Buzz

Sept. 6 - 7 p.m.

Edinboro Lake Resort, 12670 Edinboro Road, Edinboro. EdinboroLakeResort.com.

The Groove

Sept. 6 - 8 p.m.

Sloppy Duck, 726 Bayfront Parkway. SloppyDuckSaloon.com.

Midlife Crisis

Sept. 6 - 9 p.m.

Presque Isle Downs Casino, 8199 Perry Highway. PresqueIsleDowns.com.

Next of Kin

Sept. 6 - 9 p.m.

Doc Holliday's, 7425 Schultz Road. DocHollidays.net.

The Vigils

Sept. 6 - 9 p.m.

King's Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. 456.6439.

Last Blast Summer Jam

Sept. 10 - 6 to 9:30 p.m.

Buffalo Wild Wings, 2099 Interchange Road. 868.9464.

All-in/LMG

Sept. 10 - 7:30 p.m.

Bobby's Place, 1202 W. 18th St. 455.9840.

Crown the Empire, Volumes, Secrets, Ice Nine Kills, The Family Ruin, and Saevitia

Sept. 11 - 5 to 11 p.m.

Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. BasementTransmissions.com.

Tommy Link

Sept. 11 - 7 p.m.

Edinboro Lake Resort, 12690 Edinboro Road, Edinboro. EdinboroLakeResort.com.

French Kiss

Sept. 12 - 6 to 10 p.m.

Coconut Joe's, 28 N. Park Row. 455.4705.

Salmon Frank

Sept. 12 - 6 p.m.

Sprague Farm and Brew Works, 22113 U.S. 6.

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Reap a Rich Local Harvest at Goodell Gardens

Revel in a deeply satisfying cornucopia of fall pleasures on Sunday, Sept. 14, when Goodell Gardens and Homestead hosts its 9th Annual Homegrown Harvest Festival.

Snag some locally-grown produce and flowers from area farms (Teed, Vanco, Strawberry Lane, Tender Acres, Peace by Piece, Schultz, Diablo Pepper), and locally-produced food goods from the likes of Byler's Relish House, Lil Bit-o-Honey, Conneutee Creamery, Hurry Hill Maple Farm, Happy Mug Coffee, Beelzebub's Salsa, and Diablo Pepper Farm.

The musical groups Salmon Frank, Tiger Maple String Band, and Todd Crowley and Friends will provide aural spice to the event, and artists and crafters of all stripes will offer clothing and stitchery, woodwork, paintings, jewelry, and lots more eye candy. Quilts by the Loose Threads Quilters will be on display in Carrie's Cabin.

The Wooden Nickel Buffalo Farm and Tasty Twist will be on hand to serve up lunch and snacks, The Real Magic Steve will perform a magic show, and Todd's musical petting zoo will be available for some hands-on instrument fun. Other family-friendly fun will be provided by Boro Women's Services.

School may be back in session, but the fun of fall is just underway – go get some, and see just how rich the local bounty can be. – Mary Birdsong

Noon to 5 p.m., Free; donations welcome // Goodell Gardens & Homestead, 221 Waterford Street (Route 6N), Edinboro. goodellgardens.org. 814.734.6699



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Celebrate the Harvest Season at GOODELL GARDENS & HOMESTEAD



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9th Annual
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Petting Zoo, Kids' Activities,
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221 Waterford St. (Route 6N), Edinboro - www.goodellgardens.org

Have a Family Member Facing Mental Illness?

Join NAMI of Erie county for a **free** twelve-week **Family-to-Family Education Program** providing pathways for empathy and communication for those facing the mental illness of a loved one.

The program, hosted at Gannon University, begins **September 24** and will include lecture, discussion and interactive exercises.

There is **no cost** for this life-changing program. **Please register** using the contact information below.



NAMIERIE.org | 814-456-1773



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Get your Scottish on at Edinboro's Highland Games

Kilt up if you wanna, or just come as you are. Either way, come the end of summer and beginning of fall in Edinboro, everyone can turn a little (or a little more) Scottish for a good coupla days – if you go, that is, to the Highland Games at Edinboro University.

From traditional foods to bagpipers and caber tosses, rugby tournaments, and other heavy athletics, to free music workshops and live performances, the festival – Friday, Sept. 5 through Sunday, Sept. 7, and now in its 21st year — offers a spirited nod to all things Scottish.

Along with all that Scottish heritage and fanfare, this year's Games also features the U.S. National Scottish Fiddle Championships.

And yes, if you look around, there is haggis to be found. – Ryan Smith

Friday, Sept. 5 – Sunday, Sept. 7 // Edinboro University of Pennsylvania main campus // edinboro.edu



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CALENDAR

Provocative Documentary approaches scandal with restraint and sobriety

In 2006, 14-year-old Hillary Transue decided it would be funny to create a fake MySpace profile for the Vice Principal of her high school. Inevitably, she got caught – but instead of being sent to the principal's office, she was shipped off to a juvenile detention camp.

Extreme sentences like Transue's were commonplace in the courtroom of Judge Mark Ciavarella, whose platform of "zero tolerance" became popular in the wake of the Columbine massacre. Quarrels with teachers, petty theft, and underage drinking all became acceptable reasons

to send students to detention centers for years at a time.

It gets worse.

In 2002, Ciavarella partnered with Judge Michael T. Conahan, who oversaw the courthouse budget in Luzerne County, Pa., to secretly allot funds for a private juvenile detention facility. In return, the developer in charge of construction would reward the judges with \$2.6 million in kickbacks. Conahan secured the funds, and Ciavarella ensured that a steady stream of adolescents would keep the new center in business.

Robert May's 2013 documentary, *Kids for Cash*, approaches the scandal with restraint and sobriety. May resists the urge to editorialize, focusing instead on the lives of the people affected. We hear from five teenagers – all charged with minor, non-violent offenses – as they begin to re-enter society. In addition, advocates from Philadelphia's Juvenile Law Center recall how they managed to bring the judges to justice.

