

The local voice for news, arts, and culture

R

ERIE READER

February 18th - March 3rd 2015 / Vol. 5, No. 4 / ErieReader.com

LIFETHRUMUSIC

EDUCATION IN THE KEY OF LIFE.

THE BUSINESS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
GRADING THE PRICE OF A COLLEGE DEGREE

CONEY ISLAND ROCK N' ROLL ROADSHOW

| BEYOND WORDS IV

| FILM SOCIETY'S OSCAR PARTY

free

BUD LIGHT

MIXX TAIL

LONG ISLAND

BUD LIGHT

MIXX TAIL

FIREWALKER

BUD LIGHT

MIXX TAIL

HURRICANE

COMING SOON!

NEW FROM BUD LIGHT. ENJOY BOLDLY OVER ICE





Editors-in-Chief:

Brian Graham & Adam Welsh

Managing Editor:

Ben Speggen

Contributing Editor:

Jim Wertz

Arts & Culture Editor:

Alex Bieler

Contributors:

Lisa Austin, Civitas

Mary Birdsong

Katie Chriest

Pen Ealain

Rick Filippi

Eric Kisner

James R. LeCorchick

John Lindvay

Lili Morton

Bob Protzman

Dan Schank

Jess Scutella

Tommy Shannon

Ryan Smith

Jay Stevens

Rebecca Styn

Sara Toth

Bryan Toy

Jim Wertz

Cover Design:

Liz Venuto

Photographers:

Ryan Smith

Brad Triana

Designers:

Liz Venuto

Leah Yungwirth

Interns:

Michael Iverson

Zach Knight

Candice Martone

Christopher Sexauer

1001 State St. Suite 901

Erie, Pa., 16501

contact@eriereader.com

The Erie Reader is the local voice for news, arts, and culture, and is Erie's only independent, alternative newspaper. Founded in 2011, the Reader has quickly become the region's award-winning source for arts coverage, a strong cultural compass, and a dynamic resource for news and opinion. With a dedication to long-form journalism and a commitment to provoking thoughtful discussion, the Reader tells the stories of the people and places making and shaping Erie, while highlighting the events and issues influencing life in northwestern Pennsylvania. The Erie Reader is published every other week at The Corry Journal, 28 W. South St., Corry, Pa. 16407. The Erie Reader is distributed at over 250 high foot-traffic locations in Pennsylvania from North East to Girard to Edinboro. In addition to appearing in print, Erie Reader adds new content daily at ErieReader.com as well social media sites. All rights reserved. All content © Flagship Multimedia, Inc, 1001 State St., Suite 901, Erie, Pa. 16501. No part of this publication may be reproduced without permission. The opinions of our columnists and contributors are their own and do not always reflect that of the editorial board or organization. Direct inquiries to 814.314.9364 or contact@ErieReader.com.

CONTENT – FEB 18, 2015

Features

10 – LifeThruMusic

Education in the Key of Life

27 – The Business of Higher Education

Grading The Price of a College Degree

News & Opinion

4 – Erie At Large

Roar On The Shore & Economic Development

5 – Street Corner Soapbox

The Tale of Two Media Anchors and the True Weight They Carried

6 – Just Toyin' Witcha

Je Suis Charlie

6 – News of the Weird by Chuck Shepherd

9 – Tech Entrepreneurs Find a Happy Home in Erie

Meet The Husband-Wife Team Behind AcousticSheep, LLC.

11 – Considering The City

Porch Safety

30 – ER Sports

Culture

17 – Calendar

24 – Music Reviews

29 – Geeked Out

Revisiting Your Favorite Videogames of Yesteryear with Speedruns

From the Editors

Two weeks ago in this very column, we welcomed you to our inaugural Industry, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship Issue, a perennial look at the climate of industry in Erie with the endeavor to examine, understand, and predict our industrial forecast.

John Lindvay announced Velocity Network's ambitious plan to bring Fiber To The Home in Erie this year. Ben Speggen analyzed Erie's entrepreneurial ecosystem, examining the catalyst that is Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority's Ignite Erie. And Jim Wertz reported on the conditions of Erie's changing industrial landscape, culling from sources like the Economic Research Institute of Erie's Kenneth Louie and Director of the Metropolitan Policy Program at the Brookings Institute Bruce Katz.

We rounded out our first I2E Issue by spotlighting local businesses that are "not just surviving but thriving in our region as proof that Erie remains open for — and good place to start — business."

In short, we learned a lot in the process of producing such an issue, and we learned something important after you had the chance to read,

digest, and discuss it: You like to — and want to — talk business.

Two weeks ago, Jim Wertz wrote in his column that Erie has a self-image problem. And while the knee-jerk reaction is to be hypercritical of this city and this region, criticizing failure before a thorough critical analysis exists, championing our success and promoting our accomplishments must be something we do if we're to keep moving along the path to progress.

That's why we're proud to announce that the ideas that gave rise to the I2E Issue will now have a place in each issue we print. We're dedicating space to featuring local businesses in Erie that are on rise, as well as those firmly rooted in our landbank. In this issue, you'll find a feature on AcousticSheep, LLC., a successful tech-based business whose presence in our region can literally allow us all to sleep better.

As noted here in our last From

The Editors, the snapshots we provide are far from an exhaustive list. That's why we encourage you to write in to tell us about the businesses and companies you know of that serve as a strong reminder that yes, Erie is not only open for business, it's a good place to be in business.

And of course there are those active in our community propelling other sectors, like art and education — which is why you'll find Dan Schank's cover feature on LifeThruMusic, a local mentorship program dedicated to providing free music instruction to local kids at East High School for more than a year now. The program, under the direction of its founder Corey Cook, isn't exclusive to East High students, as it welcomes elementary students from throughout the region to participate, proving inclusion and collaboration lead to sustained success.

And if the name Corey Cook sounds familiar, it's because he was featured in the 2014 40 Under 40 Issue. We were moved by Corey's story then, and are proud to report of his accomplishments and continued pledge to make Erie a better place.

Because we've always believed that Erie's people are its greatest resource, we want to remind you that nominations are open for the 40 Under 40 Class of 2015. Like we did with last year's list of notable achievers, we're asking you, Reader readers, to help us populate that list. If you know someone — and we're sure you do — whose endeavors make Erie a better place with their contributions to this community, nominate them at ErieReader.com.

And if this year is anything like last year, we'll have scores of nominations to sift through. Because we'll need enough time to read through your recommendations, the nomination window closes Feb. 28.

So nominate now and nominate often. There's no limit to the number of people you can enter, and there's no limit to what this city and region are capable of if we continue to invest in our people.

Because we've always believed that Erie's people are its greatest resource, we want to remind you that nominations are open for the 40 Under 40 Class of 2015.

WQLN
PUBLIC MEDIA

TV 54.1 • Radio 91.3FM • WQLN Education • Q-Media

Schedule Highlights

WQLN TV Original Production

The Lake Erie National Maritime Sanctuary

**February 19 at 8pm
& February 22 at 2pm
on WQLN-TV 54.1**

American MASTERS

**August Wilson:
The Ground on Which I Stand**

**February 20 at 8pm
on WQLN-TV 54.1**

MOTOWN 25
YESTERDAY • TODAY • FOREVER

**February 28 at 8pm
on WQLN-TV 54.1**

NEWS & OPINION

Erie at Large

Roar on the Shore and Economic Development

By: **Jim Wertz**

Despite a preponderance of evidence to the contrary, my mother raised me right. So I wanted to say something nice. I really did.

But when the Manufacturer and Business Association announced its lineup for this year's installment of the Roar on the Shore Thursday, Feb. 12, I just couldn't keep it in – disdain, disappointment, a mild roar.

Maybe it's the hypocrisy of an organization with a philosophical mission to destroy organized labor hosting a motorcycle festival to celebrate the culture of motorcycles historically assembled by organized labor that gets stuck in my craw. Maybe it's unfettered capitalism masquerading as charity that I don't like. Or maybe, just maybe, it's that event organizers continue to refer to Roar on the Shore as economic development when, in fact, it is not.

If you've ever had the pleasure of visiting the Harley Davidson factory in York, Pa., you quickly realize two things: Every man and woman in the factory was, for lack of a better phrase, born to ride; and every laborer in the factory is a member of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.

At its peak, the Harley plant in York employed around 2,000 union workers. But in 2008 the company announced its intention to cut the workforce in York by half – a result of automation and other "efficiencies," as well as an aging population of consumers who were buying bikes on the back end of a lucrative second act instead of spending big bucks as some form of youthful indiscretion. The union leadership got defensive and the company threatened to move to Kentucky.

In 2009 after much negotiation and deliberation, the union offered a counterproposal. It would sacrifice half of its workforce and reclassify job descriptions in exchange for \$90 million to be reinvested in the York plant. It was a hard bargain but a pragmatic one that ultimately saved hundreds of jobs and made Harley Davidson a more nimble and profitable company. It was also the kind of deal that organizations like the Manufacturer's Association claim isn't possible when dealing with unions, which are more often looked upon as terrorist groups than advocates for the fair and ethical treatment



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

While Roar On The Shore brings thousands of bike-enthusiasts to Erie each year, its economic impact remains a point of debate, as access routes to local businesses are often limited or blocked off.

ness, unless the local business owner bought into *Blue Ocean* bullshit spewed by festival organizers.

It's also notable that while literally tens of thousands of bikers pass through Perry Square during the event, no one gets a taste of Erie in the park. Social media roared last year about the absence of local vendors at the festival's main attraction. One vendor bought all the space, I'm told, and the organizational and fiscal merits of such a scenario trumped the fleeting notion of community involvement.

And in the event you wanted to wade downtown for any one of the 1980s powerhouse rock bands that grace the stage, you'll be charged for direct access to the main stage, which was and will be cordoned off by a ten-foot-high chain-link fence, making ticket holders look more like POWs than VIPs. (Think: *Red Dawn*, the one with the Russians, not the one with the North Koreans, and you'll get the picture.)

It's not that there shouldn't be a VIP section. Surely, people who love the smell of sweat and money need somewhere to congregate, but blocking the flow of pedestrian traffic to and from local bars on the north-end of State Street and forcing ticket holders to buy booze inside the holding pen seems to be lesser, not better.

I'm willing to concede that the Manufacturer and Business Association is very good at executing its *Blue Ocean Strategy* with Roar on the Shore, but I'm yet to be convinced that the benefits exceed the costs. True economic development is like a flu vaccination; its effects are long lasting and stabilizing. So far, however, Roar on the Shore feels more like the flu. It comes on fast and you're grateful when it's gone.

of the nation's workforce.

No doubt, Roar on the Shore brings thousands of easy riders into Erie County each year and those people spend lots of money while they're here. But don't try to go downtown if you're not on a motorcycle. Downtown parking is motorcycle-only and the weeklong street closures make it difficult to reach popular bars, restaurants, and retailers. For proprietors looking to lure the Roar, there is but one option: Join the club and become a sponsor.

Talking to downtown-business owners last summer, I was reminded of the scene from *Goodfellas* in which Ray Liotta's character describes how business owners who got into bed with the mob were treated when they couldn't pay their weekly vig. "Business was slow? F-you, pay me. Rent was due? F-you pay me." In other words, there was no way to tell bikers about local busi-

Jim Wertz can be contacted at jWertz@ErieReader.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @Jim_Wertz.

Street Corner Soapbox

The Tale of Two Media Anchors and the True Weight They Carried

By: Jay Stevens

This is a tale of two news anchors who are leaving television. One – the phony, the clown – by choice; the other – the professional, and respected journalist – trailed by scandal.

This is also a tale of the invasion of Iraq, and the role that the media played in creating that war. It's a story of lies and truth, of television journalism and television comedy.

This is about Brian Williams and Jon Stewart.

Brian Williams was the anchor of NBC *Nightly News* until *Stars and Stripes* reported that an anecdote he had told on air was false. He had claimed to have been in a helicopter shot down by an RPG in the Iraq War; he was not. Other of Williams' stories have since come into question. Reporting on Hurricane Katrina from New Orleans, for example, he made some claims about vicious gang members in his hotel and dead bodies floating in the street outside

– although hotel workers deny the gang story, and his hotel was located in the high-and-dry French Quarter.

Williams first went on a short, self-imposed break to let the mess clear itself up. Then, after public outcry, the network stepped in and suspended Williams while they investigate his reporting.

What's been surprising about the Williams' story isn't that he lied – not a surprising end to a job that's only part journalist, and mostly celebrity. "We want our anchors to be everywhere, to be impossibly famous, globe-trotting, hilarious, down-to-earth, and above all, trustworthy," wrote *The New York Times* media critic, David Carr, in his last column – he, too, exiting, but from lung cancer, "it's a job description that no one can match."

No, what's surprising is that so many of Williams' television and reporting peers circle around the man.

The *New Yorker's* Ryan Lizza tweeted a link to a piece on false memories, urging his followers to read it "before you crucify [Williams]." A sentiment echoed by other reporters and columnists. "We all make bad mistakes," said MSNBC's Joe Scarborough on-air, "let him who is without sin cast the first stone."

Williams, by this narrative, was being driven out by an unruly mob of jealous nobodies on Twitter. Williams is the *victim*!

But his lie seems too apparent. He "misremembered" getting shot down in a helicopter? What's more likely is that the anchor embellished his stories partly as self-promotion, and partly to add lurid detail to sell his broadcasts. Isn't that against the ethics



Jon Stewart (left) recently announced his departure from Comedy Central's *The Daily Show* at the peak of its success, while Brian Williams (right) has had to leave his post at NBC's *Nightly News* amid scandal.

to create a kind of echo chamber, and with one routine – which went viral online – it broke apart. We could laugh at them now.

Young people loved *The Daily Show* and *The Colbert Report*. It attracted the most under-30 viewers out of any news program, and its viewers consistently ranked among the most knowledgeable news consumers – better than NPR listeners, and far, far more knowledgeable than Fox News viewers (who consistently finish last).

You could say young viewers liked *The Daily Show* because it was funny and irreverent. Or maybe they liked it because

Millennials are pragmatic problem-solvers, and they like news without all the *bullshit*. They like honest reporting. Either way, it was the Millennials who came out in droves to the polls in 2006 and 2008 and ended the Iraq War and broke the tired Beltway cliché

In a time of insanity, it was a satire show that brought clarity. In a time of lies and deceit, it was the comedy spoof that told the truth.

that you can't count on young voters. (They didn't show up for McGovern back in '72!)

In a time of insanity, it was a satire show that brought clarity. In a time of lies and deceit, it was the comedy spoof that told the truth. *The Daily Show* wasn't alone in its reporting – there was Sy Hersh, *Frontline*, and McClatchy News, among others – but it was funny as hell and influential as hell, and it helped preserve journalism.

Brian Williams? We won't even remember he was there. Jon Stewart? I can't help feeling U.S. democracy will die a little with his departure.

Jay Stevens can be contacted at Jay@ErieReader.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @SnevetsYaj.

of journalism?

Well, yes. But Williams' defenders probably aren't defending the man – although it seems many like him, personally – but the kind of reporting he's doing, where the ultimate goal of news is ratings. The kind of "serious," money-making reporting they're doing, too.

Which is the problem.

"Brian Williams didn't have to go away because he lied," said HBO *Real Time* host Bill Maher in a recent opening monologue. "He should have to go away because the NBC *Nightly News* sucks." Williams' and network news programming's crime is that they devote too much time to "car chases and bears in swimming pools and store clerks fighting back" instead of real, hard news.

"Delivering the news is a sacred responsibility," said Maher. "It is telling us the important things we need to know. It shouldn't be a race to the bottom over who can attract more eyeballs with titillation. If it is, let's get it over with and show porn in the last segment."

And this gutless, money-driven, avoid-difficult-questions kind of reporting was at its worst during – you got it! – the Iraq War.

