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From the Editors

200 issues in and counting

“Journalism will kill you,” Horace Greeley once said, “but it will keep you alive while you’re at it.” Though the quote is well over a century old, it’s still true today. In fact, we used it to open the introduction to our 100th issue in 2014. It’s our 200th issue now, and we’re very much alive.

Greeley of course, is well known to any journalism student. And any Erie historian worth their salt knows that he spent a stint of time here in town working for the Erie Gazette. Jonathan Burdick certainly knows this, and is quick to bring up Greeley’s contributions and thoughts on his time in Erie. Burdick traces the roots of Erie newspapers, from The Mirror in 1811, all the way to what you’re reading right now.

We’re proud to be doing what we’re doing. When Brian Graham and Adam Welsh founded The Erie Reader in 2010, their mission was to produce “an independent alt weekly-style publication that would serve as an additional forum for ideas as well as a publication that would actively drive discussion.” We were motivated to build our own voice, and to help move this community forward. Two hundred issues in, we look around and see that things are coming together. Today we’re honored to be known as “the only local voice for news, arts, and culture.”

Over the years, we’ve had the pleasure of working with some of the most creative and motivated individuals our area has to offer. It’s the love of the content that keeps us energized and always looking ahead. It’s a passion for the people of Erie, their music, art, theater, food, and all things creative that helps spark our interest. We choose to highlight the events that lift your spirit, challenge your mind, and help you explore something new. It’s all around us, and we’re happy to help you look for it.

Everything isn’t bright and positive however. Far from it. Some things are difficult to stomach, but impossible and outright dangerous to ignore. The recent Pennsylvania Grand Jury report detailing the widespread abuse within the Catholic Church falls into that category. Dan Schank takes a look at its effects on Erie, and offers his own perspective on this terrible collection of unspeakable acts.

Erie is a complex place that continues to evolve and change over time, although it seems to be a city forever at a crossroads. As we look to the future, we do so with a realistic lens and cautious optimism, and the belief that our next 200 issues will continue to chart our course forward.



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Hiding In Plain Sight

Another sexual abuse scandal in the Catholic Church leads to horror and exasperation



NICK WARREN

A look at St. Peter Cathedral at W. 10th and Sassafras, headquarters of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie. Current Bishop Lawrence Persico has been left to deal with damage control after the release of the Pennsylvania Attorney General's report on sexual abuse within the Catholic Church, which names a total of 301 predatory priests across six dioceses, including Erie.

By: Dan Schank

Growing up in the 1980s, I thought I had a clear idea of what a child sexual predator looked like. Middle-aged, disheveled, maybe balding or mustachioed. Spending his days on the periphery of a playground beside a suspiciously dark, unmarked van. If he offered me candy and I refused, I was presumably safe from harm.

I was warned about this kind of predator during the height of the “stranger danger” panic, when concerned parents like mine were doing their best with the information they had. Some of the advice still makes sense — if unfamiliar adults act suspiciously, it’s probably best to avoid them. And there are obviously plenty of horrifying assault cases involving strangers. Still, if we want to be accurate and honest about child sexual abuse, the iconic molester-at-the-edge-of-the-park is a strikingly poor indicator of where such horrors are likely to occur.

According to our government’s National Sex Offender Public Website (NSOPW), only about 10 percent of those who perpetrate child sexual abuse are strangers to the child. Thirty percent are family members, and the remaining 60 percent are often neighbors, babysitters, family friends, child care providers, and members of the

clergy.

Reading the Pennsylvania Attorney General’s recent grand jury report regarding sexual abuse in the Catholic Church, I was reminded of the “stranger danger” panic and how it allows us to circumvent some of the most disturbing aspects of abuse. For the unfamiliar, the report uncovers the sexual assault of over 1,000 children, perpetrated by 301 priests in six statewide dioceses. These abusers weren’t anonymous perverts hiding in the bushes — they were some of the most trusted leaders in our communities. People who were sought out for their mentorship and spiritual guidance. People who built intimate relationships not only with the young and vulnerable, but also with their parents and guardians.

The grand jury summarizes their findings with alarming frankness: “Priests were raping little boys and girls, and the men of God who were responsible for them not only did nothing; they hid it all. For decades.”

The sleaze oozes into our community as well. In the Diocese of Erie, the report uncovers 41 offenders, many of whom openly confessed their crimes to church authorities. In response, most abusers were shuffled from parish to parish or sent to church-run psychiatric evaluation centers. Euphemisms concealed the horrors. “Inappropriate contact” instead of “rape.” “Boundary

issues” instead of “predatory behavior.” And the public was kept in the dark, deliberately, for decades.

The specifics of the cases are often shockingly redundant. Assault, confession, counseling, reassignment — the patterns quickly become clear. Victim suicides appear several times throughout the accounts, making them tragic as well as infuriating.

