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Jul. 17 - Jul. 30 // Vol. 9, No. 15 // ErieReader.com

## Stroll Goal

What we can learn by walking the West Bayfront

## Erie Coke Update

Examining which way the wind blows as DEP puts the pressure on

## Flora & Fauna

Larry Walczak's Romanticism for the 21st Century

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The Tonawanda Coke Corporation, Erie Coke's sister site in Tonawanda, N.Y., declared bankruptcy shortly after the New York Department of Environmental Conservation ordered it to shut down last July.

**From the Editors**

If time is money, we still deserve more money

**W**e're in the heart of the summer and there's some crumpled money on our cover. Why not a sunset, or a guy with a guitar, or something else more indicative of the season?

Astute readers will note that specifically, this crumpled money in question adds up to seven dollars and 25 cents. That's the per hour rate of Pennsylvania's minimum wage, and it has been — here and at the federal level — since 2009.

It's our belief that everyone has the right to fair wages. In his article, writer Dan Schank returns with an analysis of where we are, where we might be going, and highlights a few people and organizations that are taking strides to make that living wage a reality.

For some, this is called the "Fight for 15." This alliterative movement grew from the specific demand to raise the federal minimum wage to 15 dollars. In 2012 a strike by fast food workers in New York City made headlines, bringing the issue to national attention. As of this writing, 32 U.S. states and territories have a rate above the federal limit, the highest being in the District of Columbia. Pennsylvania sits at the minimum with 16 others, while five southern states have not adopted a minimum requirement at all.

Also in this issue, Liz Allen takes us on a written tour of the West Bayfront in preparations for an actual guided walk she'll give on Wednesday, July 24. She talks to people like Thelma and Mabel Blanks of the recently opened Cafe 7-10, Joseph "Seph" Kumer, director of community engagement for First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, and outlines the new West BayFit program.

Katie Christ provides a quick recap of recent events concerning the Erie Coke, as a hearing between the corporation and Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection moves forward following a notice from the DEP to shut down the plant, nearly mirroring actions in Tonawanda, New York at the now-closed sister plant Tonawanda Coke.

So as the Internet descends upon Area 51, so does this time of year gravitate towards an over-abundance of activities. Every day of the week, there's something worthwhile to check out, and oftentimes, admission is free. Things like Gallery Night, Gears and Grub, Discover Presque Isle, the Arts in the Arboretum, and 8 Great Tuesdays provide Erie residents with something affordable to do with their well-earned free time. And time is, of course, money.



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## Erie Coke Hearing Raises Questions

Examining which way the wind blows as DEP puts the pressure on



EARL GRAY

By: Katie Chriest

As this issue goes to print, the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Erie Coke Corp. continue a hearing before the state Environmental Hearing Board to determine whether or not the plant may continue operating after DEP denied its Title V operating permit on July 1. While it's impossible here to provide an up-to-the-minute report, some testimony in court is worth examining.

One major argument by those representing Erie Coke is that the plant's continued operation would create virtually no health harms for the Erie community. Allen C. Dittenhoefer, an environmental consultant hired by the company, said "the risk of excess cancer presented by the coke plant's emissions is well below the amount permitted under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's standards," according to the Erie Times-News.

But Dittenhoefer's analysis raised questions among some local experts watching the case closely. Using wind data from Erie International Airport, he posited that most emissions would blow out over the lake. DEP attorneys acknowledged that given the highly varied wind patterns we're accustomed to in Erie, especially close to the lake, it didn't make sense to use wind data from the airport, which would not match patterns near Erie Coke.

In fact, Hold Erie Coke Accountable is aware of over 250 complaints sub-

mitted to DEP by residents throughout eastside neighborhoods, Erie's central business district, and the West Bay-front.

During the hearing, Dittenhoefer admitted under questioning that different wind data would have produced different risk assessment results.

Another question regarding Dittenhoefer's assessment is why its focus is limited to elevated cancer risk. Unquestionably, less lethal health conditions such as asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, upper respiratory tract allergies and others can be severely debilitating to many who live downwind of pollution. These are commonly exacerbated by non-carcinogenic pollutants, especially particulate matter — a primary pollution source emitted by Erie Coke, as our DEP has noted repeatedly.

In fact, as the New York Times reported on July 10, a study focusing on particulate matter in the *European Respiratory Journal* recently found that "even moderate levels of air pollution can cause lung function impairment that rivals the damage caused by smoking ... The effects were particularly strong in low income populations and in people working where there is high exposure to contaminated air."

The emissions model used to gather Dittenhoefer's data likewise raises questions. A thorough examination is beyond the scope of this article. But essentially, Erie Coke seems to be using erroneous wind direction data in a the-

**The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) denied renewal of Erie Coke's Title V Operating Permit on July 1. Harmful emissions emanating from the Erie Coke plant at 925 E. Bay Dr. have triggered over 250 complaints from surrounding neighborhoods.**

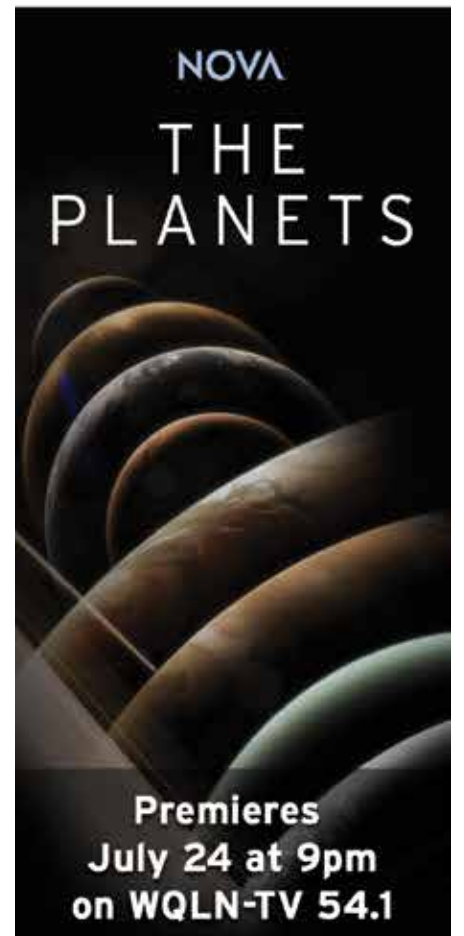
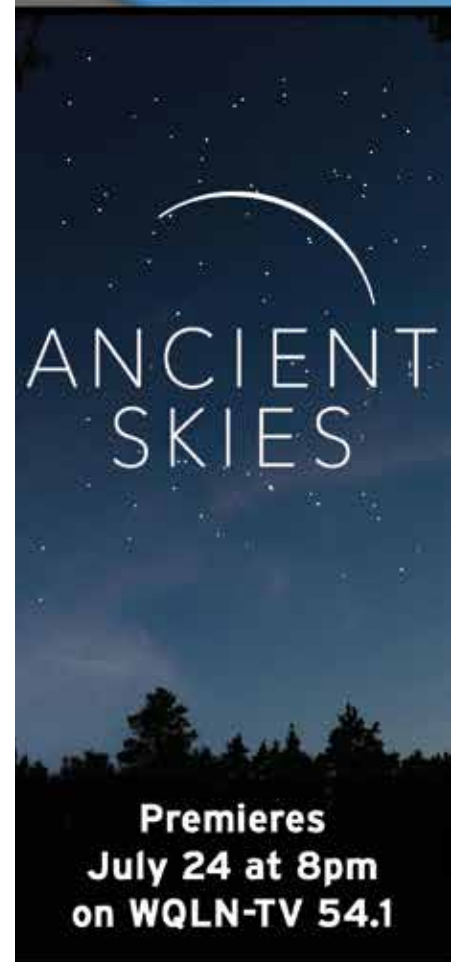
oretical model based on emissions data collected in 2016 and representing it as directly comparative to today's emissions. Local scientists cannot confirm all the parameters used in the study due to lack of available data, but sworn testimony given by Erie Coke seemed to indicate Erie Coke was running at a different capacity in 2016 compared to today.

Yet more questions surround the testimony of Paul Saffrin, CEO of Erie Coke, and also the former CEO of Erie Coke's now-closed sister site in Tonawanda, NY. Saffrin assured DEP that his company has the money to repair the plant and bring it into compliance, but also said Erie Coke will not be able to fully meet the regulations set by the Title V Permit at all times.

Saffrin's assertion that Erie Coke has ample funds to bring the plant into compliance begs the question: Why were those funds not used for maintenance and repairs earlier? And how is it that Erie Coke is solvent, yet Tonawanda Coke declared bankruptcy shortly after the New York Department of Environmental Conservation ordered it to shut down last July — an act that likely leaves taxpayers there with the financial burden of cleaning up?

Saffrin also argued that forcing Erie Coke to close would cost our city 137 jobs that pay an average of \$17 per hour. But this figure doesn't indicate how many of those jobs are permanent, with benefits, and how many are temporary or contract. And an "average" per-hour salary doesn't necessarily reflect what the majority of workers are making, assuming very highly-paid employees and executives are also part of that data set. Regardless of these numbers, job loss is an upheaval at any pay rate, and no one wishes that outcome for Erie Coke's employees. Nonetheless, Saffrin's assertions bear scrutiny, as do all arguments in this case.

Katie Chriest can be reached at [Katie@eriereader.com](mailto:Katie@eriereader.com).



## A West Bayfront Stroll Goal

Witnessing Erie's revitalization unfold in real-time



(top left) Free yoga lessons are part of the package at West BayFit, which takes place at Bayview Park from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays through Aug. 14. (top right) Thelma Blanks, left, and her daughter, Mabel Howard, are the proprietors of the new Café 7-10. Blanks grew up on the West Bayfront and learned to cook and bake at her church, Bethlehem Temple, which was on West Fourth Street. (bottom left) If you visit West BayFit at Bayview Park on Wednesday evenings, you'll also get a packet of information about neighborhood happenings from, left to right, Seph Kumer, Candace Battles, Libby Crawford and Anna Frantz. (bottom right) Paul Allman Siple, a native of the West Bayfront neighborhood, was renowned for his research on Antarctica and developing the wind chill index.

By: Liz Allen

It's a sultry summer evening as I take in the sights and sounds at Bayview Park.

There's the crack of bats from little leaguers playing ball at historic Pontiac Field, near West Second and Cherry streets.

I see a half-dozen arched backs, as college students, a college administrator, an 8-year-old, and a 'tween take free Vinyasa and Restorative yoga lessons on the bluff overlooking the bay. When the yoga students assume the warrior pose, they are treated to a stunning view of the waterfront. The bay is dotted with sailboats, including the schooner *Lettie G. Howard*, on a sunset cruise from the Maritime Museum.

Young soccer players polish their skills with help from the Erie Commodores, while teens show off their moves on the basketball court and parents push little ones on the playground swings.

The duo known as 2 Bass Hit — Steve Trohoske on bass guitar and Tony Grey on a six-string — entertain at the gazebo.

If you enjoy fun, games and neighborly camaraderie, Bayview Park is the place to be from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays through Aug. 14, when Our West Bayfront hosts its third annual West BayFit program. Each week there is a different sports theme, along with crafts, health and wellness activities, and food from local farmers' markets. The new splash pad has also been dedicated.

But more than that, Bayview Park is the ideal place to witness Erie's revitalization unfold in real-time. Rather than letting others dictate change, West Bayfront residents have given voice to the ways in which they want their neighborhood to be transformed. That's a good thing.

Having leaders step up to take charge is to be expected in this part of Erie, which has

produced a bevy of successful artists, entrepreneurs, athletes, and public servants. I haven't cataloged all of the accomplished people with ties to the West Bayfront, but a partial list would include actress Ann B. Davis, who played "Alice" on *The Brady Bunch*; World War II flying ace Phil Cochran, whose exploits were immortalized in two comic strips (Milton Caniff's *Terry and the Pirates* and *Steve Canyon*); Paul Siple, Antarctic explorer and inventor of the wind-chill index; Willie Grace, Negro League star for the Cleveland Buckeyes who made his home on West Front Street; Stephen Galloway, famed ballet dancer and costume designer for the Rolling Stones; and Billy Blanks, actor, martial artist, and creator of the Tae Bo exercise program.

Maybe it's the proximity to the waterfront that sparked such creativity. Certainly, as an anchor institution, the Martin Luther King Center played a key role. I also have a hunch

that the melting-pot character of the neighborhood helped to nurture such rich talents.

I visited the park on July 10, the opening night for West BayFit, to prep for my role in the program, as the leader for the second of two historic walks organized by Preservation Erie.

Melinda Meyer, Preservation Erie president, will lead the first walk, along Millionaire's Row on West Sixth Street, on July 17.

I volunteered for the July 24 walk, which Anna Frantz, executive director of Our West Bayfront, and I are calling the "Heart and Soul Stroll." My plan is to share what I know about the history of the West Bayfront neighborhoods from the perspective of regular folks. This includes the settlers who populated the area called "New Jerusalem," north of Sixth Street and west of Sasfras Street, on land that had been owned by abolitionist and mission-school leader William Himrod.

"Deed research indicates that (Himrod) sold these lots at a very affordable price to whites and blacks with a provision that individuals would build a house and reside on the prop-

erty," wrote Sarah S. Thompson in her book, *Journey from Jerusalem — An Illustrated Introduction to Erie's African American History, 1795-1995*.

Immigrants from Scandinavian, Irish, and Portuguese fishing villages followed in their footsteps. I suggested the "soul" aspect of the walk because I know that for many early and later settlers, faith traditions were vital to their well-being and sense of place.

That commitment continues today, according to Joseph "Seph" Kumer, director of community engagement for First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, which is in its second year as a partner for West BayFit. "The church thinks it's important that we be part of the neighborhood," said Kumer. "It's allowing different ages to come together to enjoy this park. Isn't it a beautiful view?" he said.

Church is also where Thelma Blanks learned her way around the kitchen, before she was even a teenager. The seventh of 14 children of Mabeline and Isaac Blanks and sister of Tae Bo's Billy Blanks, Thelma Blanks is the proprietor, with her daughter Mabel Howard, of the new Café 7-10, at 7 W. 10th St., just east of the Erie Playhouse.

When she was growing up in the West Bayfront, Bethlehem Temple, then at 540 W. Fourth St. and directly behind the Blanks' home in the 500 block of West Third Street, was an integral part of her family's life. She learned to cook at church. "I was frying the chicken, I was frying the fish, I was making the cakes because we did bake sales at the church," she said.

Blanks, in turn, passed along her culinary skills to her daughter. Howard is especially proud of her mother's signature dish, "Thelma Divine." Howard explained: "It's like a lasagna but made in a soulful fashion.

LIZ ALLEN

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There's (cornbread) stuffing on top, then there's broccoli and chicken and a layer of cheese. It's so, so good, you don't even have to have a side dish, but she would also make macaroni and cheese and collard greens."

Blanks said she learned about entrepreneurship from her father, who had a rubbish-hauling business. "Everyone called him Boss," she said. All 10 boys in her family played sports but Thelma Blanks was the first to earn a black belt in karate after brother Billy dared her to study martial arts.

