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*"My obsession is that the best outcome for everyone is when you are free to choose; when government is limited, meaning, there's more range for choosing."  
-Bob Chitester*



## From the Editors

The fest that shows Erie at its best.

The Erie Art Museum hosts the 24th incarnation of its Blues & Jazz Festival this year, with another incredible lineup of regional and touring musicians topped on Sunday night by the wildly wonderful Red Baraat. (Don't miss them. Trust us.)

Twenty-four is a lot of festivals; but it feels like the first weekend in August has always beckoned Erieites to Frontier Park. It's hard to remember what we did around here, prior to the Festival's inception.

You can almost picture thousands of tie-dye-wearing, hula-hooping, giant bubble-making, Bonnaroo-shuffling lost souls wandering in the park's vicinity, craving overstuffed pitas and a danceable beat.

Surely, local festival lovers have found their Mecca in this festival. But one of the beauties of the Blues & Jazz Fest is that even atypical festival-goers are right at home there. So are those who didn't even know they liked the blues, or jazz – or art museums, for that matter.

So is everyone.

"The mission of the Erie Art Museum is to present art in all its forms, and the Festival reflects that," states the EAM website. "We are passionate about our Blues & Jazz Festival because the art – in this case the music – is completely accessible to the community. It is wonderful to witness people of all stripes, from all walks of life, enjoying great music together."

Interestingly, being inaccessible is one of the criticisms often leveled at jazz, in particular. And if you thought jazz – or blues – only included the schlocky, boring clichés and excessive solos played in far too many bars, you'd be right to write it off. In fact, according to *Tape Op* editor Larry Crane, "Jazz currently makes up less than 1.4 percent of U.S. music consumption, yet we all know it is an important genre, and possibly one of the best cultural exports this country has ever given the world."

Not surprisingly, those who do seek out jazz festivals regularly find them headlined by "jazzy" pop stars, while musicians more loyal to the genre's "sound of surprise" elements are relegated to early time slots and second stages.

But the Blues & Jazz Fest triumphs in its selection of singular voices and global sounds, just as music at EAM has since the old Annex days.

"It's crucial to present authentic music," explains EAM Director John Vanco on the Festival webpage. "I favor artists who have a personal style, compose their own music, and are engaged in the tradition. An artist's fame is not important to me; I will always choose quality over celebrity."

Wouldn't it be lovely if other major festivals in Erie prioritized this way?

In this era of cover band worship and ear worm redundancy, how refreshing it is to have a festival that celebrates the uniting joy in all great music – even that which you haven't heard before.

The best art pushes our prejudices and stretches our aesthetic boundaries beyond the like/dislike dichotomy. And the best arts institutions work tirelessly to provide engaging opportunities in their communities.

The Erie Art Museum is one of those institutions, and the Blues & Jazz Festival is its best showcase. It's the place you want to show out-of-towners to say, *See? We in Erie have it pretty good, too.*



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## Erie At Large

When the circus comes to town



**“Even the protest scene was mediocre”:** This photo, taken in Cleveland in July, can be seen as one example of the quiet, underwhelming protests by the Left during the recent Republican National Convention. The billboard was created by plantingpeace.org.

By: Jim Wertz

When the circus came to nearby Cleveland, Ohio to celebrate the midsummer bromance between the Republican establishment and the party’s nominee, it carried with it the enthusiasm of an arranged marriage in which the Republican Party was offered to the richest man in the village, the dowry paid in delegates.

You’d imagine that an event of this magnitude would attract a crowd. And it did. But beyond the supporters of the nominee and the defenders of the establishment, who were compelled to legitimize the democratic process for the future good of their party, the energy in the streets – and at times within Quicken Loans Arena – was no more perceptible than it would be after a LeBron-less Cavs game on the back end of a mid-season losing streak.

I expected to be pushed to the nether regions of the city, where I would be corralled onto one of many busses waiting to shuttle throngs of outsiders unable to park or reside near the RNC

security perimeter. But instead, I found myself driving past open parking garages and empty parking lots, progressively closer to the geographic heart of the Republican Party this election season.

Once inside Cleveland’s theater district, just a few blocks from the metaphorical big top, I parked in one of hundreds of open spaces inside a private lot across the street from the State Theatre.

“I’ve parked 15 to 20 cars a day this week,” the lot attendant responded, when I asked about the pace of what was expected to be this summer’s premiere event in the rock n’ roll capital of the Midwest. “For a busy night at the theater,” he offered in contrast, “we usually park more than 200 cars.”

Most of the traffic he’d parked during convention week was federal security vehicles, as illustrated by the Franklin Mint-style commemorative coins he’s received as tips: an RNC in CLE coin in gold, a Trump/Pence coin fittingly bronzed, and a silver Secret Service coin – a real prize among parking lot attendants, he shared, and worthy of free drinks among the right local bar

crowd.

Even the protest scene was mediocre. If not for the ladies of Code Pink – seen nightly in prime time being escorted out of the arena by security as young Republicans waved American flags at them while spewing patriotic vitriol – the radical Left would have been shamed for the lack of coordinated efforts outside the security perimeter. Perhaps they felt that this convention would not hear them anyway, so why bother? Or perhaps there was sufficient infighting within the Republican Party that the spirit of self-destruction outweighed the Left’s desire to dismantle its ideological foe? Whatever the reason, the streets remained quiet, day and night.

Much of the apathy from both the Left and the Right can be attributed to the resigned commitment most delegates felt for their nominee. It didn’t help that the governor of the host state refused to participate in the festivities. “John Kasich is a man of his convictions,” said Sandra Barber, the long-time Republican chairwoman of Fulton County, Ohio. “He’s a great governor and we wish he would have been our candidate,” she lamented. “He wasn’t. Now I just hope he’ll come around.”

Barber hoped that Kasich would do like they all had done: soul-searched for the unity of the party to stand behind Donald Trump. But she understood his reticence. Most of the delegates understood Kasich’s objection to the party of Trump. While a disaffected majority of Republican voters had cast their ballot for the man, those who cared about having a party post-Trump would have preferred a different nominee.

Trump is appealing to the base instincts of the disillusioned, but he’s demonstrated no evidence of his ability to govern.

That sentiment was the not-so-subtle backbone of the convention speech delivered by Ted Cruz on the third night of the RNC.

Cruz was the most likely alternative to Donald Trump. Many of the delegates in Cleveland were committed to Cruz and swallowed hard as they cast a compelled vote for Trump. At the moment he arrived on stage, the RNC was at peak energy, peak enthusiasm. The loyalists hung on to his every word, from the ahistorical contrivances that place the modern Republican Party alongside the spirit of Ida Wells and Martin Luther King, Jr., to the feigned appreciation for the New York delegation that held as much love for Cruz as they did for Hillary Clinton. In every pause they waited for the endorsement of Donald Trump by Ted Cruz to validate their actions – the votes they cast in quiet protest. And when the endorsement did not come, the audience of diehard Republican activists made him feel like he didn’t belong there anymore. He proved he wasn’t with them, and to that crowd it seemed that perhaps he had never been with them. Their sacrifice, it seemed, was in vain.

In many ways, Cruz offered the most substantive speech of the convention. His off-script call to “vote your conscience” at all levels of government was a message that the entire country needed to hear, albeit from an unlikely source at the most inopportune of times.

In many ways, Cruz offered the most substantive speech of the convention. His off-script call to “vote your conscience” at all levels of government was a message that the entire country needed to hear, albeit from an unlikely source at the most inopportune of times.

In making his call to action, Cruz stood against the party that had allowed him to flourish and rise politically despite his reputation on Capitol Hill as one of the most unlikable people in the U.S. Senate.

There, too, is a lesson.

In Erie, 100 miles **[Cont. on page 40]**

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## NEWS & VIEWS

### Just a Thought

The muddy terrain of equality



Photos of Syrian refugee children are all too common in the papers today. But their story, and that of so many others struggling globally, is still disproportionately under-told.

org (Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting) published a piece by analyst Adam Johnson with the gripping title, "U.S.-Led Airstrikes Kill as Many Civilians as Nice Attack – but Get No Front-page Headlines in Major U.S. Papers."

Since this attack, the actual number killed is still unknown, with numbers ranging from 14 to 200. Such inconclusiveness is telling, itself.

Johnson addresses those who'd argue that such deaths are somehow justifiable. "For those who see a 'false equivalency,' there are two mitigating reasons for this glaring discrepancy: 1) The airstrike

deaths were an 'accident' and 2) Syria's a war zone, where civilian deaths are to be expected."

But, he explains, "Neither of these retorts is satisfactory, and certainly not enough to justify a virtual front-page blackout," adding, "On the issue of accidental deaths having less import than purposeful ones, this doesn't explain why unintentional natural disaster deaths routinely receive splashing front-page coverage."

And this is only one example.

Regardless of how these Syria numbers settle, Johnson's point is worth exploring for what it reveals about a deeply challenging aspect of human behavior we harbor, even as we struggle sincerely for equality in our country and locally.

Naturally, our own lives and those we love take center stage in our consciousness.

But as we learn about the struggles of those around us, can we work to avoid, as Dillard would have it, assigning an importance-of-life ranking – at least in our own backyards?

Katie Chriest can be contacted at [katie@ErieReader.com](mailto:katie@ErieReader.com).

By: Katie Chriest

Annie Dillard's writing is a hammer to the heart. *Here is reality!* she seems to be fist-pounding from the page. *It's not always pretty, but have the courage to look, anyway!*

A new collection of her writing titled *The Abundance* drives this point home handily, as Dillard mind-wanders among the gleams of the physical and metaphysical worlds, blurring their lines – and deftly verbalizing everyday transcendence in this riveting, rapturous life.

But Dillard is never too smitten to stop hawk-eyeing our hypocrisies; or to let us fumbling humans off the hook.

In her essay, "This is the Life," Dillard voices our struggle with genuinely embracing equality.

"However many more people come, your time and its passions, you yourself and your passions weigh but equally in the balance with those of any dead who pulled waterwheel poles by the Nile or Yellow Rivers, or painted their foreheads black, or starved in the wilderness, or wasted from disease, then or now," she writes. "Our lives and our deaths surely count equally, or we must abandon one-man-one-vote, dis-

mantle democracy, and assign seven billion people an importance-of-life ranking from one to seven billion."

I was working my way through Dillard when the attack in Nice occurred, killing 84 people and wounding scores more (both physically and metaphysically).

"Our lives and our deaths surely count equally," writes Annie Dillard, "or we must abandon one-man-one-vote, dismantle democracy, and assign seven billion people an importance-of-life ranking from one to seven billion."

The news weighed heavily. Again. From leaders and newscasters came divergent degrees of the same bafflement, suspicions, and subtle (or not) righteousness. Likewise, from many, the same undercurrent of revenge – also with varying nuance, depending on the intended audience.

Several days later, on July 20, FAIR.

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## Water, Jobs, and Health

### Fracking in the Lake Erie watershed



**The Great Lakes Commission reports that the Lake Erie coastal region's harbors and marinas support a \$71 million annual recreational boating industry – an economic boon threatened by the dangers of fracking.**

DENIS TANGNEY, JR.

**By: John Rossi**

In a State Senate hearing held in Erie in May, and in an *Erie Reader* column, Sen. Sean Wiley called for a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing (fracking) in Pennsylvania's Lake Erie watershed. Sen. Wiley's moratorium deserves our applause and support.

Here is why.

Our part of the Lake Erie watershed has largely unspoiled natural beauty, high quality water in many of its streams and creeks, and extensive wildlife that its lands and waters support: fish, fowl, and mammalian. This environment is a critical part of the quality of life for residents in the region. We enjoy these unique natural resources by boating, fishing, and swimming in the watershed's waters – as well as hunting and watching the wildlife they attract.

They also draw substantial numbers of visitors and tourist dollars to northwestern Pennsylvania. Presque Isle is Pennsylvania's most visited state park, attracting 4 million visitors in 2015. The Great Lakes Commission reports that the Lake Erie coastal region's harbors and marinas support a \$71 million annual recreational boating industry. The region's growing steelhead fishery attracts over 200,000 angler trips to the region each year; collectively these anglers spend \$10 million in the area and

engage in \$6 million in value-added activity in Erie County. This and several other key fisheries focus on the county's many streams draining into Lake Erie.

But the region's quality of life and water-oriented tourism – and the natural environment that supports them – are threatened by fracking for natural gas, which poses unacceptable risks to public health and the environment in the Lake Erie watershed.

Fracking uses enormous amounts of water. Frackers currently obtain water by withdrawing it from surface water – the cheapest and easiest source – or from ground water.

One well requires between 3 and 5 million gallons of water. To keep the wells open, each well is fracked multiple times. Pennsylvania uses about 8 to 10 million gallons of water per day in fracking operations in the Marcellus shale region.

To place this water use in perspective, State College, with a population 67,000, uses 5 million gallons daily. So one frack of one well uses about the same amount of water as that town does in one day.

Because all the streams and creeks in Pennsylvania's portion of the Lake Erie watershed are shallow, significant water withdrawals to support fracking – whether from surface or ground water – will reduce stream flows. In the

warmer months, lower stream flows will result in higher water temperatures and this will negatively impact stream wildlife, especially cold water fish species.

Other stream impacts are low stream flows during spawning season and sedimentation due to runoff from the construction of well pads and access roads. Heavy sedimentation will change stream habitat and impact aquatic

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**Our region's quality of life and water-oriented tourism – and the natural environment that supports them – are threatened by fracking for natural gas, which poses unacceptable risks to public health and the environment in the Lake Erie watershed.**

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life; for example, by burying fish gravel spawning beds in mud.

More significant are the risks posed by frack fluid employed to make frack water flow more easily. Most frack fluids contain toxins and carcinogens such as benzene and toluene, and approximately 40 to 50 percent of the fracking water contaminated by these chemicals stays in the ground. The rest flows back out with the natural gas.

