

The only local voice for news, arts, and culture



BACK TO SCHOOL

Combating stress and gaining perspective

THE SILENT RACE TO CITY HALL

After blistering primaries, a mild summer for Erie politics

ERIE CITY CODE ENFORCEMENT


The problem with "how it's done"



PRESQUE ISLE IS FOR PLOVERS

Endangered shorebirds consummate a major conservation victory

ARTS & DRAFTS | EDINBORO HIGHLAND GAMES | WRITE INTO IT | GERMAN FEST **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:

Matt Swanseger

Contributing Editors:

Ben Spегgen

Jim Wertz

Contributors:

Maitham Basha-Agha

Ed Bernik

Mary Birdsong

Charles Brown

Tracy Geibel

Lisa Gensheimer

Gregory Greenleaf-Knepp

Angie Jeffery

Aaron Mook

Dan Schank

Tommy Shannon

Ryan Smith

Ti Sumner

Cara Suppa

Bryan Toy

Cover Design

Nick Warren

Photographers:

Maitham Basha-Agha

Ryan Smith

Publisher's Assistant:

Emily Hanisek

Intern:

Austin Mitchell

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:

August 30, 2017

The Quiet Race to City Hall – 5

After the blistering primaries, a mild summer for local politics

Erie At Large – 6

Living by the code

It's Back to School Week – 9

And I'm glad we're still able to dread it

Back-to-school Stresses – 10

Tips to ease the trying fall transition

Still Plenty of Love Between Sister Cities – 13

(We just didn't know about all of it)

Two Nests, Four Small Birds, and Enormous Joy – 14

Inside the piping plover's remarkable return to Presque Isle



TRACY GRAZIANO / PA GAME COMMISSION

Spotlight on Erie – 20

I've got my lunch packed up, my boots tied tight, I hope I don't get in a fight

Write Into It – 30

Shok's "Stories of My Dead Homies"

Music Reviews – 34

Lil Peep, Grizzly Bear, Cloakroom, The Accidentals

From the Editors

OBITUARY: Voice, The Village. 61, Deceased. 1955 – 2017

The print edition of the Village Voice – an independent alternative weekly publication that birthed the classification; a publication designed to give readers a source of news, arts, and culture; a place where counterculture could be celebrated; and a source of inspiration for many to read new authors, listen to new music, and explore new places – died Tuesday, Aug. 22, 2017, after a life-long battle swimming against the mainstream. The proponent of punk rock, dive bars, off-Broadway theater, and political coverage not shy of opinion was 61.

The brainchild of Dan Wolf, Ed Fancher, and Norman Mailer, The Village Voice was born in New York City, New York October 26, 1955. The death of the print edition of The Village Voice came as a shock to some. Some weren't aware it was still alive. Others never knew it even existed.

Known for handling its muck with a rake, the print edition of The Village Voice enjoyed debating philosophy, introducing its readers to various recipes for guacamole (including most recently avocado toast), scolding gentrification, and teaching urban dwellers how to be urban dwellers. Other pastimes including helping friends sell IKEA futons to other friends looking to buy IKEA futons while making or breaking the careers of many ambitious writers who felt their voices weren't fit for conventional media.

Gone are pages filled with stories of local interest. Pieces similar to Jim Wertz' critique of the Erie City Code Enforcement policies, holding a magnifying glass to the problems voiced by local homeowners. Gone are observations like Ben Spегgen's as he questions why a crucial mayoral race has cooled down so significantly. Gone are expert bits of advice on how to handle the stresses of going back to school. Gone are the first person accounts like Mary Birdsong's, championing an environmental victory taking place at a popular state park.

Media analysts and professors are continuing to determine the exact cause of death. Early speculations include homicide by Craigslist, a failure to adapt to changing markets, a general loss of edginess and relevancy, and the birth of the Internet.

Left to mourn are guerrilla journalists and truth seekers, many of whom now wonder the fate of gritty writing rooted in a desire to make a community more aware of itself. They remain skeptical that digital media can and will be capable of producing what the printed word has done since the early 1440s.

The print edition of The Village Voice, which saw a bevy of caretakers of various caretaking ability throughout its six decades, was preceded in death by several of its well-known and once widely respected offspring, including the Boston Phoenix and the Philadelphia City Paper, as well as many distant nieces and nephews. It is survived by The Seattle Stranger, the Chicago Reader, and many distant, smaller yet scrappy relatives such as the Erie Reader.



TANDEM TOWNHOUSES

CALL OUR OFFICE TODAY!

(814) 474-5778

- Beautiful country setting
- Fairview, PA
- Laundry facilities on site
- 24 Hour emergency maintenance
- 2 Bedroom & 1 Bath
- No pets permitted
- Off street parking
- Rent is \$685 plus gas & Electric



THANK YOU
for helping to make
Erie Gives a record success!

Thanks to the support and generosity of donors like you, 374 local nonprofits received **\$4,427,877** on Erie Gives.

Also, thank you to our generous corporate sponsors for providing the \$315,000 prorated match.

GOLD



SILVER



BRONZE



Erie Gives 2018 is slated for Tuesday, August 14.

The Erie Community Foundation | 814-454-0843 | www.ErieGives.org

Comprehensive Care for Your Family



Anthony M. Ruffa, DO is a family medicine specialist who provides complete medical and preventive care for every member of your family.



Call (814) 452-6383 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

Eastside Medical Center
2625 Parade Street, Erie, PA

The Quiet Race to City Hall

After the blistering primaries, a mild summer for local politics



Since the primary back in May, the race to see who will occupy room 500 at 626 State Street has been a lightly treaded one.

registration edge exists.

That means that by sheer numbers, the edge goes to any Democrat and that a path to victory for a Republican needs to be creative — as in: convince enough Dems to swing right, or convince enough Dems to stay home. Either way, a Republican needs to get damn near every Republican in the city to the polls and to vote for the GOP.

But it'd be foolish to count out a serious candidate like Persinger on numbers alone. Although his path to victory is much more challenging based on history and numbers (and that Schember is also a serious candidate with a solid platform and a strong primary victory), I subscribe to the never-say-never camp. I also subscribe to the competition-brings-out-the-best-in-us camp.

But back to the relative hush that settled in over local politics at the end of May.

While both candidates have been visible, making the usual rounds, including 8 Great Tuesdays, National Night Out, and the home-opener for the Erie Royals football team, neither did much to rile up Erie voters over the summer. Too, both pledged not to run negative campaigns heading into the general election, meaning prospective voters can expect to see more hugs than mud.

Perhaps both are in response to the tone of national politics. Put mildly: President Trump has had an interesting summer. Put not-so-mildly: The President has treated his inner circle like a new season of "The Apprentice," hired The Mooch, fired The Mooch, threatened nuclear war in 140 characters or less, couldn't get a health care bill passed, still hasn't built a wall, played some golf, continued to campaign for 2020, and as a self-proclaimed law-and-order executive, pardoned a sheriff who bragged that his tent city, which housed people profiled because of their ethnicity, was a "concentration camp."

And there's a lot missing from that list. Like the re-opening of a yet-to-

be-healed wound in racial tension and inequity in our nation in light of the events in Charlottesville, Virginia.

So it's easy to understand why Erie might've wanted a summer vacation from politics. While we couldn't ignore national headlines (thanks, WaPo and NYT app for push notifications that terrify the bejesus out of me to click on), we could cool the jets on local politics.

That is, until now.

Although some might make the case that the election was decided in May when the Democratic Party elected its representative given the party's successful election history and voter registration edge, Erie's Nov. 7 election remains one of the — if not the — most important elections in its history. As I wrote before in my primary coverage, Erie's challenges are great. But so is its potential. At a critical juncture, the direction we take and the speed at which we take it will determine the trajectory for Erie for decades to come.

At a critical juncture, the direction we take and the speed at which we take it will determine the trajectory for Erie for decades to come.

I'd be shocked if we weren't again feverishly discussing this race and why it matters within the next month, clamoring for details on platforms, speculating on turnout, trying to determine what the future will be. I want to be shocked by voter turnout — one that's not complacently 30 percent, or shockingly lower, but one that shows that we've been actively participating in the democratic process.

After all, we're less than three months from Election Day. And we can only hope that a race that started out with a bang in 2016 won't end with a whimper less than a year later.

Ben Speggen can be reached at bSpeggen@ErieReader.com and you can follow him on Twitter @BenSpeggen.

By: Ben Speggen

Did you hear that this summer in Erie?

No, not the sounds of hundreds of volunteers showing up to help transform Erie Central Tech into Erie High School. No, not the sounds of both blues and jazz rippling outward from their previous two-day festival in Frontier Park to a three-day jubilee at various sites. And no, not the sounds of 3 Doors Down playing three blocks down from City Hall, as Celebrate Erie punctuated the transition from summer to fall with a long dash.

No, I'm talking about the silence that largely followed Erie's primary election in May.

I heard it, and maybe you did, too. And if you're like me, you may not have noticed it for a few weeks because you might've been suffering from a local politics hangover, or been wanting to enjoy as much summer in Erie as possible, or tirelessly stockpiling material goods to survive a potential nuclear war started on Twitter. But now that at least the first two items in that list have calmed, you — if you're like me — may be wondering when things will get loud again, locally, if at all.

Three months ago, I wrote my "Primary Postgame" report for the Reader, a more thorough and thoughtful recapping of my thoughts I offered just a week before Erie headed to the

polls to determine who'd battle whom in the general election. As for Erie's Mayoral race, that pits Republican John Persinger against Democrat Joe Schember — both of whom are seeking to hold the office for the first time. The key party difference is while Schember would be the latest dot on a decades-long blue line, Persinger would be the first Republican to hold the office since 1961 when Charles Williamson, Erie's last Republican mayor, was elected.

This matters (more on that in a second), but what also matters is how and why we're here and what *here* is.

The short answer (longer answers to come in future writings but also featured in primary coverage) is term limits, which were put in place during the Savocchio administration and limit Erie mayors to three four-year terms. Erie Mayor Joe Sinnott, put simply, cannot run again. He won against various challengers in 2005, unseating one-term incumbent Democratic Mayor Rick Filippi. After that, Sinnott won both of his reelection bids, both of which saw him run unopposed.

So *here* means that for the first time in more than a decade, Erie will have new leadership helming the city. *Here* also means that Erie has a choice between a Democrat and a Republican, but here in the City of Erie, where a more than 2-to-1 Democratic voter

Erie At Large

Living by the code



Filling the Erie City Council chambers on Wednesday, Aug. 16, the energized crowd had many things to say about the city's code enforcement.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By Jim Wertz

For decades Erie City Code Enforcement has operated by way of a system that protected the friends of political bosses while allowing code enforcement officers the culpable deniability necessary to operate in a city that was eroding by way of flight and blight.

The city's population has declined by roughly 10,000 people during the past three decades and poverty levels are now near 30 percent. Urban sprawl and waning employment opportunities in the city also led to a dearth of single family homes and owner-occupied rentals. When that happens, old homes receive little attention bringing distress and blight to a critical mass.

It's a familiar narrative in small and mid-sized communities across the United States.

For the people who stay, by way of necessity or desire, addressing the structural problems that surround them as they work to face the age and state of their personal property can become a daunting task.

Neighborhood organizations, corporate goodwill, and municipal awareness are often not enough, even in concert with one another, to offset incipient decline in even the best neighborhoods.

That's why the role of code enforce-

ment is so important. At its finest, code enforcement should be collaborative, rather than punitive; and it should reflect defined community standards.

Our city code enforcement has traditionally operated as a complaint-based system, which means that someone sees something that doesn't look right — from minor issues such as tall grass and loose garbage not in proper receptacles, to major structural issues like crumbling facades or missing windows and doors — and submits a complaint.

For anyone who has filed a complaint or bemoaned the physical state of the city to an elected official, complaint-based code enforcement might well be seen as being part of the problem. In many cases, there was limited response to problems — such as posting clean up notices with little additional follow-up, and little or no feedback to those who made the complaint to identify what had been done or was expected to be done.

Lack of communication with the complainant may ultimately prove to be the greater of two evils.

Had you asked city council members why blight and near-blight went unaddressed, the answer for them was simple. "That's not the way our system works," they would say. "We have a complaint-based system," they would

continue. "There's no mechanism for active code enforcement," they would conclude.

When I walked East Avenue with Councilman Bob Merski in 2015, his reaction to my questions about uniform codes and active code enforcement were almost Pavlovian. "That's not how we do it" was the general theme of our conversation related to code enforcement.

To suggest that the caretakers of this fair city effectively change that code to create a system of active code enforcement was, then, beyond the pale.

But now they have changed that protocol and city residents — mostly single family residential homeowners — are outraged.

They're outraged because, after years of trying to maintain their properties and retain some financial value within a city in decline, they have become the target of active code "sweeps" taking place across targeted areas in downtown Erie under the auspices of the city's comprehensive plan, Erie Refocused.

As Alayna Getchell ably articulated in this publication last issue, the implementation of that plan appears to be losing focus. Getchell is a lead organizer of a large group of concerned citizens that packed Erie City Council chambers on Aug. 16. More than 100 citizens attended that meeting and nearly a third spoke in defense of themselves and others during public comment.

Of those who spoke, most were single family homeowners who feel they have become the target of a plan that was intended to make their lives better and their property more valuable.

Most of the people who spoke at the Aug. 16 meeting were of modest means, living in houses that were built as long as a century ago. Houses like these require constant attention. One homeowner explained to council, as she had explained to the code enforcement officer, that she keeps a budget for home repairs, completing upkeep and repair based on cost and

importance. It was a prudent and fiscally responsible explanation, but it wasn't enough to keep her from receiving notice that railings and paint on her porch were not up to code.

A lower west side resident asked council to explain why she had been issued a repair order for chipped paint while the multi-unit rental next door with exposed soffits, missing windows, and overgrown shrubbery went uncited. "I have to live next to that," she exclaimed. "Why is he exempt?"

Council has chosen not to engage those making public comment and, in doing so, it has dared not to provide an answer.