Blanks helped me to, well, fill in some of the blanks about my knowledge of the West Bayfront. So did retired teacher Johnny Johnson, who reprinted a book about the Pontiacs (with the permission of the original author, Larry Wayne Moore), which included many former Negro League stars. "The Pontiacs. Black Baseball to Remember" is available in

the Heritage Room, the reference section of Blasco Library.

I've also tapped into the stories of John Reitingger, a former City of Erie worker, whose family has lived on the lower west side for 100 years. At West Fourth and Liberty streets, he remembers a bakery, tannery, shoe repair shop, and meat market; and at West Fourth and Cherry streets, there was the Gem City Club, Western Provision, and a pool hall. Firch Bakery was at West Fourth and Walnut and the Firch mansion, a beautiful Victorian home, stood next door. "It was a vibrant community. You had everything there," Reitingger said.

Despite the research I've done and the oral histories I've heard, I'm a little nervous about leading the walk because I'm not a West Bayfront resident; I don't want to come off as an interloper.

Still, I cherish my connection

to the West Bayfront, because my earliest memories were formed here, in the upstairs flat my parents rented in the 200 block of West Fourth Street.

I remember my dad taking me to meet the fire dog at Engine House No. 4, at West Fifth and Chestnut streets (now the Erie Firefighters Museum), and attending kindergarten at Burns School — now Gaudenzia Crossroads Erie (a drug and alcohol treatment center).

I can hear my mom signing along with Perry Como on the radio, and recall that Dad took my brother and me sledding on the bayfront bluffs on the morning of the Thanksgiving Blizzard of '56, when there was just "a dusting" of snow. One month later, we moved to Lincoln Avenue. Our home was close enough to my father's job on Pittsburgh Avenue that he could drive home for lunch every day, and my brother and

I would sprint home from St. Andrew's Catholic School on Raspberry Street to eat with our parents and our little sisters.

My first introduction to the history of the West Bayfront came because we belonged to St. Andrew's, founded by Portuguese fishermen. It also seemed perfectly normal that my Irish father and his friends of German, Italian, and Polish heritage belonged to the Danish Club. Those guys, all gone now, would appreciate the spirit of collaboration afoot in Bayview Park. They would eagerly respond to the invitation from Frantz, the director of Our West Bayfront, to take part in West BayFit.

"We want people of all ages to get out and enjoy this amazing park, to meet new friends and neighbors and connect with old friends and neighbors," said Frantz.

I'm ready. Are you?

Liz Allen's favorite new treat is the chocolate banana bread from the Café 7-10. "That recipe came to me from above (from God)," says café owner Thelma Blanks. It's truly heavenly.

COMING UP

West BayFit takes place at Bayview Park, West Second and Cherry streets, on Wednesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. through Aug. 14. Learn more at [www.ourwestbayfront.org](http://www.ourwestbayfront.org). Also mark your calendars for the MLK Center Summer Festival at 312 Chestnut St. on July 20 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. To volunteer, call Fatima Jenkins at 459-2761, extension 241. The Café 7-10, 7 W. 10th St., is starting Poetry and Soul Food Sundays, with takeout dinners available from 3 to 5 p.m. and dining in from 5 to 7 p.m. Visit the café's Facebook page to learn more.

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# Demanding More

## The fight for a living wage in Erie



In light of rising costs, the local outcries for more livable wages have escalated. As of 2019, Pennsylvania is one of 21 states whose minimum wage mirrors the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour, a rate that has not budged in an entire decade.

pact 34 percent of our total workforce.

If the term “minimum wage” calls to mind disillusioned, pimply teenagers, think again. The report estimates that 89.4 percent of the workers affected by an increase to \$15 would be over the age of 20 — and 18.6 percent would be 55 or older. They also found key benefits for groups that have been historically marginalized. For example, 60 percent of our female workforce would benefit from the increase, as would 58 percent of Hispanic workers and 47 percent of our African-American wage-earners.

But could such an increase be practical? What would the bottom line look like for a small business trying to make ends meet? To answer that question, I turned to Erie’s Whole Foods Co-op (not to be confused with the national chain), where a living wage experiment is playing out locally, right before our eyes.

When LeAnna Nieratko assumed duties as general manager a few years back, the Co-op staff was already brainstorming ways to bring a living wage to its 53 employees. Nieratko, in partnership with the eight-member board of directors, decided to put these plans into action. “Any profit we’re making is coming literally on the backs of our employees,” says Nieratko. “If we’re not paying a living wage, there’s no justifiable amount of profit that would not be taken from their pockets. So I said ‘Let’s just do it,’ and then figure out the expense situation later.”

To set some clear goals, Nieratko and her co-workers turned to the Living Wage Calculator, a modeling tool created in 2004 by Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Professor Amy K. Glasmeier. The user-friendly calculator “draws upon geographically specific expenditure data related to a family’s likely minimum food, childcare, health insurance, housing, transportation, and other basic necessities” to “determine the minimum employment earnings necessary to meet a family’s basic needs,” according to MIT’s website.

In 2015, the tool determined that a single individual in Erie County would

need to make \$9.89 per hour to earn a living wage. Accordingly, over a five-week period during the summer of 2017, Whole Foods Co-Op bumped all affected salaries to \$10 per hour, added retirement benefits, and offered paid time off for full and part-time employees. They also offered supplemental income to employees working through the Greater Erie Community Action Committee’s Summer JAM program (which finds and funds jobs for young people in the community) to bring their total hourly wage to \$10.

I asked Nieratko about the financial adjustments that this boost required. Surprisingly, it had no effect on the price of groceries. “I knew I couldn’t touch the price because people still have to come here and shop,” claims Nieratko. “And we wanted to do right by as many people as possible. We have an additional challenge because we also have a commitment to pay our producers fair wages.”

Still, the adjustment was difficult. Nieratko notes that, prior to the increase, “the incoming wage in the store was \$8 per hour. Now suddenly everyone was coming in at \$10. If you had been here for seven years — and we have a lot of people who’ve been very dedicated to the Co-op for years — it probably felt a bit frustrating.” Accordingly, Nieratko and her team did their best to accommodate their tenured staff. “We figured out a wage compression model that was based on other co-ops that have done living wage adjustments,” she says. “If I recall correctly, it was a small bump plus an additional two cents per year of service.”

“Overall, our labor percent is not obscene for a co-op,” says Nieratko. “I don’t feel like it impacted our bottom line that much. I feel like there are people that we have trained and put time and effort into who say ‘I will stay here because I am valued here.’ And so it cuts the overhead on your training.”

In January of 2020, Whole Foods Co-Op will reassess wages and benefits according to the updated estimates tallied on MIT’s calculator.

### Mobilizing a coalition for change

An organization playing an increasingly central role in the local fight against poverty is Erie County United

By: Dan Schank

If you live in Erie, you’re almost certainly familiar with systemic poverty. But you might be alarmed by its scope and its scale.

Last year, *Business Insider* (working with real estate website Trulia) reported that the 16501 area code — which includes our downtown and its immediate surroundings — has the lowest median income of any neighborhood in Pennsylvania. In regard to the city as a whole, a 2015 report from the Economic Research Institute of Erie (ERIE) lists our poverty rate at 29.2 percent — more than 15 percent higher than the state average. That rate jumps to 38.5 percent for African-Americans in our city — and to an alarming 51.7 percent for Asian-Americans. Worst of all, the report notes that 45.5 percent of children under the age of 18 were living in poverty in 2015.

When people are struggling, other hardships arise. ERIE estimates that our foreclosure rate was 5.1 percent in 2013, and that 983 of our citizens spent 2014 living on the street. They tallied 1,367 bankruptcy filings in 2017. Similarly, data from Princeton University’s Eviction Lab reveals that nearly two evictions were filed per day for the entire year of 2016 in Erie County.

But not everyone is suffering. According to a 2016 report from the Economic Policy Institute (EPI), the top one percent in Pennsylvania gobbled up 42.8 percent of all economic growth between 1979 and 2007. Even in Erie, which is not exactly a haven for the ultra-rich, the total share of all income

held by the top one percent in 2013 was 14.8 percent. By 2016, the EPI concluded that the top one percent in Pennsylvania makes 21.7 times more than the bottom 99 percent on average. That’s more than double the rate they controlled 40 years ago.

As I type this, Pennsylvania is one of 21 states where the minimum wage is parallel to the federal minimum at \$7.25 per hour. That number hasn’t changed in a full decade. Earlier this summer, Governor Wolf signed a “compromise” state budget that left the issue unaddressed — despite his advocacy for an immediate raise to \$12 an hour, followed by incremental adjustments building to \$15 per hour by 2025.

You aren’t reading a neutral assessment here. I think the governor’s plan is worth implementing and that \$7.25 per hour is cruel and outrageous in a country with the highest Gross Domestic Product on Earth. Fortunately, a rising number of businesses, activists, and elected officials are fighting hard for a living wage in our community. Consider this an introduction to their work and an invitation to their cause.

### Making a living wage practical

In May of 2019, the nonpartisan Keystone Research Center released a report in partnership with the PA Budget and Policy Center envisioning the impact of Governor Wolf’s plan. They discovered that a \$12 per hour minimum would lead to an average increase in income of \$3,214 per year for all full-time affected workers. That increase would impact 1.7 million people in our state, while a push to \$15 an hour would im-

MAITHAM BASHA-AGHA



Activists like Luis Rodriguez spoke at the second annual Poor People's March organized by Erie County United in July to raise awareness of economic injustice. A matter of particular concern is the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA) program, which excuses developers from paying city and county taxes on new or upgraded commercial and residential properties for a 10-year period.

MATTHEW BASHA-AGHA

(ECU). According to organizer Marty Nwachukwu, their work centralizes economic justice issues, especially “educational, racial, and health access inequities.” In the community, they’ve spent the past two years “canvassing doors, getting a feel from community members about what their issues are, advocating for people to register to vote, and turning out the vote,” according to Nwachukwu. For example, they were recently instrumental in getting Michael Keys elected to City Council.

The fight for a living wage has been an important issue for the organization. “We’ve seen the price of goods and services go up year after year, and we’ve watched the cost of college go up year after year, while the wage has stayed stagnant and become less and less useful to working families,” according to ECU member Elspeth Koehle. “It’s not possible to rent an apartment and see to all your other needs for things like transportation and childcare for \$7.25 an hour. It doesn’t work.”

ECU’s Aaron Horton cites personal reasons for his support for a living wage. Financial trouble hit him hard during college, ultimately forcing him to drop out.

“I couldn’t separate my home life and my financial struggles with where I was at the time,” says Horton. “As a result, I wasn’t able to maintain the success I had in high school while in college.” After returning to Erie, he found work for \$7.50 an hour with Family Dollar. Eventually, he worked his way up to a manager position, earning \$9.25. Although initially overjoyed by the salary bump, it still wasn’t enough. “It’s hard to find solid ground when you’re trying to get ahead and contribute to your community when an unlivable wage puts you at a huge disadvantage,” says Horton. “You have to work that much harder just to meet the bare minimum.”

Concerns about economic justice led Erie County United to advocate for changes to our city’s Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA) program. LERTA is a program designed to encourage building construction and renovations in Erie, as well as greater economic investment, by offering (among other things) 100 percent tax abatement on city and county taxes for commercial and residential upgrades over a 10-year period. “We’re obviously not against development or homeown-

ers improving their properties,” says Koehle. “But we want to ensure that we hold developers accountable so that they provide for living wages in those jobs.”

Accordingly, ECU produced an ordinance to enhance the job and wage requirements included in earlier versions of LERTA, demanding affordable housing requirements for new development, insisting that 15 percent of new employment related to development go to local people, and advocating for wages at 125 percent of PA’s minimum wage. Although their proposal gained support from County Councilman Andre Horton, City Council members Kathy Schaaf and Liz Allen, and school board members Angela McNair and Tyler Titus, LERTA passed in early July without their adjustments.

Finally, Erie County United played a key role in organizing the second annual Poor People’s March in July of this year. Inspired by the marches of Martin Luther King Jr. in the 1960s — as well as Reverend William Barber’s “national call for a moral revival” in the present — the march brought together over 100 local citizens concerned about poverty and inequity in our region. And a surprisingly diverse group of local organizations — ranging from the NAACP to the Sierra Club — helped make it happen.

On an unusually pleasant Monday afternoon in Perry Square, speakers

at the march addressed economic and social justice issues from a variety of perspectives. Michael Bagdes-Canning noted the importance of access to clean drinking water. Luis Rodriguez addressed the conditions that asylum seekers are being held in at facilities in Erie County. Kennedy Horton demanded “a brick-and-mortar community college for our region,” noting that area universities haven’t done enough to provide affordable access to education. Becky Pruveadenti of Healthcare 4 All Pennsylvania addressed the need for “affordable, accessible healthcare.”

As the event drew to a close, Erie NAACP President Gary Horton led the crowd in a simple, but effective chant: “More for the poor!” It’s a simple sentiment, and though it doesn’t necessarily speak to the complexities of local government or late-capitalist economics, it makes a strong appeal to one’s sense of right and wrong.

A living wage — and yes, even a \$15 minimum wage — makes a similar appeal. Fifteen dollars an hour won’t necessarily prevent companies from laying off unskilled workers. It probably won’t do much to address discriminatory hiring practices either. But maybe it’s a starting point rather than an end goal.

A community that pays its members a living wage is more likely to be a community that looks out for small businesses forced to make adjustments. A community that believes that work should have dignity is more likely to look at discrimination, incarceration, and access to affordable housing with concern rather than contempt. A community that pays people well will encourage good people to invest in it. Let’s be that kind of community.

Dan Schank can be reached at [dschank@eriereader.com](mailto:dschank@eriereader.com)

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A Roar Further Down the Shore



DEAN ZELLER

WEDNESDAY, JUL. 17 - 21

Soon, the ground will shake and Erie residents will hear the recognizable rumble of the annual Roar on the Shore, though perhaps less so than in previous years as the well-known motorcycle event is headed to a new location at Lake Erie Speedway.

In an official statement from Roar on the Shore Executive Director Ralph J. Pontillo, it was announced that the "new facility will triple the space currently available in Perry Square. The speedway's grandstands will allow for concert seating. Vendor Alley will expand its footprint to allow easy access to our vendors. The facility's massive footprint area will provide ample parking." He continued, "for added convenience, the speedway offers covered table seating and concessions, numerous full-service

bars, as well as stadium restrooms."

The Fallen Riders Memorial Run takes off from Penn State Behrend's campus at 3 p.m. on July 17, an hour before the event officially commences at the speedway. That evening, the beer garden opens, featuring DJ Tony and happy hour specials. Opening night will conclude with a live performance by Lita Ford, with Night Ranger, Steven Adler (of Guns N' Roses), and Stryper appearing on the following nights.

Rides — like the annual parade, led by this year's Grand Marshal Kim Coates (of *Sons of Anarchy*), music, and special events fill the schedule for the remaining four days of Roar on the Shore. Full information about performers, parking, vendors, and rides can be found on Roar on the Shore's official website.