Back in the early 2000s when the Bush administration casually and baldly planted stories of Iraqi WMDs duly reported by the mainstream press, when whispers of torture and rendition and domestic spying leaked but went largely uninvestigated, and when the tanks rolled in the desert chased by the press corps, the mainstream media took on the role of cheerleader, stenographer, and videographer for the government and military.

And there, among the troops, were the embedded reporters in Kevlar vests breathlessly reporting from the front lines.

Is it any wonder this is what Brian Williams decided to lie about?

Jon Stewart and *The Daily Show* were the antidote, fresh air in the poisonous media atmosphere.

The Daily Show is, of course, primarily comedy. It's a satiric send-up of a newsroom with over-the-top reports from far-flung correspondents, mocking the newsmakers and the people they report on. During the Iraq War, the *Daily Show* took aim at the administration's WMD claims, its poor handling of Iraqi reconstruction, the media's poor reporting through segments like, "Mess O'Potamia," "Guantanamo Baywatch," and "Crisis in Israfgghyianonanaq."

The show weighed evidence against rhetoric, and was one of the few outlets on television where you could find some honest commentary.

And it was one of Stewart's correspondents – Stephen Colbert, who had gotten his own show – who made probably the most famous and important stand-up routine at the 2006 White House Correspondents' Dinner, lambasting George Bush's anti-intellectualism, his poll numbers, the disaster of Iraq – while Bush himself sat ten feet away, glowering! And the assembled Beltway media gasping, or lapsing into silence!

You had to be there, you had to have endured four years of insane propaganda to understand how refreshing, how exhilarating it was to hear Colbert criticize Bush and the press to their faces. The mainstream press and Bush administration had colluded

News of the Weird

By: Chuck Shepherd

Weird News You Can Use

It turns out that a person having a heart attack is usually safer to be in an ambulance headed to a hospital than to already be a patient in a hospital, according to a study by University of North Carolina researchers. It takes longer, on average, for non-ER hospital staff to comply with hospital protocols in ordering and evaluating tests (nearly three hours, according to the study) than it does for ER (and ambulance) staff, who treat every case of cardiac symptoms as life-threatening. Overall, according to a February Wall Street Journal report, the study found the mortality rate for heart-attack victims treated in emergency rooms is 4 percent, compared to 40 percent for patients already admitted for other reasons and then suffering heart attacks. [Wall Street Journal, 2-3-2015]

The Continuing Crisis

Uh-Oh: The man hospitalized in fair condition in January after being rammed from behind by a car while on his bicycle happened to be Darryl Isaacs, 50, one of the most ubiquitously advertising personal-injury lawyers in Louisville, Kentucky. Isaacs calls himself the "Heavy Hitter" and the "Kentucky Hammer" for his aggressiveness on behalf of, among other clients, victims of traffic collisions. The (soon-to-be-poorer) driver told police the sun got in his eyes. [Associated Press via WKYT-TV (Lexington), 1-27-2015]

Elephants in Love: (1) India TV reported in January that a wild male elephant from an adjoining sanctuary had broken into the Nandan Kanan zoo in Odisha, wildly besotted with a female, Heera. The male cast aside two other females trying to protect Heera and mated with her. The male lingered overnight until zookeepers could shoo him away. (2) A frisky male elephant crushed four cars in 10 days in January at Thailand's Khao Yai National Park — the result, said a park veterinarian, of the stress of the mating season. (Only the last of the four cars was occupied, but no injuries were serious.) [India TV News, 1-1-2015] [The Nation (Bangkok) via 9News (Sydney), 1-12-2015]

While nearly all Americans enjoy low gasoline prices, residents of sea-locked Alaskan towns (Barrow, Kotzebue, Nome, Ketchikan) have continued to pay their same hefty prices (\$7 a gallon, according to one January report on Alaska Dispatch News). Though the price in Anchorage and Fairbanks resembles that in the rest of America, unconnected towns can be supplied only during a four-month breather from icy sea conditions and thus received their final winter shipments last summer. The price the supplier was forced to pay then dictates pump prices until around May or June. [Alaska Dispatch News, 1-2-2015]

The Ever-Valuable Internet

In January, "Captain Mercedes," a registered user of the Reddit.com social media site, announced he had compiled a data file cataloguing every bowel movement he had in 2014 and was offering the file to

other users to design hypotheses and visual representations of the data in ways that might improve his relationship with his alimentary canal. According to the data-analysis website FiveThirtyEight.com, the "researcher" used the standard "Bristol stool scale" (seven categories of excreta, by shape and consistency) "and produced interesting hypotheses in the ensuing Reddit conversation." [FiveThirtyEight.com, 1-25-2015] [Reddit.com/user/captainmercedes]

Suspicious Confirmed

(1) A January examination of New York City records through NYC Open Data found that the five most common first names of taxicab drivers licensed by the city are five variations in the spelling of the name "Mohammed." (2) The last McDonald's burger to be sold in Iceland before the chain abandoned the country in 2009 has been on open display at the National Museum of Iceland and was recently moved to the Bus Hostel in Reykjavik, "still in good condition," according to the hostel manager. "Some people have even stolen some of the fries." [Daily Mail (London), 1-14-2015] [Iceland Review, 1-28-2015]

Harvard University medical researcher Mark Shrimme documented recently how easily made-up research can wind up in reputable-sounding academic journals — by submitting an article composed by random-generating text software, supposedly about "the surgical and neoplastic role of cacao extract in breakfast cereals" (and authored by "Pinkerton A. LeBrain and Orson Welles"). Of

37 journals, 17 quickly accepted it, some feigning actually having read it, with the only catch being that Shrimme would have to pay a standard \$500 fee for publication. Shrimme warned that some of the journals have titles dangerously close to highly respected journals and cautions journalist (and reader) skepticism. [Fast Company, 1-27-2015]

Wait, What?

Ms. Meng Wang filed a lawsuit recently in New York City against Gildan Outerwear over her disappointment with Kushyfoot Shaping Tights. In television ads, Wang wrote, a young model sashays down a city street with her eyes dreamily closed and "moans and utters highly sexually charged phrases" "including 'That's the spot' and 'so good' ... passersby (stop) in their tracks to look at her with mouths agape." Wang said the ad clearly implies that the tights produce an orgasmic sensation of some sort, wrote Gothamist.com, but that she, herself, has come up empty. [Gothamist.com, 1-14-2015]

Cliches Come to Life

Margaretta Evans, 63, finally reported her missing son to the Myrtle Beach (South Carolina) Police Department in January. She said Jason Callahan, who would be 38, had been missing since "early June of 1995" when he left home to follow the Grateful Dead on tour in California and Illinois. (2) Riccardo Pacifici, described as the head of Rome's Jewish community, was accidentally trapped while visiting the Auschwitz prison death camp in January on Holocaust Remembrance Day, after

staff had departed. When Pacifici and four associates crawled out through a window, security officers spotted them, provoking the New York magazine headline, "Polish Police Detained a Jewish Leader Trying to Escape Auschwitz." [The Smoking Gun, 1-14-2015] [New York, 1-28-2015]

Least Competent Criminals

Two men remain at large after stealing an ATM from Casino Calgary in Calgary, Alberta, in January. They had smashed through glass front doors, unbolted the machine, put it on a dolly and rolled it to a waiting car (though it briefly toppled over onto one of the culprits). Managers told police the ATM was empty, disabled and scheduled to be moved to another location later that day. A Calgary police officer expressed bemusement at the city's recent ATM smash-and-grab epidemic, since the machines are hard to unbolt, hard to open and emptied several times a day. "It's a very ineffective way to make a living." [National Post, 1-29-2015]

Unwise Robbery Target: Police in Champaign, Illinois, charged Clayton Dial, 23, with robbery on New Year's night, for carrying a pellet gun into the Kamakura Japanese restaurant and demanding money from the hostess. However, he fled quickly when chef Tetsuji Miwa walked over, holding his large sushi knife. "He saw the blade," Miwa said later, and "started running." (Miwa and two co-workers gave chase and held him for police.) [News-Gazette (Champaign), 1-1-2015]

JUST TOYIN' WITCHA – BY: B. TOY



Feel good again with exercise

NOW OFFERING

Next Steps

a collection of fitness programs designed for individuals transitioning from or managing a medical condition or for those simply needing additional support

**Take the
next step
to improved health
by joining today!**

9 SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS

Cancer Fitness	Cardiac Fitness	Diabetes Fitness
Functional Fitness	Orthopedic Fitness	Pre-Hab Fitness
Pulmonary Fitness	Transitional Care	Weight Management

Programs are open to the community. Physician referral required.

ALL 8-WEEK PROGRAMS OFFER

- ✓ Unlimited, full access to the center
- ✓ Pre- and post-assessments
- ✓ Supervised sessions twice per week with credentialed fitness specialists
- ✓ Optional transition to membership with free enrollment after program

LEARN MORE

(814) 868-7800
LECOMWELLNESS.com

LECOM
THE JOHN M. & SILVIA FERRETTI
MEDICAL FITNESS & WELLNESS CENTER

5401 Peach Street
Erie, PA 16509

THAT WAS THEN

We started with one man's passion for technology and expanded to a small team of enthusiastic employees. Armed with a cabinet of dial-up modems and the promise of constant change, we delivered Internet service to thousands of homes and businesses in the region.

Since the early '90s, Velocity Network has been leading the charge, bringing every new viable technology to our area, and keeping Northwest Pennsylvania ahead of the technology curve.



THIS IS NOW

Still locally-owned and managed, Velocity Network has grown to become the region's premier fiber-optic Internet service provider for the business community. Our staff of 50+ also provides businesses with comprehensive IT support and robust telecommunications solutions.

SO WHAT'S NEXT?

We are planning to deliver the next generation of advancements via a new technology facility to deploy a gigabit fiber-optic community—delivering a breakthrough technology that will dramatically change the way you connect and bring the world into your home. With speeds up to 100 times faster than any current Internet connection technology—a fiber connection in your home will make every part of your life faster and more productive.

Live, work, and play at the speed of light. So you, your home, and our community can move ahead.



Find out more at
www.connecttothefuture.net



Tech Entrepreneurs Find a Happy Home in Erie

Meet the husband-and-wife team behind AcousticSheep

By: Jim Wertz

“We’re going to be in all of the major stores,” says Dr. Wei-Shin Lai, CEO of AcousticSheep, LLC.

That’s her ten-year plan for the Erie-based company that produces SleepPhones and RunPhones, two products that are revolutionizing the headphone sector of the consumer electronics industry. For the record, that’s not just standard hyperbole of corporate portraiture. The statement is industry-endorsed.

Since 2013 AcousticSheep has been recognized each year at the International Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas for its innovation, design, and engineering.

In 2013, Lai received the Governor’s Entrepreneur ImPact Award, and the following year, she was awarded the Export Impact Award of the Governor’s ImPact Awards for increasing export sales and tapping into new foreign markets.

“Last year, we sold close to 130,000 pieces, and we’ve had double-digit growth every year,” Lai says.

That growth didn’t come easily.

Lai and her husband, Jason Wolfe, AcousticSheep’s Chief Technology Officer, made the first 500 units by hand in their kitchen. She sewed the headbands from fabric purchased at a Joann Fabrics and he soldered the earpieces and wiring with electronics purchased from a catalog.

“I made the first few by hand,” Lai recalled. “Then Jason bought me a sewing machine for my birthday.”

SleepPhones cost twice as much then as they do today because they were handmade. With one sewing machine and two sets of hands, it took them six months to fill the first 500 orders.

That was seven years ago in State College where, by day, Wolfe worked as a software developer and Lai worked as a physician in the student health center.

Her experience in family medicine inspired Lai to create SleepPhones. As a family doctor, she was on call every fourth night and frequently received midnight emergency phone calls. When she struggled to fall back to sleep, her husband suggested she try neural beats – sounds designed specifically to promote relaxation and sleep. But regular headphones were bulky and only allowed her to sleep on her back. Earbuds were better, but if you’ve ever worn them for an extended period of time you know that they can cause pain and discomfort in your ear. So Lai searched for a better solution. That’s when she created SleepPhones, a soft fleece headband with flat speakers pocketed inside.

It’s a seemingly simple solution, but there was nothing like it. This January, *Wired* magazine called it one of the “coolest things at CES.”

Lai says customers and former patients who tried the product stopped taking sleeping pills once used to cope with insomnia and, in some cases, a snoring spouse.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Above: Dr. Wei-shin Lai, CEO of AcousticSheep, and her husband Jason Wolfe, Chief Technology Office. Below: AcousticSheep’s SleepPhones.

It’s not the kind of product you necessarily think of when someone says it’s the unique offering of a “tech startup.”

Indeed, at AcousticSheep’s headquarters and warehouse in EBCO Park, there are few overt signs of “tech.” A handful of employees saddle workstations tackling everything from sales to customer service, to graphic design. SleepPhones and RunPhones are assembled by hand and every box is packaged, packed, and shipped by people working in Erie.

AcousticSheep has ten full-time employees in Erie and an equal number of part-time and seasonal employees that help fill holiday orders and the boost that comes from press like it received during this year’s Consumer Electronics Show.

Erie isn’t necessarily the place Lai thought her company would end up after launching in State College, but she’s glad it did.

“We reached out to the same business resources in State College as we have here, but those were really more focused on the students,” Lai says. “People say that Erie isn’t keeping up. I think that Erie is really making a good effort. Coming from the State College area, I’d say that Erie has much more to offer. There wasn’t anything like the Erie Technology Incubator, which is based at a university, but it’s not for students. There’s a lot of mentorship going on here – I have a mentorship team and I’m part of a mentorship team.”

“The team” seems important to Lai as she talks about the evolution of SleepPhones as a brand and AcousticSheep as a company.

It began with teamwork in her kitchen. From there, Lai and Wolfe hired a team of seamstresses to sew the headbands. When it came time to get serious about product distribution, they looked for someone to join the team and oversee warehouse operations. They struggled to find the right person as well as the right location. That’s when they turned to Wolfe’s brother, Jeff.

He had experience and he was interested in the opportunity, but he lived in Erie. So AcousticSheep came to him. Now Lai and the Wolfe brothers are at the central command of a company that delivers product to almost every continent.

One wall of the brightly colored, but otherwise modest, office space, a map of the world is dotted with fluorescent stickers marking locations where SleepPhones or RunPhones have shipped.

“We have a few international sales agents, one in the UK that handles Europe and another one based in the UAE that handles the Middle East, Africa, and Asia. He’s helping us work on Japan right now. Japan’s a tough market to crack,” Lai notes. She’d also like to expand into Brazil, but recognizes that as another difficult market to break into.

It’s also difficult to get shelf space in major retail outlets, and that’s where Lai has focused her attention. SleepPhones sell well online, but according to industry experts, only 20 percent of electronics are purchased online. The other 80 percent are purchased in brick and mortar locations.

“To make it as a headphone company, we need to be in Best Buy, Target, or WalMart. To be recognized as a brand, we need to be in one of those three stores,” says Lai.

As I listened to the AcousticSheep elevator speech, I couldn’t help but feel like the tone and tempo were similar to that of a winning pitch on the television show *Shark Tank*. But when I posed the question of investors to tap into the markets she wants to enter, Lai rejected that notion.

“Whatever we’ve made in profit we keep reinvesting in the company and we’re going to keep growing in that way. We’ve found our way through the process, asking a lot of questions and not being afraid to ask questions. You think of business as being more cutthroat, but unethical businesses can’t survive. It’s only the ones that give something of value to the world that are going to make it. As a doctor, I feel like I’m helping more people now than I ever did one-on-one as a family physician.”

Jim Wertz can be contacted at jWertz@ErieReader.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @Jim_Wertz.

BECOME A LEADER

Inspire change

This is not about management; it's about leadership. It's about building relationships, aligning employees and producing results. We're here to teach you how to become a motivated, driving force at any level, in any field. Call to learn more — you're one step closer to earning a master's degree in **Organizational Leadership (MSOL)**.



GET THE EXPERIENCE.
Guaranteed.

"I became a better leader from the preeminent center for leadership education. Anyone can become a better problem solver and motivator, all while working toward improving your leadership skills."

