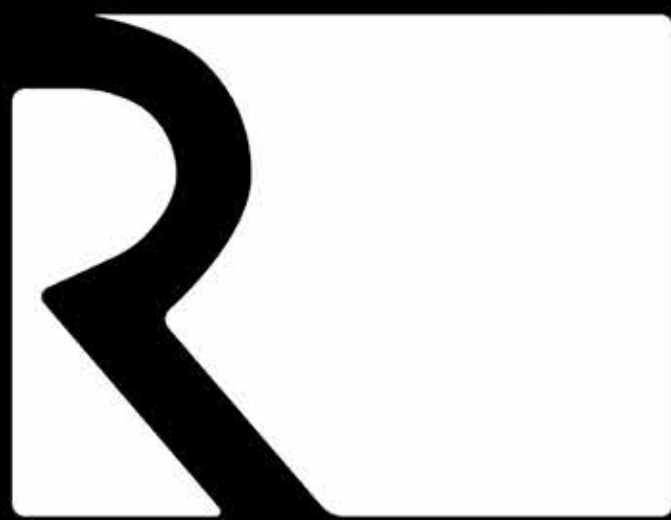


The only local voice for news, arts, and culture

A large, bold, black letter 'R' is set against a white square background. The 'R' is stylized with a thick stroke and a curved top.

ERIE READER

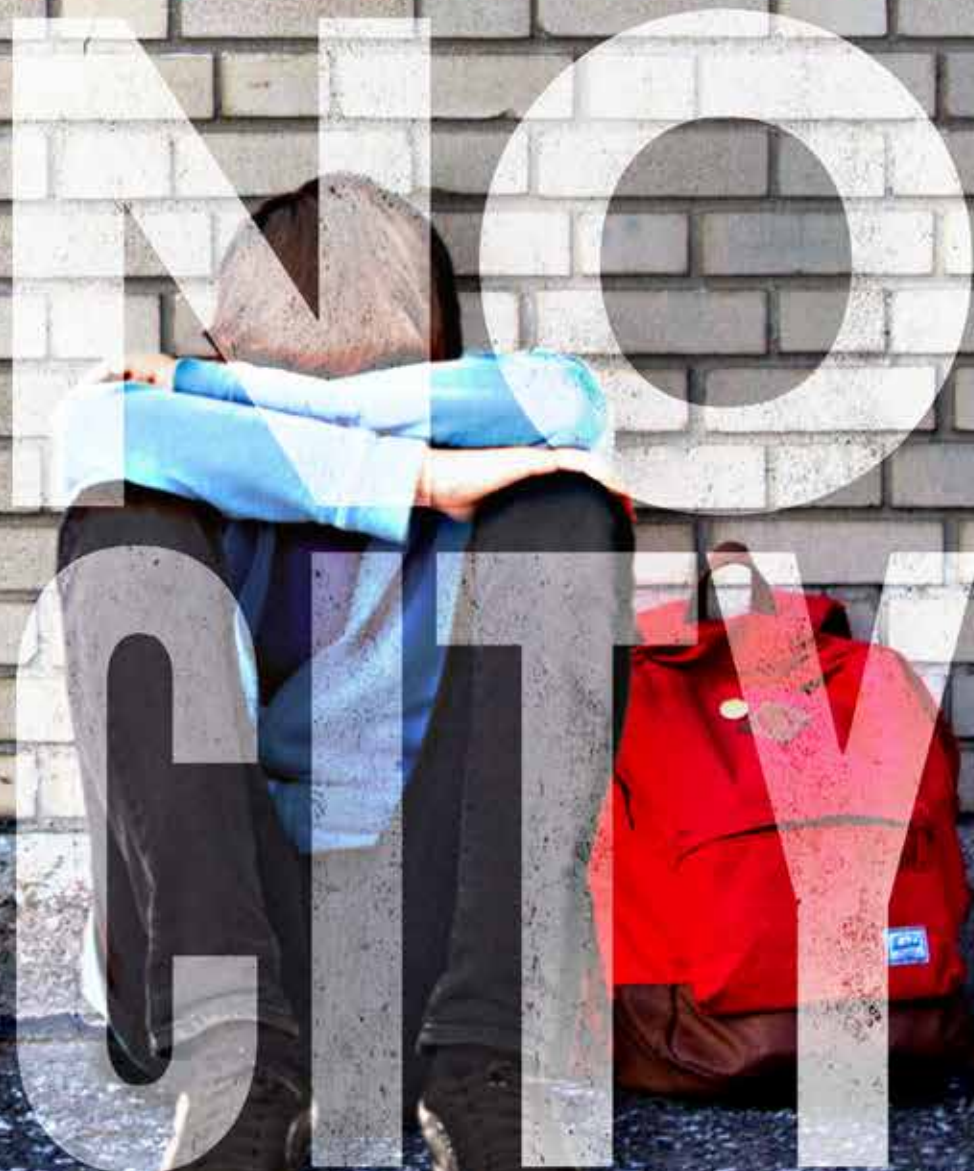
May 25-June 7/Vol. 6, No. 11/ErieReader.com

The words 'NO SCHOOLS' are written in large, bold, red, sans-serif capital letters across the top of a brick wall. The letters are slightly shadowed, giving them a three-dimensional appearance as if they are attached to the wall.

**Is Fracking Coming
to Erie County?**

**Box of Light's
Innovative Mindset**

**Suicide on the Rise
in Our Community**

The words 'NO CITY' are written in large, bold, white, sans-serif capital letters across the middle of the image. A person is sitting on the ground in front of the wall, with their arms crossed and head resting on their hands. They are wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt and dark pants. A red backpack is on the ground next to them. The person is positioned behind the 'NO' and 'CITY' text, making it appear as if they are part of the message.

Drive 25 at Presque Isle | Ribfest
Regional Dance America Festival
Troika Russian Fest | Mid-day Art Break

FREE

**ATHLETIC.
ACADEMIC.
AWESOME.**

**2016 CAMPS
SCHEDULE**

EDINBORO UNIVERSITY
GREAT SCOTS
SUMMER CAMPS

Make the most of your summer with an awesome camp experience at Edinboro University. For costs, details and registration information, visit www.edinboro.edu/camps

JUNE - AUGUST
AT EU MAIN CAMPUS

FIGHTING SCOTS SPORTS CAMPS

*A variety of camps including basketball, football, soccer, swimming, volleyball and wrestling
Camps vary from ages 9-18*

JUNE 20 - JULY 1
AT PORRECO COLLEGE

**BASIS (BORO AUTISM SUPPORT INITIATIVE FOR SUCCESS)
SUMMER COLLEGE ACADEMY**

*Led by Edinboro University's Office for Students with Disabilities, this camp is designed to meet the needs of college exploration and transition for youth with autism who have an interest in attending college after graduation from high school
For students ages 14-17*

JUNE 26-28
WITH OVERNIGHT STAY
AT EU MAIN CAMPUS

DIGITAL MEDIA ACADEMY

*Develop skills in digital editing, studio production, news writing and other areas
For students entering grades 10, 11 and 12*

JUNE 26-30
WITH OVERNIGHT STAY
AT EU MAIN CAMPUS



**XAVIER AND TINA WILLIAMS
SUMMER YOUTH BUSINESS ACADEMY**

*Activities include team building, business strategy, financial planning and more
For students entering grades 9, 10 and 11*

*New camp for 2016: **ROBOTICS, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND DATA SCIENCE***



Choose Excellence. Choose Edinboro. | 888-8GO-BORO | edinboro.edu

 /Edinboro  @Edinboro  @EdinboroU

The local voice for news,
arts, and culture.

Editors-in-Chief:

Brian Graham & Adam Welsh

Managing Editor:

Katie Chriest

Assignment Editor:

Nick Warren

Contributing Editors:

Ben Spегgen

Jim Wertz

Contributors:

Lisa Austin, Civitas

Ed Bernik

Mary Birdsong

Rick Filippi

Tracy Geibel

Lisa Gensheimer

Gregory Greenleaf-Knepp

Brianna Lyle

Dan Schank

Tommy Shannon

Ryan Smith

Ti Sumner

Matt Swanseger

Sara Toth

Bryan Toy

Senator Sean Wiley

Cover Design:

Nick Warren

Photographers:

Ed Bernik

Ryan Smith

Brad Triana

Publisher's Assistant

Emily Hanisek

Intern

Angie Jeffery

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 2010, 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 and 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.

CONTENTS: May 25, 2016

Just a Thought — 4

Eliminating the word "extracurricular"

Erie at Large — 7

No Schools, No City

Is Fracking for Natural Gas Coming to Erie County? — 11

Maybe, but not without a real power struggle.

Harrisburg Happenings — 11

Proposing a moratorium on fracking to protect our Lake Erie watershed

Drive 25 at Presque Isle — 12

It's better for the bikers, better for the turtles, and even better for the drivers.

News of the Weird — 15

Netflix's streaming options just got a lot more meaty.

Box of Light — 19

Creating an innovative mindset in today's knowledge economy

Spotlight on Erie — 23

Here we are now. Entertain us.

Addressing the Rising Number of Suicides in Our Community — 34

A Conversation with Mandy Fauble of UPMC Hamot and Safe Harbor Behavioral Health

A Day in the Life of Kathy Dahlkemper — 36

How healthy leadership drives healthy communities

Erie / Faces / Erie — 38

A look through photographer Ed Bernik's lens

From the Editors

That could never happen here. Right?

When news of the Flint, Michigan water crisis hit nationally, you could almost hear a collective gasp. Coast to coast and at every level, politicians to celebrities to everyday citizens reacted incredulously to the news that a city – an American city – could fail to provide clean water to its citizens. Knowingly.

But not everyone was shocked. Just ask the thousands of Flint residents who'd been enduring declining health, or the parents-turned-activists who'd been speaking out since they first detected something was horribly wrong.

Can the recent announcement from Erie School District Superintendent Jay Badams that Erie must consider closing all four high schools be justifiably compared to the Flint water crisis? Not exactly. But there are parallels.

For example, long-term academic potential is threatened in Flint and Erie. And unless big changes are made, both communities' shrinking tax bases are likely to perpetuate current conditions. Who wants to live in a community that can't – or won't – provide clean drinking water or quality education to its residents?

To cope with our hyper-histrionic news landscape, we've become too quick to embrace dismissiveness. So much bad news, all the time – and yet, we imagine it at a distance.

There are more, certainly. But the most striking parallel is the one that reveals a deep-seated human tendency to ignore the warning signs of collapse.

To cope with our hyper-histrionic news landscape, we've become too quick to embrace dismissiveness. So much bad news, all the time – and yet, we imagine it at a distance.

So somebody tells us that our school district is in imminent danger of imploding – or that fracking (also addressed in this issue) is polluting drinking water, destroying arable land, and creating earthquakes – and we call them Chicken Little.

Obviously, that can't happen here. Obviously, it won't get to that point. Obviously, the sky is not falling.

Until it is.

Buddhist teacher Pema Chödrön describes this very human tendency to not be able to grasp the enormity of what's right in front of us, even when it's grand: "It's as if you were in a spaceship going to the moon, and you looked back at this tiny planet Earth and realized that things were vaster than any mind could conceive and you just couldn't handle it, so you started worrying about what you were going to have for lunch. There you are in outer space with this sense of the world being so vast, and then you bring it all down into this very tiny world of worrying about what's for lunch."

It's not quite possible to wrap our minds around the idea of environmental catastrophe that could destroy our access to clean drinking water, or budgetary catastrophe that could destroy our students' access to high school, or sports, or the arts, or any other extracurricular involvement that might reveal to them who they are.

But as we face today's warnings collectively, we ought to at least give Chicken Little a chance to speak, before making him into our lunch. As a community, our ability to comprehend these possibilities is stronger and more resilient, and comes with an intelligent power to effect change we cannot summon alone.

FINE DIAMONDS

Wedding Bands
For Today's
Lifestyles



**BREAKIRON**
DIAMOND JEWELERS

visit our store
4026 PINE AVENUE
ERIE, PA 16504
814.825.2647

visit us online at
BREAKIRONJEWELERS.COM

NEWS & VIEWS

Just a Thought

Eliminating the word “extracurricular”



PHOTO BY: DOUG KLEIN

By: Katie Chriest

If you happened upon the Blasco Library on Saturday, May 21, you were greeted by a scene that defied virtually every conceivable library stereotype. The Erie Library Comic Con attracted comic culture enthusiasts of all ages. Painted faces, billowing capes, and other colorful costumery made a trip to the fiction section a little redundant.

Embracing imaginative nonconformity has become the norm within the Erie County Public Library system. It's an exemplary model – should we ever need one (and do we ever) – of a forward-thinking, realistically optimistic, community-focused organiza-

tion that prioritizes action over theorizing.

That Saturday, I chatted briefly with the always inspiring Marcy Hall, the library's head of adult services who catalyzes much of its community outreach. She said the library staff is always seeking ways to better serve the Erie area, by – get this – asking people what their needs are and then determining ways to meet them.

Hall also mentioned the recent reality-checking news surrounding Erie's Public Schools. Not surprisingly, library folks are already considering ways in which the library could fill gaps left by potential upheaval.

As we stood there in the

The Erie County Public Library system, and other creative community organizations, might just have the answers to many of the questions plaguing public education today.

Blasco lobby, Hall in her self-created “Danger Bunny” costume, the space swarmed with comic-loving characters. I've never been captivated by comics, but the youthful excitement was contagious.

I couldn't help but think about their return on Monday to school. Would they have outlets for their enthusiasm? Or opportunities to commiserate with like-minded souls?

In other words, were they lucky enough to attend school in a district with ample extracurricular options?

The threat to the arts, athletics, and other extracurriculars is nothing new. But it's rarely hit quite this close to home.

Meanwhile, what I wish we could be discussing would be the elimination of the word “extracurricular.” That students' beyond-classroom interests were valued as much as their test scores. That a magic fairy would come down and wipe out all of their self doubt and worrying that they don't fit in. And also balance the budget.

High school can be a pretty dicey place. It's even less tolerable if a student marches to Thoreau's proverbial different drum.

Connecting students' out-of-school interests to their educational life validates them. Unfortunately, what often gets trotted out as justification for keeping extracurricular programs is something about how

they improve test scores, or critical thinking, or earning potential, or college acceptance rates.

All are highly valuable outcomes. Obviously. But why can't it be enough that these programs are often where students find the approval and sense of belonging we all need as members of this diverse human tribe? That they provide students priceless pleasures and joy? That they give students reasons for living? Growing up in this challenging world, students need as many of those as they can get.

Where's that magic fairy?

As we keep the dialog going about the state our

What I wish we could be discussing would be the elimination of the word “extracurricular.” That students' beyond-classroom interests were valued as much as their test scores.

schools are in, let's talk just as much about the way we can strengthen students' access to the activities they love. The Erie area is full of organizations creating space for all sorts of students. They can't solve this crisis any more than a magic fairy could. But they teach students who they are, and what makes their lives worthwhile. There's nothing extracurricular about that.

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

DOWNLOAD. DOWNTOWN.

From live music and sporting events to shops, restaurants and more, see what makes Downtown Erie so extraordinary.



Download the [Hello Erie app](#) and click on [Hello Downtown](#) or visit [ErieDowntown.com](#) today.



Developing Plans, Programs and Resources for a Better Downtown.



MOVE, EHCA's licensed program for adults with intellectual disabilities, offers engaging opportunities for creative expression and community involvement. Located at 4950 West 23rd Street in Millcreek, **MOVE** provides meaningful weekday options for adults with disabilities and additional peace of mind for their families.

Come in for a tour!



Erie Homes for Children and Adults

814-315-1901

www.ehca.org

NOW SERVING ERIE PENNSYLVANIA



HITCH BAIL ²⁴⁻⁷ BONDS

www.hitchmanbailbonds.com

FIND US ON

419-522-5245



- Criminal
- DUI
- Divorce
- Custody
- Personal Injury

Kenneth A. Bickel, Esq.
Bickel Law Office 557
West 8th Street
Erie, PA 16502

• **FREE CONSULTATIONS** •



My one reason?
To show I care about my community.

Find out how becoming a plasma donor can make a difference for patients and help you earn extra money.

Earn up to **\$150** in one week.



Biommat USA

(814) 835-6826

2717 W 26th St / Erie, PA 16506

grifolsplasma.com



GRIFOLS

Pride for Donors. Passion for Patients.



Loft Style Living

Located conveniently downtown!

**LOVELL
PLACE**

Starting at \$685
On-Site Fitness Center
Off-Street Parking

153 East 13th St., Suite 1200, Erie, PA 16503
www.lovellplace.com - 814.217.9250



Why choose a **LECOM Health** doctor?

Our Integrative and Lifestyle physicians can treat your pain *without* harmful medications

Garrett Clark, DO
Marguerite Evanoff-Jurkovic, DO
Gregory W. Coppola, DO
Jan Hendryx, DO

These integrative and lifestyle medicine specialists provide medication-free pain management through osteopathic treatment, acupuncture, and other non-medication treatments.

Call (814) 868-2179 to schedule your appointment.