Coinciding with this year's Roar on the Shore is Peek'n Peak Resort's first Biker Bash in Clymer, New York. This three-day free event includes a Roar on the Shore sanctioned ride — The Roar to The Peak — which will take cyclists from the speedway into scenic Chautauqua County and conclude at the resort. — Hannah McDonald

*Beginning Wednesday at 3 p.m., concluding with a biker breakfast at 11 a.m. Sunday // Lake Erie Speedway, 10700 Delmas Dr, North East, PA 16428 // info at roarontheshore.com and pknpk.com*

Celebrate Arts in the Arboretum with their Annual Concert and Theater Series



NICK WATREN

THURSDAY, JUL. 18

The summer heat has a tight grasp on us, which means it's just about time for the annual Arts in the Arboretum concert and theater series. The performances are free and run weekly into early August, intimately set in the Patricia McCain Outdoor Amphitheater in Frontier Park.

The series is set to kick off this Thursday with the Familiar Spirit Band, a group of classic soul, funk, and R&B performers who prime their audience with hits from legacy acts like Earth Wind & Fire, Stevie Wonder, and Prince, among others. The band is renowned for opening and performing alongside other national soul acts within the tri-state area. Following them on July 25th is Tennessee Backporch, a popular variety band

that covers everything from big band and classic '50s and '60s tunes, to country, classic rock, and even modern hits. The Backporch, as they refer to themselves, have been local since 1980, having released an album of original songs titled *Children of Song* in 2000 and having since expanded from a duo to a five-piece.

On July 28th at 1 p.m., the Erie Philharmonic Quintet will be performing, with Abbey Road, Erie's premier Beatles tribute band (currently in their 24th year of playing) on August 1. Closing out the concert series on August 8th is The Breeze Band, a nine-piece soul group whose expertise extends into the blues and classic rock sectors.

On top of it all, each event will feature a variety of sandwiches, salads, desserts and more from the SorcERIE food truck. The Arboretum has outdone itself this year, booking a diverse crew of musicians to fill the park with music and art (in addition to Gannon's Shakespeare Summer Nights shows). It's a free, family-friendly event series you will not want to be missing this summer. — Aaron Mook

*Thursdays through Aug. 8, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. // The Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier Park (LEAF), 1501 West 6th Street // Free // leaferie.org*

MUSIC

**UPMC Sunset Music Series: Jamie B. Gallagher, The Breeze Band**

Jul. 17 — 5:30 p.m.  
Beach 1 at PI State Park, 1 Peninsula Dr. [discoverpi.com](http://discoverpi.com).

**Matty B & 57 Pickup**

Jul. 17 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
Bel-Aire Clarion, 2800 W. 8th St. [belaireclarion.com](http://belaireclarion.com).

**The Mountain Thyme Ramblers**

Jul. 17 — 7 p.m.  
Whitford Park, 5400 Iroquois Ave. [harborcreektownship.org](http://harborcreektownship.org).

**Music in the Park: Contels**

Jul. 17 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
Lake Erie Community Park, 10192 W. Lake Rd., Lake City, PA 16423 // 814-774-4738

**MVP**

Jul. 18, 25 — 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Dickey's BBQ Pit, 3716 Liberty St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

**Alex Kates and Amanda Barton**

Jul. 18 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
The Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W.

Main St., North East, PA 16428  
[skunkandgoattavern.com](http://skunkandgoattavern.com).

**Black Widow**

Jul. 18 — 6 to 10 p.m.  
Coconut Joe's, 28 N. Park Row [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

**Salmon Frank**

Jul. 18 — 6:30 p.m.  
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St., Edinboro, PA 16412 [edinborolakeresort.com](http://edinborolakeresort.com).

**Katie & Jessie**

Jul. 19 — 5 to 7 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. [presqueisledowns.com](http://presqueisledowns.com).

**Bootleggers Bible Club**

Jul. 19 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
Bel-Aire Clarion, 2800 W. 8th St. [belaireclarion.com](http://belaireclarion.com).

**The Vendettas**

Jul. 19 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
Arundel Cellars & Brewing, 11727 E. Main St., North East, PA 16428 [arundelcellars.com](http://arundelcellars.com).

**Flight**

Jul. 19 — 6 to 10 p.m.  
Coconut Joe's, 28 N. Park Row [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

**Rachel Short**

Jul. 19 — 6:30 p.m.

Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St., Edinboro, PA 16412 [edinborolakeresort.com](http://edinborolakeresort.com).

**Scott Silvis**

Jul. 19 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. [presqueisledowns.com](http://presqueisledowns.com).

**John Zuck, So-Lo Bass**

Jul. 19 — 7:30 p.m.  
Enjoy local art, sprints, refreshments, and great vibes at this music & art happy hour featuring So-Lo bassist John Zuck. ArtLore Studio, 3406 W. Lake Rd. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

**Sounds Around Town: Cult Classics**

Jul. 19 — 7:30 p.m.  
WQLN, 8425 Peach St. [wqln.org](http://wqln.org).

**JB Aaron**

Jul. 19 — 8 p.m.  
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. [bourbonbarrelerie.com](http://bourbonbarrelerie.com).

**Ron Yarman**

Jul. 20 — 5 to 7 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. [presqueisledowns.com](http://presqueisledowns.com).

**Music in the Vineyards: Abbey Road**

Jul. 20 — 5 to 9 p.m.  
Penn Shore Winery & Vineyards, 10225 E. Lake Rd., North East, PA 16428 [pennshore.com](http://pennshore.com).

**Small Town Revolution**

Jul. 20 — 6 to 10 p.m.  
Coconut Joe's, 28 N. Park Row [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

**Bonfires & Brews: Tennessee Backporch**

Jul. 20 — 6 to 10 p.m.  
Peek'n Peak Resort, 1405 Olde Rd., Clymer, NY 14724 [pknpk.com](http://pknpk.com).

**Shameless Hex**

Jul. 20 — 6:30 p.m.  
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St., Edinboro, PA 16412 [edinborolakeresort.com](http://edinborolakeresort.com).

**Jay Baumgardner Acoustics**

Jul. 20 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. [presqueisledowns.com](http://presqueisledowns.com).

**July Coffee House: The Fugitive Band, Edenlight**

Jul. 20 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
The Little Church on the Hill, 10410 High St., Albion, PA 16401 [sites.google.com](http://sites.google.com).

**Rick and the**

**Roadhouse Rockers**

Jul. 20 — 7 to 10 p.m.  
Presque Isle Wine Cellars, 9440 W. Main Rd., North East, PA 16428 [piwine.com](http://piwine.com).

**Jeremy Jaeger**

Jul. 21 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
The Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428 [skunkandgoattavern.com](http://skunkandgoattavern.com).

**In Cahoots**

Jul. 21 — 1 to 4 p.m.  
Arundel Cellars & Brewing, 11727 E. Main St., North East, PA 16428 [arundelcellars.com](http://arundelcellars.com).

**Sunday Sesh w Gem City Revival**

Jul. 21 — 1 to 4 p.m.  
Five & 20 Spirits and Brewing, 8398 W. Main Rd. (Rte. 20), Westfield, NY 14787 [fiveand20.com](http://fiveand20.com).

**Gideon, Varials**

Jul. 21 — 6 p.m.  
The Ballet Haus, 1020 Holland St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

**Leeanna Golembiewski**

Jul. 21 — 6:30 p.m.  
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St., Edinboro, PA 16412 [edinborolakeresort.com](http://edinborolakeresort.com).

**Monday Music in the Woods: Gem City Revival**

Jul. 22 — 6 to 8 p.m.  
Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. [asburywoods.org](http://asburywoods.org).

**Ukulele Workshop**

Jul. 23 — 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
Dickey's BBQ Pit, 3716 Liberty St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

**8 Great Tuesdays: Uprooted**

Jul. 23 — 6:30 p.m.  
Uprooted features Michael Glabicki of Rusted Root, with One World Tribe opening the show. Highmark Amphitheater at Liberty Park, 726 W. Bayfront Pkwy. [porterie.org](http://porterie.org).

**Mid-Day Art Break: Brooke Sרגener**

Jul. 24 — noon to 1 p.m.  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

**Dave VanAmburg & Friends**

Jul. 24, 26, 31 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
Bel-Aire Clarion, 2800 W. 8th St. [belaireclarion.com](http://belaireclarion.com).

**The Doggone Good Band**

Jul. 24 — 7 p.m.  
Whitford Park, 5400 Iroquois Ave. [harborcreektownship.org](http://harborcreektownship.org).

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## CALENDAR

Enjoy a Spectrum of Arts at the 2019 Whirlybird Music and Arts Festival



OH SNAP VISUALS

**The Whirlybird Music and Arts Festival returns to nearby Jamestown, N.Y. for an expansive sequel. Diverse music, comedy, art, and food and drink options span the course of three days.**

### THURSDAY, JUL. 18 - 20

This Thursday, Jamestown's Whirlybird Music and Arts Festival returns for its second consecutive year — now more accessible than ever. With performances spread out over eight different locations, the festival has three days of diverse music, comedy, and art lined up — starting Thursday evening at 5 p.m. and coming to a close Saturday at midnight. In addition to local food, beverages, and vendors, several acts have no age restriction or cover charge — part of Whirlybird's initiative to make the festival accessible to everyone. Thursday's sets include Space Junk, Qwister, Shamus O'Donnell, the Jamestown Thunder Drum and Dance Circle, as well as a comedy showcase from sponsor Karate Sleepover.

Friday evening is set to kick off with a comedy set from Steven Rogers, leading into shows featuring Funktional Flow,

Spooky Westcott, and Erie's own The LEC. During the day on Saturday, Whirlybird will be hosting a free, all-ages street festival featuring a cavalcade of musical acts, from metal band Feverhawk to country-rockers Co. Townes. Line carving, painting, and upholstery are also scheduled, leading into the festival's grand finale Saturday night. Bringing the event to a close is a set from Tropidelic, a reunion show from The Audience, and New York noise-rockers Elemantra, among many others. More specifics, including a full list of bands and locations, are available on the festival's website. A true testament to music and art both regional and international, 2019's Whirlybird Festival is set to be one of the year's best, for families and fans alike. — Aaron Mook

5 p.m. to midnight (excluding Saturday daytime events) // 24 E. 3rd St., Jamestown, NY 14701 // Tickets starting at \$15 // All Ages, No Cover on Thursday evening and Saturday until 5 p.m. // Full info at [whirlybirdmusicfestival.com](http://whirlybirdmusicfestival.com)

### Steppin Pappy

Jul. 24 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
Lake Erie Community Park,  
10192 W. Lake Rd., Lake City,  
PA 16423 // 814-774-4738

### Erie Philharmonic Brass Quintet

Jul. 24 — 7:30 p.m.  
Gibson Park, Main St.  
(Rte. 20), North East, PA  
16428 [eriephil.org](http://eriephil.org).

### Jay Baumgardner

Jul. 25 — 6:30 p.m.  
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St.,  
Edinboro, PA 16412 [edinborolakeresort.com](http://edinborolakeresort.com).

### The 39th Annual Gathering at Chaffee's

Jul. 26, 27  
Chaffee Family Property,  
8296 Mill St., Girard, PA 16417  
[thegatheringatchaffees.com](http://thegatheringatchaffees.com).

### SASS Acoustics

Jul. 26 — 5 to 7 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon &  
Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy.  
[presqueisledowns.com](http://presqueisledowns.com).

### Abbey Road

Jul. 26 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
Arundel Cellars & Brewing,  
11727 E. Main St., North East,

PA 16428 [arundelcellars.com](http://arundelcellars.com).

### Geek Army

Jul. 26 — 6 to 10 p.m.  
Coconut Joe's, 28 N. Park  
Row [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Tommy Link

Jul. 26 — 6:30 p.m.  
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St.,  
Edinboro, PA 16412 [edinborolakeresort.com](http://edinborolakeresort.com).

### Kevin Wilson

Jul. 26 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon &  
Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy.  
[presqueisledowns.com](http://presqueisledowns.com).

### Generic New Grass

Jul. 26 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
An outdoor summer concert  
with music from bluegrass  
and country group Generic  
New Grass and food from The  
Chameleon 8163 at beautiful  
Goodell Gardens & Homestead,  
221 Waterford St., Edinboro,  
PA 16412 [goodellgardens.org](http://goodellgardens.org).

### Sounds Around Town: East Ave

Jul. 26 — 7:30 p.m.  
WQLN, 8425 Peach St. [wqln.org](http://wqln.org).

### Black Widow

Jul. 27 — 5 to 7 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon &  
Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy.  
[presqueisledowns.com](http://presqueisledowns.com).

### Music in the Vineyards: Familiar Spirit

Jul. 27 — 5 to 9 p.m.  
Penn Shore Winery & Vineyards,  
10225 E. Lake Rd., North East,  
PA 16428 [pennshore.com](http://pennshore.com).

### Refuge

Jul. 27 — 6 to 10 p.m.  
Coconut Joe's, 28 N. Park  
Row [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Scarlett Ledbetter

Jul. 27 — 6:30 p.m.  
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St.,  
Edinboro, PA 16412 [edinborolakeresort.com](http://edinborolakeresort.com).

### The Riffriders Lite

Jul. 27 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon &  
Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy.  
[presqueisledowns.com](http://presqueisledowns.com).

### SASS Acoustics

Jul. 28 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
The Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W.  
Main St., North East, PA 16428  
[skunkandgoattavern.com](http://skunkandgoattavern.com).

### Brooke Surgener



'Grub' Hub: Erie's Gears and Grub 2019 Grows and Goes Downtown



After a successful stint at West Erie Plaza, Gears and Grubs is moving to fill the downtown space recently vacated by Roar on the Shore. Food trucks, music, entertainment, and activities are poised to fill Perry Square.

FRIDAY, JUL. 19 – 21

Roar on the Shore organizers announced that the annual summer festival would be heard from a more distant shore when they announced the event had moved its location headquarters from Downtown Erie to Lake Erie Speedway near North East.

But while the Erie community argued over whether this move was for better or worse, the organizers behind 2019's Gears and Grub saw an opportunity and grabbed it.

"The trucks had received an email that VCG Properties would no longer be able to hold Gears and Grub on February 10... From that point we began looking for the right venue to hold an event during ROTS," explained Alison Green, co-organizer of Gears and Grub and coordinator of The Erie Food Truck Alliance.

"While we had a few different options pop up, nothing had yet felt right and

fallen into place; when I happened to be scrolling through Facebook I saw that ROTS had announced they were moving to North East," she continued. "On an impulse, I called Dave Rocco [of City Hall] and inquired about possibly holding a Gears-like event in the now available Perry Square. I got a 'probably,' and by Monday we had the green light from the city."

Along with Keith Groff, owner of Brooklyn Pizza and the Sticks & Bricks and Angry Chicken food trucks, and Nichole Young, who manages the three aforementioned entities, Green is leading the fourth incarnation of Gears and Grub to its new home in the heart of downtown.

Location isn't all that has changed; this will actually be Green, Groff, and Young's first go at putting on what looks to be one of the larger festivals of the summer.