Lindsay Cox '14



Connect.
grad@mercyhurst.edu
814-824-2297
mercyhurst.edu/graduate

the bhakta school of transformation
DEVOTED TO LASTING INNER PEACE

Meditation and Chanting Peace and Healing

Join Us For Our Programs In Erie! 2/26/15 & Programs In March.

www.bhaktaschool.org (814) 566-2490

SAVE 10%

24 hour SERVICE

CALL NOW!

459-8255

FREE ESTIMATES FOR NEW FURNACES!

CALL NOW AND RECEIVE 10% OFF THE ENTIRE BILL FOR YOUR NEXT MAINTENANCE OR REPAIR CALL. PRESENT TO TECHNICIAN AT TIME OF SERVICE (EXCLUDES NEW INSTALLATIONS)

Like us on and visit us at www.KeepHeating.com

teaching touches
PARENT TEACHER STORE

Your resource for creative teachers, involved parents & kids who just want to have fun!

25% off

one in stock item

Expires 02/28/2015

1846 West 26th Street (at I-79)
Erie, PA 16508 • 814-871-6676
www.TeachingTouchesCatalog.com

One of a Kind Fabulous Finds!

The Sassy Peacock LLC
Ladies Consignment Boutique

Erie's CHOICE Award

845 Pittsburgh Ave.
Erie, PA 16505
814-833-0517

Store Hours: Mon - Sat 10-6

20% OFF 3 OR MORE ITEMS

*SOME EXCEPTIONS APPLY EXPIRES 03/03/2015

www.TheSassyPeacock.com

My Humans Are Getting Married!

Offer valid thru March 31, 2015

500 Stag-N-Drag & 1,000 50/50 Tickets ONLY \$80.00!

Tickets are printed in black ink only on your choice of 65# color cardstock. Numbering on tickets will be extra.

Go Ask Alice!

Presque Isle Printing Services

www.presqueisleprinting.com

Erie's CHOICE Award 2014

814-833-9020
4523 W. Ridge Road
Erie, PA 16506

"For All Your Small Business & Personal Printing Needs"

@GoAskAlice08

Considering the City

Porch Protection

By: Civitas Members Lisa Austin and Stephen Sonnenberg

Ray Gindroz, co-founder of Pittsburgh's Urban Design Associates, claims that urban safety is a fundamental problem facing cities today. "No one wants to live, work, start a business, or shop in a city," Gindroz says, "unless it's safe."

One way Erie can become safer is by building, repairing, and using front porches.

Eyes on the Street

Jane Jacobs, the self-taught urban-planning critic, gained fame with her 1961 book, *The Death and Life of American Cities*, in which she coined the phrase "eyes on the street" to describe how – from windows and porches – people enjoy watching other people on the sidewalks and streets in the public realm. Jacobs noted that the passive observations of residents resulted in an increased measure of security for everyone.

When placed in a semi-protected spot, seating attracts people. While sitting on our own porches, we have been asked for directions, about a lost dog, to purchase fundraising tickets, and to attend football games. Porches, functioning as transitional private-public spaces, encourage casual interactions.

Porch History

These elevated, covered spaces that project from apartment houses, duplexes, and single-family homes have complex ancestry. Dhuru A. Thadani, writing in *The Language of Towns and Cities*, explains that "the lineage of the American porch can be traced . . . from the Ancient Greek stoa to the Renaissance loggia to Thomas Jefferson's portico at Monticello" and from "West African vernacular to the Caribbean gallerie to the piazzas of the American South." This international ancestry is appropriate to our "immigrant nation."

Almost always added to the front of American homes from 1800-1940, porches served as a place where residents cooled off during summer months. The comings and goings of neighbors and strangers entertained



Urban safety is a fundamental problem facing cities. Porches – and the protection they can bring – are an answer to that problem.

those seated on their porches. By the mid-20th century, television (and air conditioning) moved people inside. Erie architect Adam J. Trott reports that the "popularity of the back(yard) deck" further reduced "life on the street."

But Erie Zoning Hearing Board's Jacqueline Spry notes that 35 years ago, the New Urbanism movement began bringing life back to the street in new developments, such as Seaside, Fla. New Urbanists built homes closer to the street and always included a front porch to provide "a place where people met and talked to each other."

Public realm & Social Strolls

While sitting on the porch residents can choose whether to talk to someone walk-

ing by or ignore them. They may read, play a guitar or just sit quietly. Regardless, research shows that their porch presence contributes to a sense of safety to everyone walking down the street, riding a bike, or pushing a stroller.

The New Urbanist co-authors of *The New Civic Art: Elements of Town Planning* Andres Duany, Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, and Robert Altimana jointly noted that porches positively impact street-life by providing "the passerby with a glimpse of the private life of the residents." David Sucher, in his book, *City Comforts*, says that "people like to walk together." He describes a universal custom – a "social stroll" – that involves, "watching other people, and being watched, and chatting."

In our inner-city neighborhoods couples, parents and children, and many folks with dogs on leashes take an after-dinner stroll around the block – even in winter. Over time, the dozens of short interactions (a wave, a greeting, a handshake) build trust – and community.

Porch Architecture

Porches, separate from the main buildings, usually have their own roofs that are held up by some kind of vertical element: unfinished 4 x 4 posts, or carved and painted wooden columns, or – an Erie specialty – tapered brick supports.

Some Erie porches are architecturally significant. Trott described a home on the 500 block of West Eighth Street as a "classic masonry building" with a "unique cast iron porch façade ... (that) desperately needs cleaning, repair, prep and painting."

Sadly, too many facades in Erie include the ghost roofline of former porches or bricked-in second-floor doorways (once leading to a second-floor porch). Owners – often those of rental properties – choose to tear off porches instead of repairing them.

Urban Safety & the Porch

Spry says that her studies in urban planning taught her how a front porch can "ignite" the social energy of the house and "connect it to the life on the street." Spry

says that well-used porches transform the residents themselves into the "safeguards of the neighborhood."

Wonderful projects, like the Summer 2014 "Porch Fest" (featuring live music on West Seventh Street porches and stoops), should be repeated. In addition, neighborhood watch groups could volunteer to shore up sagging porches. A member of City Council could legislate a program to incentivize porch repairs on rental properties.

All these efforts will help create a safer city.

Porches served as a place where residents cooled off during summer months. The comings and goings of neighbors and strangers entertained those seated on their porches.

Partnering for a Safer City

Gindroz, who taught urban design at Yale for twenty years, noted that good urban and architectural design (including porches) is "known to be an essential component of urban safety." But, Gindroz warns, "design alone... is powerless."

Gindroz reports that safe cities require "a partnership" among four different groups: Designers, community leaders, residents, and community-based police.

While Erie has many involved community leaders, residents, and police, designers are missing from this partnership. In the face of gun violence, working with designers and saving porches may seem like a foolish distraction. But protecting porches (and engaging the expertise of an urban designer) needs to be a part of Erie's urban safety strategy.

Civitas members can be reached at their website www.civitaserie.com, via Facebook at CivitasErie, by emailing Lisa@civitaserie.com, or by scheduling a Friday morning meeting at the Civitas office in the Masonic Building, 32 W. Eighth St

90.5 WERG

ABRAHAM & BORST 2014 "BEST COLLEGE STATION IN THE NATION"
GANNON UNIVERSITY || ERIE, PA

★ First Amendment Tees Co. Inc ★

Your source for custom garments
117 w 9th st.
(814)-520-8163

T-SHIRTS. HOODIES. JACKETS. POLOS. HATS

- PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS
- VINYL TRANSFERS
- VINYL STICKERS
- SILK SCREENING
- GARMENT PRINTING
- TEAM UNIFORMS
- HEAT TRANSFERS
- EMBROIDERY



WWW.FAT-TEE.COM ★



LIZ VENUOTO

LifeThruMusic

Education In The Key of Life

By: Dan Schank

Sam Smith's hit song "Stay With Me" was written in the key of C major.

This is one of the first things I learn when I arrive at East High School in Erie on a chilly January afternoon. I've dropped by for a firsthand introduction to LifeThruMusic, a local mentoring program directed by musician Corey Cook.

It's a Monday afternoon, classes have just ended, and about fifteen students gather around an electric piano in the school's band room. Cook asks if anyone has a song they'd like to learn how to play. A few teens take out their phones, load up tracks, and offer suggestions. Smith's "Stay With Me" is one of them. Cook doesn't take long to intuit the basic melody, and uses it to teach them about keys and charts.

LifeThruMusic has provided free music instruction to local kids at East High for about a year and a half now. But the program isn't exclusive to East High attendees – in fact, elementary school students (grades four and up) are also invited to attend. The young people meet in the mid-afternoon for three

ninety-minute sessions each week, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. The first half of the class follows a traditional lecture format, with Cook and others offering direct instruction to everyone. Later, smaller groups splinter off for more intimate mentorship.

As we're gathered around the piano, Cook explains the mechanics behind "Stay With Me" through a number system designed to translate its melody into multiple keys. According to Cook, this is essential because "if you learn how to play something one way, you have to learn how to play it twelve different ways" as well. Through this system, he provides a brief overview of scale systems and chord progressions as well.

By the end of the tutorial, I understand how an MP3 on a cell phone can translate into a fully realized piano melody – and how that melody can be played in a number of keys depending on mood or preference. Since my most recent piano lessons concluded in the late '80s, I can assure you this is not because I'm an adept learner. It's because Cook is a strong teacher with the focus and patience

necessary to keep young people interested.

Once Sam Smith has been demystified, the students break into smaller groups. Sixteen-year-old Victoria Duck and eighteen-year-old Nina Arrington stay with Cook at the piano for more advanced instruction. Together, they iron out the basics of a surprisingly wholesome Nicki Minaj ballad called "Grand Piano." Four or five students gather to watch, commenting and joking occasionally. But mostly listening.

As they get to work, I follow seventeen-year-old Daniel Stanton to the gym's storage room where drum instruction takes place. As LifeThruMusic's peer tutor, Stanton focuses on "different strokes, time signatures, and the basic fundamentals of drumming." He's been playing the instrument for about fourteen years, and plans on studying to become a professional musician when he gets to college. Stanton tells me that he's been accepted to two universities already, and is waiting to hear from a third.

Once we arrive at the drum set, a ten-year-old he's been working with named Malaki Thompson gives us a demonstration. It's

Director of LifeThruMusic Corey Cook (background, left) believes peer-to-peer support is extremely important in music and music education.

extremely impressive – so much so that I assume he's been playing since he was old enough to get his hands around the sticks. Not so, it turns out – this is just his third year of drumming. There's a power and professionalism to the performance that stands in stark contrast to the young kid I see before me. He's got natural talent, and he seems to have found good people to help him develop it. Which is great, since he also wants to pursue music in college (eventually).

Corey Cook considers the relationship between Stanton and Thompson essential to LifeThruMusic's vision. Growing up, five of his close friends helped him sharpen his own skills, and they all became professional musicians as adults. Accordingly, Cook believes that "peer-to-peer support is extremely important in music. Sometimes when it's just with a private instructor, it can only take you so far. Having other students push you – and a teacher as well – is very effective."

Next to the band room, a group of seven students gather in one of East High's three practice spaces to work with LifeThruMusic Supervisor India Henderson on songwriting. Henderson encourages them to "think

**AMERICAN
HOLLOW BORING CO.**
YOUR MACHINING EXPERTS
Thank you Erie, PA for being our manufacturing home!

**MASTERS OF
DEEP HOLE
DRILLING**



INDUSTRY Use our mastery to help your business
JOB SEEKERS Inquire to learn how to become a master

S B D C
PENNSYLVANIA

Small Business Development Centers
Helping businesses start, grow, and prosper.

**GANNON UNIVERSITY SMALL BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT CENTER PRESENTS**

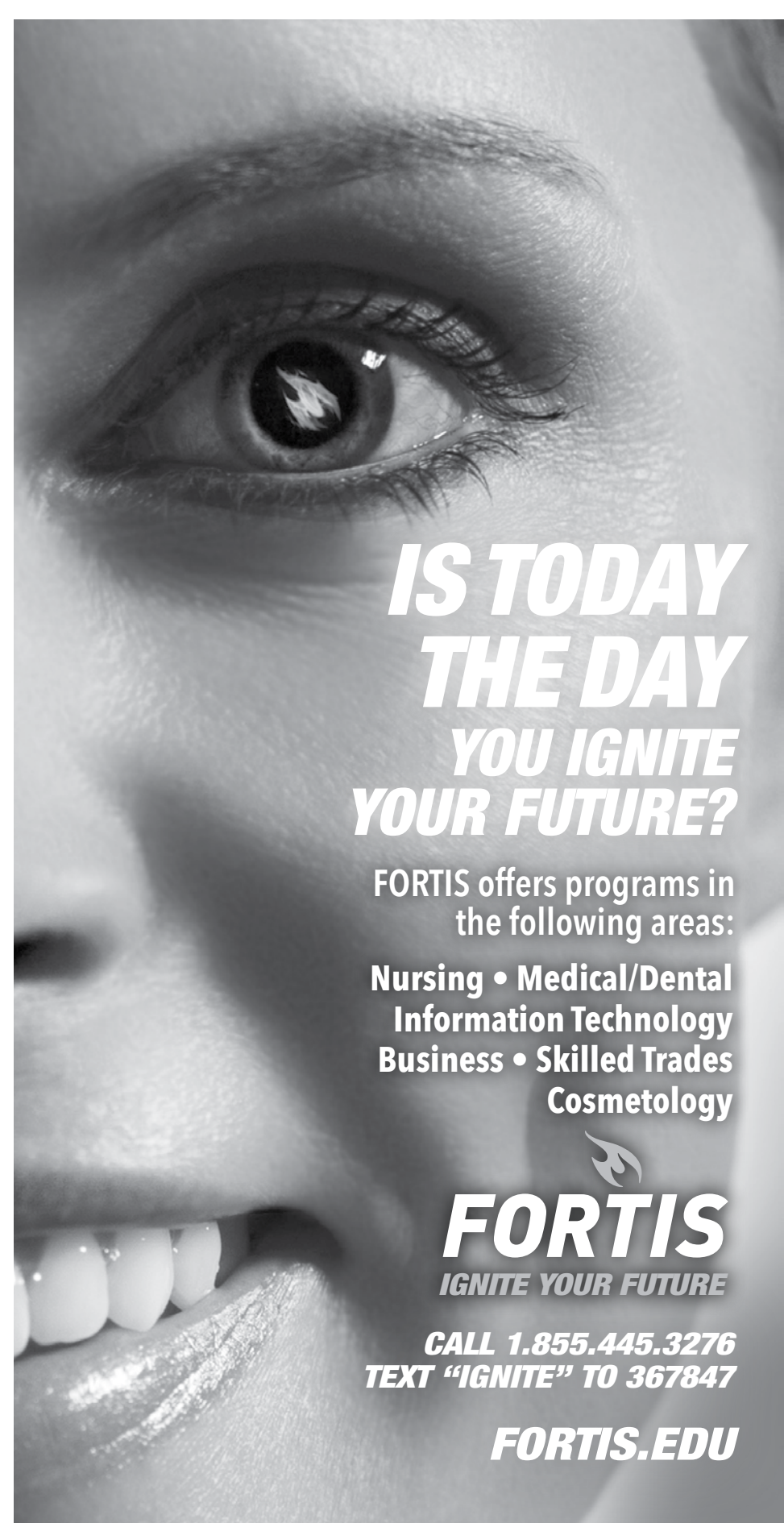


**SIMPLE STRATEGIES FOR
SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING**
PART 1



Companies these days are using the internet to advertise and promote their products at a cheaper rate than it would cost to advertise traditionally. Consultant *Amanda Kochirka* will cover the following topics in this session: creating a social media marketing plan that fits your business or organization, measuring the return on your activities. You won't want to miss this opportunity to have our well-established staff assist you.

