

The only local voice for news, arts, and culture



Wintertime Fitness

Outdoor activities
in the cold weather



Why Erie?

Examining the
self-deprecating
question

Getting to Sesame Street

Lori Burke and Brad Pattullo tell you how

PLUS ALKEME | BLACKALICIOUS | ERIE BLUFFS
DAN LAUGHLIN | NORTHERN SCOOP ICE CREAM

FREE

IS TODAY THE DAY YOU IGNITE YOUR FUTURE?

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

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

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

FORTIS.EDU



FORTIS

IGNITE YOUR FUTURE

FORTIS INSTITUTE

5757 WEST 26TH STREET, ERIE, PA 16506

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

The only local voice for news, arts, and culture.

Editors-in-Chief:

Brian Graham & Adam Welsh

Managing Editor:

Nick Warren

Copy Editor:

Katie Christ

Contributing Editors:

Ben Spегgen

Jim Wertz

Contributors:

Maitham Basha-Agha

Ed Bernik

Mary Birdsong

Tracy Geibel

Lisa Gensheimer

Gregory Greenleaf-Knepp

Dan Schank

Tommy Shannon

Ryan Smith

Ti Sumner

Matt Swanseger

Bryan Toy

Cover Design:

Nick Warren

Photographers:

Maitham Basha-Agha

Ryan Smith

Brad Triana

Publisher's Assistant:

Emily Hanisek

Intern:

Angie Jeffery

1001 State St. Suite 901
Erie, Pa., 16501
contact@eriereader.com

The Erie Reader is the local voice for news, arts, and culture, and is Erie's only independent, alternative newspaper. Founded in 2010, the Reader has quickly become the region's award-winning source for arts coverage, a strong cultural compass, and a dynamic resource for news and opinion. With a dedication to long-form journalism and a commitment to provoking thoughtful discussion, the Reader tells the stories of the people and places making and shaping Erie, while highlighting the events and issues influencing life in northwestern Pennsylvania. The Erie Reader is published every other week and distributed at over 250 high foot-traffic locations in Pennsylvania from North East to Girard to Edinboro. In addition to appearing in print, Erie Reader adds new content daily at ErieReader.com as well social media sites. All rights reserved. All content © Flagship Multimedia, Inc, 1001 State St., Suite 901, Erie, Pa, 16501. No part of this publication may be reproduced without permission. The opinions of our columnists and contributors are their own and do not always reflect that of the editorial board or organization. Direct sales inquiries to 814.314.9364. For editorial inquiries, email contact@ErieReader.com.



CONTENTS:

January 4, 2017

Just a Thought – 5

Seeing the forest for the (winter) trees

Harrisburg Happenings – 6

The inaugural update from Sen. Dan Laughlin

News of the Weird – 9

Bad news for the bolívares under your mattress

Why Erie? – 11

A question of doubt versus opportunity

Northern Scoop – 13

Here's the scoop on the region's newest ice cream company

Spotlight on Erie – 15

Can we start again, go back to what it meant back then

How We Got to Sesame Street – 20

Lori Burke and Brad Pattullo's imaginative journey

Music Reviews – 23

New records by Run the Jewels, Sean-Patrick, The New Morning Sunrise, and The LEC

Magic for Your Taste Buds – 24

Alkeme, the new Mediterranean cafe on North Park Row, serves up pleasure.

Seven Ways to Love Outdoor Activity in Winter – 26

You don't have to stay indoors to achieve those New Year's resolutions.

Erie Gems – 28

Discovering Erie Bluffs State Park

Essential Winter Hiking Gear – 29

A cold weather checklist

Erie Faces Erie – 30

A look through photographer Ed Bernik's lens

From the Editors

New Year's resolutions

As we welcome 2017, let's prime ourselves for the road ahead. While many factors brought us here, divisive ones at that, we're in a unique spot. This year will be filled with challenges large and small. It's our job to rise to the occasion and do what we need to make this the best year it can be. Let's not shrink from resolutions. There are more than a few that we can glean from this very issue.

This year, we resolve to:

- Get active and stay active. We have more than a few new ways to think outside the gym this winter.
 - Explore the outdoors. Hike the Erie Bluffs and know how to dress for the occasion.
 - Learn to appreciate where we are. Stop getting so down on ourselves and realize all of the wonderful opportunities we have right in front of us.
 - Hear some good live music. Drop in at any venue around and enjoy the show.
 - Get a little culture. Attend a symphony, or take in some local theatre.
 - Be informed voters. Know our local politicians and put that knowledge to use at the ballot box.
 - Treat ourselves. Grab some fine cuisine, and maybe even a nice dessert if we've been good.
 - Have the wonder of a child. Never lose that spark of wonder and imagination in our lives.
 - Listen to new and local music. Find new favorite records, maybe even ones made in our own backyard.
 - Speak our minds. Use our voices to share the ideas we have that are truly worth spreading.
- Some of those actually sound pretty fun, don't they? It might not be as difficult as we think to make this year work. There are plenty of wonderful people here to help you. In this issue, we'd like to welcome Sen. Dan Laughlin, as he pens his inaugural installment of "Harrisburg Happenings." We'd also like to say hello to Matt "Fang" Retkowski, as he takes us on a hike, offering up the first in a series of "Erie Gems."
- It can be a good year. We just have to see things through. Be strong, and stick to our resolve as we usher in the new year.

LECOM Integrative and Lifestyle Medicine

Empowers patients with better health!

Gregory W. Coppola, DO Karl Falk, DO Kevin Falk, DO

Our specialists can boost your immune system to avoid fatigue during the winter months. They optimize diet, stress level and sleep patterns and relieve pain through non-prescription and non-surgical treatments.

LECOM Integrative and Lifestyle Medicine offers:

- Osteopathic Manual Medicine
- Ultrasound guided joint injections – including Prolotherapy and Platelet Rich Plasma (PRP)
- Medical and sports acupuncture
- Lux light therapy
- Intravenous vitamin and nutritional infusion therapies
- Intravenous chelation therapy and heavy metal detoxification
- Dietary and botanical guidance
- Meditation and mindfulness techniques

Call (814) 866-8610 to schedule your appointment.

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

Visit LECOMHealth.com/physicians



LECOM HEALTH
MEDICAL ASSOCIATES OF ERIE

LECOM Integrative and Lifestyle Medicine
5215 Peach Street, Erie, PA

You have the power

**TO HELP SHAPE
TOMORROW**

Visit ICareForErie.com to view
the Downtown Master Plan
and tell us why you CARE.

**Together, we can take
a vital step forward.**



Developing Plans,
Programs and Resources
for a **Better Downtown.**



Happy LASIK Year!

Save 10% off your custom,
blade-free LASIK procedure.

Use your flex spending or
health savings account.

Financing available.

*Schedule your free
consultation today!*



**LASER EYE
SURGERY
OF ERIE**

814.455.7591
www.erielasereye.com

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS MAY VARY AND ARE
NOT GUARANTEED. THIS PROCEDURE MAY
NOT BE SUITABLE FOR ALL PATIENTS.
RESTRICTIONS APPLY.

ALTAIR
REAL ESTATE SERVICES

COOL DOWNTOWN OFFICES AVAILABLE

FOR LEASING INFORMATION

814.833.2741

WWW.ALTAIRRE.COM

**MAKE
THE RIGHT
MOVE**

Just a Thought

Seeing the forest for the (winter) trees



KATIE CHRIEST

By: Katie Chriest

A fly has been hanging on the screen outside of our front window for a couple of days. Every few hours, it rotates slightly, its little silhouette the same color as the shadowy branches of our bare maple tree behind it.

Right now, as I sit here staring out the window, its head is pointing down and to the right. Earlier, as I sat here staring out the window, its body was perfectly vertical.

Can you tell it's January?

Even if you don't celebrate Christmas, it's hard to avoid getting tangled in the tinsel frenzy. The traffic, the spending, the ear worms, the ear worms, the ear worms ...

Finally, in January, things quiet down. Disappointment? Relief? Your call. Either way, around here, it's a month characterized by limited light and bone-chilling cold, inspiring a seasonal slowdown. A time to pause the stimuli stream and make sense of what we've already taken in.

The writer Natalie Goldberg refers to this as "composting." She emphasizes that the process of turning sensory experience into the fertile soil of understanding takes time.

And time is one thing January's good for. In fact, as a Google search reveals, January is widely correlated with boredom.

Not that there's anything wrong with

that.

In the *Harvard Business Review*, of all places, Peter Bregman calls boredom "a state of mind we should pursue. Once boredom sets in, our minds begin to wander, looking for something exciting, something interesting to land on. And that's where creativity arises."

He redefines "wasted" moments as vital times "in which we, often unconsciously, organize our minds, make sense of our lives, and connect the dots. They're the moments in which we talk to ourselves. And listen."

Bergman warns, "to replace [those moments] with tasks and efficiency is a mistake."

January is the perfect time to evaluate our busying mental habits. Not much is happening, nor should it. We're not hibernators, but we are seasonally-affected, just like all of nature.

We might take a cue from William Carlos Williams' "Winter Trees":

*All the complicated details
of the attiring and
the disattiring are completed!
A liquid moon
moves gently among
the long branches.
Thus having prepared their buds
against a sure winter
the wise trees
stand sleeping in the cold.*

Williams was a poet and a doctor. A busy guy, no doubt. But he recognized that the trees' wisdom is in knowing when their essential work is done. And

A view of Alaska's Harding Icefield is the reward for a strenuous hike. Both the scene and the exertion inspired these hikers ahead of me to assume a meditative mood, much like January does.

then, simply, in resting, during this season that encourages it.

We absorb so much throughout the year, more from outside sources than any of our forebears. Surely, we could use some time to let our minds synthesize experiences into wisdom.

May not look like we're accomplishing much, but it's all in how you measure it.

We absorb so much throughout the year, more from outside sources than any of our forebears. Surely, we could use some time to let our minds synthesize experiences into wisdom.

When the fly turns a millimeter, it's come a long way. When we give our minds space to develop the perspective that helps us respond wisely to coming conflicts – whether in 12th Street traffic or across the globe – we've come a long way, too.

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

TIME TO DETOX



RESOLVE TO EAT,
DRINK AND LIVE
GREEN IN 2017!

- * 1 & 3 Day Cleanses
- 🍵 Clean & Fresh Meals
- 🍹 Detoxing Smoothies
- * Hot Soup Daily
- 🍵 Homemade Chai
- 🌿 Monthly Specials
- 🍷 Hot Healthy Sunday Brunch



Like @ErieJuiceJar

THE
Juice Jar

814-450-0074
2620 W. 8th St., Erie, PA
Located in The Shops at The Colony

Harrisburg Happenings

The inaugural update from Sen. Dan Laughlin



KEYTZ VIA WIKIMEDIA

By: Sen. Dan Laughlin

Happy New Year! As you read this, I have sworn my oath of office and have taken my place in the state Senate as the duly elected senator for Pennsylvania's 49th District. The festivities and formalities are now over and I am looking forward to serving you and the 244,000 people in my district.

I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to write this column for the *Erie Reader* as a way to furnish you with regu-

lar updates on your state government and the issues that impact all of our lives. It is important that everyone in the community be active in the governmental process.

Probably the best way for us to start this journey together is for me to give you a very brief overview of my life, since my background will provide the basis of my decision-making as your state senator.

I was born in Erie and raised in the Erie Heights housing project, the son of a decorated World War II combat veteran

who worked as a union carpenter and a mother who assembled fighter planes at the Curtis Wright Plant in Buffalo, New York.

I have worked all my life - mowing lawns, delivering the *Erie Daily Times*, laboring at a strawberry farm - and have been employed as a union steelworker at the former National Forge Company, and later as a homebuilder.

I am a small businessman, a husband, and the proud father of three wonderful children. I know the value of a dollar and

the need to stretch the family budget. I also know the burden of paying taxes and have felt outraged at wasteful spending by government.

As such, I feel that one of the greatest assets I take into my job as a legislator is my understanding of the work ethic of the people of Erie County, and the financial realities that families at all income levels face on a daily basis.

Going into the 2017-18 legislative session, there are two primary issues ahead of us.

First and foremost, the state must work cooperatively with the Erie School District to find ways to relieve the financial crisis facing the district. I commend Superintendent Jay Badams for his efforts so far, and am committed to working with him to move the district out of this financial crisis. I have already met with state Education Secretary Pedro Rivera on this issue and will continue to move forward as the year progresses.

Second, we must redouble efforts to promote economic development and job creation in our area. We are truly fortunate to be Pennsylvania's only Great Lakes seaport and a major tourist destination in the Commonwealth. We need to capitalize on those strengths to create new business oppor-

tunities and family-sustaining jobs.

I plan to discuss those and many other state-related issues at length in future columns.

I encourage local residents to visit my website, senator-

First and foremost, the state must work cooperatively with the Erie School District to find ways to relieve the financial crisis facing the district.

laughlin.com, and my Facebook page, facebook.com/senatorlaughlin/, to keep up to date with state government news and learn more about state services and agencies.

My staff and I look forward to getting to know and working with the people of the 49th District, and becoming more familiar with organizations throughout the area. We offer our best wishes to everyone for the new year.

Sen. Daniel J. Laughlin can be contacted by visiting senatorlaughlin.com/contact, and you can follow him on Twitter @SenatorLaughlin.