LECOM Health doctors. Choose one today to join a health system that will focus on your overall wellness for life. Visit LECOMHealth.com/physicians

LECOM HEALTH
MEDICAL ASSOCIATES OF ERIE

LECOM Medical Fitness and Wellness Center
5401 Peach Street, Erie, PA

DAHLKEMPER'S



CELEBRATING 60 YEARS ❖ 3 GENERATIONS

60 % OFF SELECT ENGAGEMENT & ANNIVERSARY RINGS

6845 PEACH STREET ❖ (814) 868-1910



STAY CONNECTED



Best Kept Secret in Girard!
Heartland Inn & Cafe

Enter Heartland Inn & Cafe and you are entering an era that time forgot. A plethora of Victorian decor delights your vision as you go back in time to early 1900's to a time when ornamentation was an indication of your wealth and place in society.

Reserve rooms now

- Wedding Party & Guests
- Reunions
- Girl's Weekend
- Romantic Getaway
- Father's Day
- Summer Vacations

Whatever your occasion. Heartland Inn is the perfect destination! Unique, affordable and located near area attractions

Large Banquet Room available with catering! Book your next party or meeting with us today!

9101 Ridge Road, Girard PA • 814-774-0344 • www.heartlandinnandcafe.com

Erie at Large

No Schools, No City



Perhaps the greatest revelation to arise from our current crisis came when Badams announced he might close Erie's four high schools. This would include Collegiate Academy, pictured here, which boasts a 100 percent four-year college acceptance rate and a nationwide ranking in the top 1 percent.

ron? Sure. Could we blame local government for not doing enough to keep and leverage property taxpaying citizens within the city limits over the last four decades? Absolutely. Could we blame the electorate who pays little attention to candidates for their local school board; and in doing so, give the school board a mandate to manage taxation rather than school administration? Yes.

But we've lost control of our ability to change these circumstances for the better in our immediate future.

Serenity now.

Perhaps the most disheartening trend in education-centered, blame-laden discourse is the unrelenting assault on public school teachers and students. There's little doubt that education trolls have never managed a classroom of 30 adolescents, many of whom suffer from behavioral problems teachers were not trained to address, or educational lags that take specialized one-on-one instruction to render a student grade level.

Furthermore, how many of these critics buy their own office supplies or spend countless hours preparing for a day's work well in advance of actually teaching a lesson? Comments on social media disparaging teachers for earning a living wage and blaming students for social problems throughout the city – in and out of the schools – do nothing to resolve this financial crisis.

Badams says that rising pension costs and salary increases

By: Jim Wertz

The recent news that the superintendent of Erie's Public Schools must consider closing the city's four high schools to meet a fiduciary duty to the Commonwealth has left the community in a state of panic. Closing the city's high schools would mean that the community loses a vital resource for basic employment skills training, direct contact with at-risk youth, and social services that are close to the homes of school-aged kids.

Granted, it's the nuclear option. But if it's carried out, the schools will be the least of what we've lost.

The crisis for the school district began when it realized and affirmed through outside auditors that it had done everything within its power to

right its financial ship. Yet it finds itself more than \$4 million over budget in the next fiscal year.

Pennsylvania law requires school districts to submit balanced budgets to the state by June 30. But in many districts, balanced budgets are the stuff of legend. That's because the realities of maintaining a school district rarely fall within the neat confines of budget lines created by school boards, dabbling in black magic to satisfy red tape bureaucrats who have little or no experience with education or balanced budgets. Most schools find it difficult to abide by the budgets they've submitted and are ultimately left saddled with debt, not unlike the \$26 million shortfall the Erie School District faced just five years ago.

Since that time, district offi-

cials have closed schools, limited programs for students, and delayed investments in essential resources from textbooks to technology, all to the

Comments on social media disparaging teachers for earning a living wage and blaming students for social problems throughout the city – in and out of the schools – do nothing to resolve this financial crisis.

detriment of its more than 12,000 students and ultimately the entire community. Poverty in schools is more widespread than ever before, class sizes

are larger than ever before, and students are coming to school less prepared than ever before as a result of experiences that extend far beyond the school grounds.

Erie's schools simply lack the staff and programs required to deal with these realities. But if the schools are open, at least the students who attend have a safe haven and a hot meal. Without those guarantees, many of them have little else to count on.

The Fault Line

Looking for someone to blame during a crisis like this is reflexive. It makes us feel better, but it does little to solve the problems we face. Could we blame Superintendent Jay Badams' predecessor, Jim Barker, for leaving the district with great public relations but financial records that rival En-

BRAD TRIANA

burden the district, but he's never said that the retirees should be stripped of their benefits or that teachers don't deserve the raise. There's an important distinction to be made between the cost of doing business and that which taxes the district.

For example, payments to local for-profit charter schools that receive a share of public funds directly from Erie's Public Schools cost the district more than \$85 million between 2008 and 2014. To make matters worse, former Gov. Tom Corbett cut charter school reimbursements to public school districts in 2011, while tuition payments to the local charter schools continued. Once reimbursements to the district were cut, financial ruin was all but guaranteed.

The economic strain of charter school payments is only exacerbated by the fact that Erie's Public Schools have long been underfunded by the Commonwealth. As Badams has explained many times in the past few years, the funding formula in Pennsylvania, or lack thereof, means that the district operates at approximately \$3,000 less per student than most school districts around the region and across the state. It's not a problem unique to Erie, but it is a problem that disproportionately affects high-poverty school districts.

Erie's Public Schools is a model high-poverty district. More than 80 percent of students in the district live in poverty and some individual schools have rates of children living in poverty greater than 90 percent.

In a single classroom of 30 students, the district operates at a funding gap of \$90,000.

The High Costs of Poor Education

In many ways, public schools have always been underfunded in Pennsylvania. The Free Schools Act of 1834 required school districts to raise two dollars from local taxes for every dollar it received from the state. This created massive inequality in school funding. Small rural communities received almost no money from the state because they had no way of generating local tax revenue.

More than a century later, the legislature passed a law requiring the Commonwealth to pay 50 percent of the cost of public education. That was in 1965, and the state rarely met its commitment. It did fund public education at 55 percent in 1974. But every year af-

ter that, funding for public education decreased before reaching an all-time low of 36 percent in 2006.

That same year, the legislature commissioned what is known as the "Costing-out Study," which concluded that school districts should be funded based on a formula favoring districts that are larger, poorer, and have higher property taxes. The formula was supposed to be implemented in 2008, but it has never been fully funded. And so-called "reformers" have questioned the weighting system used to assign funds to at-risk districts and wondered if students couldn't be "adequately" educated for less.

Just last year, a bipartisan Basic Education Funding Commission recommended a fair funding formula which would put Pennsylvania back in step with the other 92 percent of the na-

tions in manufacturing plants. For those who excelled, their education would include accounting and clerical skills to fill the white-collar positions at corporate institutions.

The high school was born and more children were added to a system that was publicly supported but poorly funded.

Your School or Mine?

Perhaps the greatest revelation to arise from our current crisis came when Badams announced he might close Erie's four high schools, which serve more than 3,000 students, because he can. That's right. He can.

Effectively, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania does not require school districts to provide education past age – wait for it – 14.

Instead, Erie's Public Schools could pay to have its high school students

entrenched.

Ironically, many of the people who oppose city kids bussing their way to the suburbs were probably proponents of school choice not more than a decade ago. "I should be able to send my kids to any school I choose," the mantra goes.

Now they're willing to publicly malign kids who haven't a say in the matter in order to defend their turf.

Let's hope that anger is quickly replaced by understanding. I'm not overly optimistic.

Nevertheless, it may not come to that. As expressed in the lede, this is Jay Badams' nuclear option.

That's why he offered an alternative on May 18 at a public meeting of the Erie School Board. Badams urged the Board *not* to balance the budget by June 30 as it is required to do by law. Closing the more than \$4 million gap would require cutting athletic programs, arts and music programs, and closing at least one high school, among other significant cost-cutting measures. The aftermath of such cuts is not something from which the district or the city would soon recover.

Others in the community have publicly urged Badams to reconsider this approach. They'd rather he and the board "technically conform with the law" while they continue to seek ways to fund the district. But conforming with the law is a fool's errand that does little more than validate the Commonwealth's broken method for funding education.

Without a doubt, if Badams and the School Board fail to comply with the law, there are likely to be consequences. But the fight for fair funding has gone on long enough and the legislature is derelict in its duty to the citizens of the Commonwealth.

Passing a budget with a \$4 million shortfall (or more) would be an act of civil disobedience that would be both courageous and principled. The battle that would ensue between the district and the state would spare the nuclear option and spark a dialogue placing Erie and communities like it on the right side of a national conversation about the future of education.

We've played by their rules long enough. It's time to change the game.

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

Passing a budget with a \$4 million shortfall (or more) would be an act of civil disobedience that would be both courageous and principled. The battle that would ensue would spark a dialogue placing Erie and communities like it on the right side of a national conversation about the future of education.

tion that uses a structured funding formula to disperse money for education. To date, the legislature has yet to take action on the recommendation, instead offering a compromise that does little to save districts like Erie's Public Schools.

Educating children has been a cornerstone of democratic society. It's one of the many ways in which the United States separated itself from other nations in its infancy and throughout the Industrial Revolution. Beginning in the late 19th century, true educational reformers of the Progressive Era emphasized the importance of continuing to educate children after 14, the arbitrary age at which young men were theoretically strong enough to perform manual labor in an agricultural society.

As America moved toward its industrial future, children needed more time in school because it prepared them, at the very least, for the assem-

enroll in surrounding districts, where students would have access to textbooks that include the collapse of the nation's financial markets and the election of Barack Obama among recent historical events. They'd also have access to athletic teams that practice on lined fields and tracks, and classroom technology that's not the electronic equivalent of an AMC Hornet.

The notion that such a move might become reality has brought out the best in many Erie County parents.

Not really.

Social media comment feeds on the live streams of Erie School Board meetings and a video posted by the Erie School District outlining the challenges it now faces were, in some cases, hate-filled; and reminiscent of the white reaction to court mandated school desegregation in Boston in the 1970s, which was the culmination of misplaced populism and the rise of the conservative era in which we are now

KEEP HEATING & COOLING

PRE SEASON AIR CONDITIONING SALE

Don't delay, call now to get Central Air installed at the lowest prices of the year! SAVE NOW!

CALL NOW!
FOR A FREE ESTIMATE
459-8255
PA0005218 NOW BOOKING SPRING A/C MAINTENANCE

STARTING AT JUST \$43⁰⁰ PER MONTH




Mel & Tee's
Secondhand & Estate Sales

1510 West 32nd St. Erie, PA 16508
(814) 881-7724

Tuesday - Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Now Booking Estate Sales & Moving Sales for June

Pictures on estatesales.net

Put some spring in your step at
SECOND HAND ROSE
CONSIGNMENTS

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

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



MOVING & ESTATE SALES

Paws 'n Claws

Pet Resort | Play Care | Styling S'paw

Paws 'n Claws PlayCare & Styling S'paw offers the City of Erie's only overnight boarding facility!

ASK FOR A TOUR! We give personal tours anytime during our hours of operation!

All PlayCare & Boarding Attendants at Paws'n Claws in Erie are Vet Assistants!

Our staff are dedicated to keeping your pets safe & happy!



Boarding for the quiet, calmer dog

1530 West 26th Street * 814.456.7297 * www.PawsNClawsPetResort.com

All Natural Holistic Pet Foods FOR CATS AND DOGS



- USDA inspected
- No by-products
- Human grade protein
- No artificial ingredients
- Grain free or whole grain only
- No fillers



1932 Parade St. Erie, PA 16503

www.nickelplatemills.net  Like us on Facebook



25% OFF 1 ITEM

Clothing, Jewelry, Incense, Oils

earthshine company
118 Meadville St.
Downtown Edinboro
814.734.5858
Open 7 Days a Week!

1 Item per coupon, consignment items excluded Expires 06/08/2016



Beachcomber

Lake Erie Beach Glass & Treasure Boutique



Local Artists
Custom Made Jewellery
Genuine Lake Erie Beach Glass
Beach Decor and Vintage goods



3445 W. 12th St.
Erie, PA 16505
814.823.9188

Claudine's Consignment



Furniture • Decor • Jewelry

www.claudinesconsignment.com

2208 West 8th Street
Erie, PA 16505
(814) 520-8055

Hours:
Mon-Fri: 10am-6pm
Sat 10am-5pm

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



15% OFF

Min. \$50 purchase of any reg. priced item. Not valid with any other offers or specials. Expires 6/08/2016

Our free gait analysis will help you find the shoe that's right for you!

the ultimate medical & technical running & walking shop
Running & Walking Shoes • Apparel • Accessories
We actually fit you for shoes!

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

GIVE HIM THE GIFT OF RELAXATION

Father's Day Spa Specials



Fathers Day is a day to say "Thank You" for the love & support your father has given you over the years. Treat your remarkable man to a day of relaxation at the Spa at LECOM with any of these special spa packages or with a Gift Card.

Gentleman's Escape

\$65

- 60 Minute Gentleman's Facial



Man of the Hour

\$70

- 30 Minute Swedish Massage
- Express Facial

Sports Dad

\$85

- 60 Minute Sports Massage
- Spa Buff Pedicure



Mr. Smooth Operator

Select from any of the listed waxing services & save 10%

- Chest & Abs
- Upper Back & Shoulders
- Full Back
- Eyebrows

Offer expires June 20, 2016. Cannot be combined with any other offer.

The *Spa*

at L|E|C|O|M

The John M. & Silvia Ferretti
Medical Fitness & Wellness Center

814.868.7800
www.lecomwellness.com

5401 Peach Street
Erie, PA 16509

Is Fracking for Natural Gas Coming to Erie County?

Maybe, but not without a real power struggle.



US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

For a variety of reasons explored in the two pieces on this page, the Lake Erie watershed region has been free of fracking-related scenes like this one. But all that could change, and soon.

nia it was used in the Marcellus shale layer to extract a thousand times more natural gas per well than could be extracted from a vertical well.

But to frack even 5,000 feet of horizontal shale, about 5 million gallons of water are needed, along with sand and special proprietary lubricating chemicals. When the fracking pumps are turned off, the gas and over a million gallons of the fracking fluid come gushing back up, contaminated with toxic minerals and carcinogenic vapors. This hazardous wastewater must be contained and shipped by truck to a legal disposal site.

This new unconventional drilling – called “fracking” for short – rapidly became popular here in Pennsylvania because of our abundance of Marcellus shale. There are presently 15,786 of these wells with DEP permits in our state. This has resulted in a glut of natural gas, and prices have fallen by over 50 percent. Some producers are now capping new wells until the prices recover to pre-fracking levels. When that happens, the floodgates will open, and Erie County will see an invasion of frackers. Which brings us back to the question: “Is fracking for natural gas coming to Erie County?”

The following are some “Yes” signs:

- Erie County geology shows abundant Utica shale at a depth of about 6,000 feet with a thickness of 200 to 400 feet, very favorable for horizontal drilling and fracking.

- The U.S. Department of Energy is developing a huge system of new pipelines, natural gas processing stations, and export terminals that convert natural gas to Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) for shipping overseas.

- The conversion of coal-burning power plants to natural gas fuel is being encouraged to help comply with the Clean Air Act and to reduce CO₂ emissions.

- Natural gas production drilling operations are **[Cont. on page 32]**

is needed, because the shale layer is usually only about 40 feet thick.

However, in 2004, an innovative new drilling technology was invented which allows the drillers to steer the drill head when it reaches the shale layer, and to then drill horizon-

Some producers are now capping new wells until the prices recover to pre-fracking levels. When that happens, the floodgates will open, and Erie County will see an invasion of frackers.

tally – not for just a few feet as with vertical drilling; but for thousands of feet, even miles, following the shale layer.

This technique was dubbed “Unconventional Horizontal Hydraulic Fracturing,” and here in Pennsylva-

By: Sam Miller

Gov. Tom Wolf says that fracking is coming, and that it can be done safely. Environmental groups say that it is not safe for people, animals, or the environment, and *fear* its arrival. World leaders say that it must stop, because the future of life on our planet depends on it.

Just what is fracking, anyway? It comes from the word “fracturing,” as used in drilling for natural gas in shale layers. Fracturing has been used by drillers for about 80 years now, in vertically drilled wells, to increase the amount of gas released.

When the drilling tube reaches the shale layer, a mixture of sand and water is hydraulically pumped into the shale under very high pressure, breaking up the shale. When the pumps are turned off, the sand helps to hold the cracks in the shale open, releasing the gas to flow back up the well pipe. For vertical wells, only a few hundred gallons of water

Harrisburg Happenings

Proposing a moratorium on fracking to protect our Lake Erie watershed

By: Senator Sean Wiley

May has proven to be an interesting month in the General Assembly and here at home. The countdown to the Commonwealth budget deadline has begun; and in a move surprising to some, the Governor has indicated that there will be a different person leading the charge to negotiate in good faith with the members of the Senate and the House.

Wolf administration Chief of Staff Mary Isenhour will chart the course this cycle, brokering the necessary covenants to potentially avoid the pitfalls of recent history. Here's to

We've spent millions of dollars in Presque Isle Bay to finally earn an EPA de-listed status. It is irresponsible to minimize potential contamination of fresh water from fracking.

a cautiously optimistic thought that this will stave off an impasse and nudge the General Assembly to make responsible investments in our Commonwealth, learning from past mistakes.

