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ERIE READER

**Erie Horror Film Festival
Celebrates 10th Anniversary**

**Falling Hollywood Releases
Highly Anticipated
Sophomore Album**

**The Erie Reader
Downtown Debate Series:
Erie City Council**

Time to Fire Chief Wahoo

The Debt Limit Debacle

#AJD

Q&A with Kathy Dahlkemper

**NPAA Biennial
Exhibit Reviewed**

**Will and the Won'ts
Rock PACA and
Erie Ale House**

**24 Hour
Comics Day**

**Music &
Fashion**

**Respected Long time
Local Businessman
Roy Glass Finds Hope
in Struggle Against ALS**



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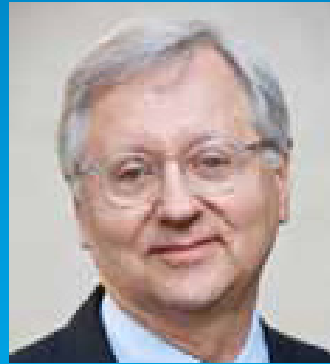
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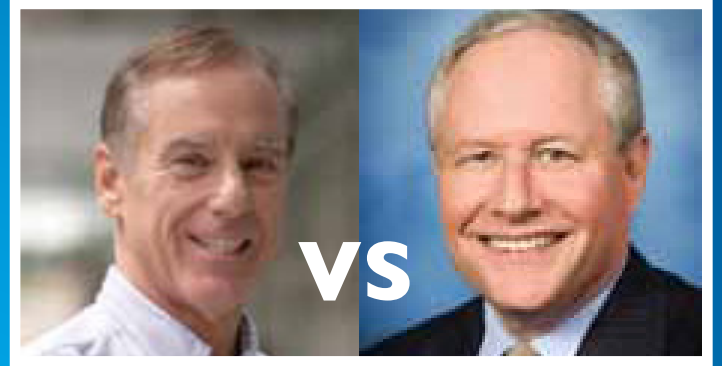
Ian Morris, Ph.D.
NOV. 11 / 7:30 p.m.



David Gergen, J.D.
NOV. 12 / 11:30 a.m.



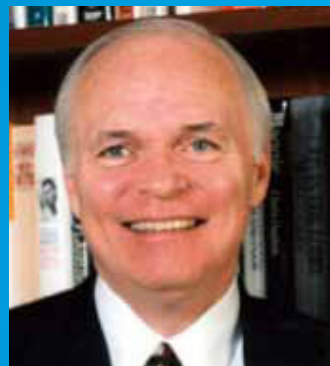
Thomas E. Mann, Ph.D.
NOV. 12 / 7:30 p.m.



Howard Dean, M.D. William Kristol, Ph.D.
DEBATE: NOV. 13 / 7:30 p.m.



Richard Norton Smith
NOV. 14 / 11:30 a.m.



Brian Lamb
NOV. 14 / 11:30 a.m.



Edith Widder, Ph.D.
NOV. 14 / 7:30 p.m.



**Crislyn
D'Souza-Schorey, Ph.D.**
NOV. 14 / 7:30 p.m.



**Harry Markopolos,
M.S., C.F.A**
NOV. 15 / 7:30 p.m.

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The Erie Reader is a forum for ideas and discussion, and seeks to drive two-way communication with its readers. At the Erie Reader, we endeavor to highlight the best of Erie by providing in-depth, magazine-style journalism that cuts to the heart of the issues that matter to Erie. The Erie Reader is published every other week at The Corry Journal, 28 W. South St., Corry, Pa. 16407. The Erie Reader is distributed at over 250 high foot-traffic locations in Pennsylvania from North East to Girard to Edinboro. The Erie Reader is also available by mail subscription; one year (26 issues) for \$49.99. Send check or money order payable to Flagship Multimedia, Inc., to the address below. In addition to appearing in print, Erie Reader adds new content daily at ErieReader.com as well social media sites.

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From the Editors

“We here at the Erie Reader are pro-Erie. Everyone knows that,” writes Cory Vaillancourt in this issue’s Upfront. “But we aren’t pro-Erie because some of us were born here; we’re pro-Erie because we live here... and just like you, we want this city, this county, this region, and this country to prosper.”

While the opinions of our columnists and contributors are their own and do not always reflect that of the editorial board or the organization as a whole, this one does. Because we believe in Erie’s bright future, we continually do our damndest to bring you the good news of Erie and shine a light on the optimism all too often hiding in the darker corners of this city, while also remaining critical of the challenges presented to this area both by misfortune beyond our control as well as that by our own hands.

Often at the end of some of our heavier criticism sits one man: Gov. Tom Corbett.

Over the course of his term as Pennsylvania’s governor, he’s slashed education, cut from welfare programs, and championed the conversion of fresh water into a radioactive slurpee — all making him an easy target for us. And just recently he likened gay marriage to incest.

But when credits and kudos are due, we’ll give them. And in our eyes, Corbett’s earned some much needed praise because of a program he and his administration established and how it’s

about to help right here in rural ol’ Erie.

On Thursday, Oct. 10, the Technology Council announced that the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) awarded it a \$100,000 Discovered in PA, Developed in PA grant. The Corbett administration initiated the program to “build capacity to better support Pennsylvania businesses and to spur creativity and innovation in the provision of economic development services, from business incubating to mentoring to marketing and beyond.”

And fostering and nurturing business development is good news to everyone’s ears — especially in a city where big corporations are on their way out and growth now hinges on smaller companies planting their roots here.


“With the majority of new jobs coming from startups and emerging small business,” said DCED Secretary C. Alan Walker in a press release, “developing new ways to support creative thinking and business know-how is critical.”

These funds, which will be used for Phase I activities related to the Innovation Collaborative — tasked with creating “a more thriving ‘entrepreneurial ecosystem,’” according to the press release — will give people in our region the chance to do just that: it’ll ensure entrepreneurs have access to better resources to take an idea and make it a reality here in Erie. That Innovation Collaboration has been at work for a year now dating back to October 2012, and Phase I of the initiative, according to the press

release, comprises of “the creation of an inventory of the region’s entrepreneurial activity, support system, and deficiencies,” during which a “metrics-driven action plan” will be developed.

“This is a great day for NWPAA,” said Candace Littell, chairwoman of the Board at the Tech Council in the press release announcing the grant. “This is the beginning of the hard work that is required to ensure a bright future for our regional economy.”

And we — champions of Erie’s bright future and vast possibilities — couldn’t agree more. Often there’s a lot of talk, some meetings, a spool of bureaucratic red tape unfurling, and then nothing. Now we have a something tangible: an organization in the Tech Council that offers a bevy of services geared to promote innovation, wealth, and job creation while also bolstering economic competitiveness with a \$100,000 at its disposal to promote success in our region.

Now let’s ensure that Corbett and other representatives see the potential in Erie as Phase I gives way to Phase II, the implementation of the activities prioritized in the action plan — perhaps the even more daunting task at hand, since follow through is something this city needs now more than ever if we’re to capitalize on the limited chances and resources at hand. After all, out of the entire planet, we choose to work, live, and play here, and we’re bent on making this the best damn place to live in, because just like you, we want Erie to prosper and can see that bright future that lies ahead. 

The Best Place To Be Born

By: Cory Vaillancourt

Writer George Bernard Shaw said that patriotism – much like civic pride – is “a conviction that a particular country is the best in the world because you were born in it.”

Now, we here at the Erie Reader are pro-Erie. Everyone knows that. But we aren't pro-Erie because some of us were born here; we're pro-Erie, because we live here, we work here, we shop here, and we raise our children here, and – just like you – we want this city, this county, this region, and this country to prosper, so that all may prosper with it in an unending and decidedly un-vicious circle of success.

But we've been rough on Erie at times, and with good reason.

A month ago, I wrote about poverty in Erie – a creeping, pervasive spectre looming just outside the doors of our friends, our neighbors, and our families. Poverty, I postulated, is a result of unemployment, which breeds crime, which in turn scares off employers, which in turn begets further unemployment, creating an unending and decidedly vicious circle of suffering.

Erie's economy casts a long shadow, from State Street to Saegertown, and from Cambridge Springs to Corry – which is why we're focusing on the race for Erie City Council.

That story generated a lot of discussion, almost all of it positive; here in Erie, as I mentioned, we're not so good at self-assessment, so even bringing our problems to light is good medicine. And while good medicine rarely goes down easy, it does begin the slow process of recovery. However, some commenters lamented that our writers and editors are awfully good at dispensing palliatives, and offer little in the way of instant cures.

Listen, people, we know our roles here. We all play small parts. We're not legislators, and neither are (most of) you. We talk about things we can't change in hopes that the people who can, will. We bring you the issues that matter, and drive discussions so that you, loyal Reader readers, have a platform for your musings available nowhere else in the city.

And we've always felt that the best way to give you that platform – in furtherance of a sustain-

able, flourishing Erie – is to call upon our leaders, each election season, and ask them to explain exactly what they have to offer.

That's why we're proud to announce that the 2013 “Erie Reader Downtown Debate Series” will culminate at the Jefferson Educational Society at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 22.

Many – if not all – of the weeds growing in our collective garden have their gnarly roots in the city; as the main economic engine of our little region, Erie's economy casts a long shadow, from State Street to Saegertown, and from Cambridge Springs to Corry – which is why we're focusing on the race for Erie City Council.

Five candidates seek four seats; current City Controller Casimir J. Kwitowski is the only non-incumbent city councilman running; David Brennan, Curtis Jones, Jr., James Winarski, and John Evans – the only Republican – all hope to retain their city council seats.

The current climate of city politics is mild, but bluster is on the immediate horizon; led by a mayor who's greatest strength and weakness is that he's done nothing much of note, our city faces a perfect storm in the coming years – including a stagnant tax base, a smorgasbord of social ills, and a flurry of dim-witted development schemes. Adding an element of intrigue to the debate is the fact that Erie Mayor Joe Sinnott is termed-out; in four years, Erie will be looking for a new mayor, and Erie might need look no further than the stage at this debate.

No, our next mayor will not be debate moderator Lisa Adams, although she'd probably make a good mayor; that's why we've eschewed our traditional multi-panelist format in favor of asking Lisa – a highly-knowledgeable and experienced television journalist over at Lilly Broadcasting – to helm this, our seventh debate.

The questions will be provided by the Erie Reader Editorial Board, composed of myself, Editors-in-Chief Brian Graham and Adam Welsh, and Managing Editor Ben Spегgen. Adams will direct a question to a specific candidate, who will have one minute to respond. Then, any other candidate who wishes to also respond or rebut may raise their hand, be recognized, and have their 30 seconds. Calling on her knowledge and experience, Adams will have the ability to ask follow-up questions of anyone, at any time.


We feel this format allows greater flexibility for both the candidates and the moderator; much



Erie's often left to play the hand it's dealt. So it's time to choose the players we want sitting at the table for the draw.

Joe Contrail

can be learned from who answers what, as well as who keeps quiet when. And if someone's avoiding, obscuring, or otherwise obfuscating, Adams can press for a real answer. In short, past Reader debates were more like interrogations, but this one will be more like a conversation.

If you want to be part of that conversation, share your questions and comments with us before, during, and after the debate at Facebook.com/ErieReader or on Twitter using the hashtag #ERDebate; alternatively, drop me a line at the email address below. Then, make plans to join us as we all play our small parts in making Erie the best place in the world to be born. 

The Erie Reader 2013 Downtown Debate is free and open to the public. The Jefferson Educational Society is located at 3207 State St., where there may or may not be cookies. The debate will also be broadcast in HD on WICU-TV; as of press time, the date and time for the broadcasts were yet to be determined.

Cory Vaillancourt is a brilliant writer/complete back and can be complimented/heckled at cvaillancourt@ErieReader.com. Find him on Twitter @VLNCR. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or go to <http://eridr.com/s5iq8>



News of the Weird

By: Chuck Shepherd

HAUTE COUTURE

A few still-primitive cultures inexplicably celebrate such female adornments as the stacking of metal neck rings and the inserting of saucer-size disks into pierced earlobes. For “civilized” society, there is the annual Paris Fashion Week in September, when renowned designers outfit brave, otherwise-gorgeous models in grotesque clothing. Among the ensembles witnessed by a New York Times critic this year: a hat resembling steroid-enhanced stalks of peas; a shoe appearing to sprout twig-studs; “a flexible cage covered in doughnuts of black satin”; and a pillow clutch with (for some reason) its own porthole. [New York Times, 9-30-2013]

RECURRING THEMES

News of the Weird first reported successful “stool implants” among family members in 2007 (to cure infections such as *C. difficile* by introducing the donor's “good” microbes to overcome an imbalance of “bad” bacteria in a relative's intestine). In 2012, however, two University of California, Davis, neurosurgeons boldly extended the cutting-edge treatment for three patients with a highly malignant brain tumor unresponsive to treatment. The doctors tried infusing bowel bacteria directly into the tumor, but the patients died, nonetheless. Although the patients had given fully informed consent, the school in August 2013 pressured Drs. J. Paul Muizelaar and Rudolph Schrot to resign for having violated internal and FDA procedures. [Sacramento Bee, 7-22-2012] [KQVR-TV (Sacramento), 8-25-2013]

It is well known that hospitals charge for medical supplies far in excess of what the products would cost at drugstores, but an August New York Times investigation of “saline drips” vividly demonstrated the disconnect. Though Medicare reimburses \$1.07 for a 1-liter plastic bag of salt-water (supplied by a subsidiary of Morton Salt), White Plains (N.Y.) Hospital charged patients' insurance companies like Aetna \$91 per bag. Other hospitals decline to charge per-bag, listing only “IV therapy” of, for example, \$787 for hooking up the drip. [New York Times, 8-27-2013]

From the world's cosmetic-surgery capital (South Korea, where one woman in five has had at least one procedure) comes the “Smile Lipt” offered by Aone Plastic Surgery in the city of Yongin, designed to produce a permanent smile (associated with success). The Smile Lipt turns downward-drooping lip corners upward, to allow a persistent smile resembling that of Batman's nemesis, The Joker. [BusinessInsider.com, 8-17-2013]

Street Corner Soapbox

It's Time to Fire Chief Wahoo

By: Jay Stevens

Now that the Cleveland Indians are safely out of the playoffs, it's time to bring it up again. It's time for Chief Wahoo to go.