Location: Gannon University Center for Business Ingenuity
To register, please call: 877-258-6648
900 State Street
February 17, 2015, 9:30 -11:30am
Room: 104
Erie, PA 16501
www.sbdcgannon.org



**IS TODAY
THE DAY
YOU IGNITE
YOUR FUTURE?**

FORTIS offers programs in
the following areas:

**Nursing • Medical/Dental
Information Technology
Business • Skilled Trades
Cosmetology**



FORTIS
IGNITE YOUR FUTURE

**CALL 1.855.445.3276
TEXT "IGNITE" TO 367847**

FORTIS.EDU

FORTIS INSTITUTE

5757 WEST 26TH STREET, ERIE, PA 16506

Financial Aid Available for those who qualify. Career Placement Assistance
for all graduates. For consumer information, visit Fortis.edu.



LIZ VENUTO



Director of LifeThruMusic Corey Cook (background, left) believes peer-to-peer support is extremely important in music and music education.

being lead by Alex Staley, a fifteen-year old with impressive musical skills and a beautiful voice. Despite his best efforts, everyone is struggling to keep a straight face and the song is frequently interrupted by laughter. No one seems to mind. Some are taking the music seriously, and some are just goofing around. But everyone seems to be having a

going to need to know that entrepreneurship is an option for them.”

With the new programming in mind, I ask Cook about the future of LifeThruMusic. He has practical goals, like acquiring equipment upgrades and gaining access to a permanent studio space. Some of his priorities are more ambitious: “My five-year plan is to expand throughout the state. We already have an operation in the works in Harrisburg, and in Pittsburgh as well... We’re hoping to franchise [the program] and branch it out across the state.” The Harrisburg project will consist of a small-scale music production program set to begin in October. LifeThruMusic has hired a local producer Justin Williams to invite six students into a real recording studio, where he’ll show them what they’ll need to get started in the industry.

By 5 p.m., the session is drawing to a close and people are starting to pack things up. As I’m asking Cook my final questions, I hear music coming from one of the practice rooms. Eventually, the two of us walk over to see what’s going on.

A core group of students have gathered around a piano for an impromptu sing-along to “If I Ain’t Got You” by Alicia Keys. They’re

LifeThruMusic has provided free music instruction to local kids at East High for about a year and a half now.

great time. This final scene reminds me of my own high school days. As the teens struggle to make their way through a casual, giggly rendition of a familiar song, I remember how music helped me to cultivate my own adolescent friendships. It occurs to me that a real sense of community is developing here, and LifeThruMusic is making it possible.

For more information about LifeThruMusic, visit them online at: lifethrumusic.org

Dan Schank can be contacted at dSchank@ErieReader.com

creatively and write songs that are positive.” When asked about content, she says they typically deal with personal experiences – “things they’ve been through, things that are going on now, and how we move on and get past things.”

Under Henderson’s supervision, the students composed a song about bullying called “You’re Special.” It’s a catchy R&B track, pairing a somber piano melody with lively electronic beats. The hooks wouldn’t be out of place on a Rihanna album, but the lyrics speak more directly to the anxieties teens face in high school. Henderson urges her students to think of the songs as “love letters to themselves,” and to use writing as a tool of empowerment. That message

shines through on “You’re Special,” which was professionally recorded with LifeThruMusic and can be purchased on iTunes for \$0.99.

Henderson, who has known Cook since childhood, began her work with LifeThruMusic through an internship at Gannon University. When she completed her degree in Entrepreneurship, she was so inspired by the work they were doing that she decided to make a more long-term commitment. Currently, she’s building a program through LifeThruMusic designed to encourage teens to “get familiar with a business plan” to make their music marketable. Henderson sees a lot of talent at the after-school sessions, but she realizes that the students “are

98th Mainstage Season Sponsor



Erie playhouse
MAINSTAGE



The Addams Family

CREEPY. KOOKY. SPOOKY. OOKY.
FEBRUARY 13 & 14, 19-22, 25 - MARCH 1, 2015

PREMIERE WEEKEND - FEB. 13 & 14 ALL SEATS \$15.00



Family Season Sponsor
UPMC HEALTH PLAN

erieplayhouse.org OR 814.454.2852 To get the best seats - Call NOW!

We're bringing
New Orleans to Erie for one fabulous
party at the Erie Art Museum.



MARTI GRAS Masquerade

FEBRUARY 21, 2015 • 7 TO 11 P.M.

\$50/person

Proceeds benefit the Erie Art Museum.

For Tickets: call (814)459-5477 • erieartmuseum.org



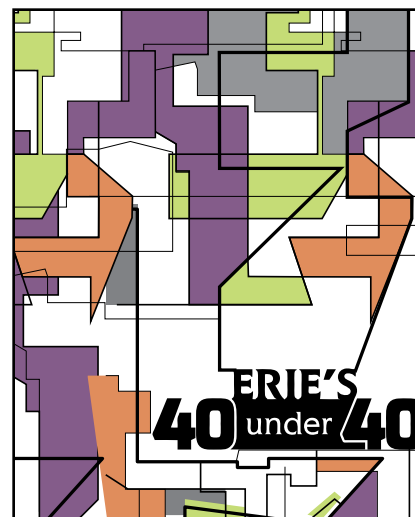
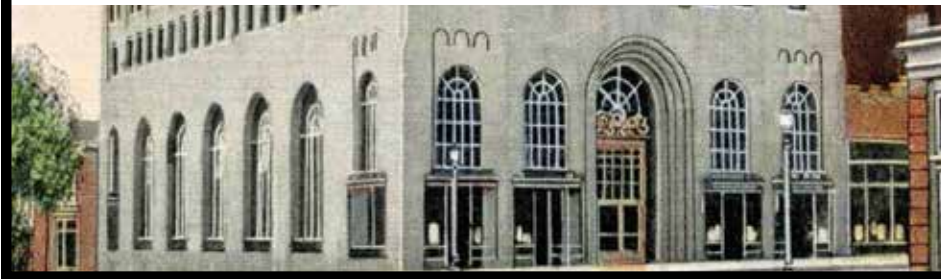
RENAISSANCE CENTRE



**Call for a tour today!
814.451.1110**



WWW.PDAINC.US



Do you know
someone
**under
40**
who is
**shaping
the future
of Erie?**

nominate them by
sending an email to
contact@ErieReader.com.
Please include a brief
description and
contact information.

All nominations
must be received
by February 28th.

LECOM Women's Health Welcomes Stefanie Young, CNM



Stefanie Young is a Certified Nurse-Midwife with nine years of labor and delivery nursing experience.

She is currently accepting new patients at the Eastside Medical Center
2625 Parade Street, Erie, PA.
(814) 452-6383



Women's Health is part of the LECOM Clinical Practices and is committed to providing the highest quality healthcare for women.

David Beaton, DO
Obstetrics/Gynecology

Paula Gunduz-Balarin, MD
Obstetrics/Gynecology

Megan Christman, DO
Obstetrics/Gynecology

Stefanie Young, CNM
Certified Nurse-Midwife

Also seeing patients at
Eastside Medical Center, Plaza 18 Medical Center,
LECOM Medical Fitness and Wellness Center,
Waterford Family Practice and Corry Women's Health.



Let Members of the LECOM Family Treat Yours

The Clinical Practices of LECOM

To find a physician, visit MAErie.org/directory



Family. Friends. Community.

Cam El-Farouki, Agent
3319 W 26th Street
Erie, PA 16506
Bus: 814-833-6663
www.teamerie.com

We're all in this together.

State Farm® has a long tradition of being there. That's one reason why I'm proud to support The Erie Reader!

Get to a better State®.



1211007

State Farm, Bloomington, IL

2309 W 12th Street
Erie, PA 16505
814-871-6320
www.achillesrunning.us



OUR FREE
GAIT ANALYSIS
WILL HELP YOU
FIND THE SHOE
THAT'S RIGHT
FOR YOU!

15% OFF

Min. \$50 purchase of any reg. priced item.

Not valid with any other offers or specials.

Expires 3/3/2015

Running & Walking Specialties

the ultimate medical & technical

running & walking shop

Running & Walking Shoes • Apparel • Accessories

We actually fit you for shoes!

career. life. balance.

At Agility, our flexible work schedules bend for real life!

Take inbound customer service calls for State and Federal Government programs while maintaining a work and life balance on YOUR terms.

Call our employment hotline at 866-1900, apply online at www.agilitymarketing.com or stop in for a tour and apply on site at 2323 West 38th Street.

Great Careers Start Here | www.agilitymarketing.com **AGILITY**



Meet The Addams Family

You know the Addams Family. They're creepy and they're kooky. Mysterious, one could even say. Spooky. They're perhaps the last group of people any "normal" human being would want to be associated with. Unless, of course, that person is in love.

Enter Wednesday Addams. Yes, the morose, macabre, "ultimate princess of darkness" has grown up, fallen in love, and is faced with the unsavory task of introducing her charming, respectable, normal boyfriend to her family. What could go wrong?

You'll have to check out Erie Playhouse's production of the musical comedy *The Addams Family* to find out. The show opened Valentine's Day weekend, because nothing says love like a severed hand gracing your dinner table.

But back to Wednesday for a moment, the poor girl.

Nothing, nothing, nothing is more nerve-wracking than the idea of your significant other meeting your parents. It's long been a storytelling trope, from *La Cage aux Folles* to *Meet the Parents* to that one time my partner left me alone in a room with his mother 15 minutes after meeting her ... We're digressing.

But, like most problems, it's best to face these things head-on – with nothing short of an Addams-hosted dinner at their beloved mansion for Wednesday, her boyfriend, and her boyfriend's parents. It's an evening that will change both families forever, and the question remains – will Wednesday and her boyfriend make it?

Well, with role models like Gomez and Morticia (beacons of true, undying love), my money's on yes. But find out for yourself – the Erie Playhouse's run of (the altogether ooky) *The Addams Family* goes until March. — Sara Toth

Feb. 19 to Feb 22; Feb. 25 to March 1; evening performances at 7:30 p.m., matinees at 2 p.m. // 13 W. 10th St. // 454.2852 or EriePlayhouse.org

MUSIC

2Blue w/ Dave VanAmburg

Feb. 19 – 6 to 9 p.m.

Victor's Restaurant, The Bel Aire Clarion, 2800 W. 8 St. jazzerie.com.

Beer Pong Tourney w/ DJ Henry GQ

Feb. 19 – 9 p.m.

Sherlocks, 508 State St. facebook.com/sherlocksparkplace.

Colony Club House Band

Feb. 19 – 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Colony Pub and Grille, 2670 W. 8 St. jazzerie.com.

Crazy Friends and Cool Jazz

Feb. 19 – 5:30 p.m.

Courtyard Wineries, 10021 W. Main Rd., Northeast courtyardwineries.com.

AjamajA and Friends Superjam

Feb. 20 – 9 p.m.

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

Big Eyed Phish

Feb. 20 – 9 p.m.

Sherlocks, 508 State St. facebook.com/sherlocksparkplace.

Chasing Moira

Feb. 20 – 9 p.m.

The Oasis Pub, 3122 W. Lake Rd. 833.1212.

Chris Mathers

Feb. 20 – 5 to 7 p.m.

Presque Isle Downs Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

Dave Callaghan Quartet

Feb. 20 – 6 to 9 p.m.

Wegman's Cafeteria, 6143 Peach St. jazzerie.com.

Enter Erotica - A Multimedia Experience

Feb. 20 – 7:30 p.m.

Cathedral Prep Auditorium, 225 W. 9 St. facebook.com/eriechamberorchestra.

Erie Ale House Acoustics

Feb. 20 – 9 p.m.

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

Frank Singer Duo w/ Jeff Gibbens

Feb. 20 – 6 to 9 p.m.

Anchor In, 3122 W. Lake Rd. jazzerie.com.

The High Life

Feb. 20 – 6 to 9 p.m.

Sprague Farm & Brew Works, 22113 U.S. 6, Venango sleepingchainsaw.com.

Kristo

Feb. 20 – 6 to 9 p.m.

The Ugly Tuna Tavern,

1010 Peninsula Dr. uglytunatavern.com.

Next of Kin

Feb. 20 – 6 to 9 p.m.

Doc Holliday's Country Bar, 7425 Schultz Rd. 868.3627

Red w/ 3 Years Hollow and Seven Circle Sunrise

Feb. 20 – 6 p.m.

Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11 St. basementtransmissions.com.

Small Town Revolution

Feb. 20 – 9 p.m.

Presque Isle Downs Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

2Blue Saturday Night Jazz, Pop, and More

Feb. 21 – 6 to 9 p.m.

Anchor In, 3122 W. Lake Rd. jazzerie.com.

The Breeze Band

Feb. 21 – 9 p.m.

Anchor In, 3122 W. Lake Rd. jazzerie.com.

Erik Bossert and Zak Thundercloud

Feb. 21 – 5:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11 St. basementtransmissions.com.

French Kiss

Feb. 21 – 9 p.m.

Sherlock's, 508 State

St. facebook.com/sherlocksparkplace.

The Groove

Feb. 21 – 9 p.m.

The Oasis Pub, 3122 W. Lake Rd. 833.1212.

Next of Kin

Feb. 21 – 6 to 9 p.m.

Doc Holliday's Country Bar, 7425 Schultz Rd. 868.3627.

ShadySide

Feb. 21 – 6 to 9 p.m.

Sprague Farm & Brew Works, 22113 U.S. 6, Venango sleepingchainsaw.com.

Special Guest

Feb. 21 – 10 p.m.

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

This American Song, Liquid Nixon

Feb. 21 – 9 p.m.

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

Cootie Harris Jazz Jam

Feb. 22 – 2 to 4 p.m.

Gardner Theater, 910 Market St., Meadville. artsmeadville.org.

Corey Wilkes at The Erie Art Museum

Feb. 23 – noon

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

Ethnic Heritage Ensemble

Feb. 24 – 7 p.m.

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

2Blue w/ Dave VanAmburg

Feb. 26 – 6 to 9 p.m.

Victor's Restaurant, The Bel Aire Clarion, 2800 W. 8 St. jazzerie.com.

Coney Island Rock 'n Roll Roadshow

Feb. 26 – 8 p.m.

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

American Ride

Feb. 27 – 6 to 9 p.m.

Doc Holliday's Country Bar, 7425 Schultz Rd. 868.3627.

Chris Higbee

Feb. 27 – 9 p.m.

Presque Isle Downs Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

Eric Brewer and Claire Stuczynski

Feb. 27 – 7 to 10 p.m.

Docksider's, 1015 State St. facebook.com/Docksiderbar.

Frank Singer Duo w/ Phil Papotnik

Feb. 27 – 6 to 9 p.m.

Anchor In, 3122 W. Lake Rd. jazzerie.com.

Geeks Unplugged

Feb. 27 – 5 to 7 p.m.

Presque Isle Downs

Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

Jack Stevenson

Feb. 27 – 6 to 9 p.m.

The Ugly Tuna Tavern, 1010 Peninsula Dr. uglytunatavern.com.

Old School

Feb. 27 – 9 p.m.

Sherlocks, 508 State St. facebook.com/sherlocksparkplace.

Tropidelic

Feb. 27 – 9 p.m.

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

Chris Higbee

Feb. 28 – 9 p.m.

Presque Isle Downs Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

The I-90s

Feb. 28 – 9 p.m.

Sherlock's, 508 State St. facebook.com/sherlocksparkplace.

Lydia Marks Trio

Feb. 28 – 6 to 9 p.m.

Ancor In, 3122 W. Lake Rd. jazzerie.com.

Max Schang

Feb. 28 – 6 to 9 p.m.

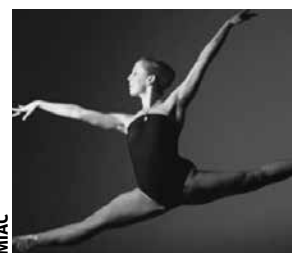
Sprague Farm & Brew Works, 22113 U.S. 6, Venango sleepingchainsaw.com.