On the local front, the Senate Democratic Policy Committee held a hearing at my request to discuss Unconventional Horizontal Hydraulic Fracturing, or fracking, in the Lake Erie watershed. In the first week of May, almost 100 people filled the Hirt Auditorium of the Blasco Library where testimony was provided specific to the health and environmental impacts of fracking.

Erie County has no fracking for a host of reasons, including industry downturn, commodity prices, type of shale under our feet, etc. All of those things do *not* make this a moot point, however. Like all market-driven products, the **[Cont. on page 37]**

Drive 25 at Presque Isle

It's better for the bikers, better for the turtles, and even better for the drivers.



DAVEYMIN

The 25 mph speed limit at Presque Isle State Park is not new this year, but the emphasis on and attention to driving 25 is.

In other words, the time to pack the charcoal and Frisbee and head down to one of the country's most beautiful and unique water-fringed state parks has arrived.

Neither the preparation for park visits nor the 25 mph speed limit is new this year, but the emphasis on and attention to driving 25 is.

The Drive 25 initiative began in the fall of 2015 when Carla Orlando, DMD and wife of an avid cyclist, started thinking about ways to improve safety at Presque Isle.

"I grew up with tremendous respect for the park as an ecological preserve," Orlando stated. "My grandfather was a custodian of Presque Isle. I wanted to increase public awareness about safety without peppering the park with

more signs."

Enlisting the help of elected officials, cyclists, and graphic artist Meranda Moser, Orlando developed the idea of the Drive 25 initiative to help all park visitors associate decreased vehicular speed with increased safety for wildlife, cyclists, and pedestrians. Moser developed a logo of a turtle superimposed with Drive 25 to emphasize the park's speed limit and to remind motorists of the ecological fragility of the park.

"Our hope with the turtle logo is that visitors will remember and respect the park as a natural habitat to hundreds of species of wildlife," Orlando said.

"Over two million visitors will come to Presque Isle between the two [summer] holidays," said Mathew Greene, Park Operations Manager, PI State Park. "We are hoping that the [Drive 25] information we are getting out will have more of an impact on speed this

By: **Ti Sumner**

Spring has been slow to bloom this year, but cracked robin eggs and relentlessly growing grass blades

show us it is indeed time to strap the kayak racks to the Subaru. Time to replace those awful, frayed beach blankets or invest in that shiny hybrid bike ideal for Presque Isle (PI) roundabouts.

Presque Isle Gallery & Gifts



Open daily
10:00-5:00



Stop in and check out our Gallery • featuring Presque Isle artwork
Located at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center • 814.836.9107

NOW OPEN

Mel's Pot Shop

POTTERY GALLERY & STUDIO

One-Day Classes
Four-Week Sessions
Group Nights
Kids Summer Camps

Come visit us on 12th Street,
Across from the Airport, Facebook,
melspotshop.com or 814-838-POTS



90.5 WERG

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

year.”

According to Greene, information regarding Drive 25 and park safety will be posted on park bulletin boards, the park entrance banner, and the VisitErie and Presque Isle Partnership websites.

“There is a misunderstanding about Pennsylvania bicycle law and what Share-the-Lane means,” Greene continued. “We want to get the correct in-

By law, motorists are required to leave a 4-foot clearance around cyclists at all times, including when passing, which means that passing in the other lane is the best option.

formation out to the broad public and get everyone thinking about safety.”

By law, motorists are required to leave a 4-foot clearance around cyclists

at all times, including when passing, which means that passing in the other lane is the best option. Likewise, cyclists should remember their responsibilities as riders: Look both ways when crossing crosswalks, use the road when traveling at speeds greater than 5 mph, and when using the road, follow vehicular driving laws.

“My wife and I are active at the park year-round,” said State Representative Pat Harkins, who took part in Orlando’s safety mission from the start. “We want everyone to enjoy Presque Isle – just slow down a little bit and make it a safe experience for all.”

This summer, when packing the kite for Sunset Beach or the cooler for Beach 11, remember that taking an extra few minutes to arrive will not negatively impact the course of the day, but injury to a cyclist or any of the park’s wildlife will. Plan for all aspects of the day, including the leisurely drive to the destination. Choose to Drive 25.

Ti Sumner can be reached at tsumner@ErieReader.com

Do Your Business Cards Need some Spring Cleaning?

250 Business Cards

for **\$29.50**



Need More?

Add 250 of same design for only **\$10.00**

AVAILABLE ONLY FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2016

DETAILS: 2 Sided Full Color Glossy, 16 pt. Cover. 4-5 day turn around. *Some Graphics fees may apply.

Go Ask Alice!

Presque Isle Printing Services



814-833-9020

4318 W. Ridge Road
Erie, PA 16506

“For All Your Small Business & Personal Printing Needs”

www.presqueisleprinting.com [f](#) [t](#) @GoAskAlice08

Give us the keys and we'll give you a CHECK!



Walnut Creek Auto Sales

(814) 323-7544

6345 W. Ridge Rd. Erie, PA 16506

& U FRAME IT the poster annex
Erie's Most Unique Framing Gallery



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

Liege
BARRE & POLE FITNESS BOUTIQUE

BARRE MADE

#BELIEGE

4642 West 12th Street Suite 1 Erie PA 16505 • liegebarreandpole.com • (814) 431-9631

DO YOU HAVE THE STYLE?

CREATE YOUR FUTURE AS A COSMETOLOGIST

FORTIS has the programs to guide you toward a rewarding career. In addition to Cosmetology, program offerings also include:

Nursing • Medical/Dental • Skilled Trades
Business • Criminal Justice

855.445.3276
FORTIS.EDU

FORTIS
IGNITE YOUR FUTURE

FORTIS INSTITUTE • 5757 WEST 26TH STREET, ERIE, PA 16506

Financial Aid Available for those who qualify. Career Placement Assistance for All Graduates. ABHES Accredited. For consumer information, visit Fortis.edu.



the bhakta school of transformation
DEVOTED TO LASTING INNER PEACE

Come Join Us! Act Now. Feel Great!

Kirtan & A Quiet Mind, May 25th, 7-8:30pm.

Community Saturday, June 25th, 10am-1pm

Learn About The Healing Power of Herbs.

**Raffle! Attend to Win a Free 90-minute healing session!

More info at BhaktaSchool.org (814) 636-0104

ROCKET 101

WIN MOJO'S MOTORCYCLE

QUALIFY WEEKDAYS @

7A, 8A & 9A



LAKEVIEWRESALE
WHERE WINNERS BUY

SOMEONE WILL WIN A
HARLEY DAVIDSON SUPER
GLIDE WITH EVOLUTION
ENGINE ...AND A
TON OF
CHROME!



INFO @ 100.9 FM



Save with Club CITGO!

Text "JOIN" to 77486 or visit
CLUBCITGO.COM

COUNTRY FAIR



Available on the
App Store



ANDROID APP ON
Google play

News of the Weird

Netflix's streaming options just got a lot more meaty.

By: Chuck Shepherd

Medical Milestone

Researchers at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign announced they had recently (a first, they claimed) transmitted high-speed digital data through slabs of pork loin and beef liver. The signal cleared the muscle and gristle so cleanly that it permitted streaming of high-definition video enough to watch Netflix, said the lead researcher. (Actually, the advance is crucial in that it allows a patient to swallow a transmitter and for physicians to monitor inner workings of the body in real time and externally control implanted devices such as cranial sensors and defibrillators.) [Engineering at Illinois press release, 4-18-2016]

Can't Possibly Be True

Religious leaders associated with the "quiverfull" ministry announced intentions for a November retreat this year in Wichita, Kansas, at which parents will meet to plan "arranged" Christian marriages for their prepubescent daughters, to maximize the future couples' childbearing potential supposedly the No. 1 priority of all females. Quiverfull

activist Vaughn Ohlman has written that female fertility is optimal during their teens (actually, just after age 12) and drops off in their 20s. The local district attorney, queried by The Wichita Eagle, said such marriages are legal as long as all parties consent but Ohlman has maintained that the Bible does not require the bride's consent if her father has given his. [Wichita Eagle, 5-5-2016]

Apparently, Japanese taste buds easily become bored, for manufacturers seem eager to create extravagant food combinations to satisfy them that might prove daunting to most Americans. The latest exhibit: the familiar Kit Kat chocolate-coated wafer but with the taste of ripe melon and cheese (specifically, "Hokkaido Melon With Mascarpone Cheese"). As Japanese foodies know, Kit Kats in Japan come in at least 15 coatings, according to a 2013 review by Kotaku.com, including Edamame Soybean, Purple Sweet Potato, Hot Japanese Chili, Matcha-Green Tea, Wasabi and Red Bean Sandwich. [London Daily Mirror, 5-2-2016] [Kotaku.com, 2-11-2013]

The Daily Pakistan newspaper, covering the An-

ti-Terrorism Court in Karachi in April, reported that a judge in Courtroom III asked a constable if he knew how the grenade entered into evidence worked. Rather than assume that an explanation was requested, the constable pulled the pin to demonstrate, and the resulting explosion injured the constable, a court clerk and another police officer. The constable is said to be facing severe discipline as soon as he recovers. [Daily Pakistan, 4-11-2016]

Latest Religious Messages

Great Britain's prisoners claiming to be adherents of the ancient Celtic pagan religion are allowed, under rules from the National Offender Management Services, to be excused from jailhouse routines to celebrate four festivals, including (of course) the Festival of the Lactating Sheep. Although "Skyclad," or naked worship, is forbidden, prisoners can wear the silver pagan ring (to avoid "distress") and are permitted their own chalices, crystals, "worry beads," pentagram necklaces, hoodless robes and flexible twig-wands. [Daily Express (London), 4-14-2016]

An Israeli man (unidentified in press reports) petitioned the Haifa Mag-

istrate's Court recently for a restraining order against God, pointing out that the Almighty has exhibited (according to a May Times of Israel report) "a seriously negative attitude toward him," especially over the previous three years. The judge rejected the petition even though God was not present to argue against it (or at least His presence could not be detected). [Times of Israel, 5-4-2016]

Parental Values

In the latest ruling on a familiar theme, a court in Modena, Italy, ordered a father to continue paying living expenses for his son, age 28, who had meandered through a degree in literature but now has decided to seek another, in experimental cinema. (Almost two-thirds of Italians aged 18 to 34 still live with their parents.) (2) In Beijing, an elderly couple secured a court order in March forcing their 36-year-old daughter finally to move out after she had refused for years. The couple admitted to the Beijing Morning Post that they might have pampered her excessively over the years, even lending her the equivalent of \$23,000 to buy a house. (Still, she stayed.) [Daily Telegraph (London), 4-27-2016] [Shanghaiist.com, 3-30-2016]

New World Order

Gynecologists interviewed by The New York Times for an April report said they were baffled by the recent increase in teenage girls demanding cosmetic surgery on the external folds of their vulvas since there is rarely a medical need and the safety of the operation on young girls has not been demonstrated. Some doctors called the "need" just an extreme example of teen girls' beauty obsessions and suggested the presence in some girls of the psychiatric malady of "body dysmorphic disorder," in which a person imagines or exaggerates a physical characteristic. (The phenomenon is different from the "vaginal rejuvenation" requested by older women, especially after childbirth, because that involves tightening internal tissue.) [New York Times, 4-26-2016]

Texas School Blues

Houston's KHOU-TV revealed in May that the French teacher at the Houston school district's Energy Institute High School doesn't speak French (but did take one year of it, in high school). (2) The Sheldon school district near Houston admitted in May that a 7-year-old student at Sheldon Elemen-



SAVE BIG & HAVE FUN THIS SUMMER

ULTIMATE GIFT CARD SALE

15% OFF



NOW thru **MAY 31st**



BUY ONLINE AT ULTIMATEGIFTCARD.net
OR AT ANY LOCATIONS ON THE CARD.

ERIE, PA | MEADVILLE, PA | WARREN, PA | CLYMER, NY

NEWS & VIEWS

tary had written her own successful "please excuse Rosabella early" note (using lettering typical of 7-year-olds) and was allowed to go home instead of attending her after-school program. (3) School police at Christa McAuliffe Middle School in Houston threatened to arrest a 13-year-old girl during the last school year because they were unaware that the girl's \$2 bill (cafeteria payment) was valid U.S. currency. [KHOU-TV, 5-3-2016] [KTRK-TV (Houston), 5-3-2016]

Police Reports

In April, police in Brighton, Ontario, responded to what was reported by neighbors as a domestic dispute, involving shrieks like, "I hope you die!" They found only a man "arguing" with his pet parrot (who the man said was "beaking off" at him). No arrests were made. (2) Kayvon Mavaddat, 28, was arrested in Natick, Massachusetts, as police enforced three arrest warrants. He had been on the loose until May 6, when he politely (inadvisedly) held open a door at Natick Mall for a police officer who, in that brief moment, thought he recognized Mavaddat. Checking his cruiser's computer, he found the warrants, went back inside and arrested Mavaddat. [CTV News (Barrie), 4-22-2016]

Cavalcade of Rednecks

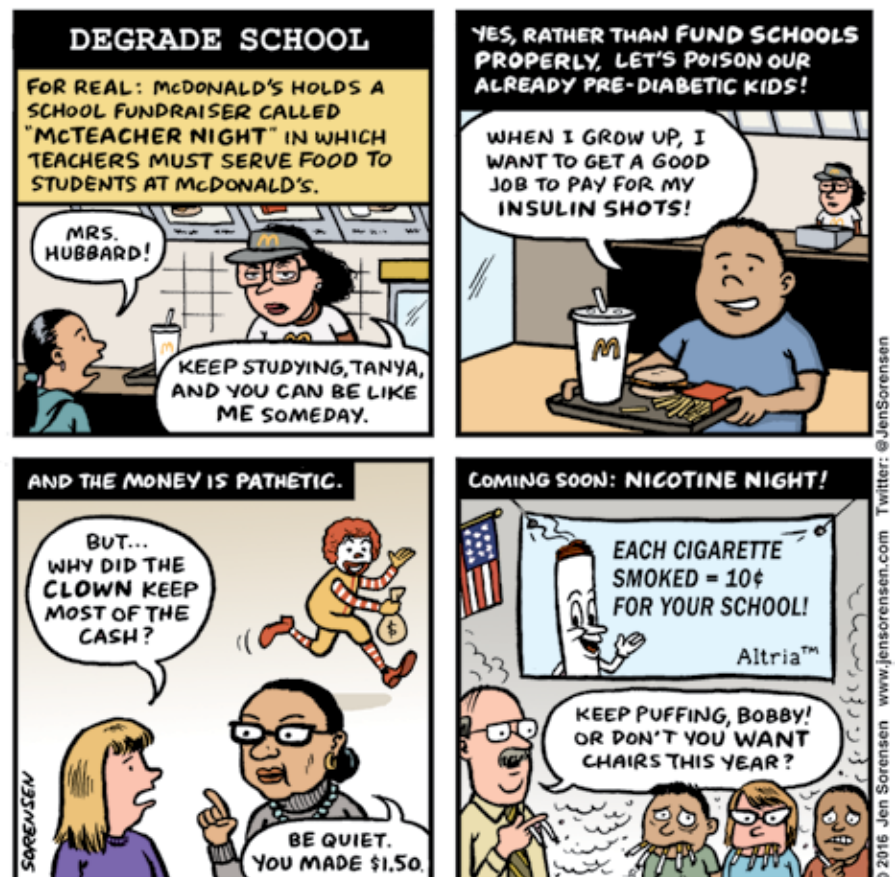
Timothy Trammell, 36, was arrested on several charges in Jonesville,

South Carolina, in May after a sheriff's deputy spotted him spray-painting a car that was not his. According to the deputy's report, Trammell had just finished angrily painting "C-h-e-e-t-e-r" (sic) on the car (belonging to a woman, identified in a WSPA-TV report as his girlfriend). [WSPA-TV (Spartanburg), 5-9-2016]

Updates

In April in Oslo district court, Norway's most notorious terrorist, Anders Behring Breivik (77 killed in 2011), prevailed in his complaint against prison treatment and was awarded the equivalent of about \$41,000. The prison (part of a system generally regarded as the world's most inmate-friendly) was found to violate Breivik's human rights by restricting his outside contacts and excessively restraining and strip-searching him. (He had also complained of poor food choices.) (2) The Veterans Affairs hospital in Tomah, Wisconsin, among the system's most troubled (in personnel issues, falsifying reports and over-dependence on patient opioid use), is reportedly working on a "100-day plan" for reform and recently posted a job opening for interior decorator (\$77,000 position, doctoral degree) to, presumably, improve everyone's attitude. [Washington Post, 4-21-2016] [Daily Caller, 4-27-2016]

COPYRIGHT 2016 CHUCK SHEPHERD



FUN FOR THE WHOLE PACK!



Double-A Affiliate of the Detroit Tigers

**UPMC HEALTH PLAN
PAINT THE PARK PINK WEEKEND**

FRI, JUNE 10 • 7:05 PM

SAT, JUNE 11 • 4:35 PM DOUBLEHEADER

SUN, JUNE 12 • 1:35 PM

The SeaWolves will wear special pink jerseys to be auctioned off to benefit The Regional Cancer Center. The first 1,000 fans on Friday, June 10 will get a pink SeaWolves cap.



