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THE ERIE READER

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FROM THE EDITORS

With just nine days left after this issue hits stands to vote on what you think is the Best Of Erie in nearly two-hundred categories, the race is officially on. As we've watched the more than 150,000 votes come in to date, we've seen the top vote-getters swap leads more times than we can count.

In past From The Editors, we've explained how the nomination process worked, detailed how you can cast your votes once the ballots opened, and encouraged you to keep two specific dates in mind: Wednesday, Oct. 15 and Thursday, Oct. 16.

In case you need a refresher on how the voting works (read: The polls close at 11:59 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10, so you have until then to cast as many or as few votes as you'd like), you can check out our previous From The Editors at ErieReader.com.

As for that Oct. 15 date, that's when we'll publish our first-ever Best Of Erie issue, which will feature the top-three vote-getters for each category. To keep you guessing as to who won, we'll publish them alphabetically.

Now to that second date: Thursday, Oct. 16. That's the date we're throwing a party —

and you're invited to the first-ever Flavor Of Erie Party, where your tastebuds and eardrums get a full dose of Erie goodness.

In our last issue, we also gave you some details about that party we're throwing at the Pilot House, located at 1 Holland St. on Erie's Bayfront, from 6 to 8 p.m. that evening. There, we'll announce the winners for each category. There will also be food, beer and entertainment to keep you busy as you enjoy Erie's beautiful Bayfront.

For food, you'll be able to sample dishes from The Brewerrie at Union Station, Cloud 9 Wine Bar, Jekyll & Hyde's Gastropub, Lavery Brewing Company, and Voodoo Brewery & Brewpub. Lavery, Voodoo, and The Brewerrie will be pairing their featured dishes with some of their excellent brews. For entertainment, you'll be able to rock out to DJ Salt, C. Brown, and Falling Hollywood.

Needless to say, we're excited, and we hope you are, too. Tickets — which cover your admission to the Best Of Erie Flavor Of Erie Party — get you access to all the food, all the beer, and all the music, and are still available at ErieReader.com. But they're moving fast, so if you want to ensure you'll be there the moment the winners are announced,

you should get your tickets now. They're just \$10 in advance, and only \$15 at the door — that is, if they're still available, because once they're gone, they're gone.

In other news, the official offices of the *Erie Reader* have moved. You can now find us settled in on the ninth floor of the Renaissance Centre at 1001 State St., Suite 901. When the *Reader* first started, we were just some guys with laptops working out of an apartment. We soon found that after people kept trying to find us at our mailbox at the Pony Express, we needed a brick and mortar location to better serve our city and region as its alt weekly. After spending three years spread out in two different offices in the Masonic Temple, we're sad to leave a place where a lot of our *Reader* memories have been created. But this move allows us to spread out, increase our space, and keep to the grind of bringing you the issues that matter.

Have a story lead? Want to talk about the stories we print? Want to bring us coffee and doughnuts? You know where to find us, Erie. And come the evening of Thursday, Oct. 16, you'll find us celebrating Erie at the Pilot House — we hope to see you there.

Street Corner Soapbox

Why Mainstream Media Turned Its Attention to Emma Watson and 4chan

By: Jay Stevens

“Emma Watson naked photos to be leaked!” screamed the headlines.

No doubt you saw those headlines. They were hard to miss, slathered as they were across newspapers, cable news programs, and Internet news reports. The young English actress – her Hermione Granger the best thing about the *Harry Potter* movies – was going to have her naked pictures posted on 4chan.org in retribution for her comments on feminism at the UN!

The news was gold, following as it did on the release of other naked pictures of young starlets. It was an outrage! That these...hot...young...actresses had their personal stash of sex selfies released to the Web! For everyone to see! And here's exactly where you can go to see them! How shocking! And now, Watson? Intelligent? Self-contained?

She's been pushing against Hollywood's sexualization of her and other actresses for years, advocating for strong women characters! Now there are naked pics of her? Hot dog – er, shame!

Only a funny thing happened. The media got punk'd. Turns out there were no photos to be leaked. It was a hoax. Actually, it was a double hoax: the group that claimed responsibility claimed it was a PR firm looking to discredit 4chan...but then it was revealed there was no PR firm. It was a joke pulled by Internet pranksters posing as a PR firm posing as a 4chan poster with nude photos. Got it? No? Well, relax. It doesn't matter.

You almost feel sorry for 4chan as the mistaken target of this kerfuffle. Well, not really. As a friend put it, 4chan is the “asshole of the Internet.” He's not wrong. It's a message board where anything and everything is posted. It's the message board where the original naked celeb photos were posted, for example. Pranks. Gossip. Porn. Slander. That's the kind of material you find on 4chan.

Not that the mainstream media is equipped to handle the darker corners of the Internet. Hell, most analysts had no idea what a 4chan was. CNN's “technology analyst,” Brett Larson – expert on all things technology! – thought 4chan was a person. “He may have been a system administrator who knew his way around and how to hack things,” mulled Larson. No wonder they got played.

The media also got played because naked pics sell clicks. Mainstream media outlets



GEORGES BIARD

Of all the things in all the world, mainstream media choose to become engulfed in a nude selfie hoax.

tween outrage! over! nude! photos! these events may have actually never happened.

The coverage of the climate change march actually dwarfed the news that the *This American Life* radio show was running a segment on secret recordings made between Federal Reserve regulators and Goldman Sachs' employees, recordings journalist Michael Lewis (*Moneyball*, *Flash Boys*) called the “Ray Rice video for the financial sector.” In it, hapless Fed regulators constantly defer to the financial whiz kids, unwilling and unable to question or contain Wall Street shenanigans. “You sort of knew that regulators were more or less controlled by the banks,” wrote Lewis. “Now you know.”

But naked Kate Upton!

You could call it a conspiracy. Putting celebrity news above real,

are as salacious as the anonymous posters of the celeb photos and those that consume them. The media got played because it was obvious (to the pranksters, anyway) that they'd go in a big way for a story about naked Emma Watson pics. Think about it. How many of the Watson nude photo stories actually include remarks she made at the UN?

“I realized that fighting for women's rights has too often become synonymous with man-hating,” Watson said in that speech. “This has to stop. For the record, feminism by definition is the belief that men and women should have equal rights and opportunities. It is the theory of political, economic and social equality of the sexes.”

Which is a bigger, more important idea than shots of a topless Jennifer Lawrence.

So is the rapid spread of Ebola in Africa, where health care systems are shutting down, and the economic viability of an already fragile region is at peril. But even Ebola got short-shrifted by nude Kirsten Dunst. And it's almost a lock that you heard little, if anything, about the recent protest in New York City demanding that leaders take action to battle climate change. More than 400,000 took to the streets to protest. That's four Erie, Pennsylvanias. (“A climate-change march that organizers claim was the largest on record,” wrote *The New Yorker's* satirist, Andy Borowitz, “is nevertheless unlikely to change the minds of idiots, a survey of America's idiots reveals.”) But judging by the headlines and news blurbs about Ebola and the climate change protests jammed be-

meaningful news in order to distract us all from the things that matter, the things that, if we knew enough about, we might actually go out and change. Or you could blame the public, the reader. Us. After all, we're more likely to click through to the stories about naked Hope Solo than we are to the news that October hog futures are up. Certainly it has something to do with money – hell, for evidence of that you don't have to look much farther than ESPN's three-week suspension of its popular columnist and NBA on-air personality, Bill Simmons, for calling NFL commissioner Roger Goodell a “liar” on his podcast over the Ray Rice incident. ESPN, of course, has a \$16.5 billion contract with the NFL to air *Monday Night Football*.

Hand it to 4chan. As low-down and puerile the content at the site, the nude-Emma-Watson-photos prank shows that the 4chan community understands the site is low-down and puerile and not worth much attention. 4chan is a place where you can go take your potty mouth out for a stroll. It's a place where you can act uncivil, view the indecent, and give your Id a smoke break from its nagging Superego. It's not a place to grab your lead news feature from.

Jay Stevens can be contacted at Jay@ErieReader.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @Snevets_Yaj. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or visit <http://erindr.com/poh73>.



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

The Way I See It

Jay Paterno pens book exploring the life and death of Joe Paterno

By: Rebecca Styn

Penn State University Football coach Joe Paterno died on Jan. 22, 2012 from lung cancer.

A man who spent 62 seasons on the Nittany Lions football staff and became the winningest Division-I coach in the history of the sport before NCAA-imposed sanctions, Paterno would leave this earth with a tarnished legacy (in the eyes of many) amid the Jerry Sandusky scandal and allegations that his inaction to report Sandusky for suspected child abuse allowed for Sandusky to remain a predator in the Penn State system.

Recently, Jay Paterno – the late coach's son and former quarterbacks coach for Penn State – penned his take – titled *Paterno Legacy: Enduring Lessons from the Life and Death of My Father* – recounting his father's life, not only to highlight his accomplishments and career but to attempt to restore his father's legacy – and moreover – his standing in the public eye.

I was provided an opportunity to speak with Jay during his recent brief visit to Erie, where he spoke to a full house of Penn State alumni and fans at the Fox and Hound about his new book – reading aloud some of his favorite excerpts and addressing questions from the crowd. While I suspected his motivation for writing the story did result largely because of the scandal, I asked him about his inspiration for the work and why it made sense to write it now.

"It started with the events that unfolded in the last years of my father's life. But as I was writing, I began to realize that the book didn't just need to be about that," Jay said. "My literary agent nudged me one way and my family another. But ultimately, the story ended up speaking more to the life he lived and lessons he offered, not just to his students and family but to all those he encountered."

Jay also had a unique perspective given all of the various roles his father played throughout his life. "I grew up in his house, I went to his college, I played for him – but then I left and came back and coached for him," he explained. "It truly came full circle after my children were born. I had the opportunity to see him as father, coach, mentor, friend, husband, and grandfather."

The book's foreword is written by Phil Knight, the co-founder of Nike Inc. and a Paterno family friend. In the foreword, Knight recalls the day he decided to take down Joe's name from the Nike child care center at its world headquarters in Oregon; although a long-time supporter and friend, Knight said he needed to do what was in the best interest of the company and the 38,000 employees he had dedicated his life to – although he would struggle continuously with this decision, just weeks later visiting the Paterno household to meet the family. What Jay

would tell him that day would temporarily assuage him; however, he wrote that he believes that to this day had the roles been reversed, Joe Paterno would have left his name up – lynch mob be damned.

As for what Jay told Knight? "Dad would have told you to take the name down."

But strip away the illustrious and now tainted football career, and there's the family aspect about Joe that Jay felt he needed to capture in the book through some of his

"I had the opportunity to see him as a father, coach, mentor, friend, husband, and grandfather."

favorite memories of his father.

The biggest takeaway from the book? "I felt the need to tell his story, to go through those last few years, and the last couple months of his life, and everything that happened in November of 2011. It was important to address that head-on," Jay said. "But equally important is that I hope what people understand is that football coaching wasn't the thing that defined him; it was just what he chose to do and do well, but the masterpiece of his life was about the lessons he gave us all – more about the lives he impacted and less about winning games."

And as for the way I see it, every story has at least two sides, if not three. This book explores the life and death of a man who spent the majority of his life being lauded and heralded but found denouncement and great criticism at the end. This book – the account of a son making sense of the life of his father – deepens the story of Joe Paterno and is worth your time, regardless of your feelings on the situation. It may afford even more questions than answers, but will definitely offer a differing perspective than what you may already know to be.

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/r62qn>.