The Mucklebuck

Dancing Beyond Words: Mercyhurst Ballet Theatre and SoMar Partner Again

Art is ancient. From the dawn of man, expression has been an integral part of humanity. And before there were oil paints, grand pianos, or even an inkwell and parchment, there was the body and there was dance.

It's fitting then that Beyond Words IV is named such. The fourth iteration of a partnership between Mercyhurst Ballet Theatre and SoMar Dance Works, the evenings of dance this weekend showcase the best of Erie's resident dance companies.



MIAC

The Mercyhurst Ballet Theatre, which draws students from across the country, is for select dance majors at the school and has performed in Cleveland and in Pittsburgh. SoMar Dance Works, locally-based, is the brainchild of Solveig and Mark Santillano, who serve as artistic directors, choreographers, and dancers. The pair has danced their way across the globe.

The bottom line? This is (literally) world-class stuff – especially when you take into account guest dancers on stage from the Liaoning Ballet Academy of China.

The performances this weekend feature ballet and contemporary dance – “contemporary” usually being the point at which some of you may say, “eh, dance just isn't my thing.” But have you seen Misty Copeland in action? Have you seen Sergei Polunin (and all his tattoos!) dance to Hozier's “Take Me To Church”? For that matter, have you seen Footloose? Trust me, if you have a pulse, dance is for you.

Additionally, the production includes a special, multimedia collaboration with local children's book author Mary Arete Moody, and “Talk Back” sessions with the dancers and choreographers Friday and Saturday evening. Saturday's evening performance benefits the city's domestic violence safety network SafeNet and the dance department's Jenni-Lyn Memorial Scholarship Fund — so the bodies in motion are moving to good causes. — Sara Toth

4:30 p.m. Friday, Feb 20/ 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21 & Sunday, Feb. 22/ 7 p.m. Saturday //501 E. 38th Street// \$15/\$10 for students and seniors //mica.mercyhurst.edu

MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY

3.4 • 7:30 P.M.

MARY D'ANGELO PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

America's oldest and most celebrated modern dance company presents an exciting new work by Andonis Foniadakis reimagining the myth of Narcissus and Echo!

Join us before the performance for a conversation on mythology and dance with Mercyhurst World History and Dance faculty.



2014-15
SEASON

MIAC
Mercyhurst Institute
for Arts & Culture

TICKETS:

miac.mercyhurst.edu

814-824-3000

This engagement of Martha Graham Dance Company is made possible through the ArtsCONNECT program of Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20



BASEMENT
TRANSMISSIONS

RED
2015 TOUR

of BEAUTY and RAGE

LOCAL BANDS TBA

TICKETS \$17 ADVANCE | \$20 AT DOOR

DOORS 6PM | MUSIC 6:30PM

Drug Free | Alcohol Free | All Ages
145 West 11th Street

BasementTrans@gmail.com
www.BasementTransmissions.com

THE STATION
DINNER THEATRE
4940 Peach Street
Erie, Pa 16509
(814) 864-2022 or On-line (24/7) at
www.canterburyfeast.com

2015 SEASON

MURDER AMONG FRIENDS

FRI 7PM
SAT 5:30PM
SAT MAR 7, 5PM

\$37 adults
\$31 seniors/students

RESERVE NOW!

Feb 27, 28
March 6 & 7

CALL 814-864-2022
OR TICKETS NOW
AVAILABLE ONLINE AT
*GROUP RATES AVAILABLE
WWW.CANTERBURYFEAST.COM
ticket price includes full dinner, show & tax

Sacred Heart
62nd Annual
Spaghetti Dinner
with Our Authentic Homemade
Sauce & Meatballs

Sunday, March 8th

Sacred Heart Church Auditorium
Corner of 25th & Liberty Streets

Adults\$8.00
Children\$4.00
Under 6Free

Serving 11:00am until 6:00pm
Carry-outs available from 11:00am
Bring Containers for Carry-outs.

GANNON PRESENTS

ERIE

FEBRUARY 02 - 24

A 23-Day Festival
of Local Theatre

More Information at
Gannon.edu/theatre

**PA
CA**

PERFORMING ARTISTS
COLLECTIVE ALLIANCE
Performing Arts Center & Theatre

1505 State St. Erie, Pa.
(814) 434-0687
PACA1505@gmail.com
PURCHASE ADVANCE TICKETS AT
PACA1505.com

PACA PRESENTS

Thu - Sat Feb 12, 13, 14
"All In The Timing"
by David Ives
- featuring -
"Sure Thing"
"The Universal Language"
"Variations in the Death of Trotsky"

Thu - Sat, Feb 19, 20, 21
"Desire, Desire, Desire"
"For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls"
by Christopher Durang

Doors: 7:30p | Curtain: 8:00p
Tickets: \$5 | BYOB w/ ID



TIM SNELL

mARTi Gras At The Erie Art Museum

Start looking into the deep, old history of that beautiful thing called Cajun music, and toward the modern end of the line – around the late 1980s, in fact – you’ll almost surely come across Steve Riley and the Mamou Playboys.

In the stretch of time between then and now, Riley and the Playboys have put forth a bounty of real music, all perfectly authentic to its Louisiana roots, and most sung and performed in true-blue Cajun French.

They’ve even garnered two Grammy nominations – one for 1993’s *Trace of Time*, another for 2003’s *Bon Réve* – in the awards’ Best Traditional Folk Album category.

Now, that’s the kinda band you’d want at any Mardi Gras party.

And guess what? The Erie Art Museum’s got ‘em.

The museum’s bringing the band – and plenty of other touches of New Orleans – to the Gem City for one sure-to-be-awesome party (for a good cause, of course) as it presents its mARTi Gras Masquerade on Saturday, Feb. 21.

Starting at 7 p.m. and rockin’ through 11, the Masquerade also features a parade led by ‘King and Queen’ Dan and Kathy Dahlkemper; authentic Cajun hors d’oeuvres; a silent auction; and toasts with awesome brews from Erie Beer and Magic Hat Brewing Company.

The cost to attend this 21-and-over bash is \$50 per person, and proceeds benefit the Erie Art Museum. – Ryan Smith

Saturday, Feb. 21, 7 to 11 p.m. // 20 E. Fifth St. // erieartmuseum.org



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Celebrating Cootie Harris and the Meadville Jazz Jams

Jazz jam sessions or “jams” are about as old as the music itself. They practically date to the style’s early days in New Orleans around the turn of the 20th century, and they were thriving by the ‘20s.

To a large extent, jams are about the opportunity for less-skilled, often – but not always – younger musicians who don’t play regularly, to gain experience by playing with, observing and talking to more advanced and often professional musicians who play for pay as well as

pleasure.

All this leads us to the fact that in nearby Meadville, musicians have held annual public jazz jams, roughly every other month, for about the last 30 years.

The latest will be held Feb. 22 from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Gardner Theater, in the second floor of the Market House. It’s free for the pack of musicians expected to turn out and just \$5 for people coming to listen. Jams also are social gatherings, so there will be food and beverages available.

The man who started it all is Cootie Harris, a drummer and drum teacher who needed a situation and a place to work with his students. He tried upstairs at the Market House, but found pro musicians often occupied it. It ended up with the kids playing with the adults, and both enjoying the experience.

Thus was born the Meadville Jazz Jams.

Harris no longer plays, but still teaches. He will be an honorary participant this particular Sunday for his contributions to Meadville’s jazz scene, and more importantly, the celebration of his 92nd birthday the day after the jam.

Pianist/keyboardist Dan Hallett III is the jam organizer, tasked with putting together the best possible rhythm section – the “most important part of a good jazz jam,” according to Hallett – and will serve as the event’s emcee.

Musicians will come from Meadville, Erie, Franklin, Saegertown, Oil City, and small towns in the Meadville area. Students from area high schools and colleges will also join in for the jam.

As for the music?

“We won’t be playing any raging be-bop,” Hallett chuckled, “We’ll play some Miles (Davis),

Freddie Hubbard, and other straight-ahead mainstream modern jazz – maybe some soul jazz and Latin.” – Bob Protzman

2 to 6 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 22 // Gardner Theatre, Meadville Market House, 910 Market St., Meadville // 336.5051, ArtsMeadville.org

Feb. 28 – 9 p.m.

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

Refuge

Feb. 28 – 6 to 9 p.m.

Doc Holliday’s Country Bar, 7425 Schultz Rd. 868.3627.

Rogues & Reverie, Gelatin Skeleton, Red Light Departure

Feb. 28 – 6 p.m.

Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11 St. facebook.com/gimpguyunderground.

Endeavor and Forever Cadence

Mar. 1 – 5:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11 St. basementtransmissions.com.

DANCE

Line Dancing w/ Selleena and Corey B

Feb. 18, 25, Mar. 4 – 8 p.m.

McCoy’s Barrelhouse, 1013 State St. mccoysbarrelhouse.com.

Beyond Words IV

Feb. 20 – 2 p.m., Feb. 21 – 2, 7 p.m., Feb. 22 – 2 p.m.

Mary D’Angelo Performing Arts Center, 501 E. 38 St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

Zumbathon

Feb. 21 – 11:30 a.m.

Kristine’s School of Dance, Chestnut St., Meadville. 763.4435.

Irish Hooley with Seamus Kennedy

Feb. 28 – 7 p.m.

Mount Carmel Parish, 1531 E. Grandview Blvd. 825.7313.

FOOD & DRINK

Come Drink Craft Beer!

Feb. 19 – 4 to 9 p.m.

Sprague Farm & Brew Works, 22113 U.S. 6, Venango sleepingchainsaw.com.

Build Your Own Pizza

Feb. 20 – 6 p.m.

Presque Isle Wine Cellars, 9440 W. Main St., North East piwine.com.

4th Annual Chilean Juice Workshop

Feb. 21 – 9:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Presque Isle Wine Cellars, 9440 W. Main St., North East piwine.com.

Sunday Brunch at Presque Isle Wine Cellars

Feb. 22 – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Presque Isle Wine Cellars, 9440 W. Main St., North East piwine.com.

Tap Takeover at Molly Brannigan’s Feat. Erie Brewing Company

Feb. 25 – 8 to 10 p.m.

Molly Brannigan’s Irish Pub, 506 State St. mollybrannigans.com.

Spraguenstein Small Batch Tasting IV

Feb. 26 – All Day

Sprague Farm & Brew Works, 22113 U.S. 6, Venango sleepingchainsaw.com.

Brewer’s Cup Homebrewing Competition

Feb. 28 – 5 to 8 p.m.

The Brewerrie, 123 W. 14 St. brewerrie.com.

FILM

Rocky Mountain Express

Ongoing, Wednesday through Sunday – 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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

Mysteries of the Unseen World

Ongoing, Wednesday through Sunday – 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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

Wonders of the Arctic

Ongoing, Wednesday through Sunday – 11 a.m. to 5 p.m..

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

Edinboro Film Series Presents: Art and Craft

Feb. 19 – 8:30 p.m.

Pogue Student Center, 405 Scotland Road. aux.edinboro.edu/filmseries.

The Mark of Zorro

Feb. 19 – 7 p.m.

Erie Movie House, 3424 West Lake Road. facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse.

Concert Night! Journey and Queen

Feb. 20 – 8 p.m.

Erie Movie House, 3424 West Lake Road. facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse.

Freaks and The Elephant Man

Feb. 21 – 2 p.m.

Erie Movie House, 3424 West Lake Road. facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse.

Erie Movie House, 3424 West Lake Road. facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse.

One Chance

Feb. 22 – 2 p.m.

Taylor Little Theatre, 501 E. 38 St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

RED: Celebrating the Best Film of 2014

Feb. 22 – 8 p.m.

Bayfront Sheraton Hotel, 55 West Bay Road. filmsocietyynwpa.org.

Abbot and Costello: Africa Screams

Feb. 27 – 7 p.m.

Erie Movie House, 3424 West Lake Road. facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse.

Pink Floyd: The Wall

Feb. 28 – 5, 8 p.m.

Erie Movie House, 3424 West Lake Road. facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse.

Still Dreaming

Mar. 1 – 2 p.m.

Taylor Little Theatre, 501 E. 38 St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

VISUAL ARTS

Higherglyphics: Annex Stairwell Project, Annex Stairwell

Ongoing – All Day

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

Ian Brill: Storm, McCain Family Gallery

Ongoing – All Day

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

Heeschen’s Creatures, Robert E. Holstein Gallery

Ongoing – All Day

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

Into the Common



Ben Franklin
Technology PARTners
Central & Northern PA

If you need funding to help develop software or a new product or process, you need to know BEN FRANKLIN TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS!

We have been investing in Erie's Innovators, Entrepreneurs, and Small Manufacturers for more than 30 Years.

Call 814-898-6650 to set up an appointment.

www.cnp.benfranklin.org

**5340 Fryling Road – Suite 202 – Knowledge Park
Erie, PA – 16510**

Working to create

a Thriving

Entrepreneurial

Ecosystem

Innovation Collaborative, a neutral, entrepreneur focused entity, is uniquely positioned to coordinate, facilitate, and communicate progress for northwest PA's entrepreneurial ecosystem, through collaboration among key ecosystem assets. The IC's purpose is to leverage the collective value of outstanding ecosystem resources for the benefit of entrepreneurs and the growth of entrepreneurial activities. Although there are many capable entrepreneurial service providers in our region, none has been mandated to establish and pursue a shared agenda in overarching support of entrepreneurial growth. Drawing from the experience of proven best practices across the country, the IC partnership model was established to bring the ecosystem together in pursuit of a shared agenda and provide overarching support and collaboration. The IC is responsible to provide ongoing inventory, assessment of effectiveness, and publication of the regions Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Map while helping entrepreneurs navigate the ecosystem. The IC is working to build a regional culture where entrepreneurship is understood, appreciated, and celebrated, through enhanced entrepreneurial storytelling and communication. Working with all entities in the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem to secure and disburse funding and provide project management for cross-entity initiatives, we will continue to enhance the environment for entrepreneurial growth and regional success. We will communicate that progress through transparent communication of key metrics.

Learn more at www.innovationcollaborators.com
And follow us on Twitter @StartupEriePA



Innovation Collaborative

The independent voice of innovators, facilitating, measuring, and communicating progress for northwest PA's entrepreneurial ecosystem.
www.innovationcollaborators.com
(814) 490-5295

Keep pace in digit@l economy

NO GRADES, JUST RESULTS!



2015 WINTER/SPRING SESSIONS

1/29/15	Essentials in HTML & CSS Workshop: Learn to Code	8:30 - 4:00
2/12/15	Influencer Marketing: The new PR	10:00 - Noon
2/12/15	Twitter for Marketing & PR	1:00 - 3:00
2/19/15	How to Produce a Product Video	9:00 - Noon
2/19/15	Creating & Promoting Your Branded YouTube Channel	1:00 - 4:00
2/26/15	Big List Email Marketing	10:00 - Noon
3/12/15	Google My Business: How to Setup Your Business Page	9:00 - 11:00
3/19/15	Getting Ready for Ecommerce	9:00 - 11:00
3/26/15	Digital Salon Night: Blogging for Fun & Freedom	5:00 - 7:00
4/9/15	Ecommerce Day: Sales & Marketing Conference	8:30 - 4:00
5/21/15	Content Marketing	10:00 - Noon

Please check our website for details, changes and updates.

Don't miss out! Register Now!

5340 Fryling Road Suite 202, Knowledge Park - Erie, PA 16510 | 814.898.6547
emarketinglearningcenter.org



LOGISTICS⁺
PASSION FOR EXCELLENCE

1.866.LOG.PLUS

(1.866.564.7587)

www.logisticsplus.net

WE MANAGE YOUR LOGISTICS FROM START UNTIL FINISH ...

LTL + Truckload + Air + Ocean + Rail
Import + Export + Project Cargo
Warehousing + Customs Brokerage
Trade Compliance + Supply Chain Consulting

... AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN!



www.logisticsplus.net/quotes
quotes@logisticsplus.net

©2015 Logistics Plus Inc.