DO YOU HAVE THE STYLE?
CREATE YOUR FUTURE AS A COSMETOLOGIST

FORTIS has the programs to guide you toward a rewarding career. In addition to Cosmetology, program offerings also include:
Nursing • Medical/Dental • Skilled Trades Business • Criminal Justice

855.445.3276 | **FORTIS**
FORTIS.EDU | **IGNITE YOUR FUTURE**

FORTIS INSTITUTE • 5757 WEST 26TH STREET, ERIE, PA 16506
Financial Aid Available for those who qualify. Career Placement Assistance for All Graduates. ABHES Accredited. For consumer information, visit Fortis.edu.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES **PLASTIKOS, INC.**
Custom Injection Molding

<p>Machine Operators/Quality Inspectors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3rd Shift • No experience necessary • Will train qualified applicants 	<p>Lead Quality Inspector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd Shift • Prior injection molding experience required • Lead inspector experience preferred 	<p>Material Handler</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd Shift • No prior experience needed • Forklift operation & injection molding experience preferred • Will train qualified applicants
--	--	--

COMPETITIVE WAGES & BENEFITS INCLUDED!

Benefits include Medical, Dental, Vision, 401K and more!
As an EEO/Affirmative Action Employer all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin & veteran or disability status.

Apply in person at 8165 Hawthorne Dr. Erie, PA 16509 or visit our company website. www.plastikoserie.com

Roe v. Wade

January 22, 1973

Commemorating **44 Years** of safeguarding women's reproductive choices.



Northwest Pennsylvania
National Organization for Women

www.facebook.com/NWPAnow
nwpanow@yahoo.com

Northwest Pennsylvania American Civil Liberties Union
www.aclunwpa.tripod.com

American Association of University Women Erie Branch
www.aauwerie.com

Keystone Progress
www.joinkeystoneprogress.org

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie
www.uuerie.org

Erie County Democratic Women
www.ecdemwomen.com

League of Women Voters, Erie County, PA
www.facebook.com/League-of-Women-Voters-Erie-County-PA-693947254074130



Invest in a Vibrant Future



Erie Arts & Culture

THE ERIE ARTS ENDOWMENT

An Endowment Dedicated to Advancing Arts and Culture in our Region

With an Established Fund for
Arts Education

Learn more at www.erieartsandculture.org or by contacting
Amanda Hurd at 814-452-3427 or development@erieartsandculture.org

Photo Credit: A local student tie-dyes at Erie Arts & Culture's booth during JUMP! Back to School Expo 2016

Every Kid
deserves a
Family



Consider Adoption

adoptNWPAkids.org

New Year...New Cards!



**500
Business Cards**
(of same design)

Only \$29.50
(\$45 Value)

DETAILS: 2 Sided, Full Color Glossy,
16 pt. Cover 4-5 Day Turn Around.
*Some Graphics Fees May Apply.

AVAILABLE
ONLY FOR
THE MONTH
OF JANUARY
2017

Go Ask Alice!

Presque Isle
Printing Services



814-833-9020
4318 W. Ridge Road
Erie, PA 16506

"For All Your Small Business & Personal Printing Needs"

www.presqueisleprinting.com [f](https://www.facebook.com/GoAskAlice08) [i](https://www.instagram.com/GoAskAlice08) [@GoAskAlice08](https://www.twitter.com/GoAskAlice08)



LECOM

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

Take the BodyAge® Challenge

Get started on the journey to a healthier you

Age: 56

BodyAge: 45

Start today!

**A new year, a new fitness journey —
learn your BodyAge® today!**

Learn your BodyAge® | Set goals | See results

\$20.17
ENROLLMENT

when you join between January 1-14, 2017.
Some restrictions apply. Visit website for terms & conditions.



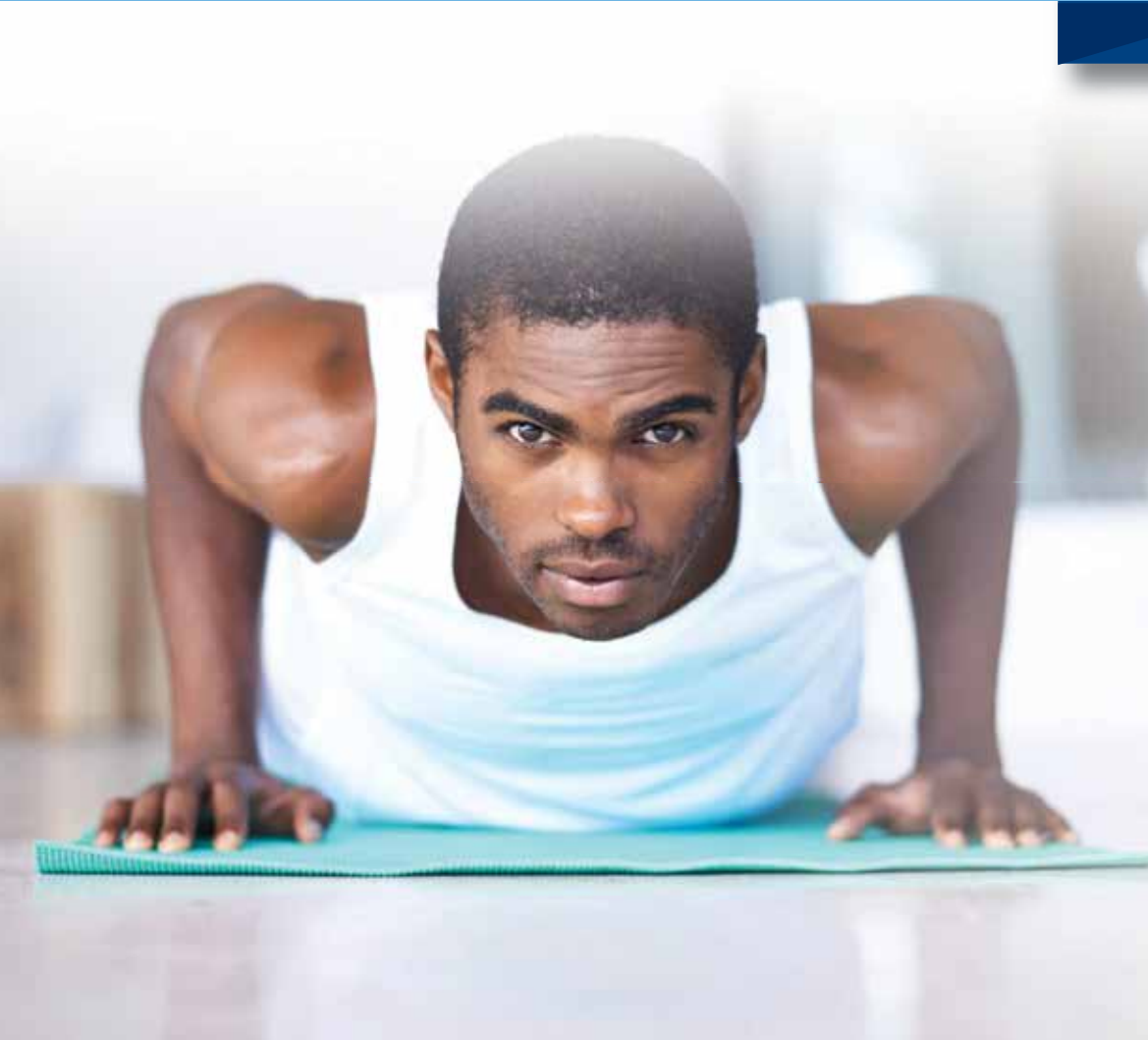
MEDICAL
FITNESS
ASSOCIATION

Learn More

Call 814.868.7800

Visit LECOMWELLNESS.com

Take a tour 5401 Peach Street | Erie



News of the Weird

Bad news for the bolívares under your mattress

By: Chuck Shepherd

Oh-So-Sweet Dreams

The Hastens workshop in Koping, Sweden, liberally using the phrase "master artisans" recently, unveiled its made-to-order \$149,900 mattress. Bloomberg News reported in December on Hastens' use of superior construction materials such as pure steel springs, "slow-growing" pine, multiple layers of flax, horsehair lining (braided by hand, then unwound to ensure extra spring), and cotton covered by flame-retardant wool batting. With a 25-year guarantee, an eight-hour-a-day sleep habit works out to \$2 an hour. (Bonus: The Bloomberg reviewer, after a trial run, gave the "Vividus" a glowing thumbs-up.) [Bloomberg News, 12-2-2016]

The Job of the Researcher

Humans are good at recognizing faces, but exceptionally poor at recognition when the same face's features are scrambled or upside down. In December, a research team from the Netherlands and Japan published findings that chimpanzees are the same way -- when it comes to recognizing other chimps' butts. That suggests, the scientists concluded, that sophisticated recognition of rear ends is as important for chimps (as "socio-sexual signaling," such as prevention of inbreeding) as faces are to humans. [Washington Post, 12-6-2016]

Suspicious Confirmed

Humanity has accumulated an estimated 30 trillion tons of "stuff,"

according to research by University of Leicester geologists -- enough to fit over 100 pounds' worth over every square meter of the planet's surface. The scientists, writing in the *Anthropocene Review*, are even more alarmed that very little of it is ever recycled and that buried layers of technofossils that define our era will clutter and weigh down the planet, hampering future generations. (Don't just think of "garage sale" stuff, wrote Mother Nature News; think of every single thing we produce.) [Mother Nature News, 12-7-2016]

Finer Points of the Law

A federal appeals court agreed with a jury in December that Battle Creek, Michigan, police were justified in shooting (and killing) two hardly misbehaving family dogs during a legal search of a house's basement. Mark and Cheryl Brown had pointed out that their dogs never attacked; one, an officer admitted, was "just standing there" when shot and killed. The officers said that conducting a thorough search of the premises might have riled the dogs and threatened their safety. (Unaddressed was whether a dog might avoid being shot if it masters the classic trick of "playing dead.") [Battle Creek Enquirer, 12-21-2016]

Sounds Like a Joke

Spencer Hanvey, 22, was charged with four burglaries of the same MedCare Pharmacy in Conway, Arkansas, in October and November, using the same modus operandi each time to steal drugs. (Bonus: Oddly, the drugs were not for obsessive-com-

pulsive disorder.) (2) If You See Something, Say Something: Hamden (Connecticut) High School was put into lockdown for an hour on Dec. 15 when a student was seen running in the hallway, zig-zagging from side to side, swinging an arm and leaping into the air. Police were called, but quickly learned that it was just a 12th-grade boy practicing a basketball move and pretending to dunk. [Arkansas Online, 12-7-2016] [New Haven Register, 12-15-2016]

The Aristocrats!

Low-Tech Pervs: (1) A camera-less Alan Ralph, 62, was arrested in Sarasota, Florida, in December after being seen on surveillance video in October in a Wal-Mart stooping down to the floor to peer up the skirt of a woman. (2) John Kuznezow, 54, was charged with invasion of privacy in Madison, Wisconsin, in November after he was discovered, pants down, up a tree outside a woman's second-floor bedroom window. [WFLA-TV (Tampa), 12-6-2016] [WMTV (Madison), 11-8-2016]

Bright Ideas

The Immigrants Wanted to Believe: For about 10 years, organized crime rings operated a makeshift U.S. "embassy" in a rundown pink building in Accra, the capital of Ghana, issuing official-looking identification papers, including "visas" that theoretically permitted entry into the United States. The U.S. State Department finally persuaded Ghanaian officials to close it down, but it is unknown if any purchasers were ever caught trying to immigrate. The "embassy," with

a U.S. flag outside, had well-spoken "consular officers" who reportedly collected about \$6,000 per visa. [Ghana Business News, 12-2-2016]

Weird Old World

Wu Jianping, 25, from China's Henan province, complained in November that he had been denied home loans at several banks for not providing fingerprints -- because he has no arms (following a childhood accident) and "signs" documents by holding a pen in his mouth. He was not allowed to substitute "toeprints." (2) Classes were canceled in early December in the village of Batagai in the Yakutia region of Siberia when the temperature reached minus 53 Celsius (minus 63 Fahrenheit) -- but only for kids 15 and under; older children still had to get to school. Yakutia is regarded as the coldest inhabited region on the planet. [China Daily, 11-22-2016] [The Sun (London), 12-8-2016]

Sex Toys in the News

The government in Saxony, Germany, chose as third-place winner of its 2016 prize for innovation and start-up companies the inventor of the ingenious silent vibrator (leading to shaming of the economy minister Martin Dulig, now known as "Dildo Dulig"). (2) An unknown armed robber made off with cash at the Lotions and Lace adult store in San Bernardino, California, in December -- although employees told police they angrily pelted the man with dildos from the shelves as he ran out the door. [The Local (Berlin), 11-25-2016] [KNBC-TV (Los Angeles), 12-14-2016]

JUST TOYIN' WITCHA - BY B. TOY



NEWS & VIEWS

Least Competent Criminals

Not Ready for Prime Time: (1) Leonard Rinaldi, 53, was arrested in Torrington, Connecticut, in November following his theft of a rare-coin collection belonging to his father. The coins were valued at about \$8,000, but apparently to make his theft less easily discoverable, he ran them through a Coinstar coin-cashing machine -- netting himself a cool \$60. (2) James Walsh was arrested in Port St. Lucie, Florida, on Dec. 12 at a Wal-Mart after carting out an unpaid-for big-screen TV. Walsh said he had swiped a TV on Dec. 11 with no problem -- but failed to notice that, on the 12th, the store had a "shop with a cop" event at which St. Lucie County deputies were buying toys for kids. [WTIC-TV (Hartford), 11-16-2016] [WPEC-TV (West Palm Beach), 12-12-2016]