In the news, it's been the Washington Redskins who have been under attack for their racist nickname, thanks to President Barack Obama pitching in. "If I were owner of the team," he said, "I'd think about changing it."

The backlash was as predictable as it was appalling.

"Leave the Redskins name alone, Obama," tweeted one observer, "and actually go do presidential things." "Obama said if he had a name that offended many people, he'd change it," tweeted another. "But HE DOES have a name that offends us!"

An Onion headline, as usual, summed it up best: "Redskins' Name Only Offensive If You Think About What it Means."

Redskins owner Dan Snyder cited poll numbers that claimed few people were offended by the name, and ESPN's Rick Reilly took that idea a step further, saying his father-in-law, Bob Burns – an elder in the Blackfoot nation – wasn't bothered by the team's use of "Redskins." "It's an issue that shouldn't be an issue," Reilly claimed Burns said, "not with all the problems we've got in this country."

"Too late," responded Reilly, "White America has spoken. You aren't offended, so we'll be offended for you."

Only Reilly, um, misquoted his father-in-law. "My son completely misunderstood the conversation we had," wrote Burns in his own op-ed. "That's not what I said....He failed to include my comments that the term 'Redskins' demeans Indians, and historically is insulting and offensive, and that I firmly believe the Washington Redskins should change their name."

Thanksgiving at the Reilly table should be interesting this year.

Changing the name is a no-brainer. An Onion

headline, as usual, summed it up best: "Redskins' Name Only Offensive If You Think About What it Means." And that goes double for the grinning, red-faced racist caricature the Cleveland Indians use for their mascot. Chief Wahoo.


I wrote about this last year, and probably will again next year – unless, of course, Cleveland ditches Wahoo. Which isn't likely, not soon. In April, team president Mark Shapiro reiterated the team's commitment to Wahoo. Indians' owner, Larry Dolan, too, shows no sign of shame. "They just don't have a problem [with Chief Wahoo]," said Dolan in a 2006 interview of asking Native Americans about the issue, the real-life Indians he encounters during his travels to places like, you know, Indian casinos.

The claim that the name "Indians" honors an early Cleveland Native American ballplayer, Louis Sockalexis, is blatantly false. Fans constantly ragged Sockalexis, a player most famous for jumping out of a second-story brothel window, and when it was discovered he was battling alcoholism – which would eventually kill him at age 42 – the local papers said he suffered from "the Indian weakness."

Many Indians fans react with insensitivity –

or worse. "We killed all Indians a while ago," wrote an angry Indians' fan on Facebook to an article suggesting the team should lose the mascot. "Who cares!" And in the wildcard game that ended this year's remarkable Indians' season also ended with the unfortunate image of several Cleveland fans in "red face," having painted their faces bright red with grotesque grinning white teeth over their lips, on national television.

"It's time to stop putting fans in a position where atrocious and insensitive remarks are used to represent the fan base as a whole," wrote Andrew Schnitkey of the Cleveland sports fan blog, Waiting for Next Year. "And it's time to stop using a symbol that offends some people. There's just no reason for it."

So again: How much cooler would the "Cleveland Spiders" be? 

Jay Stevens can be contacted at Jay@ErieReader.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @Snevets_Yaj. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or go to <http://erivdr.com/dql7j>



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THE WAY I SEE IT

The Debt Limit Debacle

By: Rebecca Styn

Assuming you haven't been living as a hermit over the last several weeks, you probably know that the United States is slated to reach the debt ceiling (also known as the debt limit) Thursday, Oct. 17 – a day after this issue is released.

For those of you who may not know exactly what the debt limit is: before the debt limit ever existed, Congress had to approve every bond issuance the Treasury Department used to finance the national debt. This made it difficult to raise money quickly – especially during emergencies – so over time, Congress began giving more leeway to the Treasury. By 1939, the current debt limit system was essentially in place – so that Congress establishes the total amount of debt the government can accrue and leaves everything else to the Treasury.

The fact that the parties can't come together on any level only tells me that everyone, including the president, is working only for self-interests.

And despite its name, the debt limit actually has nothing to do with increasing the federal debt. Raising the debt limit does not create new spending but rather authorizes the Treasury Department to fund previously agreed upon spending.

If the debt ceiling is not raised, the debt doesn't decrease, it just stops being financed. Currently, our debt limit is close to \$17 trillion. The federal debt actually reached the debt limit back in May, but the Treasury Department has been using accounting tactics to keep borrowing until the debt limit is increased. Except these tactics will stop working come Oct. 17.

Remember, that debt limit impasse we had back in 2011? It caused significant harm to our economy then – all alongside a downgrade in our credit rating of the United States. And that's nothing compared to what can happen now. Financial markets could ef-

fectively collapse; a bank run would soon follow, and a massive recession would result. It's something so great it cannot be effectively comprehended.

So, what Congress needs to do now is pass a bill raising the statutory borrowing authority of Congress. This does not increase government spending; rather, it allows for the Treasury to pay for expenditures that Congress has already approved. Except Congress and the president won't compromise. As a result, we can default.

You'd think this was an easy solution. Just pass the bill raising borrowing authority. But both parties are fighting over this. Why, you ask? Because President Barack Obama and Congressional Democrats are demanding that the debt limit is increased without any cuts to Obamacare or other federal spending, and Republicans are demanding the opposite – that these cuts are made. So until one side gives in, the debt limit stays where it is.

And this is wherein the problem now lies.

The way I see it, it doesn't matter what side of the aisle you're on. The fact that the parties can't come together on any level only tells me that everyone, including the president, is working only for self-interests. He demands that the debt limit is increased without any cuts to Obamacare or other spending. Demanding sounds more like a dictatorship rather than a democracy. Our polarization is the worst it's ever been in history. And just for the sake of argument, even if Obamacare is better for society as a whole, the fact that it's putting the rest of the system in ruins is only facilitating the continual demise of our country. So, while the Democrats and Republicans are fighting over whether everyone should have access to health care, as a result of the debt limit, they may now have to decide whether to pay Social Security to seniors, pay benefits to our veterans, or make payments to several jurisdictions and health care providers under Medicare and Medicaid. And on some level, these choices affect each and every one of us.

This is old-fashioned political gridlock folks, and Americans everywhere will suffer unless someone budges. ■

Love? Hate? Agree? Disagree? I want to hear from you. Email me at rStyn@ErieReader.com, and follow me on Twitter @rStyn. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or go to <http://erirdr.com/0m6r6>



TECH WATCH

#AJO

By: Dakota Hoffman, Epic WebStudios

If you have left your home or absorbed even an ounce of media in the last few weeks, you have probably heard the story of Erie college student Alyssa Josephine O'Neill. The 18 year-old woman was diagnosed with epilepsy three years ago but led a happy life despite coping with the disease each day as she began studying as a nursing major at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College. On Sept. 3, Alyssa told her mother that she had never tried a pumpkin spice latte, so the two made plans together to get one from Starbucks the next day. But that coffee date never happened; the next day Alyssa unexpectedly died due to a seizure.

Two days after Alyssa's funeral, her parents – to honor their daughter's memory – decided to buy 40 pumpkin spice lattes for strangers in the Starbucks at the Millcreek Mall Plaza. All that the O'Neils asked of the baristas was for them to write Alyssa's initials on the cups. The baristas did, and, moved by the act of kindness, the employees also donated another 50 lattes for patrons.

Fast-forward a month and a half to now and life is radically different for Alyssa's parents Jason and Sarah. A memorial Facebook page published by her parents shortly after Alyssa's death has just passed 38,000 likes. The Twitter page, also maintained by the O'Neills, has close to 10,000 tweets with almost as many followers. The majority of the posts are retweets from supporters around the world as the social media outreach has gone global.

Alyssa O'Neill's final wish for a pumpkin spice latte is spreading kindness throughout the world, and thanks to social media, the #AJO hashtag has spread and has gone well beyond coffee. Now "#AJO" can be seen on everything from a layaway slip a stranger has paid off in full to tickets purchased by a fellow moviegoer. People as far away as Australia have paid it forward with the #AJO

hashtag.

"It started with just a few messages a day," said Jason. "We would wake up in the morning and have around 50 messages on the page and a couple hundred likes. At first we thought it was friends and family, but then the next day we would wake up and it would be 200 messages and thousands of new fans. It grew exponentially.

"It really has helped us cope with the loss," Jason added. "When people lose a loved one, they have a support network of friends and family that love and care for them. With everything that has happened it's like that support network has 3,700 people."

The role social media plays in our society often gets a lot of negative attention. My last Tech Watch focused on how terrorists in Kenya used it to spread propaganda as they laid siege to a mall for four days. But it's stories like #AJO that show that social media can be used for good as well.

"This was never meant to take off, but it has exploded," said Jason. "We're very pleased to see how many acts of kindness are being performed around the world in our daughter's name."

The O'Neill's were active on social media to some degree before Sept 4. Then, it was about fun, or bragging rights.

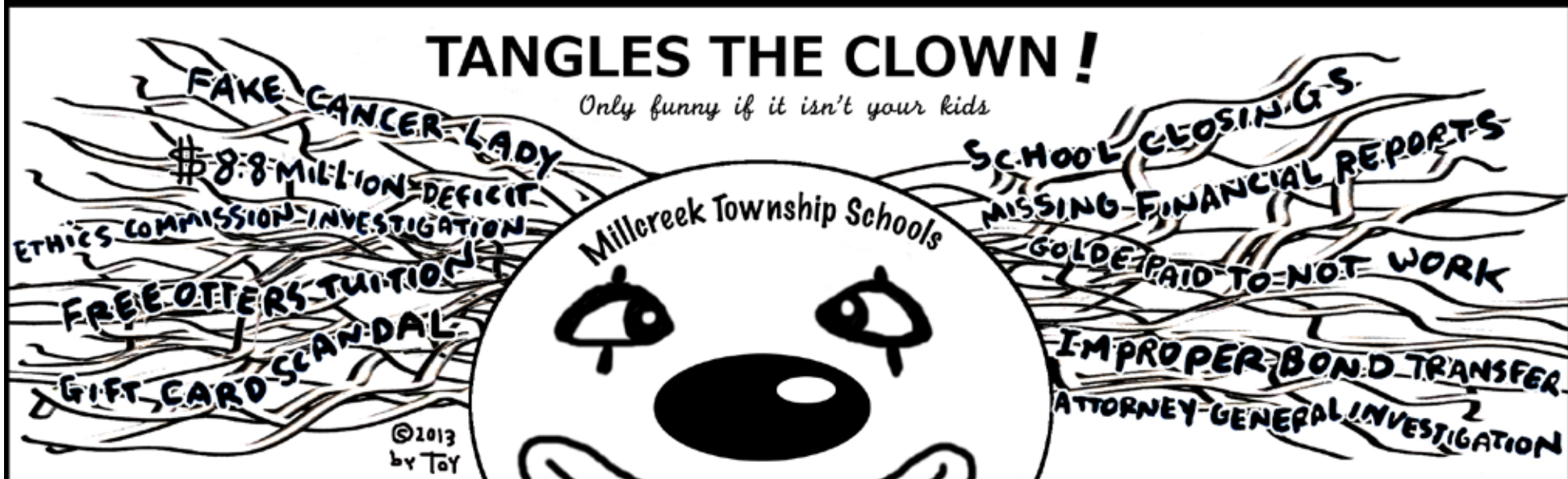
"We used to compare how many likes an Instagram photo would get, but today social media means so much more to us," Jason said. "It's not a hobby anymore – it's a way to spread some good in the world."

So as you go about your day and interact with people around you, be aware that everyone you encounter is facing some trouble in their life, and that showing them a small act of kindness can go a long way to ease their pain. How will you pay it forward today? ■

Dakota Hoffman can be contacted at Epic@ErieReader.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @DakotaScottErie. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or go to <http://erirdr.com/q5fn7>



JUST TOYIN' WITCHA By: B. Toy



Q&A With Erie County Executive Candidate Kathy Dahlkemper

By: Rebecca Styn

On Tuesday, Nov. 5, the constituents of Erie County will have a choice to make. One that will ultimately determine the future state of affairs throughout the region. Affairs that encompass the decline in state and federal funding, the 911 center, and economic development. Ones that address the pertinent issues of poverty and education and the future development our community – ultimately in hopes of creating vibrancy and opportunity for those that not only live here, but want to come home.