SAT, MAY 28 • 6:35 PM
THURS, JUNE 9 • 7:05 PM
SAT, JUNE 11 • 4:35 PM (DH)

BARK AT THE PARK



BRING YOUR DOG TO THE BALLGAME!

TUES, JUNE 7 • 7:05 PM
vs. ALTOONA CURVE (PIRATES)

CALL (814) **456-1300**

SEAWOLVES.com



a church for the city

**ORIGINAL MUSIC
BIBLE TEACHING
AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY**

**JOIN US FOR
SUNDAY WORSHIP**

Basement Transmissions

145 West 11th Street

Corner of Sassafras and 11th

10am

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

www.TheCross.cc

/TheCrossErie

Your summer style is waiting



PANACHE
salon • spa

814.838.3333 • 2501 West 12th St. Erie, PA 16505

Picasso's
The Art of Food

www.picassoserie.com

OPEN HOURS

Sun - Thu
11 am - 8 pm
Fri & Sat
11 am - 9 pm.



2060 INTERCHANGE RD.
ERIE PA. 16565 | (814) 866 - 1183



OPEN HOUSE

FRIDAY: June 10TH 4-8 pm
Renaissance Centre, Suite 907

celebrating a year of killin' it on the 9th floor!

ALL DOORS ARE OPEN!

Come around to meet founders, staff & members.
Enjoy the music, the art, and the people.

**WERNER
BOOKS**

Saturday, June 4, 2016

is an exciting day at Werner Books



**Book Lover's
Bus Trip
to Buffalo NY**
\$60.00

Book Signing with David Finoli
Author of the 50 Greatest Players
In Pittsburgh Pirates History
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

(814) 864-1565

For more information visit
www.wernerbooks.com

3514 Liberty Street (Liberty Plaza)

LIVE
NEWS 7 DAYS A WEEK

**WEEKEND
MORNING NEWS**
SAT - SUN | 6AM - 9AM

sunrise
MON - FRI | 5AM - 7AM

**ERIE NEWS
NOW**
COVERAGE YOU CAN COUNT ON

MON - FRI | 5PM | 6PM | 7PM | 10PM | 11PM

ErieNewsNow.com

COVERAGE YOU CAN COUNT ON

When it comes to IT, VNET does it all.

Security **Vendor Management** **Network Evaluation** **voice** **Virtualization** **Antivirus**

Remote Support **PC Support** **Collaboration** **Fiber** **Hardware & Software Monitoring**

TITAN **Social Media** **Mobile Office** **24/7/365 HELP DESK** **Certified Technical Experts**

VNET
velocity network

We understand that information technology moves at the speed of light. And trying to keep pace with it – and run your business at the same time – seems like an impossible task. That's because it is.

Velocity Network can take control.

TITAN managed IT services from Velocity Network are designed to give you access to our team's wide range of expertise. Let us focus on your IT needs so you can focus on running your business.

Call us at [1.888.833.9111](tel:18888339111) or visit www.velocitynetwork.net

VNET
velocity network

Box of Light

Creating an innovative mindset in today's knowledge economy



PHOTOS BY: BRIANNA LYLE

By: Brianna Lyle

Annie Schmitt wears dangly, petite lemon earrings. Their luster matches the whimsical interior of Box of Light, an educational non-profit studio that uses technology to create workshops for students that engage them in critical thinking.

At Box of Light, Schmitt and Jude Shingle (co-directors as well as partners in life) don't want students using an app to learn to read. Instead, they want students to create the app, learning to read along the way. This idea enforces a creative-innovative mindset, something the duo says is part of our future knowledge economy.

The knowledge economy idea dates back to the mid-60s, when Peter Drucker wrote *The Effective Executive* (the term was later popularized in his text, *The Age of Discontinuity*). Drucker

The inability to mess up is imperative to Box of Light's philosophy. The studio hopes that this low-pressure environment gives students the chance to indulge their creativity, knowing there is no need for the end result to be "good."

describes the difference between a "manual worker": someone working with his or her hands to produce goods and services; and a "knowledge worker": someone who uses his or her brain to produce innovation. One is not more important than the other. Rather, the knowledge worker is a natural progression of our global economic infrastructure.

Since our agricultural days, America has progressed through several economies. Many believe that we're now within a global knowledge economy, a byproduct of technological advances that greatly increased after the Internet boom. Box of Light wants to empower students as creators, advancing the ide-

al mindset for this knowledge economy.

Luckily for Erie, the co-directors (who later found out they actually grew up just a block away from each other in Pittsburgh) eventually started dating; and in 2012, shortly after they married, Schmitt joined Shingle as a co-director at Box of Light.

An Inventor's Workshop is taking place on the day I visit Box of Light. The students are invited to bring items they may no longer use in order to invent something new. The studio has provided tables of miscellaneous objects, too (old soccer trophies, various action figures, water

guns, and countless supplies like needle and thread, power drills, and hot glue guns), but many students choose to also bring in something of their own.

By the time I arrive, one girl has cut two stuffed-animal cats in half, one gray and one white. The fluffy cat guts dispersed on the table in front of her remind me of the last scene in *Braveheart*. A decent-sized pair of Fiskars scissors the TSA would certainly confiscate, and something that looks like a child-friendly saw, sit on the table in front of her. (There are adults around, don't worry.)

I watch as she sews the two

cats back together (one with a white head and gray butt and the other with a gray head and white butt). I ask her what she's making. "I'm going to give one to my best friend," she says after gluing a miniature rubber cow head in between each set of cat ears. We conclude that they are like friendship bracelets, but way cooler.

The inability to mess up is imperative to Box of Light's philosophy. "There are no right or wrong ways to do things here," Schmitt says. The studio hopes that this low-pressure environment gives students the chance to indulge their creativity, knowing there is no need for the end result to be "good."

They also use an education system called STEAM. You might have heard of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), but STEAM incorporates the "A" for the arts. This recognizes that success in technological fields is correlated to an individual's ability to critically think, which education experts say is best developed through exposure to the arts.

This summer, the studio will offer seven full-week programs available Monday through Friday for ages six to 14. This is the fourth year the studio is offering workshop camps – their largest to date. They started with two workshops and are now offering nearly 30. The Inventor's Workshop is included in many of the camps this summer, including other workshops like Minecraft Maniacs, Comic Book Creators, and Web Design.

Many of the workshops involve engaging technology such as the MaKey MaKey: a software program designed by a couple of MIT graduates. It allows kids (or adults!) to experiment with conductive objects by turning them into controls for a computer via a circuit board connected to a USB. For instance, you can create piano keys with bananas or a video controller from playdough.

Box of Light also utilizes a robot that they've used in the past to aid blind students while building with Legos. The robot, using a color sensor, can detect which color a student wants

to use and bring it to her side. This may sound minuscule, but for a blind child – participating without the normally-needed help from someone else – it's monumental. Playing is a primitive practice that is imperative to any child's development, and the technology available at Box of Light makes play more accessible to disabled children.

The studio has also held a girls' tech week that Schmitt is especially smitten with. "After they leave here they have a terrific amount of confidence," she explains. She's interested in advancing women's roles in fields generally populated with men, and she's not just preaching this lifestyle; she's practicing, too. Recently, she finished a woodworking class at Edinboro University where she learned some skills she's hoping to share with other girls.

Shingle is no stranger to the art world, either. He majored in studio art at Allegheny College where he met a then lip-pierced Schmitt (with whom he was immediately infatuated, even though both of them were in relationships with other people at the time).

He's dabbled in some filmmaking (his film *Eudaimonia* won Best Short Film at both the Colorado Environmental Film Festival and Artist Film Festival in Hollywood in 2008), he worked at the Erie Art Museum for two years, and later taught film classes at the Inner City Neighborhood Art House.

My time at the Inventor's Workshop has sadly ended. I am delighted not only to see what some of the kids are inventing, but also to hear why they chose to make their inventions. I leave reminded that science and art are part of a symbiotic relationship. Both require attention to detail. Both require dedication and practice. And both are inherent in today's knowledge economy.

For more information about summer 2016 programs and camps please visit boxoflight.org or call 321.2928. Join Box of Light's email list for updates, including fall classes.

Brianna Lyle can be contacted at BLyle@ErieReader.com.



THE ERIE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

celebrates

80 YEARS OF GIVING

at our Annual Meeting
Tuesday, June 21, 2016

3:00 P.M. NEW TIME!

Bayfront Convention Center

Join us as we:

Honor the Edward C. Doll Community Service Award Winners:


Maryalice and Thomas Doolin

Report on 2015 Grantmaking,
Susan Hirt Hagen Fund for Transformational Philanthropy,
Erie Vital Signs, Erie Gives and much more!

Reservations are required by calling 814-454-0843.



**THE EMMY NOMINATED
ERIE'S VETERANS SERIES
CONTINUES**





KOREA
THE FORGOTTEN WAR

WICU
June 14th | 7:30 - 8:00 PM

WSEE
June 19th | 12:00 PM

the CW
June 19th | 12:30 PM

#thisishomeerie

BIG Green Screen SHOWING DAILY
at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center

ROBOTS

Locally Sponsored by:






For Showtimes & Movie Specials
Call: (814) 838-4123
www.trecpi.org

Mako™ Robotic-Arm technology for joint replacement, exclusively at Saint Vincent

RACHEL PLATTEN
A GREAT BIG WORLD



TOYOTA Concert Series

August 24th
at the
Crawford
County Fair



**Tickets
On-Sale Now!**
www.startickets.com

GOODELL GARDENS
& HOMESTEAD
PRESENTS

BOTANICAL BEVERAGES
HERBS AND SPICES
SATURDAY, JUNE 18
7-10 PM

MUSIC BY BOOTLEGGERS BIBLE CLUB
FARM FRESH HORS D'OEUVRES
REGIONALLY-DISTILLED
CRAFT COCKTAIL PARTY
BENEFITTING GOODELL GARDENS!

tickets MUST be purchased
by June 10:
bit.ly/GGHBotBev
or (814) 734-6699
221 Waterford St. (Rt. 6N)
Edinboro, PA
www.goodellgardens.org

WOLN
PUBLIC MEDIA

TV 54.1 • Radio 91.3FM • WOLN Education • O-Media
Schedule Highlights

NATIONAL
MEMORIAL DAY
CONCERT



May 29 at 8pm
on WQLN-TV 54.1

TED
Talks

War and Peace



May 30 at 9pm
on WQLN-TV 54.1

5 C I T I E S 5 G A M E S

KEG-O-WAR OVERSIZED SLINGSHOT HUMAN BOWLING UNDOMESTICATED CHALLENGE ROLLER DASH

THIS SUMMER COMPETE FOR UNDOMESTICATED GLORY



SIGN UP YOUR SQUAD
AT LABATTGAMES.COM

ERIE, PA
LIBERTY PARK
JULY 9TH, 2016

Now Open for the Season!

Schickalay's
ON THE BAY

OPEN AT 11:00AM LANDSHARK

W. 6th & Peninsula Dr. Erie, PA 16505 | (814) 833-0181

Schickalay's
ON THE BAY

W. 6th & Peninsula Dr. Erie, PA 16505 | (814) 833-0181

Always a Party
at
El Canelo

(814) 835-2290
2709 West 12th St.

10% OFF
Entire Bill
Offer expires: 06/08/2016

Spotlight on Erie

May 25 — June 7, 2016

Wednesday, May 25

Janis: Little Girl Blue Profiles One of the Key Icons of the Hippie Era



Janis Joplin's life story is, in many ways, the iconic rock star tale of tragedy.

She grew up in a small town. Left it for the big city with hopes of fame and stardom. Achieved both. Made some great records. Developed a drug addiction. Met an unfortunate end.

In fact, she's one of the key members of the morbidly-titled "27 club," a list of musicians who died at that age which also includes Jimi Hendrix, Kurt Cobain, Jim Morrison, Robert Johnson, and Amy Winehouse.

Janis: Little Girl Blue has the behind-the-scenes details that are sure to please life-long fans, and enough striking concert footage to reel in new ones.

Amy Berg's 2015 documentary *Janis: Little Girl Blue* tells her tale with honesty and sincerity. The film is organized in response to a series of endearing letters Joplin wrote to her family in Texas as she rose to stardom (and beyond). The narration comes from Chan Marshall of the indie band Cat Power, another talented Southern singer who has struggled with addiction.

Berg's film keeps things simple. Expect a variety of interviews with friends and family, some of which prove surprisingly fruitful. Joplin's siblings, for

example, are strikingly level-headed and articulate about their sister. Kris Kristofferson, who wrote one of her biggest hits ("Me and Bobby McGee"), shares memories that are both tragic and amusing. There's also some great footage of Joplin's revealing, flirtatious appearances on *The Dick Cavett Show* – as well as melancholic reflections about her life from its host.

Janis: Little Girl Blue has the behind-the-scenes details that are sure to please life-long fans, and enough striking concert footage to reel in new ones. It's not the most innovative documentary in the world, but it's heartfelt, plain-spoken, and emotionally resonant. – Dan Schank

7 p.m. // Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. // erieartmuseum.org/events/film.html

Thursday, May 26

The Songwriter Sunset Series Returns to Edinboro Lake Resort



An intimate stage on the shore of a quiet little lake is one superb place to hear the sound of music on a summer evening.

And the stage at Edinboro Lake Resort is just such a spot. The venue has hosted a bevy of local musicians in recent years, regularly featuring a nicely mixed bag of talent for everyone's listening enjoyment.

The resort's revolving door of sonic sweetness opens even more widely this summer. The ongoing Thursday night Songwriter Sunset series is expanding this year to include three hours of musical goodness, highlighting not just one, but at least two or even three uniquely-talented singer/songwriters each week.

The series has featured more than 40 different songwriters from throughout the region since its inception in 2012, and with its expansion, its fifth year is shaping up to be one for the books.

The music-loving folks at ELR "have done so much, not only to make this possible, but to give songwriters a place to share their [original] music," says series organizer, busy local musician, and event booker Tommy Link (known by many for his work with Erie-based rockers Strangers and Liars). "[It's] something returning artists look forward to every summer."

The Songwriter Sunset series has featured more than 40 different songwriters from throughout the region since its inception in 2012.

The schedule for the series – which kicks off on May 26 and runs throughout the summer – is open-ended by design, helping to create the laid-back, creative vibe the Songwriter Sunset has become known for.

Sounds like some more good times are in store just south of Erie this summer. – Ryan Smith

Thursdays through August, 7 to 10 p.m. // Edinboro Lake Resort, 12690 Edinboro Road // edinborolakeresort.com

Friday, May 27

Marionettes Bring Sleeping Beauty to Life at PACA



They say there's always someone pulling the strings. That "someone" might just be a member of the Syrotiak family.

Even when they aren't the ones manipulating the strings, they're the puppet masters at work behind the scenes.

Puppetry has always been part of David J. Syrotiak's life. Syrotiak serves as the artistic director of the National

Marionette Theatre. Founded by his father in 1967, the group truly is a family affair. David's wife, Mariana, started puppeteering in Bucharest, Romania, eventually finding her way to the NMT family. David and Mariana are joined by their son, Stephen, who proves that the talent runs in their bloodline. Their undeniable legacy is underpinned by a brilliant expertise.

Together they will be performing Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's, *The Sleeping Beauty*. The ballet is among Tchaikovsky's best-regarded works, along with the well-known *Swan Lake* and *The Nutcracker*.

The story is told from the point of view of Prince Stefan. He discovers that Princess Aurora (the titular beauty) has been put under a spell by sinister fairy, Belladonna. Stefan seeks to break the spell that put the princess to sleep for 100 years.

This January, PACA hosted NMT's production of *Peter and the Wolf* to sold out crowds. If you were lucky

Building upon old-world traditions, the NMT uses the art of puppetry to tell stories that everyone can enjoy.

enough to see the delightful show, you know what's in store. Kids sat wide-eyed, captivated by the story playing out on stage. Children are invited to sit near the stage to get the best view. All ages are welcome, as the show is both an accessible fairy tale and a work of art.

The National Marionette Theatre brings experience and artistry to an increasingly specialized medium. Building upon old-world traditions, the NMT uses the art of puppetry to tell stories that everyone can enjoy. – Nick Warren

7 p.m. May 27, 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. May 28, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. May 29 // 1505 State St. 2nd Floor // Tickets \$10 adults \$5 children

Wednesday, June 1

Mid-day Art Break Begins its Summer Series

The Erie Art Museum's Mid-Day Art Break Series features live music by local musicians during its weekly lunchtime concerts from June through

CALENDAR



Foley Project, performed and recorded with numerous other artists, and worked with dance companies, writing a piece for a Toronto-based dance company in 2005.

Grey, from England, also grew up in a musical family, one which included his uncle John McLaughlin, a legendary guitarist. At age 18, Grey began playing bass after a near-fatal accident, which provided positivity during rehab. In

The series will include popular, returning favorites like Bass/Drum/Bass, The Breeze Band, and Erie Philharmonic's "Get Your Phil at Noon."