Recurring Themes

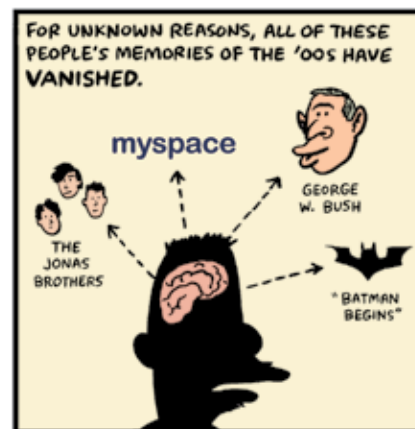
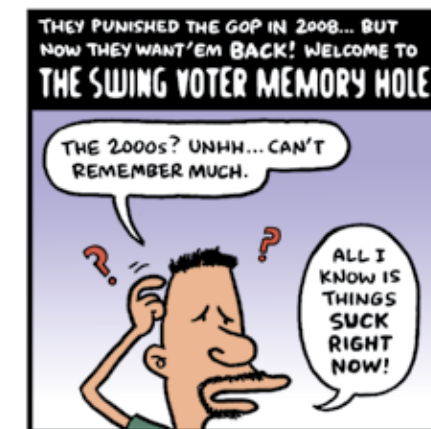
Zimbabwe's hyperinflation remains the most storied, but Venezuela is catching up. In mid-December, the government declared its largest-currency bill (the 100-bolivar note) worthless, replacing it with larger denomination money (after a brief cash-in period that has ended

and which some drug dealers were likely shut out of). The 100-bolivar's value had shrunk to 2 cents on the black market. Stacks of it were required to make even the smallest food purchases, and since wallets could no longer hold the notes, robbers feasted on the "packages" of money people carried around while shopping. [Wall Street Journal, 12-13-2016]

The Passing Parade

In October, Chicago alderman Howard Brookins Jr. publicly denounced "aggressive" squirrels that were gnawing through trash cans and costing the city an extra \$300,000. A month later, Brookins was badly injured in a bicycle collision (broken nose, missing teeth) when a squirrel (in either a mighty coincidence or suicide terrorism) jumped into one of his wheels, sending Brookins over the handlebar. (2) In October, officials of Alaska's Iditarod reaffirmed an earlier decision to allow mushers to use mobile phones during the 2017 race; "purists" maintain that phones destroy the "frontier-ness" of the event. [Chicago Tribune, 11-22-2016] [Alaska Dispatch News, 10-28-2016]

COPYRIGHT 2017 CHUCK SHEPHERD



- Criminal
- DUI
- Divorce
- Custody
- Personal Injury

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

• FREE CONSULTATIONS •



Running & Walking
SPECIALTIES

2309 W 12th Street Erie,
PA 16505

814-871-6320

www.achillesrunning.us

15% OFF

Min. \$50 purchase of any reg. priced item. Not valid with any other offers or specials. Expires 1/18/2017

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

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

JANUARY

the war within

praying powerful prayers

PSALM 86

How do I pray? What do I pray? Does God hear me?

mclane church

Edinboro

12511 Edinboro Rd.
Sat 6 pm & Sun 9 & 11 am

Erie

2319 West 38th St.
Sun 9 & 11 am

Union City

16 Market St.
Sun 9 & 11 am



#MclaneSocial

take me to
worship

Why Erie?

A question of doubt versus opportunity



Brian Slawin stands at the entrance of the Renaissance Centre in downtown Erie on Nov. 15, 2016, days after delivering his TEDxErie talk.

to make come true. But there's always something a little disappointing about not seeing our dreams realized. Are we asking ourselves the hard questions until we don't have any good answers? Or, are we dithering between our signature mix of inertia and denial? Accepting as truth those things we've taught ourselves to accept? Things that are the way they are because that's the way it is?

I first noticed "the question" in Erie, but I've since found it elsewhere. Turns out, the difference between a vision and a hallucination is how many people look for it. So, if we aren't going to leave to our children a city – a world – like the one left to us, we're going to have to act. But what can you do when it seems like everyone else is singing from the same book?

As an investor at the Ben Franklin Technology Partners I know that try as I might, as hard as the company tries, as much effort and time and sweat that everyone pours into a project, some companies are going to fail.

Does that mean we shouldn't try? That we should stop risking? That we are second rate?

At its core, "Why Erie?" starts with a belief that if we squander one opportunity – just one – or if we try and fail, we'll have to carry that with us forever and we'll never get a second chance.

The great philosopher Yoda once said: "Do, or do not ... there is no try," and I'm here to tell you that Yoda was wrong. Success isn't guaranteed, but the opportunity to try is. It's what the American Dream – and Erie – was built upon. So

do, or do not! But continue to try. Because we aren't going to unlearn the fear associated with risk, but we can build the successes incompatible with it.

And know for certain that there are more than enough brave people willing to plant their flag on some distant beach toward which we can march; and if you think about it, we each have a flag and we're each marching toward our own shore. How lucky we are to be right here, right now – able to accept that anything

Are we asking ourselves the hard questions until we don't have any good answers? Or, are we dithering between our signature mix of inertia and denial?

is possible and that a great city can be built – and rebuilt – on the shores of a Great Lake.

I've come to Erie because of people like you. So how about we live our lives, and build our city in such a way that if people spoke badly about us, no one would believe it!

Is this heaven? No. Sometimes it even feels like hell frozen over. Erie isn't heaven, but it is home.

So, since there's no time to waste, the next time you think about our hometown, think of it like this: "Why? Erie!"

A version of this piece served as the basis for Brian Slawin's TEDxErie talk on Nov. 5, 2016. Slawin is the NW Regional Director & Portfolio Manager of Ben Franklin Technology Partners. He can be contacted at BrianSlawin@cnp.benfranklin.org.

By: Brian Slawin

In May 2015, after exiting my startup and being freed from an everyday work schedule, I started looking around to figure out what I was going to do when I grew up. Luckily, I was given a gift by my wonderful wife Sheri who said "Brian, I married you for better, or worse, but not for lunch. Find something to do."

As I looked for my next great adventure I called friends, former investors, mentors, and then the startup venture capitalists I'd come to know. They all had questions about the exit, what I wanted to do next, what they were looking for and if I'd be interested ... and that's when I found Erie.

And while it's been less than a year since I moved here, I've

fallen in love with Erie. It's the perfect combination of everything awesome and frustrating, horrible and wonderful – the best and worst of things all rolled into one. I'm amazed by the resources, history, future, and the *people* who speak of the greatness, possibilities, grit, determination, and generational excellence of our town.

But as I got to know my new hometown better, I started to see a pattern, one that I'd never seen before. All over the country, the companies I was interviewing with never once asked me the question that has become a mantra here.

You see, when you bring a passion for finding, mentoring, and investing in entrepreneurs and you show up in Erie Pennsylvania, people

want to know ... what's wrong with you? You've heard about dysfunctional relationships? Turns out we're in one, with ourselves.

And now, as I come to my first anniversary of this great new adventure, I find myself reflecting on those moments because every region, city, community, and person has a crippling doubt in at least one area that they utilize as a crutch to not act.

Our crutch?

Why Erie?

What I've come to realize is that "Why Erie?" is about all of us. We're brainwashing ourselves and – what's worse – our children. So, will we use "Why Erie?" as a new beginning, or a lie we tell ourselves?

Once upon a time, we all had big dreams that we promised

MAITHAM BASHA-AGHA



Why does this CEO look so relaxed?

She knows that her technology is available 24x7x365 because her company has TITAN support from Velocity Network. With proactive monitoring, the latest security services, and business continuity, TITAN has allowed her business to avoid costly downtime and keep her employees doing what they do best – servicing their clients. Now that Velocity Network is part of her team, she can finally take that weeklong trip she has been planning.



Northern Scoop

Here's the scoop on the region's newest ice cream company.



(left) Northern Scoop Craft Ice Cream is batch frozen and then sold in 4-ounce cups from a cart (\$2/2 for \$3.50). The label design is by Kelsey Elliott, a Mercyhurst University graduate. (bottom) Kelsey Elliott, left, and her mother, Karey Elliott, sell Northern Scoop Craft Ice Cream from their cart in front of the Erie County Courthouse on a warm November Friday. Karey Elliott is the founder and creator of the ice cream company.

What she did was launch Northern Scoop. Over the next couple of months, she lined up suppliers, tested recipes, found equipment, and located commercial kitchen space to make ice cream. She took the Erie County Department of Health food safety classes, became certified and licensed. Sabatini helped along the way.

"She's also been one of my biggest fans, offering encouragement as I was gathering info over the summer," Elliott said.

When possible, she uses local ingredients, such as grapes from Mike Moorhead from Moorhead Farm. She used berries from Earth and Vine Farm, owned by her sister-in-law, Wendy Elliott, in blackberry lemon sorbet.

"The really cool part of this is the people you meet along the way," Elliott said. She cited the Mazza family, who own South Shore Wine Company, where Elliott leases kitchen space. Bushels of peaches and apples are from Klens Farms. Charlie Rahal, of North East, gave her a ride in a grape picker for photos she uses on Northern Scoop's website.

Northern Scoop's ice cream mix is typically 10 to 12 percent butterfat, which is what gives ice cream the rich mouth feel. Government standards call for 10 percent to be labeled ice cream. Penn State Creamery is 14 percent. Gelato is typically 4 to 9 percent. For Northern Scoop's vegan flavors, Elliott

uses coconut milk.

The ice cream connection between mother and daughter didn't end with the drive to L.A. Kelsey is the graphic designer behind the signage and packaging, which is typically sold in 4-ounce servings for \$2.

When Kelsey is in town, she's with her mother dishing up one of the 14 or so prepackaged flavors of ice cream.

On a glorious November afternoon, when the temperature was 70 degrees at lunchtime, the two women rolled the cart through Perry Square and set up outside the Erie County Courthouse. Once the umbrella was popped and the cash box open, the first Facebook share with their location went out.

"I like things fresh," Elliott said of the day's flavors, which included seasonals such as grape, pumpcinnapple crunch, and cranberry orange – along with timeless favorites such as coffee Oreo, peanut butter cup, and chocolate.

For now, Elliott said she is starting small. To find her cart, follow Northern Scoop on Facebook. She will deliver for free in North East. Customers can contact her by phone, email, and via the company's website.

She plans to grow beyond the cart, perhaps to a storefront. "When I started the business, I had a vision of becoming large, but carefully expanding."

As a marathoner, both traditional and ultra varieties, Elliott knows how to go the distance.

For locations or more information, visit northernscoop-craft.com, message Northern Scoop Craft Ice Cream on Facebook, or contact owner Karey Elliott at karey@northernscoopcraft.com or 602.2386. Call for delivery in the North East area.

Marnie Mead can be contacted at marnie@marniemeadmedia.com and you can follow her on Twitter @makeiterie.

By: Marnie Mead

Karey Elliott is a Boston Marathon competitor, mother of four, and now ice cream entrepreneur.

Elliott has been known in the North East area as a runner, logging hundreds of miles on regional roads as she trained for Boston and the Oil Creek 100. She is also mom to three young sons, Levi, Sawyer, and Brady, and an adult daughter, Kelsey, a Mercyhurst University graduate.

A mother-daughter road trip for Kelsey's move to Los Angeles in 2015 inspired the newest cap that Elliott wears as founder of Northern Scoop Craft Ice Cream, which she makes in North East – using local ingredients when possible – and sells from a cart around the Erie area.

"I loved the culture, the food trucks," Elliott said of her trip to Los Angeles. "The variety was fascinating."

And inspiring. Having worked part-time at a local coffee shop after her young-

est went to school, Elliott was sweet on the variety of ice creams offered on the West Coast. "What would it be like to work my butt off for my own dream?" Elliott said she asked herself after the trip.

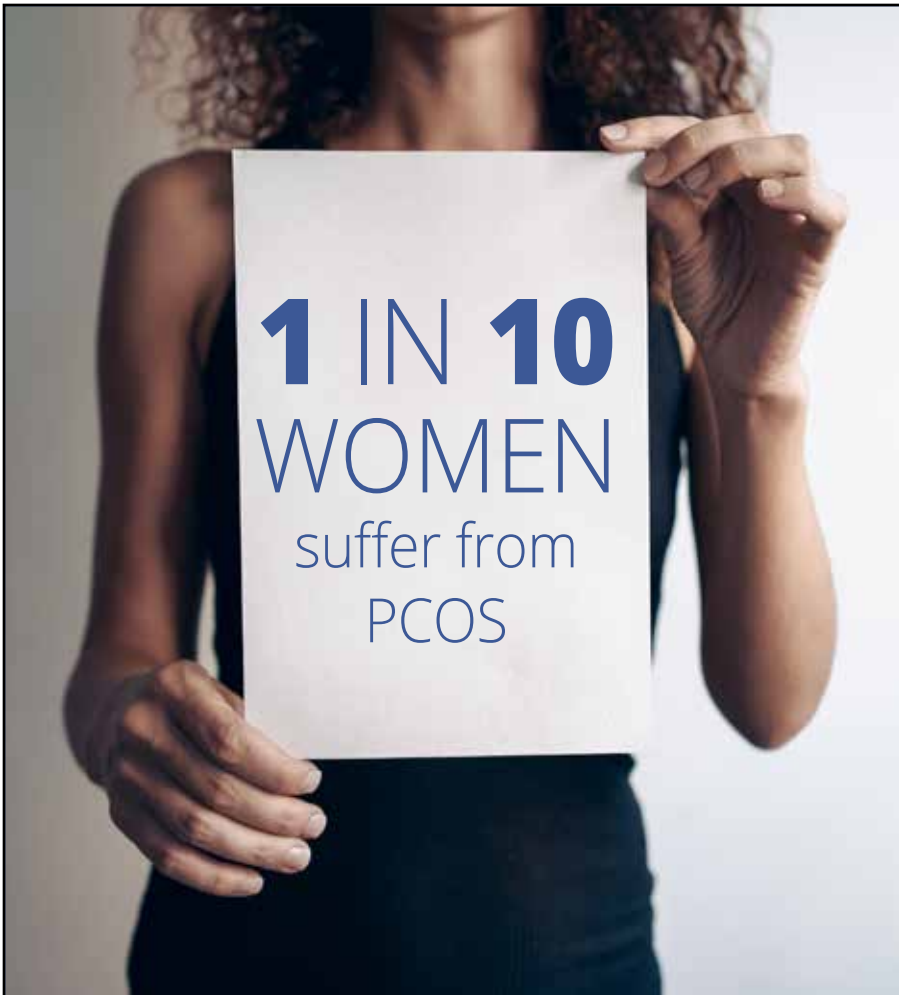
Her original plan was a wood-fired pizza oven food truck. Time, investigation, and a passion for ice cream combined for a change of plans. As a young mom with limited resources, Karey had enjoyed ice cream as a treat and celebration with her daughter. They'd shared it again while in Los Angeles, which "has amazing ice cream places."