Choosing which profiles to focus on quickly becomes a morally exhausting endeavor. Do I “highlight” the unusual cases like Father Chester Gawronski, who provided the Diocese with a list of 41 possible children he’d molested in 1987 — often under the pretext of teaching his victims “to check for cancer?” Stranger still is the case of Michael J. Barletta, who used hypnosis techniques to pressure Cathedral Prep students into sessions of mutual masturbation.

Or I could focus on the longer cases, charting the path of Father Thomas Smith as he fled abuse allegations in Frenchville in 1984 and was transferred to Union City soon after. While there, he informed Bishop Michael Murphy that he’d sexually molested at least 15 children. Murphy then sent him to a parish in Warren where “conduct in violation of his aftercare agreement” forced him to flee again. Between 1984 and 1992, Smith was twice sent to residential psychological therapy facilities. One of his counselors noted his “driven, compulsive, and longstanding” obsession with the sexual assault of children. In the summer of 1992, he arrived at the Holy Rosary Parish in Erie. At this time, Bishop Donald W. Trautman encouraged him to become active in a youth ministry program called Isaiah 43. Despite being notified about multiple serious allegations, Trautman allowed him to remain in the program until March of 1994 — *literally a decade* after the first reported case of his abusive behavior.

It’s hard to read a report like this without feeling a sense of the resignation that comes from *familiarity*. I’m old enough to remember the outrage in 1992 when Sinéad O’Connor ripped up a photo of Pope John Paul II on *Saturday Night Live* to draw attention to the same issues. A report unveiled in 2002 by The Boston Globe concerning abuses in the Archdiocese of Boston led to a Pulitzer Prize and an Oscar-winning movie. Two years later, a document issued by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice identified 6,700 allegations against members of the U.S. clergy between 1950 and 2002. In short, the grand jury report I’ve spent the past week analyzing is not only horrifying — it’s also, frankly, unsurprising.

It’s also not shocking that the nation-

The specifics of the cases are often shockingly redundant. Assault, confession, counseling, reassignment — the patterns quickly become clear. Victim suicides appear several times throughout the accounts, making them tragic as well as infuriating.

al news has mostly moved on at this point. Consider the number of articles you’ve read about this report and contrast it to the number of times you’ve heard the word “Omarosa” since its release. It’s infuriating.

Here I should mention that I’m not a neutral observer when it comes to these issues. I grew up Catholic, spent a decade in Catholic school, went to church every Sunday until I was 18 ... and heard plenty of rumors about members of the clergy. My relatives would share tales of suspicion after a few drinks at holiday gatherings. My classmates would express confusion about inappropriate affection from teachers, coaches, or counselors. Homophobic jokes trivialized stories that turned out not to be trivial years later. Troubling gossip flourished.

I also worked for two years in my parish rectory. During that time, in my early teens, I was in fairly close con-

tact with a priest who would later be accused of sexual abuse on two occasions. I'm choosing not to name him — despite my near-certainty that the accusations were valid — because he was found not guilty both times, and because I never experienced anything inappropriate personally.

When I think of him now, I can't help remembering that I kind of liked him, as much as I wish I didn't. He reminded me a bit of Robin Williams — bearded, slightly bohemian, quick-witted, and frequently anxious. It was the early '90s, and the "Satanic panic" of the time caused many adults to condemn my affection for hard rock and heavy metal. By contrast, this priest was actively interested in talking to me about music. He was the only adult I knew that had heard of Smashing Pumpkins before *Siamese Dream* was released, for example. This seemed both cool and alluringly unusual at age 14.

I'm not relaying this to "humanize" the priest, but to draw attention to how easily I could have been "groomed" into a more intimate relationship with

him. Were these conversations a sign of solidarity between a 14-year-old outcast and a middle-aged one? Or were they some sort of cryptic foreplay that thankfully never amounted to anything?

I honestly don't know the answer. And it's hard to imagine a satisfying reckoning with these issues presently as well. The grand jury report makes some decent suggestions, mostly designed to circumvent laws that prevent long-gone atrocities from being revisited. Their proposed "civil window" law, which would allow older victims to sue the dioceses for damages done when they were kids, seems like a great idea. Philosophically, their call to "make it clear that the duty to report a child abuser continues as long as there's reason to believe he will do it again" seems urgently necessary.

The report also singles out Erie's current bishop, Lawrence Persico, as "forthright and heartfelt." Of the six bishops who submitted reports, Persico was the only one who appeared before the grand jury in person. He

has also issued a public offer to pay for counseling for abuse victims, regardless of how much time has passed and whether or not the victim lives in our region.

I guess that's something. But I'm also a bit wary of the impulse to find a hero buried beneath the atrocious details of this story. There are undoubtedly far more stories of abuse in our community than the hundreds we just became aware of. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, about 2 out of 3 sexual assaults in the U.S. go unreported. In cases like this, where many of the perpetrators claimed a direct connection to God almighty, I shudder to think about how much we still aren't hearing.