This choice is for Erie County Executive.

While both candidates understand how complex and involved these issues are, only one will move forward and have the opportunity to tackle them. Democrat Kathy Dahlkemper believes she is that candidate. Dahlkemper currently serves as Partner/Human Resources Director and New Business Development Director for Dahlkemper Landscape Architects and Contractors. She holds a bachelor's degree from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, and she previously served as U.S. Representative for Pennsylvania's 3rd Congressional District from 2009 to 2011, until Republican Mike Kelly defeated her as she made a second bid for the same seat.

In May's primary election, she defeated incumbent Barry Grossman with 52 percent of the vote, and in less than a month will face off with Republican nominee Don Tucci, who defeated Tom Luftus, to earn the Republican nod.

Rebecca Styn: The current County Executive has publicly stated he may be willing to endorse a candidate if either steps forward favoring the establishment of a community college, and to retain some of his staff. Thoughts on this?

Kathy Dahlkemper: I have not ever publicly tried to receive endorsements from public officials – rather focusing on the everyday voter. I don't believe those endorsements are vital. I would rather just hear the message of the constituents.

RS: Our readers tend to be a bit younger in scope – 25 to 44 years old – with slightly more female Reader readers than male. Give me one idea you'd like to see happen or change in Erie county that would positively affect this demographic.

KD: Many people tell me they want to stay in Erie, but we just don't have the opportunities available to them. I want to see this happen. One of my top priorities is economic development – we need to create the climate in order for job creation to happen. We also need to create a greater environment to enhance the quality of

life in the county. By this, I mean we need to make sure that we have a community that is vibrant and attractive so that younger individuals want to stay here – or want to come back. There's a foundation here for it, but it needs to grow. It's one of our major issues – larger companies like GE have trouble attracting the 20-40 somethings from other cities because we don't have the vibrancy or the necessary opportunity to educate their workers.

RS: In regards to the GAF property, what do you think the best process for development is, and, if you had the absolute control to determine it, what would you build there?

KD: Our company, Dahlkemper Landscaping, has been involved in the Bayfront development for at least the last 20 years. We helped design Liberty Park and were involved in the Sheraton

and bike path and Intermodal Center. The GAF is one of those last pieces that can majorly enhance the Bayfront. Our company already developed some sketches, and there's been other plans – through the Port Authority and other architects. What we really need though is private development. It's not up to elected officials to decide what really goes there – as honestly, that's not our expertise. We need someone who has done

these projects and knows what works. That's how Baltimore became successful. It would be great to have restaurants and shops in the vicinity – alongside public access to access to the water. It could involve residential, but it doesn't have to be in competition with those other things. Often the residential is higher up and the first floor is for the public to use.

RS: Of the entire county, what areas do you think need the most improvement? Why?

KD: I have been all over the county. There are needs in every part – just different. Overall, it's jobs. One of the biggest issues in outer areas such as Union City and Corry – is the lack of transportation. Because there are no jobs in those outlying areas, these areas suffer because there's little public transportation to get workers elsewhere. I don't know if one area is more needy than the



Contributed Photo

Erie County Executive candidate Kathy Dahlkemper defeated Democratic incumbent Barry Grossman and now faces Republican challenger Don Tucci in the Nov. 5 general election.

next. We have a community that is desperately poor and in need of opportunity – in our small communities and even in the city of Erie.

RS: The mayor is entering his final four-year term. What sort of relationship do you plan to have and how can you ensure that?

KD: I've already met with Mayor [Joe] Sinnott. We've had a relationship since the beginning of his term back when I was running the Arboretum to the time I was in Congress and worked with him on different issues. I plan on making sure that we talk about the big issues that are affecting the county that are most tied to the city. The city is a key part of the county, and I think we can assist the city making sure they are also strong and vibrant.

RS: We're poor. A lot of us. Bigger businesses are either leaving – GE – or aligning with outside corporations – UMPC Hamot – while at the

same time, new business growth isn't booming. How do you plan to address that?

KD: I believe it's good that as a community we finally have decided that the number-one issue affecting us is poverty. That knowledge helps us search and find a solution. I keep going back to jobs – but that, alongside education, is key. We need to encourage entrepreneurship. We need to look at the entire ecosystem and find the loopholes that exist and address them, so when someone wants to start a company or find ways to help their company grow, they have the assistance they need. Right now, we're not going to be bringing in the bigger corporations. So we need to grow from within. Our smaller businesses need to grow, and we need to give them assistance to do this. Erie will become a stronger place – we just need to start from within.

RS: Erie's population hasn't grown in quite some time. Do you think this is because Erie's the perfect size, or because there's nothing here forcing people out or attracting them in?

KD: I think part of the reason is we haven't grown is that we haven't taken enough risks. I'm not saying we need to do a 180, but we definitely need to take greater risks than Erie has been comfortable with in the past. We have to look to other communities and study how they've turned themselves around. We may be the perfect size, but we don't have enough jobs here. I don't think we are in a place where we should be comfortable. I believe we will grow if we can address some of these issues.

RS: Why do you think Erie indicated it was time for a change through the voting process?

KD: I think Erie has been really looking for someone that will help lead them – someone with vision. They haven't found that in some of their elected officials. The message I brought forward was a different message. We've got to look forward and work together. I think the county executive continued to manage decline and didn't lead. This role is the leader of the county – and should have the vision and understanding to help create the future. ■

An interview with Republican challenger Don Tucci will be featured in the Oct. 30 issue of the Erie Reader.

Rebecca Styn can be contacted at rStyn@ErieReader.com, and you can follow her on Twitter @rStyn. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or go to <http://erivdr.com/y2o1d>



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BSpeggen@ErieReader.com

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The Eerie Horror Film Festival Returns

Erie's biggest film festival returns just in time for the Halloween season.

By: Alex Bieler

The past decade hasn't been the easiest time for people starting a new business. In fact, it can be downright scary, with more than half of all companies closing by their fifth year, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

However, frightening prospects can sound enticing to a person who wants to start an annual event dedicated to celebrating a love of horror and independent cinema. So in October of 2004, the Eerie Horror Film Festival and Expo debuted in The Flagship City, where it remains to this day and kicks off this year on Friday, Oct. 18.

"The fifth anniversary I was ecstatic about; the 10th anniversary is like a dream come true," Eerie Horror Fest President Greg Ropp says, his excitement for the upcoming milestone bursting through my phone speakers. "I used to run a family business, and one of the things you always hear when you start a small business is that if you make it three years, you're doing good, because most businesses fold in the first couple of years they exist. That's definitely true of festivals and any kind of event. You'll see something pop up in Erie and the region and it's gone the next year or it goes two years and disappears and then people forget about them."

There are many words you could use to describe the Eerie Horror Fest, but forgettable is not one of them. Since it started out at The Roadhouse Theater back in 2004, the three-day celebration has brought a wide array of films and icons appealing to both the self-diagnosed film nerds of the world as well as those interested in seeing something a little, well, different than what your average annual event can provide.

Of course, in October, the unusual seems rather appropriate with Halloween lurking around the corner, and the Horror Fest provides plenty of spooky intrigue as well as insight for film fanatics. There are seminars with ghost hunters, film shorts about a cannibal trying to quit "cold turkey," and a feature that was designed to be the "Star Wars" of horror movies. Fans have been able to meet celebrities like "The Boondocks Saints" stars Norman Reedus and Sean Patrick Flanery, as well as "Clerks" favorites Jason Mewes and Brian O'Halloran, all in the historic Warner Theater, a location quite fitting for the Fest.

"From day one, I said that it looked like a place where a horror event should take place," Ropp says. "The Phantom of the Opera should be popping out from around the corner of a chandelier."

Ropp wasn't alone in his thinking, as the Horror Fest had caught the eye of Erie County Convention Center Authority Executive Director Casey Wells back when it was still held at The Roadhouse Theater. Wells saw an opportunity to add what was quickly becoming an Erie tradition to the Warner's events.

"Casey said to me something pretty cool. 'Greg,



The Eerie Horror Film Festival and Expo returns to The Warner Theater Oct. 18-20 for its 10th year.

go to another theater, a bigger venue, and prove to me that you can sell out a few shows. Prove to me that you can do this.' I really took that to heart. I think he remembers that conversation, but not as well as I do. For me, as a kid who really loved the Warner – I'm a movie guy, so that's the crown jewel of Erie for me – I took it to heart."

In 2006, the Horror Fest moved to the Erie Playhouse. Two years later, a contract showed up in Ropp's mailbox and the event moved to its present-day home in the Warner Theater starting in 2008.

"He had been producing the Eerie Horror Fest

at another local venue, much smaller, and I told him that we'd love to work with him to get the show into the Warner," Wells says of his interest in the growing event. "I felt that the show had a greater opportunity to grow if it were in our venue. He was very excited, of course Greg's very passionate, and he made the leap, and we're thrilled to have him."

Much like the upcoming 10-year anniversary of the Horror Fest, the move was a dream come true for Ropp and his trusty crew of regular workers and volunteers. While many festivals are held in Holiday Inns and other hotels, the Horror Fest

calls a 2,250 seat historic theater with gorgeous interiors its home, one that famous guests from Los Angeles and New York City stare at in awe when they walk through the front doors for the first time.

Still, keeping the event alive wasn't always easy with budgets being tightened. Sometimes he would run into problems with the guests, including one notorious year when Corey Feldman was paid to appear and never showed up, much to the chagrin of excited fans. Ropp says that the last-minute cancellations used to bother him back in the Roadhouse years, but he's come to accept

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Erica Ropp

The Eerie Horror Film Festival and Expo has called the historic Warner Theatre home since it moved there in 2008.

them as part of the business, especially when the celebrities discover more lucrative filming opportunities, even if some fans may be bummed out by missing higher-profile names. In the end it's just business as usual, and the Horror Fest still has to sell tickets in order to continue its now decade-long run.

"It's good to have that staple event that you can count on year in and year out," Wells says. "It appeals to a certain demographic in the region that will come to every Horror Fest, but I think it's incumbent on Greg and the facility to continue to grow that audience. They have their loyal core of fans, but we have to continue to grow that

base by offering a fun event. Ultimately the market decides what's viable and what isn't viable."

So far, the market approves of the Horror Fest, although that won't stop Ropp from continuing to grow the event. Being the 10th Anniversary event, the Horror Fest will welcome back some old names, like last year's guest Vernon Wells from "Mad Max 2: The Road Warrior." Joining him will be film and TV veteran C. Thomas Howell and Doug Bradley, the man many horror fans know as "Pinhead" from the "Hellraiser" series. Films include "Adjust Your Tracking," an award-winning documentary on modern-day VHS culture made by Dan Kinem and Levi Per-

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etic, a pair of Edinboro University graduates that Ropp says “grew up on the Horror Fest.” Soon he hopes to go into film production and to help set up distribution channels.


“I’m trying to do something really good for the community and be a small part of that whole experience that Erie will have to embrace,” Ropp says of the Horror Fest. “We had a joke that I’m going to get a T-shirt that says ‘We’re bringing culture to Erie even if you don’t want it.’ Every time I say that, people laugh.”

Yes, the Horror Fest may not be as high-class as seeing the Erie Philharmonic, but it’s not often that you can meet celebrities, see independent films, and attend educational seminars all in one beautiful historic location. Whether you’re an admitted nerd or an intrigued individual looking for a wonderfully weird event, the Horror Fest might be the event for you.

And it’s only getting better. “It’s my baby, it’s my kid, and my kid is becoming a teenager now. Eventually, you groom this thing, you nurse this thing, you’ve made mistakes with this thing, and hopefully the Horror Fest will become a gangly teenager that will take on a life of its own and probably be really rebellious.” It can be expensive raising a family, and the

Horror Fest is no exception. Ropp and his loyal crew have nurtured the event from its Roadhouse infancy and have seen it develop into a growing destination for locals and out-of-towners. It hasn’t always been easy – or cheap – but the Eerie Horror Fest is an institution that we can embrace for all of its weirdness, for as long as it stays in operation.

“I’m going to look forward to our 25th anniversary, which means I’ll be using my walker and my cane and my Depends, but I hope we make it.”

The Horror Fest has already beat frightening odds to grow into one of Erie’s beloved annual events, so a few more years shouldn’t be all too hard of a challenge. 

“I’m trying to do something really good for the community and be a small part of that whole experience that Erie will have to embrace. We had a joke that I’m going to get a T-shirt that says ‘We’re bringing culture to Erie even if you don’t want it.’ Every time I say that, people laugh.”

The Eerie Horror Fest starts its three-day run

Friday, Oct. 18 and will run through the weekend, closing Sunday, Oct. 20. All-access passes can be purchased at eriehorrorfest.com.

Alex Bieler can be contact aBieler@ErieReader.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @Catch20Q. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or go to <http://erirdr.com/v6qy8>



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If We Were You...