This flow-back water is also contaminated by materials in the rock formations through which it flows – heavy metals, some of which are radioactive, such as strontium, barium, and radium – and heavy concentrations of salts. If it were not exempted from the Clean Water and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Acts, this flow-back water would be legally categorized as toxic waste.

Fracking, unfortunately, has led to the contamination of surface and ground water, including water wells and aquifers with methane, carcinogens, and toxins, among others. Hydraulic fracturing, therefore, poses significant public health risks through the pollution of drinking water by toxins and carcinogens in the frack fluid, and those chemicals, plus heavy metals and salts, in the flow-back water. This contamination also threatens the water quality of streams and creeks, and the wildlife and fisheries dependent upon them.

Further, these pollutants and the sediments released by clearing foliage and construction of fracking-related infrastructure will flow downstream into Lake Erie. This will further damage the Lake's waters which are already suffering from expanding toxic algal blooms and a dead zone so oxygen-deprived that it does not support most aquatic life.

Sen. Wiley's proposed moratorium seeks to head off the threats posed by fracking and protect the region's water quality, environment – and hundreds of businesses and thousands of jobs based upon them – along with our public health and quality of life. For these reasons, the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Sierra Club supports the Senator's moratorium on fracking in the Lake Erie watershed.

*John Rossi is the Conservation Chair of the Lake Erie Group of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Sierra Club. He fishes and kayaks in Lake Erie and its watershed. He can be reached at [jpr2@psu.edu](mailto:jpr2@psu.edu).*

## Considering the City – and County

Remembering Bill Welch and John Claridge



LISA AUSTIN

By: Lisa Austin of Civitas

On July 24th, 80 people gathered at Presque Isle to celebrate the life of Bill Welch (1940-2016), one of Erie's most devoted environmental advocates.

After a few brief remembrances about Welch's volunteer work in Erie, one longtime friend commented that Welch "drove people crazy [because] he would not stay on subject." The mourners laughed in appreciative acknowledgement of this truth.

To Welch's way of thinking, each environmental issue was connected, and he wanted to explain it all so that listeners would be moved to take action. Hearing him speak was always educational, but it could be overwhelming.

Welch consistently noticed whatever was going on at the water's edge, and inland. He asked questions, investigated, and shared his findings with the local, regional, and national organizations with which he

was affiliated.

Welch's commitment spanned decades. He served on the 1985 steering committee for a conference on Presque Isle and the Bayfront. During those proceedings, Thomas B. Hagen (who was then chairing Mayor Tullio's taskforce studying how to develop the bayfront), praised John Nolen's visionary 1913 plan for the city. While Hagen urged the transformation of Erie's "spectacular natural harbor," he urged a constant "concern for the fragile waterfront environment."

Bill Welch *always* provided that concern. At the "citizens to be heard" portions of Erie City Council meetings, Welch forcefully shared his observations and research. He boldly chastised elected leaders, beginning with his familiar phrase: "I can't believe you're not doing anything about ..."

But Welch's frustrations never kept him from trying again. At his memorial service, he was described as Erie's "canary

in the coal mine," warning lawmakers, residents, and even reporters about issues 10 or 20 years before they became well understood by leaders. One former reporter for the *Erie Times-News* called Welch Erie's "conscience on environmental issues," and noted that Welch provided leads resulting in "hundreds of stories" in the paper.

After the service on the East Pier, I headed back to the city. As Erie's steeples and smokestacks came into view, I was reminded of the work of another devoted volunteer, John Claridge (1926-2015).

Years ago, Claridge served as director of the Erie County Historical Society. A quiet advocate for Erie's built environment – homes and churches; commercial, industrial, and civic structures; public spaces – Claridge somberly chronicled the demolition of historic properties across the county.

In his 1991 survey, "Lost Erie: The Vanished Heritage of City

**Bill Welch consistently noticed whatever was going on at the water's edge, and inland; as though he watched our region's environmental struggle from a higher vantage point.**

& County," Claridge commented that "the conveniences of the modern age, particularly those spawned by the automobile, are rapidly erasing much of the diversity and consequently the sense of identity that is immediately transmitted through readily recognizable objects."

Concerned by the lack of protection for Erie's "readily recognizable objects" – even buildings listed on the National Register – Claridge met with concerned residents to encourage the formation of a preservation group. In addition to promoting preservation, the new group proposed public education about regional planning, urban design, and zoning through lectures, workshops, design charrettes, tours, an inventory of historic properties, the proposed establishment of new historic districts, and the proposed creation of a demolition review board to review applications to tear down properties more than 50 years old. Having achieved some of these goals, Preservation Erie will be celebrating its tenth anniversary next year.

It's clear that Bill Welch's environmental work and John Claridge's devotion to preservation were two sides of the same "green" coin. Both environmentalists and preservationists are needed to support a beautiful, sustainable, and thriving region in Greater Erie.

In *Historic Preservation & Environmental Conservation*, Jaye MacAskill wrote that while "growing environmental awareness has convinced many people to recycle" there is little understanding that "all their efforts ... are negated with the demolition of just

one ... historic building." With every demolition "we lose ... the structure" and the "total amount of human and mechanical energy that originally went into its construction." Further, demolitions always "release toxins and other pollutants directly into the air, water, and soil" and "produce massive amounts of debris" that must be moved to landfills in gas-guzzling dump trucks.

To be truly "green," we must protect open land, farmland, and forested areas. We must discourage the construction of new roads and power, water,

**Welch's frustrations never kept him from trying again. At his memorial service, he was described as Erie's "canary in the coal mine," warning lawmakers, residents, and even reporters about issues 10 or 20 years before they became well understood by leaders.**

and sewer lines in favor of *re-investing* in already developed areas and adaptively reusing *existing* structures.

Everett Edward Hale, the 19th century American Unitarian minister, famously said: "I cannot do everything, but I can do something."

Bill Welch and John Claridge could not do everything that needed to be done in Erie, but they *did something*. Will you?

*Civitas members can be reached at [civitaserie.com](http://civitaserie.com), via Facebook at CivitasErie, by emailing [Lisa@civitaserie.com](mailto:Lisa@civitaserie.com), or by scheduling a Friday morning meeting at the Civitas office in the Masonic Building.*

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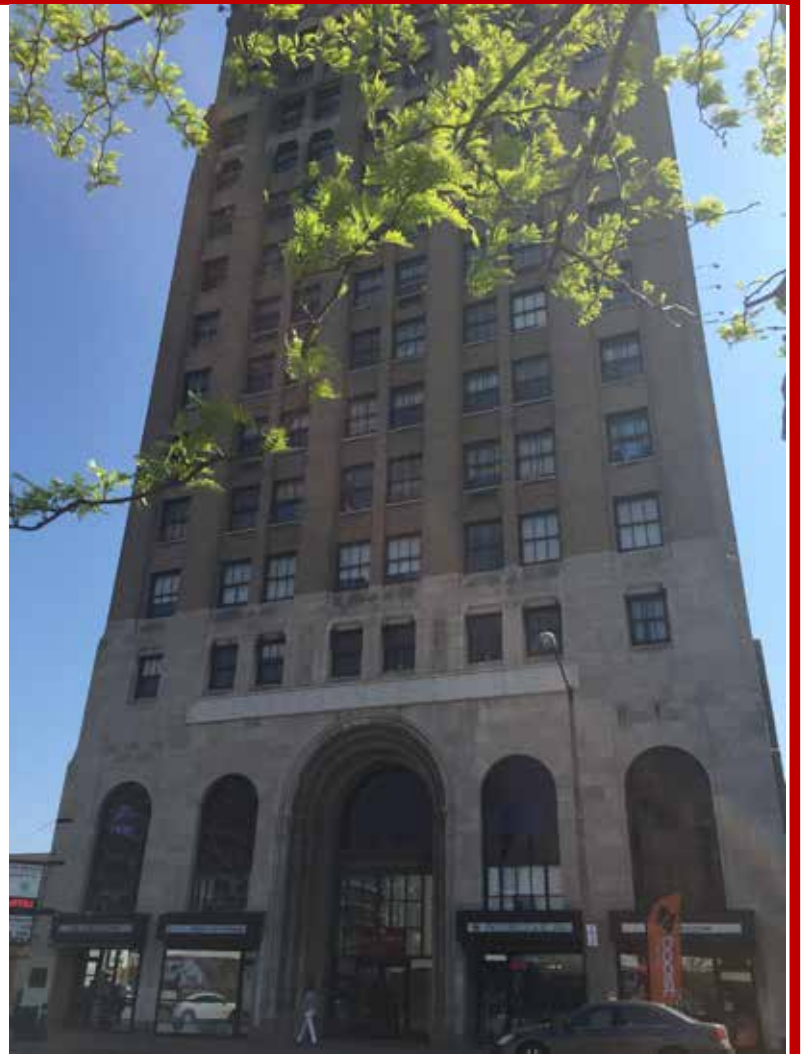
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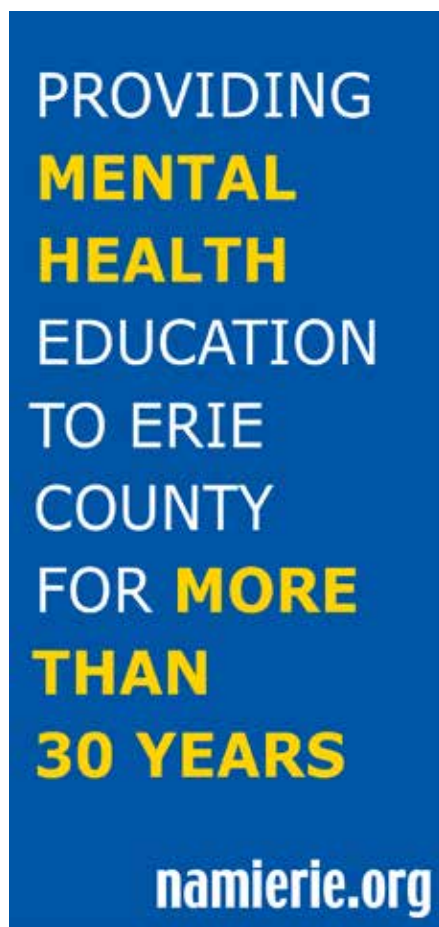
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## News of the Weird

Love your first-born child? Better read those privacy policies more carefully.

By: **Chuck Shepherd**

### Trompe l'Oeil Jungle

A conservation biologist at Australia's University of New South Wales said in July that his team was headed to Botswana to paint eyeballs on cows' rear ends. It's a solution to the problem of farmers who are now forced to kill endangered lions to keep them away from their cows. However, the researchers hypothesize, since lions hunt by stealth and tend to pass up kills if the prey spots them, painting on eyeballs might trick the lions to choose other prey. (For the same reason, woodcutters in India wear masks painted with faces backward for protection against tigers.) [Sydney Morning Herald, 7-6-2016]

### "Big Porn" Gives Back

In June, the online mega-website Pornhub announced a program to help blind pornography consumers by adding 50 "described videos" to its catalog, with a narrator doing play-by-play of the setting, the actors, clothing (if any) and the action. Said a Pornhub vice president, "It's our way of giving back." (2) Later in June, another pornography website (with a frisky name see [bit.ly/29O4G9UURL](http://bit.ly/29O4G9UURL)) inaugurated a plan to donate a penny to women's health or abuse prevention organizations every time a user reached a successful "ending" while viewing its videos (maximum two per person per day). Its first day's haul was \$39, or \$13 for each of three charities (including the Mariska Hargitay-supported Joyful

Heart Foundation). [Huffington Post, 6-15-2016] [Huffington Post, 6-30-2016]

### Can't Possibly Be True

A Government Program That Actually Works: A motorist in Regina, Saskatchewan, was issued a \$175 traffic ticket on June 8 after he pulled over to ask if he could assist a homeless beggar on the sidewalk. According to the police report cited by CTV News, the "beggar" was actually a cop on stakeout looking for drivers not wearing seat belts (who would thus pay the city \$175). Driver Dane Rusk said he had unbuckled his belt to lean over in the seat to give the "beggar" \$3 and moments later, the cop's partner stopped Rusk (thus earning Regina a total of \$178!). [CTV News, 6-10-2016]

One of America's major concerns, according to a U.S. congressman, should be the risk that if an apocalyptic event occurs and we are forced to abandon Earth with only a few species to provide for humanity's survival, NASA might unwisely populate the space "ark" with same-sex couples instead of procreative male-female pairs. This warning was conveyed during the U.S. House session on May 26 by Texas Congressman Louie Gohmert (who seemed not to be aware that gay males might contribute sperm to lesbians for species-continuation). [New York Daily News, 5-27-2016]

### What Goes Around, Comes Around

In May, the Times of India reported the death of a man known only as Urjaram, in Rajasthan, India, when, while hosting a party, he forgot that

while he was enjoying himself, he had left his camel in the sun all day (during a historic heat wave) with its legs tied together. When Urjaram finally went outside, the enraged camel "lifted him by the neck," "threw him to the ground" and "chewed on his body," severing his head. (2) The thief who ransacked a community greenhouse in County Durham, England, in July got away, but, according to residents, among his bounty was a bottle of rum that is usually offered only as a constipation remedy, in that it contained a heavy dose of the aggressive laxative "lactulose." Said one resident, "Maybe (the thief has) left a trail" for the police. [The Times of India, 5-23-2016] [The Northern Echo (High Wycombe, England), 7-15-2016]

### Suspicious Confirmed

Many website and app users are suspected of "agreeing" to privacy policies and "terms of service" without comprehending them (or even reading them), though most judges routinely assume the user to have consented to be bound by them. In a controlled-test report released in July, researchers from York University and University of Connecticut found that 74 percent skipped the privacy policy altogether, but, of the "readers," the average time spent was 73 seconds (for wordage that should have taken 30 minutes), and time "reading" terms of service was 51 seconds when it should have taken 16 minutes. (If users had read closely, they might have noticed that they had agreed to share all their personal data with the National Security Agency and

that terms of service included giving up their first-born child.) [ArsTechnica.com, 7-12-2016]