In addition to performing with other jazz artists, he spent more than four years touring with the pianist Hirome. In 2014, Grey released "Elevation" with a band that included McLaughlin.

The concerts are held from noon to 1:00 p.m. and are free and open to the public. Audiences can also visit the museum's galleries for free on Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. – Tracy Geibel

Noon to 1:00 p.m. // 411 State St. // 459.5477 // erieartmuseum.org

August.

The series will include popular, returning favorites like Bass/Drum/Bass, The Breeze Band, and Erie Philharmonic's "Get Your Phil at Noon." New acts include the Mighty Sea – an alternative acoustic duo, and The Mountain Thyme Ramblers – traditional bluegrass with an Irish folk twist.

Stephen Trohoske, Stix Thompson, and Tony Grey of Bass/Drum/Bass will be the first to perform. When together, their combined musical knowledge is encyclopedic, as they craft endless, improvised jazz grooves.

Trohoske, an Erie native, grew up in a music-loving family, listening to various styles. He developed a devotion to blues, dub, post punk, and several other genres, influencing his "trademark sound." Trohoske has toured with the

MUSIC

Big Morgan

May 25 — 3 to 4 p.m.
Basement Transmissions,
145 W. 11th St.
basementtransmissions.com.

Dave VanAmburg & Friends

May 25 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Maxi's Restaurant, 2800
W. 8th St. jazzerie.com.

Big Dog Acoustics

May 26 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Sprague Farm & Brew
Works, 22043 US Hwy 6 &
19 sleepingchainsaw.com.

Colony Trio

May 26 — 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Colony Pub & Grille, 2670
W. 8th St. jazzerie.com.

Songwriter Sunset

May 26 & June 2 — 7 p.m.
Sunset Grille,
12670 Edinboro Rd.
edinborolakeresort.com.

Adam Cook

May 27 — 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Basement Transmissions,
145 W. 11th St.
basementtransmissions.com.

Small Town Revolution

May 27 — 6 p.m.
Coconut Joe's, 28 North
Park Row cjoes.com.

Dave Callaghan Quartet

May 27 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Wegmans Cafeteria, 6143
Peach St. jazzerie.com.

The Highlife

May 27 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Sprague Farm & Brew
Works, 22043 US Hwy 6 &
19 sleepingchainsaw.com.

Salmon Frank

May 27 — 7 p.m.
Sunset Grille,
12670 Edinboro Rd.
edinborolakeresort.com.

Geek Army

May 27 — 9 p.m.
Presque Isle Downs &
Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy.
presqueisledowns.com.

Yosemnight

May 27 — 10 p.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921
Peach St. facebook.com/kingsrookclub.

New Wave Nation

May 27 — 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Sherlock's, 508 State
St. facebook.com/sherlocksparkplace.

The Dock Boys

May 28 — 1 to 4 p.m.
Arundel Cellars, 11727 E.
Main Rd. arundelcellars.com/events.

The Groove

May 28 — 6 p.m.
Coconut Joe's, 28 North
Park Row cjoes.com.

Sean Patrick Mcgraw

THE WESTFIELD WONDER!



THURSDAYS
FROM 5 TO 8
HALF PRICE
PINTS

150% AMAZING!



8398 W. MAIN RD. (RTE 20)
WESTFIELD, NY 14787
716 • 973 • 9463

ENJOYMAZZA.COM/WONDER



Wednesday, June 1

Trapped Explores the Ways that Safe Access to an Abortion Has Become Inaccessible



The American media tends to oversimplify complex debates.

In the case of abortion, our knee-jerk reactions often revolve around *Roe v. Wade*. Prior to 1973, abortion was illegal. After that year's Supreme Court's deci-

sion, it became legal. Some are happy about it. Some are angry. End of story?

Not quite. Legal access to abortion turns out to be very complicated, and our state plays a central role in its evolving legislation.

In 1992, a different Supreme Court ruling allowed state-based restrictions regarding abortion. The case was *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, and the Casey in question was Pennsylvania

Although Porter's position is unapologetically pro-choice, you won't need to be an abortion rights activist to recognize the injustices she identifies.

Governor Robert Casey, Sr. His son is currently one of our senators. Twenty-four years ago, the law signed by Gov. Casey allowed for informed consent rules, husband notification, and a 24-hour waiting period for women seeking abortions.

Although *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* was ostensibly designed to protect women's health, it led to a variety of incremental regulations that made safe procedures much more difficult to ac-

cess. Anti-abortion activists eventually began drafting TRAP laws, which stand for Targeted Regulation of Abortion Providers. Dawn Porter's appropriately-titled 2016 documentary *Trapped* explores these regulations and their impact on women.

So how do TRAP laws work? Some require cumbersome building standards, like the \$2,500 closet that June Ayers was forced to build at Reproductive Health Services in Montgomery, Alabama. Another Alabama restriction requires that no clinic can operate within 2,000 feet of a school. The most disturbing requirements target the patients themselves, forcing people (in some cases) to view ultrasounds, to listen to heartbeats, and to read pseudo-scientific claims about the health risks associated with the procedure.

Trapped explores the ways that TRAP laws have been used and abused, especially in low income communities. Although Porter's position is unapologetically pro-choice, you won't need to be an abortion rights activist to recognize the injustices she identifies. In the four decades following legalization, the degree to which one can access a safe abortion has changed substantially. *Trapped* provides a much needed reminder of the issue's complexity. — Dan Schank

7 p.m. // Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. // erieartmuseum.org/events/film.html

Thursday, June 2

Regional Dance America Holds its Northeast Festival in Erie



From June 2-4, the Erie Contemporary Ballet Theatre (ECBT) will host the 2016 Regional Dance America (RDA) Festival for the Northeast region.

This year the festival will gather 11 dance companies from the Northeast — Philadelphia Dance Theatre, Delaware Ballet, Southern New Hampshire Youth Ballet and others — for three consecutive days. During this time, dancers participate in a variety of classes and high-energy performances at Mercyhurst University's Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center.

Since the first festival was held in

May 28 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Sprague Farm & Brew Works, 22043 US Hwy 6 & 19 sleepingchainsaw.com.

Dionisio

May 28 — 7 p.m.
Sunset Grille, 12670 Edinboro Rd. edinborolakeresort.com.

Six Year Stretch

May 28 — 9 p.m.
Presque Isle Downs & Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

Claire Stuczynski & Friends and Addison Moon

May 28 — 10 p.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com/kingsrookclub.

Six Years After

May 28 — 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Sherlock's, 508 State St. facebook.com/sherlocksparkplace.

Sam Hyman

May 29 — 1 to 4 p.m.
Arundel Cellars, 11727 E. Main Rd. arundelcellars.com/events.

Tommy Link

May 29 — 5 p.m.
Sunset Grille, 12670 Edinboro Rd. edinborolakeresort.com.

Mid-day Art Break: Bass/Drum/Bass

June 1 — noon to 1 p.m.
Erie Art Museum's Wave Cafe, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

Pop Punk

June 1 — 5 to 6 p.m.
Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. basementtransmissions.com.

Geek Army

June 3 — 6 p.m.
Coconut Joe's, 28 North Park Row cjoes.com.

Claire Stuczynski

June 3 — 7 p.m.
Sunset Grille, 12670 Edinboro Rd. edinborolakeresort.com.

Salmon Frank

June 3 — 7 to 9 p.m.
Goodell Gardens & Homestead, 221 Waterford St. goodellgardens.org

High Life

June 3 — 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Peek'n Peak Resort Regency Pub, 1405 Olde Rd. pknpk.com.

Wave Magnetik

June 3 — 10 p.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com/kingsrookclub.

Rick Magee and the Roadhouse Rockers

June 4 — 6 p.m.
Coconut Joe's, 28 North Park Row cjoes.com.

Strangers and Liars

June 4 — 7 p.m.

Sunset Grille, 12670 Edinboro Rd. edinborolakeresort.com.

Jazz: Paris to Hollywood

June 4 — 7:30 p.m.
Cathedral Preparatory Auditorium, 225 W. 10th St. gannon.edu/eriechamberorchestra.

Acoustic Gypsies

June 4 — 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Peek'n Peak Resort Regency Pub, 1405 Olde Rd. pknpk.com.

Charlie Wheeler Band

June 4 — 10 p.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com/kingsrookclub.

The Highlife

June 5 — 1 to 4 p.m.
Arundel Cellars, 11727 E. Main Rd. arundelcellars.com/events.

2016 Kate Buczek

Memorial Jazz Concert

June 5 — 4 to 6 p.m.
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy. jazzerie.com.

Jesse Weston

June 5 — 5 p.m.
Sunset Grille, 12670 Edinboro Rd. edinborolakeresort.com.

Mid-day Art Break: Tyler Smilo

June 8 — noon to 1 p.m.
Erie Art Museum's Wave Cafe, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

Driftwood and Matt Texter

June 8 — 5:30 p.m.
Beach 1 Presque Isle State Park, 301 Peninsula Dr. discoverpi.com.

DANCE

ExpERIENCE Dance Festival

June 2, 3, 4 — 7 p.m.
Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center, 501 E. 38th St. rdanortheast.org.

American Heart Ball

June 3 — 6 p.m.
Bayfront Convention Center, 1 Sassafra's Pier erieevents.com.

Little's Dance Recital

June 4 — 7 p.m.
Warner Theatre, 811 State St. erieevents.com.

FOOD & DRINK

Mocktails and Colors Fundraiser

June 3 — 6 to 8 p.m.
Cocktails & Color Studio, Millcreek Sq. cocktailsandcolor.com.

June Veg-Out

June 3 — 6 to 8 p.m.
Whole Foods Co-op, 1341 W. 26th St. theerievegsociety.org.

\$75

SOUL PARTY
BLOOM COLLABORATIVE

Bloom Collaborative is a program of Stairways Behavioral Health

SOUL PARTY
THURSDAY, JULY 21ST
5:30 - 9:30 IN THE EVENING
POTTERY + VINYL + SOUL + GRUB
FEATURING DJ BORN
SPINNIN THE SOUL + FUNK

BLOOM Collaborative Erie
BLOOM CollaborativeSM
138 E. 26th St. | 814.878.3688

TEXT 'JOES' TO 71441
For a Chance to Win A Dinner for Two!
Standard MSG & Sales Taxes May Apply. Opt Out at Anytime by Texting STOP

Joe Roots Grill
Erie, PA

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED,
BY LETTING US SERVE YOU
SHOW US YOUR MILITARY I.D. AND RECEIVE **10% OFF** TO ALL MILITARY VETERANS

STOP IN FOR **HAPPY HOUR SPECIALS TODAY!**
MON-SAT 5-7 **25% OFF** DRINKS AND **1/2 OFF** APPS AT THE BAR!

2826 W 8th St, (814) 836-7668 www.joeroots.com/ErieReader #JoeRoots

EVERY OTHER THURSDAY!

Budweiser
KINGS & WINGS SOCIETY
THIS BUD'S FOR YOU.

<p>Avonia TAVERN</p> <p>TUESDAY \$3.00 22oz. BUDWEISER DRAFT ALL DAY 16 WINGS FOR \$11.99</p>	<p>Coach's</p> <p>TUESDAY \$2.50 16oz. BUDWEISER ALUMINUM BOTTLES 40¢ WINGS</p>	<p>DOC HOLLIDAYS COUNTRY BAR & GRILL</p> <p>MONDAY \$2.00 16oz. BUDWEISER DRAFTS 50¢ WINGS 7PM-11PM</p>
<p>FAT WILLIE'S WINE HOUSE</p> <p>WEDNESDAY \$10 BUCKET OF 5 12oz. BUDWEISER BOTTLES ALL DAY 50¢ WINGS REGULAR</p>	<p>IRISH COUSINS</p> <p>SUN & MON \$1.50 16oz. BUDWEISER DRAFT ALL DAY 50¢ WINGS BONELESS</p>	<p>odis Bar & Grill</p> <p>MON & TUES \$2.00 12oz. BUDWEISER BOTTLES BONELESS 60¢ WINGS</p>
<p>RED FOX INN</p> <p>WEDNESDAY \$2.50 12oz. BUDWEISER BOTTLES REGULAR 55¢ WINGS</p>	<p>Sluggers</p> <p>THURSDAY \$2.00 16oz. BUDWEISER DRAFT ALL DAY 40¢ WINGS BONELESS</p>	<p>Z's TAVERN</p> <p>MONDAY \$2.00 16oz. BUDWEISER DRAFT ALL DAY REGULAR 50¢ WINGS</p>

Budweiser
SOCIETY "MEETINGS" HELD
7-9PM
WITH COMPLIMENTARY BUDWEISER

JOIN THE SOCIETY

NEXT MEETINGS:
THURSDAY MAY 12th
THURSDAY MAY 26th

1959, RDA/NE strives to encourage young dancers and provide them with valuable experience. Through this annual event, RDA/NE hopes to offer exposure to both dancers and choreographers. It also serves as a networking opportunity; they can connect with others who share similar passions and exchange ideas.

The ECBT, which became a member of the RDA/NE in 2006, was founded in 2003 by its artistic director, Sarah Purvis. The nonprofit trains pre-professional dancers with the hope of instilling a love of dance that will last a lifetime.

The ECBT trains pre-professional dancers with the hope of instilling a love of dance that will last a lifetime.

professional dancers with the hope of instilling a love of dance that will last a lifetime.

Lifelong dancer and pharmacist Mary Fabrizio McCarthy, profiled in this issue by Ed Bernik, will be honored at the festival.

For twelve seasons the ECBT has performed the ballet *How the Grinch*

Stole Christmas. In 2015, the dancers performed a full length version of *The Nutcracker* for the first time; the show was sold out. The ECBT also presents an annual Spring Gala Concert, a Director's Choice performance, and other smaller shows.

Every five years, RDA holds a national festival, which brings all member companies together for five days of dance classes and performances. Spring 2017 will be the fourth and is set for Phoenix, Arizona.

Tickets for the 2016 RDA festival can be purchased online or over the phone. There are performances Thursday through Saturday, with ticket prices ranging from \$20 to \$30. – Tracy Geibel

See website for full three-day schedule // 501 E. 38th St. // 824.3000 // rdanortheast.org

Friday, June 3

Salmon Frank Usher in Summer Music at Edinboro's Goodell Gardens and Homestead

Cambridge Springs-based Salmon Frank's brand of Americana has al-



ways been a boisterous one.

Their whole stated aim? "Simply to have fun, kick some musical butt, and help you have a good time as well."

That's a good artistic goal – a lofty one, even.

And when they're way into it (which

they always are), chances are everyone else will get a spring in their step, too.

A summer fixture at venues throughout northwestern Pennsylvania, Salmon Frank are no strangers to the stage at Edinboro's Goodell Gardens and Homestead, performing there during the Edinboro Art and Music Festival and being featured performers during

Goodell is a great green place to check out some live local music – and Salmon Frank is perfectly at home there.

Goodell's annual Summer Music Series.

The latter is what's bringing the good-timey fellas back around to Goodell's palatial space on June 3, when they'll kick the whole 2016 series off with an evening performance from 7 to 9 p.m.

Goodell is a great green place to check out some live local music – and Salmon Frank is perfectly at home there. It's high time to get back to the garden. – Ryan Smith

7 to 9 p.m. // 221 Waterford St. (Route 6N), Edinboro // goodellgardens.org

Erie Food Tours

June 3, 4 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Like My Thai, 827 State St. eriefoodtours.com.

FILM

Robots Movie

Ongoing through June 16 — 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. & 3 p.m. Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. trepci.org.

D-Day: Normandy 1944 Movie

Ongoing through June 16 — noon & 4 p.m. Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. trepci.org.

Tiny Giants

Ongoing through June 16 — 2 p.m. & 5 p.m. Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. trepci.org.

Master and Commander

May 26 — 1:30 to 4 p.m. Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. erielibrary.org.

Barbarella (1968)

May 27 — 8 p.m. Erie Movie House, 3424 Westlake Rd. facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse.

City of the Dead (1960)

May 28 — 8 p.m. Erie Movie House, 3424 Westlake Rd. facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse.

Trapped

June 1 — 7 p.m. Erie Art Museum, 10 E. 5th St. eriemuseum.org.

Minions Movie Night at the Ballpark

June 4 — 8:45 p.m. Jerry Uht Park, 110 E. 10th St. erieevents.com.

Dear President Obama

June 7 — 7 p.m. Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. erielibrary.org.

Suffragette

June 8 — 7 p.m. Erie Art Museum, 10 E. 5th

St.erieartmuseum.org.

VISUAL ARTS

Heather Kanazawa

Ongoing through June 21 Glass Growers Gallery, 10 E. 5th St. glassgrowersgallery.com.

Reflections of Erie

Ongoing through June 30 ArtLore Studio, 3402 W. Lake Rd. facebook.com/Artlorestudio.

93rd Annual Spring Show

Ongoing through July 17 Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. eriemuseum.org.

Nocturnal Emissions

Ongoing through Sep. 17 Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. eriemuseum.org.

Dark Garden

Ongoing through Jan 8, 2017 Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. eriemuseum.org.

Art on the Hill

May 31 through Aug.

17 — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cummings Art Gallery, 501 E. 38th St. mercyhurst.edu.