WEDNESDAY 10.16

FILM at the Erie Art Museum

Struggling to simultaneously follow in the footsteps of and escape the shadow of a famous parent can be a difficult endeavor for anyone, especially for... the daughter of the king of movie-trailer voice-overs? Yep, you read that right. Written, directed, and starring Lake Bell, "In a World..." is a Sundance award-winning satire that you don't have to go to Utah to see, since the Erie Reader is sponsoring this installment of the ever-popular film series at everyone's favorite museum.

When: 7 p.m.
Where: 20 East Fifth St.
Contact: facebook.com/FILMErieArtMuseum

THURSDAY 10.17

Six Years After

Fortunately for hard-rock fans, local band Six Years After isn't making you wait over half a decade. In fact, the young Waterford quartet, who take their name from General George Washington's demand that the French abandon Fort

LeBoeuf, is ready to rock out Sherlock's this fine Thursday.

When: 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Where: 508 State St.
Contact: 453.7760

FRIDAY 10.18

Scarlet Ledbetter

When three talented musicians from other acts come together to form one really talented group, the audience wins. Laid-back folk trio Scarlet Ledbetter returns to The Brewerrie armed with songs from their solid self-titled 2013 release and ready to pluck some strings, tell some tales, and make it a memorable evening for everyone involved.

When: 9 p.m. to midnight
Where: 123 W. 14th St.
Contact: 454.2200

SATURDAY 10.19

Basement Transmissions Spook-a-Thon

Halloween is still more than a week away, but

Basement Transmissions is handing out an early treat. Basement Transmissions' Halloween Spook-a-Thon has a scary-good lineup in store for the night, with garage rockers Tea Time for Three and Buffalo goth group Third Realm leading the pack.

When: 6 p.m. to midnight
Where: 1501 State St.
Contact: basementtrans@gmail.com

SUNDAY 10.20

The Calamity Cubes! w/ Potwhole and Joey Henry's Dirty Sunshine Club

Don't let the last few hours of weekend freedom go to waste when you can spend it with a band with roots in their veins and a fire in their fingers. Kansas thrashicana (yes, you read that right) band The Calamity Cubes! can be your musical saviors on a night where you may despair the next morn, giving you that last chance to party at the crooked i before work comes calling.

When: 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Where: 1013 State St.
Contact: facebook.com/thecrookedierie

TUESDAY 10.22

Erie Reader Downtown Debate Series

We love Erie. Warts and all. And in recognizing the warts - the challenges the city faces - we're continuing to invest in a means for you, the citizens of this region, to hear from those who want to represent you in the near future and beyond. For more details, read Cory Vaillancourt's Upfront in this issue on page 4, but make sure you get to the Jefferson Educational Society this Tuesday.

When: 7 p.m.
Where: 3207 State St.
Contact: Contact@ErieReader.com

WEDNESDAY 10.23

Understanding Political Conservatism

Ever wonder why conservatives think the way they do? Drew Maciag, Ph.D. will present "Edmund Burke in America: The Contested Career of the Father of American Conservatism" as part of the Jefferson Educational Society's Featured Speaker Series, which will help you answer that very question. Burke's work has been highly influential and continues to shape American politics to this day, and, this conference will be a nice intellectual warm-up for the JES' upcoming Global Summit V.

When: 7 to 8:20 p.m.
Where: 3207 State St.
Contact: JESerie.org

THURSDAY 10.24

Spethz EP Release wsg/ Gnosis

Forget Thirsty Thursday, Spethz is going to help make this night Thinker Thursday. Not content with just pounding out a few power chords, local experimental rockers Spethz like to put some brainpower into their atmospheric soundscapes. The foursome is even releasing their new EP at the crooked i, so you can take some brain tunes home for future listens.

When: 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Where: 1013 State St.
Contact: facebook.com/thecrookedierie

FRIDAY 10.25

Conehead Buddha

After half a year away from Erie, genre-blending New Yorkers Conehead Buddha will be back at the crooked i. After two decades as a band, the members of Conehead Buddha have honed their funky, ska-influenced sound, as well as keeping their live act fresh so that old fans and new can get down with the Buddha.

When: 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Where: 1013 State St.
Contact: facebook.com/thecrookedierie

SATURDAY 10.26

Northwestern Pennsylvania LIGHT Foundation Fundraiser

You may not have heard about this new and unique non-profit centered around individuals suffering from ALS (see Matt Flowers' story in this issue for more information) yet, but that's about to change. LIGHT - which stands for Living Independently Giving Hope Together - will present "Hoss' Halloween Spooktacular" all day long, bringing awareness to the community about this terrible disease. Stop in and learn more.

When: 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Where: 3302 W. 26th St.
Contact: livingin-the-light.org

SUNDAY 10.27

Gannon University Club Hockey

Listen up, puckheads - you can tell by the fact that a case of Molsen will stay cold outside overnight that hockey time is here, so slip on your long johns and skate on down to see your Gannon Knights take on the Panthers of Pitt-Bradford in the beautiful, newly-renovated Erie Insurance Arena.

When: 1 p.m.
Where: 809 French St.
Contact: ErieEvents.com

MONDAY 10.28

The Honorable Barry Grossman Takes the Podium at JES

Start your week off right with some knowledge

Thu. Oct. 17 **Six Years After**

Fri. Oct. 18 **I-90s**

Sat. Oct. 19 **Renegades of Funk**

Thu. Oct. 24 **Derp**

Fri. Oct. 25 **Drunk in Memphis**

Sat. Oct. 26 **Refuge**

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complements of the Jefferson Educational Society and the Brock Institute for Mega Issues. Tonight County Executive Barry Grossman talks incarceration in his lecture titled Dishonorable Law and Order. The U.S. is the world's leading jailer, and a large percentage of those prisoners are being jailed for non-violent offenses. It's time to take a look at the booming business of private prisons, which also continue to grow due to immigrant detentions. What is restorative justice? How prominent is modern slavery and/or human trafficking in the United States, and how extensive is it in Erie? Find out the answers to these questions and more tonight!

When: 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Where: 3207 State St.
Contact: 459.8000 or jeserie.org

TUESDAY 10.29

ZooBoo 2013

Looking for something scary, but not too scary for the kiddos and the whole family? Then head to the Erie Zoo for this annual Halloween event. Featuring trick-or-treating for the youngsters 12 and under, Halloween-themed displays throughout the zoo for everyone to enjoy, ZooTube dancing, a talking joke-crackin' giant pumpkin, and the famous troll bridge, ZooBoo is a great way to celebrate the All Hallow's Eve a couple nights early.

When: 6 to 9 p.m.
Where: 423 W. 38th St.
Contact: 864.4091

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OCTOBER 24 // THURSDAY @ 10:00



CONEHEAD BUDDHA

OCTOBER 25 // FRIDAY @ 10:00



GELATIN SKELETON

OCTOBER 26 // SATURDAY @ 10:00

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To-do List

By: Alex Bieler

Will and the Won'ts

Whether you love it or hate it, a hometown makes a big impact on a person. The proverbial apple can fall where it wants, but the experiences a person has in their youth can plant a seed that helps grow into anything from a fond memory to a passion that can even spawn a career.

For Will Risbourg of folk-rock band Will and the Won'ts, Santa Fe, N.M. helped push him into a songwriting, guitar-strumming adult.

"I've always been influenced by roots music, folk, country, and rock 'n' roll," Risbourg said. "In Santa Fe, there's a big alt-country scene and a lot of folk music. My dad is kind of an amateur folk music scholar, so through that knowledge I learned a lot about how music evolved and where it came from."

Now Risbourg channels the lessons of his hometown and his father for Will and the Won'ts. The four-person band will play two shows in The Flagship City as part of their current tour, one Wednesday, Oct. 23 at PACA and the other Saturday, Oct. 26 at the Erie Ale House, and Risbourg hopes to bring a Santa Fe feel to the venues.

"There's a lot of natural spectacles, and growing up around that seeps into you," Risbourg said. "You come to appreciate that. If anything, it's just a less artificial atmosphere. I try to keep that as a theme in our music."

Even better, Will and the Won'ts will be celebrating a bit of a homecoming in Erie, as drummer Andrew Bilotti was raised in The Gem City before heading to Los Angeles for music school, where he met Risbourg and eventually joined the folky foursome.

Soon the Won'ts will bring the sounds of two hometowns to two venues, providing you with multiple opportunities to not only welcome someone back home, but to hear the inspirations of another out west.

24 Hour Comics Day

Sometimes it feels good to get down and nerdy.

While nerds and geeks used to be slotted near the bottom of the social totem pole, the culture has experienced a big turnaround in public image over the past decade, with self-proclaimed nerds and geeks running companies and setting trends. Even professional athletes have been embracing the culture, attempting (not always successfully) to dress the part in post-game interviews with fake glasses and bow ties in an attempt to seem more academic.

In a day and age where there are popular podcasts like "The Nerdist," as well as the fact that podcasts, like our very own The Erie Listener, are deemed as cool, it's okay to give in to your inner geek and your nerd doppelganger. Now all you need is an outlet to help you explore your creative



Will and the Won'ts are set to play two shows in Erie.

side. If only there was a day devoted to such an activity.

Oh wait, there is, and it's, as the cool kids would say, pretty neat-o. It's called 24 Hour Comics Day, a free annual event that challenges people to create a 24-page comic book over the course of 24 hours. Of course, it helps if a local group were to host such a test of will and creativity, so The GeekERIE decided to help Erieites out by inviting them to participate from 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 19 to 11 a.m. the next day at Box of Light Studio.

"I wanted to do this because I did it when I lived in Austin, [Texas] and I finished 11 pages in the 24-hour period, which, considering I'm way behind on my drawing skills, isn't that bad, but I got a good story out of it," GeekERIE founder Sean McGrath explained. After his experience with 24 Hour Comics Day, McGrath wanted to bring that event, as well as other fun geek and nerd-friendly events to Erie, so The GeekERIE was created, with Comics Day acting as a proper kickoff for their events.

Now you may be worried about taking on a 24-hour challenge all by yourself. Yes, in the strictest sense, participants are supposed to complete the whole comic book alone, but the point is to have fun.

"A lot of people do variations on it," McGrath said. "We had a husband-and-wife team come last year, and that was pretty cool. Everyone else worked individually. We had a mother bring two of her kids, and they just hung around for a couple of hours and drew and talked to the guys. As long as someone produces something, I want them to see it published."

Oh yeah, that's another bonus; your work will be published and presented to those who donated through the event's Kickstarter. It's just another perk for hopping on the geekmobile.

So, are you geek enough to take on the challenge? If you are, shoot an email to steanoftheknife@gmail.com and reserve a spot to show just how down and nerdy you can get.

Alex Bieler can be contacted at aBieler@ErieReader.com, and you can follow him on Twitter @Catch20Q. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or go to <http://erierdr.com/r5xsc>



You don't need to leave town to see great art.

The NPAA Biennial Exhibition Reviewed

By: Pen Ealain

You don't need to leave town to see great art. Yes, really.

I've said it before and I'll say it again: If you want to look at great art, no city in America beats Erie, Pennsylvania.

"No city, Pen? Really?" you query. Yes, really. No city beats us: Toronto, Santa Fe, Los Angeles, New York...

"Surely Pen, you don't mean THE New York, as in the City That Never Sleeps, Cultural Capital of the World" doubters ask incredulously. Yes, I do. You can't find better painters, sculptors, or photographers in any of those places than you can find right here. And I have proof: drool-inducing, jaw-dropping, eye-boggling proof.

That proof is at Lovell Place right now. The Northwestern Pennsylvania Artists Association is hosting its Biennial exhibition for the next two weeks and any doubters need to get downtown to see it.

Enter Lovell Place from the eastside door off 13th Street and make your way up the stairs. Travel down a short cramped hallway and elevator bay on the second floor. Cross the threshold into the gallery area – there is a low overhanging ceiling where several small, subtle paintings and sculptures await you; don't forget them, as you will want to come back to them later. But for now, look left. Here, the room opens up into a grand lofty industrial space with bare steel beams rimmed by strip windows, which add changing light to walls throughout the day.

Two months ago, this space was a lonely and empty warehouse. It has been transformed into perhaps the best gallery space Erie has ever seen: Thousands of square feet of wonders for you to explore.

Even with more than 100 mostly large pieces hung throughout the room, none of the art is crowded. There is room for the art to breathe. Each individual painting, drawing or sculpture is far enough away from its neighbors that it can be enjoyed without distractions. Small works do not get overwhelmed by some of the more

monumental canvases, making this the perfect place to show the disparate variety of work that a divergent group like the NPAA inevitably provides.

Kris Risto spent untold hours bolting up panels, making sure there was proper lighting both when the daylight illuminated the walls and after the sun sets, grouping paintings by subject, or tone, or theme. He had help from several people who could probably hang a professional show in their sleep: Tom Ferraro, Michael Tkach, Rob Weber, and Vance Luper (who hangs shows for the Erie Art Museum) to name a few.

What do you get when world-class artists provide art for a perfect exhibition space? You get what the Spring Show could have been. This is the show of the year. It is always worth waiting two years for NPAA's Biennial, but this one really showcases the members' craftsmanship and creativity. And there is art in the show that everyone will enjoy.