These residential homeowners once believed that the code enforcement sweeps recommended in Erie Refocused would target the absentee landlords whose dilapidated properties

A lower west side resident asked council to explain why she had been issued a repair order for chipped paint while the multi-unit rental next door with exposed soffits, missing windows, and overgrown shrubbery went uncited. "I have to live next to that," she exclaimed. "Why is he exempt?"

have become the portrait of blight in the City of Erie. They once believed that the code enforcement sweeps would force transient tenants, and the landlords who rent to them, to properly dispose of the couches, clothing, and garbage that are too often discarded in plain view of neighbors and the general public. And they once believed that code enforcement would curb the foot traffic at neighborhood "drug bars" (a.k.a. nuisance bars) by monitoring and, when necessary, shutting down repeat offenders.

Once hopeful that they would be beneficiaries of such progress, these homeowners now perceive themselves as being part of the problem.

Most are happy to comply and code enforcement is giving them the op-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

portunity to do so. But addressing these minor infractions is the least of the concerns for the future of these residents or the future of this program.

Many of these property owners simply want to be made aware of what's happening in their neighborhood, their shared public-private domain. To date that has not happened.

Outgoing city councilman David Brennan acknowledged that lack of communication between city hall and the people of this city in a Facebook post following the meeting.

"Notice to the public regarding the sweeps or any other implementation of the comprehensive plan NEEDS to be communicated and explained to the public before work starts! This communication can easily be done through press releases (as I have seen done in other cities), posting on the City of Erie website, or preferably meeting with neighborhood residents at neighborhood association meetings or other public informational meetings," he concludes.

Mr. Brennan, like his colleague, Bob Merski, who derided the public for not attending other public meetings in city council chambers, continues to place the primary burden for the dis-

A portrait of blight: the all too common sight of a deeply neglected property is, surprisingly, not one of the primary targets of the Erie Code Enforcement Department.

semination of information upon the citizen. Never mind the fact that an announcement online or in the public notice section of the daily newspaper is hardly an invitation to the average citizen to participate or to be heard. At best, it is the minimum legal requirement of a bureaucracy that prefers to operate without the collective voice of one hundred concerned citizens on a Wednesday night in August.

The directive laid out to city leaders by Charles Buki and his associates, the authors of Erie Refocused, was to start and maintain a conversation with the people who lived in the neighborhoods where the change would soon take place. Establish rapport, earn trust, and gain their consent in this process.

To date, rapport, trust, and consent are in short supply.

Apparently, that's just the way our system works.

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

JUMP-START the School Year!
Simple Rental Prices - Band Season Made EASY

Thinking about playing in the band?

WORLD OF MUSIC is Your Band Instrument Headquarters! Band Sales, Service, Rental, Supplies, and Lessons

PLUS, get a FREE Private Music Lesson with any Instrument Rental or Purchase!*

World of Music
1355 West 26th Street, Erie 814-459-2585
www.worldofmusicerie.com

*Restrictions may apply; see store for details.

Give the Gift that Inspires her Future

Arts and cultural experiences prepare students for success in **school, work and life.**

THE ARTS & CULTURE CAMPAIGN

Erie Arts & Culture
Thanking You for *50 Years* of Giving!

GIVE TODAY
www.erieartsandculture.org

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

ABC's OF BUILDING BETTER LIVES

MARY LYNN ROTE, LPC, CADC
 DARCEY LOCKE, LCSW
 CHAREN PASKY, LCSW
 JILLIAN RHOADES, LCSW
 RHONDA RAMIREZ, LPC
 ROB GIANNAMORE, LPC

Counseling Services
 Individuals - Couples - Families
 Addictions - Depression - Anxiety
 Trauma - Yoga Instruction

825-2930
 4320 Dexter Ave. Erie, PA 16504
 For more information on this business visit
www.marylynnrote.com

earthshine company
 EDINBORO, PA


Clothing, Jewelry,
 Incense, Oils & More

Open 7 days a week
 Downtown Edinboro
 118 Meadville St.
 814.734.5858

25% OFF

1 Item per coupon,
 consignment
 items
 excluded.

Expires 9/13/2017

Dr. Shandy
 Psychiatry Services

3800 West 12th Street
 Erie, PA 16506
 (814) 737-9345

Too busy to take
 care of yourself?
 Think again.

We offer a full line of
 services such as addiction,
 anxiety, and depression as
 well as other mental health
 disorders.

Ambroseni



Custom Children's
 Books

Our products help
 educate, inspire
 imagination and
 build self esteem
 in children.

Create your book today!
www.ambroseni.com
 #ShopLocal



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

PLASTIKOS, INC.
 Custom Injection Molding

<p>NW Regional Sales Engineer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree in Plastics Engineering preferred • 3-5 Years' experience <p>Quality Inspectors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd & 3rd Shift 	<p>Health & Safety Assistant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Related degree preferred • Related experience in a manufacturing environment <p>Material Handlers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st & 3rd Shift 	<p>Tooling/ Proect Engineer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree in Plastics Engineering preferred • 3-5 Years' experience <p>Process Technicians</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ALL Shifts • Experience required <p>Toolmaker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience Required in Tight-Tolerance, High-Precision Mold Making
---	---	---

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

YOU REALLY CAN "LOVE WHAT YOU DO"







As one of the region's largest employers, the Barber National Institute employs more than 2,400 staff dedicated to providing the highest quality education and support to children and adults with intellectual disabilities and behavioral health challenges. We offer competitive pay and benefits, ongoing education and support, and the chance to really make a difference in someone's life. Open positions include:

- TEACHER – Full Time, Bachelor's Degree and Special Education Certification
- PARA EDUCATOR – Full Time/Substitute, Associate's Degree or 48 credits of higher education
- PARA EDUCATOR - ADULT BASIC EDUCATION (ABE) - Part Time, Associate's Degree or 48 credits of higher education
- EMPLOYMENT SERVICES SUPPORT STAFF – Full/Part Time, high school diploma/equivalent
- AIDES - RESIDENTIAL - Erie, Girard & Corry, Full/Part Time, high school diploma/equivalent
- PART TIME AIDE - SUPPORTED LIVING – high school diploma/equivalent
- HABILITATION PROFESSIONAL – Erie, Girard, Corry, Part Time, high school diploma/equivalent
- TRANSITIONAL WORK SERVICES SUPPORT STAFF – Part Time, high school diploma/equivalent
- COMMUNITY BASED PROGRAM AIDE – Part Time, high school diploma/equivalent

Review all open positions and submit an application at
www.BarberInstitute.org/careers-apply-online

Full time positions include excellent benefits package with medical/dental/vision, prescription drug plan, paid time off plan, 401(k) and flexible medical spending account. 403b retirement account available to full and part time.

EOE - If you need an accommodation to apply, please contact HR. We are an affirmative action federal contractor equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, protected veteran status or disability.

Barber National Institute
 Making dreams come true.

It's Back to School Week

And I'm glad we're still able to dread it



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By: Matt Swanseger

For many children, “back to school” and “existential dread” become fast companions at an early age. I should know — before the onset of gradual physical and cognitive decline that began in my 20s (and has accompanied me into my 30s), I was one of them. Each year, my heart plunged as I realized that months of hard-earned sloth had slipped away, leaving me face-to-face with the immediate threat of industry. Indignantly as a soap opera starlet, I slogged the last drops of summer Kool-Aid in responsibility's grill and packed my bags for another season of begrudging academic excellence.

As an adult with exponentially more and greater concerns (rent, bills, career trajectory, mate selection, intercontinental ballistic missiles, keeping up with the Kardashians, etc.), I am highly amused by the melodrama of my youth — especially my pubescent years. My teenage calendars and agenda books traced the agonizing wait between summers with Neo-Gothic flair, sections of pie graph skull disappearing piece by piece as liberation from my “oppressors” grew ever nearer (aw. Poor kid, bitching and moaning despite prospering within the structure explicitly laid out for him.)

Freedom is a bit like community supported agriculture — everyone wants in at first, but once they get

their share, most have no idea what to do with it (like kohlrabi, how much of each summer vacation did I throw away sitting in front of a television?) One thing is for sure, though — education gives free society the ingredients it needs to work with, so it's imperative we make the most of every last parsnip and rutabaga. Since earning my diploma many moons ago, the Erie School District has been challenged with the possibility of opting out *entirely*, a reality far more bitter than the Swiss chard one might spit directly into the garbage disposal.

Due to a ballooning deficit and a shrinking tax base, the district's students and parents have not been dreading going back to school in recent years so much as having schools to go back to. Through consolidation, the ESD has avoided that grim potentiality. While strategic attrition is certainly a better alternative than extinction, it has still been painful to watch such prominent pieces of my past altered or erased. The Roosevelt Middle School I knew (2300 Cranberry St.) closed its doors in 2007, and is in such ruin that even Indiana Jones himself would hesitate to set foot in it. Sure, the building was on borrowed time when I attended — but it was *our* borrowed time. Leaking ceilings and peeling paint? Whatever, us kids were just worried about how our JNCO jeans and fragile self-esteems were holding up.

The 2004-05 Strong Vincent swim team (at left: copy editor Matt Swanseger) played second string to no one — except spell-check.

Truth is, though, ESD students haven't been blessed with ideal circumstances for a long while. During my high school years, I reluctantly loaned my body to a Strong Vincent speedo for two campaigns, and it was a real eye-opener (wink, wink). Indeed, nothing is more illustrative of the haves and have-nots than a locker room and its adjoining natatorium. The Strong Vincent pool was not even fit for competition — it was five yards too short and two lanes too narrow, its temperature vacillated between Amazonian heat and Baltic chill seemingly on a whim, and occasionally mysterious clouds rolled in, transporting us to a Scottish loch. Virtually any other school's facilities seemed Olympian in comparison.

Due to a ballooning deficit and a shrinking tax base, the district's students and parents have not been dreading going back to school in recent years so much as having schools to go back to.

Nonetheless, we managed. As strange and foreign as “Erie High” may still sound to some, it is a reality I've already lived. We traveled and hosted our meets jointly with Central. When our pool broke down, we practiced at East. Many of the “athletes” (including myself) were Collegiate Academy students, providing just enough bodies for each school's swimming program to exist. We combined forces, adapted together and survived. As long as the ESD, faculty, students, and our state lawmakers apply the same strategy, maybe the coming school years won't be so dreadful after all.

Nowadays, Matt Swanseger mostly dreads deadlines. He can be pressured further at mwsanseger@eriereader.com



**Now Enrolling
for Fall 2017
beginning
August 28th**



Offering Classes in:

- Ballet
- Acro
- Tap
- Pointe
- Jazz
- Tiny Tots
- Modern
- Tiny Taps
- Hip Hop
- 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.riedanceconservatory.org

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



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

Since 1886

KRAUS

DEPARTMENT STORE

Celebrating Over 131 Years of
Service to the Erie Community
“If we don't have it, You don't need it!”

Hardware • Paint • Plumbing • Propane
Electrical Supplies • U.S. Post Office • Tools
Screen & Window Repair • Equipment Rentals

810 Parade Street, Erie PA

814.453.4314

www.krausdeptstore.com
Free Parking on 9th St.

Hours: M-F 8:30am to 5:30pm
Sat. 9am to 4pm

Kraus', Erie's Hidden Treasure 

Back-to-school Stresses

Tips to ease the trying fall transition



By: Nick Warren

Going back to school is a time of change. Periods of transition can be some of the most stressful moments of our lives, for both children and parents alike.

As summer ends and fall creeps in, the school year begins again. For those who live with anxiety and depression, these times can hit harder than expected. Changes in day-to-day scenery, seasonal weather shifts, and the altering of sleep schedules can have a major effect on a person both mentally and physically. Switching from one routine to another isn't always easy. It's important to know that there are ways to make the back-to-school experience a potentially much smoother one.

Mandy Fauble, Ph.D., executive director of Safe Harbor Behavioral Health and mother of three, was able to give some helpful advice for this trying time of the year.

Nick Warren: What are some things about school that cause stress?

Mandy Fauble: "Think about a typical school environment, and there's a lot of change, a lot of people, and you

can feel less in control of your environment."

NW: How can parents start to prepare their children before school starts?

MF: "For caregivers of all kinds, one of the first 'life hacks' is that, when you're going through a transition, do it one step at a time. So, if a lot of parents let their children stay up later in the summertime, it's significantly easier to start gradually rolling that back a couple of weeks before school instead of just thinking 'well, this weekend, when you go back to school on Monday, that's when we'll start.' Those kinds of things help, trying to get gradually back into the routine.

Try to do things in way that makes sense for when you and your children feel the most motivation, and when you feel the most energy. A good example would be [that] most people know if they're morning people, or not. So if you're not a morning person, that's probably not the time to try to do homework or [be] packing lunches [laughs]. Mornings aren't going to be best for you and you know that you're setting yourself up to feel stress. Asking yourself 'am I a person that it

While there are ways to ease the transition, the stresses of going back to school can be severely compounded for those already affected by anxiety or depression.

works best for me to do it the night before?' And then try to put yourself in a position to do that."

NW: What about homework, and how that fits into the daily schedule?

MF: "For many parents, homework is a stressful time. What the parent feels is the best time to do homework may not necessarily be the time that the child is able to be the most productive. One thing that sometimes people do is that they don't want their child to watch TV or play before they do their homework – and I completely understand that – for some children that's the best possible thing because once they play, it's very difficult to bring them back, but for other children, they actually need that break, and when they get that break they're able to focus. Maybe they need a snack, or 20 minutes where they're not playing, but they just need some downtime. There's not a recipe there, so much as that it's important that we try to learn more about ourselves, and do things when it's easiest, because that's less stressful and that creates less conflict.

Try to have a family calendar where people can communicate about what it is that they need and when, who's going where at what time, etc. We live complicated lives; sometimes grandparents are helping, or an aunt or uncle, neighbor, or friend or our partner, and we need to communicate with whoever is impacted by all of these schedule changes, because the more we communicate, the less likely there is to be conflict, because we're not telling people at the last minute that we need to do something."