The new plan was to work with Tambra Sabatini, from Titusville, as an Erie extension of Sabatini's ice cream business. Just as Elliott expected to be announcing a launch in July 2016, Sabatini sold the business.

The competitor in her kicked in.

"Literally, in a day, I went from tears lying on my bed to what am I going to do about it," she recalled.





1 IN 10
WOMEN
suffer from
PCOS

Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) Research Study

Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) can affect not only hormone health, but also reproductive health, cardiovascular health, mental health and body weight. Current therapies for PCOS involve drugs that target specific symptoms associated with PCOS.

We are now enrolling women with a diagnosis of PCOS as participants in a research study on non-drug interventions in the treatment of PCOS.

Contact **Dr. Diana Speelman** at PCOSstudy@lecom.edu for details.

To learn more, please call
(814) 868-7830
or visit LECOMHealth.com/pcosstudy

LECOM
WOMENS HEALTH

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



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

DOWNTON ABBEY MARATHON



January 6 at 9pm to
January 8 at 7:30pm
and continues
January 14 at 5:30pm to
January 15 at 7:30pm
on WQLN-TV 54.1

VICTORIA MASTERPIECE



Premieres
January 15 at 9pm
on WQLN-TV 54.1

FINE DIAMONDS

NEW YEAR
NEW PROMISE
NEW RING



BREAKIRON
DIAMOND JEWELERS

visit our store
4026 PINE AVENUE
ERIE, PA 16504
814.825.2647

visit us online at
BREAKIRONJEWELERS.COM

Spotlight on Erie

January 4 – 17, 2017

Friday, Jan. 6

Daybreak Radio Dials Up for a Rook Release Party



Daybreak Radio and their frontman Tyler Smilo have plenty in store for the new year.

The Erie band is gearing up to release their second EP, fittingly titled *Vol. II*. The Kings Rook Club will be the site of the record release party, just as it was in May of 2015 for the band's debut.

Don't be fooled by its humble "extended play" distinction; the record's six tracks clock in at over 25 minutes. The tracks were produced by Trevor Huster, and have a rich sound that's, for lack of a better descriptor, *radio-ready*.

Smilo's vocal delivery is tremulous and emotional, with a controlled power that he uses to great effect with Daybreak Radio.

Leaning into the motif, the record opens by tuning in through static hisses. Snippets are heard of Smilo's solo tracks "Texas" and "Virginia is for Lovers," as a full band version of "Rescue the Radio" (which similarly appeared on 2015's *Dust In a Grave*) kicks in. Continuing the driving rock vibe is "Hellbound and Beautiful," a track depicted in its own music video earlier this year. Directed by local videographer Howard Glover, the video more explicitly looks at the subtext behind many of Smilo's songs: drug abuse. Smilo has struggled personally with addiction, both openly addressing his experiences and illustrating them lyrically.

Smilo's vocal delivery immediately builds a personal connection with the listener. His voice is tremulous and emotional, with a controlled power

that he uses to great effect with Daybreak Radio. Standing out instrumentally is the expert guitar work of Justin Anderson (who also plays with Strangers and Liars). Anderson blends tight "chicken pickin'" licks alongside searing lead lines. Joined by drummer Jonathan Hunt and bassist Jassen Wilber, the band builds on their folk-rock, filled with twinges of alt-country and classic vibes for a rich, bright sound.

Smilo himself has plenty lined up for the rest of the year. The singer is embarking on his own series of shows, christened "The Lone Showman Tour." With dozens of dates during winter, scores of regional breweries, bars, and venues will host Smilo's performances.

In addition to Daybreak Radio and his solo tour, the folk project Smilo & The Ghost are putting the finishing touches on their new recording. Filled with lush string sections and emotionally resonant moments, the record sounds incredibly promising. Be sure to tune in. – Nick Warren

10 p.m. // Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. // [facebook.com/events/1372264702804699/](https://www.facebook.com/events/1372264702804699/)

Thursday, Jan. 12

Mamma Mia! Comes to Erie



Mamma Mia!, the magical and beloved musical, will be performed at the Warner Theatre on Jan. 12.

The musical, which was first performed in March 1999 in London, England, tells a memorable tale about a bride-to-be, her single mother, and the three men who might be her father.

More than 60 million people in 440 major cities have seen *Mamma Mia!*, and it consistently brings in record-breaking audiences. In 2015, it became the eighth longest-running show on Broadway. In Moscow, where *Mamma Mia!* was the first show to play every day of the week, it was the city's

bestselling musical. In Germany, it was the first major musical to play in three cities concurrently.

Written by Catherine Johnson and produced by Judy Craymer, the musical is about a young woman named Sophie, who is preparing for her dream wedding. She just wants her father to walk her down the aisle, but before that can happen, she needs to find him. So she invites all three of the men who could be her father to the wedding.

"We really had no idea how it was going to be received," Craymer said, according to *Mamma Mia!*'s website. "The audience went wild. They were literally out of their seats and singing and dancing in the aisles – and they still are."

What could be disastrous turns out to be hilarious. The audience will find themselves falling in love with the characters and singing along to the infectiously catchy music, which includes songs by ABBA like "The Name of the Game," "The Winner Takes it All," "Gimme! Gimme! Gimme!" "Knowing Me Knowing You" and, of course, "Mamma Mia." – Tracy Geibel

7:30 p.m. // Warner Theatre, 811 State St. // \$38.50+ // 452.4857 // eriewarnertheatre.com

Friday, Jan. 13

Gimp Guy Underground Presents: Make America Punk Again



Alex Harrilla of Gimp Guy Underground Promotions is continuing to do what he does best – bringing punk rock to the people of Erie.

Since its inception, punk rock has consistently been an outlet for political disdain and criticism, and in light of the 2016 election season, many predict that we're likely to see a level of politically-driven anger and ferocity in the punk community not seen since the Reagan years. I may be reaching to assume the political ideologies of every

punk band that comes through Erie, but the trend is already starting with the show at Bobby's Place brandishing the not-so-subtle political slogan "Make America Punk Again" on its flier.

Headlining the show is Erie's own Till The End, whose aggressive yet melodic style is reminiscent of 90s era punk bands like Bad Religion, NOFX, and Lagwagon. Their song "Nancy Grace" stands out among the rest as a true punk rock anthem.

Basing their sound off of older punk bands like Black Flag, Dead Kennedys, and Circle Jerks, Meadville's Genetically Engineered Super Humans (GESH) stay true to some of punk rock's deepest roots with the most raw and straightforward sound of any band in the area. Each song is like a middle finger to modern trends and expectations of punk music, and there's nothing more punk than that.

Out-of-town bands on the night's bill are Heel Turn, a fast and aggressive punk rock band from Clarion, and the punk/thrash metal crossover group, Crippled Mess, from Buffalo, whose influences range from Pantera to Nirvana.

Each band on this show has something different and exciting to offer to the local music scene. So come out to Bobby's Place and help make Erie punk again. – Tommy Shannon

9 p.m. // Bobby's Place, 1202 W. 18th St., Erie // \$3 // [facebook.com/events/1176127332472416/](https://www.facebook.com/events/1176127332472416/)

Saturday, Jan. 14

Erie Chamber Orchestra Brings Together Old and New



For many, January is a time to reflect on the past and to look to the

CALENDAR

future. The Erie Chamber Orchestra is beginning the new year in a similar way, with "The Erie Chamber Orchestra (ECO): Old and New."

The concert, which will be led by ECO music director candidate Vincent Danner, begins with music from Jacques Ibert, a notable French musician.

The concert, which will be led by ECO music director candidate Vincent Danner, begins with music from Jacques Ibert, a notable French musician. Born in 1890 Paris, he became a successful composer known for *Escales* and *Divertissement*.

The ensemble will then feature newer music by George Walker, who won the Pulitzer Prize for Music in 1996. His work has been performed across the U.S. and in England.

To end the evening, the ECO will perform Joseph Haydn's *Horn Concerto No. 1*, and W.A. Mozart's *Symphony No. 39*.

Danner is perhaps just the man to lead this concert, as he is known for his "easy authority in music of all styles and periods."

He has worked with orchestras across the U.S. and Europe, and is now a lecturer at Baldwin Wallace Univer-

sity. He received the Sally B. Parker award from the American Symphony Orchestra League after he led the Memphis Symphony Orchestra's Martin Luther King Jr. Tribute.

While the show begins at 7:30 p.m., attendees who arrive early will be able to Meet the Maestro at 6:30 p.m. — Tracy Geibel

7:30 p.m. // First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, 250 W. 7th St. // 456.4243 // gannon.edu/Visitors-and-Community/Area-Attractions/Erie-Chamber-Orchestra/2016-2017-Season/

Saturday, Jan. 14

Party with Charlie Wheeler Band



We could all kick off 2017 on a much-needed high note — and what better way to set the tone for the new year than to see some local talent release new music? Charlie Wheeler Band will celebrate their latest CD at

Kings Rook Club on Saturday, Jan. 14, giving everyone enough time to recover from New Year's Eve libations and be ready to hit the town again. And attendees should be ready to party — hard! — for this is set to be a "bad-ass live show" that promises a "high-energy experience," according to the band.

The CD release party is being held in honor of the band's fourth album. Titled *Blues Karma and the Kitchen Sink*, Charlie Wheeler Band's most recent effort dropped in October 2016 and offers up more tunes composed in the group's signature gritty, bluesy, rock sound, which they liken to the Allman Brothers and Pearl Jam. This album aims to be slightly more aggressive; they also describe its sound as "grow'd man music."

Before heading to the Jan. 14 gig, check out "Shiver," which guides listeners into the song with a demanding and jangly guitar riff that ultimately peaks in the opening verse. The energetic track has soaring, loud, and live-venue-worthy vocals above danceably rocky drums and bass. A little more bluesy, "Darlene" lets the lead guitar whine and roam above a solid, foot-tapping drum beat, while the vocals call up Pearl Jam's sound. And of course, don't forget to pick up a copy of the album at the gig. — Miriam Lamey

10 p.m. // Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. // [facebook.com/events/113408946664626/](https://www.facebook.com/events/113408946664626/)

Sunday, Jan. 15

Bombastic Bombardments by Blackalicious at BT



One of the world's top hip hop acts is headed to Basement Transmissions. The long-running duo known as Blackalicious has Erie marked as a stop on their current tour. Since the release of *Imani Vol. 1* in 2015, the group has been consistently touring around the globe. Incredibly, the band formed in 1992. Releasing their first single in 1994, they immediately began garnering critical praise. Unsurprisingly to their listeners, they've maintained that same high level of credibility and quality.

The duo is comprised of rapper Timothy Parker, better known as Gift of Gab, and producer/DJ Xavier Mosley, who goes by Chief Xcel. Gift of Gab, as his name implies, is blessed with amazing emcee abilities. Well known for his tongue-twisting lyricality, Gift of Gab

MUSIC

First Thursday Hootenanny

Jan. 5 — 9 p.m. to 12 a.m.
Lakeside Tavern, 12774 Route 19 S. Waterford, PA [facebook.com/events/1281253275230935](https://www.facebook.com/events/1281253275230935).

3 Kings Day Open Jam

Jan. 6 — 9 p.m.
Bobby's Place, 1202 W. 18th St. [facebook.com/events/253603421728175](https://www.facebook.com/events/253603421728175).

Zack Orr and Jake Johns

Jan. 6 — 9:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.
Darcy's Pub and Grub (The Local) 3746 W 12th St. [facebook.com/events/1835081086730871](https://www.facebook.com/events/1835081086730871).

Daybreak Radio EP Release Party

Jan. 6 — 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. [facebook.com/kingsrookclub](https://www.facebook.com/kingsrookclub).

Sean-Patrick and the Newgrass Revolution

Jan. 6 — 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Jekyll & Hyde's, 8 E 10th St. [newgrassrevolution.com](http://www.newgrassrevolution.com).

Hultman and Barb Songbook

Jan. 7 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Anchor In at Oasis Pub, 3122 W. Lake Rd. [jazzerie.com](http://www.jazzerie.com).

JD Blues, Jazz and Jam at the 814

Jan. 7 — 7 to 10 p.m.
814 Pub and Grill, 1325 State St. [jazzerie.com](http://www.jazzerie.com).

Claire Stuczynski

Jan. 7 — 9 p.m.
Molly Brannigans Irish Pub, 506 State St. [mollybrannigans.com](https://www.facebook.com/mollybrannigans.com).

South 40

Jan. 7 — 9 p.m. to 12 a.m.
Darcy's Pub and Grub (The Local) 3746 W 12th St. [facebook.com/events/579402798896899](https://www.facebook.com/events/579402798896899).

Mala Sangre, JC Nickles, Onpoint, Vermin Warfare and MFG

Jan. 7 — 9 p.m.
Bobby's Place, 1202 W. 18th St. [facebook.com/events/1247600861994041](https://www.facebook.com/events/1247600861994041).