Since Kris spent so much energy putting this show on, it's only fitting that his is one of the larger and predominant pieces that you notice when you first enter the hall. The imposing canvas pulls you into the deep space within from outside the painting itself, since the bottom of the canvas literally spills out into a sculptural spiral of flat stones on the floor which ends in vortex that breaks that plane and provides the illusion of pulling you down.

From there you can see a fascinating triptych by David Pratte full of intense patterns that are arranged in a seemingly non-objective arrangement. I'm not going to give it away, but the composition will resolve itself into a surprising picture if you spend enough time with it (or someone gives you a hint, like they did for me).



Pen Ealain

The NPAA Biennial Exhibition runs through Oct. 25.

This picture was going to get my vote for my favorite in the show until I changed my mind as soon as darkness fell.

What happened when the sun went down was that Thomas Ferraro's mural-sized canvas, "New Development" transformed into a second painting. I had liked the composition of it, with its huge sky and distant, western landscape perspective when I had studied it earlier, but had wondered at the weird placement of the canvas over a brightly lit window. Tom loves to play with transparency in his paintings, but this one didn't seem to need the backlighting. When I came back around the gallery a couple hours later it was apparent what he had done: His sky in the painting had been designed specifically

for the window upon which it was placed. The glowing summer gold of the firmament above his town had turned into an ominous black tempest worthy of its own weather channel special.

The impressively theatrical lighting change on Tom's canvas never diminished the quality of the rest of the show. There is a wall filled with the most beautiful painterly landscapes and florals by mature masters of their craft. Landscapes by Wilda Sundberg, Mary Miller, Mary Kay Geary, Mary Hamilton, and Toni Kelly always fill me with wonder. The way they handle paint and pastels is so practiced and precise, they make it look easy. Of course, when I try to get the same effects in my own studio frustration ultimately results. And they just keep getting better. Vicki Norvasia, in particular, seems to be coming into her own. The use of color in her watercolor, "First Day" could make the decor of any room.

When great artists grow and try new things, the results are always rewarding and often surprising. It is risky to try new things when you are a professional who is known for a certain style or subject matter, but the results of these experiments here are nothing but dazzling. Bob Hagle, known for his commercial camera work, does some things to the lighting on local barns that will make you rethink the word "atmospheric." Tina Faulkner's

playful collages and bright landscapes still tell stories like her illustrations, but in a more complex and subtle way. Debbie Sementelli's "Ethnic Threads of Erie" uses photo transfers to take the tradition of a collaborative quilt to a new level.

But the most surprising and delightful surprise in the whole show was from the most consistent and long-standing artist in Erie: The Grand Old Man of Painting, Vitus Kaiser. Vitus has done spectacularly lit landscapes with studied and realistic detail for decades; the watercolor painting he has in this show is not dissimilar to his previous work if you use that description alone. But oh my, is it ever different in other ways. It glows in places the sun would never think to make it glow. Trees seem to disengage from the earth. An unidentifiable creation that resembles a disinterred root ball floats above a purple and orange... swamp? field? ocean?

Why did Vitus decide to go surreal? My theory is that he is starting to feel his mortality. He has slowed way down the last few years, working very hard, but creating just a few paintings each year. He has pictures inside his mind that need to be expressed before he can't paint anymore. Vitus will leave it to the up-and-coming realists to paint the world around them. He's going to spend the next years giving us spectacular visions that we would never see otherwise. Let's all hope we get to experience many more of these visions, because this one is wondrous.

On the way out of this perfect gallery space, don't forget to check out the missed pieces on the way in. The show is so vast that something had to have been skipped over. And if a small part of this show is missed, something worthy of one of the greatest art towns in America is missed. And if you have the money and the wall space, buy something, because the one thing we don't have in Erie that they do have in New York, is patrons. Without someone supporting these artists, they won't be able to stay here.

And then you will have to go elsewhere to find great art. ■

Lovell Place is located at 153 E. 13th St. The NPAA Biennial Show's hours are: Thursday through Saturday noon to 5 p.m., and the exhibition's last day is Oct. 25

Pen Ealain can be contacted at PenEalain@ErieReader.com. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or go to <http://erirdr.com/63b19>




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MUSIC REVIEWS

Haim
Days Are Gone
Columbia

★★★★★



Although "Days Are Gone" is Haim's first album as a band, it's not even close to the California rock trio's first foray into the business. Sisters Este, Danielle, and Alana Haim have been actively performing and recording for nearly a decade, with the eldest two performing as Valli Girls back in their teens. The experience shows on "Days Are Gone," an impressively polished set of 11 tracks. Drawing from '80s soft rock and catchy pop-rock, the Haim sisters stuff each track with enough charisma to keep the listener glued to the speakers. Standout track "The Wire" shows just how well the sisters play off of each other, with Este and Alana supporting Danielle's lead vocals, each line perfectly in place. The performance would almost feel robotic if it weren't for the energy the sisters provide, making sure that there's some fun in the family business. - Alex Bieler

Yuck
Glow & Behold
Fat Possum

★★★



When Daniel Blumberg left Yuck after the band's excellent self-titled debut album, fans of the indie rockers became nervous. Then "Middle Sea" was released early, featuring four minutes of the same sort of fuzzy guitar hooks that enchanted listeners back in 2011, helping to ease their fears that without Blumberg, the band couldn't continue on as usual. However, it's the best Yuck has to offer on "Glow & Behold," as the rest of the album underwhelms. The band seems like it's in no hurry, and the results are rather bland. After seeming like a solid replacement for Blumberg's youthful yelps on "Middle Sea," Max Bloom's vocal takes sound dull on other tracks, making songs like "Rebirth" sound, in all honesty, boring. There are some solid moments that prove that this was once the band that put out one of the best albums of 2011, but "Glow & Behold" sorely misses the youthful exuberance of "Yuck." - Alex Bieler

Sleigh Bells
Bitter Rivals
Mom & Pop

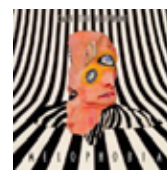
★★★



Now on their third album of thundering power chords and sugary-sweet vocals, Sleigh Bells might be suffering from the law of diminishing returns. "Treats," the band's first album, was a loud and impressive debut, but the band's jersey-wearing jock jams for the indie crowd are starting to grow old on "Bitter Rivals." The title track starts the album off on iffy footing, as singer Alexis Krauss awkwardly quotes "A Tale of Two Cities" while guitarist Derek Miller attacks his fret board. From there, the album seems patched together or forced on tracks like "Minnie" and "Sing Like a Wire." The album's high point actually comes from the least Sleigh Bells-like song on the album. A gentle, unrushed track, "To Hell With You" shows that there is some brain behind all of the band's brawn. Unfortunately for "Bitter Rivals," most of the muscle is more show than substance. - Alex Bieler

Cage The Elephant
Melophobia
RCA

★★★★★



After the critical acclaim of both 2009's self-titled debut album and 2010's "Thank You Happy Birthday" follow-up, Cage The Elephant waited three years before releasing "Melophobia," leaving some fans to fear that a third album would fail to match the brooding intensity of the first two. Fear not, Cage fans; instead, delight in the return of one of indie rock's more distinctive troupes. Tracks like "Teeth" and lead single "Come a Little Closer" retain the gritty guitar work and warbling vocals found on past hits like "Aberdeen" and "Shake Me Down." But album stand-out "Telescope" reveals a mellower side of Cage, starting off as a Band Of Horses-esque slow burner that builds to a Modest Mouse-esque drum thumper. An honest album both embracing the past and welcoming the new, "Melophobia" should leave listeners hoping they won't have to wait another three years for new Cage material. - Ben Speggen

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Oct 23
Zero Dark Thirty (2013)

Gripping, suspenseful, and brilliantly crafted, Zero Dark Thirty dramatizes the hunt for Osama bin Laden with intelligence and an eye for detail.



FILM at the Erie Art Museum is sponsored by:



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Street Fashionista

Marilyn Goellner

By: Leslie McAllister

A good red wine, a camel hair trench coat (Kim Kardashian hasn't been able to take hers off as of late), spaghetti and meatballs, a crisp white button-down – all classics. Even the word *classic* describes a perfect example of a particular style; that of lasting worth or timeless quality.

Here is the fun thing about these basics: mixing them. Stay with me for a minute – take the basic white button-down, now add a neutral pattern, like a metallic, then take trouser pants and add clean lines and a funky print. Put those two together with a black pump and a black blazer, and you have just taken crisp and clean to a whole new level.

It really is easy to do. Stick with easy silhouettes, like a blazer, slim pants, button-down shirts, or even cashmere sweaters and pencil skirts, then put a twist on them. Maybe the pencil skirt is leopard and the cashmere sweater is black and white striped now throw on that black blazer and voila! This is called pattern play and it can be done on numerous levels.

Guys, you can do this too. Instead of a basic black blazer, make it satin, silk, or velvet. Instead of a white T-shirt, try a heather grey v-neck and cinch it up with a pair of tapered black pants or denim jeans. Now add unanticipated elements, such as an out-there pair of shades and an ethnic scarf. Before you know it you have an instantaneous, dressed to impress look.

This is all you have to take away from today's lesson: classic pieces + unexpected elements = Kate Moss... (Or just a really cool, effortlessly chic and unforgettable outfit that will have people chasing you down the street to get your style advice.)

Who? Marilyn Goellner

Where? Film Society of Northwestern PA's season opener "The Bling Ring" at the Erie Art Museum

Why Marilyn? Here's the fun tidbit – the Mercyhurst University Fashion Department got in on the fun and chose best dressed female of the night, and Marilyn won! And I myself couldn't have picked a better dresser. Marilyn was not only kind with a ready smile – which we all know is my favorite accessory – but she had the look to go with it all. Sophisticated and playful. I love the statement necklace that compliments the silver polka dots on the breezy button-down. Her slim-fitting pants have a classic pattern that ties in with the enviable black trench coat. The t-strap on her black pumps is a breath of fresh air. Like the cherry on top, Marilyn carries her pop of color, a red leather handbag. Bellissima!

What We Want to Know:

Describe your style. I don't know if I have a style! But if I had to describe what I like, my style is classic and relaxed. New trends really have to appeal to me, and quite honestly, they have to be age-appropriate. Work trends have really changed over the years from matching suits to sporty pieces that can be mixed and matched, which can be much more interesting. I like the looks that the TV show "Mad Men" brought

back – pencil skirts and feminine blouses and cardigans. My closet is primarily black, white, and grey, but I will add trends that catch my eye. I know what works for me and what doesn't.

Your favorite fashion icon? Seriously, I have never thought about it. I just browse through magazines and window shop. I take notice of what others are wearing. My daughter lives in Miami, and the fashion style there is extremely different from Erie.

Favorite accessory? A Pandora charm bracelet from my daughter with charms that have a special meaning to both of us. Coming in second would be my dog, Cooper.

What excites you about fashion? I used to be a big "Project Runway" fan in the early seasons because I was fascinated by the creativity and talent. My guilty pleasure is the award show red carpets! Who can resist critiquing the gowns, shoes, hair, and jewelry from the comfort of home, lounging in yoga pants.

In reference to the movie "The Bling Ring," if you could take an item from the closet of Paris Hilton, what would it be and why? Haha! I would never *take* anything like those spoiled little criminals, but I would, however, love to have her actual closet. It was amazing!

Favorite fall dish to prepare? Spicy vegetarian chili


You are packing for a weekend getaway to the Poconos – what do you bring? I actually *will* be packing for a weekend to the Gateway Lodge in Cooks Forest soon! It is relaxed and serene with amazing food. I will pack jeans, turtlenecks, a down vest, and plenty of scarves and hats. I admit to being a little obsessed with winter hats and scarves because they can be inexpensive accessories to change up your look over the long Erie



Leslie McAllister

winters.

Tell us about your involvement in the Erie community. I've worked at Edinboro University for 20 years, and I have had the opportunity to meet so many amazing individuals. I feel fortunate to work with great colleagues and Edinboro students. My job is truly rewarding – raising funds for much needed scholarships. I am also on the board of the Film Society of Northwestern Pennsylvania, and recently trained as a volunteer for 'Reading Buddies' as part of the United Way of Erie County's Dolly Parton Imagination Li-

brary. It is a fantastic program that helps to improve literacy for children in Erie County. 

Find me out on the town and challenge yourself to get noticed by the Erie Reader! Leslie McAllister can be contacted at LMcAllister@ErieReader.com, and you can follow her on Twitter @ShopJuJu. To follow this story or comment, scan the QR code or go to <http://eridr.com/5hbs9>



Events at Penn State Behrend

Speaker Series

MIKE LANGE

Voice of the Pittsburgh Penguins
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7:30 p.m.
Reed Union Building

Music at Noon: The Logan Series

JULIE FOWLIS

Scottish Gaelic Vocalist
Wednesday, October 23

VOICE

A cappella Trio
Tuesday, November 12
Noon
Reed Union Building

Creative Writers Reading Series

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Fiction
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Falling Hollywood Set to Release Highly Anticipated Follow-up Album

Band to Host Halloween CD Release Party at the Historic Watson-Curtze Mansion

By: Cory Vaillancourt

On Saturday, Nov. 2, Falling Hollywood will release their highly-anticipated second album in “spooktacular” fashion – at a costume party in a creepy ol’ mansion.