Coney Island Rock n' Roll Roadshow Rolls into The Rook

Attention, adventurous ladies and gentlemen: You're not gonna want to miss this one – and you'd best leave the kids at home.

In short, here's how the Coney Island Rock n' Roll Roadshow describes itself: "A traveling show made up of beautiful burlesque babes, sideshow stunts and shenanigans, and amazing musical acts ranging from gritty bar room rock 'n' roll to gypsy-honky-tonk, lo-fi trash rock and one-man-bands, all wrapped up into one hell of a party."

That party's making a dirty-fun, board-walk-ey spectacle out of the King's Rook

Club's downstairs concert complex on Thursday, Feb. 26, and everyone's invited – except the kids, of course.

The Roadshow has a current core lineup that includes, but isn't nearly limited to, the local favorites Jesse Ray Carter Trio, Potwhole, and lots of other musical acts; The Cut-Throat Freakshow featuring Cut Throat and Candy Pants; pinup/alt-model Bad-Ass Burly Q; and emcee/DJ/'weirdo wrangler' Daddy Stitches.

From the sounds of it, the Roadshow's done up with all the razzle-dazzle the "Coney Island" part of its name would suggest.

Sounds like some good, freaky fun alright. – Ryan Smith

Thursday, Feb. 26, 8 p.m. // 1921 Peach St. // facebook.com/Coney Island Rock n' Roll Roadshow



Basement Transmissions Turns Red

The color red can strike a number of varying emotions on sight or from simply hearing the word. On one hand, it can provoke fear and display aggression and strength. On the other, it can represent passion and love. It seems fitting that a Christian alt-rock/metal band with an intense sound and divine message would choose the name Red to embody what they stand for.

Although they're now based in Nashville, Red hails from Linesville, Pa., a small town roughly an hour south of Erie. Last September, the band made its way back to Northwest Pa., playing to a sold-out crowd at the Erie Insurance Arena. On Feb. 20, you can catch them up close and personal at Basement Transmissions.

The show falls just days before the release of the band's fifth studio album *Of Beauty and Rage*, which is set to be released on Feb. 24., so this show will be a great opportunity to hear some new never before heard songs.

While Red is a highly accomplished band with numerous awards under its belt and has toured with some of the biggest alternative rock bands of the mid 2000s, like Three Days Grace and Breaking Benjamin, the band's biggest achievement was in 2008 when they made *Radio & Records* history by becoming the first Christian rock band in the publication's history to have a song debut at No. 1 with their song "Fight Inside."

Touring with Red is the Quad Cities Illinois/Iowa-based hard rock band 3 Years Hollow, which is coming off of big tours with Sevendust and Lacuna Coil, and preparing for New York City's Exposed Music Festival.

Opening acts on the bill are Seven Circle Sunrise from Canton, Ohio and Anthems of Apathy from Erie. This show is a great chance to see some local and regional talent mixed with the exposure of national touring acts, and is definitely not something to miss – regardless of whether red is your favorite color. – Tommy Shannon

Doors at 6 p.m., Friday, Feb. 20 // Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. // Pre-sale Tickets \$17, \$20 Day-of-show // http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/1191175

Ground by G.C. Meyers

Ongoing – All Day
The Kada Gallery, The Shops at the Colony, 2632 W. 8 St. kadagallery.com.

Kids as Curators 2015, Hagen Family Gallery

Ongoing – All Day
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. Fifth St. erieartmuseum.org.

Mary J. and Fran Rosiak: APPLIED Images

Ongoing – All Day
Glass Growers Gallery, 10 E. Fifth St. glassgrowersgallery.com.

Patti Larson: A Wide Range Photography

Ongoing beginning – All Day
Glass Growers Gallery, 10 E. Fifth St. glassgrowersgallery.com.

Performing Blackness, Performing Whiteness

Ongoing – All Day
Allegheny College, 520 N. Main St., Meadville, allegheny.edu.

Styled by Adams: Streamlining America, Main Gallery

Ongoing – All Day
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. Fifth St. erieartmuseum.org.

"WhatRU?" Youth Gallery Event at Urraro

Feb. 27 – 6 to 9 p.m.
Urraro Gallery, 135 W 14 St. 455.6240.

THEATER

Laugh/Riot Presents: Bedtime Stories

Feb. 18 – 8 p.m.
Schuster Theatre, 620 Sassafras St. gannon.edu.

Erie Playhouse Presents: The Addams Family

Feb. 19 to 21, 25 to 28, Mar. 1 – 7:30 p.m., Feb. 22 – 2 p.m.
Erie Playhouse, 13 W. 10 St. erieplayhouse.org.

Desire, Desire, Desire and For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls

Feb. 19 to 21 – 8 p.m.
PACA, 1505 State St. pacal505.ning.com

Gannon Presents: The Sketch Comedy Show

Feb. 19 – 8 p.m.
A.J. Palumbo Academic Center, 824 Peach St. gannon.edu.

Laugh/Riot Presents: Third Annual New Works Festival

Feb. 19 – 7:30 p.m.
Edinboro Performing Arts Center, 219 Meadville St., Edinboro. laughrioterie.com

All An Act Presents: Witness for the Prosecution

Feb. 21, 22, 27, 28 – 7:30 p.m., Feb. 22, Mar. 1 – 2 p.m.
Schuster Theatre, 620 Sassafras St. allanact.net.

Gannon Presents: Oedipus Tex

Feb. 20 – 8 p.m., Feb. 21 – 2 p.m.
Schuster Theatre, 620 Sassafras St. gannon.edu.

Songs for a New World

Feb. 23 and 24 – 7 p.m.
Erie Playhouse, 13 W. 10th St. erieplayhouse.org

Playshop Theatre Presents: Clybourne Park

Feb. 26 to 28 – 8 p.m.
Vukovich Center, 520 N Main St., Meadville. allegheny.edu.

Erie Broadway Series Presents: Flashdance

Feb. 26 – 7:30 p.m.
Warner Theatre, 811 State St. nacentertainment.com/cities/erie.

Erie Theater Company Presents: Jimmy Earl's Defense

Feb. 26 to 28 – 7:30 p.m.
Strong Vincent Auditorium, 1330 W. 8 St. erietheaterco.org.

COMMUNITY

Erie BayHawks vs. Westchester Knicks

Feb. 18 – 7 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. erie.dleague.nba.com.

The Napoleonic Era - Grand Success or Failure?

Feb. 18 – 7 p.m.
The Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. jeserie.org.

Gershwin, Ellington,

and the Search for an American Sound

Feb. 20 – 7 to 8:30 p.m.
The Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. jeserie.org.

Wintertime at the Maritime

Feb. 20 – 6 to 10 p.m.
Erie Maritime Museum, 150 E. Front St. flagshipniagra.org

Erie Otters vs. Peterborough Petes

Feb. 21 – 7 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. ottershockey.com

Improv at The Gardner

Feb. 21 – 7:30 p.m.
The Market House, 910 Market St., Meadville artsmeadville.org.

mARTi Gras Masquerade

Feb. 21 – 7 to 11 p.m.
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. Fifth St. erieartmuseum.org.

Snowflake Cruise-In at the Bel-Aire Clarion

Feb. 21 – 6 to 11 p.m.

The Bel-Aire Clarion, 2800 W. 8 St. 474.5183.

Thirteenth Annual Hometown Heroes Bowling Tournament

Feb. 22 – noon
Eastway Lanes, 4110 Buffalo Road. eastwaylanes.com.

Winning Battles, Losing Wars: The New American Way of War

Feb. 23 – 7 to 8:30 p.m.
The Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. jeserie.org.

Strengthening Our Community Through Historic Presevation

Feb. 24 – 7 to 8:30 p.m.
The Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. jeserie.org.

Caroline Rhea at Jr's Last Laugh

Feb. 26 to 28 – 6:30 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.
Jr's Last Laugh, 1402 State St. jrslastlaugh.com.

Sport and Travel Expo

Feb. 27, 28 – 8 p.m., Mar. 1 – 5 p.m.
Bayfront Convention Center, 1 Sassafras Pier, eriepromotions.com.

Erie BayHawks vs. Iowa Energy

Feb. 28 – 7 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. erie.dleague.nba.com.

Fifth Annual Chocoholic Frolic

Feb. 28 – 5 p.m.
Elks Lodge No. 219, 15438 Hwy. 86, Meadville. 724.5219.

MECA Presents Bar Stool Open

Feb. 28 – 10 a.m.
Downtown Bars. mecaerie.org.

Derreck Kayongo at Penn State Behrend

Mar. 3 – 7:30 p.m.
McGarvey Commons, 4701 Behrend College Dr. 898.6171.

FIRST WARNING WEATHER

WHERE SEVERE
WEATHER
COMES FIRST



KARA
COLEMAN

KATIE
MCGRAW

GEOFF
CORNISH
CHIEF METEOROLOGIST

JULIE
COATES

JOHN
STEHLIN

erietvnews.com/weather #erie weather



CALENDAR



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

RED – Celebrate the Biggest Movie Night of the Year

You don't have to be in Los Angeles to celebrate the biggest movie night of the year. The Film Society of Northwest Pennsylvania will host RED, the organization's annual Academy Awards event, at the Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel Sunday, Feb. 22, giving Erieites a chance to walk the red carpet like a star in fancy attire and celebrate some of the best films of 2014.

Cinephiles can enjoy the Oscar's in style thanks to a high-class spread of fine eats, cash bar drinks, and other treats starting at 8 p.m. for \$50. But for those looking to start the festivities earlier, a \$75 VIP package gives you access to intriguing edibles, like Peruvian ceviche and assorted sushi rolls, as well as a top-shelf open bar from 6 to 8 p.m.

After relishing the swanky soiree, there's still an entire Oscars ceremony to enjoy! The Academy Awards have had its share of comedic emcees, so the Film Society will have its own master of ceremonies to host the night's festivities.

"I have a friend named Oscar; that's about as close as I get," jokes comedian Walter Campbell about his connection to the Academy Awards.

The funnyman recently relocated to Erie after spending years as an Army recruiter in New Jersey, but he's no stranger to making people laugh, having worked with notable names like Richard Lewis and Sinbad. Now he'll host an event where movie fans will try to predict which films take home the top prizes.

"I'm not good with guessing. All of my life all of my guesses haven't panned out. I thought the Seahawks would win [the Super Bowl], I thought the Heat and the Knicks were going to be good. I'm just making sure of whatever the envelope says."

While Campbell may not make any predictions, you can always fill out a ballot to pick and choose between films before participating in some Oscar night trivia at the Sheraton. Whether you're rooting for *Birdman*, *Selma*, or any of the other Best Picture nominees to take the top prize at the Oscars, you can be the real winner thanks to the festivities at RED. – Alex Bieler

6 p.m. (VIP) and 8 p.m. (GA) Sunday, Feb. 22 // 55 West Bay Drive // filmsocietynwpa.org/oscars



Brewer's Cup



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Craft beer is a wonderful thing. There is a certain joy to discovering a delicious beverage from a small, relatively unknown brewery, but how exciting would it be to be able to sample various homemade beers? Now, it would be a bit creepy to just enter someone's house and demand a pint, but thanks to the Brewererie, you can sample several servings of homemade suds in a place well known for pouring pints for the public.

The Eighth Annual Brewer's Cup will play host to more than 20 different amateur beer makers Saturday, Feb. 28, promising locals a chance to try some new concoctions that can't be found in stores or be ordered at your

bar of choice. What's more is that the competing home brewers could provide a variety of delights, with potential drinks running from aggressively hoppy India pale ales to creamy milk stouts. The only way you'll know what drinks are up for grabs (and sips) is by heading to the Brewererie and tasting for yourself.

The Brewer's Cup is more than just an opportunity to test out some low-profile drafts; you and other pint purveyors can vote on what brews you found the most delightful, resulting in "People's Choice" awards for the top offerings. For just \$20, you can treat yourself to an evening of new brews and endless possibilities. – Alex Bieler

5 to 8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 28 // 123 W. 14th St. // brewerie.com

Pharmacy Technicians **ARE IN DEMAND!**



DID YOU KNOW:

1. Pharmacy Technicians can work at hospitals, physicians' offices, pharmaceutical companies, and outpatient clinics
2. Employment of pharmacy technicians is projected to grow 20 percent from 2012 to 2022, faster than the average for all occupations *bls.gov
3. You can train and be career-ready in just 8 months

CALL TODAY!
864-6666 glit.edu



PROGRAMS GREAT LAKES OFFERS:

- Dental Assistant
- Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
- Health Information Technology
- Massage Therapist
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Office Assistant
- Pharmacy Technician
- Surgical Technologist
- Veterinary Assistant

For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed the program, and other important information, please visit our website at glit.edu/disclosures.

**DON'T WAIT 'TIL THE
FUN STOPS TO PLAN
YOUR "WHAT IFS" ...**

Accidents can happen at any age and at anytime.

An *EmergencyCare* Membership will save you more than just money. It will offer you the peace of mind to know you and your family are covered. Members pay no out-of-pocket ambulance expenses—not even co-pays or deductibles. Ambulance transportation to and from medical facilities is also covered.

Cover your family for an entire year for only \$50.
Individual and Senior plans also available.
Give us a call at 870-9999.
www.EmergencyCare.org



Father John Misty
I Love You, Honeybear
 Sub Pop

★★★★★

While Josh Tillman could be found winking to his audience on the excellent 2012 album *Fear Fun*, he's now staring right back at them on *I Love You, Honeybear*, pulling back the curtain to provide a closer look at the entertainer that is Father John Misty. Still, this new perspective doesn't really clarify who this persona is, blurring the lines between hammy sideshow performer and an absolutely sincere folk singer who is tired of 21st century America. The stories Tillman presents on *Honeybear* may seem less cartoonish than the drug-tripping and novel-writing on display during *Fear Fun*, some of his targets come off just as nutty. "Save me President Jesus!" exclaims Tillman on the bitter "Bored in the USA," a song that rails against the educational system and housing market while canned laughter plays. It's a pretty eye-opening mix, but what's most impressive is that Tillman's immense character doesn't overshadow the stunning arrangements found on his latest album, making for a welcome encore from Father John Misty's sideshow. — Alex Bieler



Butch Walker
Afraid of Ghosts
 Dangerbird Records

★★★★1

Butch Walker was very close to his father. Unfortunately, the songwriter's father died in 2013, an experience that looms over much of Walker's latest release *Afraid of Ghosts*. The album is a more somber affair than some of Walker's past efforts, an understandable shift given the circumstances. Walker's producer background is evident, as the album's reverb-laden vocals add an extra sense of longing to his tracks, although the effect does make some of the songs blend together a little too well. Songs like "Father's Day" and "Still Drunk" pack a particularly powerful emotional punch, as Walker bears his soul while he struggles to come to terms with his loss while Bob Mould provides backing vocals and guitar. *Afraid of Ghosts* delves into a theme of heartbreak and regret without becoming too melancholy, an impressive balancing act by Walker on a commendable new album that finds him moving forward without forgetting the past. — Alex Bieler



Jamie Cullum
Interlude
 Blue Note

★★★★★

There's a lot to like about British vocalist/pianist Jamie Cullum and his enormously satisfying new album. Jazz purists may sniff at it, but just about anyone with a broader perspective will find it hugely rewarding and entertaining. On his seventh album, Cullum's versatility and stunning voice stamp him as arguably the best, most exciting singer to come along in quite some time. Cullum handles with aplomb an incredibly eclectic playlist of 15 tunes, covering disparate artists from Dizzy Gillespie to Ray Charles, to Randy Newman, to Great American Songbook writers Harold Arlen and Johnny Mercer ("Out of This World" and "Come Rain or Come Shine"), and even a song written by iconic jazz singer Mark Murphy. Who knew? Cullum, an award-winning jazz star in Britain, infuses everything with a natural blues and jazz feeling. And he's backed by a group of fine jazz musicians in combinations from trio to a big band sound, with brief, but mostly solid solos and consistently engaging arrangements. — Bob Protzman



The Subways
The Subways
 YFE Records/Cooking Vinyl

★★★

The British band that defines the term "Party-Punk" lays down twelve tracks that are less about dancing and drinking and more about heartache and relationships. But it's okay: These tracks still rock out with three-chord, Green Day-influenced fun. The break-up song, "Taking all the Blame" cooks along at a bouncy 220 beats per minute, while "I'm In Love and It's Burning In My Soul" is full of rock 'n' roll happiness. The Subways are best when they really make an effort at kicking some can. They hit the mark with "Twisted Game" but miss it spectacularly with the repetitive pseudo-ballad, "Because of You." There's not too much about The Subways that you can't find a hundred other bands doing, but the lyrics that frontman Billy Lunn comes up with about relationships on this album somehow ring truer here than the lyrics of nearly any other punk or punk-inspired band you can find... except maybe The Buzzcocks... or The Ramones... or The Pogues... — Bryan Toy





cultured purl
 a knitting place and more
 3141 West 26th St. | Erie, PA 16506

Beginner Knitting—Thursday, Feb. 26th, March 5th and 12th 6:30-8:00 | \$35 plus materials

Hats, Mittens and Slippers OH MY!!—Saturday, Mar. 7th, 14th and 21st 10:30-12:30 | \$30 plus materials

Arm Knitting Workshop—Saturday, Mar. 7 2:00-3:00 | **FREE** *Yarn must be purchased from Cultured Purl*

Like us on Facebook to find more classes!