Personal Blend and B-Free

Jan. 7 — 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. [facebook.com/kingsrookclub](https://www.facebook.com/kingsrookclub).

Sam Hyman

Jan. 8 — 1 to 4 p.m.

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

Till the End, Crippled Mess, GESH and Heel Turn

Jan. 13 — 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Bobby's Place, 1202 W. 18th St. [facebook.com/gimpuyunderground](https://www.facebook.com/gimpuyunderground).

Tony Grey and Ian Maciak Galactic Duo

Jan. 13 — 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. [facebook.com/kingsrookclub](https://www.facebook.com/kingsrookclub).

Old and New

Jan. 14 — 6:30 p.m.
Church of the Covenant, 250 W. 7th St. [gannon.edu](http://www.gannon.edu).

Charlie Wheeler Band CD Release Party

Jan. 14 — 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. [facebook.com/kingsrookclub](https://www.facebook.com/kingsrookclub).

Cheap & Easy

Jan. 15 — 1 to 4 p.m.
Arundel Cellars, 11727 E. Main Rd. [arundelcellars.com](http://www.arundelcellars.com).

Blackalicious

Jan. 15 — 6 to 11 p.m.
Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. [facebook.com/pg/basement.transmissions](https://www.facebook.com/pg/basement.transmissions).

[basement.transmissions](https://www.facebook.com/pg/basement.transmissions).

David Correy

Jan. 16 — 7 to 11 p.m.
Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. [facebook.com/tecshows](https://www.facebook.com/tecshows).

FOOD & DRINK

Mind, Body, Beer, Brunch

Jan. 7 — 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th St. [facebook.com/ErieAleWorks](https://www.facebook.com/ErieAleWorks).

Mind, Body, Beer

Jan. 10 — 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.
Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th St. [facebook.com/ErieAleWorks](https://www.facebook.com/ErieAleWorks).

Bare the Barrels Weekend

Jan. 13, 14, 15
Various Locations, lakeeriewinecountry.org.

Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction

Jan. 13 — 4 to 7 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran Church, 2216 Peach St. [facebook.com/events/1702860746696680](https://www.facebook.com/events/1702860746696680).

39th Annual Pro-Life Breakfast

Jan. 14 — 9 to 11:30 a.m.
Bayfront Convention Center, 1 Sassafras Pier peopleforlife.org.

Balacava Snowman Party

Jan. 14 — 2 p.m.
Lavery Brewing Company, 128 W. 12th St. [facebook.com/pg/laverybrewing](https://www.facebook.com/pg/laverybrewing).

Mug Club Party

Jan. 15 — 1 to 5 p.m.
The Brewerie at Union Station, 123 W. 14th St. brewerie.com.

FILM

Walking With Dinosaurs: Prehistoric Planet

Ongoing through Mar. 3, 2017 — 11 a.m. & 1 & 3 p.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. trepci.org.

Lewis & Clark: Great Journey West

Ongoing through Mar. 3, 2017 — noon & 4 p.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. trepci.org.

Journey to Space

Ongoing through Mar. 3, 2017 — 2 & 5 p.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. trepci.org.

Princess Mononoke

Jan. 5, 9 — 7 p.m.
Cinemark Tinseltown, 1910 Rotunda Dr. cinemark.com.

Tombs of the Blind Dead (1971)

Jan. 5 — 8 to 11 p.m.
Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. [facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse](https://www.facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse).

Met Live in HD: Nabucco

Jan. 7 — 12:55 p.m.
Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center, 501 E. 38th St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

One Piece Film: Gold

Jan. 10, 12, 17 — 7:30 p.m.
Cinemark Tinseltown, 1910 Rotunda Dr. cinemark.com.

Make Me a German

Jan. 12 — 7 p.m.
Erie Maennerchor Club, 1607 State St. gcsoe.org.

The Godfather (1972)

Jan. 14 — 8 to 11 p.m.
Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. [facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse](https://www.facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse).

VISUAL ARTS

Dark Garden

Ongoing through Jan 8, 2017

Student loans got you down? Is your car a hand me down? Does your image need a pick-up?

GRAB YOUR PHONE & CALL



5615 Peach St, Erie, PA 16506 • (814) 868-3656
www.superiortoyotapa.com



All Natural Holistic Pet Foods FOR CATS & DOGS



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



1932 Parade St. Erie, PA 16503
www.nickelplatemills.net  Like us on facebook

THE CHURCH OF Jesus Christ

A church of miracles. It's Jesus' church. It can be your church, too. Come and see.

3126 State Street, Erie, PA 16508

Sundays
9:45am Sunday School
11am Worship Service

Wednesdays
6pm Bible Study




Phone: 814-476-7519



To resolutions that last...

Happy New Year!

Whether you've got one, or 99, we wish you the drive and resolve to get to a better state*. Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.*

CALL ME TODAY.



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

1101456.1 State Farm, Home Office, Bloomington, IL

★ First Amendment Tees Co. Inc ★

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

T-SHIRTS. HOODIES. JACKETS. POLOS. HATS

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



WWW.FAT-TEE.COM ★

KEEP HEATING & COOLING

10% OFF **SCHEDULE NOW!**

CALL NOW!
459-8255
FREE ESTIMATES FOR NEW FURNACES!

Call now to schedule a furnace clean & check and receive 10% off (Just \$62.95 after discount)

NEW CUSTOMERS RECEIVE 10% OFF THE ENTIRE BILL

PA0005218 **Like us on  and visit us at www.KeepHeating.com**

• earthshine company •

25% OFF 1 ITEM

Clothing, Jewelry, Incense, Oils

Closed Jan. 1-6, 2017
118 Meadville St.
Downtown Edinboro
(814) 734-5858

1 Item per coupon, consignment items excluded
Expires 01/18/2017



Experience it live

Soyeon Kate Lee & Sibelius
January 21 @ 8pm

Warner Theatre | 811 State Street



Soyeon Kate Lee piano

Featuring works from Smetana and Bartók along with Sibelius' magnificent Second Symphony

Iso-Syöte, Finland

Tickets start @ \$20 · Student tickets only \$10 · eriephil.org · 455-1375

BARSTOOL OPEN
 2017
 19th ANNUAL INDOOR GOLF TOURNAMENT

SIGN UP TODAY!
 \$25 PER GOLFER/\$100 TEAM/4 PER TEAM

BENEFITS: **meca** REGISTER ONLINE AT:
www.mecaerie.org

SATURDAY FEB 25th
 18 HOLES

1st 20 teams REGISTERED receive T-SHIRTS
 PRIZES FOR: BEST INDIVIDUAL & TEAM COSTUME

MUST BE 21 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER TO PARTICIPATE
SHOTGUN START 9AM

GET YOUR SCORE CARDS AT: 815 STATE ST.
 FRIDAY 2/24 6PM-9PM OR SATURDAY 2/25 6AM-9AM

MAIL REGISTRATION FORM & ENCLOSE CHECK FOR \$100
 MADE PAYABLE TO MECA, Inc. to the following address: MECA, Inc
 PO BOX 8245
 ERIE, PA 16505

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL Laura at:
 (814) 454-9113 EXT 4 OR 5 or (814) 873-1540

also delivers intelligent messages with a positive spin. A successful touring artist in his own right, his last stop in Erie was in 2010 at the now-defunct Crooked I.

A longtime favorite among hip hop audiences, Blackalicious recently gained mainstream attention from

A longtime favorite among hip hop audiences, Blackalicious recently gained mainstream attention from an unlikely source.

an unlikely source. In 2014, actor Daniel Radcliffe successfully recited the group's song "Alphabet Aerobics" on *The Tonight Show* with Jimmy Fallon, opening up the group to many new listeners. Soon after, the duo closed their decade-long gap between albums, releasing *Imani Vol. 1*. The newest record, according to Gift of Gab, is said to the

be the first of a trilogy of albums, with the first sequel to be released this year.

The show will also feature a bevy of local acts, with Trip Kit opening, followed by the Dream Team. Tyler Ames, known as Lil Krum will follow, with the full band hip hop of the LEC preceding. Erie's own C.Brown will take to the stage as the penultimate performer of the evening. This is sure to be one you won't want to miss. – Nick Warren

6 p.m. // *Basement Transmissions*, 145 W. 11th St. // All ages // \$15 Advance; \$18 Day of show // brownpapertickets.com/event/2725055

Monday, Jan. 16

David Correy Delivers His Dream to Basement Transmissions

David Correy, an alternative-soul singer who competed on the second season of *The X Factor* in 2012, will bring his talent to Basement Transmissions on Jan. 16, with special guest Apache Chief of upstate New York.



Correy didn't win on *The X Factor*. Though he became a finalist, he was eliminated early. But he did win the hearts of millions – more than 1.2 million like his Facebook page and 400,000 follow him on Twitter.

Correy certainly didn't let his experience discourage him, as he has continued to passionately and persistently

pursue his path in the music business. His newest album, *Lost Art*, is coming out soon.

Born in poverty-stricken Recife, Brazil to a young mother, Correy was adopted into a U.S. family and grew up in Riva, Maryland.

On *The X Factor*, Correy told judges that he wanted to meet his birth mother by performing on the show. "I feel like this opportunity will reconnect me with my birth mother if she hears my voice," he said.

He met her in December 2012. He credits his adoptive parents for his love of music, as they always supported him while he chased his dream. His father passed away recently on Christmas Eve and his mother died in March 2014.

Correy refuses to let go of his dream, and finds a way to keep singing. He uses music as a way to inspire others, and has deemed his truest fans "dreamers." – Tracy Geibel

7:00 p.m. // *Basement Transmissions*, 145 W. 11th St. // \$20 // ticketfly.com

Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

Jose Picayo Polaroids: A Retrospective

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

Noreen Finn, Recent Paintings

Ongoing through Jan. 10, 2017
Glass Growers Gallery, 10 E. 5th St. glassgrowersgallery.com.

Mood Swing Review: A solo exhibition by Ron Bayuzick

Ongoing through Feb. 11, 2017
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

Sergei Isupov: Hidden Messages

Ongoing through April 2, 2017
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

Repurposed by Ronald Gonzalez and Richard Sadlier

Jan. 5 through Feb. 5 (Reception Jan. 12 — 5 to 7 p.m.)
Cummings Gallery, 501 E. 38th St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

Second Sundays

Jan. 8 — 2 to 4 p.m.
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

THEATRE

Mamma Mia

Jan. 12 — 7:30 p.m.
Warner Theatre, 811 State St. erieevents.com.

Evening of One Acts

Jan. 18 — 7:30 p.m.

Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieplayhouse.org.

COMMUNITY

Tinker the T-Rex Comes to the TREC

Ongoing through Feb 24, 2017 — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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

Erie Otters vs. Niagara

Jan. 4 — 7 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. erieevents.com.

Lego Architecture Skyline Build

Jan. 5 — 7 to 9 p.m.

Barnes & Noble, 5909 Peach St. stores.barnesandnoble.com.

Life of a Sailor

Jan. 6 — 1 to 2 p.m.

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

Erie WarHawks Battle on the Bay

Jan. 7, 8
Bayfront Convention Center, 1 Sassafras Pier erieevents.com.

Erie County in the Civil War

Jan. 7 — 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
The Historical Society of Erie County, 356 W. 6th St. facebook.com/eriehistory.

Winterfest

Jan. 7 — noon to 4 p.m.
Peek 'n Peak Resort, 1405 Olde Rd. pknpk.com.

Winter Stroll in the Park: Sidewalk Trail

Jan. 7 — 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Presque Isle Lighthouse parking area in Presque Isle State Park, 301 Peninsula Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

Erie BayHawks vs. Long Island

Jan. 7 — 7 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. erieevents.com.

Baby Bounce

Jan. 9 — 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. & 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Children's Storytime Room Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. erielibrary.org.

Breastfeeding Support

Jan. 9 — 11 a.m.
The Family Shop, 2501 W. 12 St. facebook.com/ErieFamilyShop.

Evening Storytime

Jan. 9 — 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Children's Storytime Room Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. erielibrary.org.

Toddler Time

Jan. 10 — 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. & 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Children's Storytime Room Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. erielibrary.org.

Cloth Diapering 101

Jan. 10 — 10 a.m.
The Family Shop, 2501 W. 12 St. facebook.com/ErieFamilyShop.

Presque Isle History Series: The Sheltering Arm

Jan. 10 — 6 to 7 p.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental

Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

Erie Otters vs. Kitchener

Jan. 10 — 7 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. erieevents.com.

Gem City Concert Band Rehearsal

Jan. 10 — 8 to 9:30 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran Church, 2216 Peach St. gemcitybands.org.

Preschool Storytime

Jan. 11 — 10 to 11 a.m.
Children's Storytime Room Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. erielibrary.org.

Outside the Window: Presque Isle History Erie Indians

Jan. 11 — 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

Beginner Kids Hoop Dance Class Series

Jan. 11 — 5 to 6 p.m.
Dafmark Dance Theater, 1033 State street, 3rd floor. jenniferdennedy.com/classesparties.

Erie BayHawks vs. Windy City

Jan. 11 — 7 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. erieevents.com.

Presque Isle After Dark Hike: Pine Tree Trail

Jan. 12 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Beach 10 parking lot in Presque Isle State Park, 301 Peninsula

Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

Lake Erie Eagles

Jan. 12 — 7:30 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. erieevents.com.

Stars and Stripes Gymnastics Invitational

Jan. 13, 14, 15, 16
Bayfront Convention Center, 1 Sassafras Pier erieevents.com.

Souper Book Swap

Jan. 13 — 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Mercyhurst University Student Union, 501 E. 38th St. eriebenedictines.org.

Lake Erie Eagles

Jan. 13 — noon and 2 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. erieevents.com.