NW: Besides the children themselves, who else is it important for caregivers to communicate with?

MF: "If you have a child who has struggled in school academically, emotionally, or by bullying, or had behavior problems, we encourage that the caregiver reaches out to the teachers and guidance counselors and that there's a proactive plan. Just letting those people know that you're invest-

ed or interested, it definitely eases communication because it gives you time to establish a relationship with those people. Then the very first conversation you have *isn't* at a time of crisis. This could help you better understand what the classroom setting is like.

The *unstructured* times tend to be the most difficult for kids: riding the school bus, lunchtime, between classes. Those are the times where there's not as much adult supervision. These times are especially difficult if you're dealing with anxiety or depression, both of which can really make you feel like you don't belong, and you can't relate to people. Someone said to me 'I watched other people talk and I couldn't figure out how they could do that because it just seemed so easy.' You can feel alone in a crowd."

NW: The anxiety that children feel seems to parallel the anxiety that adults feel. Personally, as someone

For a lot of grownups, they see a younger child who maybe has a tough time sitting still and the first thing that they might think is that the child has ADHD, when in reality, it might be that the young person is anxious, so their body is moving because they're just uncomfortable.

who deals with anxiety and depression, I can understand where they're coming from, having different coping mechanisms as a child than as an adult; it might be a very difficult struggle.

MF: Unfortunately, anxiety can manifest when you're younger, in kindergarten or elementary school. ADHD tends to manifest more during late elementary or early middle school. But for a lot of grownups, they see a younger child who maybe has a tough time sitting still and the first thing that they might think is that the child has ADHD, when in reality, it might be that the young person is anxious, so

their body is moving because they're just uncomfortable. Young people don't communicate the way that adults do. For a younger person with special needs, they tend to get the message that they should just 'sit still and behave,' as opposed to teaching them the skills that they need.

We want to encourage people that there are resources out there, and certainly there's counseling, therapy, or medication if needed, to professional services like ours. But beyond that there are basic things that caregivers can teach children to do, like breathing exercises, counting, and just being supportive.

Unfortunately, with anxiety, people tend to avoid the things that make them anxious, but avoidance actually makes the anxiety worse over time."

In addition, Fauble offered up several other helpful tips:

- Keep a journal of communication, either handwritten or online. Chart progress and keep the lines open.
- Know who to talk to and when. Be familiar with the adults in charge, especially during unstructured parts of the day.

- Sometimes experiences feel familiar. Does the back-to-school experience remind you of starting a new career? Be empathic and able to draw on what you've learned yourself.

- Find the best time to talk. Don't interrogate. Be patient, and wait for a time when your child seems most receptive to communication.

- Ask creative questions. Instead of just "how was your day?" find a fun way to make them think about their answers. You could even make a tradition out of it.

- Be invested. Know about your child's peer group, and understand the media that they're consuming.

- Let them know that they can call the Safeline at 814-456-7233 (456-SAFE) if they need a confidential, free way to talk to about bullying, troubled thoughts, and other serious concerns.

- If there's an emergency, or if you're having suicidal thoughts, call the crisis hotline at 814-456-2014 or 1-800-300-9558 right away.

Nick Warren can be reached at nwarren@eriereader.com

LIVE
NEWS 7 DAYS A WEEK

WEEKEND
MORNING NEWS
SAT - SUN | 8AM - 9AM

sunrise
MON - FRI | 5AM - 7AM

ERIE NEWS
NOW
COVERAGE YOU CAN COUNT ON

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

ErieNewsNow.com

COVERAGE YOU CAN COUNT ON



© 2017 Jen Sorensen www.jensorensen.com Twitter: @JenSorensen



Come celebrate with us
30th Anniversary Open House

Animal Ark Pet Hospital
3024 W. 12th Street

Sunday September 17th
11am - 3pm



Meet representatives from the following

- 🐾 Peninsula Pups 🐾 Mud Puppies
- 🐾 Paws 'n Claws 🐾 Erie Animal Network 🐾 Because You Care
- 🐾 Orphan Angels 🐾 NWPA Pet Emergency Center 🐾 The ANNA Shelter 🐾 Admiral Perry Obedience Training Club 🐾 HOPE for Erie Animal Wellness 🐾 Invisible Fencing
- 🐾 Animal Friends Cremation Services 🐾 Balance Veterinary Rehabilitation Services 🐾 Erie Area Rabbit Society and Rescue

- Tour the hospital & hear the latest news in veterinary medicine
- Meet the doctors and staff
- 🐾 Join us for lunch 🐾 Chinese Auction
- Giveaways every 30 minutes
- 🐾 Play games and win prizes

At EU, you're not just a
STUDENT
— you're a —
FIGHTING SCOT

*And that means you've got pride,
spirit and an unyielding desire to
learn, grow and succeed.*

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



EDINBORO
UNIVERSITY

**Apply today or plan your visit
at www.edinboro.edu/visit**

edinboro.edu | 888-846-2676

#GoBoro

Still Plenty of Love Between Sister Cities

(We just didn't know about all of it)

By: Matt Swanseger



There's more happening between the citizens represented by these flags [clockwise from left: City of Erie, Ireland (Dungarvan), and Mexico (Merida, Yucatan)] than previously reported.

director Indira Suarez, the Mission of Friendship has provided "care to thousands of underprivileged persons in Mérida, established hundreds of sponsor family relationships, fostered sister parish relationships between churches in northwestern Pennsylvania and the Yucatán Peninsula, and facilitated [the travels of] hundreds of Yucatecan visitors to Erie, and Erie visitors to the Yucatán" in the 45 years since its inception.

The Mission's ministries include the Amigos program (pairing Erie-area and Mérida-area families with the aim of establishing long-lasting bonds), a medical dispensary, the Amiguitos day care center, and Estancia Nueva Vida (supervision, academic support, and meals for school-aged girls). Bishop Lawrence Persico and the Archbishop of Yucatán renewed the relationship between the dioceses last summer, and "Sister Parish Day" (held August 12 at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Harborcreek) allowed participants to offer their thoughts about broadening and strengthening the connection in the

future.

Synergy and collaboration between communities? Amen to that.

The Erie Playhouse and Dungarvan (Ireland) Dramatic Club: According to Erie Playhouse executive director Almi Clerkin, the two cities have been sharing in their love of theater for nine years. The two theater companies paid one another a number of visits over

Since examining the seemingly tenuous state of affairs between Erie and its sister cities, a few organizations within the community have stepped forward to inform us of continuing, healthy involvement with our international counterparts.

that span, with the Playhouse first performing for the Irish in 2008 and the Dungarvan Dramatic Club returning the favor in 2010. Clerkin hopes to take the award-winning musical *The Glorious Ones* overseas next summer. The arts are one of the single most powerful unifiers of peoples the world over; it would be a shame to see them relegated to prop storage.

Turns out that our sisters are not so far apart after all. Since examining the seemingly tenuous state of affairs between Erie and its sister cities in our "Distant Relatives" (Vol. 7, No. 15) feature, a few organizations within the community have stepped forward to inform us of continuing, healthy involvement with our international counterparts. Although citywide initiatives are slow to develop, the relationships are still actively promoted on a smaller scale. Think of

it as various sorority chapters arranging get-togethers of their own volition, without the acknowledgment of their governing body.

A couple of notable examples include: The Catholic Diocese of Erie and the Archdiocese of the Yucatán: Far from dormant, the Mérida-Erie sister city relationship thrives through the charity and goodwill of The Mission of Friendship, a major social service and cultural exchange program established in 1971. According to Erie diocesan mission

JUST TOYIN' WITCHA - by B. TOY

A VAST CROWD AWAITS THE NEXT PLANE'S ARRIVAL AT THE ERIE "INTERNATIONAL" AIRPORT...



© 2017 BY B. TOY - THANKS FOR INSPIRATION FROM W. E. AND F. F.

Two Nests, Four Small Birds, and Enormous Joy

Inside the piping plover's remarkable return to Presque Isle



In a remarkable win for conservationists, two newborn Piping Plover chicks are released onto the sands of Presque Isle's Gull Point.

darkly in 1992 that if the point was denied to boaters, they would be forced to travel to New York or Canada 'just to have our fun and relax the way we used to.' They also suggested that since there were more boaters than birders, it was their right to use the space. McWilliams was booed off the stage at a public hearing and, in 1993, his tires were slashed in a parking lot at Presque Isle.

Eventually, the boundaries for the closure area were set, signs were erected, and in 1994, the point was closed and designated a PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) natural area. A trail leading out to an observation platform remained, allowing anyone willing to make the trip to do so.

Getting to this moment was no small feat. In those early days of the 1980s, rejuvenating the population took hard work on the part of many. Across the Great Lakes, teams drew up piping plover reviews and recovery plans.

When a male plover was seen acting in a territorial way in 2005, the PA Game Commission stepped up its interest in possible recovery. A planning team convened in 2007 with members from the Commission, PA DCNR, the Army Corp of Engineers, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and other stakeholders. Work to enhance the habitat followed. The team has now solidified into a group meeting twice a year via conference call.

Twenty-three years later, I am watching the fruits of that labor, a male plover with a potential mate. Would the male successfully woo the female into staying?

Yes, he did. She stayed, and history was made.

By May 15, we could call them a

By: Mary Birdsong

On May 11, under gloomy skies that promised rain, with temperatures around 50 degrees and wind gusting to 30 miles per hour, I witnessed what no one has seen at Gull Point at Presque Isle State Park in more than 50 years: A male and female piping plover together on the shore of Lake Erie. These endearing 7-inch pale shorebirds once nested on Gull Point, as recently as the mid-1950s. By 1984, the Great Lakes population was practically decimated, however. Only 17 known breeding pairs (34 birds!) were known to exist. The bird was placed on the federal endangered species list that year.

So, on that chilly, gray morning I was potentially witnessing avian and conservation history.

The male chased off any bird that dared get near the female and did an elaborate mating flight above her. He flew in long oval-shaped patterns, singing his piping call, with wings rocking side to side, the better for her

to see his ploverly fitness.

My heart was pounding as if I was running from a grizzly. My knees turned to jelly and my legs quivered. Despite my nerves, I knew I had to stay clear-headed and calm. I watched them from a good distance through my spotting scope, then alerted the proper agencies required by predetermined protocols for an endangered species. I took one quick photo through my scope and backed off to give the budding courtship its space.

Getting to this moment was no small feat. In those early days of the 1980s, rejuvenating the population took hard work on the part of many. Across the Great Lakes, teams drew up piping plover reviews and recovery plans. One of the major challenges they faced, besides a sparse population, was the loss of appropriate nesting habitats to human development and recreational use. Gull Point's habitat and challenges made recovery there mostly a dream for local conservationists like Jerry McWilliams and the late Jean Stull-Cunningham

The greatest challenge Stull-Cunningham, McWilliams, and Gull Point faced was human disturbance. Prime nesting season is also beach season. The 67 acres of palustrine sandplain at Gull Point — a sparsely vegetated ecosystem that occurs on moist sandy flats — saw frequent boaters moored there to picnic and play. Any ground-nesting birds, like plovers and common terns would find their potential nest sites filled with chairs, blankets, volleyball nets and more. McWilliams tells of seeing a small chamber ensemble there once, brought over by boaters for their listening pleasure.

It was only after a male piping plover was spotted exhibiting courtship behavior in 1992 that park officials, under pressure from Presque Isle Audubon, Sierra Club, and other conservation groups, considered closure of the point. But the two-year campaign for closure generated some rancorous quarrels in the media and in person.

According to a July 26 editorial in the Erie Times News, "Boaters who liked to pull up on Gull Point warned

TRACY GRAZIANO / PA GAME COMMISSION



Change pays.

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

Switch and save an average of \$825*

Talk to me about saving more than pocket change.
Get to a better State®. Get State Farm. CALL ME TODAY.



*Average annual per household savings based on a 2012 national survey of new policyholders who reported savings by switching to State Farm. 1201245 State Farm, Home Office, Bloomington, IL



NIAGARA THERAPY

OCCUPATIONAL • PHYSICAL • SPEECH

Call Today! (814) 464-0627
NiagaraTherapyLLC.com

2631 W. 8th Street, Erie
FREE PARKING



Michelle Mioduszewski

REVITALIZING YOUR INDEPENDENCE

Providing you with rehabilitation services to develop, learn, and make you your best again.



- Criminal
- DUI
- Divorce
- Custody
- Personal Injury

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

• FREE CONSULTATIONS •

VECTOR SECURITY

Quality Service ♦ Fair Prices ♦ Peace of Mind

2 Months FREE Monitoring

With purchase of any system

Call Today 814.899.7067

4403 Iroquois Avenue Erie, PA 16511
www.vectorsecurity.com ♦ rgy@roadrunner.com

Locally Owned
Since 1983



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

FOCUS

ON YOUR VISION

CALL 814.455.7591

To schedule your free LASIK consultation & receive 10% off your blade free procedure!

Exp. 09/13/2017



LASER EYE SURGERY OF ERIE

www.erielasereye.com

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






**John Adams
CYCLING & FITNESS**
SINCE 1959 ERIE, PA

10% OFF Any regular priced merchandise. Includes bikes, parts & accessories.
Not including sales items. Expires 10/31/2017

2774 W. 12th St. • 814.833.0430 • www.johnadamscycling.com

\$500 DISCOUNT OFF NEW ROOFS



CALL 814-860-1903 FOR A FREE ESTIMATE!

LEAD • RESTORE • BUILD
HOFFMANUnited Learn more about us online!
HOFFMANUnited.com
Receive a \$500 credit on roofing projects estimated at \$3,500 or higher. Expires September 30, 2017. PA #114936



**Achilles
Running Shop**

Running & Walking
SPECIALTIES

932 W. Erie Plaza Dr.
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 9/13/2017

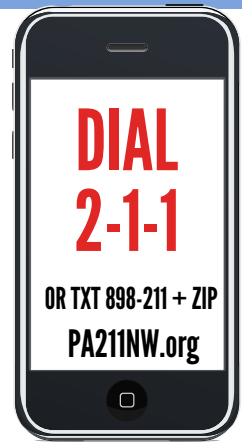
Our free gait analysis will help you find the shoe that's right for you!