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News of the Weird

By: Chuck Shepard

Frontiers of Flight

Dutch inventors Bart Jansen and Arjen Beltman struck again recently when Pepei Bruins, 13, called on them to help him grieve over his pet rat, Ratjetoe, who had to be put down because of cancer. Having heard of the inventors' work, Pepei asked if they could please have Ratjetoe stuffed and turned into a radio-controlled drone. Jansen and Beltman, who had previously created an "ostrichcopter" and are now working on a "turbo shark," created Pepei's rat-copter, but remain best noted for their epic taxidermied cat, "Orvillecopter," created in 2012 (which readers can view at nydn.us/1roWm-mA). [BBC News, 9-10-2014; Daily Mail (London), 9-11-2014]

Updates

How to Confuse an Arizonan: In August, a state appeals court overruled a lower court and decided that Thomas and Nancy Beatie could divorce, after all. The first judge had determined that their out-of-state marriage was not valid in Arizona because they were both women, but Thomas has had extensive surgery and hormone therapy and become a man — although he is also the spouse who bore the couple's three children, since he made it a point to retain his reproductive organs. [Associated Press via KSAZ-TV (Phoenix), 8-14-2014]

In August, for the 12th straight year, a group of Japanese adult-film actresses has volunteered their breasts to raise money for an AIDS-prevention charity event shown on an X-rated cable TV channel from Tokyo. The 12-hour-long "squeeze-a-thon" ("Boob Aid") sold individual fondles to men for donations of at least (the equivalent of) \$9, with donors required first to spray on disinfectant. In all, 4,100 pairs of hands roamed the nine actresses. [Agence France-Presse, 8-31-2014]

Regulatory filings revealed in August that AOL still has 2.3 million dial-up subscribers (down from 21 million 15 years ago) paying, on average, about \$20 monthly. Industry analysts, far from rolling on the floor laughing at the company's continued success with 20th-century technology, estimate that AOL's dial-up business constitutes a hefty portion of its quarterly "operating profit" of about \$122 million. [Quartz, 8-6-2014]

Commentators have had fun with the new system of medical diagnostic codes (denominated in from four to 10 digits each) scheduled to take effect in October 2015, and the "Healthcare Dive" blog had its laughs in a July post. The codes for "problems in relationship with in-laws" and "bizarre personal appearance" are quixotic enough, but the most "absurd" codes are "subsequent encounters" (that is, at least the second time the same thing happened to a patient) for

events like walking into a lamppost, or getting sucked into a jet engine, or receiving burns from on-fire water skis, or having contact with a cow beyond being bitten or kicked (since those contacts have separate codes). Also notable was S10.87XA, "Other superficial bite of other specified part of neck, initial encounter," which seems to describe a "hickey." [HealthcareDive.com, 7-15-2014]

Recurring Themes

More Drivers Who Ran Over Themselves: In June, Robert Pullar, 30, Minot, North Dakota, subsequently charged with DUI, fell out of his car and was run over by it. In July, Joseph Karl, 48, jumped out of his truck to confront another driver in a road rage incident in Gainesville, Florida, but as he pounded on that driver's window, his own truck (negligently left in gear) crept up and ran him over. Pullar and Karl were not seriously injured, but in July, a 54-year-old St. Petersburg, Florida, man was hurt badly when, attempting to climb onto the street sweeper that he operates for the city, he fell off, and the machine ran over his upper body. [KX-MC-TV (Minot), 6-23-2014] [Gainesville Sun, 7-23-2014] [Bay News 9 (St. Petersburg), 7-22-2014]

For patients who are musicians, deep brain stimulation (open-brain) surgery can provide entertainment for operating-room doctors as they correct neurological conditions such as hand tremors. In September, the concert violinist Naomi Elishuv, who has performed with the Lithuanian National Symphony Orchestra, played for surgeons at the Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center so they could locate the exact spot in the brain for inserting the pacemaker to control the hand-trembling that had wrecked her career. (In fact, last week's winner of the annual Steve Martin Prize for Excellence in Banjo and Bluegrass, Eddie Adcock, 76, had finger-picked some tunes in the operating room in 2007 for his own deep brain surgery.) [Huffington Post, 9-11-2014] [New York Times, 9-16-2014]

Buddhists continue to believe in the wholesale "mercy release" of living creatures, with smaller and less consequential animals making even stronger statements of reverence, according to a July New York Times dispatch from Yushu, China, describing the freeing of river shrimp the size of a fingernail clipping. These specks of life, an advocate told the Times, "could very well be the reincarnated souls of relatives" who perished in the 2010 earthquake that demolished the local area. "We" workers, said another, "have the same feelings as the fish," alluding to his own occupation of "digging in the mud." [New York Times, 7-25-2014]

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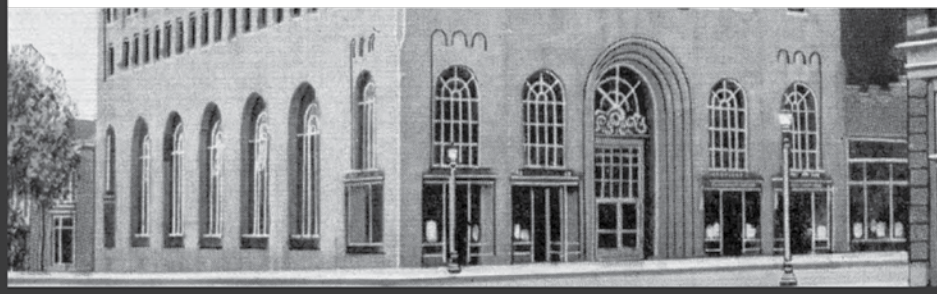


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Considering the City

Four Ways to Improve Erie

By: Civitas Members: Lisa Austin and Stephen Sonnenberg

Unsettling problems are ruining the urban landscape for Erie residents, and they are making a bad impression on visitors. We can improve the lives of residents, and make a better impression on visitors by addressing four common problems of dead trees, front yard and sidewalk parking, litter, and illegal or misplaced signage, as outlined below:

1. Replace Dead Trees

While it is well-known that trees provide wildlife habitats, absorb storm-water, and filter pollutants, the city's Sustainability Coordinator, Sarah Galloway, notes that trees improve communities by creating a "sense of place" and by fostering feelings of "happiness" and "safety." Many studies, Galloway reports, indicate that trees actually help to reduce crime, improve student grades, and increase economic development.

Given the powerful positive impact of trees, Erie should plant more of them.

When trees drop branches, pedestrians are endangered. Cars can be damaged. Street trees (those between the roadway and sidewalk) are owned by the city, but the responsibility for maintaining the trees falls to the adjacent property owner. Repairs to tree-damaged cars are almost never paid by the city and rarely by the tree's adjacent property owner. Repair bills are generally paid by the vehicle's



insurer.

Tree trimming does not require a permit, however. Dave Mulvihill, the city's Assistant Director of Public Works, notes that property owners who wish to take down or plant a tree must obtain a permit from Galloway. Taking down a tree can be expensive, and the city tries to alleviate some of the burden by maintaining a resident-generated, first-call-first-served teardown list. Galloway utilizes part of her \$30,000 budget to remove a few trees each year. At the current rate of teardown, the existing list will be completed in 2020. If Galloway had \$100,000 to spend, she says she could transform the city.

However, it is unlikely that Galloway's budget will increase. Though granting agencies are happy to fund the planting of trees, Galloway reports that almost no money is available for the removal of dead

trees. Perhaps a forward-thinking philanthropist would help "transform" Erie by writing a check for tree removal, allowing new ones to be planted.

Due to tight budgets and minimal staffing, many city actions, including tree-removal are "complaint-driven." Contact Galloway to add trees to the teardown list – especially those near schools and on busy streets. (sgalloway@erie.pa.us 870.1255)

Erie needs a tree-removal prioritization plan. For instance, the tree on the Seaway Trail (West Sixth Street) should be immediately replaced due to its high-visibility location. The Seaway Trail starts in Pennsylvania and runs 518 miles east along Lake Erie and Lake Ontario to the Canadian Border. After dealing with safety issues, we should spend money where it is going to make the most impact – our

National Scenic Byway on East and West Sixth Streets should be on the top of the list.

2. Stop Front Yard and Sidewalk Parking

Many drivers illegally park on sidewalks and front lawns. Unfortunately, our existing code allows front yard parking, if some gravel is thrown over the grass. Front yard parking is usually inappropriate and almost always ugly; it is time to create a higher standard for ourselves. Front yard and sidewalk parking endangers children, pushes pedestrians into the street, and deters homebuyers.

While city employees vigilantly issue tickets for vehicles parked on wrong side of the street, few of the cars or trucks parked on yards and sidewalks are challenged. Employees who issue parking tickets are not authorized to issue citations for yard and sidewalk parking. Perhaps these employees should be trained to write parking citations. For now, yard and sidewalk parking complaints should be directed to Code Enforcement at 870-1470.

3. Don't Litter

For three weeks this summer, two stained couches adorned the sidewalks facing Perry Square during CelebrateErie and the 10,000-participant-strong "Color Run." We should start "tidying-up" Erie before these big events. If a TV or chair is in the roadway, call the Bureau of Streets at 870.1340. If the item is on the sidewalk or in the yard, call Code Enforcement at 870.1470.

Though it is illegal, many smok-

ers toss cigarette butts to the ground. Some drivers throw fast-food wrappers out their windows. Pedestrians frequently drop cups from convenience stores. Too many pet lovers ignore City Ordinance 72911B, which states that "all dog owners shall remove feces immediately and in a sanitary manner." But as one officer commented, "I wish that's all we had to deal with."

Our police are too busy to enforce littering laws. We have to change ourselves. Perhaps our neighborhood watch groups can create social-media anti-littering campaigns.

4. Get Rid of Illegal Signs

Thousands of notices advertising "Cheap Mattresses" and "We Buy Houses" are stapled to telephone poles. Commercial banner signs are installed on front lawns. We must encourage the city to enforce existing ordinances against illegal signs.

These four "visual pollution" issues don't require new legislation or millions of dollars. We can make a big difference in Erie's appearance by taking personal responsibility for our neighborhoods and working with watch groups to encourage the active enforcement of existing codes.

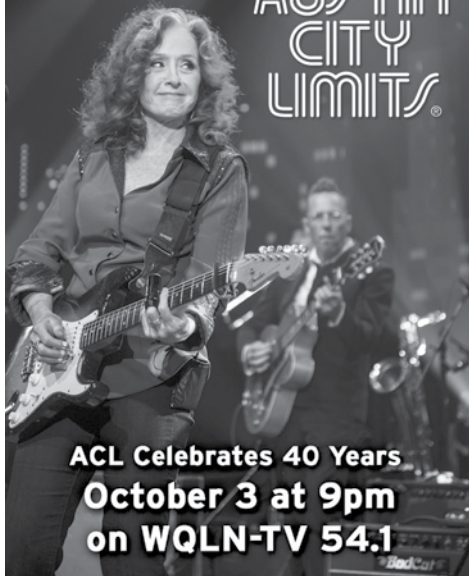
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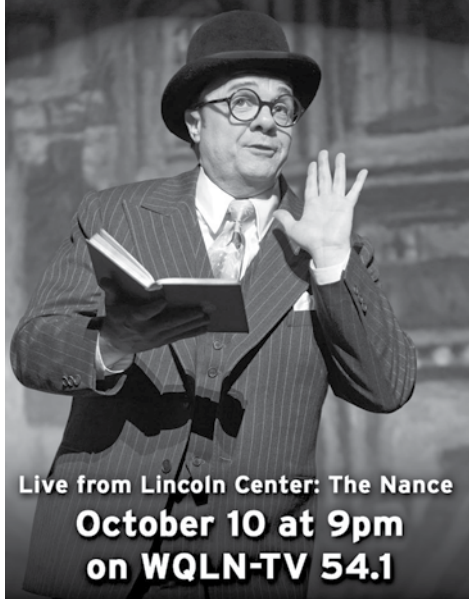
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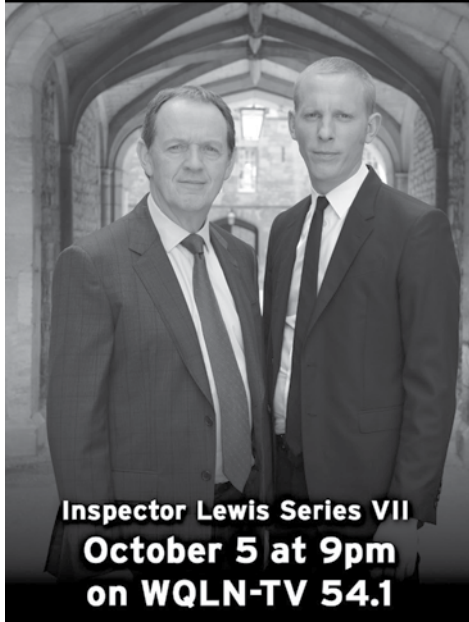
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Penn State Goes Green

The Behrend Campus teamed up with University Park to initiate a program to use reusable containers throughout the PSU system

By: Mary Birdsong

Even if you're only vaguely aware of environmental issues, you may cringe as you throw that white take-out container into the trash after a to-go meal. You know it's going to the landfill. But, hey, it's just one, right?

Multiply that one polystyrene container by the approximately 98,000 students in the Penn State University system and things start to add up. Fast.

If each of those 98,000 students (not counting faculty and staff) uses one container a week for the 30-week academic year, you end up with, potentially, 2,940,000 foam containers going to the landfill. And that's just one academic year across the Penn State network of higher learning at merely one container per week.

At Penn State University, a few years back, Lisa Wandel, director of residential dining at University Park, wanted to do something about that trash and spied more eco-friendly containers at another university. She investigated but found that due to Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture regulations concerning sanitation and health, she would have to seek a variance to utilize reusable containers at Penn State. She persisted and got the variance.