"Chris Greene, Chris Conrad, and Emily Smicker [formerly of VCG Properties] created an amazing event in Gears and Grub. When it came to the WEP [West Erie Plaza], everything was there. They hardwired electric in the parking lot for

the trucks, there was space for not only the event but parking for the event attendees," Green enthused, before commenting: "Moving downtown we basically had to start from scratch."

"Starting from scratch" sounds like an even more monumental task when you consider all the various threads that are being woven together to create one enormous tapestry of an event (though Green was quick to highlight some of their generous sponsors who helped make everything possible, including Sam Catania Painting and Gannon University).

Aside from the 21 food vendors — encompassing both trucks and concession stands — there will be live local music all three days (from bands like Small Town Revolution, First to Eleven, and The Dock Boys), five Lake Erie Ale Trail breweries on hand, cider and wine, bouncy houses for the kids, midway games, free activities from Archery Encounters, the second annual Miss Gem City Pin-up contest, and naturally, a plethora of local vendors selling their wares (like The BOX Streetware). Proceeds from Gears and Grub will benefit both the ANNA Shelter and Hope Rescue, with supplies donations accepted on-site — plus the chance to interact with some adorable, adoptable fur-babies and possibly some

horses, too.

"The event has definitely grown this year," Green said. "Basically, we are hoping to feature a bit of everything that makes Erie great."

The sense of community that events like Gears and Grub fosters among both the locals to Erie and the bikers who come to visit our shores is evident as Green went on to mention a variety of other events occurring during the same time period, including Green Township's Whisper in the Country, Waterford Days, and Harley Davidson of Erie's Bike Week.

There is a specialness to Gears and Grub, though, and there always has been. This year's happening, however, is particularly unique, juxtaposing the familiar against the new. If you have been to Gears and Grub before, you'll find yourself similarly delighted by the weekend's offerings and impressed by its growth; if you've never been, it's the perfect opportunity to stop out and partake in an event which has been built on the strong organizational foundations of years previous, and which continues to get bigger and better each summer. — Cara Suppa

Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. // Perry Square // Free to attend // facebook.com/gearsandgruber

Jul. 28 — 6:30 p.m.  
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St., Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

**Monday Music in the Woods: Dan Baney Country Unplugged**

Jul. 29 — 6 to 8 p.m.  
Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. asburywoods.org.

**8 Great Tuesdays: Plato's Cave**

Jul. 30 — 6:30 p.m.  
Highmark Amphitheater at Liberty Park, 726 W. Bayfront Pkwy. porterie.org.

**Mid-Day Art Break: The Charles Brown Experience**

Jul. 31 — noon to 1 p.m.  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. erieartmuseum.org.

**Mike and Marie Acoustics**

Jul. 31 — 7 p.m.  
Whitford Park, 5400 Iroquois Ave. harborcreektownship.org.

**Music in the Park: DangerBird**

Jul. 31 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
Lake Erie Community Park, 10192 W. Lake Rd., Lake City,

PA 16423 // 814-774-4738

**Erie Philharmonic Octet**

Jul. 31 — 7:30 p.m.  
Gibson Park, Main St. (Rte. 20), North East, PA 16428 eriephil.org.

DANCE

**Expand the Dance Experience**

Jul. 20 — 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Dancers will learn new dance techniques and choreography from Trevor Sones — a professional dancer and choreographer based in New York City — and other faculty members.  
Mercyhurst University, 501 E. 38th St. eriedanceconsortium.org.

FOOD & DRINK

**Happy Appy Food Tour**

Jul. 17, 24, 31 — 5 to 7 p.m.  
Bolero, 16 W. 10th St. eriefoodtours.com.

**A Spirited Feast**

Jul. 18 — 6 p.m.  
Three-course dinner and

cocktail pairing prepared by Chef Salma Akol and mixologists Shawn McCall and Lizzy Heffernan.  
Room 33, 1033 State St. facebook.com.

**Gears & Grub**

Jul. 19, 20, 21  
Perry Square facebook.com.

**Wine & Dine in the Woods**

Jul. 19 — 7 to 10 p.m.  
Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. asburywoods.org.

**Choux Pastry**

Jul. 20 — 10 a.m.  
Whole Foods Co-Op, 1341 W. 26th St. wfcerie.coop.

**Grüner Veltliner Vertical Wine Tasting**

Jul. 20 — noon to 1 p.m.  
South Shore Wine Company, 1120 Freepport Rd. (Rt. 89), North East, PA 16428 enjoymazza.com.

**Solar S'mores and Marshmallow Shooters**

Jul. 20 — 1 to 2:30 p.m.  
Edinboro Branch Library, 413 W. Plum St., Edinboro, PA 16412 events.erielibrary.org.

**North East Food Tour**

Jul. 20, 27 — 1 to 4 p.m.  
Little Shop of Donuts, 36 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428 eriefoodtours.com.

**French & British Tarts**

Jul. 20 — 2 p.m. & Jul. 25 — 5:30 p.m.  
Whole Foods Co-Op, 1341 W. 26th St. wfcerie.coop.

**5th Annual Botanical Beverages**

Jul. 20 — 6:30 to 10 p.m.  
Goodell Gardens & Homestead, 221 Waterford St., Edinboro, PA 16412 goodellgardens.org.

**Downtown Erie Food Tour**

Jul. 26, 27 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Like My Thai, 827 State St. eriefoodtours.com.

**Wine Walk**

Jul. 26 — 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
A two-mile hike on the beautiful Webb Trail with wine stops featuring local wines and snacks to pair, live music, and games.  
Webb Trail, 13 W. Lake Rd., Mayville, NY 14757 facebook.com

**Bird/Five & 20 Cocktail Class**

Jul. 26 — 6 to 7 p.m.

Five & 20 Spirits and Brewing, 8398 W. Main Rd. (Rte. 20), Westfield, NY 14787 fiveand20.com.

**Cat Cafe at Erie Animal Network**

Jul. 27 — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Stop by to relax with a cup of coffee, have a snack, and play with adorable and adoptable cats and kittens.  
Erie Animal Network, 1158 W. 26th St. facebook.com

**Beer on the Bay**

Jul. 27 — noon  
Liberty Park, 726 W. Bayfront eriepa.com

**Flagship Trolley Wine Tours**

Jul. 27 — noon to 6 p.m.  
Millcreek Mall (east of TownePlace Suites at Home), 5800 Peach St. 814-453-4666

**Rebecca Mae's Drag Brunch**

Jul. 28 — 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
"Slay" with Rebecca Mae and her guests (New Jersey's Chasity St. Cartier, Illinois' Saadi Fierce, and Erie's Michelle Michaels, and Priscilla Godzilla) as they whirl and twirl for you in an energetic and fun-filled show.  
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State

St. facebook.com

**Harry Potter and the Magical Book Tasting**

Jul. 31 — 3 to 4 p.m.  
Iroquois Branch Library, 4212 Iroquois Ave. events.erielibrary.org.

MOVIES

**Gloria Bell**

Jul. 17 — 6 p.m.  
A middle-aged woman searches for love in LA dance clubs.  
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. filmsocietynwpa.org.

**Movies Under the Stars: The Goonies**

Jul. 18 — 9 p.m.  
Edinboro University, 219 Meadville St., Edinboro, PA 16444 facebook.com.

**Home (2015)**

Jul. 19 — 2 to 4:30 p.m.  
In this animated film, the last human girl on Earth befriends one of the aliens that displaced her species.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.erielibrary.org.

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## CALENDAR

### Celebrating the Past, Present and Future of Waterford

**FRIDAY, JUL. 19 - 21**

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy a weekend filled with crafts, food, and entertainment as the 46th annual Waterford Days approaches.

"Being able to allow everyone to see the unique nature of this region, some of the historical elements surrounding the area, and how we are still embracing that heritage is something quite special," says Holly Mihaly, head of advertising for Waterford Days. "We are also embracing the future and ensuring the survival of our town and local resources. Waterford is a warm and inviting little town and we want everyone to feel that sense of welcome during this event."

Organized by the Fort LeBoeuf Historical Society, the weekend will feature an array of historical reenactments, allowing attendees to experience various types of period dresses, blacksmiths and tradesmen putting on live demonstra-

tions, and antiques both big and small displayed throughout the campus.

As far as entertainment goes, there will be multiple live bands — like the David VanAmburg Trio, Eliot Road, and JB Hobbard each day of the festival. During the morning and afternoon, festivities will include a parade, classic car cruise-in, and even a youth talent show. For the brave of heart, the nighttime will include haunted history tours of the campus grounds.

Local organizations, boosters, and vendors will be supplying all of the food for the event so that no one goes hungry while enjoying everything else there is to offer. So get out to Waterford and experience the past, present, and future of this community. — Symoné Crockett

Friday, 3 p.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sunday 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. // Fort LeBoeuf Heritage Center, 108 High St., Waterford, PA 16441 // Free and open to the public // [waterforddays.com](http://waterforddays.com)

### Gideon and Varials at The Ballet Haus



into the millions. In 2016, they teamed up with Vicious Embrace to release *Absolution*, which earned praise from popular rock magazine *Alternative Press* among others. Varials also made an appearance in Atlantic City this summer to help celebrate the 25th anniversary of the famed cross-country Warped Tour.

**SUNDAY, JUL. 21**

The Ballet Haus is "opening up the pit" with a stacked lineup of hardcore bands. Gideon and Varials are set to headline with support from Shiver, 156/Silence, and Crimson Shrine.

Gideon is a metal band from Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Formed in 2008, they have since released four albums and two EPs under Facedown Records and previous label Equal Vision Records. In 2017, Gideon found themselves on the Billboard charts with their hit album *Cold*. Since then, Gideon's growing popularity has led them to play tours and festivals with big names in the genre such as Wage War and The Devil Wears Prada, to name a couple. Earlier this year Gideon released an EP titled *No Love/No One*, which is available to stream and download.

Varials is a metalcore quintet from Philadelphia. Currently signed to Fearless Records, their latest album *Pain Again* has gotten them lots of exposure, sending their Spotify streams collectively

Shiver is a local hardcore quartet. In early 2018, they released their debut self-titled album, which can be found on Spotify. Later that year they would go on to help support up-and-coming hardcore band Knocked Loose at Basement Transmissions.

From Pittsburgh is 156/Silence. In 2018, they dropped an eight-song album titled *Undercover Scumbag* on Innerstrength Records. They have been featured in *Kerrang* magazine's "6 Underground Metalcore Bands Redefining the Scene Right Now."

Formed in 2018, Crimson Shrine (formerly The Blacks of Their Eyes) is an Erie-based metal four-piece. Shortly after forming in early 2018, Crimson Shine starting writing and hitting the studio to release their debut EP *Blood Offering* last August. Since then they have shifted their focus to playing live and spreading their sound. — Dylan Tutmaher

6 p.m. // The Ballet Haus, 1020 Holland St // \$13 pre-sale, \$15 doors // All ages // 21+ BYOB with ID // [facebook.com/theandromedaagency](http://facebook.com/theandromedaagency)

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From Gardens to Glass: Botanical Beverages



SATURDAY, JUL. 20

Goodell Gardens will be hosting its 5th annual fundraising event “Botanical Beverages, From Gardens to Glass.” Originally inspired by Amy Stewart’s book *The Drunken Botanist*, the event is described by Goodell Gardens executive director Amber Wellington as “a garden cocktail party that tricks you into learning,” pairing drinks with the plant-based ingredients they’re comprised of.

“This year the event features five bars, four with cocktails and a fifth with coffee for the end of the night,” Wellington detailed. “This year we’re celebrating the mint family of plants: Lamiaceae. Our cocktail bars will each feature one herb from the mint family: lavender,

wild mint, sage, and oregano.”

Each ticket holder will receive one cocktail from each bar; cocktails will be made with Cart/Horse Distilling spirits — the award-winning distillery located right in Edinboro. Alcohol-free mocktails will be available to designated drivers and those who don’t want alcohol but would love to sample these botanical creations.

The event will feature live music from Celtic Hooligans, along with hors d’oeuvres and lawn games set up for guests to take part in. “We decorate the gardens and place the bars throughout the lawns and beds, so folks really get a tour of the site during those magical evening hours,” Wellington went on to describe. “We really want folks to have a chance to enjoy the gardens at a time they normally aren’t able to visit.” — Madeline Dufala

6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. // Goodell Gardens & Homestead, 221 Waterford St, Edinboro, PA 16412 // \$55 per person but special rates are available // 21+ (Bring ID) // (814) 734-6699 // goodellgardens.org/botbevs

One World Tribe and Uprooted Perform for 8 Great Tuesdays



NICOLE ROCHELLE PHOTOGRAPHY

With a greater focus on rhythm and groove, Uprooted shakes up the formula singer-guitarist Michael Glabicki established with former band Rusted Root, which was responsible for hits such as 1994’s “Send Me on My Way.”

Root. This band brings back parts of the Rusted Root of old, but also includes more percussion and female vocals. Glabicki formed Uprooted with drummer Zil Fessler and guitarist Dirk Miller (who have been touring members of Rusted Root), plus bassist Bobby Schneck Jr. (formerly of the Devon Allman Band), singer-keyboardist Daisie Ghost-Flower, and singer-guitarist Emily Victoria.

About three-quarters of a typical Uprooted set consists of re-envisioned Rusted Root material, with the remainder filled out by new material they’ve been working on in the studio. Uprooted is more improvisational and groove-oriented than Rusted Root, but just as listenable. — Madeline Dufala

6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. // Highmark Amphitheater at Liberty Park, 726 W Bayfront Pkwy. // Free // porterie.org/8-great-tuesdays

TUESDAY, JUL. 23

Prepare to take your ears around the globe at the latest installment of 8 Great Tuesdays.

Opening act One World Tribe blends the sounds of reggae, ska, hip-hop, and other diverse genres, touting themselves to be “America’s premier world music group.” Since 1994, the band’s energetic performances have provided countless can’t-miss moments to generations of Erieites. Along with captivating music, the band brings a positive message to its forefront, promoting social change, awareness, and inclusivity.

Headlining the night will be Uprooted, featuring Michael Glabicki of Rusted

Body Melt (1993)

Jul. 19 — 8 p.m.  
An experimental drug induces painful — and revealing — results amongst test subjects.  
Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. facebook.com.

Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle (2017)

Jul. 21 — 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.erieliibrary.org.

The Biggest Little Farm

Jul. 24 — 6 p.m.  
This 2019 documentary follows a couple as they cultivate a sustainable farm outside of Los Angeles.  
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. filmsocietytnwpa.org.

Detour (1945)

Jul. 25 — 8 p.m.  
Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. facebook.com.

Movies Under the Stars: Tangled

Jul. 25 — 9 p.m.  
Edinboro University, 219 Meadville St., Edinboro, PA 16444 facebook.com.

Muppets from Space (1999)

Jul. 26 — 2 to 4:30 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.erieliibrary.org.

Love and Doves (1985)

Jul. 26 — 8 p.m.  
A dove breeder flies the coop for new love in this

Russian comedy-drama.  
Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. facebook.com.

Teen Book to Movie: The Duff

Jul. 31 — 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.erieliibrary.org.

Volcanoes: The Fires of Creation

Ongoing — 10 a.m., 4 p.m.  
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. biggreenscreen.com.