Surprisingly, Ciavarella and Conahan both agreed to interviews as well. Neither come across as particularly sympathetic, but May's decision to let them speak adds complexity to a story that welcomes reactive outrage. The documentary raises important issues about prison privatization, draconian sentencing practices, and the dilemmas facing young people who have "been in the system." Though the judges in the film were eventually incarcerated, these institutional problems are still with us. – Dan Schank

2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14 // Taylor Little Theatre, Mercyhurst University, 501 E. 38th St. // 824.3000



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Texas-based Metalcore group Crown the Empire Returns to Erie

On Sept. 11, Dallas, Texas metalcore group, Crown the Empire, will once again be coming to Erie as one of the final stops on their full "Welcome to the Resistance" tour.

Crown the Empire's second full-length album *The Resistance: Rise of the Runaways* charted at No. 7 on the *Billboard* 200, selling 24,000 copies on its debut week of Aug. 9, and reached the No. 1 spot on the iTunes Rock charts. The band has received a lot of praise for their album, including a four-and-a-half star review from *Alternative Press*. With those kinds of credentials, they must be doing something right.

The supporting bands on the bill include Volumes, Ice Nine Kills, Secrets, and The Family Ruin, all who share the same metalcore/hard rock sound, and toured alongside Crown the Empire all summer on this year's Van's Warped Tour. After touring all over the biggest cities in the US, they've decided to come back to little ol' Erie for the first time since April 2013.

In my opinion, Ice Nine Kills is the most interesting band on this tour. The Boston-based quintet formed in 2006 as a pop-punk/ska band and did a complete 180 with their sound to become the metal heads they are today. If you're lucky, you might just get to catch them playing songs from both of their distinct, but polar opposite genres.

Earth Crisis' performance at Gem City Fest on Aug. 2 has started a domino effect at Basement Transmissions, and big shows are finally happening in Erie again. Don't miss this chance to see Crown the Empire and more in a more intimate setting in Erie before these acts inevitably start selling out arenas. - Tommy Shannon

5 p.m. Sept. 11 // 145 W. 11th St. // ticketspin.com/crown-the-empire

SleepingChainsaw.com.

Highlife

Sept. 12 - 7 p.m.

Edinboro Lake Resort, 12670 Edinboro Road, Edinboro. EdinboroLakeResort.com.

Malpractice

Sept. 12 - 7 p.m.

Docksider Tavern, 1015 State St. 459.0099.

Night Lights Music Fest (Day 1)

Sept. 12 - 4 p.m. to 3 a.m.

Blue Heron, 2361 Wait Corners Road, nightlightsfest.com

Aaron Lewis

Sept. 12 - 8 p.m.

Presque Isle Downs Casino, 8199 Perry Highway. PresqueIsleDowns.com.

Slaughter in the Meridian, Pathos Departure, Gelatin Skeleton, Starve, Manokin, Bravura, and Saevitia

Sept. 12 - 8 p.m.

The Beer Mug, 1108 Liberty St. 454.4753.

An Evening with Jim Avett

Sept. 12 - 9 p.m.

Erie Ale House, 1033 State St. facebook.com/eriealehouse.

Geek Army

Sept. 12 - 9 p.m.

Doc Holliday's, 7425 Schultz Road. DocHolidays.net.

Strangers and Liars

Sept. 12 - 9 p.m.

King's Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. 456.6439.

Kevlar

Sept. 12 - 10 p.m.

Sherlock's, 508 State St. 453.7760.

Sean Patrick and the Newgrass Revolution

Sept. 13 - 6 p.m.

Sprague Farm and Brew Works, 22113 U.S. 6.

SleepingChainsaw.com.

Falling Hollywood

Sept. 13 - 7 p.m.

Edinboro Lake Resort, 12670 Edinboro Road, Edinboro. EdinboroLakeResort.com.

Erie Philharmonic presents Classical Mystery Tour: A Beatles Tribute

Sept. 13 - 8 p.m.

Warner Theatre, 811 State St. EriePhil.org.

Next of Kin

Sept. 13 - 9 p.m.

Doc Holliday's, 7425 Schultz Road. DocHolidays.net.

Night Lights Music Fest (Day 2)

Sept. 13 - Noon to 3 a.m.

Blue Heron, 2361 Wait Corners Road, nightlightsfest.com

Six Year Stretch

Sept. 13 - 9 p.m.

King's Rook Club, 1921

Peach St. 456.6439.

Tennessee Back Porch

Sept. 13 - 9 p.m.

Presque Isle Downs Casino, 8199 Perry Highway. PresqueIsleDowns.com.

Special Guest

Sept. 13 - 9:30 p.m.

The Empty Keg, 129 Erie St., Edinboro. 734.1221.

Erie Chamber Orchestra: A New Era Begins

Sept. 15 - 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Luther Memorial Church, 225 W. 10th St. facebook.com/eriechamberorchestra.

DANCE

Swing Dance

Sept. 4 & 11 - 9 p.m.

Rocco's Tavern, 4040 W. 12th St. 833.7127.

FOOD & DRINK

Goodell Gardens

Farmer's Market

Sept. 3 & 10 - 3 to 6 p.m.

Goodell Gardens, 221 Waterford St., Edinboro. GoodellGardens.org.

Arts & Drafts Fest

Sept. 4 to 8 - Noon to midnight

The Brewerie at Union Station, 123 W. 14th St. Brewerie.com.

Moonlight on the Bay: Erie, PA!

Sept. 5 - 6:30 p.m.

Erie Brewing Co., 1213 Veshecco Drive. ErieBrewingCo.com.

Ladies Night

Sept. 5 - 7 p.m.

Presque Isle Wine Cellars, 9440 West Main Road, North East. Plwine.com.

A Night in Tuscany

Sept. 12 - 6:30 p.m.

Courtyard Wineries, 10021 West Main Road, North East. CourtyardWineries.com.

9th Annual Homegrown Harvest Festival

Sept. 14 - Noon to 5 p.m.

Goodell Gardens, 221 Waterford St., Edinboro. GoodellGardens.org.

FILM

Great White Shark

Sept. 3 to 16 - 11 a.m., 1 & 4 p.m.

Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Drive. TRECPI.org.