The next step, however, was implementation. To test it, university officials chose the University Park and Behrend campuses for the trials because each had both resident and commuter cafeterias. Then, remarkably, they handed it off to a team of three Nittany Lion marketing students, Keirstan Kure and Emily Newman from the University Park campus and Isaiah Boswell, from Penn State Behrend. In what would become an exciting internship experience in the fall of 2013 and spring of 2014 semesters, the three students researched containers, conducted focus groups, created the Green2Go marketing campaign, and implemented a pilot program at both campuses.

The very clever tagline? "Reduce your carbon pawprint."

"It was an amazing opportunity," says Boswell, a senior this year. "We created signs, 'Take me Out' T-shirts, and met with sustainability and environmental-based groups and classes."

Boswell met with the group Greener Behrend, sent emails to every student on campus, gave containers to every dormitory Resident Assistant, and handed out those T-shirts to key groups. He also went on a person-to-person marketing campaign, walking around campus and talking to anyone who would listen.

The Green2Go container is a durable polypropylene that is designed to close securely, be reusable, microwavable, and able to withstand the heat of commercial dishwashers.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

How the program works is this: When first acquiring one, a person pays a five-dollar deposit, fills up the container and goes. When it is returned, a five-dollar refund is issued. If getting more to-go food, the person takes a new one and proceeds. The returned one is then washed and inspected for cuts or defects before it is returned to service.

It is anticipated that the containers can get 30 to 40 uses before they have to be retired, which, of course means a trip to the recycling bin and not the trash.

Boswell found some students – the ones more eco-aware – took to them readily; others had their doubts and didn't like the fee to use it. But most – even some early naysayers – came around. Boswell related that a friend – the president of another fraternity on campus – was dubious and told him "no one's going to use it." Surprisingly, after the program did succeed, Boswell said the friend came back to him and said, "Dude, I'm sorry. I never thought it would get so big and go so far."

And far it did go. During the pilot program in the spring of this year, approximately 10 percent of students purchased and used Green2Go containers, a success, according to Mike Lindner, director of housing and food services at Behrend. "For a pilot program, that is a huge success. We weren't

Behrend student Isaiah Boswell is helping Penn State students "reduce their carbon pawprint."

expecting too much; this exceeded our expectations."

Now in its first full implementation at 11 Penn State campuses, program organizers have a goal of 25 percent participation in this first year.

"We expect it to build every year," Lindner says. "If you can get the students to participate from the beginning, they will consider this the norm, rather than the alternative."

Since it's early into the new semester, not enough data have been accumulated to measure success. But Lindner sees a lot of Green2Go containers around campus. Karen Kreger, regional director of housing and food services for Penn State's western campuses, echoes Lindner's enthusiasm. "I think the Green2Go container is a great option for our students. Participation this fall has been fantastic; we are very pleased with the results so far."

But does it add to overhead? Not at all, according to Lindner.

"The extra effort of processing them – washing and inspecting – is offset by the fewer polystyrene containers we have to purchase. That's why I am so excited about this program. It demonstrates to the business world that you can be sustainable and still make decisions that are good for business."

And it might also be attractive to students in two, less obvious, ways. Boswell explains that the Green2Go containers snap shut more tightly, keeping the odors of leftovers stowed in dorm room refrigerators from smelling up the space. "That can be important in the dorm," he says with a laugh. The second way may be close to a student's heart. "It holds more food than a regular container," says Boswell. "I can get more salad in it. That's a good thing."

And for Boswell himself, Green2Go has been an amazing adventure. He says it gave him more responsibility than he ever had before and made him work harder than he ever has.

"I am now more determined and confident," he says. And while those are all great things for him, Boswell adds that the most important part of Green2Go was not what he got out of it. "I benefited myself, yes, but Green2Go benefits everyone else, too."

Mary Birdsong can be contacted at mBirdsong@ErieReader.com, and you can follow her on Twitter @ [Mary_Birdsong](https://twitter.com/Mary_Birdsong). To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or visit <http://eridr.com/ipyy6>.



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CHRIS CHAPMAN

FILM at the Erie Art Museum will screen *Fight Club* Oct. 15. Author Chuck Palahniuk will join via Skype for a Q&A following the film.

wanted – a two-word title, like *Fight Club* or *Invisible Monsters*, to be provocative, which wouldn't give anything away. It's also vaguely flattering. I've always loved the second-person [point of view] – writing in the "you."

BS: You once wrote that *The Joy Luck Club*, *The Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood*, and *How to Make an American Quilt* "presented a social model for women to be together" and that there was "no novel that presented a new social model for men to share their lives." *Fight Club* presented an answer to that. And in a way, it seems like *Beautiful You* – being inspired by that original working title, maybe – is again a response to what's on bookshelves. Does this make *Beautiful You* the *Fight Club* for women?

CP: Yeah, in so many ways, it does make *Beautiful You* the *Fight Club* for women. It's about an ordinary person who comes into contact with an extraordinary person and then becomes the only person aware of a huge conspiracy. In the way that the narrator of *Fight Club* tries to invade in the fight against Project Mayhem, we see Penny trying to invade the whole fight against the *Beautiful You* conspiracy. Structurally, it's very, very much like *Fight Club*.

BS: I couldn't put *Beautiful You* down. It felt so dirty and so good...

CP: [Laughs] It's so dirty! But it's so poorly worded!

BS: But it's just amazing in that sense – I love what you're doing with that. I don't want to give too much away, but what sort of, umm, "research" did you do to get inside the head of somebody like Penny to be able to write from that perspective?

CP: You know, [Laughs] I read a lot of my father's pornography as a child, because I loved those really pulpy, classic mechanical books, which were so upfront and so clumsy in how they depicted human intimacy. And I also read a lot of my mother's pornography, which was just as filled with sex, but it was all coded in these politically-empowered euphemisms from the 1970s. So I wanted to combine the graphic nature of my dad's pornography with all of these off-focused comic words that were in my mom's.

Also in college, I took a lot of women's studies courses, and I just loved the language of the empowerment and satisfaction and the self-esteem language that was being taught in the 1980s. In so many of the women's studies courses, you talk about those archetypal scenes in fiction where the frustrated woman would be taught how to masturbate by another woman. And that would be her first step to a self-fulfillment and a kind of enlightenment. You see that scene in *The Color Purple* where the narrator is taught how to masturbate. And we see it again in *Pleasantville*, where the daughter, Reese Witherspoon, teaches Joan Allen, her mother, how to masturbate. It's just such an odd aspect of feminist

Fight Club: The Cult Classic Turns 15

A Q&A With Author Chuck Palahniuk

By: Ben Speggen

Chuck Palahniuk isn't afraid to mess with people. When publishers first rejected his novel *Invisible Monsters* because of its disturbing content, he wrote *Fight Club* as a means of showing them what truly disturbing would look like.

Except they loved it. And published it.

Three years after the now-seminal cult classic hit stands in 1996 – the story of an ordinary, nameless man who finds a friend who wants him to punch him as hard as he can and not tell anyone about it and to help him make soap and engage in a little mischief and mayhem – director David Fincher secured the rights to take the story to the big screen. He cast Edward Norton as the narrator and Brad Pitt as Tyler Durden – one of the most notable characters from late-twentieth-century fiction.

Chuck Palahniuk also isn't afraid to break the rules. The first rule of *Fight Club* is that you can't talk about *Fight Club*. The second rule of *Fight Club* is that you can't talk about *Fight Club*.

But as the cinematic version of Palahniuk's novel celebrates its fifteenth anniversary, we broke the rules and talked at length about his new novel, *Beautiful You*, which comes out later this month; his writing style and how he still pushes his publishers; an alternative ending to *Fight Club*; and the highly-anticipated *Fight Club* sequel coming out in graphic-novel form in 2015.

Ben Speggen: Let's start in the present: You have *Beautiful You* coming out this month and two releases – *Make Something Up* and the *Fight Club* sequel – coming out next year.

Give or take a year, you've managed to release a book nearly every year since 1999 when you released *Survivor* and *Invisible Monsters*. Are you ever not writing? Do you hate downtime?

Chuck Palahniuk: [Laughs] I spend a lot of my time not writing, but when I'm not writing, I'm usually putting together promotion or doing research. When I'm not writing fiction, I'm writing introductions for other people's books and writing small things.

Right now, most of what I'm writing are lectures about the craft of writing. So, it means looking at a lot of stories to find common devices, identifying those, and then teaching those to people, so it's not totally alien from fiction.

BS: I was just reading a piece on Esquire.com the other day about twenty daily rituals of great thinkers. Victor Hugo would go to the barber every day and insisted on keeping his clippings; John Cheever said he couldn't achieve his best work without having sex at least two to three times a week. Any writing rituals that you partake in depending on whether you're writing fiction or non-fiction?

CP: For fiction, I need to have a non-verbal environment – I can have music, but I don't want words in my music, or I have to get up early in the morning before anyone in the house decides to start talking. I just need to be away from language so that my thoughts can be clear. I think that's why so many writers were 'walking writers,' because walking puts you into a non-verbal environment.

BS: Let's break the rules and talk about *Fight Club* a bit. So the story goes, you wrote *Fight Club* to disturb publishers even more because

they had rejected *Invisible Monsters* due to its disturbing content. When they agreed to publish *Fight Club*, for you, was that liberating? Frustrating?

CP: [Laughs] It was a huge triumph – a gigantic accomplishment.

BS: Do you feel like you've been challenging yourself or daring publishers ever since then with the nature of your content? Are you still fighting the battle of *The Great Gatsby* versus the espresso machine and ESPN?

CP: [Laughs] I know that my work still troubles my publisher – we still do have battles about different parts of the books, and in next year's book, different stories in the book, the publisher did not want to include them. I had to make a real case for them.

BS: What's that sort of dialogue like for a writer of your stature – to have to go back and forth with your publisher and just say: "Trust me, this is a really good story and it needs to be in this collection"?

CP: Sometimes I'm able to show them empirical data, show them – if the story's published in a magazine – the reaction on the Internet of how many people really loved the story. Other times, my publishers will come to an event when I read the story and we'll see hundreds of people have a really strong, wonderful reaction, and that will convince them.

BS: At the San Diego Comic Con this year, you called *Beautiful You* a mash-up of popular chicklette novels, originally titled *50 Shades of the Twilight Cavebear Wears Prada*. The publisher didn't go for that title? Felt like you were giving too much away?

CP: [Laughs] Right! No, I really like – and

culture. And you probably won't want to use any of that [Laughs] – you'll get crucified.

BS: [Laughs] No, we're okay here talking about female masturbation in context of fine literature.

I'm sure there'll be a lot of great commentary on what your message with *Beautiful You* is, but if you want readers to take away the message in one word, what would it be?

CP: One word – boy. Huh. Okay: *Power*. All of my books are about people attaining a kind of power, and Penny, in the beginning of this book, is at that age after college when you're not sure if your career is ever going to launch, and by the end of the book, she is basically ruling the entire world. She's seduced by the power of that little device.

BS: I've read some critiques of your writing where you get labeled as a nihilist. And you've fought that in the past, arguing you're more of a romanticist. Do you still see yourself as a romanticist?

CP: Do you think a nihilist would write a book a year? [Laughs] All with happy endings, with so many couples getting together and people achieving new, more powerful senses of self? The only way they're nihilist is that the characters – in a way – have to destroy their previous self in order to obtain their new self.

BS: Great segue to – or back to – *Fight Club*. You're coming up on the fifteenth anniversary of the cinematic interpretation of your first published novel. When you were on the panel with David Fincher at Comic Con, he summed up *Fight Club* in one line: "[It's] about the most dangerous thing in the world – ideas." Do you agree?

CP: Yeah. I guess so.

BS: Do you and Fincher keep in contact? Any potential of working with him in the future on another book? Something else?

CP: He's been pitching me on the idea of doing something for Netflix. He's very much in love with Netflix right now. And *House Of Cards* is winding down to some extent, so for David, I think that's going to be his push.

BS: Are you open to writing something for Netflix?

CP: I would love to, but in the coming year I'm not sure what my obligations will be yet, promoting *Fight Club 2*. But I would love to work with David again.

BS: James Franco – whose literary cinematic ventures have been hit or miss lately – snatched up the rights to take *Rant* to the big screen. Have you talked with him yet about it?

CP: No, no – not at all. We're like two tweets that just keep passing in the night.

BS: When you worked with Fincher on *Fight Club*, was there a lot of back-and-forth between the two of you, or just a lot of trust in him with your story in his hands?

CP: There was a lot of back-and-forth except in terms of casting. Fincher had been so set on Helena Bonham Carter [to play the role of Marla Singer], and I was fixated on the idea of Courtney Love doing it. I'm glad David got his way.

BS: You don't think [that role and character] would've had the same effect if it was Court-

ney instead?

CP: I don't think so. I think that Courtney might have been swamped by being with two such good actors. Helena, I think, is one of the few actresses that can really hold her own with Edward and Brad.