Turtle Odyssey

Ongoing — 11 a.m., 2 p.m.  
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. biggreenscreen.com.

Backyard Wilderness

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

Mysteries of the Great Lakes

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

VISUAL ARTS

Paint Your Own Planet

Jul. 17 — 2 to 3 p.m.  
Millcreek Branch Library, 2088 Interchange Rd., Ste. 280 events.erieliibrary.org.

Victorian Flower

Watercolor Workshop

Jul. 20, 27 — 10 a.m. to noon  
Erie County Historical Society, 356 W. 6th St. eriehistory.org.

Jason Amantangelo: Painted 3D Collages

Ongoing through Jul. 23  
Glass Growers Gallery, 10 E. 5th St. glassgrowersgallery.com.

NPAA Francis T Schanz Scholarship Exhibition

Jul. 24 — 6 to 10 p.m.  
The 20th annual event will treat ticket holders to a dinner, live music, art raffles, and an original giclee print by NPAA member Gary Spinosa.  
Ambassador Conference Center, 7794 Peach St. npaaonline.org.

Gallery Night

Jul. 26 — 5 to 9 p.m.  
Various locations erieartmuseum.org.

Rachael Burke: Recent Paintings

Jul. 26 — 7 to 10 p.m.  
Time listed for artist’s reception; ongoing through Sept. 10 thereafter  
Glass Growers Gallery, 10 E. 5th St. glassgrowersgallery.com.

Art in the Garden: Open Air Studio

Jul. 28 — 1 to 3 p.m.  
Goodell Gardens & Homestead, 221 Waterford St., Edinboro, PA 16412 goodellgardens.org.

Inspired by Nature:

Gallery Night

Jul. 26 — 5 to 9 p.m.  
Browns Farm Barn, 5774 Sterrettania Rd., Fairview, PA 16415 asburywoods.org.

Bill Brady

Ongoing through Aug. 2019  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. erieartmuseum.org.

Brian Pardini

Ongoing through Aug. 2019  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. erieartmuseum.org.

96th Annual Spring Show

Ongoing through Sept. 1  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. erieartmuseum.org.

Artist Takeover: Roman Glass

Ongoing through Sept. 15  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. erieartmuseum.org.

Everything But The Shelves

Ongoing through Dec. 2019  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. erieartmuseum.org.

Ashley Pastore: Everyday Monumental

Ongoing through Mar. 2020  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. erieartmuseum.org.

THEATER

Shakespeare Summer Nights: Shrewd

Jul. 17 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.  
Frontier Park, 1501 W. 6th

St. facebook.com.

Spring Awakening

Jul. 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27 — 7:30 p.m. & Jul. 21, 28 — 2 p.m.  
Erie Playhouse, 13 W. 10th St. erieplayhouse.org.

Sex with Strangers

Jul. 19, 20, 26, 27 — 8 p.m.  
PACA, 1505 State St. pacal505.org.

Dick Clarkson’s Jukebox Hop

Jul. 20 — 5:30 p.m. Jul. 21 — 2:30 p.m.  
A 1950s and ’60s bandstand musical comedy directed by Rae Jean Urbanowicz.  
Station Dinner Theatre, 4940 Peach St. canterburyfeast.com.

Shakespeare Summer Nights: I Am Hamlet

Jul. 22, 23, 24 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.  
Frontier Park, 1501 W. 6th St. facebook.com.

PLAYtime in the Park

Jul. 24, 31 — 10 a.m.  
Lot #10 near Erie Art Museum, 423 State St. facebook.com.

The 501: Mike Super — Magic & Illusion

Jul. 27 — 7 p.m.  
Mary D’Angelo Performing Arts Center, 501 E. 38th St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

SPORTS

Presque Isle Volleyball

Tournament

Jul. 17, 24, 31 — 6 to 8 p.m. & Jul. 18, 25 — 5:50 to 9 p.m. & Jul. 20, 27 — 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. & Jul. 23, 30 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
Beach 6 at PI State Park, 1 Peninsula Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

King of Bass

Jul. 20, 21 — 6:30 a.m.  
Marina Bay at PI State Park, 1 Peninsula Dr. facebook.com.

Grady’s Decision 5K

Jul. 20 — 9 a.m.  
Beach 1 at PI State Park, 1 Peninsula Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

ERC Presque Isle Half Marathon

Jul. 21 — 6:45 a.m.  
Beach 1 at PI State Park, 1 Peninsula Dr. erierunners.club.

Sports Heroes of the Erie School District: 125 Profiles

Jul. 22 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.  
Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. jeserie.org.

Erie SeaWolves vs. Trenton Thunder

Jul. 25, 26, 27, 28 — 7 p.m. & Jul. 29 — noon  
UPMC Park, 110 E.10th St. milb.com.

Discover Presque Isle 5K

Jul. 27 — 10 a.m.  
Beach 6 at PI State Park, 1 Peninsula Dr. discoverpi.com.

Lake Erie Speedway Driving Experience

Jul. 27 — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Lake Erie Speedway, 10700

Extra Days with Family at The Gathering at Chaffee's



NICK WARREN

[top left] For 39 summers, the Chaffee family property in Girard has played host to The Gathering. With two days of music spread across three stages, this year's Gathering promises to be yet another jamtastic voyage. [bottom right] Chaffee's attendees are welcome to (and often do) camp throughout the weekend, lending to what lead talent buyer Ryan Bartosek describes as a "backyard barbeque" vibe.

FRIDAY, JUL. 26 - 27

Some summer music gatherings, you feel like a guest — and, you know, that can be cool.

Others, you feel like a stranger — and that can be cool, too.

But then there's The Gathering at Chaffee's: one of those rare, long-established, small-but-stellar festivals where, within short order of arriving, you don't feel so much like a guest or a stranger, but more like a friend, or a neighbor, or even a part of one big, little family.

One big-little, dance-happy, musically-mind-blown family.

This year marks the 39th annual Gathering — known simply as "The Party" to those closest to it — making damn close to four decades' worth of goodness at those intimate festival grounds (the Chaffee family's Girard property, that is) one of lots of reasons to get into high spirits and get down.

"Chaffee's is a smaller festival, so the vibe is more in-

timate than most — like a backyard barbeque," Ryan Bartosek, the Gathering's head talent buyer, told us recently.

The soundtrack to this year's party is, as always, not so small, and really pretty on-fire: Chestnut Grove, Litz, Mungion, and headliners Spiritual Rez all bring the Gathering's Main Stage to life on Friday, and the more-than-ample mainstage grooves continue all day and night Saturday with Eric Brewer & Friends, The Fritz, Joe Hertler & The Rainbow Seekers, and Magic Beans closing out Saturday night, along with eight other groove-inducing local and regional bands throughout the weekend.

As always, that's not even close to all the Gathering is putting on the table. The Chaffee's Side Stage and the more newly-established Freddy Greco Stage are also busting at the seams with area talent: bands like The LEC, Acid Cats, Matty B, and Teddy Rankin can be caught about those spots (respectively) on Friday; and, on Saturday, Gathering-goers can check out Dirty Blanket, Claire Stuczynski, The Honest Mistakes, TK Blues Company, and, for anyone into doing the whole early bird thing, there's more — with the music starting at 11:30 a.m. and running for 13-and-a-half more hours.

And it's not just Friday and Saturday this time around. As previous years saw an unofficial early audience,

"this year, we're allowing people to come on site on Thursday" Bartosek explained. For an extra fee of \$20 fans can catch a Thursday night set from Perkiomenville rockers Chestnut Grove — a don't-miss presence in the region's live-music world, playing a special, extra appearance.

As far as know-before-you-go pro tips, Bartosek offered this: "People should definitely not miss Joe Hertler & The Rainbow Seekers. That band is a feel-good dance party! Also, Magic Beans and Litz are having a huge summer and are blowing up, people should be catching those bands whenever possible."

And one more thing: "People definitely need to remember to bring garbage bags," he noted when asked what guests tend to forget.

Chaffee's: Easy to get to from here. Hard to leave from there. One sweet, sweet Gathering indeed.

— Ryan Smith

Friday and Saturday (Early Bird tix available for Thursday) // 8296 Mill St., Girard, PA 16417 // [thegatheringatchaffees.com](http://thegatheringatchaffees.com)



NICK WARREN

Delmas Dr., North East, PA 16428 [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com).

COMMUNITY

Roar on the Shore Bike Week

Jul. 17, 18, 19, 20, 21  
Lake Erie Speedway, 10700 Delmas Dr., North East, PA 16428 [roarontheshore.com](http://roarontheshore.com).

How to Use a Compass

Jul. 17 — 1 to 3 p.m.  
Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. [asburywoods.org](http://asburywoods.org).

Goodell Gardens Farmers Market

Jul. 17, 24, 31 — 3 to 6 p.m.  
Goodell Gardens & Homestead, 221 Waterford St., Edinboro, PA 16412 [goodellgardens.org](http://goodellgardens.org).

Read to a Therapy Dog

Jul. 17, 18 — 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. & Jul. 23 — 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.  
Multiple library locations [events.eriellibrary.org](http://events.eriellibrary.org).

Holy Warrior Presidents

Jul. 17 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.  
Fairview Area Historical Society, 4302 Avonia St.,

Fairview, PA 16415 [jeserie.org](http://jeserie.org).

Peek'n Peak Biker Bash

Jul. 18, 19, 20, 21  
Peek'n Peak, 1405 Olde Rd., Clymer, NY 14736 [pknpk.com](http://pknpk.com).

Crash Into Kindergarten

Jul. 18, 25 — 10 to 11 a.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.eriellibrary.org](http://events.eriellibrary.org).

Story Time Shenanigans: Camping at the Library

Jul. 18 — 10 to 11 a.m.  
Lincoln Community Center Library, 1255 Manchester Rd. [events.eriellibrary.org](http://events.eriellibrary.org).

Podcasting Basics

Jul. 18 — 10 to 11:30 a.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.eriellibrary.org](http://events.eriellibrary.org).

Garden Sprouts Preschool

Jul. 18, 25 — 11 a.m. to noon  
Goodell Gardens & Homestead, 221 Waterford St., Edinboro, PA 16412 [goodellgardens.org](http://goodellgardens.org).

Photography Basics: All About Lightning

Jul. 18 — 6 to 7 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.eriellibrary.org](http://events.eriellibrary.org).

Made in Erie County:

The Products that Made Erie County

Jul. 18 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.  
The Corry Higher Educational Council, 221 N. Center St., Corry, PA 16407 [jeserie.org](http://jeserie.org).

Golden Hour Photo Club

Jul. 18 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
Goodell Gardens & Homestead, 221 Waterford St., Edinboro, PA 16412 [goodellgardens.org](http://goodellgardens.org).

Pioneer Steam & Gas Engine Annual Show

Jul. 19, 20, 21 — 9 a.m. to noon  
52nd annual show featuring Oliver and Cockshutt Tractors and equipment and Galloway Engines.  
The Pioneer Steam & Gas Engine Society of NWP, 16601 State Hwy. 198, Saegertown, PA 16433 [facebook.com](http://facebook.com)

My First Fandom Storytime

Jul. 19 — 10 to 11 a.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.eriellibrary.org](http://events.eriellibrary.org).

Wellness Classes: Qi Gong

Jul. 19, 26 — 10 to 11 a.m.  
Lincoln Community Center Library, 1255 Manchester Rd. [events.eriellibrary.org](http://events.eriellibrary.org).

Strollers & Striders

Jul. 19, 26 — 11:15 a.m.  
expERIENCE Children's Museum, 420 French St. [eriedowntown.com](http://eriedowntown.com).

Dance It Out Downtown

Jul. 19, 26 — 12:15 to 12:30 p.m.  
Perry Square [eriedowntown.com](http://eriedowntown.com).

Little Perry Story Time + Play

Jul. 19, 26 — 12:30 to 1 p.m.  
Perry Square [eriedowntown.com](http://eriedowntown.com).

Earth Kids: Zero Waste

Jul. 19 — 1:30 p.m.  
Whole Foods Co-Op, 1341 W. 26th St. [wferie.coop](http://wferie.coop).

Teen Crafternoon: Make Your Own Button

Jul. 19 — 2 to 4 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.eriellibrary.org](http://events.eriellibrary.org).

Mermaid Adventures

Jul. 20  
Splash Lagoon, 8091 Peach St. [splashlagoon.com](http://splashlagoon.com).

Block Party

Jul. 20 — 10 a.m. to noon  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E.

Front St. [events.eriellibrary.org](http://events.eriellibrary.org).

Westfield Antique Show

Jul. 20 — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. & Jul. 21 — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Eason Hall, 23 Elm St., Westfield, NY 14787

Drop-in and Discover: Spotted Salamander

Jul. 20 — 11 a.m.  
Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. [asburywoods.org](http://asburywoods.org).

Girls Day Out Expo

Jul. 20 — 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
The Ultimate Girl's Day Out Experience: shop, sample and share the fun on by stopping at booths for the latest fashion, trendy jewelry, health & wellness, beauty, and more. This is an event for women by women.  
Bayfront Convention Center, 1 Sassafras Pier (814) 452-4875

Meet WWE's Christy Hemme & Funaki

Jul. 20 — noon to 2 p.m.  
ActionToyMan, 1215 W. 26th St. [atdpromotions.weebly.com](http://atdpromotions.weebly.com).

Game Day

Jul. 20 — noon to 2 p.m.

Iroquois Branch Library, 4212 Iroquois Ave. [events.eriellibrary.org](http://events.eriellibrary.org).

Critc Basics: Create an Apply an Iron-On Decal

Jul. 20 — 2 to 3 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.eriellibrary.org](http://events.eriellibrary.org).

Pokemon League

Jul. 20 — 2 to 4 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.eriellibrary.org](http://events.eriellibrary.org).

Writing & Self-Publishing

Jul. 20 — 2 to 4 p.m.  
Lincoln Community Center Library, 1255 Manchester Rd. [events.eriellibrary.org](http://events.eriellibrary.org).

Summer Sunday Funday

Jul. 21 — noon  
Presque Isle Wine Cellars, 9440 W. Main Rd., North East, PA 16428 [piwine.com](http://piwine.com).

Better Bearings Skate Park Cleanup

Jul. 21 — noon to 3 p.m.  
Columbus Park, 601 W. 15th St. [betterbearings.com.au](http://betterbearings.com.au).

Garden Tour Erie 2019

Jul. 21 — noon to 5 p.m.  
This free event is an opportunity for anyone with a love

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*Get down.*

**THURSDAY, JULY 25**  
6:00 - 10:00 P.M.  
Featuring *Matty B & The Dirty Pickles & Taylor Maid*  
Griswold Park

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 1**  
6:00 - 10:00 P.M.  
Featuring: *The Mixx & More!*  
Perry Square Park

Coolers, pets and glass containers are not permitted.

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So Many Ways to Discover Presque Isle



NICK WARREN

The golden hour is always kind to Presque Isle State Park, which takes on a majestic glow at dusk. Discover Presque Isle Days are a celebration of scenes like this.

gether.”