It’s a fitting venue – the historic Watson-Curtze mansion on West Sixth Street – and a fitting theme for a band that skyrocketed to local stardom last summer on the strength of their freshman effort, “Set the Table,” which earned a place as the only local album on “Dr. Rock’s Top Albums of 2012” in the Erie Times News, and also earned the Erie Reader’s Local Album of the Year award.

Even more fitting, that musical costume Falling Hollywood’s been wearing for almost two years now is about to hit the floor like last night’s underpants.

Their punk roots are readily apparent in every track on “Set the Table” – but to call the band’s debut record a “punk” album is folly; it’s folky, acoustic flavor is occasionally self-indulgent, which would certainly garner them some face-punchery – or worse – from the likes of GG Allin and Sid Vicious. The story goes that guitarist/vocalist Matt Flowers, bassist Bill Frackowiak, guitarist/vocalist Nick Taylor, and drummer Brad Triana were invited to an open mic at the crooked i by Matt “Broke” Boland, and didn’t want to carry all their electric gear around. They also didn’t want to blast patrons out of the room, so they stripped down and found a sound that was much more acoustic, mellow, and folky than they’d ever intended.

“People liked it immediately,” said Taylor, as I sat around my dining room table with all four members of Falling Hollywood on a recent foggy Sunday. “I think we just hit that scene in stride. Right when the more raw, real emotional sound was gaining popularity elsewhere, we happened to be right in the thick of it. And it also allowed us to reboot as a band, which allowed us to capture a new audience. ‘Set the Table’ felt like a reboot, like a core.”

Audiences responded well to their gritty-yet-fresh sound, and over the past two years,

they’ve played nearly every major gig available in and around Erie, including Celebrate Erie, the Downtown Partnership’s Block Parties, Romolo Chocolates Music Series, The Great Blue Heron Music Festival, and The Gathering at Chaffee’s, while simultaneously becoming regulars at places like Basement Transmissions, the crooked i, Sandbar, and Sherlock’s. They also became Dr. Rock’s darlings, frequented Fazed Cookies, and appeared on the Reader’s Aug. 22, 2012 cover. Lately, they’ve been playing a greater amount of their gigs on the road at well-known venues like the Hard Rock Café in Pittsburgh, Sullivan Hall in Greenwich Village, and the Grog Shop in Cleveland; and their recent Kickstarter campaign to fund this new album exceeded its \$3,000 goal by 50 percent in just under 30 days.

All based on that one folky, poppy album. “This album definitely has a harder sound,” said Flowers of the as-yet unreleased, unordered, unnamed album as he fiddled with a half-empty beer can. “It’s kinda weird, but I think this album has this – even though it’s rougher – there’s this strange, sexy, loving, melancholy, energetic feel. It’s one of those albums where you listen to it and you feel high afterwards.”

That these guys have grown as a band is apparent to anyone who’s seen them play over the course of the last year or so; the uptick in gigs has certainly made an already-tight outfit even tighter – not to mention the hours spent on stage. “As we became tighter as a band, and we all got better at our respective instruments,” Flowers said.

Flowers would know – he had a lot to do with that. As I listened to the album, the thing that immediately jumped out at me was how much both Flowers and Taylor had matured in their playing; at times, Taylor lays down some searing leads in places Falling Hollywood would normally spotlight acoustic strumming, and Flowers’ dependable, workman-like axemanship has only gotten more reliable over time. Frackowiak – who’s rapidly become one of the best bassists in Erie – and Triana’s already-solid rhythmic relationship takes a deeper turn as well.

Triana, however, looks at the band’s growth a little differently, as is his custom; he cited their organization and confidence as evidence of

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Leath Taylor

Clockwise from head resting on table, Brad Triana, Nick Taylor, Matt Flowers, and Bill Frackowiak of Falling Hollywood release their sophomore effort Nov. 2

their progress as a group, but all four of them are quick to give credit to Band Manager Emily Smicker. She not only books shows, they say, she also delegates responsibilities to members of the band like a taskmaster, freeing the musicians up to do what they do better than anyone else in town right now – make music that people enjoy hearing.

That organization and confidence manifested itself during the production of their new album; they once again reach out to the capable hands of Senior Audio Engineer Larry Luther at Mr. Small's in Pittsburgh for recording and production.

"The first album was getting to know Larry Luther," Taylor said. "He didn't know us, and we didn't know him... so with this, it felt like old friends."

"During 'Set the Table,' as ready as we were to do that, we ran into a few snags, and working through those was pretty simple," Frackowiak said. "With the feeling that this album was going to be better in general, we thought it would be a good idea [to return to Mr. Small's] because of how smoothly the first one went."

Flowers concurred. "There was a comfort level there," he said. "Larry Luther heard something

in this album, and the encouragement and warmth we received while recording this album was good for us."

You can feel that warmth on every track of the new album, especially – and thankfully – in the area that first set them apart as a band – the bril-

liant vocal harmonies of Flowers and Taylor.

"If you had to say it in terms of percentage of time [in the studio], we spent most of our time on the vocals," Taylor said. "We re-took and re-took to make sure they were perfect."

Flowers agreed with his cousin, and elaborated on his earlier comments about the band's growth. "I learned how to sing on this album." The har-


monies are stronger, he said, because of all the time they spent on it. "Nick spends a lot of time working on the harmonies, and I learned from him."

As with 'Set the Table,' the lyrics weren't an afterthought on the new album. Part of the folky

residue that remains in this band is the stories they tell with their music, providing a connection back to the album that made them popular in the first place – a connection Taylor thinks fans will appreciate.

"People that have our last album will find something new and refreshing in this one, and also some old familiar sounds," he said.

That these guys have grown as a band is apparent to anyone who's seen them play over the course of the last year or so.

I'm luckier than most – I've already listened to the album a few times and have to agree with Taylor. I think there are definitely glimpses of "Set the Table" in the new album, but I also agree with Flowers that it spotlights Falling Hollywood's edgier, heavier side. I don't want to give too much away – so look for our official album review in the Oct. 30 issue – but if you're a die-hard Hollywoodhead, put on your goofiest/sexiest costume and make sure you're at that creepy ol' mansion on West Sixth Street on Nov. 2 to see and hear the band's new musical costume; it looks a lot like the old one, but recent adornments may have changed the face of Falling Hollywood forever. 

For more information about Falling Hollywood and the creepy ol' mansion party, go to Falling-Hollywood.com.

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Respected Long-time Local Businessman Roy Glass Finds Hope in Struggle Against ALS

Silkscreen Unlimited owner battles disease and raises awareness in Erie area.

By: Matthew Flowers

The sound of ventilated oxygen makes a low whistle in the living room. Feed lines from the iron casks stretch across the living room floor like a wrinkled crease in a sheet of crisp paper, snaking up to a flat plastic reservoir the size of a sand dollar, which breaks the path of tubing in two, after one last zag, they're secured in both nostrils, breathing life into a man's struggling set of lungs.

His house is warm from decades of love, insulated by serene Sunday mornings, long talks of so little and so much, and holiday celebration, but a chill resides in the air. In the way you can feel winter in a fall day's breeze, the cold, clinical hardware, be it the plastic oxygen lines that stream from room to room, the wheelchair accessories, or the heavy metal track running up the staircase, there is sterility in the air like a waiting room.

Roy Glass is 67 years old, transplanted in Erie at the early age of 5. He is a successful small business owner. For nearly 40 years Roy has been the workaholic behind the Silkscreen Unlimited doors, a storefront almost all of Erie recognizes as the corner shop on Eighth Street and Lincoln Avenue. That blue awning with a tall-hat-donning caterpillar is an Erie landmark.

Roy is also a family man; he is the husband to Cindy Glass and a father to his two daughters, Courtney and Lindsey. He is also somewhat of a philanthropist, driving Erie forward by donating and supporting a list of organizations as long as the interstate. If you don't know Roy, you've passed his store or you've seen his T-shirts, and if you do know him, you recall the tall, healthy, heavysset man, equipped with a jovial smile with that small gap between his teeth and voice that held the room.

But you also might know the battle he is fighting.

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis is an unweatherable storm, and Roy is in the heart of it all. But this story is neither a eulogy nor is it breaking news; it's about a man in this war of body and mind, and those who are meeting him at the epicenter.

ALS is a thieving disease, indiscriminate, and merciless. The disease progresses quickly, its debilitating effects are noticeable by day, like watching a poisonous weed grow overnight from a pestilential little sprout to a thorned, savage stock.

Also commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease, ALS starts with weakness in the body, muscles slowly shutting down like a dimming light. Roy's arms are skinny now, the skin loose like a deflated balloon. While muscles weaken, body-wide tremors introduce themselves into the fusion of symptoms, a feeling Roy describes as, "an electric current." But amid the bodies withering and the voltaic fasciculations, this disease



(Above) A spry Roy horsing around with the family dog. (Below) A recent picture of Roy with wife Cindy and daughters Courtney and Lindsey.

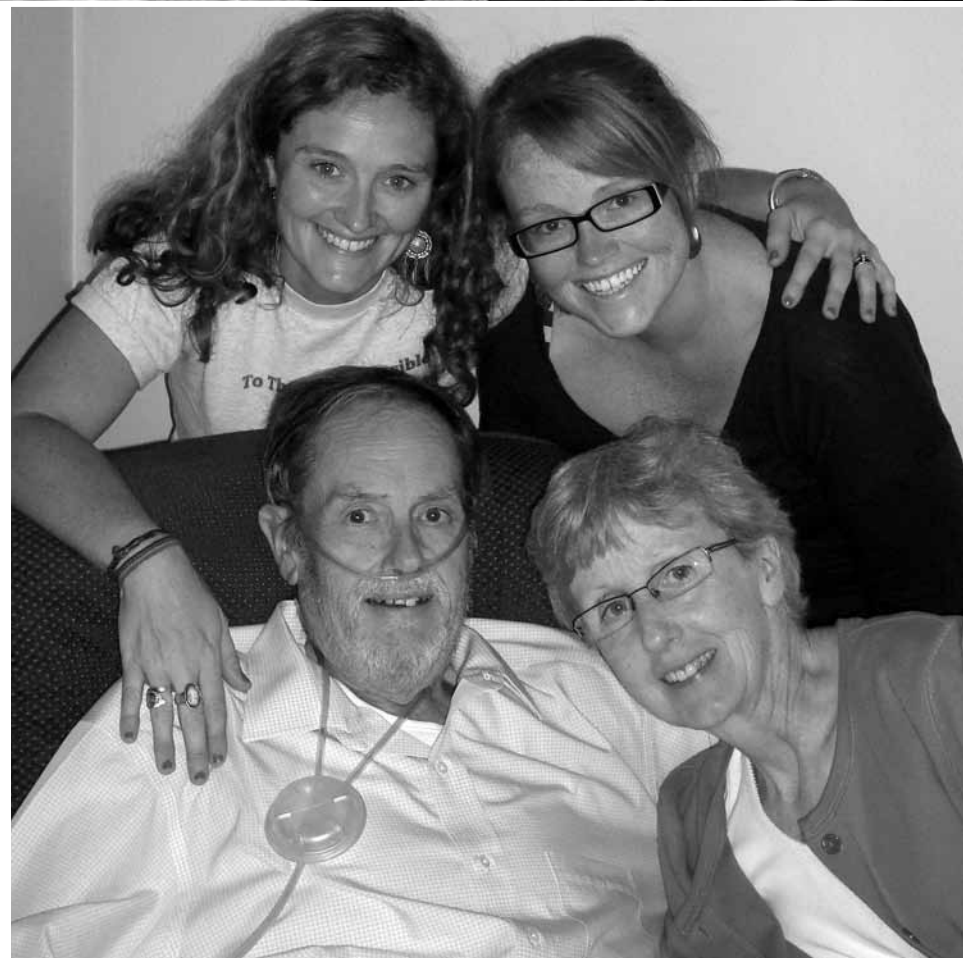
doesn't stop taking.

Roy's voice is diminished severely. He works tirelessly to communicate; inevitably, the words seem to come out in chunks. "The thing that was most shocking about [ALS] was my dad's speech. My dad has the most beautiful voice. It's like a radio voice. Just calm, sweet, and soothing." His daughter Lindsey notes about Roy's voice and the progression of the disease. Where the consonants and vowels cave in – with a voice like a crumpled letter, read only from the exposed edges of the stationary – his eyes seem to help convey that missing message in the words. It looks like it hurts to speak, but he wants to, he needs to. Roy lives through his speech, the way an artist splashes color on to canvas to find order in the world. "I don't want him to disappear. He is too vibrant a man," Lindsey says in a kind of mournfully determined voice, like a scientist on the cusp of an answer only more time would provoke.

But Roy won't disappear without leaving his mark.

"We go to our representative, and we ask for funding from the state to help us support our families," says Marie Folino, Care Services Director of the ALS Association's Western Pennsylvania Chapter.

The Association leads the way in research, care services, public education, and public policy — giving help and hope to those facing the disease. Roy received substantial aid from the ALS Association, from wheelchairs and ramps to talking



devices and even emotional support. But he also helped them.