THEATER

Lettice and Lovage

May 25, 31 & June 1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22 — noon Riverside: The Inn at Cambridge Springs, 1 Fountain Ave. theriversideinn.com.

Crowns

May 26, 27 — 7:30 p.m. & May 28 — 2 & 7:30 p.m. Mt. Ebal Baptist Church, 1617 E. 26th St. erietheaterco.org.

National Marionette Theatre: Tchaikovsky's Sleeping Beauty

May 27 — 7 p.m. & May 28 — 3 & 7 p.m. & May 29 — 1 & 3 p.m. PACA, 1505 State St. facebook.com/events/852083898253395.

Nana's Naughty Knickers

May 28 & June 4 — 5:30 & May 31 & June

1, 7, 8, 14, 15 — noon Station Dinner Theatre, 4940 Peach St. canterburyfeast.com.

COMMUNITY

Ageing Well: Engage, Connect, Renew

May 25 — 10:30 a.m. to noon LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach St. lifeworkserie.org.

Wednesday Walks in the Woods

May 25 through Oct. 5 — 11 a.m. to noon Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. asburywoods.org.

QiGong Class

May 25 — 2 to 3 p.m. Millcreek Branch Library, 2088 Interchange Rd. erielibrary.org.

Helen Prejean Presentation

May 25 — 7 p.m. Mount St. Benedict, 6101 E. Lake Rd. eriebenedictines.org.

Gardening to Attract Butterflies

May 25 — 7 to 8:30 p.m. Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. asburywoods.org.

Kirtan & A Quiet Mind Event

May 25 — 7 to 8:30 p.m. Whole Foods Co-op, 1341 W. 26th St. bhaktaschool.org.

Parable Farms Visit

May 26 — 1 to 2:30 p.m. Parable Farms, 9584 NE Sherman Rd. lifeworkserie.org.

Children's Bicycle Safety Class

May 26 — 3 to 4 p.m. Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. erielibrary.org.

American Short Stories

May 26 & June 2 — 4 to 6 p.m. Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. jeserie.org.

Coloring Your World Watercolor Class

May 26 — 6:30 to 8 p.m.



PLYMOUTH
1109 State St. Erie, PA 16501
(814) 453-6454

—Friday Happy Hours—
“After Work”
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
\$2 Select Draft Beers &
Select Mixed Drinks
2 for 1 Pizza

“Friday Night Lights”
\$2 All bottled light beers
10 p.m. to midnight

Kings Rook Club



BEST OF ERIE 2015
ERIE READER

DOORS 8PM | MUSIC 10PM

EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT!
Grab your gear and get here! • 10PM
No Cover • Drink Specials • Open 8 PM
[Sign up before 10 PM & first drink is on us!]

MATTY B'S OPEN MIC NIGHT

****NO COVER EXCEPT SPECIAL EVENTS****

FRI 05/27
YOSEMIGHT [FREE]

SAT 05/28
CLAIRE STUCZYNSKI & FRIENDS + ADDISON MOON [FREE]

FRI 06/03
WAVE MAGNETIK [FREE]

SAT 06/04
CHARLIE WHEELER BAND [FREE]

FRI 06/10
BAND OF PEACE FT. MEMBERS OF BIG LEG EMMA [FREE]

SAT 06/11
GNOSIS + VWLS [FREE]

FRI 06/17
CHASING MOIRA [FREE]

SAT 06/18
BAT HOUSE + WAVE TRAILS + JESS ROYER & NICK WARREN [FREE]

FRI 06/24
VIDEO RELEASE PARTY LEC + C.BROWN [FREE]

SAT 06/25
ERIC BREWER & FRIENDS FT. JESS ROYER [FREE]

MUSIC AT 10PM • NO COVER EXCEPT SPECIAL EVENTS
HAPPY HOUR SPECIAL: \$2 Wells & Select Beers 8PM-12AM
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



Teresa's Italian Delicatessen
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."

CALENDAR

The Eighth Annual Troika Russian Festival Opens at the Church of the Nativity

Erie's Russian Orthodox community is ready to share its culture, and have fun doing it, too.

FRIDAY, MAY 27



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

authentic costumes and musical virtuosity. They will be performing several times each day throughout the weekend, invigorating audiences with their energetic program.

Authentic hand-made dishes will be served, including hearty items with names like varenik, borscht, and golubtsy. Treats like matryoshka and

It's that time of the year to converge upon the great golden onion dome. The Church of the Nativity will host its annual Russian Festival over Memorial Day weekend. The event will feature celebrations of Russian heritage, food, and culture for all ages.

Russian Fest has taken its place as one of the most popular kickoffs to Erie's summer events, including a handful of other ethnic celebrations. Dating back centuries, these traditions are still new adventures to the uninitiated.

There will be feasting and dancing all weekend while the festival is underway.

Globally renowned folk ensemble, Barynya, will be the featured performers. Founded in New York City in 1991, the group has grown into the premier Russian folk ensemble outside of Russia itself. Led by accordionist Mikhail Smirnov, Barynya has performed everywhere from Carnegie Hall to *The Today Show*. The ensemble blends acrobatic Eastern European dances with colorful

skansi should peak your interest, as well as your taste buds. Diners can also enjoy a chicken Kiev dinner, a fan favorite.

A beautiful gem along our eastern bayfront, the Church of the Nativity is easily identified by its iconic golden poppy head. If you've ever wondered what the inside of the church looks like, this weekend is your chance. Self-guided tours will be available all weekend. You'll be able to see the captivating Byzantine iconography by Erie native, Theodore Jurewicz. A world-renowned fresco muralist, Jurewicz has hand-painted churches throughout the country.

You can sip on an imported beer, or grab a shot at the vodka ice bar. Or, if you're so inclined, there's even a "Run Through Little Russia" 5K taking place on Saturday morning. — Nick Warren

4 to 9 p.m. Friday, May 27; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, May 28; and 8:15 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday, May 29 // 109 German St. // churchofthenativity.net/troika/

LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach St. lifeworkserie.org.

109 German St. churchofthenativity.net.

Lagoon by Pontoon

May 27 through Sept. 5 — 11 a.m. & 1 & 2 p.m.
Pontoon Boat Station, 301 Peninsula Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

Bike Night

May 27 — 6 to 10 p.m.
Downtown Erie, eriedowntown.com.

8th Annual Troika Russian Festival

May 27 — 4 to 9 p.m. & May 28 — noon to 6 p.m. & May 29 — noon to 9 p.m.
Church of the Nativity Community Center,

Erie SeaWolves vs. Richmond Flying Squirrels

May 27, 28 — 6:30 p.m. & May 29, 30 — 1:30 p.m.
Jerry Uht Park, 110 E. 10th St. erieevents.com.

Run Through

Little Russia 5K

May 28 — 7:45 a.m. to noon
Church of the Nativity Community Center, 109 German St. churchofthenativity.net.

Bicycle Tour of Presque Isle

May 28 — 9 a.m. to noon
Cookhouse Pavilion, 301 Peninsula Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

YMCA Run-A-Muck-Mud Run



Photo Credit: Bryce Johnson

EXPERIENCE DANCE FESTIVAL 2016

REGIONAL DANCE AMERICA/NE

3 PERFORMANCES
JUNE 2-4, 7:00 PM

Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center • Mercyhurst University

For Tickets visit: <http://rdanortheast.org/2016-festival/>
OR call 814-476-7123 for more information

Hosted by Erie Contemporary Ballet Theatre

Mainstage

LECOM HEALTH
50th Mainstage Season Sponsor

“It’s too darn hot!”

“Cole Porter’s music sizzles.”

Erie playhouse

Kiss Me, Kate

June 10-11, 16-19, 22-26, 2016

“playful, risqué, irresistible”

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





Erie Arts & Culture proudly announces
Artist Fellowships & TEDxErie Artist Commission!

x = independently organized TED event





Two Emerging Artist Fellowships at \$2,500 each
One Established Artist Fellowship at \$6,000
One \$3,000 award to design the TEDxErie stage and present a TEDxErie talk!

More Information at 814-452-3427
or www.erieartsandculture.org

NATIONAL MARIONETTE THEATRE PRESENTS



Tchaikovsky's Sleeping Beauty

LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT PACA1505.COM OR AT DOOR



FRIDAY, MAY 27 @ 7p
SATURDAY, MAY 28 @ 3p & 7p
SUNDAY, MAY 29 @ 1p & 3p

TICKETS
\$10 \$5
ADULT CHILD

PERFORMING ARTISTS COLLECTIVE ALLIANCE




1505 STATE ST 2ND FLR, ERIE, PA (814)434-0687



**ON YOUR MARK
GET SET
READ!**

SUMMER LIBRARY CHALLENGE

JUNE 11 - AUG. 15, 2016

YOU'RE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SUMMER READING CHALLENGE AT THE **ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

REGISTRATION BEGINS JUNE 11
FREE EVENTS FOR ALL AGES
READ & WIN!

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
WWW.ERIELIBRARY.ORG/SUMMERLIBRARYCHALLENGE



ARE YOU A TECH SAVVY GIRL?

You will be after a day of hands-on fun with science, technology, engineering, and mathematics!

Are you ready?

WHO: Girls in grades 6-9

WHERE: Edinboro University

DATE: Saturday, June 4, 2016

TIME: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

COST: \$5 per girl, \$7 with adult

REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW!
TO REGISTER: AAUWERIE.ORG




The Russian Orthodox Church of the Nativity Presents the 8th Annual

TROIKA

RUSSIAN FESTIVAL

Friday, May 27, 2016 - 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday, May 28, 2016 - Noon to 6 p.m.
Sunday, May 29, 2016 - Noon to 9 p.m.



Church of the Nativity Community Center
109 German Street Erie, PA 16507
www.churchofthenativity.net/troika

Russian Food • Ice Bar • Children's Area • & More



LECOM HEALTH CHALLENGE

Be a part of the **EXCITEMENT!**

The PGA Tour returns to the Chautauqua – Erie Region at the Peek'n Peak Resort

July 4 – 10, 2016



Learn how you can be right in the middle of all the action, visit www.lecomhealthchallenge.com

Ribfest Returns

This festival is first in Erie's B-B-Queue

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

caramelized crust.

In the meantime, Carolina Rib King, Pigtails BBQ Co., Mojo's Rib Shack, Big Boned BBQ, and Famous Dave's have been brushing up their skills (and grills) in hopes of knocking off the top hogs. Although preparation styles vary from region to region, the adage "low and slow" is the connective tis-

sue that binds pitmasters across the nation. To break down one such approach: Dave Amstutz of Jack-on-the-Bone (Massillon, Ohio) coats his slabs in his proprietary blend of 12 herbs and spices, smokes them 3½-4 hours over local sassafras wood, then slathers them in his signature sauce before grilling.

Sauce (or lack thereof) is the principal determinant for one's barbecue affiliation – Carolinians favor vinegar- or mustard-based "mopping" sauces, Missourians prefer thicker, sweeter toma-

to-based sauces for a generally messier experience, while in Texas, sauce is broadly considered a sacrilege and/or banned altogether. Wear a BBQ-stain around San Antonio and you might as well be wearing the Scarlet Letter. Do so in Memphis (proponents of thinner,

Perry Square will again transform into Thoracic Park for the 26th Annual Ribfest, or Erie's worst place to announce your veganism since 1991.

tangier tomato-based sauces) and they'll likely shake their heads and go on playing the blues:

Your T-shirt used to be white, but now it's got a red spot/Your T-shirt used to be clean, but now it's got a big blotch/Oh Lord have mercy, you oughtta be more careful 'bout yo sauce.

Speaking of the blues (and rhythm-and-blues and rock n' roll which has its roots in the blues), the Ribfest has

a full rack of live music lined up for all four days, including Stiletto (headlining Thursday's Ladies Night), First to Eleven (formerly M4), and the Riffriders. For the complete schedule, check erieribfest.com/bands. Pro Wrestling Rampage performers will be pounding their chests in the ring Saturday (1 p.m., 4 p.m., and 7 p.m.) as you pad yours with all that smoky goodness.

Do your kids find civilized behavior a boar? Send them to the Rib Kidz Fun Zone to ride some rides (Ride-A-Ribba-Rama passes available Wednesday-Friday for \$10, Saturday for \$15) while you swine-and-dine. The winners of the 2016 Ribfest will be revealed Saturday at 7:55 p.m. as participants are evaluated on the sauce, appearance, taste, and texture of their finished products. As a cherished rite of summer, Erie has stuck to its ribs for over a quarter century and doesn't appear at risk of falling off the bone anytime soon. – Matt Swanseger

11 a.m. to 10 p.m. (Wednesday through Thursday), 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. (Friday and Saturday) // Perry Square // erieribfest.com/ // free admission, prices vary by vendor

Perry Square will again transform into Thoracic Park for the 26th Annual Ribfest, or Erie's worst place to announce your veganism since 1991. Eight contestants will vie for the honor of best rib, best sauce (decided by a panel of guest judges), and the people's choice award (as voted by you, the festival-goers) in this carnivore tour-de-force. Cleveland's Pig Foot ran wee-wee all the way home with the top prizes last year, while Jack-on-the-Bone (ribs) and Armadillo's (sauce) settled for seconds after not quite breaking the

May 28 — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Eastside Family Y, 2102 Nagle Rd. ymcaerie.org.

Crash-A-Rama
May 28 — 5 p.m.
Lake Erie Speedway, 10700 Delmas Dr. lakeeriestrategy.com.

Glow Erie Run
May 29 — 7 p.m.
Penn State Behrend, 4701 Behrend College Dr. glowerierun.com.

Free Fireworks
May 29 — 10 to 10:15 p.m.
Waldameer Park, 220 Peninsula Dr. waldameer.com.

15K Freedom Challenge
May 30 — 7:30 a.m.

to 12:30 p.m.
Walnut Creek Baptist Church, 6015 W. Ridge Rd. erie15k.com.

Erie SeaWolves vs. Binghamton Mets
May 31 — 6:30 p.m. & June 1 — 7 p.m. & June 2 — 11 a.m.
Jerry Uht Park, 110 E. 10th St. erieevents.com.

Adult Beginner Dulcimer
May 31 & June 7 — 6:45 to 8:30 p.m.
Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. asburywoods.org.

County Council Meeting
May 31 — 7 p.m.
Erie County Courthouse, 140 W. 6th St.

eriecountypa.gov
Mind, Body, Beer

May 31 — 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th St. eriealeworks.com.

2016 Erie Ribfest
June 1, 2 — 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. & June 3, 4 — 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Perry Square Park, Downtown Erie erieribfest.com.

Evening Lagoon by Pontoon
June 1, 3, 8 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Pontoon Boat Station, 301 Peninsula Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

Car Cruise In

June 3 — 5 to 8 p.m.
Downtown North East, facebook.com/TheNorthEastChamber.

2nd Annual Tech Savvy STEM Workshop
June 4 — 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Edinboro University's Frank G. Pogue Student Center, 405 Scotland Rd. aauw.org.

TREC Open House
June 4 — 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

Erie Animal Network Used Book Sale
June 4, 5 — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Chestnut Street Senior Apartments, 7554 Chestnut St. facebook.com/events/1083888021682543.

Biggest Loser Race Series
June 5 — 7 a.m. to noon
Presque Isle State Park, 301 Peninsula Dr. biggestloserraceseries.com.

Plant & Produce Preview Sale
June 5 — 1 to 5 p.m.
Goodell Gardens & Homestead, 221 Waterford St. goodellgardens.org.

Community Music School
June 6
Dr. William P. Alexander Music Center, 110 Kiltie

Rd. events.edinboro.edu.

Summer Day Camp
June 6 — 7 a.m.
St. George School, 1612 Bryant St. sgs-online.org.

Erie SeaWolves vs. Altoona Curve
June 6, 7, 8, 9 — 7 p.m.
Jerry Uht Park, 110 E. 10th St. erieevents.com.

Gentle Yoga & Meditation
June 6, 13 — 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Edinboro Branch Library, 413 W. Plum St. E. erielibrary.org.

Porreco College Open House
June 7 — 3 to 6 p.m.
Red Barn Classroom Complex, 2951 W. 38th St. events.edinboro.edu.