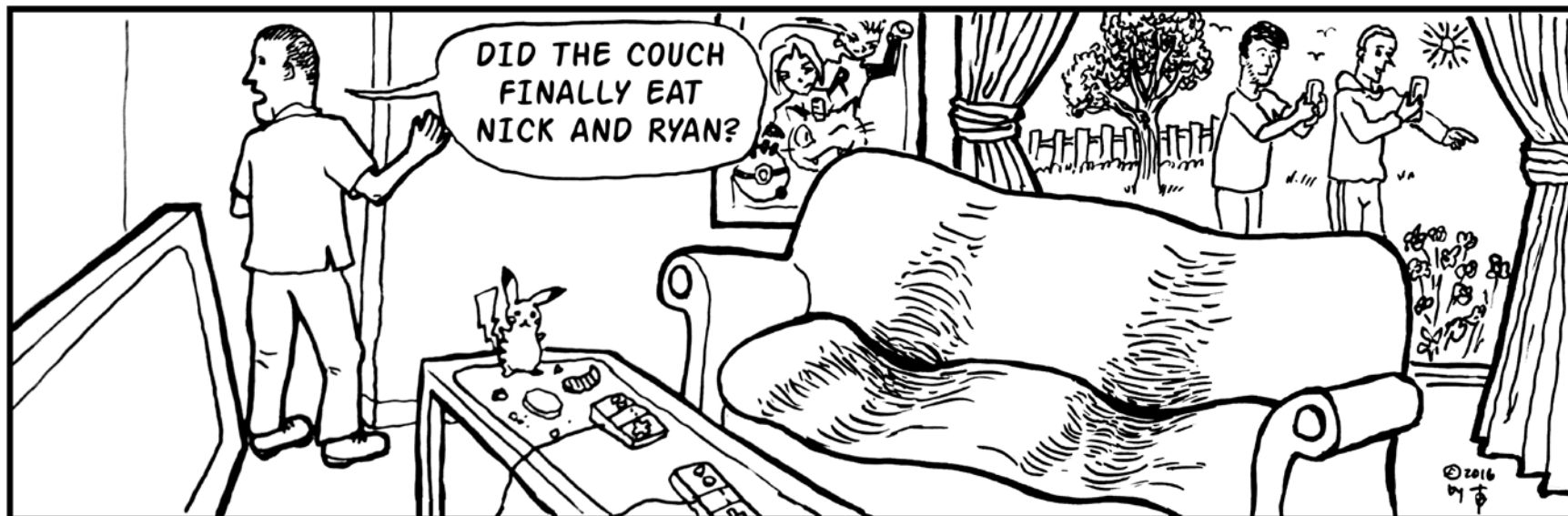
### Latest Rights

Air Force Col. Eugene Caughey is scheduled for court-martial in August in Colorado Springs, Colorado, charged with six counts of adultery (a violation of the Uniform Code of Military Justice) which he alleges constitutes illegal discrimination because he is heterosexual. That is, only heterosexuals can have the "sexual intercourse" required for adultery since the UCMJ defines the term as between a man and a woman; same-sex pairs cannot have "sexual intercourse." (Even if Caughey prevails on the discrimination issue, he faces other, more serious charges that may bring him life in prison.) [The Gazette (Colorado Springs), 6-29-2016]

### Leading Economic Indicators

Update: News of the Weird reported in 2007 and 2014 that, despite the abundant desert, Middle East developers were buying plenty of beach sand from around the world (because the massive concrete construction in Dubai and Saudi Arabia, among other places, requires coarser sand than the desert grains tempered for centuries by sun and wind). The need has now grown such that London's The Independent reported in June that black market gangs, some violent, are stealing beach sand and that two dozen entire islands in Indonesia have virtually disappeared since 2005 because of sand-mining. [The Independent, 6-23-2016]

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## NEWS & VIEWS

Farmers high in Nepal's Himalayas are heavily dependent on harvesting a fungus which, when consumed by humans, supposedly produces effects similar to Viagra's but the region's rising temperatures and diminished rainfall (thought to result from global climate change) threaten the output, according to a June New York Times dispatch. Wealthy Chinese men in Hong Kong and Shanghai may pay the equivalent of \$50,000 a pound for the "caterpillar fungus," and about a million Nepalese are involved in the industry, producing about 135 tons a year. (The fungus is from the head of ghost moth larvae living in soil at altitudes of more than 10,000 feet.) [New York Times, 6-27-2016]

World Nose Championship in Langenbruck, Germany (held every five years since 1961). After judges applied precision calipers (adding length plus width), Hans Roest was declared the winner. (Also reported: Contestants believe snuff tobacco and beer to be size-enhancing substances.) (2) An unnamed man, 55, and woman, 40, were arrested near Joplin, Missouri, in July, after being spotted riding a stolen lawn mower at 8:45 a.m. naked. They told police that someone had stolen their clothes while they were skinny-dipping and that the mower was their best option to make it home. [The Local (Berlin), 6-20-2016] [Joplin Globe, 7-14-2016]

### A News of the Weird Classic (September 2012)

A centuries-old practice of China's upper class continues today, reported Slate.com in August (2012), except with a bit more circumspection. Rich or powerful people convicted of crimes can still hire replacements to serve their sentences but because of ubiquitous Internet videos, only if the replacements facially resemble them. Since the convict winds up paying something for his crime (though a relatively small price), Slate called the practice (known as "ding zui") sort of a "cap-and-trade" policy for crime. [Slate.com, 8-2-2012]

### People With Issues

Joshua Long, 26, was arrested in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in June for possession of a suspected-stolen human brain (which he allegedly kept in a shopping bag under the porch at his aunt's trailer home). Police believe that the brain had been a medical teaching aid, but that Long was lacing his marijuana with the brain's embalming fluid. (Long and a former resident of the trailer home called the brain "Freddy.") [PennLive.com (Mechanicsburg, Pa.), 7-15-2016]

### The Passing Parade

Large-schnozzed people from all over Europe squared off in June for the

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## Bird's-eye View

1201's dream kitchen looks out over a vineyard landscape.

By: Lisa Gensheimer

If you guessed the new patio pavilion at Five & 20 Spirits and Brewing in Westfield, New York is home to a farm-fresh eatery, judging from Bird's country-style chicken logo, you'd be half right. The smoked chicken thighs with paprika rub and cilantro-orange slaw, among the entries on this week's menu, will point your taste buds in that direction.

But Bird is no paltry poultry restaurant – it's an inventive small-plate café and cocktail bar named after Charlie Parker, the saxophonist who introduced bebop to jazz in the 1940s. Parker flew through songs with his innovative riffs and advanced harmonies, earning his nickname, Yardbird, or Bird.

"At Bird, we aim to create something that seems effortless and simple, but behind the scenes takes a lot of technique and knowledge about the food and how to balance it properly," says Bird's co-owner Dan Kern, executive chef/owner of 1201 Kitchen in downtown Erie. Kern, his partner JB Innes, and chef Mike Karle, opened Bird in partnership with the Mazza family's winery, brewery, and distillery on July 4.

On the recommendation of our 11-year-old vegetarian granddaughter, Lily Kate, who raved about the guacamole with fresh lime and tortilla chips, my husband Rich Gensheimer and I sped east along Route 20 one Sunday to give it a try.

We made our way through Five & 20's busy tasting room and stepped outside to what can only be described as an informal gathering of family and friends. Everyone was engaged in conversation and enjoying good food, drink, and, as luck would have it, rootsy Americana music from Gem City Revival. While the fiddler fiddled, children swirled hula hoops and young adults tossed cornhole bags on the lawn.

The entire Mazza family was



PHOTOS BY: RICH GENSHHEIMER

there that breezy afternoon (with the exception of Bob who was serving Mazza wines at the Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix in Schenley Park), going from table to table to make everyone feel welcome. For that matter, so was Kern, who left his post in the open-air kitchen to deliver artfully arranged appetizers and to chat with guests, including

his wife, Chrissy Kern, and her friend Mel Mazza, wife of Mario Mazza, general manager and enologist at Mazza Wines.

We spotted our friends Anna and Hugh McCartney sipping Mazza's Bare Bones White and pulled up two chairs and two glasses. Soon we were sharing a platter of creamy burrata cheese sprinkled with sesame

**Clockwise from top: Chef Mike Karle made this exquisite platter featuring creamy burrata cheese with smoked wild salmon, hummus, marinated cucumber, pickled onion, sesame, and warm bread; Fresh herbs from a local farm infuse this Lynchburg Lemonade made with Five & 20 Bourbon; Gem City Revival's Pat Doyle (guitar, vocals) Abby Badach (fiddle, vocals), Angela Phillips (guitar, vocals) under the pavilion at Five & 20 Spirits and Brewing.**



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**Chef Dan Kern, left, and enologist Mario Mazza, right.**

seeds, house-made hummus, marinated cucumber, salmon, mint pesto, and chunks of warm bread; followed by fatoush salad and pickled cucumbers with summer herbs, crispy shallot, and scallion.

Kern credits Karle for developing and preparing the rustic, ever-changing menu, which incorporates fresh, seasonal ingredients from local farmers, foragers, and fisherman.

Karle is well-schooled (Le Cordon Bleu in Chicago) and well-traveled (sous chef at 1201 Kitchen and later the posh Westmoor Club in Nantucket), but has deep roots in Erie. He is the son of Tommy Karle and grandson of Tom Karle, who together ran Erie's Karle & Son Clothiers, known for their attention to detail and customer service.

Given 1201 Kitchen's flair for specialty cocktails, Kern and Karle couldn't wait to dive into Five & 20's ready supply of small-batch bourbons and whiskeys, made from grain grown on the property or on nearby farms, for their new venture at Bird. The Farm Lynchburg Lemonade, made from freshly squeezed lemon, mint, basil, dill, and Five & 20 bourbon, was so refreshing, I was tempted to order another, but I know my limits and didn't. Rich picked the Kentucky Devil, most likely because of its bad-boy name and not for the watermelon, which he typically

doesn't care for. Lemon and adobo added a bit of kick to his pink drink, also made with Five & 20 bourbon. Like the appetizer and small-plate menu, the cocktail menu will change every two weeks. The idea is to come back to the three-season pavilion again and again to try something new. It will be fun to sit around the firepits this fall.

The chefs were clearly enjoying the day as much as we were.

"It is, to put it lightly," Kern says, "a dream kitchen for anyone to be able to look out over the most beautiful landscape, dotted with smiling faces of the people you're cooking for."

When Mario Mazza joined our table,

**Given 1201 Kitchen's flair for specialty cocktails, Kern and Karle couldn't wait to dive into Five & 20's ready supply of small-batch bourbons and whiskeys, made from grain grown on the property or on nearby farms, for their new venture at Bird.**

the conversation turned to sustainable business practices, which was of interest to all of us, but especially to Anna McCartney, who is a water qual-

ity expert and communications and education specialist for the Pennsylvania Sea Grant program. Five & 20's grain-to-glass distillery and brewery, the first of its kind in the region, was all about sustainability from the get-go, but what to do with the spent grain after beer making and distilling?

Enter the Mazzas' joint venture with TimberFish, which will not only reduce the cost of hauling it away but will sustainably generate a food chain that produces contaminant-free, high-quality fish, clean water, and high-energy biofuel on site.

The Mazzas broke ground June 1 on the TimberFish demonstration project. TimberFish technology, the result of 40 years of research and development, is a transformational biotechnology that uses highly diversified populations of microbes and invertebrates. The populations are controlled and managed in constructed ecosystems that capture and concentrate nutrients while degrading organic materials.

Once it's fully up and running, "Our system can produce about 20,000-30,000 pounds of fish per year, starting with salmon, trout, and high-end fish like arctic char," says Mazza. "The goal is to develop the technology and then use this as a pilot and training facility for a plant that would produce 2, 3, 4 million pounds per year."

It should come as no surprise that the 36-year-old Mazza is thinking big and has grown the family operation nearly four times since he returned to the region in 2005 from Adelaide, Australia, where he studied winemaking. For as long as I've known the Mazzas – going on 40 years now – they have added value to every venture they've embarked upon.

From their leadership in fighting for the Limited Winery Act and establishing Mazza Winery in 1972; to rescuing the historic South Shore Inn, uncovering and restoring its Civil War-era stone wine cavern and transforming the 1865 structure into the thriving South Shore Wine Company; to building their first distilling operation near Chautauqua Institution, where they began producing liqueurs and spirits for companies like Bittermens along with their own; to the present facility in Westfield, which has already expanded multiple times with new warehouses, this patio and pavilion, and now TimberFish; this ambitious, hard-working family keeps pushing the limits.

Heady stuff, and all good.

Some day we will come back and drink a Rye Pale Ale knowing the rye grain was grown on this 80-acre farm, the spent grain was recycled here and fed to the trout that was smoked and served on a small plate at Bird. It doesn't get more "sustainable loop" than that.

For the moment, we were content to tip our faces to the sun, sip our delicious cocktails, and listen to Gem City's Abby Badach, Angela Philips, and Pat Doyle rock a Paul McCartney tune. "Blackbird singing in the dead of night, take these broken wings and learn to fly. All your life you were only waiting for this moment to arise. Blackbird fly ..."

*Bird is open Wednesday – Sunday, 11 a.m. to close (Call ahead; days and hours differ from Five & 20 hours and are subject to change) // Five & 20 Spirits and Brewing // 8398 West Main Road, Route 20, Westfield, NY // 793.9463 // @birdat520*

*Lisa Gensheimer is a documentary producer and writer. She can be reached at [lisa@onmainstreet.com](mailto:lisa@onmainstreet.com).*

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# Your Guide to the 24th Annual Erie Art Museum Blues & Jazz Festival

Head to Frontier Park for one of the best weekends of the year.

**E**rie Art Museum's Blues & Jazz Festival is a landmark summertime event. The fest is BYOB, family friendly, and welcoming to the entire community. It's free to attend; but a great way to contribute (and keep it free for everyone) is to buy a button from one of the "bucket brigade" volunteers.