Call to RSVP | 814-836-7875 (purl)

WINTER HOURS

Mon- 10-5:30
 Tue- Closed
 Wed- 10-5:30
 Thurs- 10-3
 Fri- 10-5:30
 Saturday 10-4
 Sunday Closed

25% OFF
1 ITEM

1 item per coupon
consignment items
excluded expires 3/3/15





OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK!

UNIQUE JEWELRY

Earthshine Company
 118 Meadville St.
 Downtown Edinboro
 8147345858

& U FRAME IT
 theposterannex
 Erie's Most Unique Framing Gallery

Renovation Special:
50% OFF
 all in-stock
ART

731 W 8th St (@Liberty) Erie, PA
 814-456-1313 www.ufipax.com



Think of **Franco's** when it comes to your **luncheon catering** needs!

Featuring a wide variety of choices at competitive prices.



1001 State Street
 First floor of the Renaissance Centre
 814-455-8008

f francoscafeerie francoscafe.net

Get Something Special for your Special Someone From

SECOND HAND ROSE CONSIGNMENTS

351 W 26TH ST. ERIE, PA
 814-455-3061

HOURS:
 Wed - Fri 11-5
 Sat 11-3



MOVING & ESTATE SALES

ERIE'S 40 under 40

Send your nominations and a brief description to contact@ErieReader.com.

All nominations must be recieved by **February 28th**.

Smooth
is
Sexy

SandCille Spa...
Home of Mens Waxing in Erie,
including the Male Brazilian

*Don't want anyone to know?
Try our discreet, private entrance.*


SandCILLE
spa & treatment studio

Now at our new location at
the Shops at the Colony Plaza
2640 West 8th St.
SandCille.com
814.456.7400

We Can't Wait to *Spoil* You

NEW STUDENT SPECIAL!
2 WEEKS
UNLIMITED
YOGA
only \$25

This offer limited to first time, local residents ONLY



yogaErie

Located in the Colony Plaza

2560 West 8th Street, Erie PA 16505

814-520-6998

www.yogaerie.com



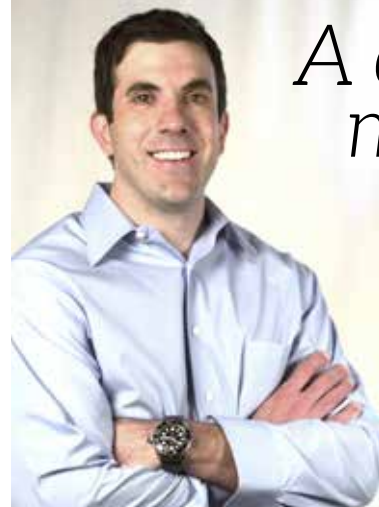
www.tderie.com

3203 Greengarden Blvd.
(814) 864-5322

810 East 38th St.
(814) 459-1145

- CATERING
- TAKE OUT
- FUNDRAISING

*"Serving Erie the finest homemade foods
and Italian goods since 1949."*



*A dollar saved,
many earned.*
Plan for your future now.

Dean Scalise, CFP®
4021 West 12th Street, Erie, PA 16505
phone 814.836.1038
email dScalise@royalaa.com
www.ScaliseFinancialAdvisors.com

SECURITIES OFFERED THROUGH ROYAL ALLIANCE ASSOCIATES, INC. MEMBER FINRA/SIPC
ADVISORY SERVICES OFFERED THROUGH SCALISE FINANCIAL ADVISORS, INC., A REGISTERED
INVESTMENT ADVISOR NOT AFFILIATED WITH ROYAL ALLIANCE ASSOCIATES, INC.

You fought for our homes. We'll fight for yours.

Assistance for veterans & their families who are:
homeless or at risk of homelessness

- Rental Assistance
- Child Care Services
- Auto Repair Assistance
- Utility Assistance

For more information, please call:
1-855-431-3755



2015

RAVE AWARDS

RECOGNIZING ACHIEVING VOLUNTEERS IN ERIE

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF ERIE

INVITES YOU TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS FOR THE
RAVE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARDS. WE WILL PRESENT
FOUR VOLUNTEER AWARDS AT AN APRIL 28, 2015 DINNER
EVENT AT THE AMBASSADOR.

CATEGORIES INCLUDE:

- Adult Volunteer (Age 25 and over)
- Young Adult Volunteer (Ages 18-24)
- Teen Volunteer (Ages 13-18)
- Junior Volunteer (Ages 7-12)

NOMINATION INFORMATION:

Nominations are due to the
Junior League of Erie by end of day
Friday, February 27, 2015.
For more information, visit:
www.juniorleagueoferie.com.

RAVE award winners will be awarded
\$1,000 each to then be distributed to the
nonprofit of their choice.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



THE CROSS ERIE

a church for the city

ORIGINAL MUSIC
BIBLE TEACHING
AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY

*We intend to be a cross-centered community
that reaches the culture.*

JOIN US FOR
SUNDAY WORSHIP

Basement Transmissions
145 West 11th Street
Corner of Sassafras and 11th

10am

www.TheCross.cc

[f /TheCrossErie](https://www.facebook.com/TheCrossErie)

Kings Rook Club

CONEY ISLAND ROCK N' ROLL ROADSHOW**

DOORS 8PM | MUSIC 9PM

DOWNSTAIRS CONCERT COMPLEX

+POTWHOLE
+CUT THROAT
FREEK SHOW
+SCARLETT
STORM BURLESQUE

THURSDAY
FEB 26

EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT!

Grab your gear and get here! • 9pm
No Cover • Drink Specials • Open 8pm

MATTY B'S
OPEN
MIC
ONITE

MUSIC AT 9:30 • NO COVER EXCEPT SPECIAL EVENTS

FREE POOL, SHUFFLEBOARD & GAMES ALWAYS!!!

1921 Peach St. Erie Pa • Private Parties Available • MEMBERS & GUESTS
Contact: kingsrookclub76@gmail.com & find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/kingsrookclub

**NO COVER EXCEPT
SPECIAL EVENTS**

FRI 2/20
AJAMAJA
& FRIENDS
SUPER JAM
SAT 2/21
THIS AMERICAN
SONG
+LIQUID NIXON
FRI 2/27
TROPIDELIC
SAT 2/28
THE
MUCKLEBUCK
FRI 3/6
CHET VINCENT
& THE BIG BEND
+GRAND PIANO
+DANI TREWHELA
SAT 3/7
MISTER F
+GNOSIS
FRI 3/13
THE
COMMONHEART
SAT 3/14
ST. PAT'S BLAST
DOWNSTAIRS
THE TRADESMEN
PADDY WHACKED
THE MULLIGANS
FRI 3/20
SUNDAY SOUND
+COSMIC RHYTHM
SAT 3/21
SEAN PATRICK
& THE
NEWGRASS
REVOLUTION

The Business of Higher Education

Grading The Price of a College Education

By: Katie Chriest

Last fall, I asked my Research and Writing students at Mercyhurst University to respond to a free-write prompt. The rules were simple: do nothing for fifteen minutes. No electronics, no talking, no eating, no exercise. Then, freely reflect on the experience in writing without the paralyzing constraints of grammar or getting it “right.” Paddle the stream of consciousness. Stimulate the connection between unbridled thought and written meaning-making.

One response, by freshman Intelligence Studies major De'Lenci Shannon-Brown, stood out:

I have great academic and athletic scholarships, and this school is still breaking the bank. The worst part is I'm almost halfway done with one year of schooling which would be almost \$30 thousand at full price, and I have yet to learn anywhere near \$30K worth of information. I don't even think I've learned \$5K worth. I know tuition pays for the teachers and buildings and whatnot, but I feel they could at least make it worth it for the student. It's funny to me how you have to put four years of schooling together for it to mean anything at all. You can complete one or two years of school, spend \$70- to \$80K, and it means nothing because you didn't complete your degree. It's a weird system we have here.

I was struck by Shannon-Brown's simple yet poignant math, and shared it with the rest of my students. The floodgates were open. Why is college so expensive, they wondered? How are costs determined? Why is college seen as such a necessity? Why are students graduating with thousands in unforgivable debt? And is it all worth it?

It is a weird system we have here. And it may be broken.

Like many systems, higher ed's predicaments feel overwhelming, insurmountable through individual or local action. Or they seem to only impact those directly affiliated.

But in fact, the problems in higher ed affect us all – and in Erie, it's no exception. Students who shoulder enormous loan burdens are unlikely to invest in our economy. Universities are exempt from paying taxes on valuable real estate they inhabit. Workers with years of beneficial experience are passed over for promotions and jobs simply because they haven't gained access to the all-powerful college degree.

Still, the dominant message remains “College for all,” exemplified by President Obama's recent push to make the first two years of college free for qualifying students. But as the societal value of a degree increases, the value of the education may be decreasing. As colleges corporatize, what sells stays. Driven by enrollment dollars, colleges are investing in showy buildings

and executive salaries while traditional values — teaching, for one — are getting short-changed.

And students get cheated.

A weird system indeed. And we're all losing out.

Though this trend is happening nationwide, a recent local example is Mercyhurst University. With enrollment dropping, the university eliminated 14 positions in November. Initially, no faculty were let go. Gary Brown, senior vice president for strategic finance, told the *Erie Times-News* that no “significant impact on service to the students, the faculty, or the university” was anticipated.

But just two months later, Mercyhurst announced likely cuts of \$1 million more. President Thomas Gamble told the *Times-News*, “Everything is on the table.” He added, “What we don't want are across-the-board cuts if things get bad. Then you are cutting things that have a really strong return and things that don't have a strong return.”

As long as higher ed priorities are determined by enrollment, decisions will be returns-driven. It would be naive to imagine that these institutions are immune to the belt-tightening faced by other industries.

But other industries are not “nonprofit” in the eyes of the IRS. Other industries don't have everyone from peers to the President of the United States singing their praises. Other industries aren't idealized as benevolent — almost sacred — despite obvious corporatized management.

“The institution is a business,” explains Susan Black, owner of Art of Yoga. Black, now retired, has held upper-level administration positions at all five regional universities, observing first-hand how enrollment — not altruism — rules the business of higher education. She highlighted how the illusion of benevolent institutions is making these cost-cutting moves harder to swallow by students, parents, employees, and the public. “If you believe something that's not true,” she added, “you increase your suffering.”

Black stressed that numerous well-meaning, good-hearted individuals work within every higher ed institution. “Many individuals truly care about students, and want the best for them. People in the institution may care,” she clarified, “but hard choices are based on pure business. From a larger perspective, it's a numbers game.”

She said that seeing past the illusion of benevolence is freeing. Facing this reality shifts the power to put institutions back into the hands of those they serve.

Black added that most financial decisions are based “on the whims of 18-year-olds.” If students and parents want to move pri-



orities away from elaborate gyms, deluxe dorms, and overindulged athletics, they need to stop enrolling based on these amenities.

William Deresiewicz, a former Yale professor who wrote *Excellent Sheep: The Miseducation of the American Elite & the Way to a Meaningful Life*, specified that “The customer-service mentality” is to blame for extravagant campuses “financed by a mountain of debt, and that has been a major factor in tuition growth. Colleges now sell themselves to kids in terms of what they can give them, not what they plan to expect of them.”

According to some students, like Mercyhurst freshman Intelligence Studies major Galen Bernick, they aren't expecting enough. Bernick hoped classes would celebrate “exploration, not regurgitation.” Instead, he said, “the challenge is really just managing all the course work. I wish it were more challenging philosophically because I believe college is to self-discover and grow the mind, not make it a calculator.”

Still, we might need a calculator to face the corporatized reality of higher ed.

In November, at the beginning of her 20th year at Mercyhurst, Betty Amatangelo “was told that the college was in great financial trouble” and that her position in Campus Ministry “was being eliminated, effective immediately.” Amatangelo, owner and teacher at Yoga Haven, wrote a letter to the editor of the *Times-News* in January. “Other than sorrow for the person who had to tell me this,” she wrote, “my thoughts went directly to the numbers. If the university faces a steep decline in revenue, how helpful would my whopping \$26,000-per-year salary be?”

Good question. Mercyhurst President Thomas Gamble “earned \$347,971 in total compensation in 2012-13, up 6.6 percent” from 2011-2012, the *Times-News* reported, just before he's set to retire in May. Meanwhile, “James Adovasio, Mercyhurst's pro-

The cost of a college degree continues to rise, leaving many to question the return on educational investment.

most and director of the Mercyhurst Archaeological Institute, earned \$283,224, a 16.7 percent spike.”

So in one year, Gamble received a raise of \$21,836; Adovasio's was \$40,655. These two raises combine to \$62,491, enough to cover Amatangelo's salary for almost two-and-a-half years.

Incidentally, in June 2013, Mercyhurst announced an employee-wide pay freeze. This year, some administrators took pay cuts, but will likely suffer the least.

Curiously, also cut in November was Britany Prischak, Mercyhurst's Sustainability Officer. At a time when even the Pope demands sustainable action to mitigate climate change, this logic confounds.

I cannot stress enough that Mercyhurst is only *one* institution cutting campus-wide while unreasonably compensating highest administrators. Focusing locally is merely intended to illustrate this systemwide trajectory.

Nevertheless, the *Times-News* added that in 2012-2013, Gannon President Keith Taylor “earned \$357,118 ... a 23.6 percent spike.” That's a raise of \$68,226, more than twice the median income of Erie, where citizens are picking up the tax slack from these very institutions.

As Rick Filippi declared in the *Reader* last December, “The amount of money these [nonprofit executives] are being paid is obscene in the sense that they argue they are ‘charitable organizations.’”

Filippi continued, “If the legislature refuses to address this issue, then the City needs to take legal action against these entities to ensure that they are paying their fair share of taxes. Can anyone justify a ‘charity’ paying hundreds of thousand of dollars in ex-

2.18 Nightcrawler

MEDIA PANEL



2014 Crime/Drama/Thriller • Oscar Nominee

Sponsored by Erie Bank

2.25 Ida

2014 Drama • Oscar Nominee

3.04 Mommy

2015 Drama • Independent Spirit Award Nominee

3.11 Pierrot le Fou

FRENCH NEW WAVE
PRE-PARTY!