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

NEED HELP? DON'T KNOW WHERE TO TURN?


Get info about:

Aging Services	Health Services
Child & Youth Services	Parenting
Counseling	Support Groups
Education/Training	Substance Abuse
Food/Shelter/Clothing	and much more!



PENNSYLVANIA 2-1-1 Northwest
Powered by United Way

Free, confidential information and referral
FIND HELP. GET ANSWERS.



United Way of Erie County



We are Erie's leader in furnace maintenance

- New Customer? Schedule your clean & check this month & receive 10% Off your entire bill!
- Existing customers receive a FREE furnace clean & check with 3 new customer referrals.

\$69.95 VALUE FREE!

Schedule filling Up fast call Today! 459-8255

PA0005218 Schedule online on [f](https://www.facebook.com/KeepHeating) or visit us at KeepHeating.com



You dream it, We'll build it.

Let us build a custom rustic furniture piece for your home!
Call (814) 434-0771



111 Erie St. Edinboro, PA • willowcreekbarnwood.com



CARRIAGE HILL TOWNHOMES

2 & 3 BEDROOMS TOWNHOMES AVAILABLE

NO SECURITY DEPOSIT!
Now until September 30th with an approved application & first months rent.

ALTAIR REAL ESTATE SERVICES
BEDROOMS FEATURE ORIGINAL HARDWOOD FLOORS
AMENITIES INCLUDE OUTDOOR POOL | PLAYGROUND
24/7 MAINTENANCE | COVERED PARKING AVAILABLE
STARTING AT \$780 PAY RENT ONLINE | ON-SITE LAUNDRY

1001 State St. Suite 307 Erie, PA 16501 | 814.240.3037 | 814.622.1121



TRACY GRAZIANO / PA GAME COMMISSION

(left) Biologists working with the Pennsylvania Game Commission band a young Piping Plover, helping shed light on future migratory patterns. (bottom) The mating of two Piping Plovers, resulting in the hatching of two healthy baby chicks.

pair, as they were actively courting. By May 23, it appeared that the birds were starting to incubate eggs, so PA Game Commission biologists arrived and installed an enclosure over the nest area. This 4-by-4 foot "cage" has holes large enough for the plovers to pass through, but too small for ground predators such as raccoons and coyotes to get into. Once it was established that incubation of three eggs had begun, I settled in to observe nesting and wait the approximate 28 days until the chicks would hatch.

That serenity of my nest watch was interrupted, however, by a very exciting and unimaginable development. On May 27, a second male discovered Gull Point and a week later, another female arrived. They courted quickly

and had a nest with four eggs established by the second week in June. That nest also received a protective enclosure.

After a 50-year dearth, Gull Point suddenly had two active nests. The recovery team was beyond ecstatic.

Incubation at both nests continued until the morning of June 25 when the chicks in the first nest hatched. One, then two, tiny chicks, no larger than the size of cotton balls darted about unsteadily, exploring their new world. I felt like grandchildren had been born. Before the third chick could completely hatch and dry off, though, the weather stepped in to darken the mood of the day.

A front brought in high wind from the southwest that pushed water rap-

idly up into the inlets of the flat beach profile, causing water to come precipitously close to the second nest.

A flurry of texts and phone calls ensued between myself and Cathy Haffner, the lead field biologist for piping plovers at the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Soon, field biologist Tim Hoppe braved the choppy waves and high winds to arrive via boat. By that time one of the adult birds was frantically racing back and forth at water's edge looking for the eggs that had floated away from a submerged nest. Hoppe quickly located them, securing them in a padded container. Unfortunately, we could not return the eggs to the nest and they were transported to a captive-rearing facility in Michigan. (Two of the four eggs survived

to hatch in Michigan and the chicks were released there.)

In all, I spent six hours at Gull Point that day. And though I was certain I had seen three tiny plover heads near the first nest, a third chick was never seen again. High water had inundated that nest for a short time too, and the male was still sheltering something that he moved up-beach when the water came. In the days to come, I would still look for that third chick, hoping for the best, but it may have been lost to the water.

On July 3, a team of PGC biologists, Jerry McWilliams, and myself gathered at Gull Point to band the two chicks. Because Great Lakes piping plovers are endangered, they receive small bands placed around their legs in unique combinations. These bands help researchers know more about where the birds go as they migrate, nest and winter. For example, thanks to his bands, we were able to know that the male from the first nest hatched in Michigan in 2015. The other three plovers were all birds that hatched in Ontario, Canada.

After banding was completed, Haffner handed me a small cloth bag that held a plover chick. The other bag was given to McWilliams. We knelt down in the sand, gently pulled the chicks out, and aimed them away from us towards their nervous parents nearby. I could barely feel the weight of the chick in my hand. I bent over, kissed it on the top of its head, and on the signal, McWilliams **[Cont. on page 33]**



TRACY GRAZIANO / PA GAME COMMISSION

Getting There

Watching plovers was one of the easiest parts of my job as a seasonal shorebird monitor. Getting to Gull Point on the 4-mile round trip trail has always been a bit daunting. It was especially hard this year. In March, the park closed the 2-mile Gull Point trail because lake water had breached one part of it, making the eastern end of the park an island. That breach did heal, but the warm winter and high water levels had eroded much of the new trail that existed near the shoreline and flooded other parts of the trail. In the early part of the season, I opted to wear chest waders to make it through parts of the old trail that were thigh-high in cold water. As the weather warmed and the waders turned into a mobile sauna, I ditched them, put on water shoes and made my way over, under and through the downed trees, brush and surf of the newer trail. Reaching my vehicle after the 4-mile daily walk was always gratifying.

**YOUR BRAND
IS UNIQUE**

**LET'S TELL
YOUR STORY**



**PROFESSIONAL VIDEO PRODUCTION BASED IN ERIE, PA
WWW.MENAJERIOSTUDIO.COM**



SAVE THE DATES

TICKETS & OVERNIGHT PACKAGES AVAILABLE NOW!

OCTOBER 6



BREW MASTER'S DINNER

FEATURING:



OCTOBER 14-15, 21-22



OCTOBER 28



NOVEMBER 4



NOVEMBER 24, 25 & 26
DECEMBER 1 & 2



716.355.4141

CLYMER, NY

PKNPK.COM



Renaissance Centre

4th Annual Office Giveaway

Win Free Office Space for a year



Beginning September 6th
Contest Details and Rules can be found @
RenaissanceErie.com

Spotlight on Erie

August 30 – September 12, 2017

Friday, Sept. 1

Zach Deputy Pilots the Caribbean into the Rook



Take a multi-talented one-man jam band, infuse a hefty toke or two of Caribbean Island influence, then toss in an unconquerable amount of infectious positivity, and you've got something like Zach Deputy. Well, I mean, you've got my description of something like Zach Deputy.

But it's like the King's Rook Club's Ryan Bartosek says: Deputy is "quite mesmerizing. [And] his ability to cre-

"Deputy's ability to create a full-band sound as a solo artist is something that needs to be seen to be believed."

ate a full-band sound as a solo artist is something that needs to be seen to be believed."

Rook show-goers can achieve the latter by means of the former when Deputy — joined by evening-opening special guests Stereo Nest and after-party closing act The LEC — comes to the Rook.

Any — every — one of longtime jam-scene mainstay Deputy's shows are a full-on, all-out groove fest, so "the Rook is the perfect place to see an act like him," says Bartosek. "His shows are always full of hundreds of people dancing all night long."

Sounds to be about the right place for it, alright, and, as always, a damn fine time indeed. — Ryan Smith

10 p.m. to 2 a.m. // 1921 Peach St. // [facebook.com/kingsrookclub](https://www.facebook.com/kingsrookclub)

Friday, Sept. 1

Penny's Pin Up Party: A Slightly Naughty Way to Make Nice



More vintage vehicles, more oldies vibes, more rockabilly-type bands, more pin-up girls, more burlesque: More good, clean (well, yunno) fun.

But, as always, when it's all for a more-than-worthy cause — say, to raise much-needed funds for Boro Women & Family Services (BWFS) — you can feel totally tidy in the ol' conscience about getting a tiny bit dirty-minded at this year's Penny's Pin Up Party.

That kind of fun will be for the grown-ups during the night, anyway. This year's Pin Up Erie-hosted party — happening at the newly-revamped, historic Conneaut Lake Park and Hotel Conneaut — also includes a whole portion of actually-family-friendly (and free to enter!) retro fun, too: from 4 to 8 p.m., everyone's welcome to enjoy the cruise-in, live music, vendors, food, drinks, games, prizes and lots of other cool (and tame) stuff.

Then, starting at 8 p.m., 21+ party ticket-holders are invited to check out the crowning of Miss Pin Up Erie 2017, more live music, a burlesque show (ooh la la), and more, including specials on drinks and overnight stays at the awesomely historic Hotel Conneaut.

Through Pin-Up Erie's female-forward photographic work, "we specialize in making women feel good about themselves," chief photographer and owner Penny Shaut told me during a talk a while back.

And they definitely do that with this annual bash, too. The third event of its kind in as many years, all proceeds from Penny's Pin-Up Party will once again directly benefit BWFS, which provides resources and support to local individuals and families in crisis throughout the Erie County area. — Ryan Smith

4 p.m. to 2 a.m. // 12382 Center St., Conneaut Lake // pinuperie.com

Saturday, Sept. 2

Raise a Stein to the 21st Annual German Heritage Festival



Guten Tag to the 21st Annual German Heritage Festival! The German Heritage Society of Erie hosts the festivities, with their goal being the "preservation of our German heritage, the language, traditions, culture, and music." Back in 1996, the German Heritage Society was established to provide more insight into German culture through music, food and dance, and they have been doing just that for 21 years. There will be performances from accordionist Kirk Hamza, Apple Strudel Gang, The Mad Bavarian Bob Hamilton, Hank Haller Band, and the Alpen Schuhplatter Dancers. There will also be a petting zoo, bounce houses, train rides, and authentic German food, not to mention pints of world-famous German beer. Visit Germany without going halfway around the world with the German Heritage Festival! — Austin Mitchell

11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday // St. Nick's Grove, 5131 Old French Rd. // general admission \$5 // dank-erie.com

Wednesday, Sept. 6

Must See Shows: Tom Rainey Trio at PACA

Tom Rainey Trio with Laubrock and Halvorson are set to jazz up Erie's Performing Artists Collective Alliance. Led by percussionist Tom Rainey, Tom Rainey Trio is a musical experience rooted in "avant jazz" and the member's shared skills in articulate musical improvisation. Perhaps most interesting about the trio are their diverse backgrounds and the way they lend to



a final product; despite all three artists joining forces in New York, guitarist Mary Halvorson is the only one originally from the city. Rainey was born in Pasadena, California and saxophonist Ingrid Laubrock originally hails from Germany. Separately, the achievements of these artists are astounding and lend to the accomplished sound of their live act. Rainey also performs with jazz quintet Obbligato while Halvorson has performed in a trio of her own and recently released solo music under the moniker Meltframe.

This year, Halvorson was named the world's best jazz guitarist by the Downbeat Critics Poll, dethroning longtime winner Bill Frisell. Meanwhile, Laubrock has recently received acclaim in the form of the 2014 German Record Critics Quarterly Award and Best Soprano Saxophonist in the 2015 Downbeat Poll. As Tom Rainey Trio, these three innovative composers build an atmosphere for art and music fans unique from any other Erie performance. This, paired with the fact that the event is hosted by Rick Lopez, drummer of local experimental trio Fall Risk, makes Tom Rainey Trio at PACA a truly must-see show. — Aaron Mook

8 p.m. // 1505 State St. // \$10

Friday, Sept. 8

Celebrate Dramashop's Awesome F*cking Season Opening with 'Stupid F*cking Bird'

When Anton Chekhov's *The Seagull* premiered in St. Petersburg in 1896, the play was so ill-received that the leading lady lost her voice amidst hostile booing. The moral of the story is: Opening nights can be a real trial by fire, though roughly 120 years later we may assume the team at Dramashop won't have quite as contentious an evening.

Non-booing guests are invited to the theater's State Street location at 7 p.m. for the season opening and premiere



VILLAGE WEST

3330 West 26th Street

"An eclectic variety of specialty retail shops and service providers!"

www.villagewestshops.com

**3 NEW SHOPS
OPENING
SEPTEMBER 2017**



Board & Brush
creative studio



Ralph Miller Jewelers

Wild Birds Unlimited
Nature Shop



**Backyard
Birdfeeding**

**Garden &
Nature Gifts**

Wild Birds Unlimited



Village West
3330 W 26th St
814-838-5145
Mon-Thurs 10-6
Fri 10-8 • Sat 10-5

www.facebook.com/wbuerie
www.wbu.com/erie



Lavish Lashes™

SEMI-PERMANENT EYELASH EXTENSIONS
that Look, Feel and Wear Like Your Own Beautiful Eyelashes

CALL TODAY to Schedule a Consultation

PANACHE

salon • spa

**CERTIFIED
LASH EXTENSION
EXPERTS**

Located in Yorktown Center
2501 W 12th St, Erie, PA 16505
(814) 838-3333
www.panacheerie.com



Claudine's
Consignment

Furniture • Decor • Jewelry

*Distinctive Decor
for Inspired Homes*

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

814.520.8055
2208 West 8th St. Erie, PA 16505

Shop Online at
www.claudinesconsignment.com



Liege
BARRE & POLE FITNESS BOUTIQUE
#beliege

BARRE MADE

4642 West 12th Street Suite 1 Erie PA 16505 • liegebarreandpole.com • 814.431.9631



The Lavender Rabbit

Mustards • Olive Oils • Spreads • Teas • Jams
Balsamic Vinegars • Caramel Sauce • Spices

Make cooking fun again!