April Macie

Jan. 13, 14 — 6:45 & 9:30 p.m.
Jr's Last Laugh Comedy Club, 1402 State St. jrslastlaugh.net.

Erie Otters vs. Ottawa

Jan. 13 — 7 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. erieevents.com.

Winter Stroll in the Park: North Pier Trail

Jan. 14 — 10 to 11:30 a.m.
North Pier in Presque Isle State Park, 301 Peninsula Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

Natural Parenting Class

Jan. 14 — 10 to 11:30 a.m.
The Family Shop, 2501 W. 12 St. facebook.com/ErieFamilyShop.

Ringin' in the New Year

Jan. 14 — 1 to 3 p.m.

Erie Maennerchor Club, 1607 State St. aauwerie.org.

Teen Advisory Board

Jan. 14 — 2 to 4 p.m.
Room 219 Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. erielibrary.org.

Erie Otters vs. Flint

Jan. 14 — 7 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. erieevents.com.

Lake Erie Eagles

Jan. 15 — 1:30 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. erieevents.com.

Masterpiece Theatre Game Night

Jan. 17 — 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Peninsula Room Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. erielibrary.org.

Martin Luther King Jr. Week Celebration Keynote: Naim

Jan. 17 — 6 to 7 p.m.
Tippie Alumni Center, 520 N. Main St. allegheny.edu.

Outside the Window: Getting Little Feet Wet

Jan. 18 — 1 to 2 p.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

Feed the Animals Trivia Bowl

Jan. 18 — 6 p.m.
Jr's Last Laugh Comedy Club, 1402 State St. humanesocietyofnwpa.com.

How They Got to Sesame Street

Lori Burke and Brad Pattullo's imaginative journey



CHILDREN'S TELEVISION WORKSHOP

By: Ryan Smith

*A group of floating guppies on the school playground
Gathering together, look what they found:
A big letter G gleams in the sun
It reminds them of some things that are so much fun ...
— "G is for Games"*

For honest reactions (and generally pretty spot-on descriptions), just ask a four-year-old.

I kept that in mind, and my daughter closeby, when I cued up one of the latest locally-made music videos I was invited to check out.

Less than a minute in, I knew we were witnessing a gem: A breezy, island-influenced little tune, expertly animated in primary-bold clay, in which a group of floating guppies learn all about games, good gamesmanship, and, in general, good'ol letter G.

"I love it, Daddy. Lemme dance to it. 'Cause I love it," says my little one after her first of several back-to-back viewings

of "G is for Games."

"Is it, like, a song, or a game?" she asks. Either way, "it's a good one."

Yep, I thought. *That would be perfect for Sesame Street.*

And it will be.

A product of Edinboro-based animator Brad Pattullo's and Edinboro-based singer/songwriter Lori Burke's multicolored imaginations — with help from friends and family — "G" is set to

air on *Sesame Street* this January.

Like me, probably you, and tens of millions around the world, those two creative minds were raised on a steady diet of the award-winning, Jim Henson and Co.-created classic educational children's series.

These things are deeply etched into our memories, a fundamental part of how and when we began to learn about the world around us. "Sing" ... "A New Way to Walk" ... those funky-as-can-be "Pinball Countdown" numbers ... "C is for Cookie." These songs — and a whole history of others — are really *in there*.

That's the beauty of *Sesame Street*: Like all the best teachers, it takes learning and makes it fun without kids even realizing what's happening, and the knowledge lingers longer because of that. Over the course of generations, it's been a standard-bearer for how awesome children's programming can be when the artists behind it are, well, awesome.

So after checking out "G is for Games" (then, at my little one's request, watch-

ing it again, and again), I looked forward to hearing more about the collaboration, and about how they got to *Sesame Street*.

"I definitely remember wanting to be on *Sesame Street* as a kid and loving the songs," says Burke, who, as a 30-something and a parent, has been exposed to plenty of Sesame goodness. "I remember wanting to be one of the kids sitting on the brownstone steps, talking to the [show's] characters."

That didn't quite happen then. But in 2015, Burke, a busy local children's performer and teacher who's also a member of Tiger Maple String Band, was invited by friend and longtime animator Pattullo, an Edinboro University professor who's done work for They Might Be Giants and Tiger Maple, among others, to write a song for a letter-based animation he'd been requested to pitch by *Sesame Street*'s creative team after they became familiar with his work.

Given the letter G to go ahead on by the Sesame Workshop's producers, they got going. Pattullo directed and animated, and Burke wrote and performed, with assistance from her sister, her son, and some family friends and their young ones.

What came out of that collaboration was "G is for Games," a little piece of groovin' guppie gold.

With Pattullo focusing his considerable talents on the labor of animating, Burke says, "I was able to choose my musicians, my singer, the voice-over, and play most of the music, as well. It was a tremendous experience," and everyone involved "really got to rise to the occasion. It was phenomenal."

Phenomenal for them, and good for *Sesame Street*. So good, in fact, that Burke says she and Pattullo (with a little help from their friends) are already well underway on the work for their second Sesame song and video, a commissioned piece called "Counting Opposites," slated to air on the show sometime next summer.

Good goin' guys.

"G is for Games" is reportedly set to air on the Jan. 20 episode of Sesame Street. To learn more about the work, and to hear more from creators Brad Pattullo and Lori Burke, check out eriereader.com.

When he's not trying to get someone to tell him how to get to Sesame Street, Ryan Smith can be reached at rsmith@eriereader.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @ryanmsmithplens.

(top) *Sesame Street*, which now airs on HBO, has been a monumental part of educational television for over 47 years. (bottom) Donny Burke (left) smiles for the camera, with Lori Burke, Jaime Combine Walker, Brad Pattullo, and Chris Moore as they celebrate the wrap of "G is for Games."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

LATINO'S

WE ARE THE REAL ENCHILADA

MEXICAN RESTAURANT & BAR

1315 PARADE STREET, ERIE, PA | 814.452.1966 | WWW.LATINOSRB.COM



ERIE'S BEST CHICKEN WING COOK-OFF

11AM-8PM

SATURDAY JANUARY 28TH AT RAINBOW GARDENS

DON'T MISS IT! - VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE!



2017



Renaissance Centre

- Affordable rates
- Custom spaces from 500-10,000
- Retail, medical & office space
- Centrally located in the heart of downtown Erie
- Collaborate with other building tenants
- High speed fiber connectivity
- Attached parking
- Utilities included

Your path

to

Business Success

in the New Year

RenaissanceErie.com

Ham or Turkey Sub

Limited Time Offer

2.99
HALF

4.99
WHOLE



COUNTRY FAIR

countryfairstores.com

DONATOS

Every piece is important.



**HEY, ERIE,
WE DELIVER!**



ORDER AT DONATOS.COM
1535 W. 8TH ST. UNIT A1
ERIE ★ 814.722.5900



donatoserie DonatosErie
 @donatoserie

**THANK YOU
FOR VOTING**

PLYMOUTH



- Best College Bar
- Best Neighborhood Bar

814.453.6454
www.plymouthtavern.com
1109 State St, Erie, PA 16501



**Start your new year
off fresh with Franco's**

Downtown Erie's *Freshest* Salad Bar

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

francoscafeerie
francoscafe.net



www.tderie.com

3203 Greengarden Blvd.
(814) 864-5322

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

- CATERING
- TAKE OUT
- FUNDRAISING

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

Run The Jewels

Run The Jewels 3
Mass Appeal Records



It looks like we all got a nice Christmas present courtesy of Run The Jewels. The much acclaimed hip hop duo is back again



with a fantastic new record. Forgoing the industry standard Friday release, the group dropped the album as free download on Dec. 25 (visit runthejewels.com to see some other potential strategies in a new *Portlandia* sketch). The album hits hard and fast, a calculated smash and grab job from seasoned experts. Rapper, activist, and songwriter Killer Mike takes to the ground running, with verses full of astute references and insights. With the aggressive grace of a gangland professor, Killer Mike's syncopated, heavy rhythms play perfectly against producer El-P's fuzzy, thickly layered beats. The album features guests like Kamasi Washington ("Thursday in the Danger Room"), Danny Brown ("Hey Kids [Bumaye]"), and a follow-up track with Zach de la Rocha closing things out. The album, while perhaps not rising to the extreme heights of *Run The Jewels 2*, completes an unparalleled hip hop trilogy.
- Nick Warren

Sean-Patrick and the Newgrass Revolution

One More Nail
Lakehouse Records and Publishing



Sean-Patrick and the Newgrass Revolution certainly have a gift for melody. You'll find yourself humming any



or all of these 14 tracks shortly after listening. Following up on their debut full-length, *About Time*, the band brings home another big serving of line-danceable alt-country shuffles. Their unique brand of rootsy Americana is wielded lovingly by the band, as their name implies. Relentlessly touring, the band has proven to be a hardworking part of Erie's music community. The sound is forged cleanly, streamlined like an arrow directly on target. Folk sensibilities drive frontman Sean-Patrick Dunn. Crafting warm-sounding ditties from bitter perspectives, Dunn harnesses simple songwriting elements to great effect. The persona crafted is a fiercely independent, largely unrepentant, hard-drinking vagabond. It's a "love it or leave it" attitude, with lyrics that some might find questionable. For the most part, it's a recipe that works, full of ups and downs and plenty of sizzling tracks.
- Nick Warren

The New Morning Sunrise

The New Morning Sunrise
Burn Forever Records



Imagine yourself on a smoky dancefloor. A stranger stumbles towards you and drunkenly asks you for a dance. A



month later, the two of you are married, on your way to share a happy life together, when your lover dies tragically and horrifically. Soon you receive a strange, epic love letter. That's what this album is like. It's beautiful, weird, and entrancing, all of its idiosyncrasies immediately visible, but irresistibly wonderful at every turn. Waltzing slowly in hazy fog, the eponymous debut full-length from the Erie ensemble sounds spectacularly spooky. With his bass vocals somewhere between Johnny Cash and Nick Cave, singer Gabe Poland weaves together nine sorrowful tales for a truly evocative album. Poland, along with his brother Josiah on keyboards and mandolin, Bassist David DeFranco, and drummer Bryan Greene, fill the band's soundscapes, artfully crafting every haunting note. The psychedelic folk brilliance shines through like the lights of a UFO reflected in a tall glass of whiskey. Let this album be a warbling soundtrack to your dark and stormy nights.
- Nick Warren

The LEC

Whole Again
Self-released



The LEC are a fantastically fun band. The local septet have been gracing regional stages for years, their bombastic



live shows exemplifying party perfection. A strange yet familiar amalgamation of jam and hip hop, the band elicits good vibes with every track. *Whole Again* is their sophomore release, and the lineup has changed significantly since the five-piece that crafted 2014's self-titled album. The sound is more richly defined, the group forging a more comfortable synthesis than before. It's a feel-good sound, one at home on a summer day, shared by friends. The supremely charismatic Jonny Evans delivers rapid-fire rhythmic verses, serving as the de facto frontman and driving force behind the band, along with fellow emcee, the talented Tony Facchiano. Three tracks feature local favorite C.Brown, lending his trademark brilliance. Guitarist Dan Head provides the golden voice behind most of the album's hooks, as the band (comprised of bassist Kris Corona, guitarist Justin Tapper, keyboardist Adam Holquist, and drummer Chris Head) carves out many a heavy, luscious groove.
- Nick Warren

LAVERY BREWING COMPANY
JANUARY 14, 2017
 - RELEASE OF OUR NEW -
BALACLAVA IPA
 AND A CELEBRATION OF WINTER!
 SNOWMAN BUILDING CONTEST & FORT BUILDING 3PM-5PM | HOT CHOCOLATE FOR KIDS
 VISIT OUR PUB AND BREWERY
 128 WEST 12th STREET, ERIE PA, 16501
 WWW.LAVERYBREWING.COM
 PUB HOURS: Mon-Wed 5:00-10:00 · Thur 4:00-11:00 · Fri 4:00-12:00 · Sat 2:00-12:00 · Sun 11:00-4:00

ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
Beyond Books
 Go beyond books this year with the Erie County Public Library. Discover our impressive digital collection of ebooks and online resources. We offer a variety of services and programs such as hoopla, mango languages, overdrive and more.
 160 East Front St, Erie, PA 16507
 (814) 451-6900
 www.erialibrary.org

WORLD OF MUSIC
WINTER CLASSES

**ADULT GROUP
GUITAR CLASS**

taught by Zack Orr

(4) 1 hour classes, 6-7PM
(1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3)

Designed for the beginning
guitar player

\$50 with your own guitar
\$125 includes guitar

LOOPER CLINIC

taught by Eric Brewer

(2) 1 hour classes, 5-6PM
(1/27 & 2/3)

Learn the tricks of the
trade for using a looper in
modern music. \$25

**GUITAR
MASTERCLASS**

taught by Dan Monacella

(2) 1 hour classes, 5-6PM
(1/13 & 1/20)

Fine tune your fingering
and technique to improve
your confidence on the
hard parts - bring your
own guitar! \$30

**CALL FOR MORE
DETAILS & TO SIGN
UP TODAY!**



1355 West 26th Street
Erie, PA 16508
814-459-2585

worldofmusicerie.com
Follow us on Facebook!

FOOD & DRINK

Magic for Your Taste Buds

Alkeme, the new Mediterranean cafe on North Park Row, serves up pleasure.



NICK WARREN

By: **Mary Birdsong**

It's 10:15 a.m. and my mouth is watering. Marc Berarducci, co-owner of Alkeme with Barbara Ringle, is describing in loving detail how he prepares the pork for sandwiches and his house-made red sauce. Butterflied meat, herbs, spices, tied together so the flavors have time to get acquainted. Then three or four hours in the oven for a slow braise. Mmmmm ...