BS: The sequel to *Fight Club* comes out next year. Why now – nearly twenty years after we're all left looking forward to getting Tyler Durden back? What made the timing right for 2015?

CP: Three reasons. I was getting a lot of pressure from friends to do a sequel and to do it as a graphic novel. And this seemed like a very attractive project that I could do with a group of people instead of working in isolation.



ALLAN AMATO

The second reason, I just did not realize that I was going to have to be talking about *Fight Club* for the rest of my life, so it just makes sense to continue the story so that I don't get bored talking about *Fight Club* for the rest of my life.

The third reason was that *Fight Club* was so critical of fathers that I wanted the chance to make the narrator a father and to show him failing just as badly as a father as he had felt his father had failed him. That seemed like a terrific thing to depict.

BS: Anthony Burgess had commented once in a forward to *A Clockwork Orange* that he didn't think that it was his best novel but that it's the one everyone seemingly wanted to talk about, and that as an author, you're at the behest of your readers' opinions of what they think your best novel is, not what you think your best novel is. What do you think your best novel to date has been?

CP: To tell the truth, I am so enamored with *Beautiful You*. Before that, I loved *Pygmy* because it had that intentionally broken language. *Beautiful You* is just as broken, but it's broken in a different way; it's not writing to be clear and to be beautiful and eloquent – it's writing really to get things wrong and there's so much fun in that.

BS: It seems like you're still having a lot of fun. One of the things I sense in your earlier work is a blue-collar angst that seems to come from your background – these blue-collar characters who struggle against the ordinary world. How do you feel that's changed as you find greater success and find your own world so different now?

CP: Part of it all always goes back to a punk-

being on the road really spurs new ways of thinking. But as I grow older, I'm miserable a lot of time [Laughs]. That's kind of a lame answer – I wish I could give you a better answer.

BS: John Waters had talked about that grind of being on the road touring, bouncing from hotel room to hotel room. He had talked about the grueling pace of it all and that he had gotten in the habit of going to bed early and waking up early before anyone else was awake so that he could work on new material before the rest of the world came knocking.

CP: Yeah. And I live in a house that's up in the woods – mostly isolated – and I can live for days without television, or music, or radio, and those are the times that I can get the most work done. Just this past Sunday, I think I worked sixteen hours straight working on a seven-page addition to the *Fight Club* graphic novel script that re-writes the end of the book. It's going to be published as [part of Free Comic Book Day].

BS: An alternative ending to the original *Fight Club*?

CP: Right, exactly – something that Cameron Stewart, the illustrator, could turn into maybe a ten-page version that Dark Horse [Comics, who are releasing *Fight Club 2*] will be giving away.

BS: Really? One of my favorite debates is over the ending in the novel versus Fincher's cinematic take. Any hints on the new ending?

CP: No – I'm not going to give anything away because I'd end up giving away too much. But it will upset a lot of people – and that's not something I dread. I'm looking forward to upsetting people and messing with their idea of what they thought was taking place.

BS: I think perhaps you're messing a bit with people already by bringing back the story with the sequel and not only bringing it back but not picking up right where it left off. Instead, we're ten years down the road in the plot from where we're left wondering what took Tyler so damn long to come back as well as just how much breaking up of civilization to make a better world has occurred at the hands of Project Mayhem.

CP: Yep. And that will all be covered in ten issues.

The graphic novel *Fight Club* sequel is due out in 2015.

rock sensibility – that no matter what I'm trying to write, I'm trying to mess up the language, chop it up and make it abrasive. And to tell the truth, my more recent books have featured characters who are isolated, cut off, because that's how I've felt more and more in recent years. *Damned* had the character alone in lavish situations, *Beautiful You* definitely has a character alone in that Parisian penthouse quite a bit, and I guess that's because I find myself alone in these luxury hotel rooms a lot these days.

BS: Do you find that it's daunting to be on the road so much? How does that affect you as a working writer just looking to get back to writing?

CP: Boy... [Long pause]. Sometimes, it's fantastic, and the lack of sleep and misery of

For the extended version of Ben Spегgen's Q&A with Chuck Palahniuk – which includes how Chuck envisioned *Fight Club* characters based on people he knew, his favorite line he's ever written, and the truth about the lobster scene in *Survivor*, visit ErieReader.com

FILM at the Erie Art Museum will screen *Fight Club* Wednesday, Oct. 15 – fifteen years to the day from when it first screened. After the film, Chuck Palahniuk will join the audience for a Skype Q&A led by Ben Spегgen.

Ben Spегgen can be contacted at bSpегgen@ErieReader.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @ERBENSpегgen. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or visit <http://erindr.com/1t3lh>.



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Bill McKibben: Meeting Power with Power

Fresh from participating in the People's Climate March in New York City, Bill McKibben, author and environmentalist, is overwhelmed by the energy of the more than 300,000 people who showed up to voice their support for measures to contain climate change. "The ranks of people just kept coming..." he says. "It's amazing to see, finally, people able to overcome their dread and take a stand."

He will bring that energy with him to Edinboro University Oct. 2, when he presents "Can We Still Fight Climate Change? Lessons from the Front Lines," as part of the University's homecoming weekend activities. The presentation is free and open to the public.

An author of 14 books about the environment, McKibben has been called by *Time Magazine* "the planet's best green journalist," and is considered by the *Boston Globe* to be "probably the country's most important environmentalist." His book, *The End of Nature*, which was published in 1989, is considered the first book on climate change for a general audience. He is founder of the planet-wide grassroots climate change movement, 350.org, the primary organizer of the People's Climate March.

McKibben founded 350.org because he thinks that people working together every day in every corner of the globe is vital to making things happen in a meaningful way. Through this organization, he and his colleagues also wanted to prove that the stereotype of an environmentalist as a rich, white person was false. Through 350.org, millions of people of all colors, faith, and socio-economic standing have organized and demonstrated.

But he also acknowledges the importance of a large-scale movement that involves governments and industry. "We also need to come together for national and international action," he says. "We need congress to give us a price on carbon so all our local efforts for things like solar panels and windmills will come more easily."

During his presentation, McKibben will also explain why this is not just an environmental issue, but one that touches all aspects of our lives. He says that for the past century, the global community has viewed the world and decision-making through a purely economic lens. Now, he suggests that we need to take a more interdisciplinary approach, asking the question: "How does this (a decision or action) contribute to the physical condition of the planet?"

Why is that shift in thinking crucial? Because, McKibben says, "the summer Arctic has mostly melted, the West Antarctic ice sheet has been destabilized, the ocean is 30 percent more acidic, and the weather is really weird. And that's with one degree of temperature rise globally - we're on track for four or five."

But dismantling the power that the fossil fuel industry holds over legislative decisions will be tough, he says, suggesting that a new "currency" (passion, for example) is needed to counter the plentiful cash of the industry.

When he speaks at Edinboro, he will be asking for us to help build that currency. His message will be "that we need to act boldly now, and that we can act boldly now. It's a matter of will."

But don't take it from me. McKibben is a dynamic speaker worth anyone's time - even if you disagree. Go hear him out. - Mary Birdsong

8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 2 // Louis C. Cole Auditorium in Memorial Hall Edinboro University, 219 Meadville St., Edinboro // Homecoming.edinboro.edu



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ACOUSTIC POP
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DAG HABIT
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FEEL GOOD
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MUSIC

All Musicians Acoustic
Jam Night with
Claire Stuczynski
Oct. 2 - 8 to 11 p.m.
*Oasis Pub, 3122 West Lake
Road. oasispub.net.*

Sarsen
Oct. 2 - 9 p.m.
*Sherlock's, 508 State
St. facebook.com/
sherlocksparkplace.*

The Armitan Hand

Oct. 3 - 9 p.m.
*King's Rook Club, 1921 Peach St.
facebook.com/kingsrookclub.*

Claire Stuczynski
w/ Eric Brewer
Oct. 3 - 7 p.m.
*Dockside Tavern, 1015
State St. 459.0099.*

Frank Singer Duo
with Jeff Gibbens
Oct. 3 - 6 to 9 p.m.
*Anchor In, 3122 West Lake
Road. oasispub.net.*

Fred Oakman
Oct. 3 - 6 p.m.
*Sunset Grill of Edinboro Lake
Resort, 12670 Edinboro Road.
edinborolakeresort.com.*

Jerry Gaff, Doug Phillips,
and Ron Yarman
Oct. 3 - 6 p.m.
*Erie Ale House, 1033 State St.
facebook.com/eriealehouse.*

Judas Priestess
Oct. 3 - 9 p.m.
*Sherlock's, 508 State
St. facebook.com/*



THE JEFFERSON EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY'S GLOBAL SUMMIT VI



The Americas Before Columbus

Charles C. Mann, Author and Journalist

Tuesday, November 4, 2014 at 7:30 PM



The Aspirin Wars: Money, Medicine, and 100 Years of Rampant Drug Company Competition

Charles C. Mann, Author and Journalist

Wednesday, November 5, 2014 at 11:30 AM (Luncheon)



Why People Need Poetry

Stephen Burt, Ph.D., Literary Critic, Poet, and Professor; Harvard University

Wednesday, November 5, 2014 at 7:30 PM



The Metropolitan Revolution – The Future of Erie?

Bruce Katz, J.D., Vice President at the Brookings Institution and Founding Director of the Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program

Thursday, November 6, 2014 at 7:30 PM



The Role of Citizens in a Just World Power

Sister Joan Chittister, O.S.B., Ph.D., Social Analyst and Religious Leader; The Benedictine Sisters of Erie, PA

Friday, November 7, 2014 at 7:30 PM
(at the Bayfront Convention Center)



A Debate on Income Inequality, Immigration, and Healthcare

Michael Steele, J.D., MSNBC Political Analyst and Former Chairman of the Republican National Committee

Donna Brazile, Author, Political Analyst, Vice Chairwoman of the Democratic National Committee

Monday, November 10, 2014 at 7:30 PM
(at Cathedral Preparatory School)



The Challenges for Women in Government

Laura Bush, M.A., Former First Lady of the United States

Michele Ridge, M.A., Former First Lady of Pennsylvania

Tuesday, November 11, 2014 at 7:30 PM
(at the Bayfront Convention Center)



Jaws Revisited: New Insights into the Ecology of the Great White Shark

Gregory Skomal, Ph.D., Senior Scientist and Program Manager at the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

Wednesday, November 12, 2014 at 7:30 PM

**Schedule subject to change.*



Global Summit VI Registration

Adult Tickets** \$25 per lecture

VIP Tickets* \$50 per lecture

Teacher Tickets** \$10 (limited)

Student Tickets** \$5 (limited)

Adult Pass (to all programs) \$150

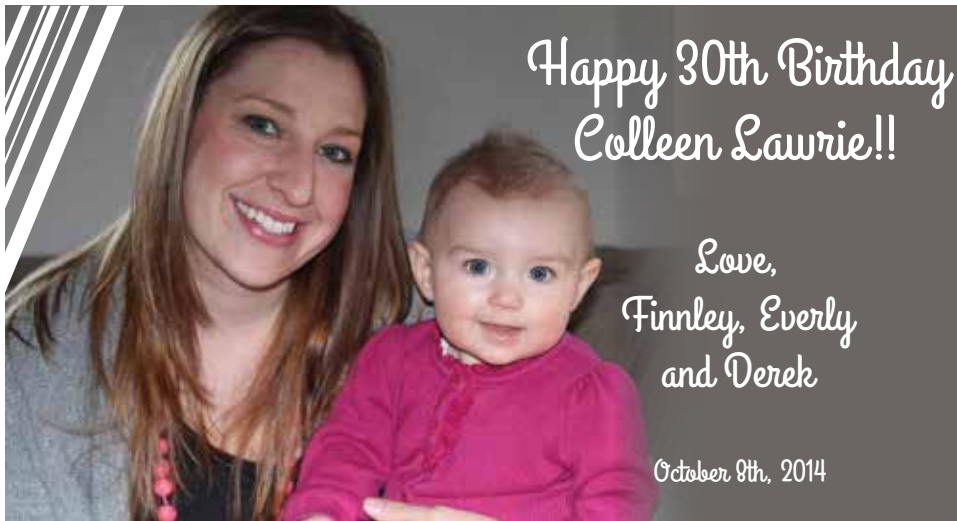
VIP Pass* (to all programs) \$300

*VIP tickets and passes provide preferred seating

**These are early bird prices. After October 17th, all tickets will cost \$30 each.

For more information and to register for Global Summit VI programs please visit us online at www.JESErie.org or call us at 814-459-8000.