Mysteries of the Unseen World

Sept. 3 to 16 - Noon, 3 & 5 p.m.

Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Drive. TRECPI.org.

Mysteries of the Great Lakes

Sept. 3 to 16 - 2 p.m.

Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Drive. TRECPI.org.

The Hand That Feeds

The Avett Father Tour Stops at Erie Ale House

On Friday, Sept. 12, music lovers can experience a melodic treat at the Erie Ale House: "A Special Evening with Jim Avett."

You might already be familiar with Scott and Seth Avett, better known as the Avett Brothers, who spearhead the Concord, Mass.-based folk-rock band. However, who you might not have had the opportunity to know of yet is Jim Avett, their father, who is an equally talented musician himself.

A farmer at heart and welder by profession, Avett treated music as a hobby instead of a living for most of his last 65 years, but since picking up one of his 60-plus guitars back in 2008, this singer-songwriter and guitarist now plays at least 50 shows annually and has released three albums to date.

Avett claims he only learned how to play music as self-defense.

"I grew up in the mountains of North Carolina. During cold winters at best, there was only a movie theater to entertain us, and generally we couldn't afford to go anyhow. I spent a lot of winters at home, reading and learning how to play music."

In addition to his 60-plus guitars, Avett also owns over 2,000 books.

He also believes music doesn't come easily.

"You have to be unique. So many songwriters don't realize the effort that needs to go into your work in order to be successful. A little of it has to do with love, but most success comes from hard work."

He will also be sharing the stage with some other fine musicians, singer/songwriter Lisa Stahlbaum, acoustic rockers The Vigils, and later in the evening folk artist Tyler Smilo. Cover is \$5 at the door. - Rebecca Styn

7 p.m. // 1033 State St. // 454.4500



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- Getting Paid What We're Worth
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508 State Street 18-20 North Park Row 814-453-7760

Sept. 7 – 2 p.m.
Mercyhurst University,
Taylor Little Theatre,
 501 E. 38th St. MIAC.
 Mercyhurst.edu.

Kids For Cash
 Sept. 14 – 2 p.m.
Mercyhurst University,
Taylor Little Theatre,
 501 E. 38th St. MIAC.
 Mercyhurst.edu.

VISUAL ARTS

Environmental Impact
Traveling Exhibit
 Ongoing
Erie Art Museum, Main
Gallery, 20 E. Fifth St.
 ErieArtMuseum.org.

Pat Kearney Exhibit
 Ongoing
Erie Art Museum, Main
Gallery, 20 E. Fifth St.
 ErieArtMuseum.org.

Art Faculty Show
 Ongoing
Mercyhurst University,
Cummings Art Gallery,
 501 E. 38th St. MIAC.
 Mercyhurst.edu.

50th Anniversary of
the Wilderness Act
 Sept. 3 – 7 to 9 p.m.
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. Fifth
St. ErieArtMuseum.org.

Free Admission
Wednesdays
 Sept. 3 & 10
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. Fifth
St. ErieArtMuseum.org.

Pattern Recognition:
Works by Jamie
Borowicz
 Ongoing from Sept. 13
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. Fifth
St. ErieArtMuseum.org.

Erie Art Museum

Second Sundays -
South Asian Collection
 Sept. 14 – 1 to 5 p.m.
Erie Art Museum, 411 State
St. ErieArtMuseum.org.

THEATER

Twelve Angry Men
 Sept. 5, 6, 12 & 13 – 7:30 p.m.
All An Act Theater, 652
W. 17th St. AllAnAct.net.

Manuscript
Mayhem by
InAllSeriousness Inc.
 Sept. 6
Oil Creek and Titusville Rail
Road, Titusville. 459.3268.

A Canterbury Feast
 Sept. 6, 13 & 14 – 5:30 p.m.,
 2:30 p.m. Sunday
The Station Dinner
Theatre, 4940 Peach St.
 CanterburyFeast.com.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Erie's Strangers and Liars bring Americana-
infused pop-rock sound to King's Rook

The last time you saw Tommy Link, he may have been playing the part of beloved Beatle George Harrison during the Erie All-Stars performance at CelebrateErie. Link may no longer be on the State Street main stage embodying a British music icon, but that's okay, because he'll be putting on a display of original, electrified music in the American tradition at the King's Rook Club Friday, Sept. 12 with fellow Strangers and Liars band members Justin Anderson, Russ Straub, and Tom Hitt (no word on whether Link will also be accompanied by the '70s-style 'stache he rocked at CelebrateErie).

The local quartet has made its presence known with its Americana-infused pop-rock sound, influenced by the likes of Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers and, unsurprisingly, George Harrison. Albums like debut *Five Seat Concert Hall* and their sophomore follow-up *Live That Way* found the foursome channeling Petty, Paul Simon, and even The Moody Blues on any given track, and the recorded results were rather entertaining – but sometimes you can't beat a live show.

The King's Rook is giving you the chance to see Strangers and Liars up close, an excellent opportunity to enjoy a performance from four local all stars in one rich, Americana band. – Alex Bieler

9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12 // 1921 Peach St. // facebook.com/kingsrookclub



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Edinboro Film Series presents Frank

Over the past five years, Michael Fassbender has made an impression in the movie industry through performances in films such as *12 Years a Slave*, *X-Men: First Class*, and *Inglorious Basterds*. Fassbender may have his face plastered on magazines, but in *Frank*, he shows off his acting skills while trapped inside a head made of plaster in Lenny Abrahamson's 2014 flick.

While some actors have long makeup sessions or do weight training to fully become their characters, Fassbender wore a large, fake head to take on the role of Frank, an avant-garde musician who hides his own face away behind an unblinking, smiling manufactured face. *Frank, which will be shown as part of the Edinboro Film Series Thursday, Sept. 11, centers on Fassbender's enigmatic character and his band after the addition of a new member, which leads to intriguing opportunities for the eccentric group with comical results.

For just \$5, you can head to the Pogue Student Center at Edinboro University to see a critically-acclaimed new film with one of the best actors in recent years, regardless of the face he wears. – Alex Bieler

8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11 // 405 Scotland Road, Edinboro
 // filmseries@edindoro.edu, 814.732.1048

Bloody Bloody
Andrew Jackson
 Sept. 12 & 13 – 7 p.m.