This year also features the Goose Island Beer Garden, with VIP wristbands available, and all proceeds going to support the festival.

Coolers are permitted, although there will be plenty of food vendors to choose from: Bite by the Bay, Connie's Ice Cream, Lombardo's Pita Place, Three B Saloon, Krispy Kreme, and Lonyo's Gourmet Kettle Corn will all be on hand.

So set up your tent (not before 9 a.m.), lay down your blanket, or saunter around the park – though pets are not permitted on the grounds during the festival. Regardless, you're in for a treat or two.

As has been the tradition, Saturday

As has been the tradition, Saturday showcases the bluesier side of things, while Sunday gets a little jazzier. This festival gives performers room to breathe, with each slot allowing a 90-minute set.

showcases the bluesier side of things, while Sunday gets a little jazzier. This festival gives performers room to breathe, with each slot allowing a 90-minute set.

Below, you'll find a handy guide to all performances. Included is every artist's "Home Base": where they live and operate from (not necessarily their birthplaces). The familiar acronym "RIYL" stands for "Recommended if You Like." Discerning music fans can use it as a snapshot of each artist's aural proclivities.

We hope this helps you plan your weekend so you don't miss a minute. Happy festing, and we'll see you at the *Erie Reader* tent!

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2016

**12 p.m. YMCA Teen Center Collaborative**

**2 p.m. Jeff Fetterman Blues Band**

**4 p.m. Diablo Dimes and his Dixie Deacons**

**6 p.m. Jontavious Willis**

**8 p.m. Bernard Allison Group**

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 2016

**12 p.m. Bruce Johnstone Quartet**

**2 p.m. House of Rhythm**

**4 p.m. Tony Grey/Ian Maciak Galactic Duo featuring C. Brown**

**6 p.m. Paul McCandless with Charged Particles**

**8 p.m. Red Baraat**

**12 P.M. // YMCA TEEN CENTER COLLABORATIVE**



*Home Base: Erie, Pennsylvania*

**O**pening up the festival will be the talented stars of tomorrow. The YMCA Teen Center Collaborative will join together diverse arts mentoring programs for a unique show put on by area youth. The teen center offers a wide variety of activities ranging from fitness to photography. One of the most-loved programs is LifeThruMusic. Students learn not only music fundamentals, such as scales and theory, but also cover audio production and entrepreneurship. The Erie Dance Theater will join forces with LifeThruMusic, providing a choreographed visual experience to coincide with the original music. Be sure to check

out these up-and-coming performers as they kick off the festival. – Nick Warren

*RIYL: First to Eleven, Yung Skola,*

**2 P.M. // JEFF FETTERMAN BAND**



*Home Base: Erie, Pennsylvania*

**J**eff Fetterman dreamt of being a musician. But when his parents wouldn't buy a drum set, he took matters into his own hands. Twelve-year-old Fetterman traded his entire milk bottle collection for one of his neighbor's guitars.

"It didn't matter how many bottles I had to trade. I would've given him a thousand if I had them," he said on his band's website. "I just wanted that guitar."

For more than a decade, the Jeff Fetterman Band (JFB) has kept audiences entertained with their spontaneity and "off-the-cuff arrangements." While JFB performs some cover songs, their original blues and rock music has received attention in the U.S. and the UK. Their most recent album, *Bottle Full of Blues*, is available at jefffetterman.com.

JFB has performed with Kenny Wayne Shepherd and Ana Popovic, among others. Additionally, the band's songs have been featured in a few films. Rounding out the band are John McGuire on drums, Judy Kessler on percussion/vocals, and Erie favorite Ralph Reitingger III on bass. – Tracy Geibel

*RIYL: Eric Clapton, Coco Montoya, Tommy Castro*

**4 P.M. // DIABLO DIMES AND HIS DIXIE DEACONS**

*Home Base: Shenandoah Valley, Virginia*

**"S**toryville Balladeerin' Dixie Boxcar Ridin' Funeral Stompin' Tearjerk Moanin' Frolic Jumpin' Moonshine Hollerin' Roots Music!"



DIABLO DIMES

That's how the uncommonly talented Diablo Dimes self-describes the sound that he and his Dixie Deacons bring from deep within the belly of the Shenandoah Valley. And while that description does it some justice, the inspired, gravel-voiced troubadour's sound truly must be heard to be properly understood (or really, properly felt).

He's brought his fresh, deep, primitive vision of the Americana aesthetic to stages and dives all across the country, warming up crowds for the likes of the Dirty Dozen Brass Band, Preservation Hall Jazz Band, Yard Dogs Road Show, and Jane's Addiction.

Now, the Blues & Jazz Fest crowd gets a chance to experience raw, impassioned music – for which many only wish they had the muse. – Ryan Smith

*RIYL: Scott H. Biram, Tom Waits, Pokey LaFarge*

**6 P.M. // JONTAVIOUS WILLIS**

*Home Base: Greenville, Georgia*

**G**eorgia native Jontavious Willis lives and breathes his profound connection to the blues. There is no question about the traditional nature of his music but he imbues it with an intriguing clarity. And how can this be heard? His vocals hit just the right blend of mournful and assertive, and when he sings, you can't help but be mesmerized by the story his lyrics weave. Those who appreciate tight, masterful guitar playing will also be enraptured by his quick, neat skills and simplicity making him a contemporary leader in this genre. Prepare for his set by listening to "Lucy Mae Blues," a rolling ballad which showcases the best Willis has to offer: plucky and



JONTAVIOUS WILLIS

reedy guitar playing with emotive vocals and a toe-tapping beat. And his skills are only going to evolve with age: Willis is in his early 20s, making his talent and perception all the more impressive. – Miriam Lamey

RIYL: Robert Johnson, Mississippi John Hurt, Muddy Waters

**8 P.M. // BERNARD ALLISON GROUP**



Home Base: Chicago, Illinois

**B**ernard Allison is a blues veteran. He started his career at age 10 when he decided he wanted to learn to play just like his dad, Luther Allison. His first guitar was a Fender Stratocaster, and he debuted onstage with his father at the 1983 Chicago Blues Festival. Today, Allison plays fearless electric blues, expressing that being “experimental” is key to this genre. His blindingly tight guitar playing warps and weaves notes into something heavy; soulful but a little playful. A great example is “Leave My Girl Alone,” which starts off with a heady, thumping guitar solo that sets the song’s mood. When the vocals kick in, his voice growls yet is as smooth as Lake Erie on a calm day. But to Allison – and to his audience – the blues is part of his core as an artist and as a human. He

writes on his website, “The blues is my roots. Regardless of how far outside of the blues I reach for tones, I can’t ever leave the blues.” – Miriam Lamey

RIYL: Eric Gales, Ana Popovich, Walter Trout

**12 P.M. // BRUCE JOHNSTONE QUARTET**



Home Base: Fredonia, New York

**B**ruce Johnstone is one of the greatest baritone saxophone players in the world. Born in Wellington, New Zealand, his early successes brought him to Australia, and then on to England. In Europe, he performed with jazz icons such as Ben Webster and Dexter Gordon. He rose to prominence in the States as a featured member of Maynard Ferguson’s band in the mid 1970s. His soulful improvisational abilities proved to be a valuable commodity, his low rumble providing a foil to the bandleader’s stratospheric trumpet range. The seminal album, *Chameleon*, closes with “Superbone Meets the Badman.” Ferguson provides the valve trombone, while Johnstone more than earns his hearty moniker. His “MacArthur Park” lead on *M.F. Horn 4 & 5: Live at Jimmy’s* remains my favorite recorded solo. Johnstone later toured with Woody Herman, and founded the early fusion group, New York Mary. The accomplished bari player recently retired as head of the jazz department at SUNY Fredonia. The quartet features Erie legend Frank Singer on guitar, SUNY Fredonia colleague Harry Jacobson on bass, and expert percussionist Brad Amidon on drums. – Nick Warren

RIYL: Maynard Ferguson, Gerry Mulligan, Allan Zavod

**2 P.M. // HOUSE OF RHYTHM**



Home Base: Meadville, Pennsylvania

**L**ed by a trio of brothers, House of Rhythm builds on a solid foundation of vintage jazz style. Paying homage to the influential sounds of New Orleans hot jazz, the group cooks up a delicious gumbo of spicy, vintage tunes. Jim Froman leads the brotherly triumvirate on guitar. A professor at Allegheny College, he finds inspiration in the music of the 1920s and 30s. His resonator guitar will channel the spirits of Louis Armstrong and Jelly Roll Morton. Jim’s son, Jackson Froman, handles piano, plus bass and harmonica. A musical fixture around

In Europe, Johnstone performed with jazz icons such as Ben Webster and Dexter Gordon. He rose to prominence in the States as a featured member of Maynard Ferguson’s band in the mid 1970s.

the area, he serves as chorus instructor for Union City middle and high schools, and teaches harmonica at Allegheny College. He also brings music to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Erie (UUCE). Jackson’s uncle, Sonny Froman, provides percussion. A longtime staple of the Hawaiian music community, he was the drummer for the Honolulu Symphony Pops, also serving on the Don Ho Show for 20 years and the Rich Little Show, as well. – Nick Warren

RIYL: Django Reinhardt, Dr. John, Preservation Hall Jazz Band

**4 P.M. // TONY GREY/IAN MACIAK GALACTIC DUO FEATURING C. BROWN**

Home Base: Erie, Pennsylvania

**T**hough from England, Grey attended Berklee College of Music in Boston



TONY GREY

where he was named an “outstanding performer.” Grey also earned a Jazz Album of the Year award for his album *Unknown Angels* from the Independent Music Awards, and an Outstanding Contribution to Jazz Education award by the International Association of Jazz Education.

Grey spent more than four years touring with pianist Hirome and has also performed with jazz artists such as Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter, and many others. His most recent album, *Elevation*, was released in 2014 with a band that included his uncle and mentor, the legendary guitarist John McLaughlin.

The other side of the Galactic Duo is drummer Ian Maciak. An amazingly versatile percussionist, Maciak regularly collaborates with musicians Zack Orr of SpaceLounge Productions, and Adam Holquist and Stephen Trohoske, forming the trio known as Human Flux. Maciak blends complicated hip hop beats with rhythmic virtuosity in an impressive display.

Joining the duo will be celebrated Erie MC, C.Brown. Himself a prolific collaborator, Brown’s hip hop acumen is virtually unmatched in our region. He blends emotional honesty with rapid-fire wit to dynamic effect. – Tracy Geibel

RIYL: Shabazz Palaces, BadBadNotGood, Open Mike Eagle

**6 P.M. // PAUL MCCANDLESS WITH CHARGED PARTICLES**



Home Base: San Francisco Bay Area, California

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**FEATURE**

world's few jazz oboe players. On stage however, you'll no doubt find the fusion icon sporting a soprano saxophone. McCandless is one of the founding members of the long-running jazz group, Oregon, who have released 28 albums together. Over the years, he's also recorded with the likes of Pat Metheny, Jaco Pastorius, Wynton Marsalis, and Bela Fleck and the Flecktones. McCandless will be joined by Charged Particles: Murray Low on keyboards, Aaron Germain on upright and electric bass, and Jon Krosnik on drums. Each player possesses an impressive resume of musical excellence. Together, the band offers up a smooth and dexterous California jazz sound, playing compositions by McCandless that run the gamut from abstract to romantic. They collaborated for the first time last year, bonding to form a positive, electric spark. — Nick Warren

tendance for the festival's 2012 closing act will know just why everyone is so excited. Bringing an infectious hybrid of dance and world music, the eight-piece ensemble has been dubbed "the best party band in years" by NPR. The group is led by Sunny Jain, playing the large, double-headed drum known as a dhol: an iconic part of the Indian genre of Bhangra. Red Baraat embraces the upbeat Punjabi style, blending it with stateside funk, soul, and jazz rhythms. The results are hypnotic. The group's for-

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RIYL: Weather Report, Larry Coryell, Spyro Gyra

**8 P.M. // RED BARAAT**



Home Base: Brooklyn, New York

Bringing an infectious hybrid of dance and world music, Red Baraat's eight-piece ensemble has been dubbed "the best party band in years" by NPR.

midable horn section includes Jonathon Haffner on soprano sax, Sonny Singh on trumpet, Ernest Stuart on trombone, and John Altieri on the eye-catchingly large sousaphone. Jonathan Goldberger and Chris Eddleton fill out the rest of the band, on guitar and drums, respectively. The band feeds the audience's euphoria, begging the crowd to dance. Erie Art Museum Director John Vanco explained that "we've never had such an active, enthusiastic response to a headline act at a Blues & Jazz Festival like the response this group received when they appeared onstage a few years ago. People were up dancing and shouting their approval." We're sure you'll approve as well, with what should be a thrilling end to an extraordinary weekend. — Nick Warren

Making their triumphant return to the Blues & Jazz Festival stage is Red Baraat. Anyone who was in at-

RIYL: Antibalas, Trombone Shorty, Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings



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**SAT 08/06**  
TONY GREY  
& IAN MACIAK  
GALACTIC DUO  
[FREE]

**FRI 08/12**  
SUNDAY AT THE STATION  
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**SAT 08/13**  
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**FRI 08/19**  
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# Spotlight on Erie

August 3 – 16, 2016

**Friday, Aug. 5**

## Local Artists Reign at the Kings Rook Club



Hot off their performance opening for 10,000 Maniacs, Smilo & The Ghost take the stage at the Kings Rook Club on Aug. 5. Folk rock and Americana will be the evening's king and queen, as Tyler Smilo, lead singer and guitarist, is joined by Adam McKillip (mandolin, vocals), Jassen Wilber (bass), Abby Barrett (violin and viola), and Eric Brewer (lap steel, guitar).

Together, both acts are sure to put on a royally uplifting performance with plenty of perky tunes and a positive vibe.