3330 West 26th Street Erie, PA 16506
www.thelavenderrabbit.com
814.833.4800



COFAIR
COWBOY
 Featuring a
Smith's
 SINCE 1927
1/4 lb. DOG
 loaded with
 seasoned pulled pork,
 shredded cheddar & onions.
 Top it off with a
 shot o' mustard
 (or not).
\$3.69
 Limited Time Offer
COUNTRY FAIR

**Erie's Only Hot
 Power Yoga Studio**

YOUR FIRST CLASS IS

FREE

Discounts for Students, Seniors & Veterans

yogaErie
 Located in the Colony Plaza
 2560 West 8th Street, Erie PA 16505
 814-520-6998
 www.yogaerie.com

**How Do You Like
 These Apples?**

- Posters
- Tickets
- Flyers
- Business Cards
- Invites

And Much More!

**Call Us
 Today!**

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 @GoAskAlice08

of Aaron Posner's *Stupid F*cking Bird*, whose story is loosely derived from Chekhov's *Seagull*. But before the play comes the reception, and \$25 nets you a live performance by local band Pine Diary, food and drink to enjoy while mingling with friends, plus a ticket to the show.

In case you're wringing your hands, thinking about how you mostly slept through World Lit, no worries; Zach Flock, artistic director of Dramashop said reassuringly, "You definitely don't have to be familiar with *The Seagull* to enjoy *Stupid F*cking Bird*." He went on, "Our play is a dark comedy set in a contemporary world ... our main character is a young aspiring playwright who's frustrated by a world where change is slow to come and people lose sight of what really matters. I think audiences can more easily connect with the story in a contemporary setting."

Sound like anyone you know? By choosing a play with a "contemporary vibe... dark humor and the themes of hope and change" that nonetheless remains surprisingly faithful to the original source material, Dramashop illuminates the struggles many of us feel every day, as we consider "What is the point of all this?" Go see *Stupid F*cking Bird*, and give your old Lit professor's existence some meaning at least. — Cara Suppa

7 p.m. // 1001 State Street, Suite 210
// <http://www.dramashop.org/stupid-fucking-bird> // \$25

Friday, September 8th

Must See Shows: Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band at Kings Rook Club



Strangely enough, fans of "the scene" circa 2010 should be excited for this one. Once prominent in the Alternative Press and Vans' Warped Tour circles, American country-blues band Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band will be performing a headlining set at the Kings Rook Club this month. Supported by Erie's own Broke Boland Band and Matt Texter, Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band will go on at 10 p.m. sharp in the Downstairs Concert Complex.

Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band

released their most recent album, *The Front Porch Sessions*, on March 10th, 2017 — their first since 2015's *So Delicious*. Released on their own private label, Family Owned Records, *The Front Porch Sessions* are comprised of 10 original songs and one cover song (Furry Lewis' "When My Baby

Reverend Peyton is known for his "booming voice," noted to be "as big as he is!"

Left Me"). These recordings are noted as being quieter, with drummer Max Senteney even electing to play the suitcase rather than typical percussion instruments to better reflect the sound of the band playing on their own front porch. Reverend Peyton is known for his "booming voice," noted to be "as big as he is!" while the Big Damn Band utilizes unconventional instruments (including banjos, washboards and slide guitars) to churn out "romping, foot stomping roots" alongside him. Unique from the number of jam bands that populate the local area, this nationally known country-blues band (backed by some of our most talented native artists) is one Erie music fans will not want to miss. — Aaron Mook

9 p.m. to 2 a.m. // 1921 Peach St. // facebook.com/kingsrookclub

Friday, Sept. 8

Chaos Rises Through Basement Transmissions



Miss May I is making Basement Transmissions the second stop on their three-week "Chaos Rising Tour", alongside Ice Nine Kills, Capsize, and Lorna Shore.

Miss May I is coming in hot off the release of their latest album, *Shadows Inside*, the band's sixth in their ten-year career. If there's one thing Miss May I excels in, it's their consistency — while most bands tend to change their sound over time, Miss May I has time and again shown their unrelenting metal ferocity with each album, and the numbers show that their fans aren't growing tired of it. *Shadows Inside* is the band's fifth consecutive album to reach the top 10 in the US Hard

MUSIC

Mid-Day Art Break

Aug. 30 — noon to 1 p.m.
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

Dave VanAmburg & Friends

Aug. 30 & Sept. 1, 6 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Maxi's Restaurant at Bel Aire Clarion Hotel, 2800 W. 8th St. jazzerie.com.

Scarlet Ledbetter

Aug. 30 — 7 p.m.
Edinboro Lake Resort, 12670 Edinboro Rd. edinborolakeresort.com.

MVP

Aug. 31 — 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Dickey's Barbecue Pit, 3716 Liberty St. jazzerie.com.

Whitechapel Jack

Aug. 31 — 7 p.m.
Edinboro Lake Resort, 12670 Edinboro Rd. edinborolakeresort.com.

Small Town Revolution

Sept. 1 — 6 p.m.
Coconut Joe's, 28 N.

Park Row cjoes.com.

Stiletto

Sept. 1 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Arundel Cellars, 11727 E. Main Rd. arundelcellars.com.

Gem City Revival

Sept. 1 — 6 to 9 p.m.
The Cork 1794, 17 W. Main St. cork1794.com.

Fred Oakman

Sept. 1 — 7 p.m.
Edinboro Lake Resort, 12670 Edinboro Rd. edinborolakeresort.com.

Requiem for Oblivion, Nythis, Sudden Frost, Doc Proto, YB, JC Nickles, Ben Depew, Dead Lounge, Till the End and Duke, Get This

Sept. 1 — 7:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Bobby's Place, 1202 W. 18th St. facebook.com.

Zach Deputy, Stereo Nest and LEC

Sept. 1 — 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com/kingsrookclub.

New Wave Nation

Sept. 1 — 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Sherlocks, 508 State St. facebook.com.

Next of Kin

Sept. 2 — 6 p.m.
Coconut Joe's, 28 N. Park Row cjoes.com.

Duke Sherman Band

Sept. 2 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Arundel Cellars, 11727 E. Main Rd. arundelcellars.com.

Dionisio

Sept. 2 — 7 p.m.
Edinboro Lake Resort, 12670 Edinboro Rd. edinborolakeresort.com.

Flight

Sept. 2 — 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Sherlocks, 508 State St. facebook.com.

The Southern Belles

Sept. 2 — 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com/kingsrookclub.

Dockboy's

Sept. 3 — 1 to 4 p.m.
Arundel Cellars, 11727 E. Main Rd. arundelcellars.com.

Clever Norman

Sept. 3 — 5 p.m.
Edinboro Lake Resort, 12670 Edinboro Rd. edinborolakeresort.com.

Rachel Shortt

Sept. 4 — 5 p.m.
Edinboro Lake Resort, 12670 Edinboro Rd. edinborolakeresort.com.

Tom Rainey Trio

Sept. 6 — 8 to 10 p.m.
Performing Artist Collective Alliance, 1505 State St. jazzerie.com.

Ron Yarmon

Sept. 7 — 7 p.m.
Edinboro Lake Resort, 12670 Edinboro Rd. edinborolakeresort.com.

Miss May I with Ice Nine Kills and more

Sept. 8 — 5:30 p.m.
Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. facebook.com.

Jackson Station

Sept. 8 — 6 p.m.
Coconut Joe's, 28 N. Park Row cjoes.com.

The HighLife

Sept. 8 — 7 p.m.

Edinboro Lake Resort, 12670 Edinboro Rd. edinborolakeresort.com.

Rev. Peyton's Big Damn Band with Broke Boland Band & Matt Texter

Sept. 8 — 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com/kingsrookclub.

Theory of Evolution

Sept. 8 — 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Sherlocks, 508 State St. facebook.com.

Crush

Sept. 9 — 6 p.m.
Coconut Joe's, 28 N. Park Row cjoes.com.

The Filthy Casuals, Cynimatics, Keep Flying, Paper Matches and Chillin' with the Primates

Sept. 9 — 6 to 10:30 p.m.
Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. facebook.com.

Erie Chamber Orchestra Concert

Sept. 9 — 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, 250 W.

7th St. facebook.com.

Salmon Frank

Sept. 9 — 7 p.m.
Edinboro Lake Resort, 12670 Edinboro Rd. edinborolakeresort.com.

Cosmic Rhythm

Sept. 9 — 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Sherlocks, 508 State St. facebook.com.

Funk You

Sept. 9 — 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com/kingsrookclub.

Brian Butler Duo

Sept. 10 — 1 to 4 p.m.
Arundel Cellars, 11727 E. Main Rd. arundelcellars.com.

DANCE

Open Auditions for the Nutcracker

Sept. 2 — 1 to 3:30 p.m.
Erie Dance Conservatory, 8335 Edinboro Rd. eriedanceconservatory.org.

FOOD & DRINK

Cocktail Hour: A Showcase of

Rock charts. Like the saying goes, if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

The supporting acts each bring their own unique style to the stage, with varying degrees of "heaviness" in their respective sounds — Ice Nine Kills toes the lines between metalcore and pop, Capsize plays a blend of metalcore and melodic hardcore, and Lorna Shore gets straight to the point with their no-BS death metal stylings (deathcore would honestly be more accurate, but there are already too many "cores" in this paragraph).

Starting the night off are local acts Ashes of a Generation, Mallory Run, and Raven's Law. Ashes of a Generation and Raven's Law both fit right in with the touring acts, while Mallory Run stands out as the only non-metal act on the bill, but the band is still heavy in their own way. — Tommy Shannon

5:30 p.m. // Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. // \$20 // All ages

Saturday, Sept. 9

Gather Under The Branches at the LEAF Festival

Since the stores are already advertising all things pumpkin spice,



you might just have trees and fall on the brain. While it is generally hoped around these parts that we manage to stave off chillier weather, plant life can be enjoyed in any season. Which is why you should head over to the LEAF Festival at the Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier Park and celebrate our local trees.

Marking its 19th year, the 2017 LEAF Festival will offer some old activities and some new ones for everyone to enjoy. According to Catherine Toews, LEAF Program Manager, attendees can check out live animal displays from the Erie Zoo and the Asbury

Woods Nature Center, complete tree art activities, and participate in a walking tour through the arboretum — mark your calendars, it starts at noon. With LEAF board member and Penn State extension educator Ruth Benner leading the way, you'll take a look at an educational display from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry (showcasing the internal and external anatomy of trees) and stop by the arborist's table to chat. They will be ready — and happy — to answer your questions regarding anything and everything tree-related. If you don't fancy bringing a picnic to enjoy a snack outdoors, there will also be food ven-



dors on the premises (fresh air tends to work up an appetite), and those who want to further explore the arbor can participate in a scavenger hunt.

"The LEAF Festival is Erie's annual celebration of the beauty and diversity of trees in the arboretum," Toews adds. Show your support for this local gem, and give some love to Erie's trees by stopping by the festival.

The LEAF Festival will welcome return displays and exhibits from I Am a Planet Kid, Nickel Plate Landscape, and the S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie, Toews confirms.

"The LEAF Festival is Erie's annual celebration of the beauty and diversity of trees in the arboretum," Toews adds. Show your support for this local gem, and give some love to Erie's trees by stopping by the festival. — Miriam Lamey

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. // Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier Park, 1501 W. 6th Street // (814) 453-5323 // free

Wine Tasting

Aug. 31 — 6:30 to 8 p.m.
The Cork 1794, 17 W. Main St. facebook.com.

Mind, Body, Beer

Sept. 5 — 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th St. facebook.com.

Arts & Drafts Fest

Sept. 7, 8, 9
The Brewery at Union Station, 123 W. 14th St. brewery.com.

Mondo Big-Time Party

Sept. 7, 8 — 5 to 8 p.m. & Sept. 9 — 1 to 8 p.m.
Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th St. facebook.com.

Erie Food Tours

Sept. 9, 23 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Like My Thai, 827 State St. eriefoodtours.com.

Brewing a Brand

Sept. 12 — 5 to 7 p.m.
Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th St. facebook.com.

FILM

Extreme Weather

Ongoing — 11 a.m. & 3 p.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. biggreenscreen.com.

Flight of the Butterflies

Ongoing — noon & 4 p.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental

Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. biggreenscreen.com.

Mysteries of the Great Lakes

Ongoing — 1 p.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. biggreenscreen.com.

Prehistoric Planet

Ongoing — 2 & 5 p.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. biggreenscreen.com.

The Iron Giant (1999)

Aug. 31 — 8:30 p.m.
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, 219 Meadville St. facebook.com.

Hellcat's Revenge (2017)

Sept. 1 — 8 to 10 p.m.
Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. facebook.com/ErieMovieHouse.

NT Live: Angels in America - Part One: Millennium Approaches

Sept. 10 — 12:55 p.m.
Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center, 501 E. 38th St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

VISUAL ARTS

Annual Art Faculty Exhibition with Guest Alumni

Ongoing through Sept. 22 (Reception Aug. 31 — 5 to 7 p.m.)

Mercyhurst University Cummings Gallery, 501 E. 38th St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

Pairing Similarities: D.W. Martin

Ongoing through Oct. 21
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

Making the Ordinary Extraordinary

Ongoing through November 12
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

Tin Plated Dreams: Sculptures by William Brady, Jr.

Ongoing through January 7, 2018
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

Ancient Ink: Mark Perrott

Ongoing through January 28, 2018
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

Urban Landscapes

Sept. 1 through October 3 (Reception Sept. 22 — 7 to 10 p.m.)
Glass Growers Gallery, 10 E. 5th St. glassgrowersgallery.com.

8 Hour Projects: Beyond These Walls

Sept. 5 through Sept. 24 (Reception Sept.

5 — 7 to 9 p.m.)

Doane Hall of Art at Allegheny College, 520 N. Main St. allegheny.edu.