Dramashop, 1001 State
St. Dramashop.org.

Medium Mayhem by
InAllSeriousness Inc.
 Sept. 13

Oil Creek and Titusville Rail
Road, Titusville. 459.3268.

Playshop Theatre:
Market Growth
 Sept. 13 – 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Market House Square,
 910 Market St., Meadville.
 Allegheny.edu/events

COMMUNITY

50th Anniversary of
the Wilderness Act
 Sept. 3 – 7 to 9 p.m.

Erie Art Museum, 20 E. Fifth
St. ErieArtMuseum.org.

Live Thoroughbred
Horse Racing
 Sept. 3 to 16 – 5:25 to 9 p.m.

Sundays through Thursdays
Presque Isle Downs &

Casino, 8199 Perry Highway.
PresqueIsleDowns.com.

77th Annual Waterford
Community Fair
 Sept. 3 to 6 – All Day

Waterford Fair
Grounds, 13012 Old
Route 19, Waterford.
 WaterfordFair.org.

Presque Isle
Senior Walks
 Sept. 4 – 9:30 a.m.

Presque Isle State Park,
Pine Tree beach parking
lot. TRECPI.org.

Whoseline
 Sept. 5

Riverside Inn, 1 Fountain
St., Cambridge
Springs. 459.3268

First Fridays at Five
 Sept. 5 – 5 to 8 p.m.

Downtown North East,
Main St. NEChamber.org.

Presque Isle After
Dark: Gull Point
 Sept. 5 – 7 to 9 p.m.

Presque Isle State Park,

Beach 10. TRECPI.org.

Presque Isle Adopt-
A-Beach Clean-Up
 Sept. 6 – 9 a.m.

Tom Ridge Environmental
Center, 301 Peninsula
Drive. TRECPI.org.

Geocaching at
the Bluffs

Sept. 6 – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Erie Bluffs State Park,
West Lake Road, N.
Springfield. TRECPI.org.

Breakfast
Wildflower Walk

Sept. 6 – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Asbury Woods Nature
Center, 4105 Asbury Road.
 AsburyWoods.org.

Mural Workshop
for Artists

Sept. 6 – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Erie Art Museum, 20 E. Fifth
St. ErieArtMuseum.org.

Digital Photophy
l: Use of Camera
and Photography
Techniques



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Former Staind Frontman Aaron Lewis Brings Country Stylings to Casino

While many people know Aaron Lewis as the lead singer of the alternative metal group Staind – a band that has sold more than 15 million records worldwide – it should be known that Lewis is a little bit country in addition to dabbling in rock 'n' roll. Lewis will bring his solo act to the Presque Isle Downs & Casino Clubhouse Friday, Sept. 12, where fans can witness the country stylings he unveiled on his 2011 EP *Town Line*. While the singer has collaborated with bands like Limp Bizkit and Linkin Park, he's also worked with Southern greats George "The Possum" Jones and Charlie Daniels before recording and releasing his solo debut *The Road* in 2012.

The heavily tattooed Lewis may not look like your prototypical country rocker – not all that surprising for someone who made it big in nu-metal – but his sunny song "Endless Summer" and his other tunes pleased listeners enough that *The Road* reached No. 7 on the Billboard Top Country Album Chart. Now you can see the un-Staind version of Lewis when he swings by Erie for a countrified set at Presque Isle Downs & Casino. – Alex Bieler

8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12 // 8199 Perry Highway // presqueisledowns.com



JOHN VAN HAMERSVELD

Erie Philharmonic presents Classic Mystery Tour: A Beatles Tribute

The Beatles are one of the most beloved bands in the world, but most of the legendary group's fans never had a chance to see them perform live after the then-mop topped quartet stopped doing commercial tours after 1966. Unfortunately, it doesn't look like surviving members Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr will be coming to Erie, but local Beatles lovers can enjoy the Classic Mystery Tour with help from a symphonic orchestra.

The Erie Philharmonic will present Classic Mystery Tour Saturday, Sept. 13, a team of four musicians playing the parts of George, John, Paul, and Ringo to perform the tunes of The Beatles at the Warner Theatre. With some symphonic support from the talented team at the Phil, the Classic Mystery Tour men will recreate Beatles favorites like "Yesterday" with a full string section and perform "Penny Lane" with its iconic horn section.

The days of seeing George, John, Paul, and Ringo together in concert are long gone, but thanks to the Erie Philharmonic and Classic Mystery Tour, you can still get the live Beatles experience at the Warner Theatre 48 years after the band's final commercial tour. – Alex Bieler

8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13 // 811 State St. // eriephil.org

Sept. 6 & 13 – 10:30 a.m. to noon
Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Road.
AsburyWoods.org.

TREC Presents: Wicked Plants

Sept. 6 – 11 a.m. to noon
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Drive. TRECPI.org.

Lake Erie Speedway Racing

Sept. 6 – 7:05 p.m.
Lake Erie Speedway, 10700 Delmas Drive.
LakeErieSpeedway.com.

21st Annual Edinboro Highland Games and Scottish Festival

Sept. 6 – All Day

Edinboro University, 219 Meadville St., Edinboro.
Edinboro.edu.

Cruise the Bay Car Cruise-In

Sept. 8 & 15 – 6 to 10 p.m.
Bayfront Park n Ride Lot, Liberty Park/Bayfront Parkway. 474.5183

Judging a Work of Art

Sept. 8 – 7 p.m.
Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. JESerie.org.

Great Books Discussion Group

Sept. 9 & 16 – 4 p.m.
Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. JESerie.org.

70th Annual

Albion Area Fair

Sept. 9 to 13 – All Day
Albion Park, 9 Academy St., Albion. AlbionFair.com.

England's Most Unforgettable King: Henry VIII and his Struggles with the Church and Marriage

Sept. 9 – 7 p.m.
Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. JESerie.org.

And War Came to "The World of Tomorrow"

Sept. 10 – 7 p.m.
Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. JESerie.org.