Radiohead

A Moon Shaped Pool
XL Recordings



If you're one of Radiohead's many, many fans, this has been a good month for you. The votes are in. After a veritable flood of critical praise, it's practically impossible to argue against the new album, even if you wanted to. But maybe you don't listen to Radiohead. You might do so sparingly, carrying a vaguely-defined respect for the band. You wonder how they silently remain one of the most popular bands in the world. You never quite cracked the surface past a few tracks, and sit there befuddled as to what the commotion is about. *A Moon Shaped Pool* delivers on the band's hefty artistic promise. It opens with "Burn the Witch," and a stirring sweep of strings. It was heralded with an unsettling stop-motion music video done in the style of the 1960s BBC series, *Trumpton*. The first section of the album exists in the ethereal safe space that fans know and love, picking things up on the flipside. Johnny Greenwood's arrangements are tender, organic, and cinematically unfolding. Thom Yorke's quavering warble is as hauntingly dissectable as ever. As the title suggests, the album leaves an impression. – Nick Warren



Yak

Alas Salvation
Octopus Electrical



Yak's debut hits hard and fast. Rumbling rock riffs kick in with the vitality and honesty that's too often missing from music this energetic. Comparisons are commonly made to early era Stooges, and it's clear to see why. Tracks like "Use Somebody" could almost pass for *Funhouse* b-sides. That's not all the album is, however. The angular, mechanical bass intro of "Hungry Heart" overpowers the listener, transitioning into a post-punk masterpiece. "Harbour the Feeling" gets fuzzier, and reminds you why their introductory EP debuted on Third Man Records. By "Roll Another," the band finds themselves in a Titus Andronicus-esque narrative. All of the best elements of rock and roll exist not as affectations, but as an articulated band statement. Garage rock, stoner rock, and art rock are each mined here. The London trio have made a ground-shattering debut album in *Alas Salvation*. Frontman Oliver Burslem proves himself as a formidable force behind a dynamic new group. The album concludes with the eight-minute "Please Don't Wait For Me." Comprised of three distinct sections, the song builds an arc, providing a finale to an expertly crafted album. – Nick Warren



Modern Baseball

Holy Ghost
Run For Cover Records



Holy Ghost is audible proof that the emo revival is still burning bright. The Philadelphia quartet's third full-length release aimed to mimic the structure of Outkast's 2003 hit record *Speakerboxxx/The Love Below*. Modern Baseball's dual vocalists/guitarists Jake Ewald and Brendan Lukens split the 11-track album in two, with Ewald handling the songwriting on the first six tracks and Lukens taking on the latter five. *Holy Ghost* represents growth for the band as a whole. While both Ewald and Lukens grappled with separate interpersonal conflicts while writing the record, the subject matter of the songs lies well next to each other. Ewald's songs range from subjects like the stress distance puts on a relationship to a loss of longtime faith. Lukens' side focuses more on his recent struggle with bipolar disorder and overcoming a substance abuse problem. Ewald and Lukens come together in solidarity, counting their losses and wanting to be better for themselves and the people they love. Clocking in at only 27 minutes long, *Holy Ghost* relays a dexterously melodic catharsis of the state of confusion that is being in your early 20s. – Bridget Fessler

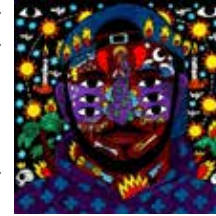


Kaytranada

99.9%
XL



Album art's cachet with consumers has been fairly minimized in this digital age – we're pre-cognizant of what we're buying because we've already heard it. However, the would-be sleeve imagery of 99.9% almost perfectly (within 0.1 percent) illustrates its contents. The surrealist/pop art self-portrait depicts Haitian-Canadian producer Louis Kevin Celestin (alias Kaytranada) in almost deific fashion, many-eyed, Virgin Mary-nosed (in a cannabis-print cloak, no less), and orbited by flames, planes, candles, skulls, suns, and stars. The eyes suggest that there is multidimensionality to this record – and there is, as deep house ("Together," "You're the One"), left-field hip hop ("Drive Me Crazy," "Glowed Up"), and contemporary R&B ("Got It Good," "One Too Many") intermingle to great effect. The nose seems to indicate – also rightly so – that the sounds he's sniffed out are a) fresh (Virgin Mary = pure, untainted) and b) dope (cannabis-print cloak). Peers IAM-NOBODI and Lakim have broached similar territory in recent years, but without songs so fully-realized or hot. – Matt Swanseger



[Cont. from page 11] moving north rapidly. Washington County, in the southwestern corner of Pennsylvania, was developed to have 2,136 permitted wells because of the easily available Marcellus shale there. Erie County could see that kind of development into our Utica shale layers. Nearby Butler County already has 771 permitted wells, Mercer County has 100, Venango County has 17, and Crawford County has six. There are two wells producing natural gas located in Crawford County between Meadville and Cochranon (Staab 1H and Lippert 1H fracked in 2012), and two south of Conneaut Lake (By-

ler 3HD and 4HD fracked and flared in 2013 but capped for future use in 2018).

– Since 2012, Erie County landowners have signed 354 oil/gas leases to 12 different gas developers as of Feb. 2016. They are just waiting for the price of natural gas to recover and fracking companies to move in.

The following are some factors that indicate "No" to fracking in Erie County:

– One local Pennsylvania lawmaker, Sen. Sean Wiley, is in favor of a moratorium on fracking in the Lake Erie watershed. [See Sen. Wiley's "Harrisburg Happenings" in this issue for more information. – ed.]

– Local environmental groups including the Sierra Club oppose fracking here, and many statewide anti-fracking groups want a moratorium on any new fracking in Pennsylvania.

– World leaders, scientists, and even Pope Francis are deeply concerned that we have to stop the use of fossil fuels in order to prevent disastrous climate change effects.

– Medical data now surfacing indicates that there are serious health risks to families living in areas where fracking operations are conducted.

– Once landowners understand the reality of fracking

operations, they may decide not to enter into drilling lease agreements with developers. To complete one well involves 16 months of 24-hour per day, seven-days-a-week noise, trucks, and nighttime lights, as well as angry neighbors.

What do you say? Yes or no? Learn more about it on June 7th at a free showing of the film *Dear President Obama*, and then an open discussion about fracking in Erie County at Erie's Blasco Library Hirt Auditorium at 7 p.m. Think about joining the Clean Energy Revolution, and becoming a member of one of our local environmental organizations.

Let's keep fossil fuels in the

ground!

Sam Miller, MSEE, is an electrical engineering graduate from Gannon University, and received his masters degree from NYU/Poly. He is now retired, lives here in Erie, and is active with the local Sierra Club and the community group Our Water Our Air Our Rights. He can be reached at bearwalker33@roadrunner.com.

Find the Sierra Club Lake Erie Group at lakeeriegroup.webs.com or on Facebook. Find Our Water Our Air Our Rights at ourwaterourrights.org or on Facebook.

Erie's Only Hot Power Yoga Studio

YOUR FIRST CLASS IS

FREE

Discounts for Students, Seniors & Veterans



yogaErie

Located in the Colony Plaza

814-520-6998

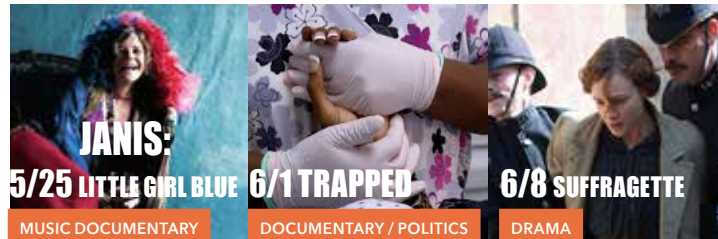
2560 West 8th Street, Erie PA 16505
www.yogaerie.com

\$5

filmsocietynwpa.org

@ 7pm

at the Erie Art Museum



5/25 JANIS: LITTLE GIRL BLUE
MUSIC DOCUMENTARY
(2016) Janis Joplin is one of the most revered and iconic rock & roll singers of all time, a tragic and misunderstood figure who thrilled millions of listeners and blazed new creative trails before her death in 1970 at age 27. This in-depth examination presents an intimate and insightful portrait of a complicated, driven, and often-beleaguered artist. Directed by Amy Berg.

6/1 TRAPPED
DOCUMENTARY / POLITICS
(2016) Directed by Dawn Porter, TRAPPED follows the struggles of the clinic workers and lawyers fighting to keep abortion safe and legal for millions of Americans. Hundreds of laws regulating abortion clinics have been passed since 2010. TRAP laws (or Targeted Regulations of Abortion Providers) are spreading across America as the battle heads to the U.S. Supreme Court.

6/8 SUFFRAGETTE
DRAMA
(2015) Academy Award nominees Carey Mulligan, Helena Bonham Carter, and Academy Award winner Meryl Streep, powerfully portray the women who were willing to lose everything in their fight for equality in early-20th-century Britain. Directed by Sarah Gavron, Oscar Nominee: Best Cinematography, Best Sound Editing and Best Original Score.



Renaissance Centre

Celebrate 20 years of Renaissance Centre

Wednesday, June 8, 2016

Visit A City within a City! - #Renaissance Revealed

RenaissanceErie.com

11:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

◆Tenant Open Houses ◆Featured Historical Sites within Renaissance Centre ◆Free Parking in ramp at 10th & French

4:00—7:00 p.m.

◆Tenant Open Houses ◆Historical Sites in Renaissance Centre ◆\$3.00 event parking in ramp at 10th & French ◆Local musicians & artists

◆A Taste of Downtown: Sample favorites from downtown restaurants. Proceeds benefit non-profit businesses we serve: ACES, Boots on Ground, Dramashop, Epilepsy Project, Innovation Collaborative, Make-A-Wish, Northwestern Legal Services, Stay Focused and Women's Care Center



Taste of Zion
- Custom Designed Catering -

Addressing the Rising Number of Suicides in Our Community

A Conversation with Mandy Fauble of UPMC Hamot and Safe Harbor Behavioral Health

By: Dan Schank

In January, the *Erie Times-News* reported that “there were 53 deaths determined to be suicides in Erie County in 2015.” By contrast, according to the FBI’s Unified Crime Reports, 11 homicides were tallied in our community during that year. In the media, we often hear more about the latter than the former, but that is beginning to change.

Although 53 is an unusually high number of suicides, it’s reflective of an upward trend that began about a decade and a half ago. Since 1999, the rate in Erie County has increased by approximately 20 percent. The Erie County Department of Health estimates that there was an average of 11.4 suicides for every 100,000 people between 1999 and 2004. And that number has escalated recently – between 2011 and 2013, the average went up to 13.7.

On a national level, there’s more bad news. During the same timeframe (1999-2014), the Centers for Disease

Fauble suggests that “if we take measures to help families stay safe and stable, we can reduce [what are] often referred to as Adverse Childhood Experiences,” which can lead to many of the difficulties that increase risk for suicide.

Control and Prevention (CDC) estimate that the suicide rate grew by about 24 percent. In fact, their data indicate that suicide was the 10th leading cause of death in the U.S. in 2014. Homicide ranked 17th during the same year.

The CDC data offers plenty of surprises. For example, they concluded that the biggest increases occurred among those between the ages of 45 and 64 – and they also found an alarming uptick in children between the ages of 10 and 14. Child suicide has likewise been recognized as a cause for serious concern by the American Association of Suicidology (AAS). The non-profit recently concluded that suicides among children between 10 and 14 have grown by more than 50 percent over the past



SAM METSFAN

30 years.

The blame for this crisis has been placed on a variety of factors, including prescription drug abuse, increased access to firearms, bullying (especially cyberbullying), and the psychological impact of long term poverty. To get a clearer sense of how to respond to the issue, I turned to Dr. Mandy Fauble of UPMC Hamot, also the Vice President of Clinical Operations at Safe Harbor Behavioral Health, our region’s largest outpatient mental health facility.

I began by asking Fauble about the connections between addiction and suicide. She claimed that “substance abuse [including alcoholism] is a risk factor for suicide, and many people who die by suicide have drugs and alcohol in their system at the time of their death.”

As you might imagine, substance abuse is often clearly linked to depression. Accordingly, Fauble suggests taking a “first aid approach” to recognize its symptoms before they become

life-threatening. Some may be physical, like “low mood for days at a time, changes in sleep, changes in appetite, memory loss, or loss of focus.” Some symptoms have more to do with mood, especially when someone feels “hopeless, helpless, worthless, or guilty.” Social and environmental factors, including “financial difficulties, deception, criminal behavior, and sudden changes in social networking” can also lead to self-harm.

Fauble claims that trauma is often highly indicative of suicidal behavior, especially when experienced at a young age. She suggests that “if we take measures to help families stay safe and stable, we can reduce [what are] often referred to as Adverse Childhood Experiences,” which can lead to many of the difficulties that increase risk for suicide. Trauma is often triggered by a stressful event, “such as bullying, loss of a relationship, grief, or exposure to suicide,” according to Fauble. She notes that individual triggers can

Fauble points out that “substance abuse [including alcoholism] is a risk factor for suicide.” Unsurprisingly, substance abuse is often clearly linked to depression. So the earlier somebody suffering from either of these illnesses gets help, the better their chance for survival.

vary because stress is often subjective. Accordingly, she suggests that “when helping, it is important not to judge, as the person is experiencing the situation from their unique vantage point.”

Since many cultural prejudices persist about mental health (and those who seek treatment), I asked Fauble about some of the misconceptions about suicide. She mentioned the myth that “people who want to die by suicide will find a way to do it,” regardless of our actions. This assumption is especially damaging because, when we reach out to those at risk, “research indicates that most people [considering suicide] *do not die*.” There’s a strong chance that lives can be saved through empathetic communication. Since sui-

cide is “linked to very real neurobiological phenomena,” Fauble also warns against labeling its victims as “weak,” which “does a grave injustice to both those who have died by suicide and their loved ones.”

At Safe Harbor Behavioral Health, free telephone, walk-in, and mobile crisis services are offered 24 hours a day to anyone in Erie County. Fauble’s organization also offers “a short-term residential program to help people who need more intensive support and who can benefit from medication and therapy services in a safe and structured environment.”

I asked if there were other regional partners working to respond to these issues. Fauble quickly mentioned organizations like the Erie County Suicide Prevention Task Force, which organizes an annual Suicide Prevention Conference, and the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Erie County (NAMI), which offers educational programming and referrals to families and individuals in need of mental health services.

To be more effective as a community, she suggests getting out the message

that suicide is a preventable public health concern “that impacts our neighbors, loved ones, and families.” To do so, she advocates incorporating “this education in our primary care and emergency rooms, with our churches and social groups, and in places of employment.”

When people are suffering from serious depression, the chaos of everyday life can seem insurmountable. As individuals, we can’t always guarantee that our loved ones won’t gain access to opiates, lose the people closest to them, or fall prey to vicious harassment on social media. Although the triggers that lead to self-harm can’t always be avoided, we can still keep our eyes and ears open. And we can respond with empathy – and urgency – when we suspect that the people we care about are in need of help.

For more about Safe Harbor Behavioral Health, visit their website: shbh.org.

Dan Schank can be contacted at dschank@eriereader.com.



BAKER131313

mclane church

Who is God? • What is God really like? • Where does God fit?

G O D
IN THE WHIRLWIND
WHO DO YOU TRUST?
AN 8TH CENTURY STUDY OF ISAIAH

Join us this Spring as we look at an 8th century B.C.E. writer’s response to these questions through our study of the Old Testament book of Isaiah. “God in the Whirlwind”

Locations in Erie, Edinboro & Union City (814) 734-1907

Bring Your questions, your doubts, and an open mind. And as always, come as you are. www.mclanechurch.org

A Day in the Life of Kathy Dahlkemper

How healthy leadership drives healthy communities



“Community health encompasses all aspects of life, from personal safety to physical health to financial security,” says Dahlkemper, pictured here in a rare moment without her own bike.

“I realize this all comes from the top,” Dahlkemper said. “If I want others to do this – to take the stairs and do biometric screenings – I have to do it, too. The main goal is to enable people to live better quality lives because their health is good and they feel good. In the end, we will also save taxpayer dollars.”

“Highmark guides our wellness programming goals with figures they obtain through extensive studies,” Fischer added. According to the figure Highmark provided Fischer, a 10 percent Erie county employee participation rate in the wellness program could lead to a 2016 savings in health care costs of \$214,960.

As discussion turned to plans for a county employee health fair, the meeting ticked past the scheduled departure time of 10 a.m. for the Erie County Department of Health (ECDoH) and Dahlkemper was already walking out the door as I shoved papers in a bag and dangled my coat from one arm – a practice that promised to repeat itself throughout the day as I attempted to keep up with her. Down the stairs of the courthouse we went, over the few blocks of slush-covered streets, and up two flights of stairs to another office, this time that of Melissa Lyon, Director of the ECDoH.

Nicole Bolash, Health Promotion and Quality Improvement Manager, opened the meeting with a brief discussion on community gardens in food desert areas.

“We are putting together a plan to offer mini-grants for Erie City schools to plant their own gardens,” Bolash said. “Students grow their own food and take it home. This year, excess food will go to the stores participating in the Healthy Corner Store Initiative.”

Mirrored off a program developed and maintained in Philadelphia through the Food Trust Organization, the Healthy Corner Store Initiative provides residents living in food desert regions of Erie County a partial solution to a growing problem. The 2015

By: Ti Sumner

Forgoing her usual antioxidant-packed, green, blender breakfast drink, Kathy Dahlkemper arrived at the Manufacturers Association annual Eggs ‘N’ Issues breakfast on February 11 at 7:45 a.m. to deliver her State of the County speech.

“I am committed to making Erie County a more vibrant and safer place to live,” Dahlkemper said to a conference center full of Erie business leaders. “In 2015, we concluded the Destination Erie study and launched Emerge 2040 as the means to implement our community’s strategic vision for the future. Our collective priority moving forward must be to create a thriving community full of economic opportunity.”

At the conclusion of the breakfast, Dahlkemper headed to the courthouse, waved at the security camera on her way through the double security doors, and took the six flights of stairs to the County Executive office. She arrived at 9:22 a.m., slightly short of breath after

the climb, but smiling when she saw me waiting in the outer office. And just like that, the sprint began.