But what is a monarchy without its lords and ladies? Brenna Bone and Seann Clark, also local artists, bring a touch of courtly country music to the evening. Bone is only 23, works part time as a respiratory therapist, and is clearly dedicated to performing and learning more about music. "If I am not at the hospital working," she writes on her website, "I am playing music and writing as much as I possibly can!" With pretty yet strong vocals and a delicate acoustic-based sound, Bone's tunes are easy, accessible, and certainly catchy. For a taste of what to expect, check out "Sky Sees Everything," a dreamy, poppy track through which her clear vocals cut and soar. Light acoustic guitar holds a tight rhythm over echoing keys, and a solid drum beat unites the arrangement. Together, both acts are sure to put on a royally uplifting performance with plenty of perky tunes and a positive vibe. – Miriam Lamey

10 p.m. // 1921 Peach St. // [facebook.com/kingsrookclub](https://facebook.com/kingsrookclub)

**Sunday, Aug. 7**

## Satirist Mark Russell Still Strikes the Right Chord with Audiences



The U.S. political machine is like a player piano, cranking out a ready-made soundtrack for satire on a continuous loop. Someone or another is always stirring up a rumpus down at the saloon on Capitol Hill (and/or the White House), and on the cusp of one of the most polarizing elections in American history, the West is wilder than ever. Amidst all the hootin' and a-hollerin', the flying bottles and up-turned tables, Mark Russell has never lost the tune of the Entertainer.

The revered satirist/columnist/pianist remains as sharp and insightful as ever after over 60 years of keying in on politicians and proceeding to hammer them, although not without a certain degree of "nuance and sophistication."

The revered satirist/columnist/pianist remains as sharp and insightful as ever after over 60 years of keying in on politicians and proceeding to hammer them.

From 1974 to 2004, Russell was regularly featured in a series of PBS comedy specials, wryly commenting on current events, sometimes in the form of song. Russell retired from standup 2010 only to begin touring again shortly thereafter.

"Retirement was fine. For two years. I traveled. I wrote books. It was fun," Russell writes in a blog post from 2012. "... I decided to unretire when I heard

that members of Congress had been cavorting in the Sea of Galilee [Representative Kevin Yoder of Kansas and others were caught skinny-dipping that year near a Tiberias restaurant]. How can you make that up?"

Russell will continue to lay bare the ugly truths of our world in a special appearance at The Jefferson Educational Society. He is sure to hit on the recent Republican and Democratic national conventions, as well as matters closer to home, in accordance to the belief that "all politics are local." Like the notes of the chromatic scale, there is nothing skipped over.

We may not know yet how the West will be won (or if it is already lost and/or too far gone to save), but Russell's sense of humor rarely fails to win his audiences over. – Matt Swanseger

7 – 8:30 p.m. // 3207 State St. // 459.8000 // [jeserie.org/events/details/an-evening-of-political-satire-with-mark-russell](http://jeserie.org/events/details/an-evening-of-political-satire-with-mark-russell) // \$15 per person or \$25 with guest

**Wednesday, Aug. 10**

## Globetrottin' Roots Ramblers Serve Up 'Ozark Stomp' at Schickalay's



Folks had a lot of positive things to say about the Ben Miller Band after they opened for ZZ Top in Europe earlier this summer.

Things like, "F\*\*\*ing amazing!" and "You've got a new fan."

And really, when it came down to it, the globetrotting, Joplin, Missouri-based group of genre-benders blew the headlining act way out of the water.

So what genre are they? "Who knows?" the band itself says. "Who cares?"

As they describe it, the Ben Miller Band "[combines] the urgency of rock

and roll, the frenetic energy of bluegrass, the soul of the delta blues, and the haunted spirit of Appalachian mountain music [to craft] a unique musical stew they dub 'Ozark Stomp.'"

Folks had a lot of positive things to say about the Ben Miller Band after they opened for ZZ Top in Europe earlier this summer.

They'll be serving that stew up around these parts soon, too, as Schickalay's On the Bay continues its 2016 summer music series with a performance by the Ben Miller Band (with special guest Refuge) slated for Wednesday, Aug. 10 at 4 p.m.

Go check out the menu, along with some real-deal music to get you over the hump. – Ryan Smith

4 p.m. // 2860 W. 6th St. // \$10 // [facebook.com/SchickalaysOnTheBay](https://facebook.com/SchickalaysOnTheBay)

**Saturday, Aug. 13**

## Gallabalo's Third Installment Sounds Tasty



MATTY B

For a one-day local festival that's just getting going, Gallabalo's got a whole lot of damn good stuff going on.

In its third year, the now-annual get-down is a celebration of modern roots music, pulling together a crafty, heady concoction of alt/indie country, punk-rock, psychobilly, bluegrass, and good 'ol rock and roll.

This year's lineup features a grand marshal of the new-roots movement,

## CALENDAR

the beyond-hard-driven Joe Buck Yourself, along with other singularly talented – and really good-timey – national, regional, and local acts: Ron Yarosz & The Vehicle, Matty B & The Dirty Pickles, Rodger Montgomery Blues Band, Diggin Roots Band, Bootleggers Bible Club, Sean Patrick and the Newgrass Revolution, The Coffin Bangers, Matt

Located within a mile of Lake Erie's waters at Jim N I Music Park, Gallabalo is its own kind of festival. In a sea of summertime live music events, that's refreshing.

'Broke' Boland, Jess Royer & Nick Warren, Joe Nameles, Lunch Munny, and The Remnants.

Located within a mile of Lake Erie's waters at Jim N I Music Park, Gallabalo is its own kind of festival. In a sea of summertime live music events, that's refreshing.

Plus, there's the one-of-a-kind State Line Whisker Rebellion beard and mustache competition, along with cool local vendors like The Bearded Woodsman and Pin Up Erie, and fire dancers, to name a few.

It's pretty laid back, family friendly, and close by.

Plus barbeque. Really bangin' barbeque.

Gallabalo: sounds good. – Ryan Smith

Noon // 14301 West Ridge Road (Rte. 20), West Springfield // \$15 advance, \$20 gate // [gallabalo.com](http://gallabalo.com)

### Saturday, Aug. 13

#### Six Year Stretch Brings its 'Masquerade' to the Kings Rook Club



"Fresh, different, and on the prettier side of rock music."

That's how acoustic guitarist Mark Bartlett describes *Masquerade*, the first LP by Erie-based pop-rockers Six Year Stretch.

Finding a whole lotta love in fans of the Dave Matthews Band, 3 Doors Down, Maroon 5, and other alternative-pop heavy-hitters, "the music we write is lyrical and focused on harmonies," says singer Alex Brown, and "the songs on the album are full of relatable stuff."

Six Year Stretch is rolling out *Masquerade* at a live show and CD release party on Saturday, Aug. 13 at the Kings

Rook Club.

With a who's-who of local special guests including Tyler Smilo, Jess Royer, C. Brown, and Jonny Evans joining

Six Year Stretch is rolling out *Masquerade* at a live show and CD release party on Saturday, Aug. 13 at the Kings Rook Club.

in, it's shaping up to be quite an evening for the record(s). – Ryan Smith

10 p.m. // 1921 Peach St. // [facebook.com/sixyearstretch](http://facebook.com/sixyearstretch)

### Sunday, Aug. 14

#### Kick Up Your Heels for a Great Cause

Music flows through so many lives, which is why channeling it to support those in need brings people and artists together in a truly beautiful way. On Aug. 14 at the Sandbar Draft-house, put on those blue suede shoes (okay, or your sandals. It is summer, of course!) and support the fifth Blues for Shoes Musical Benefit and Fundraiser. Blues for Shoes brings together local musicians in order to help needy Erie kids get ready for the new school year by providing shoes and school supplies. In fact, organizer Maurice Troop even announced via Facebook that



said supplies will be accepted at the door, and this year there will also be an auction of gift baskets and other local treats. Event proceeds will be used to make purchases of items like shoes, backpacks, notebooks, and writing implements.

And the music! Six acts will take the

Blues for Shoes brings together local musicians in order to help needy Erie kids get ready for the new school year by providing shoes and school supplies.

stage on this hot-stepping evening, with acoustic performances in between the main bands. The sonic celebration kicks off at 5 p.m. with Steve Trohoske Trio playing jazz and more. Next up is the Riffriders (blues, original blues), then Jackson Station (classic rock and more dance-worthy music), the Duke

## MUSIC

### Mid-day Art Break: The Breeze Band

Aug. 3 — noon to 1 p.m.

Erie Art Museum's Wave Cafe, 411 State St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

### We Came As Romans

Aug. 3 — 7 to 11 p.m.

Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. [facebook.com/events/1725715314336857](http://facebook.com/events/1725715314336857).

### Songwriter Sunset

Aug. 4, 11 — 7 p.m.

Sunset Grille, 12670 Edinboro Rd. [edinborolakeresort.com](http://edinborolakeresort.com).

### The Breeze Band

Aug. 4 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Frontier Park Amphitheater, 1501 W. 6th St. [leaferie.org](http://leaferie.org).

### Solo Jazz Guitar from Frank Singer

Aug. 5 — 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Bayfront Grill Lounge at Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel, 55 W. Bay Dr. [jazzerie.com](http://jazzerie.com).

### Small Town Revolution

Aug. 5 — 6 p.m.

Coconut Joe's, 28 North Park Row [cjoes.com](http://cjoes.com).

### Stiletto

Aug. 5 — 6 to 9 p.m.

Arundel Cellars, 11727 E. Main Rd. [arundelcellars.com](http://arundelcellars.com).

### Dionisio

Aug. 5 — 7 p.m.

Sunset Grille, 12670 Edinboro Rd. [edinborolakeresort.com](http://edinborolakeresort.com).

### Liquid Nixon

Aug. 5 — 7 p.m.

WQLN Performance Pavilion, 8425 Peach St. [wqln.org](http://wqln.org).

### James Drakes

Aug. 5 — 7 p.m.

The Cork 1794, 17 W. Main St. [facebook.com/TheCork1794](http://facebook.com/TheCork1794).

### SaS Acoustics

Aug. 5 — 7 to 10 p.m.

U Pick 6 Public House, 333 State St. [facebook.com/SASAcousticDuo](http://facebook.com/SASAcousticDuo).

### The Breeze Band

Aug. 5 — 9 p.m.

Presque Isle Downs & Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy. [presqueisledowns.com](http://presqueisledowns.com).

### Smilo & The Ghost and Brenna Bone & Seann Clark

Aug. 5 — 10 p.m.

Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. [facebook.com/kingsrookclub](http://facebook.com/kingsrookclub).

### Blues & Jazz Festival

Aug. 6, 7 — noon to 10 p.m.

Frontier Park, 1501 W. 6th St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

### Ruby Port

Aug. 6 — 5 to 9 p.m.

Penn Shore Winery and Vineyards, 10225 E. Lake Rd. [pennshore.com](http://pennshore.com).

### First to Eleven

Aug. 6 — 5:45 p.m.

Erie Children's Museum, 420 French St. [firsttoeleven.com](http://firsttoeleven.com).

### Rick Magee & the Roadhouse Rockers

Aug. 6 — 6 p.m.

Coconut Joe's, 28 North Park Row [cjoes.com](http://cjoes.com).

### Hip Hop Night

Aug. 6 — 6 to 9 p.m.

Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. [facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse](http://facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse).

### Strangers and Liars

Aug. 6 — 7 p.m.

Sunset Grille, 12670 Edinboro Rd. [edinborolakeresort.com](http://edinborolakeresort.com).

### The Jay's

Aug. 6 — 9 p.m.

Presque Isle Downs & Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy. [presqueisledowns.com](http://presqueisledowns.com).

### Tony Grey & Ian Maciak,

### Galactic Duo

Aug. 6 — 10 p.m.

Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. [facebook.com/kingsrookclub](http://facebook.com/kingsrookclub).

### Saxation

Aug. 7 — 1 to 3 p.m.

Presque Isle Downs & Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy. [presqueisledowns.com](http://presqueisledowns.com).

### Sunday Sesh with Zack Orr

Aug. 7 — 1 to 4 p.m.

Five & 20 Spirits & Brewing, 8398 W. Main Rd. [fiveand20.com](http://fiveand20.com).

### Chelsea & Friends

Aug. 7 — 1 to 4 p.m.

Arundel Cellars, 11727 E. Main Rd. [arundelcellars.com](http://arundelcellars.com).

### Hip Hop Awards

Aug. 7 — 2 to 3 p.m.

Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. [basementtransmissions.com](http://basementtransmissions.com).

### Simply Because

Aug. 7 — 5 p.m.

Sunset Grille, 12670 Edinboro Rd. [edinborolakeresort.com](http://edinborolakeresort.com).

### Daybreak Radio

Aug. 7 — 7p.m.

WQLN Performance Pavilion, 8425 Peach St. [wqln.org](http://wqln.org).

### Sarsen

Aug. 7 — 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Bobby's Place, 1202 W. 18th St. [facebook.com/events/303122916703297](http://facebook.com/events/303122916703297).

### Sing for the Summer

Aug. 8 — 7 to 8:15 p.m.

Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [erielibrary.org](http://erielibrary.org).

### Tim Kaiser

Aug. 8 — 7 to 11 p.m.

Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th St. [facebook.com/events/264513713910346](http://facebook.com/events/264513713910346).

### Jake's Blues

Aug. 9 — 6:30 p.m.

Amphitheater at Liberty Park, Lawrence Pier [porterierie.org](http://porterierie.org).

### Mid-day Art Break: Mighty Sea

Aug. 10 — noon to 1 p.m.

Erie Art Museum's Wave Cafe, 411 State St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

### Ben Miller Band and Refuge

Aug. 10 — 4 p.m.

Shickalay's On The Bay, 2860 W. 6th St. [facebook.com/SchickalaysOnTheBay](http://facebook.com/SchickalaysOnTheBay).

### Floor Punk Show

Aug. 10 — 6 to 10 p.m.

Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. [facebook.com/gimpguyunderground](http://facebook.com/gimpguyunderground).

### Carl Hultman & Jazz Friends

Aug. 11 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.