CALENDAR

Mercy Killers examines ethical, psychological, and social costs of our health care system

Health care is a sore subject in the U.S. Sensible debates about the topic are often lost in a sea of bureaucratic jargon, corporate euphemisms, and cable-news-fueled misinformation. Less sensible debates can lead to shouting matches about death panels and elopements to Canada.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In his one-man theatrical performance, *Mercy Killers*, actor and playwright Michael Milligan approaches the issue from an individual man's perspective. The play tells the story of Joe, a conservative Tea Partier whose belief in free markets and self-reliance is called into question when his wife is diagnosed with breast cancer.

Joe's story comes in the form of a police interrogation following the mysterious death of his ill wife. As an auto mechanic and small-business owner, he has been unable – as we quickly learn – to keep up with his wife's escalating hospital bills, and as physical and economic conditions worsen, the couple's story becomes more and more desperate. Joe's monologue documents the ethical, psychological, and social costs of our healthcare system – in addition to the financial ones.

Milligan, a Juilliard graduate and Broadway performer, is unapologetic in his call for a more community-oriented, universal approach to our healthcare system. With its focus on an intimate family struggle, *Mercy Killers* avoids the partisan posturing that often attends discussions of this touchy subject. Instead, it puts a human face on the issue and asks us, for once, to spend an evening listening instead of reacting. — Dan Schank

7:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 2 // Taylor Little Theatre at Mercyhurst University, 501 E. 38th St. // MIAC.Mercyhurst.edu or 824.3000.

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Pickin' On Cancer Fundraiser at The Brewerrie at Union Station

Guitar strings are a key element for many artists, helping them create a certain sound to provide the public with different types of music. These strings can still have a purpose after their playing days are over, however, as local nonprofit organization StringsforaCURE repurposes used strings from artists like Jon Bon Jovi and Melissa Etheridge as jewelry to provide financial assistance for cancer patients. On Saturday, Oct. 4, you can see guitar strings both on and off a fret board during Pickin' on Cancer, the nonprofit's main yearly fundraiser at The Brewerrie at Union Station.

Given the importance music has played in the creation of StringsforaCURE, it should be no surprise that the event promises some high-quality live performances, with local act Silverlight reuniting for one last time to play for the fundraiser. Tickets for the event are \$20 and provide opportunities to enjoy the aforementioned musical entertainment, desserts, jewelry, and gift basket raffles – in addition to that good feeling you get when you help out a worthy cause. VIP tickets will be available for \$50, an option that treats people to a cocktail hour and hors d'oeuvres while the talented Sam Hyman provides some lovely acoustic songs.

All ticket-buyers will also have a chance to win a pendant made with strings donated by Willie Nelson. It's just another perk at Pickin' on Cancer, an event that lets you help out in the fight against cancer and celebrate the joys that music provides at the same time. — Alex Bieler

5 to 6:30 p.m. for VIP, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4 // 123 W. 14th St. // stringsforacure.org

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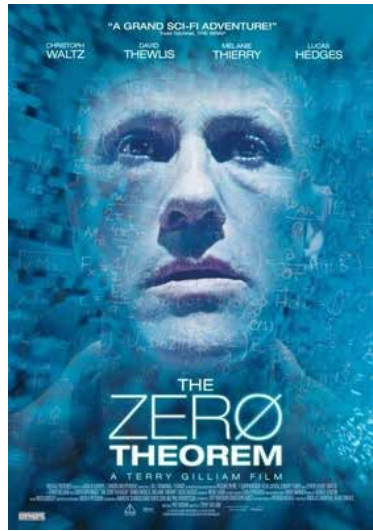
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The Beer Mug, 1108 Liberty St. 454.4753. | Rankin and Shnell
Oct. 3 – 6 to 9 p.m.
The Ugly Tuna Tavern, 1010 Peninsula Drive. uglytunatavern.com. | Basement Transmission, 145 W. 11th St. basementtransmissions.com. |
| Ralph Chamberlain, Jr.
Oct. 3 – 9:30 p.m.
Doc Holliday's Country Bar and Grill, 7425 Schultz Road. dochollidays.net. | Sirsy
Oct. 3 – 9 p.m.
Brewerie at Union Station, 123 W. 14th St. brewerie.com. | Dom DeCecco
Oct. 4 – 6 p.m.
Sunset Grill of Edinboro Lake Resort, 12670 Edinboro Road. edinborolakeresort.com. |
| | Avatar, Kevlar, Jivan, Saevitia, and Never Fire
Oct. 4 – 6 p.m. | Doug Phillips Acoustic
Oct. 4 – 6 to 9 p.m.
Anchor In, 3122 West Lake Road. oasispub.net. |

FILM presents *The Zero Theorem*



While Monty Python fans may remember Terry Gilliam as the sole American-born member of the beloved comedy crew, the man known as “Patsy” in *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* has spent the majority of his film career behind the camera. *The Zero Theorem*, the imaginative auteur’s latest feature, will be shown as the third entry of the current season of FILM at the Erie Art Museum Wednesday, Oct. 1.

Released in 2013, *The Zero Theorem* stars two-time Academy Award-winner Christoph Waltz as Qohen Leth, a reclusive programming genius struggling with existential angst in a dystopian world. His search for the meaning of life leads him to work with The Neural Net Mancive, a massive supercomputer, to solve a mathematical formula called, unsurprisingly, The Zero Theorem. Fans of Gilliam’s surrealist style in his past movies won’t be disappointed by the futuristic film, the third part of director’s “Orwellian triptych” after 1985’s *Brazil* and 1995’s *12 Monkeys*.

Gilliam has shown the film community that he’s much more than just a member of Monty Python in the four decades since *Holy Grail*. Now you get the chance to see his continued evolution as a master of unusual camera angles and fantastical storytelling in *The Zero Theorem* at the Erie Art Museum. — Alex Bieler

7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 1 // 20 E. Fifth St. // facebook.com/FILMErieArtMuseum

Pale Green Stars w/ Sean Patrick and the Newgrass Revolution

Oct. 4 – 9 p.m.
King’s Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com/kingsrookclub.

Pickin’ on Cancer

Oct. 4 – 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Brewerie at Union Station, 123 W. 14th St. stringsforacure.org.

Even Craftier Handmade Fair and Costume Swap

Oct. 5 – Noon to 4 p.m.
PACA, 1505 State St. pacal505.com.

Silent Films/Live Scores presented by electroFLUX Experimental Music Series

Oct. 7 – 7 p.m.
PACA, 1505 State St. pacal505.com.

All Musicians Acoustic Jam Night with Claire Stuczynski

Oct. 9 – 8 to 11 p.m.
Oasis Pub, 3122 West Lake Road. oasispub.net.

Jason Aldean w/ Florida Georgia Line and Tyler Farr

Oct. 9 – 7:30 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. erieevents.com.

Scandinavian Metal Group Avatar Brings Theatrical Performance to Basement Transmissions

On Oct. 4, Basement Transmissions will be putting Erie, Pa. back on the map for the music world. Or at least the metal music world.

Hailing all the way from Sweden, the metal band Avatar has made tour stops all over the globe, including the UK’s prestigious Download Festival as well as Rock on the Range; soon they’ll be adding good ol’ Basement Transmissions to the list.

Avatar is known for their theatrical performance – a self-described freak show, complete with costumes, face paint, wild stage presence, and a sound that fits somewhere between a rock opera and classic black metal that the Scandinavian region is known oh-so-well for.

Their 2014 album *Hail to the Apocalypse* was their first to chart in the US, peaking at No. 97 on the Billboard 200 and also hitting top spots on several other US charts.

Supporting the bill are four local metal and alt-rock bands – Erie’s own Kevlar, Saevitia, and Jivian, as well as Never Fire from Meadville. These bands have been making rounds in the local circuit and aren’t strangers to playing with international acts, having also played the sold-out Crown the Empire show on Sept. 11.

It’s not often that bands come all the way from another continent to play at a place like Basement Transmissions, so don’t miss this chance to see some something out of the ordinary and get a taste of what the outside world (of metal) has to offer. – Tommy Shannon

Doors 5 p.m., Oct. 4 // 145 W. 11th St. // Tickets (available at brownpapertickets.com/event/821965 and at BT) are \$10 presale and \$12 day of the show.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

We’ve got the Divas this month!



Elena Urioste



Ali Mauzey & Julia Murney

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Symphonic Series

Beethoven’s Brilliant Seventh

October 11, 8 PM - Warner Theatre
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Elena Urioste, violin
Beethoven Symphony No. 7

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Fri. Oct. 3

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Sat. Oct. 5

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 presqueisledowns.com.

Frank Singer Duo with James Madden

Oct. 10 – 6 to 9 p.m.
Anchor In, 3122 West Lake Road.
 oasispub.net.

The Groove

Oct. 10 – 9 p.m.
Sandbar Draft House, 2835 W. 8th St.
 sandbarerie.com.

Lindsay Vendetti w/ Eric Brewer

Oct. 10 – 7 p.m.
Dockside Tavern, 1015 State St.
 459.0099.

The Mighty Sea w/ Brooke Surgener and Whitney Wright

Oct. 10 – 9 p.m.
King's Rook Club, 1921 Peach St.
 facebook.com/kingsrookclub.

Mike Egerly

Oct. 10 – 6 to 9 p.m.
The Ugly Tuna Tavern, 1010 Peninsula Drive.
 uglytunatavern.com.

Salmon Frank

Oct. 10 – 6 p.m.
Sprague Farm and Brew Works, 22113 U.S. 6, Venango.
 sleepingchainsaw.com.

Beethoven's Brilliant Seventh

Oct. 11 – 8 p.m.
Warner Theatre, 811 State St.
 eriephil.org.

Chris Higbee

Oct. 11 – 9 p.m.
Presque Isle Downs and Casino, 8199 Perry Highway.
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Dag Nabit w/ The Remnants

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King's Rook Club, 1921 Peach St.
 facebook.com/kingsrookclub.

The Four Grads

Oct. 11 – 6 to 9 p.m.
Anchor In, 3122 West Lake Road.
 oasispub.net.

Duos: Thollem/Lopez/ Holquist presented by electroFLUX Experimental Music Series

Oct. 12 – 8 p.m.
PACA, 1505 State St.
 pacal505.com.

Sounds of the Silents Released

Oct. 13 – 7:30 to 10 p.m.
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, 4701 College Drive.
 facebook.com/eriechamberorchestra.

DANCE

Swing Dance

Oct. 2, 9 – 9 p.m.
Rocco's Tavern, 4040 W. 12th St.
 833.5487.

Contra Dance at Allegheny College

Oct. 8, 12 – 7:30 p.m.
Montgomery Gym, Allegheny College, 520 N. Main St., Meadville.
 toppish.com.

Brett Fallon with Company and At That Moment Dancers

Oct. 10 – 5:30 p.m.
Millcreek Parade, Millcreek.

Zumbathon "Get Fit and Fight Back"

Oct. 10 – 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Family First Sports Park, 8155 Oliver Road.
 laceytanner.zumba.com.

FOOD & DRINK

Chapmanville VFD Ladies' Auxiliary Dinner

Oct. 1 – 5 p.m.

Chapmanville VFD, 458 Meadville Road, Titusville.
 827.2179.

Fall Harvest Festival

Oct. 1 through 31 – 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday & Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday & Sunday.

Port Farms, 2055 Stone Quarry Road, Waterford.
 portfarms.com.

Dessert Pairing

Oct. 3 – 7 p.m.
Presque Isle Wine Cellars, 9440 W. Main Road, North East.
 piwine.com.

Fall Dinner in Tuscany

Oct. 3 – 7 p.m.
Frankie & May Fresh Grocery, 1101 Peninsula Drive.
 frankieandmay.com.

Big Brew Festivus

Oct. 4
Rainbow Gardens, Waldameer Park.
 868.5355.

St. Joe's Annual Oktoberfest

Oct. 10, 11, 12 – 5 to 11 p.m.
St. Joseph's Bread of Life RC Church, 147 W. 24th St.
 stjoesbol.org.

Tailgating Extravaganza!

Oct. 12 – 12:30 p.m.
Frankie & May Fresh Grocery, 1101 Peninsula Drive.
 frankieandmay.com.

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

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Ongoing – 2 p.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Drive.
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The Mighty Sea w/ Brooke Surgener and Whitney Wright

It's been less than a year since Basket Eddy's Seann P. Clark and Potwhole's Abby Barrett teamed up to become The Mighty Sea, but the alternative acoustic duo has already made an impact in Erie during their first 10 months together. The talented twosome will make their next stop with a free show at The King's Rook Friday, Oct. 10, where you can see why the duo has earned its fans.

Despite being a two-part band, The Mighty Sea produces an intense full-formed whole sound, with beautifully brooding songs like "Scotch and Ice" and "Sailor's Song." The band released its first album earlier this year, which *Erie Reader* Managing Editor Ben Speegen accurately called "raw yet haunting" in his four-star review. Between Barrett's beautiful work on the viola and Clark's forceful vocals and strumming, The Mighty Sea provides a memorable sonic experience.