We walked to Dahlkemper’s forest green office with a view of the lake. On a counter-height shelf sat the top portion of an old podium, like the kind that teachers use at assemblies.

“When I saw that nobody was using this, I asked if I could put it in my office. Now it’s my stand-up desk,” Dahlkemper said, smiling.

Research by James Levine, an endocrinologist at the Mayo Clinic, has demonstrated that sedentary lifestyles are detrimental to our all-around well-being and cannot be fixed with an hour or two in the gym.

“The default has become to sit,” Levine said in a 2014 *Smithsonian Magazine* interview. “We need the default to be standing.”

Standing by default can be challenging in a day of back-to-back meetings, making stairs and stand-up desks that much more necessary.

At 9:30 a.m., Dahlkemper met with Sabrina Fischer, Director of Human Resources.

“When I first took office, I asked, ‘What are we doing about wellness?’” Dahlkemper began. “I take the stairs and I put up signs encouraging everyone in the building to take the stairs, but otherwise, there was very little being done. So I asked Sabrina to help drive the efforts of improving wellness of county employees.”

“We first developed a wellness committee,” Fischer said. “We set goals for increased employee participation in Highmark’s annual biometric screenings, developed the 10 & 10 program – a weight reduction program of 10 pounds in 10 weeks – and added lunch hour yoga on Mondays. Biometric screening participation went up from three to 10 percent in a single year, four departments participated in the 10 & 10 program, and the yoga sign-up sheet filled within two days of the announcement of the first class.”

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Erie County Community Health Needs Assessment showed 10 food deserts in Erie County, seven of which were located inside the city. The ECDoH defines a food desert as any region in which one-third of community residents live more than one mile from a grocery store. The seven food deserts in the city of Erie directly affect an estimated 22,000 residents and possibly as many as 77,000. Most food deserts exist in low-income neighborhoods where residents have little or no access to transportation.

After a brief update on Let's Move Outside, a tour of 15 walking and biking trails throughout Erie County sponsored by the ECDoH, and more recently by Wegmans, we were off and running again for the next meeting: three flights down to the basement of

Dahlkemper described the summer jobs program she developed for youth in underserved areas, which includes interview and on-the-job training. "It's a great opportunity for our young people to see what kinds of opportunities are out there ... let them see what the world can be. They realize what's possible in their own lives," Dahlkemper said.

the ECDoH building.

The second meeting served as follow-up to the conversation Dahlkemper started with her staff regarding Erie County lead levels and water quality after news of the Flint, Michigan water crisis broke last fall.

"Monitoring lead levels in children is always a matter of funding," said Char Berringer, Director of Community Health Services. "For years, we tested children living in high-risk areas or circumstances. But the funding ran out and we stopped doing regular testing." Berringer pointed out that funds frequently become available again following a crisis. Dahlkemper and Berringer discussed the possibility of a fax blast for schools and community centers detailing the risks of lead exposure, then Dahlkemper stood up, thanked everyone for their efforts, and it was grab-and-go time again.

We departed the ECDoH for an Elected Women luncheon led by Judge Stephanie Domitrovich regarding the group's adopted organization, Nurturing Hearts, a nonprofit that provides 6-month programs for girls ages 10-18 for the purposes of positive self-development and healthy lifestyle building. The elected officials decided to plan a future field trip for the girls and the luncheon adjourned almost as soon as it started.

On the way back to the courthouse, I asked Dahlkemper to explain her personal definition of community health.

"For me, community health encompasses all aspects of life, from personal safety to physical health to financial security," she answered. She described the summer jobs program she developed for youth in underserved areas, which includes interview and on-the-job training.

"It's a great opportunity for our young people to see what kinds of opportunities are out there ... let them see what the world can be. They realize what's possible in their own lives," Dahlkemper said.

Back at the courthouse, Dahlkemper attended a 1:30 p.m. DevelopErie meeting before heading to the Planning Department open house on the third floor of the Blasco Library building. Then she delivered a ribbon cutting speech at 3:10 p.m.

After spending the day with Dahlkemper, the importance of the Planning Department was evident without explanation. Their responsibilities include such programs as recycling, farmland preservation, and the Greenways grant, which provides funding for the Erie community's natural, scenic, and recreational resources — all of which are aspects Dahlkemper strongly believes will improve community health and life quality for county residents and increase the chances of new residents and businesses moving to Erie County.

Nearly 11 hours, four meetings, a breakfast, a luncheon, a planned field trip for at-risk youth, an open house, two speeches, and hundreds of stairs into her day, Dahlkemper returned to the stand-up desk in her forest green office, committed to making Erie County a more vibrant and safer place to live.

Ti Sumner can be contacted at TiSumner@ErieReader.com



RUHRFISCH

[Cont. from page 11] natural gas industry is likely to see a resurgence.

Pennsylvania has a storied history and an important role in the natural gas drilling industry. The gas is below us through no fault or force of our own. The Commonwealth is the second-largest gas producing state in the nation. So we've seen our share of economic activity associated with this once-booming industry in terms of job creation, community revitalization, and revenue generation.

None of those factors being discounted or slighted, the Lake Erie watershed area is unique and needs to be treated as such.

I think I'm in good company with a majority of readers in my conviction that our region's future is too important to not be a trustee of its protection. This region relies on sources of drinking water from all levels of aquifers, and we don't have to look too far west to see catastrophic impacts on clean Great Lakes drinking water.

We've spent millions of dollars in Presque Isle Bay to finally earn an EPA de-listed status. It is irresponsible to minimize potential contamination of fresh water from fracking.

This is not a novel concept. Federal prohibitions on drilling in or under the Great Lakes exist; and our neighboring states of Ohio and New York have varying levels of exclusion, from injunctions at the municipal level to a state-wide ban in New York. Maryland has a moratorium until October 2017, where regulations and standards are required to be written before it is lifted.

This plays out on the world stage as

Though Pennsylvania has a long history of drilling for natural gas, this region relies on sources of drinking water from all levels of aquifers, and we don't have to look too far west to see catastrophic impacts on clean Great Lakes drinking water.

well, with prohibitions in Scotland, Wales, New Brunswick, Northern Ireland, and regions in Spain.

There is obviously something to this. It is not far-left nonsense, as it has been portrayed.

Pennsylvania has its own moratoria within the state, including a suspension of drilling in and around the Delaware River Basin and a 2015 executive order by Gov. Wolf to suspend leasing of any additional state park land for drilling, reversing the order implemented by his predecessor, Gov. Tom Corbett.

This issue is often pitted as "jobs versus the environment," suggesting that one cannot be supportive of both creating jobs and protecting our natural resources. I find *that* to be nonsense, as renewable energies have begun to outpace fossil fuels in job creation. And as we shift our focus towards wind and solar energies, this trend will continue for years to come.

I am simply not convinced that the benefits of fracking outweigh the possible impact to our region. For us, the privilege of living in the Lake Erie watershed comes with a great responsibility to protect it for the benefit of future generations.

Senator Sean D. Wiley can be contacted at SenatorWiley@pasenate.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @SenatorWiley.

Erie Faces Erie

Mary Fabrizio McCarthy

dancer / pharmacist /
former Frontier Pharmacy
owner

Ed Bernik

photographer

*"There's always been a bit of the arts
that I am never going to let go of, even as
I have gotten older."*

Ed Bernik: Did you dance when you
were a young girl?

Mary Fabrizio McCarthy: Never! I al-
ways wanted to. I graduated from college
thinking I would really like to dance, so
I went to the Philadelphia Civic Ballet
School. It was a private school and I took
evening classes until I changed careers,
moved back to Erie, and worked as a
pharmacist at Herbie's Drug Store.

EB: You're being honored later this
month for your 50-year affiliation with
the Erie Civic Ballet. How did you start
the long journey?

MFM: One day, when it was still Her-
bie's Drug Store (I eventually purchased
the store which became Frontier Phar-
macy), a woman came in and introduced
herself as a patron moving into the
neighborhood who was going to open a
classical ballet school. I was elated be-
cause I could not find one since I came
home. That person turned out to be Sta-
tia Sublette. She brought classical ballet
to Erie 50-some years ago. What you see
now is all the result of what happened
back then. She originally formed an alli-
ance with the Erie Philharmonic and was
asked to dance at the Erie Philharmonic
Viennese ball. I and another student ac-
companied her.

My business as a pharmacy owner be-
gan to grow; but I kept an interest in the
ballet, directing some rehearsals, serv-
ing on the board, and just helping out.

EB: This year, Erie hosts the 2016 Re-
gional Dance America Northeast Festi-

val from June 2-4.

In 1960, Erie hosted the
same festival and you were
there. Tell me a bit about
that.

MFM: There was a pro-
gram where ballet groups
came and were adjudicated
over a three-day period. One
of the judges who came to
Erie that year was the fa-
mous George Balanchine:
the number one choreogra-
pher in the world. And along
with him were other ballet
luminaries such as Ted Shaw
and Anatole Chujoy. Quite a
number of them were big in
the ballet world. That was
quite an honor for Erie.

EB: For those who are un-
familiar with dance, that
would be like having the
Beatles judging "The Voice."

As one of the performers,
did you have an opportunity
to meet George Balanchine?

MFM: No. We were only
introduced to him. If you
can imagine, there were all
these ballet companies per-
forming. The Erie Civic Ballet
did perform onstage for him.
We were not adjudicated
because we were the host
company. We danced to
Liszt's Hungarian dances. A
choreographer was brought
in by Statia. We practiced at
what was the Lawrence Ho-
tel ballroom.

EB: So before 1955 there wasn't a ballet
in Erie?

MFM: There were schools of dance
and maybe they had pointe classes or
something like that. But basically, they
were mostly the kind that would have a
review every year with all of their danc-
ers, tap and everything else that went
with it. But Statia taught classical ballet.
Then eventually, she went onto modern
dance, too. We did branch out a little bit.

EB: Even to this day, do you dance
around the house?

MFM: In my head (laughing).

EB: I know you are close with Sarah
Purvis (artistic director at the Erie Dance
Conservatory School). What do you see
on the horizon for ballet in Erie?

MFM: I'm most impressed with con-
temporary ballet. I had a little part as the
grandmother in *The Nutcracker* Sarah
directed. After 50-some years, I was able
to view these new dancers she had and I
was amazed at them. The dancer nowa-
days is a lot more fit physically and able
to do much more. I was amazed at the



girls when they
did their jetés, the strength that they
had. That's one thing. The other thing
is Sarah's company. She undertook *The
Nutcracker* this year, and I must say that

[I was] the first woman in
Erie to own a pharmacy. I
went to pharmacy school
at a time when there
were so few women. And
somehow I endured it. I still
have a tremendous love for
pharmacy, but anybody who
has a career should also have
an avocation.

friends who attended all marveled at the
show she and her students mounted,
especially for a first-year performance.
I can see her going forth, and she has a
really good core of students.

EB: So there's a good future in the re-
gion.

MFM: Yes, there is. And I saw them
grow from the little children to the adults
who are probably going on to Mercy-
hurst.

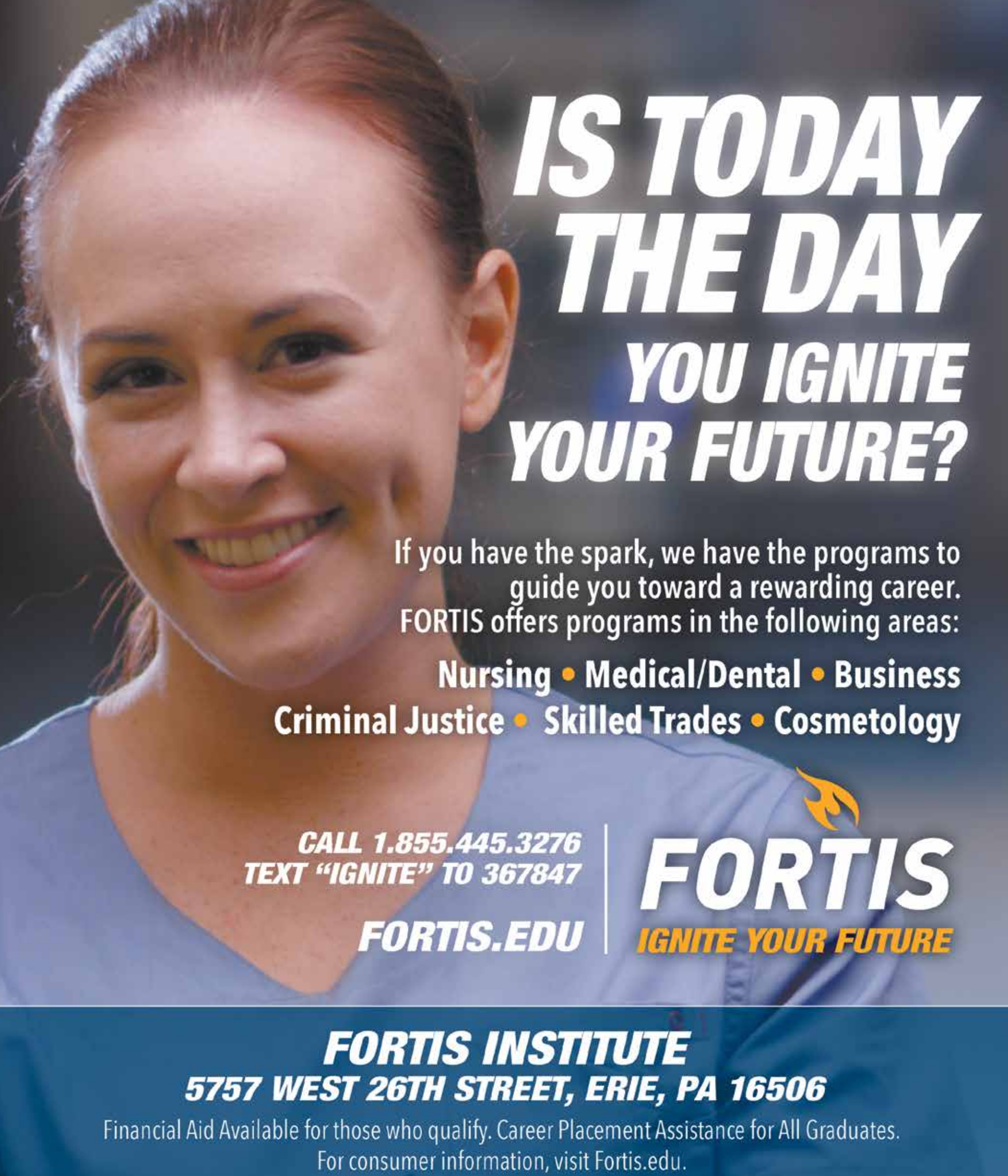
EB: Is there anything else you'd like to
tell me about your role in ballet in Erie?

MFM: They have chosen me as a "guest
of honor." I am very humbled about that
because this is a portion of my life that
I haven't put away. My career was as a
pharmacist and pharmacy owner – the
first woman in Erie to own a pharmacy. I
went to pharmacy school at a time when
there were so few women. And some-
how I endured it.

I still have a tremendous love for phar-
macy, but I have to say that anybody who
has a career should also have an avoca-
tion.

There's always been a bit of the arts
that I am never going to let go of, even as
I have gotten older.

Ed Bernik: bernikphotography.com



IS TODAY THE DAY YOU IGNITE YOUR FUTURE?

If you have the spark, we have the programs to guide you toward a rewarding career. FORTIS offers programs in the following areas:

**Nursing • Medical/Dental • Business
Criminal Justice • Skilled Trades • Cosmetology**

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

FORTIS.EDU



FORTIS
IGNITE YOUR FUTURE

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.

GET IN YOUR GAME!



NOW OPEN!

The BREW BROTHERS
MEALS, MUSIC & BREWS

Entertainment 7 Days a Week!

30 Beers on Tap!

Happy Hour: Friday and Saturday, 5pm - 7pm

Visit www.presqueisledowns.com for details



LIVE RACING

2016

NOW - OCTOBER 6
Racing Sunday thru Thursday
Post Time 5:25pm

Sunday and Wednesday Family
Night at the Races 5pm - 8pm

\$2 Cheeseburgers

\$2 for 2 Smith Hot Dogs • \$1 Fries



Live in' THE LAKE LIFE GIVEAWAY

Saturdays in June
4pm - 10pm

- 5 Lucky cash prize winners every hour 4pm-9pm
- One Grand Prize winner at 10pm each Saturday!
- Earn entries each Saturday with every 200 points earned
- Earn bonus entries on Thursdays with Entry Multipliers

Presque Isle Downs & Casino and Bizzarro Boxing Promotions Presents

PROFESSIONAL LIVE BOXING

SATURDAY
JUNE 11 AT 6PM
DOORS OPEN AT 5:30

TICKETS

VIP Ringside \$75
VIP Tables \$500
Available by calling 814-881-3750

Section A \$30

BOXERS



Wilkins Santiago - Main Event
Thomas Mattice - Co Main
Alejandro Salinas • Victor Toney
Ivan Hernandez • Wilfredo Flores
Montana Love • Isaiah Steen
All Bouts Subject to Change.

- Tickets on sale at TicketWeb.com -

presque isle
downs & casino

ELDORADO RESORTS

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

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