Presque Isle Senior Walks

Sept. 11 – 9:30 a.m.
Presque Isle State Park, Lighthouse parking area. TRECPI.org.

Historical Boat Tour: Erie's Evolving Waterfront

Sept. 11 – 4:45 p.m.
Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. JESerie.org.

Campfire on the Beach

Sept. 12 – 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Presque Isle State Park, Beach II. TRECPI.org.

Great Lakes Sports Festival

Sept. 13 – 8 a.m.
Bayfront Convention Center, 1 Sassafras Pier.
ErieSportsCommission.com.

Presque Isle Bicycle Tour

Sept. 13 – 10 a.m.
Cookhouse Pavilion, near Waterworks ferry dock. TRECPI.org.

16th Annual LEAF Festival

Sept. 13 – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Frontier Park. LEAFerie.org.

Make a Fairy Basket

Sept. 13 – 10:30 a.m. to noon
Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Road.
AsburyWoods.org.

Second Sunday Community Market Harvest Festival

Sept. 14 – 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Market House Square, 910 Market St.,

Meadville. facebook.com/MeadvilleSSCM

Shipwrecks of Lake Erie: A Return to the Great Quadrangle

Sept. 15 – 7 p.m.
Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. JESerie.org.

Second Annual Barber Beast on the Bay

Sept. 6. – 8 a.m.
Beach II, Presque Isle State Park. BarberBeast.org.

11th Annual Slavic Festival

Sept. 14 – Noon to 7 p.m.
St. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church, 3415 Wallace St. ErieCountybyZantines.org.

FUNDRAISERS

Cymbals Eat Guitars

LOSE
Barsuk



★★★★☆

At 25 years old, Cymbals Eat Guitars frontman Joseph D'Agostino has plenty of potential years ahead of him, but on *LOSE*, he's still gazing back in the past to the death of one of his close friends and how it still affects him today. The Staten Island, N.Y. band has always employed a sort of manic energy in their music, but *LOSE* sounds like a band that has matured, able to blend their excitable sonic freakouts with doses of restraint. The results lead to a touching tribute, balancing the anger and grief throughout the album and even within the same song at times. On the fast-paced "XR," D'Agostino barks out lines with bitterness yet still slips in touching lyrics like "keepsake tinnitus shrieks me to sleep/ each frequency's a memory of some show we attended." D'Agostino and company take listeners for an emotional ride through nine spacious, shifting tracks, and *LOSE* is well worth the trip. – Alex Bieler

The New Pornographers

Brill Bruisers
Matador

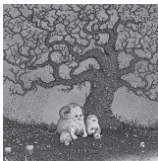


★★★★★

Since the release of The New Pornographers last album in 2010, prominent members AC Newman, Neko Case, and Dan Bejar all released critically-acclaimed solo albums. In a sense, it's almost appropriate, given that New Pornographers albums often feel like a collaboration album, where each person submits their own parts instead of working together as a true band, with each of the principle members taking up rotating spots on the tracklist. The same is true of the celebratory, electrified *Brill Bruisers*, and it's not necessarily a bad thing. The new album kicks off with fun contributions from Newman and Case in the title track and "Champions of Red Wine" before turning into a party on Bejar's synth and harmonica assisted "War on the East Coast." The band's work sounds effortless at times, despite the individual contributions, like on the ELO-influenced "Backstairs" and the groovy "Dancehall Domine," making *Brill Bruisers* a sweet treat from seven talented individuals. – Alex Bieler

J Mascis

Tied to a Star
Sub Pop



★★★★☆

Dinosaur Jr.'s J Mascis may be one of music's most anonymous guitar gods, a man who never seems to have received enough credit for his fretboard mastery outside of the underground scene and those lucky enough to stumble across the alternative band's output in the '80s and '90s. Fortunately for those in the know – and those who still might yet discover some Mascis magic – the 48-year-old guitarist is back with *Tied to a Star*, his first solo record since 2011. However, like his 2011 release, Mascis trades in the searing solos of his jazzmaster for the softer picks and strums of his Martin, putting on a plucking performance in soft and sweet numbers like "Me Again" and "Wide Awake," the latter of which he sings with Chan Marshall of Cat Power fame. The album falters at times, such as the Middle Eastern-tinged final turn on "Heal the Star," but *Tied to a Star* is a welcome addition to Mascis' discography. – Alex Bieler

Braid

No Coast
Top Shelf Records



★★★★★

Fifteen years ago, emo kids were made just a little bit sadder when indie favorites, Braid went their separate ways to raise families in different cities. Now the pop-punk quartet is back and fresh off a club tour promoting a comeback album that is generating a lot of critical buzz from fans. When the clattering argument about what emo really is and whether Braid can really be defined as such is stripped away, it is apparent that the vast majority of the band's old fans are overjoyed by this record. *No Coast* is full of mid-tempo guitar-forward rock that dares you not to shout along with the lyrics every time a chorus comes along. Chris Broach and Bob Nanna both give solid vocal performances, which often sound like a call and response to melodic fuzzed-out guitar picking. Punk-infused laments "East End Hollows," "Pre Evergreen," and "Bang" are sure to become concert standards from an album that will make any late-'90s indie fan hope Braid doesn't wait another fifteen years for the next installment. – Bryan Toy



VOTING IS NOW

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Geeked Out

Black Science and the New Age of Comics

By: John Lindvay

Black Science is where the pursuit of knowledge meets anarchist abandon. No technology or taboo is off limits for these zealous scientists, as scientist Grant McKay has invented the “Pillar,” a device that can punch through time and space, dissolving all barriers to the multiverse.

It should also be noted that *Black Science* is a comic written by Rick Remender and drawn by Matteo Scalera and published by Image Comics.

But first, I’ll truthfully admit it: I’m often ashamed of my lack of comic book consumption. I self-affirm as a nerd and geek and relish in the delights of all that entails, however, comics, for me, were always daunting. Sure, that might sound silly, but hopping in at the middle of any Marvel hero storyline is like thumbing to a random spot in Homer’s *Odyssey* and starting there. There are stacks of older issues, crossovers, and one shots that need to be read to get the full story. In short, it can be a bit overwhelming.