In addition to the musical stylings of Clark and Barrett, The King's Rook will also host opening acts Brooke Surgener, who you may know as a member of the *Erie Reader's* 40 Under 40, and Whitney Wright. Take the opportunity to see three great acts for the price of none with this killer free Friday show at The King's Rook. — Alex Bieler

9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10 // 1921 Peach St. // facebook.com/kingsrookclub

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October 1, 2014

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Mysteries of the Unseen World
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Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Drive. trecpi.org.

The Zero Theorem
Oct. 1 — 7 p.m.

FILM at the Erie Art Museum, 20 E. Fifth St. erieartmuseum.org.

Mercy Killers
Oct. 2 — 7:30 p.m.
Taylor Little Theater, Mercyhurst University, 501 E. 38th St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

Rob the Mob
Oct. 5 — 2 p.m.
Taylor Little Theater, Mercyhurst University, 501 E. 38th St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

The Congress
Oct. 8 — 7 p.m.
FILM at the Erie Art Museum, 20 E. Fifth St. erieartmuseum.org.

VISUAL ARTS

Erie Art Museum Focus Fiber Exhibit
Ongoing — All day
Erie Art Museum, Bacon Gallery, 20 E. Fifth St. 459.5477

Erie Art Museum Karen Erst Exhibit
Ongoing — All day
Erie Art Museum, Holsetin Gallery, 20 Fifth St. 459.5477

Erie Art Museum Wilbur Adams Exhibit
Ongoing starting Oct. 4 — All day
Erie Art Museum, Main Gallery, 20 E. Fifth St. 459.5477

THEATER

Shrek the Musical
Oct. 1 through 5 — 7:30 p.m.
Erie Playhouse, 13 W. 10th St. 454.2852.

Erie Broadway Series Presents 'Jekyll & Hyde'
Oct. 1 — 8 p.m.
The Warner Theater, 811 State St. 452.4857.

Loot
Oct. 2 to 4, 9 to 12 — 8 p.m.; 2 p.m. Sunday
Schuster Theatre, Gannon University, 109 University Square. gannon.edu.

Bill W. and Dr. Bob
Oct. 3 through 19 — 7:30 p.m.
All An Act Theater, 652 W. 17th St. 450.8553.

Macbeth by Verdi

Oct. 11 — 12:55 p.m.
Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center, Mercyhurst University, 501 E. 38th St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

The MOMologues: Pink Ribbon Overdose
Oct. 10, 11, 12 — 7:30 p.m.; 2 p.m. Sunday
Gardner Theatre, 910 Market St., Meadville. 336.5051.

Muscle Shoals
Oct. 12 — 2 p.m.
Taylor Little Theatre, Mercyhurst University, 501 E. 38th St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

COMMUNITY

Mason Farms Pumpkintown U.S.A.
Ongoing — 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Mason Farms Country Market, 839 Peninsula Drive. 833.8933.

Haunted Hayride and Walk of Darkness
Oct. 3, 4, 10, 11 — 7 to 10 p.m.
Sparrow Pond Family Campground, 11103 Rt 19N, Waterford. 796.6777.

Presque Isle Adopt-A-Beach Clean-Up
Oct. 4 — 9 a.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Drive. trecpi.org.

Presque Isle Waterfowl Trolley Tour
Oct. 4 — 9 a.m. to noon
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Drive. trecpi.org.

Public Day Sails Aboard the U.S. Brig Niagara
Oct. 4, 11 — 1 to 7 p.m.
Erie Maritime Museum, 150 E. Front St. 452.2744 x214.

Lake City Fall Fest Car/Truck Show
Oct. 4 — Noon to 3 p.m.
York-Seaway, 9843 Martin Ave, Lake City. 873.1511.

Rock Stars of our Galaxy
Oct. 4 — 5 and 7:30 p.m.
Edinboro Planetarium, Edinboro University, 219 Meadville St., Edinboro. 732.2493.

Erie Otters vs. Sarnia Sting
Oct. 4 — 7 p.m.
Erie Insurance Area, 809 French St. ottershockey.com.

Theresa Caputo Live! The Experience
Oct 5 — 7 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. 452.4857.

Haunted History Tours of Union Station
Oct. 8 — 7:30 to 9 p.m.
The Brewerrie at Union Station, 123 W. 14th St. brewerrie.com.

For Women Only - An Expo for Today's Woman
Oct. 10 — 4 to 9 p.m.
Bayfront Convention Center, 1 Sassafras St. Pier 790.5079.

St. Joe's Annual Oktoberfest
Oct. 10, 11, 12 — 5 to 11 p.m.
St. Joseph's Bread of Life RC Church, 147 W. 24th St. stjoesbol.org.

Bassmaster Basstrek Challenge
Oct. 11 — 7 a.m.
Presque Isle State Park, West Pier Launch. bassmaster.com.

3rd Annual Zombie 5k
Oct. 11 — 9 a.m.
Presque Isle State Park, Runner's Pavillion Beach I. 454.2852 x3.

Peek'n Peak Fall Fest
Oct. 11, 12 — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Peek'n Peak Resort and Spa, 1405 Olde Road Findley Lake MeganD@visitscott.com

Presque Isle Steelhead Fly Tying
Oct. 11 — 1 to 2 p.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Drive. trecpi.org.

Erie Otters vs. Kitchener Rangers
Oct. 11 — 7 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. ottershockey.com.

Fall Foliage Hike at Erie Bluffs State Park
Oct. 12 — 10 a.m. to noon
Erie Bluff State Park, on Rt. 5 near Lake City. 833.7424.

'Some of Erie's First Settlers' Cemetery Walk
Oct. 12 — 11 a.m.
Erie Cemetery, 2116 Chestnut St. 868.4423.

Edinboro Potterfest
Ongoing from Oct. 13 — All day
Cole Auditorium, Edinboro University, 219 Meadville St. Edinboro. cfowler@edinboro.edu.

FUNDRAISERS

Life Run in Lake Erie Wine Country
Oct. 11 — 7:30 a.m.
Burch Farms, 9210 Sidehill Road, North East 814.882.1333

14th Annual Northwest PA Nonprofit Day Conference

Since it was founded in 2001, The Nonprofit Partnership has worked to enhance the community in Northwest Pennsylvania, and a big part of their ongoing education is Nonprofit Day. The annual event is the second-largest of its kind in the Keystone State and will be held Tuesday, Oct. 14 at the Bayfront Convention Center to help educate people in the area about the ongoing shift in the nonprofit world and what can be done to improve the region.

"With the changes in the economy, we're going to have to find new ways to provide the basic services – to feed the hungry, house the homeless, educate our kids, and keep a clean environment," says Michael Brand, the director of leadership and education at The Nonprofit Partnership. "We're going to have to unleash a lot more of the native talent, and Erie has a lot of native talent."

According to Brand, the Conference is a way for participants to educate themselves about how business models continue to evolve along with the changing economy and other outside factors. With that in mind, The Nonprofit Partnership created a lineup of speakers to present their cases and educate, including Luncheon Keynote Speaker Brandon Chrostowski, the founder of the Edwins Leadership & Restaurant Institute, a nonprofit social enterprise that takes formerly incarcerated adults and gives them a foundation in the hospitality industry.

"What caught my eye about [Brandon] was his passion and how he took that passion and turned it into a way to address a critical social issue," Brand says. "Brandon's skill is in the restaurant business, but he's using that as a gateway to address a critical human need with a group of people that not a lot of society wants to deal with. It's an incredible story."

To hear Chrostowski's keynote speech, as well as plenty of other presentations and workshops, head to the Bayfront Convention Center for the 14th Annual Nonprofit Day to see how nonprofits can continue to evolve and aid Northwest Pennsylvania. — Alex Bieler

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 14 // 1 Sassafras Pier // thenonprofitpartnership.org



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Welcome in Fall at Peek'n Peak



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Taking place amid the fall foliage and nestled in the New York mountains, Fall Fest – hosted by Peek'n Peak Ski Resort – will once again welcome in all things autumnal. Everything from pumpkin carving to cornhole tournaments, from live music to pony rides, the festival – now in its 27th year, and packed into two fun-filled weekends – will offer a slew of activities for guests of all ages to celebrate and enjoy the mainstays of the autumn season before we start to see the snow fall and welcome in winter.

Also amongst this year's festivities are a craft show with more than 130 vendors; a farmers' market, featuring locally grown products;

pumpkin carvings and pumpkin canons; and horse drawn rides.

For those that love a good run – and test of endurance – Fall Fest goers can join in the second annual Peak Mountain Challenge, a race starting at the Sugar Shack and ending at the top of Finsbury Field at the mountain's peak, on Oct. 18. The first male and female participant to cross the finish line will win a full season ski pass.

But if running up a mountain isn't really your thing and family entertainment is, there will be a petting zoo and pony rides for the little ones, and fan favorite Magician Bruce Kikola will also be on [slight of] hand.

If you're just looking to relax and listen to some local talent, the festival will feature live music performed by Steve Strickland, Alice Kates, Bill Ward, and Derek Davis throughout the weekends.

And while there will hopefully be a few more months before you can hit the slopes, attendees will have the opportunity to trade in their old ski equipment for some new gear at the equipment swap.

The event is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day – and the best part is: Admission is free, which means that you don't have to spend a dime if you don't want to. But with all the activities and events, you'll probably not walk away empty handed. – Rebecca Styn

Oct. 11-12 and 18-19 // 1405 Olde Road, Clymer, N.Y. // 716.355.4141 or pknpk.com.



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Alt-J

This Is All Yours
Infectious



★★★★★

While some bands may fear the dreaded sophomore slump, Alt-J have some legitimate concerns about the reception of newest album *This Is All Yours*. That's what happens when the success of Alt-J's debut *An Awesome Wave* earned the band both critical and commercial success, won the Mercury Prize, and, possibly most damning for the British band, garnered them comparisons as the "next Radiohead." So, how did the trio from Leeds, England respond? They stripped things down, taking away a lot of the dark, twitchy grooves from songs like "Fitzpleasure" and settled for a more reserved sound. Of course, that doesn't mean Alt-J isn't afraid to still get weird, as evidenced on the shifty "Every Other Freckle," but the band also provides some lovely sonic tableaux, including "Bloodflood pt. II" and the band's "Nara" trilogy. *This Is All Yours* doesn't have as many memorable moments as *An Awesome Wave*, but it's a commendable sophomore effort. – Alex Bieler

Sondre Lerche

Please
Mona



★★★★★

While the majority of *Please* was written before his 2013 divorce, Sondre Lerche's split from his then-wife can't help but hang over the Norwegian singer/songwriter's seventh full-length studio album. The 32-year-old Lerche certainly has a knack for making breezy, jazz-tinged pop music that's easy on the ears, but *Please* understandably adds some extra bite to his charming oeuvre. The normally affable musician takes some shots on the jaunty kick-off track "Lucifer," with Lerche dropping lines like "When you're with me I don't understand why on Earth we would ever speak again" and "All I want to do is strike a match, set fire to you." In addition to demonically-themed numbers, Lerche sprinkles in some dance-worthy rock amid his usual charming pop with the twitchy, glitchy "Bad Law." Even with the somber themes, Lerche oozes charisma on *Please*, and pop fans should be thankful. – Alex Bieler

Robert Plant

lullaby and... THE CEASELESS ROAR
Nonesuch Records



★★★★★

Zep fans that pine for a reunion tour might as well stop wishing. It's clear that Robert Plant is perfectly happy doing what he's currently doing – which is performing with other extraordinary musicians as interested in creating new soundscapes as he is. The former rock god collaborates with a cadre of world instrumentalists to craft music as fresh as anything you will hear this year. The album opens with a mingling of African rhythms, psychedelic tumult, and banjo on a reimagining of the American folk song "Little Maggie." The rest of the songs are all originals from Plant and the band, including the great concert shout-along "Turn It Up." Of course none of this will receive any airplay on any commercial radio station, so if you want to be able to say you loved this record before it's announced for its inevitable Grammy Award, buy it now. Then listen to it over and over and over again. – Bryan Toy