Crime/Drama/Romance • 50th Anniversary

100th Night of FILM! *Featuring Bertrand's Bistro*

3.18 Champs

BOXING PANEL



2015 Documentary

Sponsored by Port Harbor Homes & Erie Reader

3.25 Happy Valley

FILMMAKER Q&A



2014 Documentary

4.01 Whiplash

"THE MONK'S BREW"
JAZZ PERFORMANCE



2014 Drama/Music • Oscar Nominee

Sponsored by Three B Saloon

4.08 Girlhood

2015 Drama • Sundance Official Selection

4.15 Two Days One Night

2014 Drama • Oscar Nominee

4.22 The Great Invisible

2014 Documentary

Sponsored by Whole Foods Co-op

4.29 White God

2015 Drama • Sundance Official Selection

Sponsored by Club Pet Adoption

at the Erie Art Museum

INDEPENDENT FILM.
EVERY WEDS.
ONLY \$5.

Films @ 7pm • Trailers & Details

filmsocietynwpa.org

"This film series was supported in part by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency."



ecutive compensation when we don't even have enough cops on the streets to prevent violence?"

Meanwhile, according to one employee, Mercyhurst has contracted an executive search firm to pursue their next president, at a retainer fee of \$84,000. That's just the retainer. Generally, it's argued that attracting the best candidates legitimizes these enormous sums – yet another emblem of higher ed's corporatizing.

But while millions are spent on administration, the majority of faculty nationwide are now contingent, adjunct, or non-tenure track, earning salaries below the poverty line – but that's another story for another day in the near future.

What warrants such exorbitant raises on already staggering executive salaries? And

What warrants such exorbitant raises on already staggering executive salaries? And if students are the priority, what justifies underpaying those who actually teach them?

if students are the priority, what justifies underpaying those who actually teach them?

If we want Erie to succeed, we must look realistically at the management of our local universities. We must see these institutions as the businesses that they are, supported considerably by tax dollars for which we're compensating.

In an interview last December in the Reader, Gov. Tom Wolf celebrated the "great universities" and "intellectual capital" that Pennsylvania should take advantage of. He hopes to incentivize innovative "companies and entrepreneurs, who are willing to create good family sustaining jobs in Pennsylvania."

Innovation begins with intellectual stimulation and exposure to diverse perspectives. As Galen Bernick summarized, "The goal of college is to create minds that can break the molds, not perpetuate them, this being character development instead of job training. If everyone is taught the same and that way is inefficient, then colleges are just perpetuating mediocrity."

Our local universities incorporate passionate faculty, selfless staff, and promising students. The passionate faculty, selfless staff, and promising students who comprise our local universities deserve institutions that support incubating creativity, not conformity. It's not as sexy as a winning team, not as sleek as a new building, not as impressive as an executive salary. But maybe it's time we all got our priorities straight.

Katie Chriest can be contacted at kChriest@ErieReader.com.

Geeked Out

Revisiting Your Favorite Videogames of Yesteryear with Speedruns

By: John Lindvay

I was eight years old when *Super Metroid* was released on the Super Nintendo. It was an influential game for me, as it forever changed how I look at games, because after running, jumping, and gunning through the game's massive two-dimensional world, I got to the end of the credits, which ceremoniously – and surprisingly – dropped a completion time in the center of the screen.

Wait... *this was timed? How fast could the game be completed? How fast can I beat it?*

These were the kinds of questions an eight-year-old boy immediately begins asking, as his whole worldview of games comes crashing down because of a clock.

Prior to this moment, games, for me, were mastered by simply completing them. High scores were a concept I was familiar with, but speed? This was completely foreign to me.

This Earth-shattering moment was not a singular incident specific to just me. As it turns out, many people found similar experiences in other games that then led to the desire to see just how fast players could complete their favorite games, which then turned into ritual.

I am now twenty-nine years old and there are handfuls of small Internet-based communities dedicated to this tradition called "Speedrunning."

I first met Dan Fitzgerald through game conventions. He is a game developer living in Chicago, but like any curious gamer in college, he experimented a bit, dabbling in speedrunning.

"Speedrunning is playing a game to some measure of completion as fast as possible," Dan describes. He also adds that, "...perhaps the most familiar kind of speedrun is an RTA (Real Time Attack,) which means the game is played by a human, by hand – also, typically, any exploits that exist in the game as it was released are fair game."

This is an important distinction to make in the speedrunning community: Technology has enabled runners to utilize computer tools to assist them when doing more complicated maneuvers in a game. This performance-enhanced playing via technology – a Tool Assisted Speedrun, or "TAS" – isn't without controversy and is important to keep in mind when either observing or playing.

In essence, though, there are two major types of speedruns: 100 percent and Any-percent. While 100 percent is somewhat self-explanatory, it basically means that a speedrunner beat the game while collecting all the game objects (think: *Super Mario 64* and getting all the Stars as fast as you can).



Any-percent is oftentimes the more exciting, because, as Dan explains, they "...are rife with exploits – sequence breaks, movement glitches, out-of-bounds" and so – all in an effort to simply get to the end credits as fast as possible. A great example of this, according to Dan, is of the classic Nintendo 64 game *Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time*, because while traditionally played this game takes several hours to complete, the world record for Any-percent is 18 minutes.

So what makes a good speedrunning game?

"There is a notion of good and bad speedgames – games that present the right kind of challenge to foster competition between the people who are interested in running it," Dan says. Like some of the most popular games from my youth – *Super Metroid*, *Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time*, and *Super Mario 64*. "I think this has a lot to do with the fact that so many people have a nostalgic attachment to the games, and familiarity gives them a frame of reference to appreciate how impressive (or bizarre) the runs are."

Dan adds that something about games made during the original push from 2D to 3D makes them more laden with exploits and techniques that offer a more interesting spectacle.

And the spectacle is part of the draw.

While there are only handfuls of well-known speedrunners, there is a community that loves to watch these masters at work, reverse engineering the games they love and beating them in ways they never imagined. Dan himself only dabbled in actual running, he admits, but he is much more fascinated in just watching the runners work new routes, find new exploits, or master game techniques.

Games Done Quick (GDQ) is a part of the speedrunning community, and GDQ organizes two events each year – Awesome

Games Done Quick organizes two weeklong events that are streamed on Twitch.tv each year dedicated to the art of speedrunning.

Games Done Quick and Summer Games Done Quick – involving a weeklong Twitch.tv video-streaming marathon of various speedrunners from around the world exercising their craft. Awesome Games Done Quick 2015 ended last month, and "...after 160 hours of speedrunning, the final donation total to the Prevent Cancer Foundation was \$1,575,000."

Yes, \$1.5 million was raised by fans rooting for their favorite runners and watching their favorite games.

GDQ has been doing this for several years now, and regarding one particular event, Dan told me about an awesome *Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time* run that showcases not only the cool exploits found in Any-percent runs, but also an awesome overview of why the community and runners are awesome. Donors raised \$10k to watch Cosmos Wright perform this Any-percent run, and during it, Cosmos goes over the history of the run and the various discoveries that occurred over a decade of players running the *Zelda* game.

So how about it? Any of you ready to go back to your childhood favorite games and see if you can beat it faster than before? Do you remember watching friends play games in the arcade, and a crowd would form as they got farther than anyone before?

Speedrunning rekindles that kind of spectating and also celebrates the games we all love and play, all while building and strengthening the gaming community.

John Lindvay can be contacted at jLindvay@ErieReader.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @FightStrife.

ER Sports

The Similarities and Differences of Former Gannon Basketball Coaches Tom Chapman and Clive Wright

By: James R. LeCorchick

WHILE FLIPPING through the channels recently (Note: I am a professional channel surfer), I came across a hoops encounter featuring Miami (OH) and Ohio University, Miami coached by former Gannon University boss **Clive Wright**. And there are many similarities between him and ex-GU men's mentor **Tom Chapman**. "Chappy" moved to Olean, N.Y., to lead the St. Bonaventure program after an extremely successful tenure with The Golden Knights.

I started wondering how tough it is to go from an ultra-successful Division II coach to a moderately successful Division I boss, the jump being much tougher than I originally thought after viewing the career turns of both Wright and Chapman. While the jury is still out on Coach Wright, looking at both coaches shows how extremely rugged the transition really can be.

GU was the first D-II stop for both coaches and both of them had programs that catapulted The Golden Knights on a yearly basis, Coach Wright with two teams in the Elite Eight and Coach Chapman with a powerful squad that lost to powerful Kentucky Wesleyan in the national championship contest. Also, they were both hired late in the hiring process after great seasons, both decisions catching many fans by surprise as it appeared they were already making plans for the upcoming season.

However, Miami and the Bonnies came-a-calling with a lot of cash in hand and the challenge of running a D-I program, an offer no one as competitive as these coaches could pass up. And name one great coach that doesn't relish a rugged challenge.

First of all, I want the record to show that I thought both these coaches would be huge successes as they were proven winners that I thought could win on any level. Coach Chapman's record speaks for itself, much to utter shock, but I feel there's no doubt Coach Wright will get the RedHawks headed in the right direction. He's just too good of a coach not to.

Chapman went on to post a 22-62 record with the Bonnies in three seasons, after posting outstanding marks at Gannon (120-38) and Division III Upsala (138-31).

I dealt with him a lot, becoming personal friends while he was in Erie, and he was brilliant at building excitement in his program with a flair for the dramatics. He stayed on top of everything and one of his moves I remember the most is he never ran from a question. He enjoyed the tough ones.

I used to do a radio show called "Knights on the Line" following GU games and he never showed up after a win, sending an assistant or two, but he always arrived to answer the callers after a loss. Coach was a genius in deflecting the negative comments and knew it



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



DASANDMANG08T

was his job to face the fans in tough times. The fans loved him.

Resident Golden Knights' hoop authority **Jimmy Roddy**, a former player at GU (1988-92), broadcaster, and the man behind www.GannonHoops.blogspot.com, said this regarding Chapman: "First and foremost, Coach Chapman was an incredible recruiter. He consistently attracted Division I-level talent to Gannon - amazing athletes who played above the rim.

"You rarely saw that in Division II."

Roddy also pointed out, "He was a showman as well. He knew how to press the buttons of the media and the fans. Prior to big playoff games at the Audi, he would walk through the stands and high-five the fans in the bleacher seats, pumping his fists while

saying, 'We need you.'"

Chapman also won over many fans when there would be a long line for tickets days before the game (when the Hammermill was sold out on a regular basis) and he would show up with boxes and boxes of donuts, handing them out to everyone waiting to buy a ducat. The PR genius was also the talk of the town when he showed up in a tuxedo to coach a game at the Tullio Arena.

I don't know what happened in Olean, but it was pure magic in Erie.

Meanwhile, the soft spoken Wright achieved his results in a different way and was just as popular as Chapman as he took the women's program to a level never seen before.

His overall mark at GU was a brilliant 233-

Former Lady Knights Coach Cleve Wright gives instructions at a Gannon practice.

100 as he put The Lady Knights on the national map.

Personally, he was another coach that was great to work with. He seemed to appreciate anything you could do for his program and would let you know his feelings. If I had one word to describe him, I would say, "Sincere."

He's off to a slow start with an overall record of 12-41 at Miami, 8-22 his first season and 4-19 so far this round, but that will change.

Roddy explained, "Cleve was an intense coach but was also a gentleman. How many coaches can you describe as 'friendly' during the season? His personality consistently attracted outstanding student-athletes to the Gannon program."

Also, Roddy added, "If Cleve didn't want to coach basketball, I think he could be a very successful business consultant. The culture he built around the Gannon women's program was world-class.

"He genuinely cared about everyone who helped the program - from the players to everyone sitting at the scorer's table. I know after one season (maybe he did it more often) he sent a personal note to everyone on the stats crew."

I can best describe the difference between Coach Wright and Coach Chapman as this: Coach Wright wanted his student-athletes to know where the classrooms were and Coach Chapman wanted his athlete-students to know where the Hammermill Center was.

This isn't a knock at the former men's coach as he was under a lot of pressure to win more than a women's coach and he was getting paid to win, and that's what he worked to do. GU fans have more patience with their women's coaches and that enabled Cleve to have more leeway when compiling wins and losses.

The fact is: both these men were the right people for their jobs.

TRIVIA TIME - With the recent passing of legendary University of Nevada-Las Vegas basketball coach **Jerry Tarkanian**, do you know who he succeeded? Be honest and try and answer this without the help of modern technology. If you Googled this, you probably cheat in solitaire, also.

Answer in the next edition of the Erie Reader.

CLUE - Psyche! There is no clue.

James R. LeCorchick can be contacted at JRLSportsReport@gmail.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @JRLSports.

Bringing the Medical Field to the Playing Field

The Sports & Orthopedic Medicine Physicians of LECOM

Offering a complete range of orthopedic and sports medicine services for the everyday athlete as well as varsity, college and professional players.



Let Members of the LECOM Family Treat Yours

- Gregory W. Coppola, D.O., Sports & Integrative Medicine
- Patrick F. Leary, D.O., Sports & Integrative Medicine
- Anthony J. Ferretti, D.O., Orthopedic Surgery
- Steven Habusta, D.O., FAOAO, M.Ed., Orthopedic Surgery
- Joshua A. Tuck, D.O., M.S., Orthopedic Surgery
- Christopher Rial, D.O., Sports & Integrative Medicine

LECOM Medical Fitness and Wellness Center
5401 Peach St. | 814.868.7840

Team Physicians For:



The Clinical Practices of LECOM

To find a physician, visit MAErie.org/directory



Choosing the right university can be challenging, but when students visit Edinboro University, they find exactly what they're looking for.

- **High-quality education** in traditional and innovative areas of study
- **Affordable tuition**, with \$4 million in institutional scholarships and awards for the 2014-15 academic year
- **A network of over 65,000 alumni** who are award-winning animators, acclaimed artists, and leaders in education, computer science, business, criminal justice and many other fields

FIND YOUR PLACE AT EU
PLAN YOUR TOUR AT WWW.EDINBORO.EDU/VISIT

EDINBORO UNIVERSITY
edinboro.edu

Richard E. Filippi ATTORNEY AT LAW



- **Personal Injury & Medical Malpractice Law**
- **Workers Compensation & Disability Law**
- **Social Security Disability Claims**

Proudly Serving:
Erie & All Northwestern PA
Including Butler, Warren, Crawford, & Mercer Counties & the Surrounding Communities

Erie County Bar Association
"Pro Bono Attorney of the Year"
2010

Pennsylvania Bar Foundation
"ProBono Attorney of the Year"
2010

In addition to having a well-rounded legal education, Rick Filippi has secured access to serve before the U.S. Court of Appeals (3rd District) and the United States Supreme Court. He also has experience in local politics, having served on Erie's city council from 1998 to 2001. Additionally, he was elected Erie mayor from 2001 to 2005.

Rick has made a career caring for the people, both in politics and in his legal practice. When you have an important legal problem, put Rick's experience to work for you.

504 State St | Erie, PA 16501
814.874.0558
www.rickfilippi.com

GET IN YOUR GAME!

THE CRAZY 8 EIGHTS

GIVEAWAY

Over **\$55,000** in Cash & Prizes

Fridays in February 4pm-10pm

8 Lucky Winners Every Hour on the Hour to Win

\$100 Free Play

1 Lucky Winner Selected Every Hour on the Half-Hour to Win

\$800 Cash

One **Free Entry** Each Friday You Play

One Bonus Entry for Every 500 Points Earned on Fridays

CRACK 'EM EAT 'EM

**GREGG'S
SEAFOOD FEST
BUFFET**

FRIDAY NIGHTS • 4PM-11PM
\$26.99

INCLUB™ DISCOUNTS APPLY

BACKSTRETCH BUFFET

Land & Sea Buffet

\$19.99

SATURDAYS
4pm to 11pm

INCLUB™ discounts apply

CHRIS HIGBEE

AT THE CLUBHOUSE

FEBRUARY 27 & 28
9PM



I-90 Exit 27, Erie PA
presqueisledowns.com
1.866.ERIE.FUN



presque isle
downs & casino



AN ELDORADO RESORTS PROPERTY

If You or Someone You Know
Has a Gambling Problem,
Help is Available.
Call 1-800-GAMBLER.