It’s because I have a compulsive nature that many self-affirmed nerds share. We want to consume all there is on a topic and have a near encyclopedic understanding of the things we love. When it comes to comics, I would dabble in grabbing an issue here and there of my favorite superhero, but this usually led to a frustration to not have ALL OF THE THINGS right then and there.

This is where comic book publishers like Image and series like *Black Science* have my number. First, they are newer and only have maybe a dozen or so issues published. Typically they bind them together in groupings and call them trades. I believe these were designed for folks like me who have a ravenous hunger for excellent media to consume. Second, Image, and other comic publishers like it, are aimed more towards adults, and because of that, often deal with more mature themes.

Rick Remender, who writes *Black Science*, is no stranger to the industry. Previously, he wrote *Fear Agent*, which is widely considered the precursor to his latest work. He also wrote for Marvel, penning the *Uncanny X-Force*. *X-Force* is an offshoot of the *X-Men* series where Wolverine sets up a hunter-killer squad to do the dirty work that the *X-Men* can’t stomach.

Remender’s writing in *Black Science* reminds me of wonderful science-fiction pulp of the ‘50s. I am a fan of Ray Bradbury and couldn’t help but sense a connection to his works, like the *Martian Chronicles*. *Black Science* also has a morbid *Swiss Family Robinson* aspect to it as well. The main character Grant is with his colleagues and his kids when his invention, the “Pillar,” malfunctions and teleports them to a new dimension. In the first issue alone there is a race against time and mortal losses. Remender isn’t afraid of killing characters in the same refreshing way that George R.R. Martin isn’t in the coveted *A Song of Ice and Fire* (read: *Game of Thrones*).

Sliders, the ‘90s TV show, is an apt comparison to the plotting of *Black Science*. Each issue is carefully encapsulated in the time it takes to jump from one dimension to the next. With each successive



New comic *Black Science* follows Grant McKay as he travels through time and space.

jump the plot thickens and the hope of ever returning to their time and their world grows grimmer. But as a reader, we get to visit a world where a Nazi Regime is decimated by an alien technology-armed Native American super-army riding cyborg stallions. We get to see serpent men wielding tridents fight with enormous frog people with electric whip tongues.

It’s fantastic and wild, and it’s exactly what I love about comics.

Since Grant McKay is separated from his wife and home, protecting his children has become his sole purpose. Much of his inner turmoil is dealing with his obsessive work ethic of building his machine and how he has become estranged to his wife and children – all of it exacerbated by the fact that his creation was sabotaged by someone working close to him.

With these issues of family, work, love, and corruption at play, *Black Science* gives the reader plenty to chew on as you thumb through this beautifully illustrated comic. I enjoy this series because finally, I can be there from the beginning, travel across the multiverse, see the everyday struggles of many be blown up into larger-than-life science fiction, and enjoy a medium in the way it was meant to be enjoyed.

John Lindvay can be contacted at jLindvay@ErieReader.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @FightStrife. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or visit <http://eridr.com/kqyk4>



JASON PARIS

ON INSTAGRAM'S HYPERLAPSE, AND FAST-FORWARDING TO THE FUTURE

By Jenna Wortham

Most days, my Instagram feed is full of artfully arranged plates of food, dreamy vacation photos, gurgling babies and, of course, plenty of selfies.

But that changed earlier this week when Instagram introduced a new video editing app, called Hyperlapse, which allowed users to create “high-quality time-lapse videos” and import them into the photo and video sharing service.

Suddenly, my feed was full of video hyperdrive, sped-up videos of life in fast-forward.

It was a noticeable — and exciting — shift away from treating Instagram like a yearbook of our most memorable moments, perfectly frozen in time. Instead, people seemed to be exploring the passage of time and what it means to be alive in a particular moment, rather than just trying to capture it and put a filter on it.

It’s an exciting addendum to a service that has quickly become one of the most important social networks used by hundreds of millions of people. Time, like camera filters, provides a new prism through which people view and present themselves to the world.

Casey Cep, writing for *Pacific Standard*, an online publication, wondered if the future of photography would be in examining how the world around us changes, rather than imagining ourselves at the center of it.

If front-facing cameras gave birth to the selfie, what will time-lapse tools do to the version of ourselves and our lives that we document and share with other people?

Cep thinks that “our documentarian impulses will have to focus on objects and others rather than ourselves.”

“You’ll be able to watch your block or street change over a few weeks or a shoreline erode across years,” she wrote.

The first few Hyperlapse videos I came across gave me headaches, but that’s not necessarily an indication of how the feature will evolve as people become more familiar with the medium. Already, it is broadening the way Instagram is used, like a 15-second tour of the White House and previews of magazine issues.

Time lapse is already fairly prevalent around the web, as in this popular and amazing six-second video on Vine, documenting a woman throughout her pregnancy.

But Hyperlapse helps nudge it into the mainstream. There could be another nudge from Apple, which is widely expected to include a time-lapse feature in the next version of its mobile software. At the very least, it will push social media users to consider what, why, and how they choose to document, which is never a bad thing.

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Environmental Impact Statement

An traveling art exhibit that provides look at what we have and what we may be losing

By Mary Birdsong

Artistic talent applied to the global concern of environmental spoilage has never been so mesmerizing. Nor more beautiful.

The exhibit, *Environmental Impact*, at the Erie Art Museum until September 30, was curated by David J. Wagner, LLC, and is currently traveling the country. We are fortunate that our art museum chose to show it.

In this exhibit, there are works that bring us closer to nature, showing us what we still have or, put another way, what we are losing, and there are others that thrust our detritus at us in no uncertain terms.

Lucia deLeiris' large paintings "Ross Sea" and "Greenland Sea" draw us in with their sparse, luminous expanses of blue and frozen stillness. Once drawn, of course, we see the subtle cracks, the melting, the new warmth that shouldn't really be there.

deLeiris' subtlety is juxtaposed with pieces by other artists who are more didactic in their symbolism. Walter Furgenson's "Save the Seashore" gives us an innocent toddler building sand castles alongside a wrack line filled with trash and a partially buried tire. In "Apocalypse," he perches an egret near a ramshackle dock across from a nuclear power plant. The plant, new-looking and belching emissions - the sign of human achievement for many years - makes the dilapidated fore-

shore, filled with debris, even more melancholy. As a final touch, Ferguson captures two egrets flying out of the picture, departing from this waterway that no longer sustains life.