#Rosbox: Coming Out the Box Vol. I

Various Artists
Roswell Enterprise



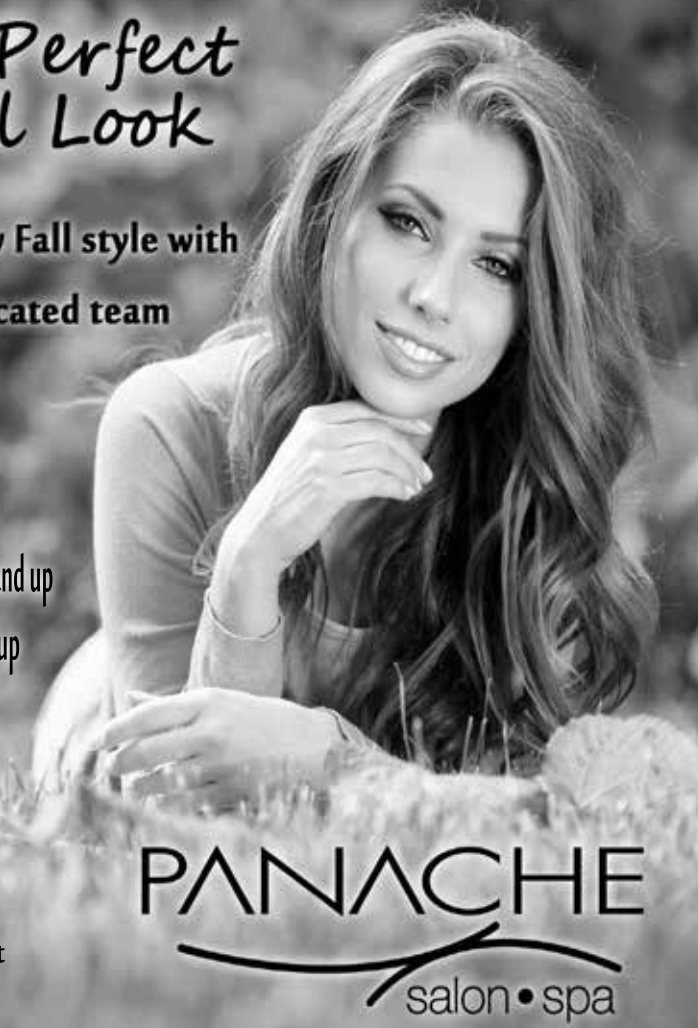
★★★

Again I repeat: Erie's music scene is more vibrant than the scene in some cities thrice her size, and our hip-hop community is probably the most energetic portion thereof; for proof, one needs to look no further than this compilation album recorded, mixed, and mastered (mostly) by insanely talented local producer Doc Proto featuring local heavies C. Brown, Neiman, and Jonny Evans along with a dozen-odd others of varying consequence. But here's the part where I cut a switch – "One Erie One Love" needs "One Erie Tough Love" sometimes... and, well, there's some really terrible performances on this album. Terrible. But buy the album and decide for yourself, because the bad stuff doesn't quite outweigh the good stuff here; however, I think some of the artists on this album still have some grindin' to do before they're allowed out the box again. – Cory Vaillancourt

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PRIMETIME
LATE NIGHT
NEWS
SPORTS

Street Fashionista

Professional, polished, and dynamic: Amanda Prischak

By: Lili Morton

As Sunday comes to an end and Monday rears its ugly head, we are faced with a familiar question: What will I wear to work today?

You can bet this issue's Street Fashionista has the answer.

After living in New York City for six years, Amanda Prischak has mastered the art of creating a business-casual look that is professional, yet polished and dynamic. For many, work wear can become routine, which leads down that slippery slope to dull and ordinary. But not for Amanda, who works as a Senior Content Development Specialist at Erie Insurance.

If you're tired of wearing the same old black slacks and a blouse to work, read on to learn what Amanda does to keep her look fresh and fun.

Lili Morton: When would you say you first started to take an interest in style and developing your own?

Amanda Prischak: My mother claims I was obsessed with clothes and hair accessories as a toddler, so it goes way back! For me, I remember being drawn toward dresses as a preschooler. I loved pairing them with tights, my Mary Janes, whatever. That affinity continues today; I much prefer dresses and skirts to pants.

LM: You lived in New York City for six years. Has your style changed since moving back home to Erie?

AP: In my 20s, I bought all kinds of clothes from places like H&M and churned through them fast since they were pretty inexpensive. These days, I invest in timeless, higher-quality pieces. I would also say my look is more conservative now that I work for an insurance company – and I no longer live in anything-goes NYC.

LM: Favorite accessory?

AP: Right now, it would be two necklaces my boyfriend bought me: a pearl pendant from Ralph Miller Jewelers and a rose gold necklace with three diamonds in a curved underside from Lighthouse Jewelers – buy



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

local!

LM: Less or more?

AP: Definitely less. I look for clothes that have an interesting cut or elegant draping or that are made of beautiful material like cashmere rather than loud pieces.

LM: What are three items in your closet you could never, ever get rid of?

AP: No. 1: A fur stole from J.C. Kramer, a fur maker in Erie that's no longer around. (Another piece from my boyfriend – what can I say, he has great taste!). No. 2: A big coat made with fur trim that was made by Eskimos. I found it in front of someone's brownstone in Brooklyn during a crazy summer heat wave. It was there for the taking, so that's what I did. I get so many compliments on it and it seriously saved me during the Polar Vortex. No. 3: I have some clothes my grandma wore when she was a secretary for Erie Insurance founder H.O. Hirt. They are

way too small for me, but there's a lot of sentimental value to them.

LM: If you could hire any fashion designer to create a wardrobe just for you, who would it be?

AP: Oscar de la Renta, hands down. Everything he does is beautiful, unique, and timeless.

LM: What is one trend (or two) you wish would go away?

AP: If we're talking about Erie, pajama pants in public. Definitely pajama pants in public.

LM: What will you be investing in this fall (if anything)?

AP: I am in the market for some new corduroy pieces, because nothing says fall like corduroy. I am also hoping to buy some more Lisette pants; they are a favorite of Oprah because they literally make you look a size smaller while being very, very comfortable. I

buy them at AJ's in the Colony Plaza.

LM: You work in a more professional environment, correct? It's easy to get into a routine - black pants and top one day, wrap dress the next, same black pants with a different top the third. How do you keep your work wardrobe fresh and fun?

AP: I have a file of magazine clips and a Pinterest board devoted to looks I want to try. I often turn to them for inspiration. One small tweak, like tying a scarf a new way, can add a whole new look to something you've worn a million times.

LM: Outside of the office, you are very involved with Erie County Historical Society, a friend of the Erie Community Foundation, and have helped Orphan Angels Cat Sanctuary with their fundraising efforts. I've also seen you at events supporting the Erie Art Museum. When you have an event after work, what are some tips/tricks you can share on taking your look from the desk to dinner?

AP: Honestly, I will probably wear what I wore to work. A fresh coat of red lipstick is about all I do to jazz it up for an evening activity.

LM: Least favorite trend?

AP: I find culottes to be a really weird look.

LM: Favorite online retailers?

AP: Kate Spade Saturday, Rue La La, Boden USA, Vineyard Vines, Banana Republic.

LM: Prints or solids?

AP: Tough question! I like them both, but if I had to pick one, I'd go with solids. They are classic and give you more of an opportunity to accessorize.

LM: Current go-to look?

AP: A figure-flattering jersey dress. So comfortable and you never, ever need to iron it either!

LM: Finish the statement: "I'm inspired by..."

AP: Old-school screen sirens like Grace Kelly, Rita Hayworth and Jane Russell. Their look was beautiful, feminine and provocative in a very subtle way. Everything was so elegant back then.

Lili Morton can be contacted at LMorton@ErieReader.com, and you can follow her on Twitter @SatinAndScotch.

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Geeked Out

Local Writer Pens New Noir Graphic Novel and Heads Off to NYC Comic Con

By: John Lindvay

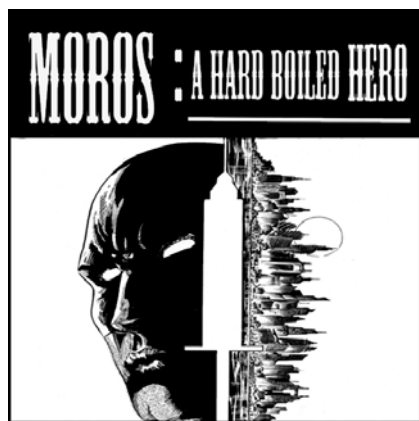
Moros: *A Hard Boiled Hero* is a rough and tumble anti-hero graphic novel created by local student and aspiring writer Joshua Lucas. Dripping in noir trappings, the first volume of Moros is available now, and with this work, Lucas is looking to take on character archetypes like Batman and Rorschach but give them a more grisly twist.

The book opens, “In the town of Bay City, like much of America, there is little in the way of hope.” Loosely inspired by *Erie*, Lucas begins to reveal the world of Moros to us. Bay City is being overrun with a new drug: Juice. When a user is “Juiced up,” they are elevated to a hyper, adrenaline-induced state, feeling no pain and able to push their muscles beyond their limits. Juice is turning low-level thugs into mini ‘roided-out hulks with a stranglehold around the cities throat.

Perhaps people who are broken, or wrong, bad, evil — whatever you want to call it — can still do good.

Enter our anti-hero: Edward Knight, an ex-military-type turned police detective. Like most noir detectives, Ed hates his boss, red-tape, and criminal scum all the same. I would classify Ed as “chaotic lawful,” for all you archetype buffs out there. He is the law the same way Judge Dredd or Batman are the law: They also know what is righteous, yet the actions they often commit will have the reader wondering if these protagonists and narrators are truly trustworthy.

In Ed’s case, he’s tired of being blocked by corruption and bureaucratic red tape, so he decides to go rogue and become a vigilante. Donning a mask and choosing to fight fire with fire, Ed hits up one of his informants for a package of Juice. The only way to fight the beast, Ed reasons, is to become the beast, as we soon see Ed juice up and raids a drug deal, as he embarks on his path as the title character and goes beyond the law to attempt to restore order to



The first volume of Moros: A Hard Boiled Hero is out now.

his chaotic city.

Lucas explains that he wants Moros to go where more traditional anti-heroes, like Dredd and Batman, don’t dare. He wants him to be able to embrace the devil, to have the ends justify the means.

This is something, Lucas admits, that to “anyone who is going to fight crime, is insane. They aren’t well.” After reading the first volume, I first questioned just why Ed hates his boss. Sure, what anti-hero archetype does like his boss and the oppressively numbing authority – and perhaps the chief is a little smug – but where exactly is Ed’s rage coming from? Can this ex-military PTSD-inflicted vigilante be trusted? What will we soon come to know about him – and his new identity: Moros?

“You should be questioning Ed’s logic and the way he sees the world,” Lucas says. And this is the part of the narrative Lucas seems most interested in exploring. He argues that the prevailing theme of morality in the graphic novel is that nobody’s perfect. And perhaps people who are broken, or wrong, bad, evil—whatever you want to call it—can still do good.

“People have said to me that the story is devoid of morality,” Lucas says. “And I strongly disagree with that.”

It is interesting to ponder, however, when does the morality show up in this story? In the first volume of the book, Ed is fighting against his boss, criminals, and his own skeletons. Lucas explains with an historic example:

“Rockefeller, and a lot of the American titans of industry, stepped on the backs of people, and so to speak, ruined a lot of people’s lives. But if you look at what they manifest and how many people were helped by industry, you could make a utilitari-

an argument that what they did was good.”

Lucas, like many writers before him, wants to wrestle with this theme of redemption and self-righteous martyrdom, leaving readers to wonder: Can Moros, who is already filthy from the sins of his past, find redemption by embracing the beast?

I would be remiss if I didn’t mention the fantastic drawing by Tamal Saha. Lucas says he had been searching for the right artist for a long time; he found Tamal online through social media, and they now work together remotely since Tamal lives in India. Tamal had the right style and understanding of what Lucas wanted to achieve in Moros, Lucas explains.

It is exciting to see local writers producing content. Lucas is currently prepping for the upcoming New York City Comic Con, which runs Oct. 9 to 12, where he will be showing his comic to fans, as well as courting publishers and industry people to help gain traction for his book, as touring with one’s work is an essential part of working in industries like comics and video games. Now *Erie* has a creative ambassador heading to show some of the cool things we have cooking from our home town.

A digital copy of the first volume of *Moros: A Hard Boiled Hero* can be found online at: [Facebook.com/MorosAHardBoiledHero](https://www.facebook.com/MorosAHardBoiledHero).

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/m7uzj>.



Tech Bits

DHL to Begin Deliveries by Drone in Germany

By: Mark Scott



In the world of drones, Europe is out to show that whatever the United States can do, it can do better.

That’s the plan for Friday, when a small pilotless aircraft, or drone, owned by the German logistics company DHL is expected to take off and ferry medicine to Juist, a sparsely populated island off the northwestern coast of Germany.

The flight — expected to take as long as 30 minutes, depending on weather conditions — would be the first time a drone without the aid of even a land-based pilot has been authorized for regular use in Europe, the company said.

It also follows in the footsteps of similar drone delivery plans by American technology giants.

Like Amazon, which is running tests in Canada, and Google, which is conducting tests in Australia, DHL is hoping its month-long trial will prove that the technology — dubbed parcelcopter — can replace some of the traditional ways of delivering parcels to remote locations.