The greatest challenge in this event is simple — what should you do first? There are so many activities going on that one would find it hard to fit everything in for the three-day festival. For instance, you could participate in a new event, such as the Discover Presque Isle 5K on Saturday morning at 7 a.m., which “includes a t-shirt and a pancake breakfast voucher for Saturday or Sunday. It’s a fun and healthy option for families,” states DeMarco.

In addition to the 5K, another new discovery will be taking place on Beach 1. “We’re working with a new nonprofit this year, the Erie Wellness Network, which will focus on health and related activities. People can come and do yoga and pilates, and we hope that people enjoy it this year so we can continue to implement it and have it grow in the future,” says DeMarco.

Whether or not you’re athletic, the Smith’s Volleyball Challenge at Beach 6 never disappoints, starting at 9 a.m. on Saturday morning. If that’s not your style, the kite flyers at Sunset Point also know how to keep the party going. “Sunset Point is always done up to the nines. A group of kite flyers get together for Discover Presque Isle and set up the beach for a beautiful display,” DeMarco says. Plus, the S.O.N.S. (Save Our Native Species) of Lake Erie Fishing Club make sure that family fishing is safe and ready for everyone coming to enjoy this event.

“We have so many different craft and food vendors, and I can’t imagine summer without live music, a giant bonfire, and a sand sculpture contest at Beach 8,” DeMarco enthused.

Discover Presque Isle is not only an exciting way to celebrate and enjoy the park, but it’s also the perfect time to give back. Currently, there are buttons for sale at Sara’s and the Tom Ridge Environmental Center gift shop that enter you in for a chance to win up to \$1,000, a brand new paddleboat, a brand new kayak, as well as 80 different generous donations from the craft vendors. They are five dollars per button, and a very simple way to give back to the peninsula.

Donations help to keep the park maintained as well as set up new developments such as better handicap access around the entire park. If you truly want the full Presque Isle experience, take it from park veteran DeMarco: “To fully enjoy the park and get the full Presque Isle experience, you should get out of your car as much as you can. Bike, walk, or even head out to the water and swim or kayak.”

Whether you’re an Erie native or not, it’s important to never take Presque Isle for granted. Its beauty needs to be celebrated. If you find yourself wondering why it’s so important to keep our peninsula well-maintained and to be enjoyed by all, then perhaps you need to take a little time and discover Presque Isle yourself. — Kalli Oberlander

*Friday through Sunday, sunrise to sunset (with live music going until 10:15 Saturday night) // Presque Isle State Park // Free admission // For a full list of all the activities being offered, please visit discoverpi.com*

FRIDAY, JUL. 26 - 28

It’s safe to say that Presque Isle is a defining place for Erie. With its beautiful beaches, lush hiking trails, bike paths, wildlife, and of course — the “you need to see it to believe it” sunsets — the state park is a second home for many Erie natives and those who come from all over to witness the amazing natural beauties the Peninsula has to offer.

Jon DeMarco, Executive Director of the Presque Isle Partnership, explains that “while the Presque Isle Partnership is the overall coordinator for this event, it’s really our community and the vendors that bring us to-

of gardening to share their garden with other enthusiastic gardeners and the community — all kinds of gardens within the City of Erie are welcome.

**Using Composition for Better Images**  
Jul. 21 — 1 to 3 p.m.

**5th Annual Kenneth Snider Memorial Car Cruise**  
Jul. 21 — 1 to 4 p.m.

**Perry Peddlers**  
Jul. 22, 29 — noon

**Total Body Bootcamp**  
Jul. 22, 29 — 12:15 to 12:45 p.m.

**Little Italy Farmers Market**  
Jul. 22, 29 — 3 to 6 p.m.

**DIY Holograms**  
Jul. 22 — 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

**Edinboro Branch Library**, 413 W. Plum St., Edinboro, PA 16412 [events.erielibrary.org](http://events.erielibrary.org).

**Throwback Game Night**  
Jul. 22, 29 — 6 p.m.

**Monday Makers: Make a Button**  
Jul. 22 — 6 to 8 p.m.

**Zombie Survival Skills**  
Jul. 22 — 6 to 8 p.m.

**Cruise the Bay Cruise-Ins**  
Jul. 22, 29 — 6 to 9 p.m.

**Time Out Tuesday**  
Jul. 23, 30 — 6:30 a.m., noon, & 5:30 p.m.

**Early Morning Pontoon Ride**  
Jul. 23 — 8 a.m.

**Genealogy on a Shoestring**

Jul. 23 — 10 a.m. to noon  
**Lincoln Community Center Library**, 1255 Manchester Rd. [events.erielibrary.org](http://events.erielibrary.org).

**Intro to Windows I, II**  
Jul. 23, 30 — 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Branching Out**  
Jul. 23, 24, 30, 31 — 10 to 11 a.m. or noon to 1:30 p.m.

**Galactic Gardening**  
Jul. 23 — 2 to 3 p.m.

**Teen Time**  
Jul. 23, 30 — 2:30 to 4 p.m.

**Upcycling Eve**  
Jul. 23 — 6 p.m.

**Teen Zone: Friendship Bracelets**  
Jul. 23 — 6 to 7:30 p.m.

**Dog Days of Summer**  
Jul. 23 — 6 to 7:30 p.m.

**A 50-Year Legacy of Astronaut Photography**  
Jul. 23 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.

**Teddy Bear Picnic & Open Field Play**  
Jul. 24, 31 — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Craft Corner**  
Jul. 24 — 1 to 3 p.m.

**Lake Erie Luau**  
Jul. 24 — 6 to 10 p.m.

Say aloha to a night of Polynesian cuisine, libations by Mazza Wines and Five & 20 Spirits and Brewing, and music by The Groove.

**Fairies and Fireflies Gathering**  
Jul. 24 — 7 to 8 p.m.

**Story Time with Piggy & Elephant**  
Jul. 24, 25 — 10 to 11 a.m.

**Pennwriters Group**  
Jul. 25 — 1 to 4 p.m.

**Alzheimer’s Support Group**  
Jul. 25 — 3 to 4 p.m.

**3D Modeling Basics: Tinkercad**  
Jul. 25 — 6 to 7:30 p.m.

[Front St. events.erielibrary.org](http://Front St. events.erielibrary.org).

**Erie Downtown Block Party**  
Jul. 25 — 6 to 10 p.m.

**The History of Grog and More: How to Drink Like a Sailor**  
Jul. 25 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.

**Story Time with Piggy & Elephant**  
Jul. 24, 25 — 10 to 11 a.m.

**Discover Presque Isle Days**  
Jul. 26, 27, 28

**S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie Present: Go Fish**  
Jul. 26 — 10 a.m. to noon

**Hazard Con 2019**  
Jul. 26, 27, 28 — noon to 5 p.m.

## Brush Up on Local Art at Gallery Night

Explore 19 exhibits before the sun goes down



The "Everything But The Shelves" exhibit showcases the exceptional diversity of the Erie Art Museum's collection, with 1,000 pictures hung saloon-style all over its walls.

### FRIDAY, JUL. 26

Seeking a picture-perfect evening? Gallery Night continues to grow in popularity, as the inclusive event gives participants the chance to experience multiple shopping options, entertainment, and food selections as they travel throughout the Erie community. Along with the hosting Erie Art Museum, there will be 18 other local businesses participating during the evening's event.

**Erie Art Museum:** Music from The Division Street Machine and the work of Edinboro professor Chuck Johnson (\$3 cover for non-members). — 20 E. 5th St.

**Garnon Truck and Equipment:** A 15 x 9 foot oil canvas painting and other selections by Nathaniel Hale Garnon. — 1617 Peninsula Dr.

**Erie Insurance Event Center at the Firehouse:** Selected works from Erie Insurance's collection. — 414 French St.

**419 Artifacts:** Erie artist Larry Walczak's *Flora & Fauna*. — 419 State St.

**Andora's Bubble Tea Shop:** Cassy Unger's "Plein Air: Lake to Peak." — 516 State St.

**Masonic Temple Association:** Tours of the 109-year-old temple and access to the Erie Art Gallery, which resides within the building. — 32 W. 8th St.

**Asbury Woods/ Brown's Farm Barn:** *Inspired by Nature* will showcase the nature-themed photography, sculptures, and paintings of 11 different artists. — 5774 Sterrettania Rd.

**Molly Brannigan's:** The works of local artist Helen Tullio. — 506 State St.

**Attic Rehab:** Specialty items will be sold in order to support the family of artist Jackie Quigley (paintings, textiles), whose daughter Juniper was born with a heart condition. — 1501 State St.

**The Oasis Market:** Local artists includ-

ing Luke Powers, Braya M'sadoques, Alyssa Stenger, Renee Jones, and Jon Box will be showcasing their collaborative exhibit titled *Locally Fresh*. — 914 State St.

**AWE Gallery at the Palace Center:** Published poets Matt Borczon and Thaisa Anne showcase *We As Ourselves*, which uses imagery through the use of the written word to explore the concept of self. — 915 State St.

**Pointe Four:** The boutique debuts a dollhouse makeover by artist Scott Quezada, a craftsman of home furnishings and goods. — 2508 Peach St.

**Ralph Miller Jewelers:** The *Animal Inspirations* exhibition, featuring work by jewelry artists, plus paintings, watercolors, and acrylics by local artists. — 3330 W. 26th St.

**The Chiropractic Offices of Dr. Jack Jamison & Dr. Loeslein:** The Presque Isle Artist Association offers a variety of media, including paintings, photography, mixed media, prints, and sculptures. — 2220 W. 8th St.

**Sacred Piercing Studio:** A celebration of *Female Artists of Erie* featuring Ryann Burke, Leslie Hess, Tristyn Dabrowski, and McKenzie Sprague. — 253 W. 8th St.

**D'Hopkins Denniston Gallery:** Local artists Deanna Steadman, Weber, Gupta, and Braul will display their works of art. — 5 W. 10th St.

**Tipsy Bean:** The cafe welcomes Michelle Littler in *Reclaiming Your Voice*. — 2425 Peach St.

**Ember + Forge:** Works by painter Chris DeMayo. — 401 State St.

**Glass Growers Gallery:** Rachel Burke will be showcasing her newest oil paintings which embody the essence of raw nature. — 10 E. 5th St.

— Symone Crockett  
5 p.m. to 9 p.m. // [erieartmuseum.org/  
events-gallery-night](http://erieartmuseum.org/events-gallery-night)

## Beer on the Bay returns to Liberty Park

### SATURDAY, JUL. 27

According to the International Wines and Spirits Record in London, Americans drank over 7.9 billion gallons of alcoholic beverages in 2018 — over 6.2 billion (78.3 percent) of which was beer. For context, that's roughly a third of the volume of Presque Isle Bay. Luckily, Presque Isle Bay isn't on tap.

However, its shores are on tap to host the 12th annual Beer on the Bay, courtesy of the Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partnership. As with years prior, Liberty Park will transform into a beer-lover's paradise, with over 50 (!) brewers sampling their luscious suds to hundreds in attendance. The participants range from homebrewing collectives such as HAZARD and BASH to Lake Erie Ale Trail affiliates (Lavery, Five & 20, Voodoo, The Brewerie at Union Station, Black Monk, and Orr's) to some of the biggest names in craft brewing regionally (Southern Tier, Great Lakes) and nationwide (Sierra Nevada, Dogfish Head, Goose Island, New Belgium, Sam

Adams).

Beer on the Bay will be broken out into two sessions, early afternoon (noon to 3 p.m.) and evening (4 to 7 p.m.) All attendees will receive an acrylic mug for collecting as many samples as they can responsibly consume during a 3-hour period (please don't drink and drive). VIP attendees will additionally receive VIP area access with additional specialty brewers and food tastings. The Que Abides, Atacolypse, Chameleon, and Waffle Miracle food trucks will be on-site to serve the appetites of everyone else (as well as assorted snack vendors). Small Town Rollers will provide the musical backdrop to each tasting session.

The event will transpire regardless of the weather, so don't go crying into your beer if it starts sprinkling a little (but you might need to drink it a little faster to minimize dilution). — Matt Swanseger

Noon to 3 p.m. or 4 to 7 p.m. // Liberty Park, 726 W. Bayfront Dr. // \$40 general admission, \$60 VIP (\$5 extra on day of event) // [eriepa.com/get-connected/beer-on-the-bay](http://eriepa.com/get-connected/beer-on-the-bay)

culture at this convention.  
*Ambassador Center, 7794 Peach St. society-of-utils. ticketleap.com.*

#### Teen Crafternoon: Duct Tape Pouches

Jul. 26 — 1 to 4 p.m.  
*Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.eriellibrary.org.*

#### Erie Then and Now Pop Up

Jul. 26 — 5 p.m.  
*Cashier's House, 417 State St. facebook.com.*

#### SafeNet's 7th Annual Garden Party

Jul. 26 — 6 p.m.  
This Classic Hollywood-themed gala event supports SafeNet's children's programming.  
*The Big Backyard Children's Garden, 254 E. 10th St. safeneterie.org.*

#### Penwriters Group

Jul. 26 — 6 to 7:45 p.m.  
*Lincoln Community Center Library, 1255 Manchester Rd. events.eriellibrary.org.*

#### Dungeons & Dragons

Jul. 27 — 10 a.m. to noon  
*Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.eriellibrary.org.*

#### Wild America Nature Festival

Jul. 27, 28 — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
*Panama Rocks Scenic Park, 11 Rock Hill Rd., Panama, NY 14767 panamarocks.com.*

#### Drop-in and Discover:

#### Invasive Species

Jul. 27 — 11 a.m.  
*Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. asburywoods.org.*

#### Super Science Saturday

Jul. 27 — 1 to 2:30 p.m.  
*Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. asburywoods.org.*

#### Make Your Own Zine

Jul. 27 — 1 to 3 p.m.  
*Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.eriellibrary.org.*

#### Patio Yoga with Deb

Jul. 28 — 10 to 11 a.m.  
*Five & 20 Spirits and Brewing, 8398 W. Main Rd. (Rte. 20), Westfield, NY 14787 fiveand20.com.*

#### Hill District Flea

Jul. 28 — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Discover new and funky wares in this flea market held within the eclectic Hill District.  
*Hill District, W. 26-24 and Peach St. facebook.com.*

#### Be the Best You Storytime

Jul. 29 — 10 to 11 a.m.  
*Edinboro Branch Library, 413 W. Plum St., Edinboro, PA 16412 events.eriellibrary.org.*

#### Monday Makers: Open Drawing Sessions

Jul. 29 — 6 to 8 p.m.  
*Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.eriellibrary.org.*

#### Cricut Basics for Teens: Paper Flowers

Jul. 29 — 6 to 8 p.m.  
*Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.eriellibrary.org.*

#### Remembering Apollo 11: Journey to the Moon

Jul. 30 — 6 to 7:30 p.m.  
*Lincoln Community Center Library, 1255 Manchester Rd. events.eriellibrary.org.*

#### Erie Streetcar Heritage

Jul. 30 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.  
*Lincoln Community Center Library, 1255 Manchester Rd. events.eriellibrary.org.*

#### Dual Apprenticeship and How Erie's Economy & Youth Can Benefit

Jul. 30 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.  
*Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. jeserie.org.*

#### Soap Carving

Jul. 31 — 1 to 3 p.m.  
*Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. asburywoods.org.*

#### Art Talk w Ron Bayuzick

Jul. 31 — 6 to 7 p.m.  
*Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. asburywoods.org.*

#### A Discussion and Overview of the Erie County Court of Common Pleas

Jul. 31 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.  
*Fairview Area Historical Society, 4302 Avonia St., Fairview, PA 16415 jeserie.org.*



Mike Super Brings Magic to Mercyhurst



SATURDAY, JUL. 27

Easily one of the most sought-after magicians working today, Mike Super is now bringing his magic to Erie. A uniquely personable mystifier, Super's magic and illusions have a way of captivating audiences.