In everything here, the intersection of nature and humanity is apparent. Some artists choose a grand scale to make their point, others look to the smaller, more personal manner of the relationship. Mick Meilahn's "Reality" dominates the main gallery with monumental hanging ears of corn made of blown glass and cast bronze. It suggests the dangers of genetically modified foods, and Meilahn, in making the pieces so imposingly large, heightens our sense of concern for genetic engineering's ability to alter the future.

Rick Pas goes in a different direction, giving us "Parking Lot Sparrows," which shows an open car door over house sparrows feeding on crumbs on an asphalt surface. A small, perhaps insignificant, moment that many of us experience every day, and we, perhaps, give little thought to. Pas wants us to give those birds a thought, suggesting that, in these modern times, this may be the only encounter with nature we have.

But of course, on the grandest of levels, our relationship with the earth is not as simple as stopping to enjoy it every now and then, nor is preserving it as simple

as leaving it alone. We need the Earth to sustain us; we must use it somehow if we are to live. Many works here are successful at making us ask the harder questions, as they reveal the complex nature of what we do and how we think about our impact on the environment.

In "Homes Built on Prime Farmland," Robert Dawson mourns the use of the farmland for a housing development, showing us the waste of land that could be used to grow food for a hungry planet. Farther down the row of photographs, though, he mourns the loss of wild



Above: Burtynsk, Oxford Tire Pile #2
Left: deLeiris, Ross Sea

nature in "Former Mangrove Forest, Now a Shrimp Farm." This is not an easy dance.

So many other pieces are worthy of your time: Peter Goin's panoramic landscapes that delicately suggest the damage we've caused, Lisa Lebofsky's "Petzval Glacier," lyrically

painted on aluminum to underscore the steely cold of the arctic, and Robert Bateman's suite of acrylics, especially "Driftnet," that demonstrates, with a discriminating hand, our effects on the land and water. Another highlight is Edward Burtynsky's color print "Oxford Tire Pile #2, Westley, California," which somehow manages to show us the despair of our waste and do so with a sweeping elegance.

There is much here that is rich in style, color, and symbolism, from the lushly detailed works by artists who see nature with Rousseauian eyes (Henri, not Jean-Jacques) to those who present it with abstract, conceptual brush strokes and modern imagery.

The works here are breathtakingly beautiful, but their message is heartbreakingly tragic.

Environmental Impact is currently on display at the Erie Art Museum, located at 20 E. Fifth St., from Aug. 1 to Sept. 30..

Mary Birdsong can be contacted at mBirdsong@ErieReader.com, and you can follow her on Twitter @Mary_Birdsong. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or visit <http://eridr.com/z50yv>



Mercyhurst Prep has been Scalized

Erie native draws on his past, embraces his future

By: Cory Vaillancourt

Jazz-rock group Steely Dan once sang, "I'm never going back to my old school," but 1991 Mercyhurst Preparatory School graduate and artist Todd Scalise did indeed go back to his old school. And when he did, he did what many of us probably wish we could do - he drew all over it.

With permission, of course. For almost six months, Scalise collaborated with MPS alumni and faculty to sort through more than 600 student-submitted drawings that would eventually end up as part of one of the largest outdoor public art installations in the region.

Some drawings were transcribed to vinyl and wrapped around one of 24 columns that support a covered campus walkway. Other drawings were blown up into one of 177 eight-foot by one-foot panels that now adorn the top of the building's facade. All drawings, however, are instantly identifiable as the work of the prolific Scalise.

Featuring a leafy, arboreal background motif that alternately recedes and advances through Scalise's nationally- and internationally-known "Higherglyphics" style, the 8,200 square feet of art that currently adorns MPS accentuates - rather than dominates - the look and feel of the place, despite the mural now serving as the building's most prominent aesthetic feature.

Such a substantial undertaking may sound like a maddening and difficult ordeal, but Mary Ellen Dahlkemper, president of Mercyhurst Prep, revealed what it was really like to pull off a project of this size.

"Todd is one of the easiest people I've ever worked with," she said. "He listens extremely well, is very thoughtful and has good questions. He let us see the process as it moved along and did check-in points. When we had the 600 drawings come through, he printed every single one of them out, brought them in, and we corralled about 40 people and went through them."

As for what these poignant, relevant images will mean to future generations of MPS students - many of whom began their high school careers on Monday, Aug. 25, the same day the donor-funded mural was revealed to donors and dignitaries alike - Dahlkemper touted the educational value of the work when she spoke to the incoming freshmen of MPS's Class of 2018.

"When you're out front waiting for the bus," Dahlkemper told them, "or waiting for your ride, or just hanging with friends, read and look at every image that's out there, so that you understand what it means to be a Laker."

Scalise agrees with Dahlkemper. "Graphically, this installation translates Mercyhurst's value system into an accessible, engaging visual public relations mechanism that will heighten the awareness of this institution for years to come."

So if your old school is Mercyhurst Prep, and you ever go back to your old school, when you smile for the camera, think about how your memories will come back to you, while reflecting on Scalise's transformation of space through art.

You don't have to be a MPS alum to enjoy their mural; for more on Scalise's MPS mural - including behind-the-scenes process photos - look for Cory Vaillancourt's web exclusive story on www.ErieReader.com. Cory Vaillancourt can be contacted at cVaillancourt@ErieReader.com, or on Twitter @VLNCR. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or visit <http://eridr.com/4z3dx>



ER Sports

The meeting of first-year head coaches, and Week 2 & 3 Gridiron Picks

By: James R. LeCorchick

WHEN A PERSON loves high school football as much as I do, there's nothing better than opening night, especially when it's a perfect evening for gridiron action. My biggest decision this Friday was which game did I wish to attend – an extremely tough choice for me.