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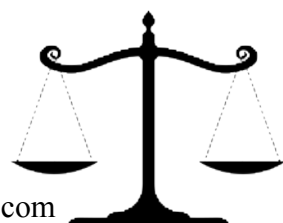
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# ERIE GIVES

THE ONE DAY WHERE YOU CAN BE A PHILANTHROPIST FOR JUST \$25!

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2016  
8:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

On August 9, between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., visit [www.ErieGives.org](http://www.ErieGives.org) and donate \$25 or more to your favorite nonprofit(s), and a prorated match will be added to your donation. This year, our sponsors increased the prorated match to \$250,000!

In addition, returning nonprofits will be eligible for one of three \$5,000 incentives, as well as Splash Lagoon passes throughout the day. Visit [www.ErieGives.org](http://www.ErieGives.org) for more details.

## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR ERIE GIVES SPONSORS!



**BEFORE**, Tania had a terrible secret. Silent and scared, she had nowhere to turn. Then Dan from Crime Victim Center came to her school to talk about good secrets and bad secrets. He told Tania's class about adults who would help. Dan said, **"IT'S OK TO TELL."**

**AFTER**, Tania told her secret to her teacher and school nurse. They called ChildLine. Tania met Jesse and Kayla at Crime Victim Center. They worked to help her on the path to healing. LaSonya, Tania's court advocate from Crime Victim Center, was with her and her dad every day in court.

Tania is **SILENT NO MORE.**



**8 A.M. TO 8 P.M. | AUGUST 9, 2016 | [WWW.ERIEGIVES.ORG](http://WWW.ERIEGIVES.ORG)**



**BEFORE** Erie Gives Day, you can learn more about Crime Victim Center's counseling, prevention education, and court advocacy at [www.cvcerie.org](http://www.cvcerie.org).

**AFTER** you make a donation to Crime Victim Center, every penny stays in Erie County helping your family, your friends, your neighbors and coworkers. Every penny helps change the life of a child like Tania. **YOU** can help another Tania be **SILENT NO MORE.**

## CALENDAR

Sherman Band (blues and more), and the Barry King Band (blues and soul). Wear comfortable footwear because the dancing continues with the final act starting at 10 p.m.: The Breeze Band will carry the audience into the night with some sweet soul and R&B. Wander over to enjoy the sounds, but also assist a wonderful Erie cause before the summer swings on out. – Miriam Lamey

5 p.m. // 2835 W. 8th St. // [sandbarerie.com](http://sandbarerie.com)

**Wednesday, Aug. 17**

### Florida-based PLEASURES Brings Intricate Soundscapes to Basement Transmissions



An explosion of eccentric electronic music will emit from Basement Transmissions when PLEASURES takes the stage.

The Florida-based quartet describes their sound as “dark and doomy, robot sex music, psychedelic, synthwave” – a complex, but remarkably accurate por-

trayal of their music. The band uses electronic instruments and a host of effects pedals combined with traditional rock instruments to create their wholly unique and intricate soundscapes, and to deliver performances unlike any others seen at BT.

Opening for PLEASURES are local favorites, Maddock. The new wave/disco/punk group never fails to get the crowd

The Florida-based quartet describes their sound as “dark and doomy, robot sex music, psychedelic, synthwave.”

moving. “They played at our biggest event of the year, Toxic Prom, and put on a phenomenal performance,” said BT staffer, Mike McCaslin. “It was a sight to behold to watch a couple hundred people dance their faces off to a unique talent from our own town.”

Other opening acts on the bill are up-and-coming electronic artist RUDOLPH, breathing new life into Erie’s electronic music scene, and Jack Stauber, best known as the vocalist for another local favorite, Joose.

“We can’t describe how excited we are for this show,” McCaslin said. “We are hoping to make it one of the best shows of the year.” – Tommy Shannon

6 p.m. // 145 W. 11th St. // \$5 advance, \$8 day of show // [facebook.com/events/470685959802112](http://facebook.com/events/470685959802112)

Frontier Park Amphitheater, 1501 W. 6th St. [leaferie.org](http://leaferie.org).

#### Wattsburg Bluegrass Festival

Aug. 12, 13, 14

Erie County Fairgrounds, 13993 Route 8 [facebook.com/Wattsburg-Bluegrass-Festival-862389210550992](http://facebook.com/Wattsburg-Bluegrass-Festival-862389210550992).

#### Zak ThunderCloud

Aug. 12 — 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. [basementtransmissions.com](http://basementtransmissions.com).

#### Geek Army

Aug. 12 — 6 p.m.

Coconut Joe’s, 28 North Park Row [cjoes.com](http://cjoes.com).

#### Dave Callaghan Quartet

Aug. 12 — 6 to 9 p.m.

Wegman’s Cafeteria, 6143 Peach St. [jazzerie.com](http://jazzerie.com).

#### Key West Express

Aug. 12 — 6 to 9 p.m.

Arundel Cellars, 11727 E. Main Rd. [arundelcellars.com](http://arundelcellars.com).

#### Brian K. Chase

Aug. 12 — 7 p.m.

The Cork 1794, 17 W. Main St.

[facebook.com/TheCork1794](http://facebook.com/TheCork1794).

#### The HighLife

Aug. 12 — 7 p.m.

Sunset Grille, 12670 Edinboro Rd. [edinborolakeresort.com](http://edinborolakeresort.com).

#### Picks & Hammers

Aug. 12 — 7 to 9 p.m.

Goodell Gardens & Homestead, 221 Waterford St. [goodellgardens.org](http://goodellgardens.org).

#### The Groove

Aug. 12 — 9 p.m.

Presque Isle Downs & Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy. [presqueisledowns.com](http://presqueisledowns.com).

#### Rebel Souls

Aug. 12 — 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Irish Cousins, 3924 Main St. [facebook.com/events/1502734136451567](http://facebook.com/events/1502734136451567).

#### Sunday at the Station

Aug. 12 — 10 p.m.

Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. [facebook.com/kingsrookclub](http://facebook.com/kingsrookclub).

#### C.J. Gunn, Sonic Medusa and 88 Magnum

Aug. 12 — 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Bobby’s Place, 1202 W. 18th St. [facebook.com/](http://facebook.com/)

[events/1139894412748529](http://events/1139894412748529).

#### Gallaboo Music Festival

Aug. 13 — noon

Jim N I Picnic Ground, West Springfield, Pa. [facebook.com/events/651489541671551](http://facebook.com/events/651489541671551).

#### Vendettas

Aug. 13 — 5 to 9 p.m.

Penn Shore Winery and Vineyards, 10225 E. Lake Rd. [pennshore.com](http://pennshore.com).

#### Next of Kin

Aug. 13 — 6 p.m.

Coconut Joe’s, 28 North Park Row [cjoes.com](http://cjoes.com).

#### Abbey Road

Aug. 13 — 6 to 9 p.m.

Sprague Farm & Brew Works, 22043 US Hwy 6 & 19 [sleepingchainsaw.com](http://sleepingchainsaw.com).

#### Salmon Frank

Aug. 13 — 7 p.m.

Sunset Grille, 12670 Edinboro Rd. [edinborolakeresort.com](http://edinborolakeresort.com).

#### Archway’s CD Release

Aug. 13 — 8 p.m.

Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. [facebook.com/basement.transmissions](http://facebook.com/basement.transmissions).



# August 9th, 2016

## 8am-8pm

### [www.eriegives.org](http://www.eriegives.org)

We’re thrilled to be back for this Erie Community Foundation event! All donations of \$25 or more made through this website during this time will receive a pro-rated match! This means YOUR dollars go even farther to help your Erie County neighbors in need!

- Home-Buying Education
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## CALENDAR

### Erie Gives Day to Boost Local Nonprofits

The fifth annual charity event provides plenty of reasons to donate.



nership (NPP) or have an Agency Endowment with The Erie Community Foundation.

From 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., visit [eriegives.org](http://eriegives.org) to make your donation online (the minimum eligible donation is \$25). Nonprofits are searchable by name or category on the website.

#### TUESDAY, AUG. 9

We all want to be good people. We all know the importance of charity, and recognize the amazing positive work so many local nonprofits are doing. But far too often, especially in these busy months, we find ourselves rationalizing why *not* to give.

On Erie Gives Day, there will be at least 250,000 more reasons to give.

Thanks to local sponsors, your contribution will be matched, essentially doubling your donation via a prorated match of \$250,000. Continuing their contributions from last year, The Erie Community Foundation, GE Transportation, Erie Insurance, and Presque Isle Downs & Casino have pledged substantial sums. Welcomed newcomers to the donors' circle are Erie Bank, Northwest Bank, McInnes Rolled Rings, E.E. Austin & Son, and Scott Enterprises.

If there's a nonprofit close to your heart, chances are they're one of the 346 local organizations involved. To participate, organizations must be 501(c)(3) and be either members of The Nonprofit Part-

nership (NPP) or have an Agency Endowment with The Erie Community Foundation.

Spearheaded by The Erie Community Foundation, the event has been lovingly embraced, growing each year since 2011. Last year, the region gave a total of \$2,843,371. For the past three years, the

Spearheaded by The Erie Community Foundation, the event has been lovingly embraced, growing each year since 2011. Last year, the region gave a total of \$2,843,371.

total amount given has increased by over a half a million dollars. If the trend continues, that will bring the grand total to over 12 million dollars.

So, if you're looking for a time to help, Aug. 9 is your day. – Nick Warren

8 a.m. to 8 p.m. // [eriegives.org](http://eriegives.org)

#### The Gilligans

Aug. 13 — 9 p.m.  
Presque Isle Downs & Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy.  
[presqueisledowns.com](http://presqueisledowns.com).

#### Six Year Stretch

Aug. 13 — 10 p.m.  
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St.  
[facebook.com/kingsrookclub](http://facebook.com/kingsrookclub).

#### Ron Yarman

Aug. 14 — 1 to 3 p.m.  
Presque Isle Downs & Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy.  
[presqueisledowns.com](http://presqueisledowns.com).

#### Cheap 'n Easy

Aug. 14 — 1 to 4 p.m.  
Arundel Cellars, 11727 E. Main Rd.  
[arundelcellars.com](http://arundelcellars.com).

#### Olivia Frances

Aug. 14 — 2 to 5 p.m.  
Sprague Farm & Brew Works, 22043 US Hwy 6 & 19  
[facebook.com/events/1008073715955203](http://facebook.com/events/1008073715955203).

#### Blues Fest

Aug. 14 — 3 p.m.  
Schickalay's On The Bay, 2860 W. 6th St.  
[facebook.com/SchickalaysOnTheBay](http://facebook.com/SchickalaysOnTheBay).

#### Scarlet Ledbetter

Aug. 14 — 5 p.m.  
Sunset Grille, 12670 Edinboro Rd.  
[edinborolakeresort.com](http://edinborolakeresort.com).

#### Body Thief

Aug. 15 — 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St.  
[basementtransmissions.com](http://basementtransmissions.com).

#### Key West Express

Aug. 16 — 6:30 p.m.  
Amphitheater at Liberty Park, Lawrence Pier porterie.org.

#### Mid-day Art Break: Jess



**Lawrence Park  
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[www.eriegives.org](http://www.eriegives.org)

*#vibranterie*

**Erie Arts & Culture**

**This Erie Gives Day**

- Build a more vibrant Erie region
- Fuel creativity and learning
- Bring our community together
- Celebrate people and places that make us unique

*Make your gift to your favorite arts and cultural organization or support many through one gift to Erie Arts & Culture.*

*Visit [www.erieartsandculture.org](http://www.erieartsandculture.org) to learn more.*



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Aug. 25, 6 pm

Tiger Maple String Band  
Aug. 26, 7 pm

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## CALENDAR

### Jake's Blues Double Trouble at 8 Great Tuesdays and Schickalay's On The Bay

TUESDAY, AUG. 9, SUNDAY AUG. 14



under a Texas flood of electric blues, a sound greatly indebted to Banta's idol, the late Stevie Ray Vaughan. Although his sets will always contain their share of Vaughan covers, Banta's pride and joy is his original music. His home contains a small studio and he has recorded several of his own original albums, most recently 2013's *Blisterin'*. The Stevie Ray influence is undeniable, but Banta adds his own little twists to the blues-rock base, such as on the funky "We Came To Party," or the swinging, Gilligan's Island-inspired "Ginger or Maryann."

Choosing between Tuesday's show or Sunday's show at Schickalay's on the Bay should prove less difficult than deciding between

They may be Jake's Blues, but he's proven more than willing to share over the years. Jake Banta is less possessive than he is possessed with his guitar in hand. As a werewolf's transformation is triggered by the glint of the full moon, Banta's metamorphosis from soft-spoken farmer to swaggering showman is as simple as switching on an amplifier. He plays the guitar behind his neck, with a beer bottle, even with his teeth – he is a beast unburdened.

"Success to me is having a great night on stage, whether it's in front of 10 people or 10,000 people," Banta said in a 2011 interview with Dirty Dog Live Music TV. "If the music is right and things happen, the hair will stand up on the back of my neck and make me feel that special feeling, and that, to me, is what it's all about."

Jake's Blues is welcomed back to the 8 Great Tuesdays rotation every year, so it's safe to say that special feeling is mutual. Liberty Park will once again be swept

beautiful fellow castaways – both events are free. It could come down to how well you like their friends – on Tuesday, Jake's Blues will be joined by the gruff, brass-infused blues sextet of Bill Toms and Hard Rain. On Sunday, they will team with Rodger Montgomery and Ron Yarosz and the Vehicle in what is sure to be a rowdy good time.

Liberty Park will once again be swept under a Texas flood of electric blues, a sound greatly indebted to Banta's idol, the late Stevie Ray Vaughan.

Not everyone deserves a second chance, but this is trouble you can afford to get into twice. – Matt Swanseger

6:30 p.m. Tuesday; 3 p.m. Sunday  
// Tuesday: Lawrence Pier;  
Sunday: 2860 W. 6th St. // free

#### Royer with Nick Warren

Aug. 17 — noon to 1 p.m.