Second Sundays

Sept. 10 — 2 to 4 p.m.
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

THEATER

Sleuth by Anthony Shaffer

Sept. 1, 2, 8, 9 — 7:30 to 10 p.m. & Sept. 3, 10 — 3 to 5:30 p.m.

All An Act Theatre Productions, 652 W. 17th St. allanact.net.

Stupid Fukcing Bird

Sept. 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23 — 8 p.m.
Dramashop, 1001 State St. dramashop.org.

A Canterbury Feast

Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30 & Oct. 7, 21, 28 & Nov. 4, 11, 18 — 5:30 p.m. & Sept. 10, 17 & Oct. 1, 22 & Nov. 5, 12 — 2:30 p.m. & Sept. 22, 29 & Oct. 6, 20, 27 & Nov. 3, 10, 17 — 7 p.m.
Station Dinner Theatre, 4940 Peach St. canterburyfeast.com.

COMMUNITY

Evening Lagoon by Pontoon

Ongoing through Sept. 1 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Lagoon Boat Launch

at Presque Isle State Park, 301 Peninsula Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

133rd Erie County Fair

Ongoing through Sept. 2
Erie County Fairgrounds, 13993 PA-8 watsburgfair.com.

Lagoon by Pontoon

Ongoing through Sept. 4 — 10 a.m.
Lagoon Boat Launch at Presque Isle State Park, 301 Peninsula Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

Presque Isle Lighthouse Tours

Ongoing through Sept. 4 — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Presque Isle Light Station in Presque Isle State Park, 301 Peninsula Dr. presqueislelighthouse.org.

Fishing Rod Loaner Program

Ongoing through Oct. 31 — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

Tai Chi

Aug. 30 & Sept. 4, 6, 11, 13 — 9:30 to 10:15 a.m.
LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach St. lifeworkserie.org.

Wednesday Walks in the Woods

Aug. 30 & Sept. 13, 16, 24, 27 — 11 a.m. to noon

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

Fanning the Flames

Aug. 30 — 1 p.m.
LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach St. lifeworkserie.org.

Farmers Market

Aug. 30 & Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27 — 3 to 6 p.m.
Goodell Gardens & Homestead, 221 Waterford St. goodellgardens.org.

Silent Peace Walk

Aug. 30 — 7 to 7:30 p.m.
St. Benedict Center, 345 E. 9th St. eriebenedictines.org.

Weight Lifting/ Cardio Fitness Class

Aug. 31 & Sept. 7 — 9:30 a.m.
LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach St. lifeworkserie.org.

Work Day for Operation Christmas Child

Aug. 31 — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Grace Church, 7300 Grubb Rd. whoisgrace.com.

Lake Erie Lighthouses

Aug. 31 — 1 to 2 p.m.
LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach St. lifeworkserie.org.

New Horizons Music Project

Aug. 31 — 4 to 6 p.m.
LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach St. lifeworkserie.org.



LECOM

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

TRANSFORM
**YOUR
LIFE**

NOT JUST
YOUR BODY

Join September 1–30
and enrollment is only
\$25 per person

Monthly dues still apply.

5401 Peach St, Erie, PA 16509
www.lecomwellness.com

DRAMASHOP
THEATRE IN PROGRESS

**STUPID
FUCKING
BIRD**
BY AARON POSNER

FEATURING:
PAULA BARRETT
ALAINA MANCHESTER
MICHAEL HAAS
JASSE CAMACHO VERA
STEVE DEJOHN
MEGAN HAMM
JJ HODGES

DIRECTED BY
ZACH FLOCK

OPENING WEEKEND:
SEPT. 8 @ 7PM RECEPTION / 8PM SHOW **\$25**
SEPT. 9 @ 8PM **\$5**

REGULAR PERFORMANCES:
SEPT. 15, 16, 22 & 23 @ 8PM **\$12 ONLINE / \$15 AT THE DOOR**

WWW.DRAMASHOP.ORG
1001 STATE STREET, SUITE 210, ERIE PA 16501

Presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

Kings Rook

**** FRI 01**
SEPT
ZACH DEPUTY
+ STEREO NEST
DOWNSTAIRS CONCERT COMPLEX
UPSTAIRS LOUNGE *LEG*

**** FRI 08**
SEPT
**REV. PEYTON'S BIG
DAMN BAND** WITH BROKE
BOLAND BAND & MATT TEXTER
DOWNSTAIRS CONCERT COMPLEX
DOORS 8PM | MUSIC 10PM

OPEN THURS-SAT @ 8PM (MEMBERS & GUESTS ONLY)
HAPPY HOUR SPECIALS 8PM-12AM
FREE POOL, SHUFFLEBOARD, & GAMES ALWAYS!
1921 PEACH ST - FIND US ON FACEBOOK

**MATTY'S
OPEN
MIC
NITE** EVERY THURSDAY NITE @ 10PM! STOP IN &
SIGN UP BEFORE 10PM & FIRST DRINK ON US!
THIRSTY THURSDAY DRINK SPECIALS!
+ \$2 WELLS & DOMESTICS
+ \$3 CRAFTS 8PM-11PM / \$3.50 LONG ISLANDS
+ \$2 FIREBALL 9PM-10PM

**KRC BUS STOP
BISTRO**

PIZZA, TACOS
LOADED HOT DOGS
& MORE!

OPEN THURS-SAT
9PM-2:30AM
TAKEOUT AVAILABLE

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

SAT 09/02
THE SOUTHERN BELLES
SAT 09/09
FUNK YOU
FRI 09/15
FALL RISK
+ WAVE TRAILS
SAT 09/16
BROCCOLI
SAMURAI
+ SHWIZZ
[DOWNSTAIRS]
NATASK
[UPSTAIRS]
FRI 09/22
BRONSEN &
THE EXPEDITION
+ JOOSE

**CHEER
YOUR
TEAM,
AS A
TEAM.**

**BUD
LIGHT**
OFFICIAL BEER SPONSOR



WATCH THE GAMES - ENJOY GAME DAY SPECIALS

SUNDAYS

BUD LIGHT

OFFICIAL BEER SPONSOR



EAST

ALIBI BAR
APPLEBEE'S EAST
BOOTLEGGERS
CHIPPER'S
CLANCY'S
CZARTORYSKI BY THE BAY
FIDDLE INN
IRISH COUSIN'S
JJ'S PUB
MARTY'S
MC'S BAR & GRILL
NUNZI'S
OFF THE WALL
PARK TAVERN
PETE'S PUB
RED FOX INN
SCOOTERS ON PARADE
SPEED'EEZ
THE CORNERSTONE
THE VINE BAR & GRILL
TK'S TAVERN

WEST

ANDY'S PUB
APPLEBEE'S WEST
AVONIA
BRUCE'S PUB & GRUB

WEST

CAPTAIN RON'S HEADQUARTERS
CHESTNUT ST. PUB
CHICO'S TRAVELERS INN
COACH'S
COLONY PUB & GRILLE
DARCY'S PUB & GRUB
EDUARDO'S
GIRARD CAFÉ
HI & DRI
KELLY DOWNS
LAST SHOT
LEFTY'S TAVERN
LOMBARDO'S
OAKWOOD CAFE
ODIS 12
PENNY'S PUB
RACK N ROLL
RESERVOIR 26
SANDBAR
SAUCERY
THAT PLACE
TREEHOUSE TAVERN
THE BARRACKS
THE CAB
UGLY TUNA
UPTOWN BROWNS
12TH STREET PUB
21 HAMPTON

CLUBS

AMERICAN LEGION NORTH EAST
AMERICAN LEGION POST #571
AMERICAN LEGION E. 3RD ST.
AMERICAN LEGION GIRARD
AMERICAN LEGION FAIRVIEW
AMERICAN LEGION MILLCREEK
CASCADE CLUB
CYS
EAST ERIE MOOSE
ERIE MAENNERCHOR CLUB
FULTON CLUB
HOLY TRINITY
HUZAR CLUB
KNIGHTS OF ST. GEORGE
KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN
LAWRENCE PARK AC CLUB
MONIUSZKO CLUB
MOOSE CLUB ALBION
NORTH EAST ATHLETIC CLUB
NORTH EAST VET'S CLUB
NUOVA AURORA
POLISH FALCONS E. 3RD
POLISH FALCONS #123
POLISH FORESTERS
POLISH SHARP SHOOTERS
PULASKI CLUB

CLUBS

SACRED HEART
SEIBENBUERGER CLUB
SOUTH ERIE TURNERS
SPORTSMEN ATHLETIC CLUB
STAR ATHLETIC CLUB
ST. BONIFACE USHERS CLUB
ST. FRANCIS CLUB
ST. JOE'S (NORTHEAST)
ST. MARY'S CLUB
SUNFLOWER CLUB
TRI BORO VETS CLUB
VFW #470
WESLEYVILLE ATHLETIC CLUB
ZUKOR CLUB

DOWNTOWN

CALAMARI'S
PLYMOUTH

PEACH ST.

APPLEBEE'S
BUFFALO WILD WINGS
FOX N HOUND
HOCH & BLOTTO'S
QUAKER STEAK & LUBE

SOUTH

BEECHWOOD INN
CREEKSIDE
DAN'S RT. 8 BOARDWALK
DOC HOLLIDAY'S
FAT WILLIES
LAKESIDE TAVERN
MCKEAN TAVERN
MOUND GROVE
THE POUR HOUSE
TOWER'S TAVERN
WATERFORD HOTEL



BEERLOVESNORTHWESTPA

FOR ONLINE NFL GIVEAWAYS

The 24th Annual Edinboro Highland Games and Scottish Festival

Drink, live, and breathe Scottish on Edinboro campus



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

(left) Tunes like "Scotland the Brave," Edinboro University's frequently played fight song, will echo through the borough during the school's Highland Games, with events like the caber toss (right) being another staple of the weekend.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 6

Though bagpipes can be heard at many Edinboro University ceremonies, bagpipers and other Celtic musicians come out in full force during the annual Edinboro Highland Games and Scottish Festival. The four-day event, which takes place on the university's campus and other nearby venues, celebrates Scottish heritage with music, dancing, athletic competitions (including heavy lifting, disc golf, and "archery tag," which is similar to paintball, but with giant foam arrows), traditional foods and beer.

Incredibly proud of his Scottish heritage, festival director and university

professor Dr. Tim Thompson began planning the first Highland Games in 1993, when he saw that the university didn't already have such an event. Now more than 5,000 visitors spend the weekend at this annual celebration. Thompson advises would-be attendees not to miss Saturday's noon opening ceremony, which he calls a "spectacular sight." Traditional marching bands amass on the lawns, lending the campus a convincing air of authenticity.

However, you don't have to wait until the weekend to join the party. A single malt whiskey tasting, a first for the festival, will kick off the fun on Wednesday evening, a day earlier than in previous years. Attendees can try five single

malts from Scotland at the President's Dining Suite of Edinboro's Van Houten Dining Hall. It's one of the festival's few events with an admission fee (\$30). Beer tastings will follow from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, giving you plenty of time to recover.

For multiple years, both the National Scottish Fiddle and Harp Championships have been hosted at the university. This year, that tradition continues. People can hear harps play Thursday evening, or try their own hand at the instrument on Friday. A drum circle will signal the "Calling of the Clans" that evening, as festival-goers will gather around a bonfire on the gazebo lawns. The music will carry through to Saturday, with performances from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Among the performers are husband-and-wife duo Jim (guitar) and Beth McQuiston (flute) of Celtic Creek. They've been attending and performing at the Edinboro Highland Games and Scottish Festival since 2004, Jim recalls. They've found their "authentic" sound by visiting Scotland and hearing its traditional music firsthand.

McQuiston fondly recalls the "best compliment" he's ever received: "The difference between you and the rest of the bands, is you play it like they do in

the Irish pubs,"

Of course, Scotland and Ireland are not exactly one and the same; but then again, neither are Scotland and Edinboro. But for one week, they're close enough.

— Tracy Geibel

Wednesday 6 to 8 p.m., Thursday 6 to 9 p.m., Friday starting at 1:30, Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday at 10:45 a.m. // Edinboro University, 219 Meadville St, Edinboro, & varied locations // free, \$30 single malt tasting, \$35 ceilidh // edinboro.edu/events/highland-games



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Getting Creative with Acrylics: A Painting Residency

Sept. 1 — 9 to 11 a.m.

LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach St. lifeworkserie.org.

Tai Chi

Sept. 1, 8 — 9:30 to 10:15 a.m.

Regency at South Shore, 322 Washington Pl. lifeworkserie.org.

Brig Niagara Day Sail

Sept. 1 — 1 to 5 p.m.

LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach St. lifeworkserie.org.

Penny's Pin Up Party 2017

Sept. 1 — 4 p.m.

New Conneaut Lake Park, 12382 Center St. facebook.com.

American Bass Anglers Area 9 Championship

Sept. 2, 3

Presque Isle State Park, 301 Peninsula Dr. eriesportscommission.com.

Fall Homeschool Program: Monarchs

Sept. 2 — 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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

Highmark Medicare Sales Seminar

Sept. 2 — 11 a.m. to noon

Highmark Health Insurance Direct Store, 5753 Peach St. reservations.highmarkblueshield.com.

German Heritage Festival

Sept. 2 — 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. & Sept. 3 — 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

St. Nick's Grove, 5131 Old French Rd. dank-erie.org.

Candlelight Ghost Walks

Sept. 2, 3 & Oct. 20, 21, 27, 28 — 8 p.m.

Dobbins Landing, 1 State St. candlelightghostwalks.com.

Trail Cam Program: Behind the Scenes at Presque Isle

Sept. 3 — 2 to 3 p.m.

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

Waterford

Community Fair

Sept. 4 through Sept. 9

Waterford Community Fairgrounds, 13012 Old Rte. waterfordfair.org.

18th Annual Ride for The Refuge

Sept. 4 — 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Shades Beach Park, 7000 E. Lake St. euma-erie.org.

2017 NWPALF Labor Day Parade

Sept. 4 — 10 a.m. to noon

Downtown Erie, 11th and State St. unionhall.aficio.org.