After much deliberation I decided to make the short trek to **Paul J. Weitz Stadium** (one of my favorite venues for a sporting event) and view the Harbor Creek-Iroquois match, a game featuring first-year coaches at both schools. As a matter of fact, the HC position came down to finalists **Ned Bailey**, who got the nod, and **Matt Morgan** who ended up taking the Iroquois job.

I thought this would be an entertaining game, and I love it when I'm correct. This was a barnburner that thrilled the large crowd – the schools are just a couple of miles apart – on hand, the Huskies hanging on for a 38-35 decision. However, the truth is there was no real loser and the fans of both squads should've been pleased, the future bright for both schools.

Both teams were well-coached, played with enthusiasm and handled themselves with poise, and class despite the intense nature of the rivalry.

What a great way to open the high school football season!

TWO OF the biggest surprises on the first week of play were provided by McDowell and Cathedral Prep, both teams picking up



(Above) Iroquois first-year coach Matt Morgan (Below) It was a beautiful night for football at Harbor Creek's Paul J. Weitz Stadium.

passing teams in the country, rushing the pigskin rarely.

Meanwhile, CP dominated an always physical Glenville team after falling behind, 6-0, early in the contest. The Tarblooders are well-known for always being an extremely rugged and intense foe.

What does this mean? In case you haven't done it already, circle the McDowell-Prep contest on your football calendar, soon to be played at a stadium (Erie Veteran's Stadium) near you.

MEANWHILE, there is a Major League Baseball season still going on and the Pirates and Indians are certainly picking up their play at the right time, the Pirates closing rapidly in on the Brewers and

Cardinals in their division while the Indians have made a surge that has put them in the chase for the division lead after a wild card spot seemed almost out of the question two weeks ago.

The Buccos are getting pitching and hitting while the Tribe may find the lack of hitting being their undoing.

Also, Pittsburgh is drawing great at the gate and the Indians' attendance is an embarrassment.

James R. LeCorchick can be contacted at JRLSportsReport@gmail.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @JRLSports. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or visit <http://eridr.com/ghtui>



PIGSKIN PICKS

WEEK 2

HIGH SCHOOLS

IROQUOIS 28 Maplewood 18

Cambridge Springs 30 SAEGERTOWN 16

Cochranton 38 UNION CITY 12

Grove City 24 CORRY 12

Fairview 27 MERCYHURST PREP 16

Fort LeBoeuf 20 NORTH EAST 19

HARBOR CREEK 22 Seneca 20

Girard 27 NORTHWESTERN 22

CATHEDRAL PREP 28 Strong Vincent 12

Sharpsville 38 EAST 8

McDOWELL 28 Mentor Lake Catholic 14

CENTRAL TECH 28 General McLane 26

BEST GAMES:

1. Seneca at Harbor Creek:

Winner of this game could be surprise team of the year.

2. Mentor Lake Catholic at McDowell:

Trojans want to show shocker over Canton McKinley was no shocker.

3. General McLane at Central Tech:

Two good teams match up at Stadium.

UPSET SPECIAL – A win by Falcons would be a major building block in Coach Rob Matz's program.

COLLEGES

CARSON NEWMAN 35 Edinboro 21

Mercyhurst 21 BENTLEY 20

GANNON 38 Southern Connecticut 24

Michigan 30 NOTRE DAME 24

Pittsburgh 28 BOSTON COLLEGE 20

PENN STATE 31 Akron 21

STANFORD 24 Southern Cal 21

Michigan State 21 OREGON 20

PROS

STEELERS 27 Browns 14

BEARS 27 Bills 21

LAST WEEK:

18-6 (14-6 in high schools, 4-0 in colleges)

WEEK 3

COCHRANTON 28 Maplewood 20

Cambridge Springs 34 YOUNGSRVILLE 14

Saegertown 21 UNION CITY 20

Iroquois 27 EISENHOWER 24

HICKORY 27 Corry 12

Fairview 21 SENECA 20

HARBOR CREEK 26 North East 20

GIRARD 20 Fort LeBoeuf 16

NORTHWESTERN 26 Mercyhurst Prep 12

McDowell 24 CATHEDRAL PREP 21

GENERAL McLANE 42 East 12

CENTRAL TECH 20 Strong Vincent 12

BEST GAMES

1. McDowell at Cathedral Prep:

Obviously!

2. Fairview at Seneca:

Huge game in Region 4.

3. Strong Vincent at Central Tech:

Falcons will be a factor in Region 6, but must avenge last season's crazy setback.

UPSET SPECIAL – Don't be surprised if Seneca upsets Tigers.

COLLEGES

Gannon 52 CHEYNEY 20

WEST CHESTER 27 Mercyhurst 20

SHIPPENSBURG 30 Edinboro 20

Pittsburgh 42 FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL 14

Penn State 28 RUTGERS 24

PROS

Steelers 17 RAVENS 14

BILLS 24 Dolphins 21

Saints 27 BROWNS 14

Letter to the Editor 8/30/14

James,

Thank you for your kind words in your recent article. The CT Athletic staff appreciates you taking the time to recognize the work they do. As athletic director, I feel blessed to work with these coaches who always put the kids before their own gains. We have worked very hard to help our youth stay on the right path to success.

Your article means a lot to our staff and students.

Sincerely,

Greg Holland
Athletic Director
Central Tech High School

WHERE SEVERE WEATHER COMES FIRST

KARA
COLEMAN

KATIE
MCGRAW

GEOFF
CORNISH
CHIEF METEOROLOGIST

JULIE
COATES

JOHN
STEHLIN

FIRST WARNING WEATHER

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GET IN YOUR GAME!

2014 RACE MEET

MASTERS WEEKEND

SEPTEMBER 7 & 8, 2014

Free T-shirt on Monday, September 8 to the first 500 fans through the gates at 4:30pm!

FAN APPRECIATION DAY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2014

First 500 fans through the gates at 4:30pm receive a free T-shirt and Hot Dog! Free popcorn to the first 500 kids! Food and drink specials throughout the night!

While supplies last.



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December 28, 2014

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SEPTEMBER 12
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