Pair this imagery with kitchen aromas as staff ready for the day, and the simple act of drinking a cup of coffee in the front window of Alkeme is elevated to more than having a cup of joe. While sitting there, I also chat with Ringle and her brother, Joe Fontecchio, who shares chef duties with Berarducci.

All Erie natives, the three spent numerous years away from Erie on their own adventures in larger cities and abroad, bringing a variety of skills to this new venture.

"We felt like something was missing here, an urbane place for people to gather and enjoy," says Ringle. "Plus, we wanted to highlight our local setting and find ways to source what we could here," adds Fontecchio.

To those ends, they chose elegant yet relaxed decorating motifs to suggest a connection between Erie's waterfront and its Mediterranean cousins. For local sourcing, they are partnering with the Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network to grow produce to supply their kitchen and other restaurants. "The Neighborhood Network is experimenting with hoop houses to extend the growing season, as well," adds Fontecchio.

The space feels fresh and clean, simple, yet posh. The dining room is low-

key with banquettes around the perimeter and a pleasant mix of table configurations.

The front room is a blend of bar, deli, lounge, and marketplace, a combination similar to those found across southern Europe. For right now, they are offering imported pasta, olive oils, and deli meats and cheeses.

"We can't make enough of our own fresh pasta yet to sell," offers Berarducci. "And we're still working to bring the deli up to speed."

Alkeme offers lunch and dinner, though they urge people to just stop by for cappuccino or a cocktail. The ambiance for day and evening is singular.

"The rhythms of the two are quite different," says Berarducci. "Lunch has a quicker pace, the mood – and the lighting – is more buoyant." Everything shifts for dinner with subdued lighting, a slower pace and more substantial fare. (We did see two diners use their cellphone flashlights to read the menu, so be prepared if you struggle in low lighting.)

No matter the meal, dishes are made from authentic and healthy ingredients. Pastas, breads, and desserts are made in house. Sandwiches and salads are the main players on the lunch menu; dinner entrees offer beef, pork, fish, and chicken choices with pasta, risotto, and polenta. Daily specials, soups, and desserts are also available.

My husband Mike and I dined there



NICK WARREN

(top) The elegant logo and decor of Alkeme underpin the cuisine's delectability.
(bottom) Marc Berarducci (right) chats with customers as the evening commences on New Year's Eve.

FOOD & DRINK

on a recent weeknight. The dining room was full and lively with conversation but we were cozy at our table and never felt too close to neighboring diners. Our server was knowledgeable and expert with wine recommendations and timing.

We chose the Roasted Pepper Panzanella and the Roasted Beet and Arugula salads as starters. Both were expertly crafted and lightly dressed in vinaigrettes that brought the flavors together. They disappeared quickly.

Entrees were equally delightful and generous. I chose the fresh pasta with the aforementioned Braised Pork in red sauce and meatballs. Although I gauchely prefer my red sauce a little sweeter, this dish came together perfectly. The meatballs and pork were tender, the sauce complex and earthy, and the tagliatelle's firmness and texture were just right.

Mike's Scampi, served with the same pasta, was aromatic with garlic and lemon, and contained an abundance of plump shrimp. We both went home with ample leftovers.

It is worth saving a little room for Alkeme's desserts. We agonized over a dazzling array of choices but went with the Semolina Peach Cake, a layer cake filled with cream and flavorsome peaches. Along with a fresh cup of coffee, it was an impressive finale to the meal.

We can all be grateful that Ringle and Berarducci came together to create Alkeme. "When the stars align, you take the opportunity, because it will pass you by," says Ringle. "It just so happened that I was looking at real estate and writing a business plan and Bertrand [Artigues] reached out to Marc." She also says they shared a collective feeling that they could create something different and needed in Erie.

And they chose the perfect name, since their fusion of deliciousness, ambiance, and hospitality sparkles with the elusive magic of which an alchemist would be proud.

18 North Park Row // 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.;
Lunch, Monday - Saturday; Dinner,
Wednesday - Saturday // 616.8578



Join us for an
Evening of One Acts
on our 101st birthday - January 18, 2017.
We will present the first shows
ever produced by the Playhouse.

Galatea of the Toy Shop
I'm Going
Sunset

This one-night-only event will be held at
the Erie Art Museum - 411 State Street

Tickets on sale NOW - Limited seating! All seats \$15.50
814.454.2852 ext. 0 erieplayhouse.org

NEWS 7 DAYS A WEEK
MORE IS BETTER
7PM NEWS IS BACK!

ERIE NEWS
NOW
COVERAGE YOU CAN COUNT ON

MON - FRI | 5PM | 5:30PM | 6PM | 7PM | 11PM

ErieNewsNow.com

COVERAGE YOU CAN COUNT ON



GEOFF
CORNISH

MIKE
RUZZI

AMANDA
POST



Seven Ways to Love Outdoor Activity in Winter

You don't have to stay indoors to achieve those New Year's resolutions.



ANTHONY DE LORENZO VIA WIKIMEDIA

By: Ti Sumner

It's cold outside. As northerners, we expect this. We pack kayaking, biking, and festival-going into a few summer months. When the first polar winds bully their way onshore, we seek fireplaces and fleece blankets. For warm-blooded creatures, avoiding the cold is both logical and practical.

Except for one fact: Our bodies need activity. For heart health, for improved immune systems and moods, to increase energy – and for those of us with a belly bulge swelling like attendance at a January spin class, we need activity to burn those pounds away.

And while it's perfectly okay – and even good – to rely on weight rooms and group fitness classes to achieve fitness goals and New Year's weight loss resolutions, there might be a better solution to the cold than avoidance. What would happen if we decided to approach winter with a new perspective? What if we accepted ice and snow right into our fitness routines?

Two years ago, Laith Wardi, president of Executive Pulse and an avid cyclist, chose to embrace the cold rather than avoid it and took his winter workouts outdoors.

"I like being outside all year, but I

didn't have an outdoor winter activity until my brother-in-law talked me into fat tire riding," Wardi says. "Now I can't say enough about the bikes and the ability to be outside year round."

For those of you open to adding a new outdoor activity (like Wardi), or for those simply looking to try something new, below is a list of fun winter ways to burn calories before lighting that fire and plopping under the fleece.

FOR ALL TERRAINS

Fat Tire Biking (FTB)

Fat tires have done for biking what the internet has done for information gathering (well, almost). With tires four inches or wider capable of handling rocks, snow, sand, and other seemingly impassable terrains, FTBs have turned biking into a year-round sport, even here.

"I can literally ride into the middle of nowhere," says Wardi. "In the winter, a group of us will ride across the frozen bay, around the Presque Isle beaches, and back to Scott Park. The visuals are spectacular."

The extreme upside of fat tire bik-

(top) Fat tire biking enables cyclists to traverse diverse terrains all winter long. **(bottom)** Cross-country skiing provides an excellent cardiovascular workout while letting you soak up the sun.

ing? Riders can burn as many as 1,500 calories an hour, which is some serious holiday cookie unloading in one spin around the peninsula. The wide tires and slower speeds make transitioning from road or mountain biking relatively easy, and due to increased popularity, retailers now carry a wide selection.

FTB cons: The bikes tend to run a bit heavier than other bikes and while the massive tires improve terrain grip, they also decrease bike speeds – an aspect that might not appeal to the speed chasers.

As Wardi says: For anyone who wants to be outside year-round, the FTB is a viable option.

Information: icebike.org/fat-tire-bike

ON THE ICE

Ice Boating

If speed is your thing, consider ice boating, a sport that can top 100 mph. Ice boats utilize a sail and range in size and price from the homemade, single-person boat to the more extravagant boats capable of carrying a crew and costing upwards of \$30,000. Many coastal towns, including Erie, have local fleets, making it easy for beginners to learn ice safety and boating techniques.

Information: erieyachtclub.org/fleets/iceboat-fleet

Wind Skating

Another sport for speed lovers, this activity requires only an easily-transportable wind "kite" and plenty of well-fitting safety gear. All you really need is a desire to hold a wind sail while

standing on solid ice. In a region where we grow quickly weary of arctic winds, wind skating provides the perfect excuse to wish for more wind. These kites also work with skis, snowboards, and skateboards. Give this one a try if you are an experienced skater or skier.

Information: kitewing.com

Ice Biking

Want to be a trooper about winter but don't skate or ski? Ice Bikes of Buffalo, New York has the solution with their bike that sits within a steel frame fitted with blades, negating all need for balance. A rider simply pedals over the ice rink at Canalside in Buffalo. Those not interested in fat tire biking may find ice biking on Presque Isle's bay to be a fitting alternative.

Information: waterbikesofbuffalo.com/ice-bikes

ON THE SNOW

Downhill Skiing, Tubing, Snowboarding

At some point in our lives, most of us have tried at least one of these activities and liked it. So in this case, it's less about trying something new and more about remembering that with two nearby resorts, we have ample access to some of winter's most popular sports at affordable prices. If you just want to do that big-kid thing and go sledding for an afternoon, check out Frontier Park, where Winterfest will also take place Feb. 12.

Information: pknpk.com, skimountpleasant.com,



MARKETINGNCC VIA WIKIMEDIA

leaferie.org/winterfest



PATRICK MACKIE VIA WIKIMEDIA

Cross-country Skiing, Snowshoeing

Two entirely different activities, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing are lumped together here not because they might attract the same fitness type, but because they can be enjoyed by all fitness levels from true beginners to the most experienced. These activities are fun both solo and in groups, and equipment for either sport can be rented inexpensively. In other words, you can try before you buy. The big bonus: Both workouts are great calorie-burners, with cross-country skiing and snowshoeing capable of burning up to 600 and 1,000 calories per hour, respectively.

Rental information:
asburywoods.org/rentals

ANYTHING WITH THE DOG

Yes, this one is about *our dogs*, and not just because we like to talk about them in fitness articles and show them in car advertisements. In fact, if we followed the natural fitness routines of our dogs, we would live in a much healthier society. Run every morning and evening and wrestle/play after every meal – it's not a bad plan. Buy short-haired dogs a

(top) A unique blend of ice skating and sailing, wind skating lets users glide along frozen waters with help from a strong breeze. (bottom) A Dachshund frolics in the snow, giving his owner an outdoor workout.

coat, and with the exception of extreme temperature days, follow this routine regardless of weather, and we are guaranteed to burn more calories. Go snowshoeing or build snow people (or dogs), run through deep snow, or throw snowballs high in the air. A simple game of fetch will burn more than 100 calories in one hour. The benefit of the outing will clearly be mutual: Our dogs will be happier (and more tired) and we'll be happier (and, ironically, have more energy).

As with all activities, pack plenty of water, dress in layers, and remember your safety gear.

Although winter is currently meandering around at the decibel of a cub's cry, we are certain to experience the lion's roar by winter's end. We might as well plan to enjoy it.

Ti Sumner can be reached at
TSumner@ErieReader.com



DAN BENNETT VIA WIKIMEDIA

— AUTHENTIC —
MEXICAN FOOD
(Not affiliated with any other Mexican restaurant in Erie, PA)

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

Thank you for voting El Canelo

Daily Food & Drink Specials

BEST MEXICAN RESTAURANT IN ERIE

Happy New Year from El Canelo

\$4.00 OFF with purchase of \$25 or more

Buy one lunch get the second HALF OFF

Offer expires: 01/18/2017

Kings Rook Club

THIRSTY THURSDAYS
Drink Specials

MATTY B'S OPEN MIC ONITE

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

****NO COVER FOR MEMBERS EXCEPT SPECIAL EVENTS****

DOORS 8PM | MUSIC 10PM

BEST MUSIC VENUE
BEST OF ERIE 2015

- FRI 01/06 DAYBREAK RADIO EP RELEASE PARTY
- SAT 01/07 PERSONAL BLEND B- FREE
- FRI 01/13 TONY GREY & IAN MACIAK GALACTIC DUO
- SAT 01/14 CHARLIE WHEELER BAND CD RELEASE PARTY
- FRI 01/20 GEM CITY REVIVAL + ZACK ORR + THE HONEST MISTAKES
- SAT 01/21 THE BEES TREES
- FRI 01/27 SIX YEAR STRETCH + CLAIRE & FRIENDS
- SAT 01/28 SHWIZZ
- FRI 02/03 JENNIFER WESTWOOD & THE HANDSOME DEVILS
- SAT 02/04 STEREOHPERE

****NO COVER FOR MEMBERS EXCEPT SPECIAL EVENTS****
Music at 10pm • Fri & Sat Happy Hour Specials: \$2 Wells & select beers 8pm-12am • Free pool, shuffleboard & games always!!! • 1921 Peach St. • Members & guests only
Find us on Facebook : www.facebook.com/kingsrookclub

Erie Gems

Discovering Erie Bluffs State Park



MATT FANG



MATT FANG

By: Matt Fang

bluff – [n.] a high steep bank or cliff

I arrive at the trailhead midmorning on a Sunday. Snow blankets the ground and the wind calls out with eerie howls as it whips through long stretches of black oak savanna on the horizon. A low and distant rumbling churns beneath it all. Moments before, I was westbound on Route 5, the sounds of traffic and city all too present. Now I am a lifetime away – solo on the tundra marching forward, I hear only the great roar of something wild ahead.

Erie Bluffs was officially established as Pennsylvania’s 117th state park on June 4, 2004. It is the last undeveloped piece of property along the entire Erie County shoreline; about a mile and a quarter in total. The main trailhead sits quite a bit inland from the shoreline bluffs. In between are large swaths of meadow grassland networked by sandy perimeter trails.

A little over 12,000 years ago, Lake Erie wasn’t Lake Erie. It was Lake Warren – a glacial lake with shoreline extending much farther inland, right about to where I-90 runs. As it receded to form Lake Erie, it left behind a series of great sand dunes.