Yet while Google and Amazon have outlined plans to potentially roll out their drone services across large areas, DHL said that it probably would not expand the trial across its global delivery network.

Instead, the German logistics company said the drone technology could be used in special situations — in remote locations, for example — where it is more cost-effective to use an unmanned aircraft than to send a delivery van or a bike messenger.

That’s the case for DHL’s delivery service from Norden, near the northwestern city of Bremen, to Juist, a German island with a population of fewer than 2,000 people. As part of the trial, DHL is expected to send medications twice a day, weather permitting. The deliveries will take place when alternatives, like the local ferry or aircraft services, are not available.

When DHL’s drone, which weighs just under three pounds, lands on the island, one of the company’s couriers will then deliver the packages to local residents, a spokeswoman said.

One of the major stumbling blocks for companies like Amazon and Google has been a lack of regulatory approval for drone flights. Earlier this year, for example, the Federal Aviation Administration banned a proposed aerial delivery service in Minnesota that would have ferried beer from a brewery to nearby ice fishers.

To avoid similar problems, DHL said that it had worked with the German air traffic agency and the country’s Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure to create a restricted flight zone for the company’s drone project. The aircraft will hover 100 feet off the ground and reach speeds of up to 40 miles per hour during the seven-mile journey from the mainland to Juist.

While the technology for DHL’s drone project, which began last year, has been well tested, a major stumbling block for the trial may be something the logistics company cannot control: the weather. High winds forecast off the German coast for Friday could delay the initial flight.

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ER Sports

It's time for midterm grades and the Erie Reader Super Seven

By James R. LeCorchick

Local Football Update – High School

IT'S HARD TO believe the high football season is already half done, gridiron fans enjoying the action so far – especially the surprising Central Tech Falcons. However, it's not that shocking to the *Erie Reader* fans, as they were clued in ahead of time as CT was featured prominently in this publication before the season even began.

With Coach **Rob Matz** entering his fourth season as boss of the Falcons, it appeared his program was taking hold, and that certainly turned out to be true as the Falcons roared to a 5-0 mark without even being tested. And CT did it the old-fashioned way, running the single-wing offense while everyone else was turning to pro sets and spread formations.

Matz has done wonders, and the future is bright with solid freshman and junior varsity programs.

Relying heavily on the running game, the Falcons have been nearly unstoppable as they have pounded Warren, General McLane, Strong Vincent, Meadville, and Bradford. As a matter of fact, the 64-28 blasting of Bradford showed the depth that is also being developed when **Eddie Leggett** was needed to step in at running back because of injuries and did a "fair" job.

All the junior speedster did was rush 21 times for 329 yards and six touchdowns, ending with 40 points for the evening when he added a pair of two-point conversions.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dollinger Field is serene looking in this photo, but it will be a different look when thousands of fans converge on the site for a meeting between undefeated Central Tech and undefeated Cathedral Prep.

For the seasons, the Falcons get an A grade, and the only reason they didn't get an A-plus is I don't give that out – although I was semi-tempted here.

Meanwhile, Cathedral Prep continued roll, as the Ramblers were also undefeated against a tough schedule by stopping Cleveland Glenville, Strong Vincent, McDowell, DuBois, and Rochester Aquinas.

Once again, Rambler coach **Mike Mischler** continues to add to his glossy coaching mark.

I'm giving CP a B grade, as expectations are always high at the West 10th Street school, the lack of a solid passing attack keeping Prep from an A. However, with a strong defense and potential for a very good passing game, an A is a distinct possibility.

Another school acing the first half is Girard, the Yellow Jackets of Coach **Jim Funk** showing great balance with a potent offense and a strong defense. The "O" is led by junior RB **Kel Barnes**, one of the more explosive runners in the area.

Again, the jackets get a solid A so far.

Erie Reader Super Seven so far:

1. Cathedral Prep
2. Central Tech
3. Girard
4. McDowell
5. Slippery Rock
6. General McLane,
7. Cambridge Springs

Local Football Update – College

Gannon University was expected to be good in the pre-season, but the Golden Knights have exceeded expectations, dispensing of Southern Connecticut State, Cheyney, Kutztown, and Clarion to open the season. The Golden Knights are an extremely physical group on both sides of the ball.

GU has an extremely rough schedule the remainder of the way, but the Knights will make it tough for any of their

opponents to grab a win.

There's no doubt GU deserves an A, so far.

Meanwhile, both Mercyhurst and Edinboro are still looking to pull it together, as the two schools have yet to post a victory. To their defense, both programs opened with murderous schedules and will face tough

PIGSKIN PICKS

WEEK 6

HIGH SCHOOLS

West Middlesex 27 MERCER 14
SHARPSVILLE 21 Lakeview 20
WILMINGTON 26 Reynolds 20
MAPLEWOOD 32 Saegertown 14
CAMBRIDGE SPRINGS 22 Cochran 21
IROQUOIS 49 Youngsville 18
Eisenhower 28 UNION CITY 12
TITUSVILLE 26 Corry 20
HICKORY 22 Greenville 21
Slippery Rock 28 WARREN 12
Sharon 27 GROVE CITY 24
Girard 20 FAIRVIEW 16
NORTH EAST 17 Seneca 14
FORT LeBOEUF 28 Mercyhurst Prep 14
NORTHWESTERN 26 Harbor Creek 20
DUBOIS 35 Oil City 34
Meadville 22 CONNEAUT 20
Bradford 26 FRANKLIN 24
McDOWELL 31 General McLane 28
CATHEDRAL PREP 27 Central Tech 24
Strong Vincent 34 East 20

BEST GAMES:

1. Central Tech at Cathedral Prep – Falcons looking to shock the world. And could!
2. General McLane at McDowell – Lancers starting to hit their stride in playoff preview.
3. Greenville at Hickory – Either one of these two teams could be D-10 Class AA champions

UPSET SPECIALS:

- Central Tech – CP hasn't seen an offense like this in a long time.
General McLane gets better every week, and the Trojans are struggling with new system.

COLLEGES

SLIPPERY ROCK 31 Gannon 28
IUP 24 Edinboro 21
MERCYHURST 21 Clarion 20
California (PA) 38 SETON HILL 20
Stanford 20 NOTRE DAME 17
OREGON 38 Arizona 24
Louisville 27 SYRACUSE 24
MISSISSIPPI STATE 28 Texas A&M 27
LSU 24 AUBURN 21
USC 27 Arizona State 26
VIRGINIA 21 Pitt 20

PROS

Browns 24 TITANS 20
LIONS 27 Bills 21
Steelers 31 JAGUARS 17
PACKERS 34 Vikings 21
GIANTS 27 Falcons 24
49ERS 27 Chiefs 20
PATRIOTS 31 Bengals 28
CHARGERS 21 Jets 20

WEEK 7

HIGH SCHOOLS

Dubois 45 BRADFORD 20
Fairview 35 FRANKLIN 18
CATHEDRAL PREP 27 BUFFALO ST. FRANCIS 19
MAPLEWOOD 30 Mercyhurst Prep 20
NORTH EAST 20 Strong Vincent 12
Fort LeBoeuf 24 CORRY 13
OIL CITY 28 Titusville 20
CONNEAUT 20 Mercer 16
GIRARD 27 Cambridge Springs 21
HICKORY 14 Wilmington 14
Lakeview 42 SAEGERTOWN 14
Seneca 20 IROQUOIS 14
HARBOR CREEK 48 Union City 12
SHARPSVILLE 28 Eisenhower 8
MEADVILLE 35 Warren 16
FARRELL 34 Grove City 22
CLEVELAND ST. IGNATIUS 34 McDowell 18

WEST MIDDLESEX 42 Youngsville 12
GREENVILLE 28 Reynolds 12
SLIPPERY ROCK 21 General McLane 20
SHARON 27 Northwestern 24
Central Tech 38
KARNS CITY 20
ST. MARY'S 36 East 14

BEST GAMES:

1. Seneca at Iroquois – Two evenly-matched squads that are fun to watch.
2. Cambridge Springs at Girard – Two programs headed in right direction.
3. General McLane at Slippery Rock – Could go either way.

COLLEGES

GANNON 28 Mercyhurst 20
Edinboro 20 CLARION 17
IUP 32 Seton Hill 14
CALIFORNIA (PA) 31 Slippery Rock 28
STANFORD 27 Washington State 20
Florida State 38 SYRACUSE 20
OREGON 38 UCLA 27
ALABAMA 31 ARKANSAS 21
MISSISSIPPI STATE 24 Auburn 20
TEXAS A&M 30 Ole Miss 28
Michigan State 38 Purdue 14
NOTRE DAME 31 North Carolina 27
Penn State 42 Michigan 20

PROS

BILLS 27 Patriots 24
Steelers 31 BROWNS 21
Packers 27 DOLPHINS 20
FALCONS 31 Bears 28
SEAHAWKS 21 Cowboys 20
EAGLES 28 Giants 7
A look back at weeks four and five:
Week 4 – High Schools: 16-3; Colleges: 4-1; Pros 1-2
Total for week: 21-6
Week 5 – High Schools 15-6; Colleges 4-2; Pros 1-1
Total for week: 20-9
SEASON RECORD: 68-26

tests down the stretch. However, the Lakers and Fighting Scots must be given a D grade.

Local Football Update – Professional

After a month of the NFL season, each the Bills, Steelers, and Browns have had ups and downs.

The ups for Buffalo includes a 2-0 start, the ups for the Browns a win over the Saints and couple of heart-breaking losses to the Steelers and Ravens, while the Steelers' up is an impressive win over Carolina and the downs – and they are ugly downs – are the second half of the Browns' game and an ugly loss to the Ravens. However, the ugly

est of them all was a last-second loss to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the Bucs winless at the time and regarded as the worst team in the NFL.

The Bills and Browns receive a grade of C-plus, because expectations weren't very high to begin with, and the Steelers check in with a C-minus, as people tend to expect more out of the Black and Gold.

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/uhsa>.



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SUNDAY GAME DAY SPECIALS

- WEST -

Andy's Pub
Applebee's-West
Avonia Tavern
Bay County
Beechwood Golf Course
Bruce's Pub & Grub
Captain Ron's Quarters
Chestnut St. Pub
Chico's Travelers Inn
Coach's Sports Bar & Grill
Eduardo's
Hunter Jacks
Lefty's Tavern
Lombardo's Tavern
Odis 12
Pittsburgh Inn
Rack N' Roll
21 Hampton
Rocco's
That Place
The Cab
The Last Shot
Treehouse Tavern
Sandbar
Ugly Tuna Tavern
3 B's Saloon

- EAST -

Alibi Bar
Applebee's-Harborcreek
Bayfront Lounge
Bootleggers
Bullshooters
Chippers
Clancy's
Czartorski By the Bay
Fiddle Inn
Irish Cousins
Jammin' Vine
JJ's Pub
Kramer's on the Avenue
Lakeview Tavern
Marty's
Nunzi's
Park Tavern
Pete's Pub
Red Fox Inn
Scooters on Parade
Speed'eez
Spot Lite
The Cornerstone
The Turn Around
Three Chances
TJ's Traffic Jam
TK's Tavern

- EAST -

Up The Way
Uptown Browns
Wall Street Express
3 Chances

- CLUBS -

Albion Moose
American Legion (North East)
American Legion 3rd St
Cascade Club
CYS
East Erie Moose
Fairview Legion
Fulton Club
Holy Trinity
Knights of St. John
La Nuova Aurora
Lawrence Park AC Club
NE Athletic Club
Sacred Heart Ushers Club
Millcreek Legion Post 773
Polish Falcons 3rd St
Polish Falcons 19th St
Polish Foresters
Polish Sharp Shooter's
Pulaski Club
Sacred Hearts Ushers Club

- CLUBS -

Siebenburger Club
South Erie Turners
Sportsman A.C.
Star Club
St. Boniface Ushers Club
St. Mary's Club
St. Joes (North East)
Sunflower Club
VFW on W. 26th St Post #470
VFW #740 Edinboro
Wesleyville Athletic Club
Wesleyville Legion Post #571
Zukor Club

- PEACH STREET -

Applebee's-Peach St.
Boston Pizza
Buffalo Wild Wings
Famous Dave's
Fox & Hound
Quaker Steak & Lube

- SOUTH -

Edinboro Lanes
Empty Keg (Edinboro)
Fat Willies (Edinboro)
Lakeside Tavern
McKean Tavern (McKean)
Waterford Hotel (Waterford)
Eagles (Wattsburgh)
Lowville Cafe'
Country Tavern
Dan's Rt 8 Boardwalk
Doc Hollidays

- DOWNTOWN -

Arena Sports Bar
Calamari's
Plymouth
Scully's Pub
Slugger's



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