If you've never heard of Mike Super before, he has appeared on NBC's *America's Got Talent*, where he was a finalist, and the 2007 competition program *Phenomenon*, which he won. His incredible

talent earned him a spot in the premiere episode of *Penn & Teller's Fool Us TV* show in 2017.

Since the age of six, Super has been working with magic and creating illusions. On average, he performs between 175-200 magic shows each year. As he continues to bring his tricks to the main stage, he is a star who's forever grateful to his fans, as well as his family.

If you're worried about bringing the kids, Mike Super's Magic and Illusion show is suitable for everyone in the family. Super has been a huge fan of Disney all of his life, and Disney was one of his main influences that originally got him hooked on magic.

No matter what age you are, it's never too late to let a little magic into your life.

— Kalli Oberlander

7 p.m. // *Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center*, 501 E. 38th St. // Adults \$36, Seniors \$31, Students/youth \$26 // [miac.mercyhurst.edu](http://miac.mercyhurst.edu)

Sunday in the Park with the Erie Phil



SUNDAY, JUL. 28

If you haven't found a reason to visit Frontier Park yet, may we make a suggestion?

The only thing more sublime than the city's premier grounds for recreation, relaxation, and a plethora of greenery is all of that plus live music by the Erie Philharmonic Octet (via the Bruce Morton Wright Chamber Series) on a Sunday afternoon.

This free concert, presented by the Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier (or

LEAF), will feature some of the best-known classical standards, including music from Bizet's opera *Carmen*, Beethoven's Symphony No. 7, "Russian Sailor's Dance" by Reinhold Gliere, Rossini's "William Tell Overture," Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever," and more.

This special series is named for the Gannon University instructor of fine arts and music director Bruce Morton Wright, who passed away in 2011, and whose life's work was to ensure the spread of music education, as well as access to music for all. In keeping with his spirit and mission, the Frontier Chamber Series performance is open to the public and costs nothing to attend.

Some amphitheater seating is available, but guests are invited to bring their own chairs and blankets to the unique outdoor concert space. — Cara Suppa

1 p.m. to 2 p.m. // *LEAF Amphitheater at Frontier Park*, 1501 W. 6th Street // Free // [eriephil.org](http://eriephil.org)

Free This Time: Plato's Cave Reunite for 8 Great Tuesdays

Percussionist Matt Walker chats about what to expect



**Plato's Cave, a preeminent presence of the local music scene in the '90s, will reunite for a performance at Highmark Amphitheater at Liberty Park as part of the 8 Great Tuesdays concert series.**

**MW:** P.J. Askey (drums), Gary Baumann (guitar, vox), Randy Baumann (keys, vox), Scotty Cravener (guitar), Dan Ostrowski (drums), Doug Phillips (bass, vox), Erik Walker (guitar, vox), and myself (percussion). This 8-man set up includes two sets of brothers and two drum kits plus percussion. It's a big sound. We are coming in from Florida, Illinois, New Hampshire, Maryland, The Whacky Shack, Ainsworth Field, and Upper Peach Street.

**NW:** How does this differ from past reunions?

**MW:** We've done a few benefits for friends with serious health issues, an art scholarship benefit, an 8 Great Tuesdays in 2013, and a bar mitzvah in Telluride. Last time we had one drummer. This time we have two drummers. More drums.

**NW:** Will this be similar to last winter's King's Rook Club show?

**MW:** This time we plan on rehearsing. It will be mostly Plato's Cave material with a few choice covers thrown in. Eric Brewer, Rodger Montgomery, and Ron Yarosz will all be on hand so there may be some jam sessions. We will bust out one or two

new songs, too.

**NW:** What makes Plato's Cave's music something that people (fans and band members alike) want to keep coming back to?

**MW:** We are a song-oriented band. The lyrics matter and the musical vibe is uplifting. Sometimes political, sometimes sentimental, sometimes goofy. Like life. We were a jam band before the term jam band came out. Plus, we were lucky in that we had chemistry and knew a lot of people. Before social media, we would pick up the phone and ask our friends to come out and spread the word. We made posters and put them all over town. That grassroots approach of finding people who like the same music as we do was the only way we knew how to build a scene.

**NW:** How did Plato's Cave embody that special spirit alive in Erie's music scene of the 1990s?

**MW:** Our core influences were The Dead, Neil Young, The Allman Brothers, and other hippie bands. So, it helped that the best local venues wanted the same music that we play. Lightning in a bottle. Erie is no doubt a special place with an intense creative community. Venues like the old 420 State St., Docksider, and

the Beer Mug nurtured scenes where bands really felt appreciated. You could be a foot away from the musicians, so the crowd was part of the band. Erik and Randy are entertaining frontmen who are good at connecting with people and breaking down the wall between band and audience.

**NW:** In your opinion, is that spirit still around?

**MW:** That spirit is still around wherever someone is willing to pay a \$3 cover charge to support live original music.

**NW:** What are the first things that people bring up to you when they talk about Plato's Cave?

**MW:** They wonder if Nick Stein has been freed yet. It won't be over till they clear his name and give him back the time he's done. Put in a prison cell, but one time he could-a been the champion of the world. They wonder if the coupons for a free side of gravy fries with the purchase of a meatball omelet is still valid.

— Nick Warren

6:30 p.m. with Eric Brewer & Friends opening the show with special guests Rick McGee, Ron Yarosz, Rodger Montgomery, and C. Brown // *Highmark Amphitheater at Liberty Park*, 726 W. Bayfront Dr. // Free // [porter.org/8-great-tuesdays](http://porter.org/8-great-tuesdays)

## Flora & Fauna

Larry Walczak's Romanticism for the 21st Century



Artist Larry Walczak employs kaleidoscopic, nature-based collages as shown in this detail from "Two Faces of Mother Nature" in his *Flora & Fauna* exhibit, which will be on display at 419 Artifacts through September 1st.

typical cultural context as "both the mythology of Mother Nature and the sensuality of nature."

Walczak says, "This represents my direction in nature and natural imagery as a kind of re-visiting of 19th century Romanticism in a contemporary fashion." The Romantic movement prized emotion and intuition over rationality and at first glance, a viewer may struggle to see Romanticism in Walczak's work.

While cultural and technological norms have changed significantly over the centuries, in other ways they have not. The female form, now as then, still represents humankind's more "organic" urges. As the Romanticism of the 19th century celebrated the past as a response to growing urbanism and industrialization, so, too, do we cling to a past in which we imagine a simpler time, a more straightforward way of being.

Walczak, if you're paying attention, addresses these juxtapositions in a language that speaks to our times. Nature, yes, but controlled nature, one filtered through our technologically-dependent world and made tidy to suit our sense of being civilized.

The show runs through September 1, and there is a closing reception on Saturday, August 31. This one is worth your time.

*July 26 to September 1, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 1 to 4 p.m. or by appointment // 419 Artifacts, 419 State St. // (814) 454-4946*

By: Mary Birdsong

After living in New York for years, Erie native Larry Walczak came home in 2016. He was immediately inspired by the more natural visual elements surrounding him here. As a result, his intimate *Flora & Fauna* show, debuting at 419 Artifacts on July 26 as part of Gallery Night, brings the viewer kaleidoscopes of nature-based imagery filtered

through his photo collage technique.

The show, five pieces in all, depict his hyper-real representation of natural forms utilizing a process he calls "direct-imaging," in which he photocopies leaves or other elements directly and then brings them together in a collage with spray-painted color fields.

The results are both soft and hard, with organic shapes held rigid within linear contours. The visual tension

keeps the eye moving. His limited — and sometimes monochromatic — palette subdues the potential discord between what could be competing elements and instead brings them together into a pleasing whole.

He has also been using magazine imagery for many years and here they make an appearance in "Two Faces of Nature," "Spring Forward," and "Epiphany," in which the female form is depicted in its

## Down at the Sunset Grill

Edinboro Lake Resort venue provides live music into the fall

By: Ryan Smith

**D**rive or bike or stroll or boat by it along the usually quiet Route 99 side of beautiful little Edinboro Lake on any/every given summer weekend evening — any/every given summer weeknight, too — and you'll see that the Sunset Grill almost always has what looks to be a packed-to-the-gills house and patio.

That's not surprising: They're known for having a good menu to gather around, and a more-than-respectable revolving craft beer selection, and the atmosphere alone (totally laid-back but not dusty, perfectly situated for epic sunset views, and as close to the lake as you can get without being in it) is worth the trip.

Doesn't hurt that the Sunset is also at Edinboro Lake Resort, where a bevy of tourists and townies' guests make cool, quaint, modern lakeside rental cabins their homes away from their homes throughout the summer. Hell, my wife and I have gotten away there ourselves, and our house is just down the road.

All that makes the Sunset a pretty inviting spot, no doubt, but for us, a big part of what makes the place hot (and cool) is its long-running, season-long music series, an elbow-deep run that brings an abundant cast of fine-skilled local and regional singer-songwriters and bands onto the little stage by the lake.

It's been going on there for years now with plenty of

live music to chill and get down to, and with an act set up every Thursday through Sunday from now all the way through the beginning of October, this year's line-up is no exception.

Here's what's happening (and when) at the resort a little ways south of the city in the coming days and weeks:

**July** — Salmon Frank, July 18; Rachel Short, July 19; Shameless Hex, July 20; Leeanna Golembiewski, July 21; Jay Baumgardner, July 25; Tommy Link, July 26; Scarlett Ledbetter, July 27; and Brooke Surgener, July 28.

**August** — Tony Kellogg, Aug. 1; Tyler Smilo, Aug. 2; Fred Oakman, Aug. 3; Jesse Weston, Aug. 4; Rachel Short, Aug. 8; The Highlife, Aug. 9; Dionisio / Colette Bone, Aug. 10; Seann P. Clark, Aug. 11; Salmon Frank, Aug. 15; Brooke Surgener, Aug. 16; Justin Moyar, Aug. 17; Tommy Link, Aug. 18; Jay Baumgardner, Aug. 22; Clever Norman, Aug. 23; Fred Oakman & The Flood, Aug. 24; Hultman and Barb, Aug. 25; Josh Travis, Aug. 29; Kevin Wilson, Aug. 30; and TK Blues Company, Aug. 30.

To find out more about Edinboro Lake Resort's Sunset Grill and its summer (and into-the autumn) music series — including slated performances each week through September and early October — visit [edinborolakeresort.com](http://edinborolakeresort.com), call 434.3307, or take a drive (or stroll, or bike, or boat) out to 12690 Edinboro Road. Ryan Smith can be reached at [rsmith@eriereader.com](mailto:rsmith@eriereader.com).



As Justin Moyar and Louis Nicolia play, the Sunset Grill at Edinboro Lake Resort's waterfront location makes for an idyllic spot to enjoy a summer concert. It hosts music Thursdays through Sundays all the way into early October.

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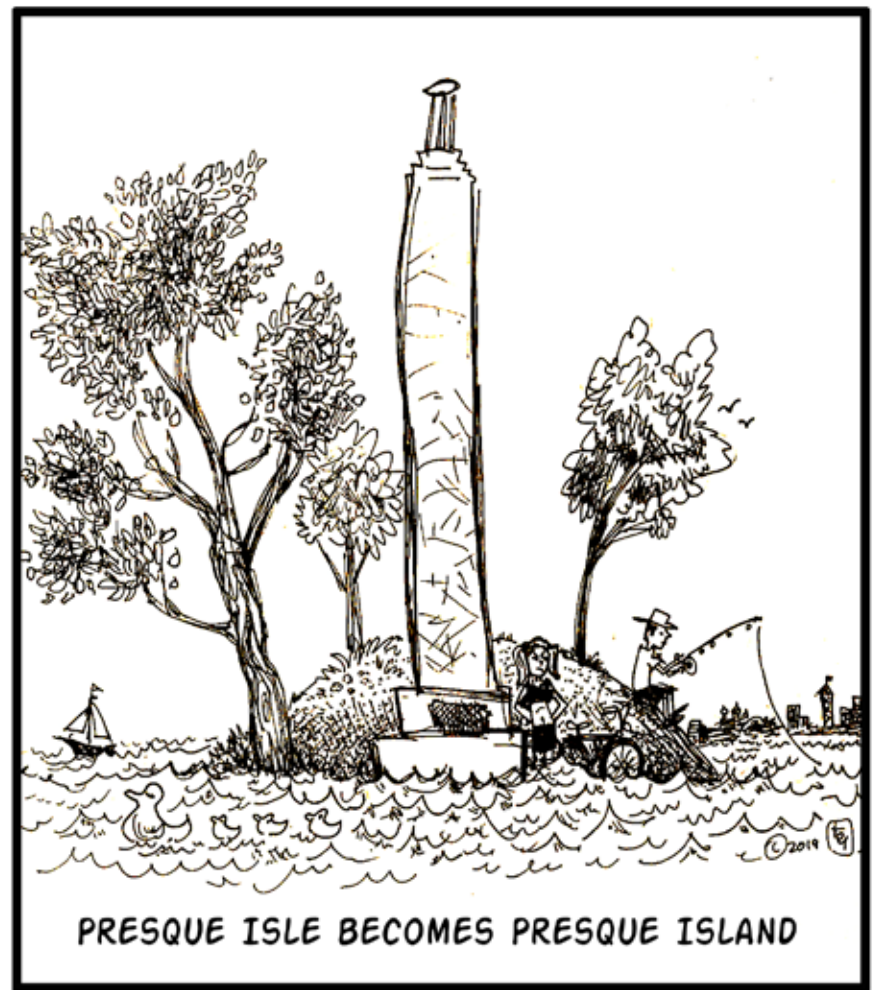
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# PARTY ANIMAL

BY BRAD PATTULLO  
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# JUST TOYIN' WITCHA — BY B. TOY



WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU...  
I'M NOT SAYING KIDS THESE DAYS  
ARE GETTING TOUGHER. HOWEVER,  
MY NEIGHBORHOOD'S LEMONADE  
STAND HAS A WORKING STILL  
& SELLS VAPING ACCESSORIES.



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**Later, Gator: *Crawl* isn't Nearly as Fun as It Should Be**

★★

With the summer movie season here, it's often fun to find the scrappy, low-budget entertainment that comes out in conjunction with all the mega-blockbusters. The thriller *Crawl* looked to be just such a film. From the director of the surprisingly decent remake of *The Hills Have Eyes*, produced by the great Sam Raimi, and with a premise too intriguing to turn down (alligators in the house!), I went in expecting some over-the-top scares. Unfortunately, *Crawl* underperforms in both suspense and ridiculousness.