Advocacy is also a crucial component of The ALS Association's mission. Because they receive

funding from the state – 100 percent of which goes directly to helping families affected by this disease – someone had to speak with State Senator Sean Wiley to ensure funds would be set aside

to support victims of ALS. And who was that someone? Roy Glass.

Roy met with Wiley before the 2013 budget was passed to discuss the importance of the ALS Association and how powerful their inclusion into Pennsylvania's allowance would be.

While Roy and his family have accepted help – with great thanks – from the ALS Association, they have been scrupulous in their therapeutic support. There are groups in and around Erie that lend this kind of comfort and solace from a disease that is vicious and vile, but it wasn't the right fit for the Glass family.

"We've been selective in our support – to keep it all positive. We know where this will go," Courtney explains about the terrifying yet evident end stages of her father's life. "But we're making an active choice not to physically see it. At least until we have to."

Today, Rilutek is the only current treatment approved by the FDA for ALS. This centimeter-long, chalky white pill is expensive, costing upwards of \$800 a month. Not only is it costly, but this medication provides minimal benefits: a two-to-three-month delay towards intubation and ventilation, which is then used to assist patients in spontaneous breathing. Roy has tried Rilutek, but side effects, like asthenia, nausea, dizziness, decreased lung function and diarrhea seemed to only add to the wretchedness of the disease. So he opted

to battle out ALS without the help of that tiny white capsule, forgoing the expense and the bad reactions and forge ahead.

Moreover, the effects of the medications are rather inconclusive as the prognosis of the disease is a short two to five years. If you ask Roy what his treatment is currently, he'll tell you with conviction, "Hope." But it's nothing he takes alone.

It's audible in Lindsey's voice when she talks about her father, it's in Courtney's touch when she holds his arm when he speaks, and it's profoundly visible on his wife's face when she looks in his brown eyes. There is density in this word; this hope has become something almost tangible, as if Roy is holding it in his withered hands. It compels him to live and endure the waves of medical complications as they continue to crash in. In combination with ALS, Roy also suffers from diabetes, has recently gone through cataract surgery, survived pneumonia – twice as of this article being written – and blood clots in his lungs.

Amidst that tide of medical complications, doctors were continuously misdiagnosing the ALS, inadvertently wasting precious months of an already shortened stay. According to the ALS Association, the incidence rate of this disease is two per 100,000 people. Seeing as the population of Erie is barely hitting six figures, the chances of our hospitals treating this illness with any kind of efficiency is slight. Roy happened to be one of those two in 100,000 people and originally was seeking treatment at UPMC Hamot. However,

after the treatments he received caused his condition to worsen, he and his family sought treatment at the Cleveland Clinical. Here, Roy was taken off the ventilator Hamot had concluded was the only option if he were to live.

Despite all this, Roy still sits tall in his chair. His strength is evident; while he may be frail, his legs frozen, arms lean, face slender, his presence still demands the attention of the room, and the sinew still adhered to his bones is an artifact of vitality. Over the time of this disease Roy's physical strength has turned to fortitude. He no longer demonstrates his disposition through long hours at Silkscreen Unlimited, but through quiet acts of courage, like each exhausting excursion to the hospital for emergencies, to the doctor for more tests, to physical therapy to maintain muscle, weathering each challenge so he can be here and

his family can be whole. Roy does not deny the heartache and hardship of these trials or that the sorrowful knowledge of his end is a tough pill to swallow.

"Knowing death is coming my way is scary," Roy says slowly, his eyes big and sad above the plastic pipes leading to his nose. "I will be hiding in my mind... This disease destroys your body, but it does nothing to your brain."

Roy's past year and half has been a somber time, and yet he can still crack a whole hearted smile when the time is right. "I recently was baptized," Roy says

gently nodding his head as if to affirm his recent decision. "I am totally at peace," he adds with his chest sinking as the air leaves his mouth, and smiles wide enough to show that small gap between his teeth, showing a piece of himself that will never change.

There is no circumventing inevitability. And reality can be unforgiving. They roll on to the horizon like a sweeping storm; a canvas of black and grey across the cold sky. Sadness can chill bones, the longing for a reply from beyond the blanket of blanched sky can be as strong as the seasons driving winds, seemingly

Answer to Sudoku

5	9	8	4	7	2	3	1	6
1	6	4	8	5	3	2	7	9
7	3	2	1	9	6	4	8	5
3	2	5	9	8	4	1	6	7
9	7	6	5	3	1	8	2	4
4	8	1	2	6	7	5	9	3
6	4	9	3	2	8	7	5	1
8	5	3	7	1	9	6	4	2
2	1	7	6	4	5	9	3	8

only shy by a couple of knots to push the overcast aside. The pigment of the present turns dark and ashen like black and white photographs, bleaching and shading in the colors of life's simple freedoms: trivial conversation, your favorite meal, a Sunday drive. But in opposition to the rain that must eventually fall from these clouds for everyone, love from a caring family, help from close friends, a hope, like a fire steadily burning at the heart of a home, will stay lit until every ignitable wood sliver turns to dust. ■

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Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

						3	1	
	6		8				7	9
7		2				4	8	
			9					
					1			
	8	1	2					3
6	4			2		7		
8		3						2
			6	4			3	

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DIFFICULTY: ★★★★★

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Mortar ingredient
- 5 Levy
- 9 Scratch
- 12 Fetish
- 13 Irish chief's residence
- 14 Residential nickname
- 15 Org. or Petroleum Exporting Countries (abbr.)
- 16 Sioux tribe
- 17 Celsius (abbr.)
- 18 Sup
- 20 Apt
- 22 Checkmate (abbr.)
- 25 Sheep's cry
- 27 Youngster
- 28 One of the Three Stooges
- 29 Troubles
- 31 Clothing
- 34 Double (abbr.)

- 35 "Fra Diavolo" composer
- 37 Nat'l Endowment for the Arts (abbr.)
- 38 Stringy
- 40 Yemen capital
- 41 Anglo-Saxon god of peace
- 42 Poetic contraction
- 44 Nat'l Security Agency (abbr.)
- 45 According to (2 words)
- 46 Son of Shakespeare
- 49 Mountain on Crete
- 51 Jap. apricot
- 52 Carbon (pref.)
- 54 Bless
- 58 Liquor
- 59 Victim of Cain
- 60 Galilee town
- 61 Hymn
- 62 Whimper
- 63 "Dies ____"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

J	O	S		A	L	A	E		B	I	B	I
A	B	T		M	A	N	X		E	B	O	N
B	I	A		B	L	U	E	G	L	A	S	S
			N	E	R	O			I	A	N	A
M	O	N	E	Y		C	A	G	Y			
A	M	O	K		H	A	B	U		T	U	P
N	E	U		A	E	R	I	E		R	D	A
I	N	S		S	A	G	A		B	A	I	T
			A	C	R	O		M	U	N	C	H
		S	E	B	I		S	A	T	S		
L	I	A	B	I	L	I	T	Y		M	A	A
A	D	D		2	I	D	E	O		I	A	L
N	E	S		f	P	A	R	R		T	A	B

DOWN

- 1 River rapids
- 2 Archbishop (abbr.)
- 3 Never (Ger.)
- 4 Carplike fish

- 5 Sidewinder
- 6 Corrode
- 7 Short takeoff and landing (abbr.)
- 8 Eastern ruler
- 9 Alexander's kingdom
- 10 Brother of Seth
- 11 Trust
- 19 Son of Samuel
- 21 Outfit
- 22 Commander (abbr.)
- 23 Tramp
- 24 Muse of tragedy
- 26 Brit. saint
- 30 Wise
- 32 General (abbr.)
- 33 Scand. legend
- 36 Thunderfish
- 39 Desire
- 43 Summary
- 46 Science fiction award
- 47 Among
- 48 Forbidden
- 50 Spore sacs
- 53 Electric reluctance unit
- 55 Rhine tributary
- 56 Feminine (suf.)
- 57 No (Scot.)

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12					13					14		
15					16					17		
			18	19			20		21			
22	23	24		25		26		27				
28				29			30		31		32	33
34				35				36		37		
38			39		40					41		
		42		43		44				45		
46	47				48		49		50			
51				52		53			54	55	56	57
58				59					60			
61				62					63			

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A44

ERIE'S EATS

American Fusion

AVANTI'S If you've only eaten breakfast at Avanti's, you are in for a big surprise. Every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night, this daytime diner changes over to a fine dining establishment. Check back often since the menu changes weekly. BYOB
1662 W. 8th St. // 456.3096

SUMMER HOUSE CAFÉ With an ever-changing menu and lots of fresh baked goodies, this local favorite serves breakfast and lunch daily and stays open for dinner Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. BYOB
2605 Washington Ave. // 452.2500

1201 KITCHEN Featuring Latin/Asian-inspired food, this hip downtown spot is full of great art, and the marble bar is a perfect place to try their fresh sushi. With a menu that changes every four to six weeks, be sure to check in often.
1201 State St. // 464.8989

UNDER THE CLOCK - Located in the historic Boston Store, Under the Clock is reviving the old phrase "Let's meet under the clock." With a "sophisticated casual"-style restaurant experience, Under the Clock offers lunch and dinner menus with something for everyone. The steak salad is a must-try for any self-respecting carnivore. Looking for something lighter? Try their seared ahi tuna.
101 Boston Store Place // 454.4700

American

PLYMOUTH TAVERN An Erie institution with great food and drink specials every night of the week.
1109 State St. // 453.6454

PUFFERBELLY Set in a decommissioned firehouse, the Pufferbelly is full of artifacts from Erie's fire fighting past.
414 French St. // 454.1557

CALAMARI'S Extra-long bar, with a large outdoor patio for those warm summer nights.
1317 State St. // 459.4276

Barbecue

THREE-B SALOON Beer, Bacon & Barbeque—the name says it all. Featuring slow-cooked brisket, ribs, and other down-home favorites. If you behave yourself, you may get a free slice of bacon with your beer.
732 W. 4th St. // 451.0007

Breakfast

SUMMER HOUSE CAFÉ Open from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. each day of the week, the Summer House Cafe serves

up some of Erie's more unique breakfast and lunch options. Their breakfast burrito is a must-try, but be sure to check in for fresh daily specials.
2605 Washington Ave. // 452.2500

JO'S BROOKLYN BAGELS A walk through the door says it all. Well, at least it's speaking to your noise. Inhale deeply and breathe in those aromas. Fresh bagels and coffee. What's not to love about that combination? A little piece of Brooklyn right here in Erie.
833 W. 38th St. // 520.6246

PEGGY'S RESTAURANT A landmark in the Liberty Plaza for a few decades now, Peggy's serves up quick, affordable meals and plenty of room for conversation. You can sit at the long counter than spans nearly the entire restaurant, grab a booth upfront, or get a table in the back.
3512 Liberty St. // 866.3216

THE BREAKFAST PLACE Low prices and big portions—just the way Erie likes it! The Cajun eggs are a must-try.
2340 E. 38th St. // 825.2727

PANOS Open late night with an attentive wait staff who will never let your coffee mug go empty. Try the famous Greek omelet.
1504 W. 38th St. // 866.0517

SIDEWALK CAFÉ Tucked away on historic North Park Row, you'll find one of downtown's popular breakfast and lunch places.
26 N. Park Row // 455.0002

GEORGE'S With retro decor trimmed in red and black, George's is known just as much for looking like a retro diner as it is for the friendly safe and great grub. They're famous for their mashed potatoes, but don't get stuck on only that. Try the soups and sandwiches on for size too.
2614 Glenwood Park Avenue // 455.0860

DOMINICK'S Famous among Erie's late-night bar patrons who swear by this place as a sure-fire hangover cure.
123 E. 12th St. // 456.6891

HYATT'S - Serving up breakfast and lunch standards for years and is a staple in the West Erie Plaza.
928 W. Erie Plaza // 456.0102

FLIP CAFÉ Tired of the chain restaurant dishing out breakfast by the numbers? Then try this sweet little spot tucked away in Edinboro. Flip Cafe serves breakfast and lunch from morning 'til afternoon, so stop in and try any one of the favorites, including "Flip Bread." You won't pay much and you'll go home happy thinking about coming back again.
103 Meadville St. Edinboro // 734.3400

Brewpub

BREWERY Erie's only brew-on-premise pub and eatery, the Brewery is on a mission to, "Revitalize Downtown Erie One Pint at a Time."
123 W. 14th St. // 454.2200

Carribbean

PINEAPPLE EDDIE Southern regional cuisine served up with a bit of Caribbean flair. Featuring savory dishes like Creole shrimp and andouille sausage over grits, seared catfish served with rice and beans and fresh sauteed vegetables, and grilled Angus Rib Eye steak. Desserts include grilled pound cake served w/fresh glazed pineapple, ice cream and rum sauce, and luscious lime layer cake. BYOB.
1402 W. 10th St. // 454.0700

Chinese

GOLDEN WOK Quality ingredients, affordable prices, and consistent service make this Chinese restaurant stand out among the rest.
3202 Pitt. Ave. // 836.9657