The park sits atop these ancient sands, supporting impressive stretches of old-growth hardwoods and some of Pennsylvania’s last remaining black oak savanna: sparsely treed sandy grasslands where fire-resistant oaks stand among prairie plants.

Spending quiet time in the savanna is the surest way to catch a glimpse of the park’s many unique wildlife inhabitants. Bald eagles drift inland as they patrol the shoreline. Occasionally stopping to rest, they perch high on branches surrounding open meadow. Take a pair of binoculars and go softly.

The rumbling roar grows louder as the meadow fades and I approach

the treeline. There is great power beyond. An entrance appears at the far east edge and I cross over into a land of giants. Great tall trees tangled with monstrous vines tower overhead.

The path worms its way through the looming thickness and then ends abruptly, plunging 90 feet to rocky shores. The churning source of distant thunder is now revealed – endless lines of advancing blue-green

waves drum at the cliffs below. A fresh cool wind finds me. I breathe deeply. I fade into it all, transported to an ancient place. I am grateful. I am minutes from home, having discovered another Erie Gem.

See more of Matt Fang’s facts and photos at mattfang.com. Matt can be contacted at mattfang@mattfang.com.

Steep climbs lead to gorgeous views for hikers at Erie Bluffs State Park.



MATT FANG

WINTER GEAR CHECKLIST



MATT FANG

Essential Winter Hiking Gear

A cold weather checklist

One way to build a lasting and positive relationship with our gem of a region is to access the abundance of wild places that rejuvenate and recharge the spirit. One simply must commit to get out and discover these special places.

Winter is here, but that definitely doesn't deal a deadly blow to the hiking season. Late fall and now winter deliver some of the best hiking conditions of the year: no mosquitos, low humidity, peak foliage – perfect. Consider a few gear tips and you'll be all set for fall and winter hiking at its best.

Wool socks: You might think, "Oh, socks are socks." No, they aren't. Feet sweat. Cotton soaks up sweat and holds onto it like a kitchen sponge. But wool wicks away the sweat and lets your feet breathe. If your feet are cold and wet, it's hard to have a good time. Happy feet = happy hiker. Repeat it ... know it ... live by it. Check out Smartwool, Patagonia, or Filson for the best wool socks.

Layers: As Survival Man Les Stroud says when it comes to winter hiking, "You sweat, you die." Adding and removing layers as needed gives you the power to prevent overheating. When you're overheated, you sweat, and when you sweat your gear get soaked and freezes. Not good for business.

Light pack: You don't want your arms bogged down carrying gear while you walk. Stuff the layers you shed into a light daypack or rucksack.

Poles: Not 100 percent essential – some folks like them, some folks hate them. I'm a believer, at least for winter hiking. You can probe the trail ahead for hidden snags and supplement your traction on slippery leaves or in deep snow.

Binoculars/scope: With fewer leaves in the trees and brush, visibility is high. But sound travels farther in cold air, so shhhh ... use your binos to scope that majestic bald eagle from a distance. If wildlife observation is your objective, be quiet, walk slowly, and open your ears. – Matt Fang

ERIE DANCE CONSERVATORY

NOW ENROLLING FOR 2nd TERM

Offering Classes in:

- Ballet
- Tap
- Jazz
- Modern
- Hip Hop
- Acro
- Pointe
- Tiny Tots
- Tiny Taps
- Tiny Tumblers

• Limited Class Sizes

• Safe Dance Floors

• Professional Faculty

• No Registration Fee

• Many Performance Opportunities

BOYS ARE FREE

Call today to reserve your space and to take advantage of our FREE trial classes!

814.476.7123

www.eriedanceconservatory.org

cultured purl
a knitting place and more

Winter Knitting Classes

- **Beginner Class**
- Jan. 10, 17, 24
- 6 to 8 p.m.
- \$55 (Reg. \$70)
Class & Special Kit!

www.culturedpurlknitshop.com
3141 W 26th St. Erie, PA 16506
(814) 836-7875

Don't trade in your car
we pay more

Walnut Creek Auto Sales

6345 W. Ridge Rd. Erie, PA 16506
Call Bryan Barnes
(814) 323-7544

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

HANG WITH US!

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

Claudine's Consignment

Furniture • Decor • Jewelry

www.claudinesconsignment.com

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

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

Chic, Sleek & Instantly Slimming

Sizes 0 - 22W
Lengths 26-33

Oprah loves our Lisette L Pant!

Available in a variety of different fits, colors and styles!

Also available by Tribal, Renuar, Slim - sation & Joseph Ribkoff

* Some sizes & colors available by special order

Ag's

...In the Colony Plaza
2636 West 8th St.
Erie, PA 16505

Erie Faces Erie

**Tara Tallman
Sollman &
Beverly K.
Verbeke:**

TEDx speaker
coaches/presentation
designers

Ed Bernik
photographer

"People want to connect to a human being – to hear something that makes them feel something."

Ed Bernik: You're both speaker coaches for TEDx. How did your careers go down that path?

Tara Tallman Sollman: I was a graphic designer/photographer who was always drawn to storytelling. I was also a huge fan of TED videos, and became a junkie for watching those online. So when there was a local TEDx event being organized in State College, I found out who was curating the event, stalked them on Twitter, and sent them a tweet that said, "Can I please help you? Can I design the slides for your speaker?" That person responded "yes," and that was the beginning of what became a career coaching speakers for TEDx events.

Beverly K. Verbeke: It was pretty much a fluke that I got involved. Tara is married to my nephew and we're great friends, and I accompanied her to one of her events. It was totally spontaneous – and serendipitous. Once I got involved, I was completely enamored of the whole thing. Tara mentored me, and then I went out on my own earlier this year.

EB: How far is your reach to coach for these TEDx events? Is it mostly in the U.S.?

BKV: As far as travel, about six to sev-

en hours drive time. We also do international events in Spain, the Netherlands, and France.

TTS: We've coached all over the world, but I have two young children, ages four and two, and it takes a lot for me to want to leave the house for a number of days. The cool thing is that what we do can be done remotely.

Many clients I work with are located in the U.S. but based in London or Canada. People no longer have just one location, especially when working with global companies.

EB: As graphic designers, how did you make the transition from working visually to helping people with the spoken word?

TTS: Even as a young designer, I would always read the copy before I'd start designing. If it didn't make sense to me, I'd ask the client, "Do I have some free will here? Can I change some things?" If the content didn't work, I couldn't do my job. It's more than just pixels, it's about what the message is and what relates to an audience. It's not about artifice or making something look pretty or superficially glossing over it, it's about figuring out the best way to present the message to the person on the other end.

EB: How has TED change your lives?

TTS: TED espoused values that I hold dear: stories, openness, design. TED does work that I believe in and I want to be a part of that. These days, we can do anything with our time on the internet: look at cat videos, read listicles on BuzzFeed. Or, spend 18 minutes learning about something that changes the way we think – that makes us conversant with a topic so we can talk to other people about it. That touches me deeply. Those same elements can be used in corporate or business culture. Anytime someone has a high-stakes, hard-to-tell story or presentation, you can use elements from TED to make your ideas more resonant, memorable, and easily understood.

BKV: In all the ways Tara has described it, TED has changed my life, as well. I've become an avid podcast listener when I have spare time or I'm cleaning the house. Stories, history – there's so much, and I've become obsessed with learning. It has changed my relationship with my family, my nephew, Tara, and her kids. We're so much closer and I love it.

EB: How do you work with highly intelligent people, some with big egos? How do you tell them their message may be incoherent or won't resonate with an audience?



TTS: I've never been intimidated by rank. In every job I've had, I've been the person who's never afraid to speak up – especially if someone really important is at the meeting. You can't think that you're less-than because maybe you're not as intelligent as or successful. I'm not being paid to beat around the bush. I'm there to help them look good, and have to keep that in mind when I must say something pivotal to someone. Like, "Your message is crap and you need help," or "I don't understand what you're saying." I keep in the back of my mind that ultimately, they want their idea to be heard by a lot of people – to take shape in the world and do something. Speaking the truth is part of what I consider a deliverable in addition to the design element; that's what I hold in my head on every single call. Listen deeply, then reflect truth back to that person about what I heard and what was communicated to me.

BKV: And say it with love.

TTS: Always!

EB: What is the biggest flaw in most presentations?

BKV: Probably a presentation that's not augmented by clean, understandable visuals; a PowerPoint presentation with so many words and thoughts per slide, using all the bells and whistles, that it becomes muddled for the person watching. You can't read it, you can't conceive it, you can't simply understand it.

TTS: PowerPoint changed communication to more visuals, putting less importance on the spoken word. But people want to connect to a human being – to hear something that makes them feel something. The most important thing is to have a balance of emotional content, like personal stories or metaphors that support a piece of data, wrapping that emotional content

around information so people remember the experience. Storytelling goes back as far as humans do, but we've sort of forgotten how to do it.

EB: How do you coach someone whose expertise is in a field you know nothing about, or who is so esoteric that the audience is lost from the get-go?

BKV: From the very beginning, we express to the speakers that it has to be knowledge that anybody can understand. I use myself as a barometer: If I don't understand it, chances are no one else will, either.

TTS: When speaking with someone who is very intelligent or specialized in a single knowledge area, you have to remind yourself you're the best person to coach them because you represent the general audience. Today, when everyone is looking for things to go viral and have millions of views, appealing to the masses is a commodity and they need people like us, who are not their peers.

EB: Any quick pointers for someone about to do their first speaking engagement?

TTS: People tend to start with *what*. There's a great TED talk by Simon Sinek called "How great leaders inspire action." He repeatedly says, "People don't buy what you do, they buy why you do it." Once they care about that, they'll keep listening.

BKV: It's hard for people to realize how interesting their stories really are. We often hear, "Oh, no one cares about that," when really it's the most compelling thing to us.

Now I have a question for you, Ed. Would you ever consider doing a TED talk?

*Tara Tallman Sollman: tarasollman.com
Beverly K. Verbeke: bkvdesign.com
Ed Bernik: bernikphotography.com*

ACCOUNTING
 ANIMATION AND CINEMA
 ANTHROPOLOGY
 ART EDUCATION
 BIOLOGY
 BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
 CHEMISTRY
 COMMUNICATION STUDIES
 COMPUTER SCIENCE
 CRIMINAL JUSTICE
 DIGITAL MEDIA PRODUCTION
 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
 EARTH SCIENCES
 ECONOMICS
 ENGLISH
 ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
 FINANCIAL PLANNING
 GAME AND VIRTUAL WORLD
 DEVELOPMENT
 GEOGRAPHY
 GEOLOGY
 GRAPHIC AND INTERACTIVE DESIGN
 HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION
 HEALTH PROMOTION
 HISTORY
 HUMAN PERFORMANCE
 INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING
 ADMINISTRATION
 JOURNALISM
 MARKETING
 MATHEMATICS
 MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY
 MIDDLE LEVEL EDUCATION
 MUSIC
 MUSIC EDUCATION
 MUSIC THERAPY
 NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY
 NURSING
 PHOTOGRAPHY
 PHYSICS
 POLITICAL SCIENCE
 PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS
 PSYCHOLOGY
 PUBLIC RELATIONS
 SECONDARY LEVEL EDUCATION
 SOCIAL WORK
 SOCIOLOGY
 SPEECH AND HEARING SCIENCES
 SPORT AND RECREATION
 ADMINISTRATION
 STUDIO ARTS
 WEB DEVELOPMENT
 AND MORE...



Find your place here

For so many Edinboro students, one visit was all it took to know they had found the university perfect for them.

Visit us on campus or online, and see why more than 65,000 alumni have built the foundations of their success with an exceptional and affordable EU education.

6,200 students *from*

66
Pennsylvania counties

49
states

42
countries

We are the

FIGHTING SCOTS

playing 17 varsity sports

150+ Student clubs and organizations

27
Graduate programs

129
Bachelor's degrees

19
Associate degrees



585 acre campus

Plan your visit at www.edinboro.edu/visit • 888-846-2676

EDINBORO UNIVERSITY

#GoBoro   



For a full list of academic programs, visit www.edinboro.edu/academics

P.I. DINKO

FRIDAYS IN JANUARY 4PM TO 10PM

Five winners every hour will be chosen to play P. I. Dinko Game
FOR A CHANCE TO WIN CASH PRIZES UP TO \$1,000!

One lucky player throughout the day will get a bonus chip to play and increase their winnings!

- One free entry every Friday you play in January
- One bonus entry for every 20 points you earn that day
- Players can only win one time per night



BUST YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING BILLS WHEN YOU CRACK THE CODE!
Saturdays in January • 4pm-10pm

Three winners every hour will be chosen to win prizes from \$100 to \$1,000 Cash by picking a Mystery Money Bag. After the 10pm drawing, all the players from the winner pool will be selected to see who will walk away with the \$5,000 cash prize by selecting a code to the safe!

- One free entry every Saturday you play in January
- One bonus entry for every 20 points you earn that day
- Players can only win one time per night

SUNDAY'S MELT DOWN HOT SEAT

JANUARY 8-29

WE'VE HAD ENOUGH OF WINTER ALREADY!

Come in between 1pm to 6pm for your
CHANCE TO WIN UP TO \$300 CASH!

One lucky slot player will be selected every 20 minutes!

JUST MAKE SURE TO USE YOUR CARD WHILE PLAYING SO THAT YOU CAN QUALIFY FOR A CHANCE TO WIN!



Entertainment 7 Days a Week!
Open Daily at 11am

30 Beers on Tap!

Happy Hour Specials

5pm - 7pm • Monday - Saturday

Visit www.presqueisledowns.com for details

presque isle
downs & casino
 ELDORADO RESORTS



1-90 Exit 27, Erie PA
presqueisledowns.com
1.866.ERIE.FUN



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