The film stars Kaya Scodelario as Haley Keller, a college student who races back to her childhood home in small-town Florida because she thinks her father (Barry Pepper) may be in trouble during a massive hurricane. She arrives to find her father severely injured and now must get him out as the floodwaters envelop the house. To make matters even worse, Haley soon learns that the house is being invaded by an army of giant alligators.

The director makes great use of the location, filming in tight, claustrophobic spaces that only become tenser as the waters slowly surround the characters. Also, as silly as they are, the gator attacks are satisfyingly brutal. Sadly, the whole thing doesn't mesh into a compelling story. The performances are all wildly over-acted and the film's themes are delivered with all the subtlety of a Category 5 hurricane. The film's story is far too ridiculous to be taken seriously, but the plot is taken too seriously to be much fun. *Crawl* had all the elements to be a really enjoyable summer shocker, but the execution produces only middling entertainment. — Forest Taylor

*Directed by: Alexandre Aja // Written by: Alexandre Aja, Michael Rasmussen, and Shawn Rasmussen // Starring: Kaya Scodelario, Barry Pepper, Ross Anderson, George Sommer, Ami Metcalf, Jose Palma, and Morfydd Clark // 87 minutes // Rated R*



PARAMOUNT PICTURES

**"Flesh to Touch ... Flesh to Burn!": *Midsommar* is Weird, Mind-bending and Strangely Funny**

★★★★

Ari Aster hit the film world hard with last year's *Hereditary*, one of the most audacious and terrifying debuts in history. It was a much-needed shot in the arm to the often formulaic world of modern horror. Needless to say, his follow-up *Midsommar* had a lot to live up to. Could Aster make lightning strike twice? While the film is as technically impressive, it doesn't quite reach the nerve-wracking and emotionally draining level as his previous film.

The film follows a young woman (Florence Pugh) who just suffered a horrible family tragedy. To help ease her mind, her boyfriend invites her to join his friends on a trip to Sweden to visit a friend's hometown and witness their mid-summer festival. She agrees to go much to the chagrin of the other friends. When they arrive, however, increasingly bizarre and terrifying events begin to occur around this idyllic rural community.

Much like *Hereditary*, this film is a technical triumph, with gliding, swooping camerawork and visuals that border on the psychedelic. Aster is so confident with his filmmaking that it's hard to believe this is only his sophomore effort. Also, the film makes great use of its sun-drenched, deceptively cheerful setting. Unlike *Hereditary*, though, *Midsommar* is often oddly funny with scenes going so far into the bizarre that it may elicit nervous laughter from the audience. It also has so many subplots going on that some of them get all but forgotten. That aside, *Midsommar* is a strange and entertaining head trip for those looking for a different kind of horror. — Forest Taylor

*Written and directed by: Ari Aster // Starring: Florence Pugh, Jack Reynor, William Jackson Harper, Vilhelm Blomgren, Will Poulter, Ellora Torchia, Archie Madakewe, Dag Andersson, Isabelle Grill, and Bjorn Andresen // 147 minutes // Rated R*



A24

## DINNER & MOVIE

Presented by Film Society of NWPA

Dinner: 6pm | Movie: 7pm  
\$12/Table, \$15/Couch

Bourbon Barrel | 1213 State Street  
Erie, PA

Upcoming Shows

The Biggest Little Farm (2019)

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6PM Dinner | 7PM Movie  
Documentary

High Life (2018)

Aug 7

6PM Dinner | 7PM Movie  
Adventure/Drama/Horror

Apollo 11 (2019)

Aug 14

6PM Dinner | 7PM Movie  
Documentary

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## MUSIC REVIEWS

### Bad Books

*III*  
Favorite Gentlemen



It's been nearly seven years since indie supergroup Bad Books released their sophomore album, *II*. But the band's members have certainly been busy since then — Andy Hull and Robert McDowell (who make up half of Manchester Orchestra) released *Cope* and *A Black Mile to the Surface* in the interim, while Kevin Devine released *Bulldozer*, *Bubblegum*, and *Instigato*. Surprisingly, *III* follows none of their creative leads, opting for a minimalist, largely acoustic collection of ballads and personal storytelling. This is an interesting move, as *III* completely separates itself from the band's back catalog. It doesn't hurt that the songs are mostly quite strong; "Lake House" details the pain of a family trying to stay together, while "Neighborhood" is the first overtly political song Andy Hull has ever penned. Devine, on the other hand, has never been shy to make his thoughts heard, and some of his takes here ("I Love You, I'm Sorry, Please Help Me, Thank You") stand next to his best. *III*'s weakness sits in a lack of variety, or any attempt at some kind of propulsive energy. It's a polarizing decision, but one that may be rewarding to listeners in the long run. — Aaron Mook



### Lil Nas X

*7 EP*  
Columbia Records



The rapper and singer responsible for the viral single "Old Town Road (Remix)" is out to do two things on his debut EP *7*: get out from under the shadow of his meme-heavy hit, and craft another one worthy of following it up. Though the artist recently made headlines by coming out as gay on the last day of Pride Weekend, this particular record doesn't quite produce another hit; but he does throw enough darts at the wall to put on an impressive variety show. In reality, Lil Nas X only really repeats himself twice here: on the western-tinged, Cardi B-featuring "Rodeo," and on the "Old Town Road" bonus track, which exclusively appears for the purpose of maximizing streaming numbers. Cardi is one of two guests on the project, the other being Travis Barker, contributing drums to the Gym Class Heroes-esque "F9mily (You & Me)." *7* is a mixed bag for this exact reason; on his debut EP, Lil Nas X is a jack of all trades, but a master of none. Songs on *7* demonstrate potential — especially on the Nirvana-interpolating "Panini" and the straightforward piano beat of "C7osure" — but substance-wise, much like its lead single, it fails to be anything more than enjoyable in the moment. — Aaron Mook



### Mannequin Pussy

*Patience*  
Epitaph



While much attention in regard to this particular Philadelphia quartet is based around their perplexing and somewhat shocking name, Mannequin Pussy deserves more than that. With a modest amount of critical praise surrounding their third studio album *Patience*, it looks like they're making good on the promise of earlier works. Their 2016 album *Romantic* was one of the best releases of that year, relatively overlooked yet seething with the same kind of raw energy. Mannequin Pussy have reached a fair balance, being just punk enough and just indie enough to be simultaneously both and neither — noise-friendly and sometimes shoegazey. Just listen to the track "Drunk 1" as it transitions into "High Horse," and that point will be illustrated easily. Singer and guitarist Marisa Dabice shows her emotive range as the fuzzy bombasts of the former give way to the emotionally resonant crescendo of the latter. Just when the band seems to find themselves veering towards chaos, the album shifts to the almost radio-friendly pop of "Who Are You." Even at 10 songs and 25 minutes, there's enough variation on this record to keep fans satisfied into multiple listens. — Nick Warren



### Summer Cannibals

*Can't Tell Me No*  
Tiny Engines

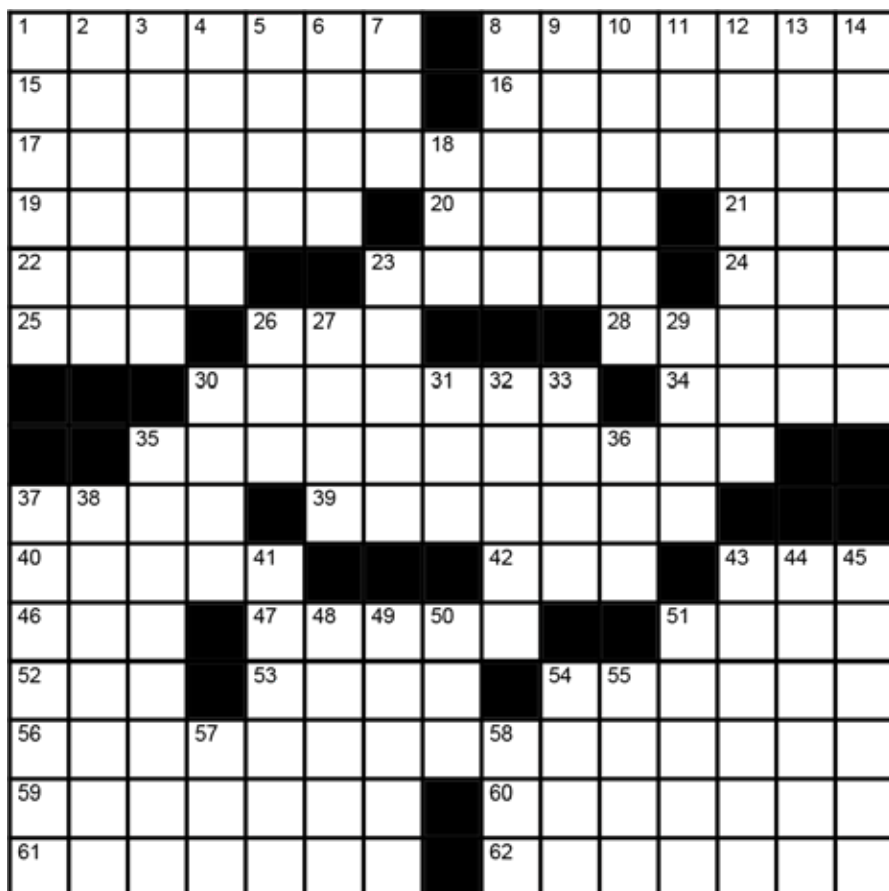


From the first riffs of the opening track "False Anthem," the listener can sense that they're in for something fairly special. As the catchy hook repeats, one is reminded of bands like Ex Hex, Menace Beach, and the garage rock and pop-punk acts of the 2000s like Sahara Hotnights and the Donnas. It's a fun sound, often running in opposition to its lyrical content, yet aptly suitable for summer, name and all (their moniker taken from a 1996 Patti Smith track). The quartet, hailing from Portland, Ore. is led by singer and guitarist Jessica Boudreaux. *Can't Tell Me No* is the band's fourth studio album (their prior record, *Full Of It*, was released on Kill Rock Stars), and has a much tighter, power pop feeling. The frantic fuzzy breakdowns of that record have been replaced with a more polished sound, marked by harmonized guitar lines and more subdued songwriting. Lyrically, it's an honest and sometimes confrontational comment on leaving a manipulative relationship (explicit in tracks like the closer "Into Gold"), one that Boudreaux experienced this year causing her to scrap a previous album and start anew on this one. — Nick Warren



## TOMMY IN TOON — BY TOMMY LINK





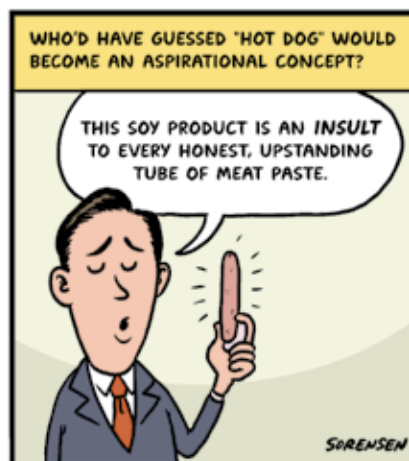
**Across**

- 1. Draftsman's tool
- 8. Ogles offensively
- 15. Regatta rower
- 16. "The House of the Spirits" novelist Isabel
- 17. 1988 Billy Ocean song (remember ... he's from the British West Indies)
- 19. Meet, as expectations
- 20. Indian wedding garb
- 21. Triumph
- 22. Study of the heavens: Abbr.
- 23. Some dinero
- 24. Three-ingredient sandwich
- 25. Rewards card accumulation: Abbr.
- 26. Moo goo \_\_\_\_ pan
- 28. B-ball
- 30. Event in which teams may drink rounds during rounds
- 34. Words before chagrin or surprise
- 35. 2011 Adele song (remember ... she's British)
- 37. Supercelebrity
- 39. Tots
- 40. "Peace out!"
- 42. Fairy tale "lump"
- 43. Fine and dandy, in old slang
- 46. Hip-hop record exec Gotti
- 47. 501s
- 51. Chips and popcorn, in

**Down**

- 1. Women's shoe feature
- 2. Crystalline rock
- 3. Story lines of Indiana Jones films
- 4. Cause of a gut feeling?
- 5. Oodles
- 6. Move, in real-estate lingo
- 7. Suffix with ranch
- 8. Newswomen Logan and Spencer
- 9. Ecuadorean province named for its gold production
- 10. Like some seasonal toymakers
- 11. Divinity school subj.
- 12. Winter wear
- 13. Sominex alternative
- 14. Itty-bitty
- 18. "\_\_\_\_ the Force, Luke"

- 23. Arouse, as curiosity
- 26. It's not allowed in many classrooms
- 27. "Take \_\_\_\_" (1994 Madonna hit that was #1 for seven weeks)
- 29. R&B great Redding
- 30. Pint-size
- 31. Suffix with press
- 32. Some 24-hr. breakfast places
- 33. Billy of "Titanic"
- 35. Major 1973 decision
- 36. Swell locale?
- 37. "Do we have approval?"
- 38. Made from clay
- 41. Hall-of-Famer Walter who was a Dodger manager for 23 years
- 43. Going from gig to gig
- 44. Bigwig
- 45. Wields
- 48. "\_\_\_\_ don't wake up looking like Cindy Crawford": Cindy Crawford
- 49. Vice \_\_\_\_
- 50. Masculine Italian suffix with bamb-
- 51. Title for un hombre
- 54. "How's \_\_\_\_?"
- 55. "Where the heart is"
- 57. Drink that's often iced
- 58. Cable network that set a record when it ran a marathon of 600 episodes of "The Simpsons"



**Answers to last puzzle**





# Family Night at the Races

**Sundays & Wednesdays in the Buffet**

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## 15 MINUTE LUNCH



**MONDAY - FRIDAY, 11AM-3PM**

Over 20 options to choose from! Your Lunch will arrive within 15 minutes of ordering.



**2 for \$20 Three Course Lunch**

**Don't settle for less! 11am-3pm**

**Share an Appetizer +  
Enjoy Your Entree + Indulge in  
a Shareable Dessert**

This offer cannot be combined with any other offers, discounts, promotions or comps.

# CLASSIC MUSCLE CAR GIVEAWAY

**SATURDAYS IN JULY**



**AutoExpress Superstore**

**GRAND PRIZE DRAWING**  
**Saturday, July 27, 2019 at 9pm**

*One 1970 Chevy Nova Winner and 11 - \$500 Cash Winners!*

**Three Drawing Periods  
Each Saturday in July!**

**12pm-2pm | 3pm-5pm | 6pm-8pm**

78 Free Play Winners every week including three pre-qualified key holders for the July 27th Grand Prize Drawing.

# PLAYDAY PAYDAY



**Last Friday of the Month at 9pm**

**JULY - DECEMBER 2019**

**Will you be one of our Playday Payday winners on Friday, July 26 at 9pm?**

**JUST PLAY WITH YOUR CARD TO QUALIFY!**

Visit [www.presqueisledowns.com](http://www.presqueisledowns.com) to find out how you can win big!

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



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downs & casino

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