Delicatessens

TERESA'S ITALIAN DELI Teresa's Deli has been a staple in Erie for over 60 years, and it's no secret why. Now in its third generation, the Theresa's staff still makes the food fresh every day, following the same scratch recipes used since 1949.
3201 Greengarden Blvd. // 864.5322 and 810 E. 38th St. // 459.1145

PICASSO'S With signature panini-style sandwiches like the Lee Roslyn (Twinkie, ham, and cheese) and the DaVinci (sausage, ravioli, and provolone), Picasso's is a must-try. Great vegetarian options available.
2060 Interchange Rd. (Outside Millcreek Mall) 866.1183

TICKLE'S DELI - This popular deli features good prices and big, tasty sandwiches including the famous "Big Freddy." Call ahead if you can because this downtown hotspot gets busy at lunchtime.
17 W. 4th St. // 455.5718

GERRY'S 8TH STREET DELI From the world-class deli to the homemade soups, Gerry's offers everything you'd expect from a deli. But with sandwich names like "Cluckmeister," "Chive Turkey," "Tongue Fu," and "Breast of Times" just to name a few, you're going to want to keep going back to check out all of these one-of-a-kind sandwiches. Deli hours run Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
2620 W. 8th St. // 836.8702

French

BERTRAND'S BISTRO A menu featuring local meats and vegetables and organic and Kosher ingredients when possible. The crepes and award-winning wine selection are more than enough to encourage a trip to France via downtown Erie.
18 N. Park Row // 871.6477

Gastropubs

JECKYL & HYDES - Just like the title characters—wait, character—this gastropub seems bent on being two things at once—and that's a good thing. While the seating area is small, which makes for a cozy experience, the tastes are big and bold.
8 E. 10th St. // 456.0072

Indian

RAJ MAHAL - Offering a wide variety of Indian cuisine, both vegetarian and carnivore friendly, with an ever-popular lunch buffet. BYOB
5618 Peach St. // 838.1055

Irish

MOLLY BRANNIGANS - Got a hankering for bangers and mash? Have no idea what the heck bangers and mash is? Head to this authentic Irish gastropub where you can get your fill of Irish-ness and Irish drinks. From Jameson to Guinness, from Shepherd's Pie to Purcell's Fish and Chips, Molly Brannigans brings the Irish pub to downtown Erie.
506 State St. // 453.7800

MCGARREY'S OAKWOOD CAFÉ Known for the award-winning Reuben, McGarrey's believes in big portions of comfort food served up hot and fresh. Although Irish in name, McGarrey's also dishes out American and Italian cuisine so that you're bound to find something satisfying.
1624 W. 38th St. // 866.0552

Italian

ALTO CUCINA Chef Pat Rodgers mixes the old-world with the exotic. Beautiful décor, with an outdoor deck for the summer months.
3531 W. Lake Road // 835.3900

COLAO'S Authentic Italian, fresh seafood, and a cozy, intimate setting.
2826 Plum St. // 866.9621

MI SCUZI Southern Italian cuisine with fresh, homemade pasta.
2641 Myrtle St. // 454.4533

AMICI RISTORANTE With dinner hours from 5 to 9 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and a takeout menu available Monday through Saturday, Amici Ristorante dishes out fresh food at affordable prices. From wings to pizza

to fresh perch sandwiches and more, the menu has something for everyone. Call ahead one hour for takeout since food is prepared fresh per order.
1518 Walnut St. // 455.0041

Japanese

SUSHI AND ASIAN CUISINE Fresh sushi and sashimi steal the spotlight of this show but their supporting cast shouldn't go unnoticed. The Kim Chi is a great place to start and any of the noodle choices make for good choices to continue on. With veggie-friendly options and a staff happy to serve you, Sushi and Asian Cuisine is a must.
1014 State St. // 455.0596

AOYAMA Think it's hard to find a daily sushi bar in Erie? Find your way to Aoyama for the hibachi experience combined with an extensive sashimi and sushi menu. You'll have the choice between hibachi-style seating and the traditional sit-down dining experience, so your mood can do the choosing for you. Reservations are highly suggested.
970 Millcreek Mall // 868.7999

HIBACHI From flinging shrimp to slinging steak, Hibachi combines dinner with the show without service charges or ticket fees. If you're fine with sitting beside your date instead of across from him or her, opt for this straight-off the grill without time-to-chill dinner experience.
3000 W. 12th St. // 838.2495

Mediterranean

PETRA Open since 2004, Petra serves as Erie's window to the Eastern Mediterranean. The folks at Petra want you to have "a unique culinary experience." And with Mediterranean-inspired items on the menu you're unlikely to find anywhere else, this is a one of a kind dining experience.
3602 W. Lake Road // 838.7197

Mexican

EL TORO LOCO With a full bar and the best margaritas in town, there is something for everyone. Enjoy a little taste of Mexico right here in downtown Erie.
333 State St. // 454.5626

LATINO'S With fresh ingredients and a commitment to serving up the authentic Mexican-cuisine experience, Latinos is the place to go for more than just the average Tex-Mex experience. The place isn't flashy, but with food this good, it doesn't have to be.
1315 Parade St. // 452.1966

EL CANELO With three locations to serve the greater-Erie area, you're never

more than a 15 minute drive from all the chips and salsa you can handle served up with sizzling fajitas, hand-wrapped enchiladas and burritos, and a whole lot more. The Super Crab Quesadilla is a must-try that won't break the bank but will definitely stretch your belt.
2709 W. 12th St. // 835.2290 and 4236 Peach St. // 860.8187 and 4459 Buffalo Rd. // 898.1531

MOE'S With friendly staff serving up fresh, made-to-order southwest fare, Moe's is a great place for quality, on-the-go Mexican food.
2052 Edinboro Rd. (Outside Millcreek Mall) 459.2121

Middle Eastern

CASABLANCA From traditional to modern recipes, from strictly vegetarian meals to meals centered around a choice selection of fresh meat, Casablanca Grille looks to provide something for everyone looking for a good Moroccan meal—and the diversity's a good thing too since when it comes to Middle East Mediterranean cuisine, Casablanca is it. Reservations are recommended.
2174 W. 8th St. // 452.4544

PALM MARKET AND DELI This authentic Arabic market and eatery offers delicious, freshly prepared food and baked goods for a very reasonable price. The market offers a wide variety of exotic food and merchandise.
2702 Parade St.

Pizza

PAPA JOE'S With specialty pizzas ranging from "Vegan Demise" to "Chicken Gorgonzola" and subs that go by the names of "Enchanted Eggplant" and "Chuck Norris," Papa Joe's brings more to the table than any commercial pizza joint. And to boot, they serve up a mean falafel sandwich—something that's a must.
3826 W. Ridge Rd. // 835.3360

VALERIO'S More than just Pizza, Wings, and Subs! Local Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria that has been serving Erie County for over 17 years. Offering a variety of Homemade Italian Dinners, Seafood, Daily Lunch Specials, and Catering Services. Check out our menus online at www.valeriospizzeria.com. With 3 convenient locations to serve you, we'll have you singing...Manga Italiano!
2179 W. 32nd St. // 833-2979 and 1803 E. 38th St. 825-2693 and 724 Powell 833-8884 // Catering Office // 866-3193

PENINSULA PIZZERIA Fresh, quality ingredients

and friendly staff make this new pizzeria a popular choice for pizza, subs, and salads. Try the Oliver Perry's Hazard if you're feeling adventurous.
4115 W. Ridge Rd. // 838.8400

Suds and Grub

U PICK 6 TAP HOUSE Great beer meets great food at the corner of Fourth and State streets. From gourmet flatbreads to pizza muffins, there's plenty of great grub to pair with the endless flow of over 20 microbrews on tap. And with helpful servers who know their beer, this is a great place to come to try the beers you've never had but have always wanted to.
333 State St. // 520.5419

SIX PACK HOUSE OF BEER With an ever-changing lineup of brews on tap and cooler wall of six-packs to go, Six Pack also serves up some cheap eats to boot.
847 Pitt. Ave. // 454.1989

U PICK 6 BEER STORE Off the downtown beaten path, U Pick 6 takes pride in its revolving draft beer lineup. With some quick eats and sandwiches sliced up right in front of you, U Pick 6 draws you in for the beer and keeps you for the conversation.
7520 Peach St. // 866.2337

Steakhouse

SENSORY 3 Next time you're at Presque Isle Downs & Casino, take a break from the table games and check out this bar and grille! If you're cashing in your chips for fine dining, we bet on being satisfied by a fine steak since Sensory 3 serves up some of the best cuts in the area.
8199 Perry Hwy // 866.8359

COLONY PUB & GRILLE - Multiple fireplaces and three intimate dining rooms make the Colony a popular spot for a romantic dinner.
2670 W. 8 St. // 838.2162

RICARDO'S Opened in 1943 by two brothers, Ricardo's serves up some of Erie's finest steaks. Chef Peter West and Cathy Merksis run one of Erie's choice restaurants that's known for its hand-cut, grain-fed western beef and delicious, mouth-watering ribs cooked outside year-round. Hearty Italian fare with casual feel of fine dining make Ricardo's a must.
2112 E. Lake Rd // 455.4947

VICTOR'S - Located inside the Bel-Aire hotel, Victor's offers fine steak and seafood with drink specials every night of the week.
2800 W. 8 St. // 833.1116

Thai

KHAO THAI The only full-time Thai restaurant in Erie. Luckily, it's fantastic! Try the drunken noodles for a spicy delight. Vegetarian friendly. BYOB
36 N. Park Row // 454.4069

Vegetarian

WHOLE FOODS CAFÉ Offering a wide variety of vegetarian staples, including wraps, sandwiches, soups, pizza, and seasonal specialties.
1341 W. 26th St. // 456-0282

Wings

BUFFALO WILD WINGS Fourteen original sauces and loads of televisions make BW's a great place to meet friends for the big game. Full bar menu available.
Interchange Road (Across from Milcreek Mall) 868.9464

ODIS 12 Award-winning wings and affordable sit-down dining. Odis 12 features over 100 different flavors, including the crowd-favorite "ugly cousin."
664 W. 26th St. // 452.6347

GREENGARDEN TAVERN Classic corner bar atmosphere, great prices, excellent wings. Honey-hot barbecue and cranch are standouts. Go Browns!
1543 W. 8th St. // 454.3367

PARK TAVERN - Known for its wings, the Park Tavern boasts a family-friendly smoke-free environment. Try some Herbies or crispy Cajuns. Buffalo Cajun is also recommended.
4205 E. Lake Road // 899.8661

Sweet Treats

MIGHTY FINE DONUTS If you love donuts and are looking for something off the well-worn path to Dunkin' Donuts and Krispy Kreme, this local gem is your destination spot. Heralded by locals as the best donuts ever
2612 Parade St. // 455.6408

ROMOLO CHOCOLATES Tony Stefanelli apprenticed with his family in the chocolate business for nearly 20 years. Where'd that get him? He's one of only 26 master confectioners and he's right here in Erie. So far hand-made pieces of chocolate, be sure to stop by Romolo's—then boast to your out-of-town friends about having a master confectioner in your city.
1525 W. 8th St. // 452.1933

PULAKOS George P. Pulakos opened his first chocolate shop at 926 State St. in 1903. Over a hundred years later, the fourth-generation-run chocolate shop is still one of Erie's favorite places for a wide selection of all things chocolate—and other delicious snacks too.
2530 Parade St.

DONUT CONNECTION - Just off the corner of Peach and Liberty streets sits a family-owned donut shop that's celebrating its Golden Anniversary this year. With the "best coffee" in town and a wide selection of delicious hand-cut donuts, this is a great place for a for a sweet treat.
3842 Liberty St. // 864.8702

ERIE READER 2013

DOWNTOWN DEBATE SERIES

The Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. Erie, Pa. Tues, Oct. 22

7PM

Debate to be broadcast in HD on WICU-TV

FREE!
admission

Current City Controller and Democratic challenger Casimir J. Kwitowski will face off against Democratic incumbents David Brennan; Curtis Jones, Jr.; and James Winarski; as well as Republican incumbent John Evans, as the five candidates vie for four available Erie City Council seats.



David Brennan



Casimir J. Kwitowski



James Winarski



Curtis Jones, Jr



John Evans

The general public is welcomed to pose questions, comments, and concerns relevant to the Erie City Council debate before, during, and after the event via social media at Facebook.com/ErieReader and on Twitter using the hashtag "ERDebate."

This debate will be moderated by Lilly Broadcasting's Lisa Adams. Questions drafted by the Erie Reader editorial board will be asked by the moderator, who will have the ability to pose follow-up questions. The order of questioning will be determined by random draw.

co-sponsored by Epic WebStudios, the Jefferson Educational Society, Velocity Network, and Lilly Broadcasting

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**Fridays, October 18 & 25
1pm – 9pm**

**Win Free Play and cash prizes
every half hour!**

MONSTER MASH
HALLOWEEN PARTY
Saturday, October 26 at 9pm
Clubhouse
Prizes for Best Costumes,
Drink Specials and
M-80s perform at 9pm!

FREE

COMEDY WEEKEND
FEATURING DICK CAPRI,
VIC ARNELL & ROB MAGNOTTI!
Friday, November 8 & Saturday, November 9
at 9pm in the Clubhouse

PICK 'EM PRO
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