Fit for Life Fitness Class

Sept. 5, 12 — 9:30 to 10:15 a.m.

LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach St. lifeworkserie.org.

Adult Art Classes

Sept. 6, 13 — 7 to 9 p.m.

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

Fundraising Night for Team Sonny's Sunshine

Sept. 6 — 4 to 10 p.m.

Three B Saloon, 732 W. 4th St. facebook.com.

Highland Games

Sept. 7 through Sept. 10

Edinboro University, 219 Meadville St. edinboro.edu.

Highmark Medicare Sales Seminar

Sept. 7 — 10 to 11 a.m.

Erie Health & Wellness Pavilion, 4247 W. Ridge Rd. reservations.highmarkblueshield.com.

2nd Annual Boro Block Party

Sept. 7 — 6 to 9 p.m.

Boro Women & Family Services, 108 High St. facebook.com.

Barber Beast on the Bay

Sept. 9

Presque Isle State Park, 301 Peninsula Dr. barberbeast.org.

Adopt-A-Beach Program

Sept. 9 — 9 a.m. to noon

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

Kidding Around Yoga Teacher Training

Sept. 9, 10 — 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Plasha Yoga Studio, 3330 W. 26th St. kiddingaroundyoga.com.

19th Annual LEAF Festival

Sept. 9 — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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

National Fireworks Association Fireworks Show

Sept. 9 — 5 to 10 p.m.

Lake Erie Speedway, 10700 Delmas Dr. lakeerispeedway.com.

Hockey Skills Clinic

Sept. 10 — 1 to 4:30 p.m.

Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. erieevents.com.

Quilting on the Bayfront 2017

Sept. 11 through Sept. 16

Bayfront Convention Center, 1 Sassafras Pier millcreeksew.com.

Little Leaves

Sept. 11 & Oct. 2, 23 & Nov. 13 & Dec. 4 — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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

Erie Symphonic Singers Open Rehearsal

Sept. 11 — 7 to 8 p.m.

Wayside Presbyterian Church, 1208 Asbury Rd. wayside-erie.org.

Health & Wellness Series for Adults

Sept. 11, 18, 25 & Oct. 2 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.

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

Albion Area Fair

Sept. 12 to Sept. 16

Albion Area Fairgrounds, 30 Academy St. albionfair.com.

20th Annual Taste of the Arts

Sept. 12 — 5 to 8 p.m.

Neighborhood Art House, 201 E. 10th St. nah.eriebenedictines.org.

'Enemies of the People? Journalism and Ethics'

Sept. 13 — 7 p.m.

Mercy Heritage Room, 501 E. 38th St. mercyhurst.edu.

1/2 PRICE EVERYTHING
PLYMOUTH
 Every Wednesday
 Enjoy 1/2 off most every liquid libation 9-11 PM

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

PLUS 5 PM SHELLFISH SPECTACULAR
 Wednesdays only

WHOLE FOODS CO-OP
 member-owner event

Wellness
wednesday

15% off
 all wellness & body care items
 for all member-owners

Wednesday,
September 6th

Hours: Mon-Sat 9a.m.-9p.m.
 Sun 9a.m.-7p.m.

1341 West 26th Street
 814-456-0282
 web: wfcerie.coop

Not a member?
 Becoming one is fast and easy in-store!

CALENDAR

Arts and Drafts Masterfully Mixes Mediums

Sights, sounds, tastes come together at Brewerrie



Filled with dozens of local art pieces, the rotunda of the Brewerrie at Union Station will be the place to scope out and purchase homegrown works of all kinds.

escape, and the local acts keep on jamming until 11 p.m. with Seann P. Clark and Brenna Bone.

Come Friday and Saturday, while the art stays put, the bands and artists split venues within the Brewerrie, so guests can listen in the pub or out in the track-

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

THURSDAY, SEPT. 7

Now and then an event comes along in Erie which serves as kind of nexus for some of the most distinctive communities in the area. Surely the Arts and Drafts Festival, hosted at the Brewerrie at Union Station and catering to the art, music and beer-loving sects (as well as the many Erieites who adore all three), is among the most popular and most representative.

September's Arts and Drafts fest is the second of the year — the previous event was held in the early days of March — and while it may come last, it is most certainly not least. Starting on Thursday at noon, guests can wend their way through the art exhibits, with a pint of their favorite IPA, stout, or pilsner in hand. David Goodough kicks off the music in the pub area at 5:00 p.m., perfect for an after-work-happy-hour-

side beer garden with its unique environment; but really, it might come down to wherever they can find a seat during this well-attended weekend.

While it is common for the arts, in all its forms, to meet with the drafts in all their many forms throughout the Erie area, this particular festival is significant for the sheer number of artists and live musical acts — 60 artists and 16 bands — all organized and gathered in one location. That location itself also lends to the grandness of the three-day celebration, as the historical building has been in use, one way or another, for almost 90 years. — Cara Suppa

Exhibits noon to midnight; live music 7-9 // 123 West 14th Street // www.facebook.com/BREWERIE // Free Thurs., \$3 donation Fri. and Sat. after 9 p.m. // for the full line up, view this article online at eriereader.com

FREE CLOTHES? YES!

Also: baby & kids clothing *while supplies last!

Saturday, October 7th
 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

3126 State St. Erie, PA



4TH ANNIVERSARY!
DOUBLE DULACHAN INDIA PALE ALE
CAN RELEASE AT 2PM
 LIVE MUSIC 8-11PM | MULLIGANS
Saturday, September 16th
 VISIT OUR PUB AND BREWERY
 128 WEST 12th STREET, ERIE PA, 16501
 WWW.LAVERYBREWING.COM
 Pub Hours: Mon-Tues: 5-10 · Wed-Fri: 4-12 · Sat: 2-12 · Sun: 11-4



ALKEME
 A MEDITERRANEAN CAFÉ
Welcome back students



NOW ACCEPTING
GANNON UNIVERSITY
GU GOLD CARD

New Hours!	
Monday	8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Tuesday - Friday	8 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Saturday	11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Find us on 

18 North Park Row Erie, PA • (814) 616-8578



**JOIN THE CLUB,
 GET GREAT DEALS!**
\$3 OFF
 YOUR FIRST ORDER BY
 TEXTING **PIZZA** TO **88188**
 OR VISIT DONATOS.COM/EMAILANDTEXT




DICKEY'S BARBECUE PIT
est. 1941
Any event. Any size.
WE CATER!



- SLOW-SMOKED MEATS**
 - PULLED PORK
 - ST. LOUIS STYLE PORK RIBS
 - BEEF BRISKET (CHOPPED OR SLICED)
 - CHICKEN BREAST
 - POLISH KIELBASA SAUSAGE
 - JALAPEÑO CHEDDAR KIELBASA
- SAVORY SIDES**
 - CABBAGE SLAW
 - BARBECUE BEANS
 - IDAHO RUSSET POTATO SALAD
 - BARBECUE BEANS
 - CAESAR SALAD
 - BACON & ONION GREEN BEANS
 - BAKED POTATO CASSEROLE
 - MAC & CHEESE
 - ASSORTED CHIPS
 - ASIAGO CHEESE CREAMED SPINACH

- FULL SERVICE
- DELIVERY BUFFET
- BOX LUNCHES
- PARTY PLATTERS
- WHOLE MEATS
- CUSTOM ORDERS


3716 Liberty Street • Erie, PA
 (814) 868-4227



THE CROSS
ERIE
a church for the city

JOIN US FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP
 Basement Transmissions
 145 West 11th Street
 Corner of Sassafra and 11th
 10am

**ORIGINAL MUSIC
 BIBLE TEACHING
 AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY**

www.TheCross.cc
 /TheCrossErie

Write Into It

Shok's "Stories of My Dead Homies"



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Local hip hop artist Shok explains the story behind one of his favorite songs to fellow emcee Charles Brown.

S: It's crazy because me and my cousin Nick Amidon got into a lil' argument before we recorded, but he had no clue I was about to do a song like this, so the argument was actually a blessing 'cuz when he pressed record, all those emotions manifested in the track which made it that much more powerful and heartfelt ... when he heard the words, we made up instantly. [laughs] Shout out [to] Nick Amidon.

CB: The talented Agony Beats produced the track. Did you know what to talk about when first hearing the beat or did you have to sit with it?

S: This [is] even crazier. I had [written] "Dead Homies" to one of Agony's older beats that was in my computer, but I knew I couldn't use it 'cuz it wasn't mixed properly. But on the flip side, me and Agony [weren't] talking for about a month. Basically brothers having small [fallouts] over nothing, really, so I had hit him up saying how I [had] this song and needed a new beat for it. He sent that to me like he already knew what I needed. When I heard it, I instantly dropped tears, 'cuz he couldn't have sent a more perfect and harmonious beat to match my words. Me and Agony Beats are like yin and yang musically and brothers in real life. Greatest producer EVER!

CB: What goes through your mind when you go back and listen to "Stories Of My Dead Homies?"

S: Honestly, every time it's played, it's like the first time I heard it complete ... some days, I can listen like, "How did I come up with such a beautiful song worded so perfectly?" And then some days I can't listen without crying or thinking about all those I lost!

CB: If people could take anything away from your song, what would you want it to be?

S: Nobody walking earth can take anything away from that song, 'cuz it was sent from God for so many people. I just was the vessel he spoke it through.

Find "Stories Of My Dead Homies" at www.soundcloud.com/shok814

Charles Brown can be contacted at charlesbrowncj@gmail.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @Charles1588.

By: Charles Brown

Musicians are some of the most insightful writers in the world, reaching great depths with their art. People might see a songwriter play the role of a philosopher, therapist, and/or social commentator within the span of single track. A lot can be said within a small space, and many musicians take pride in making those statements. What goes through an artist's mind when creating their personal favorites? Welcome to "Write Into It," where we take a closer look into our local musicians' favorite songs of their own creation.

Shok

Hip Hop Artist and Producer
"Stories Of My Dead Homies" Prod. by Agony Beats
Mixed by Nick IAmADon

Excerpt: "These questions in my heart that never got answered/ I'm speaking for the souls that never got the chance to/ Live before the reaper came 'n' blew they candle/ Sometimes reality too harsh to handle"

Charles Brown: Shok, this is a powerful song that reports what has happened in our city streets. Was it difficult to put this composition into words?

Shok: Yes, it was one of the hardest things I ever had to do [creatively]. I actually cried writing every word in this song.

CB: How was the recording process? Did you have any moments of weakness where you wanted to break down or just gather yourself? There's a lot of pain in this one. It's a heavy subject.



LITTLE ITALY FARMER'S MARKET

EVERY MONDAY
3:00 - 6:00 PM
JUNE 26TH TO SEPTEMBER 25TH

NOW ACCEPTING CREDIT CARDS

Little Italy Farmer's Market
doubles SNAP, WIC and
Senior FMNP vouchers.



331 WEST 18TH STREET

CHECK OUT OUR NEW LOCATION BETWEEN MYRTLE & CHESTNUT

For more information call (814) 454-7814
Find us on Facebook or online: www.SSJNN.org



BACK TO SCHOOL
DON'T SETTLE

\$5.39

Everyday lunch
special: any classic
10" sub, side item
& 22oz. Fountain
Drink



Call ahead for faster service.
View our full menu with
pricing and descriptions at
www.tderie.com.

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

West Erie
3201 Greengarden Blvd.
(814) 864-5322

LECOM Stage at *The* **PLAY HOUSE**

2017-2018

SEASON TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

A NEW CENTURY OF LIFE-CHANGING ART

13 WIRTH • ERIE, PA • 16501

Get your Season Tickets NOW and receive:

- Tickets to all **8** Mainstage Shows!
- Savings of up to **30%** over walk-in prices
- The **best** seats in the house for every show
- Purchase tickets **before** they go on sale to the general public
- Convenient ticket exchange policy

814.454.2852 or erieplayhouse.org

GOODELL GARDENS & HOMESTEAD *presents*

FARMERS MARKET & OPEN JAM

Wednesdays in Sept. 3-6 pm

12th Annual Homegrown Harvest Festival

Sunday, Sept. 17, noon - 5pm

Celebrate the harvest with live music, farm & art vendors, quilt show, bee hive decorating contest & more!

Sponsored include
PA Partners with the Arts, JJ Wurst Landscaping, & the Erie Reader

221 Waterford St. (Route 6N)
Edinboro, PA 16412
www.goodellgardens.org


WQLN
PUBLIC MEDIA

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

Schedule Highlights

AMERICAN MASTERS

RICHARD LINKLATER



2017 FALL TERM FEATURING



Designing Immigrant-friendly Policies and Practices
Betty Cruz, M.P.A.
Thursday, September 28 / 7-8:30 p.m.

Modernizing Drug Testing To Save Human and Animal Lives
Elizabeth Baker, J.D.
Thursday, October 5 / 7-8:30

For the full list of events, please visit www.JESErie.org or call us at 814.459.8000.
3207 State St, Erie, PA 16508.

Sept. 12 / 7-8:30 p.m.	Erie's Mayoral Race: Analyzing Voter Turnout and Victories with a Look Ahead to November
Sept. 13 / 7-8:30 p.m.	Afghanistan: When and How will America's Longest War End?
Sept. 18 / 4-5:30 p.m.	Rediscovering War of 1812 Hero John Brooks Jr.
Sept. 19 / 7-8:30 p.m.	The First 100 Years: An Economic History of Erie
Sept. 25 / 7-8:30 p.m.	Mutants, Cyborgs, and Genetic Purity: The Brave New World of Human Genetic Modification?
Sept. 26 / 7-8:30 p.m.	Erie's Immigration: Change Makers or Threats to the Status Quo?
Sept. 27 / 4-5:30 p.m.	Remarkable Women: Geraldine Ferraro
Oct. 2 / 7-8:30 p.m.	ALT-Life: Navigating Race, Class, and Twitter in the Age of Trump
Oct. 9 / 7-8:30 p.m.	Divergent Paths to Knowledge and Wisdom: Science and Art as Tools of Learning
Oct. 11 / 7-8:30 p.m.	The Red and the Blue: Which Americans Vote for Which Party and Why?
Oct. 12 / 7-8:30 p.m.	Father or Felon: Understanding Community Re-entry for Incarcerated African American Men

DOWNLOAD. DOWNTOWN.