Erie Art Museum's Wave Cafe,  
411 State St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

#### Hump Fest

Aug. 17 — 5 p.m.

Basement Transmissions,  
145 W. 11th St. [facebook.com/basement.transmissions](http://facebook.com/basement.transmissions).

#### DANCE

##### Dance Elite's Brett Fallon

Aug. 5 — 6 to 8 p.m.

Camp Sherwin, 8600 W.  
Lake Rd. [ymcaerie.org](http://ymcaerie.org).

#### FOOD & DRINK

#### Erie Food Tours

Aug 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26,  
27 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Like My Thai, 827 State  
St. [eriefoodtours.com](http://eriefoodtours.com).

#### Mosaic Mango IPA Release

Aug 5 — 4 p.m.

Lavery Brewing Company,  
128 W. 12th St. [facebook.com/laverybrewing](http://facebook.com/laverybrewing).

#### Basic Kitchen Knife Skills

Aug. 5 — 6 to 8 p.m.

Whole Foods Co-op, 1341 W.  
26th St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com)

#### Ian Malesiewski Benefit

Aug. 6 — 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Presque Isle Wine Cellars, 9440  
W. Main Rd. [piwine.com](http://piwine.com).

#### FILM

##### Robots Movie

Ongoing through Oct.  
31 — 11 a.m. & 3 p.m.

Tom Ridge Environmental  
Center, 301 Peninsula  
Dr. [trecpi.org](http://trecpi.org).

##### D-Day: Normandy 1944 Movie

Ongoing through Oct  
31 — noon & 4 p.m.

Tom Ridge Environmental  
Center, 301 Peninsula  
Dr. [trecpi.org](http://trecpi.org).

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## CALENDAR

'Movies Under the Stars' at the Porreco College Campus is a Film Series for All Ages

THURSDAYS, AUG. 4 & 11



You may have missed the chance to see *Star Wars* under the stars, but *Creed* and *Inside Out* are still to come.

chairs and lounge under the stars like the old drive-in days when Rocky Balboa ran up 72 Philadelphia Museum of Art steps.

The series began on July 28 with *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, and continues Aug. 4 with *Creed* and Aug. 11 with *Inside Out*.

All three films were released in 2015, and are free and open to the public with ample parking available.

— Ti Sumner

With the 2016 Porreco College film series "Movies Under the Stars," John Lyons has compiled an eclectic film mix that promises to satisfy nearly any age or taste. From mid-night-premier blockbuster attendees to the occasional Red Box rental fans, movie-goers of all types will appreciate Lyons' lineup that manages to take something old and make it new again.

Take advantage of Porreco College's natural aesthetics. Pack some Twizzlers or Snocaps and a blanket or lawn

9 p.m. // The Porreco College campus of Edinboro University // 2951 W. 38th St. // free



### Mysteries of the Great Lakes

Ongoing through Oct. 31 — 1 p.m.

Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. [trecpi.org](http://trecpi.org).

### Journey to Space

Ongoing through Oct. 31 — 2 & 5 p.m.

Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. [trecpi.org](http://trecpi.org).

### Indiscreet (1931)

Aug. 5 — 8 p.m.

Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. [facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse](http://facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse).

### Movies in the Arboretum

Aug. 5, 12, 26 — 9 p.m.

Frontier Park, 1501 W. 8th St. [leaferie.org](http://leaferie.org).

### Boys of the City (1940)

Aug. 11 — 8 p.m.

Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. [facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse](http://facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse).

### Battletruck (1982)

Aug. 12 — 8 p.m.

Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. [facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse](http://facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse).

### National Theatre Live: The Audience

Aug. 14 — 12:55 p.m.

Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center, 501 E. 38th St. [miac.mercyhurst.edu](http://miac.mercyhurst.edu).

## VISUAL ARTS

### Art on the Hill

Ongoing through Aug. 17 — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Cummings Art Gallery, 501 E. 38th St. [mercyhurst.edu](http://mercyhurst.edu).

### Nocturnal Emissions by Alison Stinely

Ongoing through Sep. 17

Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

### InnovationErie Competition 2016

Ongoing through Sept. 25

Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

### Henry Katzwinkel

Ongoing through Oct. 17

Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

### I Think I Found It Upside Down by Dietrich Wegner

Ongoing through Nov. 20

Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

### Dark Garden

Ongoing through Jan 8, 2017

Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

### Jose Picayo Polaroids: A Retrospective

Ongoing through Jan. 8, 2017

Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

### Our City on the Bay and Beyond by Sam Ward and Greg Zbach

Aug. 5 to Sept. 9 (Opening Reception Aug. 5 — 6 to 8 p.m.)

Glass Growers Gallery, 10 E. 5th St. [glassgrowersgallery.com](http://glassgrowersgallery.com).

### Second Sundays

Aug. 14 — 2 to 4 p.m.

Erie Art Museum, 411 State

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## CALENDAR

St. erieartmuseum.org.

### Art Faculty Show

Aug. 15 through Sept. 25  
(Reception Sept. 1 — 5 to 7 p.m.)  
Cummings Art Gallery, 501  
E. 38th St. mercyhurst.edu.

### THEATRE

#### The Witch in 204

Aug. 3, 9, 10 — noon &  
Aug. 5, 6, 12, 13 — 7 p.m. &  
Aug. 7, 14 — 2:30 p.m.

Riverside: The Inn at Cambridge  
Springs, 1 Fountain Ave.  
theriversideinn.com.

#### Sister Act

Aug. 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19,  
20, 26, 27 — 7:30 p.m. &  
Aug. 14, 21, 28 — 2 p.m.

Erie Playhouse, 13 W. 10  
St. erieplayhouse.org.

#### Unnecessary Farce

Aug. 9, 10, 23, 24 — noon & Aug.  
13, 20, 27 — 5:30 p.m. & Aug. 14, 28  
— 2:30 p.m. & Aug. 19 — 7 p.m.

Station Dinner Theatre, 4940  
Peach St. canterburyfeast.com.

#### Last Five Years

Aug. 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20 — 8 p.m.

PACA, 1505 State St.  
pacal505.com

### COMMUNITY/VARIETY

#### Branching Out

Ongoing through Aug.  
9 — 10 to 11:30 a.m.

LEAF Education Center, 1501  
W. 6th St. leaferie.org.

#### Thursday Teen Time

Ongoing through Aug.  
18 — 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Blasco Memorial Library, 160  
E. Front St. erielibrary.org.

#### Lagoon by Pontoon

Ongoing through Sept.  
5 — 11 a.m. & 1 & 2 p.m.

Pontoon Boat Station,  
301 Peninsula Dr. events.  
dncr.pa.gov.

#### Wednesday Walks in the Woods

Ongoing through Oct.  
5 — 11 a.m. to noon

Asbury Woods Nature  
Center, 4105 Asbury Rd.  
asburywoods.org.

#### Lake Erie Fishing History

Ongoing through Oct.  
30 — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tom Ridge Environmental  
Center, 301 Peninsula Dr.  
events.dncr.pa.gov.

#### Life Enrichment Event

Aug. 3 — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Whole Foods Co-op, 1341 W.  
26th St. bhaktaschool.org.

#### Garden Seedlings

Aug. 3, 10 — 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Carrie's Cabin at Goodell  
Gardens & Homestead,  
221 Waterford St.  
goodellgardens.org.

#### Farmers Market

Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 & Sept.  
7, 14, 21, 28 — 3 to 6 p.m.

Goodell Gardens &  
Homestead, 221 Waterford  
St. goodellgardens.org.

#### Liberal Arts Education in the 21st Century

Aug. 3 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Jefferson Educational Society,  
3207 State St. jeserie.org.

#### Evening Lagoon by Pontoon

Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 — 7  
to 8:30 p.m.

Pontoon Boat Station,  
301 Peninsula Dr. events.  
dncr.pa.gov.

#### Dan Rice Days

Aug. 4, 5, 6

Girard PA, danricedays.com.

#### Wild Moves

Aug. 4 — 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Asbury Woods Nature  
Center, 4105 Asbury Rd.  
asburywoods.org.

#### Garden Sprouts

Aug. 4, 11, 18 — 11 a.m. to noon

Goodell Gardens &  
Homestead, 221 Waterford  
St. goodellgardens.org.

#### Zentangle Jewelry Class

Aug. 4 — 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach  
St. lifeworkserie.org.

#### The Rise and Fall of the Erie Extension Canal: A Narrated Boat Tour

Aug. 4 — 4 p.m.

Jefferson Educational Society,  
3207 State St. jeserie.org.

#### Environment Erie Residential Storm Water Management Workshop

Aug. 4 — 6 to 8 p.m.

Goodell Gardens &  
Homestead, 221 Waterford  
St. goodellgardens.org.

#### Erie Downtown Block Party

Aug. 4 — 6 to 10:30 p.m.

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

#### Metalworking Art Class

Aug. 5, 12, 18 — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Erie County Public Library  
Locations, erielibrary.org.

#### Dr. Goffredo Ianiro Memorial Golf Outing

Aug. 5 — 11:30 a.m.

Whispering Woods Golf  
Club, 7214 Grubb Rd.  
vmelementary.com.

#### Shear Delight to the Rescue

Aug. 5 — 12:30 to 2 p.m.

LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach  
St. lifeworkserie.org.

#### Furr'st Friday Pet Night

Aug. 5 — 5 to 8 p.m.

North East Chamber  
of Commerce, 44 W.  
Main St. facebook.com/  
TheNorthEastChamber.

#### Campfire on the Beach

Aug. 5 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Presque Isle State Park  
Beach 11, 301 Peninsula  
Dr. events.dncr.pa.gov.

#### Bay Fishing by Pontoon

Aug. 6 — 8 to 10 a.m.

Presque Isle State Park Pontoon  
Boat Station, 301 Peninsula  
Dr. events.dncr.pa.gov.

#### Presque Isle Bicycle Tour

Aug. 6 — 9 a.m. to noon

Cookhouse Pavilion, 301  
Peninsula Dr. events.  
dncr.pa.gov.

#### Dino Dig

Aug. 6 — 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Asbury Woods Nature  
Center, 4105 Asbury Rd.  
asburywoods.org.

#### All You Can Read Buffet Book Sale

Aug. 6 — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Orphan Angels Cat Sanctuary  
and Adoption Center, 5439  
W. Lake Rd. facebook.com/  
events/1629513597334501.

#### Hispanic Heritage Festival

Aug. 6 — 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Perry Square, 568 State  
St. facebook.com/  
ErieLatinoLeadership.

#### Annual Sportsman Raffle

Aug. 6 — 1 to 6 p.m.

Erie County Fairgrounds,  
13993 PA-8 facebook.  
com/Hunt-of-A-Lifetime-  
Foundation-168878486459079.

#### 7th Annual Cruise-In

Aug. 6 — 4 to 7 p.m.

First Alliance Church, 2939  
Zimmerly Rd. facerie.org.

#### Girl Scouts Duathlon

Aug. 7 — 7 to 11 a.m.

Presque Isle State Park  
Beach 11, 301 Peninsula  
Dr. events.dncr.pa.gov.

#### Dead Pond Trail Hike

Aug. 7 — 9 to 10 a.m.

Presque Isle State Park Beach  
9 Pavilion, 301 Peninsula  
Dr. events.dncr.pa.gov.

#### Light Fest 2016

Aug. 7 — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Nick's Place, 12250 Edinboro  
Rd. facebook.com/  
events/141096862973167.

#### Teen Stars Live Tour 2016

Aug. 7 — 11 a.m.

Warner Theatre, 811 State  
St. erieevents.com.

#### Yogilates with Michelee Curtze

Aug. 7, 14, 21, 28 & Sept.  
4 — 11 a.m. to noon

Goodell Gardens &  
Homestead, 221 Waterford  
St. goodellgardens.org.

#### Sunset Tai Chi Classes and Worship

Aug. 7, 14, 21, 28 & Sept.  
4 — 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Presque Isle State Park  
Beach 6, 301 Peninsula Dr.  
events.dncr.pa.gov.

#### An Evening of Political Satire with Mark Russell

Aug. 7 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Jefferson Educational Society,  
3207 State St. jeserie.org.