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



Download the **Hello Erie app** and click on **Hello Downtown** or visit ErieDowntown.com today.

Available on Google Play and the App Store.


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



September 1 at 9pm
on WQLN-TV 54.1

sounds around town

Matt "Broke" Boland



September 7 at 8pm
on WQLN-TV 54.1

SEPT. 22-24, 2017
BAYFRONT CONVENTION CENTER IN ERIE, PA

FRI 2PM-8PM | SAT 10AM-8PM | SUN 10AM-4PM

GET YOUR TICKETS!

CHECK OUT ALL THE FEATURES & GUESTS

COMICONERIE.COM

FEATURING THIS YEAR...

MICHAEL KOSKE
The Walking Dead

GREG VALENTINE
Pro Wrestler

MICHAEL BEACH
Third Watch
WICU

ZACH GALLIGAN
Gremlins

DAWN WELLS
Gilligan's Island
MeTV ERIE

celeb transportation
LA GRAND ELITE
LIMOUSINE INC.

mater & mach 5
NFI
EMPIRE

ERIE NEWS NOW
LIVE! 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
ERIE, PA

NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE: ANGELS IN AMERICA



Part One: Millennium Approaches

Sunday, Sept. 10 • 12:55 p.m.

Part Two: Perestroika

Sunday, Sept. 17 • 12:55 p.m.

Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

MERCYHURST
INSTITUTE FOR ARTS & CULTURE

Tickets at miac.mercyhurst.edu or 824-3000



TRACY GRAZIANO / PA GAME COMMISSION

[Cont. from page 17] and I set them down softly and opened our hands.

As we watched them skitter away, I turned to McWilliams and said “great job.”

I would guard these two chicks for another month and a half. They grew stronger, bolder and I celebrated the first time I saw one take a short flight-hop. On August 11, the last day of my seasonal job, the adult plovers were long gone but the chicks were still there. I sat down on a log at a safe distance down the beach and took a long lingering look at them. They went about their business of foraging for food, chasing other birds and each other, flying in short bursts with more assuredness than they had before. Acting like the “teenagers” they now were.

They weren't far from the place I first saw their parents. Eventually, with a light rain falling, I wished them luck and bade them farewell. And, yes, I cried as I walked away for the last

With enough space for Piping Plovers to come and go with ease, the cage enclosure keeps larger predators out of the nest.

time.

People are rightly thrilled to know that the bald eagle population has recovered and many are now frequenting our area. I would counter, though, that the successful re-nesting of these small, but very rare and distinctive birds is an even greater triumph. It signifies the increasing health of our lake, the successful improvement in habitat, and the continuing growth of the Great Lake plover population. That population still has a long way to go to before it can be taken off the endangered species list, but for now, right here in Erie, piping plovers have finally come home.

Mary Birdsong can be contacted at mBirdsong@ErieReader.com, and you can follow her on Twitter @Mary_Birdsong.

What's in a Name?

Scientists have differing opinions about naming the animals they study. Some claim it is not a good idea because it leads to anthropomorphism, where scientists run the risk of attributing human characteristics to them. Others are more lenient in their position. In this particular case, everyone felt a bit sentimental due to the historical nature of the event. The male bird, which had been at Gull Point in the spring and summer of 2016 without successfully finding a mate, had received the nickname “Junior,” because he was the younger of two males that had arrived at the same time in May. But once the pair was established, the male was renamed Jerry (for McWilliams) and the female, Jean, (for Stull-Cunningham), the two people who lead the charge to protect Gull Point.

NOW ACCEPTING FALL ENROLLMENTS

9 LOCATIONS

West Erie/ Millcreek, Fairview, East Erie/ Harborcreek, Union City Albion, Edinboro, Wattsburg Waterford/ Mill Village & Girard

Register Online at www.longschoolofdance.net

Mill Creek COFFEE

Currently Featuring

SUMATRA BORU BATAK

Roasted on site!
Stop in for a free cup.

1222 Linden Avenue, Erie PA
(814) 453-3192
www.millcreekcoffeeco.com

SAMURAI
Kitchen + Sushi

LOCALLY OWNED

Back to school special!
Half off kids meals with adult entree purchase!
Sunday's only

CALL FOR RESERVATIONS

(814) 833-0293

2767 W. 12th St.
Erie, PA 16505

MUSIC REVIEWS

Lil Peep

Come Over When You're Sober, Pt. 1
Warner Music Sweden



Let's be honest: Lil Peep continues to garner buzz because, love him or hate



him, there's something intrinsically interesting about a white SoundCloud rapper with face tattoos exclusively sampling indie rock. The problem is, it's the same intrinsic interest attached to crunkcore circa-2007. Lil Peep has little to say that we haven't heard before from a more nuanced artist (say, Future) on his first studio album, *Come Over When You're Sober, Pt. 1*. This isn't to say Lil Peep doesn't grapple with real, personal issues. On the surprisingly sincere "U Said," he details a need for companionship, and later, on "Better Off (Dying)," the retreat to substance abuse when that need is not met. But other tracks like opening single "Benz Truck" repeat themselves ad nauseam. Hell, "Save That Shit" doesn't even contain verses — just chorus after chorus connected by a short bridge. Is this satire? Is it *good* satire? Does it matter? One can't help but think if Peep were able to surpass his gimmick and muster up a little more humility, he might release something half as interesting as his appearance. — Aaron Mook

Grizzly Bear

Painted Ruins
RCA Records



Brand New isn't the only indie-rock band satisfying waits of five-plus



years this week. Albeit embracing a much more conventional rollout, Grizzly Bear's fifth album, *Painted Ruins*, continues the band's orchestral, technicolor spree that started with 2009's *Veckatimest* and expanded with 2012's masterstroke, *Shields*. If the former resembled a collection of eclectic pop gems and the latter showcased fuller, more intricate songwriting, *Painted Ruins* could best be described as a painting, vivid and expansive as its heavily detailed arrangements run freely into each other. After opening with the cinematic swell of "Wasted Acres," "Morning Sound" splits its hook between vocalist Ed Droste and guitarist Daniel Rossen, while "Three Rings" buzzes to a similar tune as Radiohead's standout "All I Need." Somewhere between the classic psych-pop melodies of the Beatles and the woozy instrumentation of Mac DeMarco, Grizzly Bear continue navigate themselves through uncharted territory, even if it's a world they're thoroughly familiar with. — Aaron Mook

Cloakroom

Time Well
Relapse Records



You should know within a minute of opening track "Gone But Not Entirely" whether Cloakroom's second LP,



Time Well, is for you. In fact, you may even know before pressing play if you read the album's press release: *Time Well* is in fact rooted somewhere between "doomy stoner rock" and "psychedelic shoegaze" and it truly does beat you over the head with "60-plus minutes of crunchy, guitar-driven atmosphere." Building on their more accessible 2015 debut, *Further Out*, Cloakroom deliberately uses this album's duration to expand their sound to the extremes of both doom-metal and dream-pop. There's no doubt the band perfected their vision for this release, allowing crushing guitars and vocalist Doyle Martin's David Bazan-like croon to do most of the heavy lifting. *Time Well's* only drawback stems from its lack of variety. The album's best moments come anytime the band steps out on a limb, whether it's injecting the occasional hook ("Concrete Gallery," "Seedless Star") or providing an original take on a familiar tune ("Hymnal"). For some, *Time Well* will play more like an hour-long monolith. Whether that appeals to you should tell you everything you need to know before pressing play. — Aaron Mook

The Accidentals

Odyssey
Sony Masterworks



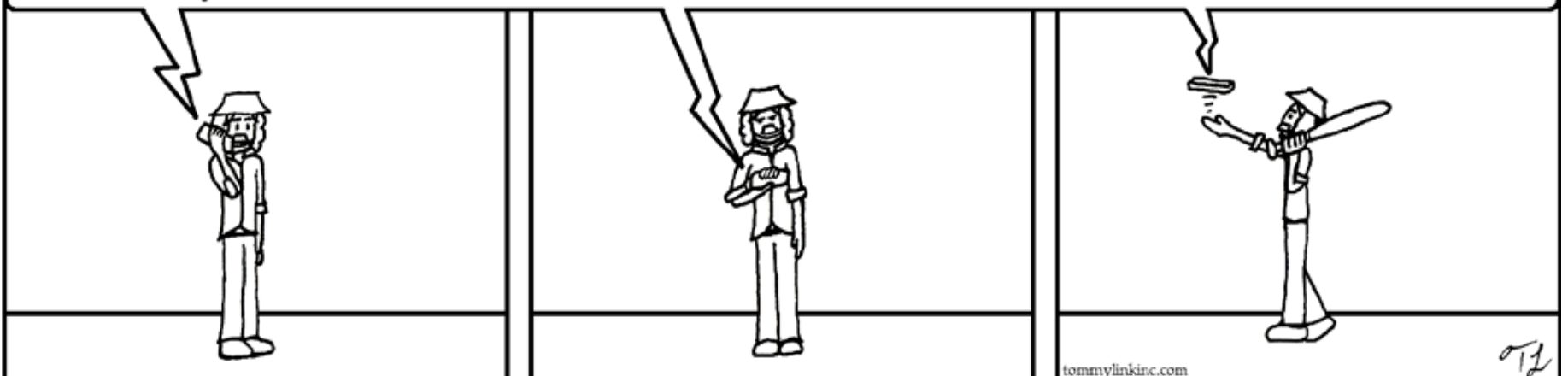
With a subtle and delicate touch, The Accidentals are able to craft melodies with an exquisitely fragile beauty.



Odyssey is the band's third full-length record, and their first that carries the stamp of a major label. Specifically, they're aligned with Sony Masterworks, the company's classical imprint. While the implied austerity marked by such a distinction might seem strange for a band that generally photograph like an indie-punk band, the rich musicality of the trio is immediately evident to any symphonic supporter. While the most efficient taxonomy of the Traverse City, Michigan group might label them "chamber-folk," the band blends elements of jazz, bluegrass, and pop music. Perhaps the most potent ingredient to the whole mix is the gorgeous harmonies of singers Savannah Buist and Katie Larson. Each are gifted string instrumentalists as well, employing violin, cello, mandolin and more with the more traditional guitar and bass setup. Standout tracks include the cinematic lushness of "Memorial Day," the heartbreakingly anthemic "Crow's Feet," and the bluesy funk of "The Sound a Watch Makes When Enveloped by Cotton." — Nick Warren

TOMMY IN TOON — BY TOMMY LINK

Yes, we'd love to have you at our venue. What dates do you have free in June? Because our June is full. How's your July? Also, what kind of following do you have? Are you loud? We don't like it when the music is too loud. Sure, we can give you your hourly rate, unless it's not busy. You know what, I just realized I double booked this weekend. How does next weekend look?



3 Great Days
Fun&Food&Drink



Friday, September 15 - 5:00 to 11:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 16 - 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 17 - 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Great Entertainment

Pittsburgh's Hottest Irish Band, Corned Beef and Curry Return for 2 Shows.
Dublin Native, John Byrne and his Band. Irish Comedian Sean Finnerty.
Acoustic Lunch with Mo Chairde, Plus Erie's Own Bangerzz and Celtic Creek, Irish Step Dancing and Magic.

Great Food

Our Famous Irish-American Fusion Menu anchored by our own Guinness Stout and Cheddar Sauce.
Have some on Irish Mac and Cheese, Irish Nachos, or a Paddy Melt. Plus all of your Irish Favorites—Reubens, Irish Stew, Shepherd's Pie, Rachels and more.
Friday Night Only Harp Battered Fish and Chips with Fresh Local Sweet Corn!

Sports Bar

Catch all of your favorite games while enjoying our great new pub grub menu! Sunday watch the Steelers or Bills on our big screens and get \$1.00 off our Irish Red or Bayfront Blonde Ale.

Great Irish Beverages

Guinness, Harp, Smithwicks!
Irish Whiskey and Our Own Homemade Irish Cream Liqueur!
And Erie Brewing Company's Irish Red Ale, brewed especially for the Festival and only available here!

Free Admission, Free Parking, Rain or Shine, enter at 4th and French, downtown.
www.erieirishfestival.com or visit us on Facebook.

PICK 'EM PRO CHALLENGE



**SEPTEMBER 7 -
DECEMBER 31, 2017**

Earn 10 Tier Points then visit the kiosk to play!

\$2,500 in Cash Prizes Each Week

Make your picks between Tuesday at 10am and Sunday by 1pm to the upcoming week's games.

Visit Guest Services or presqueisledowns.com for complete details.



MUSIC IS *Our* SOUL LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS • 5PM-7PM

September 1 - Boyd Baker & Friends
September 2 - Matt Gavula
September 8 - The Hamiltons Unplugged
September 9 - Doug Phillips Acoustic

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS • 9PM

September 1 - Lucky Dog
September 2 - Tennessee Backporch
September 8 & 9 - Chris Higbee

Happy Hour 5pm - 7pm
Fridays - 50% Off Drinks and \$5 Appetizers
Saturdays - 50% Off Drinks



LIVE RACING

**SUNDAY - THURSDAY
Post Time 5:25pm**

FAMILY NIGHT AT THE RACES
Wednesdays and Sundays
5pm-8pm

\$2 HAMBURGERS • \$2 CHEESEBURGERS
\$1 SMITH'S HOT DOGS • \$1 FRENCH FRIES

**JOIN US THIS MONTH TO WIN YOUR SHARE
OF OVER \$350,000 IN CASH AND PRIZES!**



**Fridays in September from 4pm-10pm
with 60 Winners Each Night!
Visit us online to find all the ways to win!**

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



**presque isle
downs & casino**
ELDORADO RESORTS

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