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**Michael Kiwanuka**  
Love & Hate  
Interscope Records



The album starts off with an epic slow burn. It's more than two minutes before the drums come in, and you're five minutes in before Michael Kiwanuka starts to sing. It's worth it. "Cold Little Heart" is a statement. There aren't too many songs you want to compare to "While My Guitar Gently Weeps," but this is one of them. *Love & Hate* marks a sea change for Kiwanuka, whose debut album, *Home Again* found him much lighter and generally more pleasant. If *Home Again* is a peaceful summer day, then *Love & Hate* is a sweaty, intense lucubration. The second song on the album is "Black Man in a White World," an Afrobeat-tinged scorcher of single. Kiwanuka is channelling Bill Withers, with touches of Pink Floyd. The London singer has carved out a distinct, retro-friendly niche for himself, one that will no doubt bring him great success. Much of the album is highly cinematic and emotionally evocative. Listen to the album now, before brilliant songs like "One More Night" get bought up by some hip contact lens company. – Nick Warren



**Orbs**  
Past Life Regression  
Equal Vision Records



For their sophomore release, Orbs have presented a deeply personal musical journey. The genre-defying supergroup is championing their progressive platform with remarkable results. The band features Adam Fisher of Fear Before on guitar and vocals, with fellow Fear Before member Clayton Holyoak on drums. Chuck Johnson of Nightbear is on bass, while Ashley "Ellyllon" Jurgemeyer, formerly of Abigail Williams and Cradle of Filth, adds her distinct keyboard work to the mix. Erie native and Between the Buried and Me bassist Dan Briggs plays guitar. The thick, metallic guitar sound is polished, propelling the songs forward. Tracks like "These People are Animals" transition from classically-inspired arpeggios to off-meter breakdowns to soft, shimmering confessionals. Fisher's nasal growls have both a charming idiosyncrasy and an off-putting imbalance, especially amidst the water-tight musicianship. Lyrics are intimate and engaging, dealing with subjects like sexual psychology ("Dreamland II"), and gender dysphoria ("Peculiar, Isn't It"). The sound is accessible and addicting: a life you'll want to relive repeatedly. – Nick Warren



**The Amazing**  
Ambulance  
Partisan Records



Swedish quintet The Amazing have crafted a dark, haunting work. *Ambulance* is their fourth full length album since forming in 2009. The tempo and tone of the album remains steady throughout, creating a tone portrait in a brilliant monochrome. The echoes reverberate back and forth, the guitars chirping out lines fit for the best post-punk purveyors of yesteryear. This album is a perfect fit if you happen to be a very depressed fan of the War on Drugs. There are rare oases of light in an otherwise gloomy soundscape, the chorus of "Blair Drager," for example. Christoffer Gunrup's vocals coincide seamlessly with the band's unified mood. He lilts out his nearly indecipherable lyrics like Belle and Sebastian's Stuart Murdoch on valium. It may be morose, but it's a beautiful morosity. The midpoint of the eight tracks, "Floating," begins a peaceful reprieve, brimming with meditative introspection and calmness. The wonderfully titled closing track, "Perfect Day for Shrimp," recalls a subdued Mark Kozelek diary entry. This ambulance must not have its lights flashing, as it rides away in slow solemnity. – Nick Warren



**Nonkeen**  
Oddments of the Gamble  
R&S



Lush, atmospheric, and illustrative, *Oddments of the Gamble* proves itself as a stand-alone work. This instrumental record provides a flurry of tones, shaped by a German trio of Frederic Gmeiner, Sepp Singwald, and Nils Frahm. Frahm is enormously popular in the world of ambient electronic music. Earlier this year, the trio released the album *The Gamble*. As the title implies, this album consists of material not used in the previous record. As a whole, this record flows more gently than the last. It's easy to get lost in the undulating warbles of the keyboard layers. This recording was created by Frahm, Singwald, and Gmeiner improvising, though it sounds absolutely deliberate and purposeful. Slow, low-end rushes give way to languorously pulsating rhythms that build and slowly deconstruct themselves over and over again. The tempo remains relatively consistent, and one track bleeds into the next – an amorphous cloud, a scintillating, percussive experience. Close your eyes and feel the energy that the group imbues you with. Though it might be considered a sidebet, this gamble pays off. – Nick Warren



Aug. 8 through 14  
Mt. Saint Benedict Monastery  
Lake House, 6101 E. Lake  
Rd. [abodeoftheheart.org](http://abodeoftheheart.org).

**Little Leaves**

Aug. 8 — 10 to 10:45  
a.m. & 11:15 to noon  
LEAF Education Center, 1501  
W. 6th St. [leaferie.org](http://leaferie.org).

**Erie Gives Day**

Aug. 9 — 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Various Locations. [eriegives.org](http://eriegives.org).

**Erie City Mission Young Professionals Mixer**

Aug. 9 — 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.  
Amphitheater at Liberty Park,  
726 W. Bayfront Pkwy. [facebook.com/events/1164340406952203](http://facebook.com/events/1164340406952203).

**Flying, Crawling, Bouncing Bugs**

Aug. 9, 11 — 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.  
Asbury Woods Nature  
Center, 4105 Asbury Rd.  
[asburywoods.org](http://asburywoods.org).

**Therapy Dogs**

Aug. 9 — 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.  
Lincoln Community Center  
Library, 1255 Manchester  
Rd. [erielibrary.org](http://erielibrary.org).

**Erie SeaWolves vs. Portland Sea Dogs**

Aug. 9, 10, 11 — 7 p.m.  
Jerry Uht Park, 110 E. 10th  
St. [erieevents.com](http://erieevents.com).

**Dulcimers in the Woods**

Aug. 9 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.  
Asbury Woods Nature  
Center, 4105 Asbury Rd.  
[asburywoods.org](http://asburywoods.org).

**Multicultural Center Tour**

Aug. 10 — 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach  
St. [lifeworkserie.org](http://lifeworkserie.org).

**Bug Hunt**

Aug. 10 — 1 to 2 p.m.  
Asbury Woods Nature  
Center, 4105 Asbury Rd.  
[asburywoods.org](http://asburywoods.org).

**Dream Board Workshop**

Aug. 10 — 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Whole Foods Co-op, 1341  
W. 26th St. [facebook.com/events/975860915844738](http://facebook.com/events/975860915844738).

**Purple Martin Palooza Pontoon Ride**

Aug. 10, 12, 17, 19 —  
6:30 to 9:30 p.m.  
Pontoon Boat Station, 301  
Peninsula Dr. [events.dcnr.pa.gov](http://events.dcnr.pa.gov).

**Erie SeaWolves Storytime**

Aug. 11 — 10 to 11 a.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160  
E. Front St. [erielibrary.org](http://erielibrary.org).

**Erie Downtown Block Party**

Aug. 11 — 6 to 10:30 p.m.  
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State  
St. [eriedowntown.com](http://eriedowntown.com).

**St. Paul's Italian Festival**

Aug. 12, 13, 14  
St. Paul Catholic Church, 1617  
Walnut St. [stpaulrcerie.org](http://stpaulrcerie.org).

**Shoot the Rock Back to School Jam**

Aug. 12, 13, 14  
Family First Sports Park, 8155

Oliver Rd. [keystonehoops.com](http://keystonehoops.com).

**Magic Steve**

Aug. 12 — 6 to 8 p.m.  
Camp Sherwin, 8600 W.  
Lake Rd. [ymcaerie.org](http://ymcaerie.org).

**The Art of Inner Transformation**

Aug. 12 — 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. &  
Aug. 13, 14 — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
& Aug. 17 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.  
Whole Foods Co-op, 1341 W.  
26th St. [abodeoftheheart.org](http://abodeoftheheart.org).

**Erie SeaWolves vs. Hartford Yard Goats**

Aug. 12, 13 — 7 p.m. &  
Aug. 14 — 1:30 p.m.  
Jerry Uht Park, 110 E. 10th  
St. [erieevents.com](http://erieevents.com).

**Soccer in the Sand**

Aug. 13  
Presque Isle State  
Park, 301 Peninsula Dr.  
[soccerinthesand.com](http://soccerinthesand.com).

**13th Annual Kickball for Kids**

Aug. 13 — 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Harborcreek Community  
Park, Clark Rd. [yeperie.org](http://yeperie.org).

**The Color Run Tropicolor World Tour**

Aug. 13 — 8 a.m.  
Perry Square Park, 6th &  
State St. [thecolorrun.com](http://thecolorrun.com).

**Morning Eco-Paddle**

Aug. 13 — 8 to 10 a.m.  
Lagoon Boat Launch, 301  
Peninsula Dr. [events.dcnr.pa.gov](http://events.dcnr.pa.gov).

**Discover the Dinosaurs Unleashed**

Aug. 13, 14 — 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Bayfront Convention Center, 1  
Sassafras Pier [erieevents.com](http://erieevents.com).

**Dave Chaffee Arms Classic II**

Aug. 13 — noon to 8 p.m.  
Presque Isle Downs & Casino,  
8199 Perry Hwy. [facebook.com/events/1706925096229539](http://facebook.com/events/1706925096229539).

**Chorus Auditions**

Aug. 13 — 1 to 4 p.m.  
School for Communication

and the Arts, 700 Peach  
St. [eriephil.org](http://eriephil.org).

**Erie Cemetery Walks: Lawyers and Judges**

Aug. 14 — 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.  
Erie Cemetery, 2116 Chestnut  
St. [erieyesterday.org](http://erieyesterday.org).

**Jump Back to School Expo**

Aug. 14 — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Penn State Behrend Junker  
Center, 4701 Behrend  
College Dr. [wqln.org](http://wqln.org)

**Shinedown**

Aug. 14 — 6:30 p.m.  
Erie Insurance Arena, 809  
French St. [erieevents.com](http://erieevents.com).

**Sunset Hike**

Aug. 16 — 8 to 9:30 p.m.  
Brown's Farm, 5774 Sterrettania  
Rd. [asburywoods.org](http://asburywoods.org).

**Subscriber Pick Up Day**

Aug. 17 — 10 a.m. to 2  
p.m. & 4 to 7 p.m.  
Various Locations. [eriephil.org](http://eriephil.org).



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Nightly Mon-Thurs  
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## NEWS & VIEWS

[Cont. from page 5]

from the site of the RNC and now fewer than 100 days to the general election, our community must begin to look past 2016. Our biggest race is yet to come. For all that's at stake in this federal election cycle, there's much more to be won or lost here in Erie County, and in particular in the city of Erie, next spring.

The city of Erie mayoral race alone is expected to be populated by at least 10 candidates. Traditionally, this race is dominated by Democrats and therefore it's decided in the Democratic primary, cutting the electoral process in half and making for an eventful spring. But our mayoral races have also been subject to the zealous oversight of the local Democratic Party, a vestige of historical party machinery.

Like the national Republican Party that fought through this convention season, attempting to rewrite its narrative, embrace its nominee, and institute a platform that will have longevity after the wounds of its anti-establishment civil war have healed, the Erie Democratic Party will have to face some serious questions in the months ahead.

Will we vote for candidates who represent the old political order – the one which, in many ways, brought us to where we are today? Will we search for outsiders to renew the spirit of the city and the region? Will we become a city and a party of ideas and innovation? Or will we be an electorate that gives way to the fears of what we don't understand and the demagogues who reinforce that misunderstanding?

These are big questions at a critical moment for the city and the region. So as the circus rolls into our town, be mindful of separating the showmen from the clowns. Otherwise, you may end up with some ringmaster who asks you to "vote your conscience" in the hopes that there is something left to salvage when the elephants leave town.

Jim Wertz can be reached at [jWertz@ErieReader.com](mailto:jWertz@ErieReader.com), and you can follow him on Twitter @jim\_wertz.





Saturday  
August 27  
6:30-10:30pm

Admission: \$85 / \$95 after August 24

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# Erie Faces Erie

## Bob Chitester

founder and president of  
Free to Choose Network

## Ed Bernik

photographer

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*"My obsession is that the best outcome for everyone is when you are free to choose; when government is limited, meaning, there's more range for choosing."*

**Ed Bernik:** You have spent at least 40 years of your career educating people about money. It's an elusive concept that most people really don't understand. What made you decide to take on that responsibility?

**Bob Chitester:** Most people think of economics as about money, but I've had some success in persuading people otherwise. Economics is just about human behavior and choosing. We make decisions for all kinds of reasons. Why do I exercise? Because I decided it adds to my well being. Other people make the decision to go to the bar, have a few with their buddies, and not be concerned about their fitness; but they're gaining from that experience, and finding some happiness. That's an economic choice because they're deciding between contending opportunities. Contending activities and economics, as a science, is trying to figure out: If you decide "this," what's going to be the outcome? Is there a predictable pattern?

That's what economics is about, and my obsession is that the best outcome for everyone is when you are free to choose; when government is limited, meaning, there's more range for choosing. People don't understand what you're giving up when you ask government – which then makes the choices – to do something.

Take the whole business over VA hospitals: The way it's set up, the veteran has very little choice. Now, money comes

into play there because wealthy veterans can say, "I'm not going to go to the VA hospital, I'll go elsewhere because I can afford it."

And that's also one of the reasons why school choice, for example, is so very fundamentally correct; and yet it is being opposed politically by many special interest groups because wealthy people have no problem whatsoever getting their children into the best schools. And it isn't even just the wealthy; if you're middle class and you can move to a house in Millcreek, which you assume has better schools, you should move there. You immediately get the benefit. But if you live in the middle of Erie without the wealth to buy a

home in Millcreek, you don't have that choice. School choice says, "Wait a minute: This taxation system is supporting education. You as a parent have X-percentage of the tax money being used to support your child. Here's a voucher for that, which you can use to get into any certified school in Pennsylvania."

That evens the playing field. It is one of the most equality-creating things out there. And yet it is being resisted.

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**You and I voted this morning, probably six to a dozen times. Those votes had more impact on what our future and the future of this nation will be than any of the votes we will cast this fall.**

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Most people think that the degree that they have to affect society is manifest by their political activity. You hear it all the time: You have a responsibility to vote, everybody should vote, get out and vote. This is a democracy. You can decide how things are going to happen. We're seeing



it right now in the campaign. The candidates are saying, "We can solve your problems." So people get focused on voting once or twice a year at most, often only once every four years for a presidential campaign.

But you and I voted this morning, probably six to a dozen times. Those votes had more impact on what our future and the future of this nation will be than any of the votes we will cast this fall. We voted whether we were going to have oatmeal or corn flakes for breakfast. We voted whether we were going to drive a Prius or an SUV. All these things are votes and people don't see that. I open my eyes to that and I go around just astonished to watch what people are doing.

But here's another critical point: No individual should judge another's behavior. Choosing is part of economics. If someone wants to have ribs every night, followed up with a rich dessert, it's obvious they're weighing or including in the price the pleasure they get out of going to the bar with their friends and eating those really yummy ribs against the fact that later they're feeling terrible. They'll pop a couple antacids and it will all go

away. To the degree that this has long-term medical consequences, that's a difficult one because the human being has real difficulty forecasting results 30 years out. That is a cost you don't feel, so your current behavior is based on short-term cause and effect. The long-term effect is: You abuse your stomach and intestines enough, they start to have serious problems. You don't add that into your cost until it's too late.

If only everybody would start to think consciously about the choices they're making, what the outcomes are, either short-term or long-term. Why do you go home at night and have to take antacids? Because you made a choice. How many times do you have to go through that agony before you say, "Maybe if I changed what I did at the beginning, I wouldn't have to go through that again and again."

I hope that has opened your eyes to looking at the world in a way you haven't thought of before.

*Bob Chitester: chitester.net*

*Ed Bernik: bernikphotography.com*

# Don't Panic!

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# GET IN YOUR GAME!

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Friday, August 19 - Win \$100 - \$7,500  
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- Limit one prize per person per day.

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