I'm the kind of person who jokingly refers to myself as a "recovering Catholic." And while I wouldn't necessarily refer to myself as a capital-A atheist, it's hard to read a report like this without feeling all my teen angst about "organized religion" return to the surface. When I attempt to wrap my head around the diabolical institutional

maneuvering it took to keep these stories from being heard, it's hard not conclude that there's still plenty of poison in the well in need of extracting.

It's hard to imagine a solution to these problems that doesn't involve frequent, frank discussions about sexuality. And I honestly can't imagine that happening in good faith in the Catholic church. There are too many obstacles within the organization — about human behavior, sexual pleasure, women's bodies, and LGBTQ issues — to envision a genuinely open dialogue about this catastrophic legacy of abuse.

The Attorney General's report might not be enough to reconcile all wounds, but at least it sends a clear signal that people are paying attention. If we can't rewrite history, we can at least demand accountability. If we can't radically reform the church we can at least hold a mirror up to it. I wish our voices were louder.

Dan Schank can be reached at dschank@eriereader.com.

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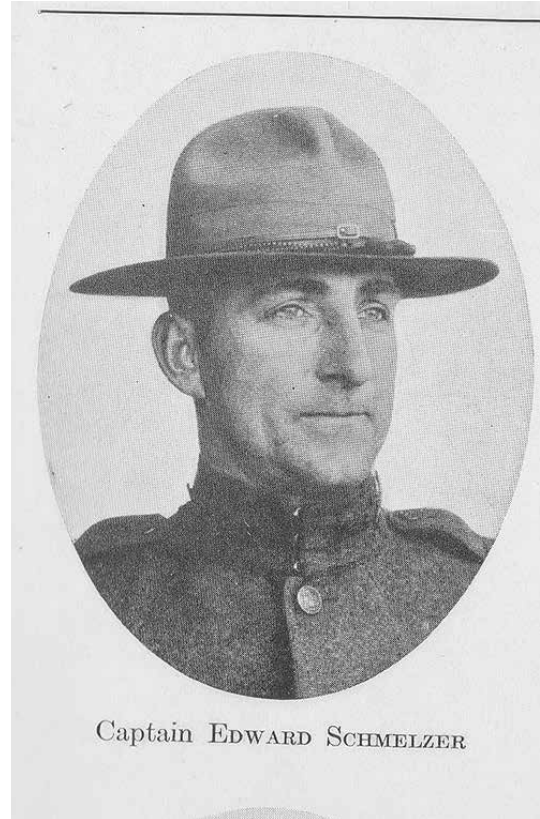
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Company G's World War I Disaster

One hundred years ago this month



Erieites Edward Cribbens (left), Carlisle Green (bottom middle), and Edward Schmelzer (right) were members of the Army National Guard's Company G during World War I. On the night of Aug. 27, 1918, the unit suffered major losses in the French village of Fismette at the hands of the Germans, as chronicled in this Erie Daily Times clipping (top middle).

the river for help. Green and a runner named Jimmy from Company H dodged enemy fire as far as the bridge. Green shot one German on the way.

"I wasn't more than five steps behind Jimmy when I saw him stop and the gun fall ... and he took three faltering steps and fell. There were men all around. Americans. Dead," Green said. He managed to elude the heavy fire, ducking into cover

By: Bill Welch

In August 1917, men from Company G, the National Guard unit headquartered in Erie, picnicked in downtown Erie courtesy of the city's wealthiest woman. Annie Strong was treating Erie's "boys" following a session of marching and drilling. It wouldn't be long before they headed "over there" for combat against Germany.

A year later many of those men were marching to a German prison camp. Company G and Company H, whose men were mainly from Ridgway, had met with disaster at a French village called Fismette on August 27, 1918.

Thirty-nine years ago, while a reporter for the Morning News, I interviewed three Company G veterans and the widow of another about their experiences in World War I. Now that we've reached the century mark for that night at Fismette, it's a good time to look back at what those soldiers endured.

At Fismette, the Germans killed 70 men, wounded 51 and captured 88 more. About 35 men escaped. Both companies were disbanded days later because of those losses and the scores

more inflicted since early that July. Survivors — mainly men who had recovered from wounds suffered over those seven weeks — were assigned to other companies in the 112th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division.

Thirty-nine years ago, while a reporter for the Morning News, I interviewed three Company G veterans and the widow of another about their experiences in World War I. Now that we've reached the century mark for that night at Fismette, it's a good time to look back at what those soldiers endured.

I interviewed Carlisle "Lysle" A. Green in late March 1979. Eighty-four years old, Green moved his head side to side with difficulty because of the piece of German shrapnel embedded near his spine. Green said he was the company's head runner. This was before walkie-talkies. Runners carried

commanders' messages back and forth. He easily recalled the day, giving details in a loud voice.

The night of Aug. 26-27, some 280 doughboys from Companies G and H relieved 111th Infantry Regiment troops in Fismette. They picked their way across a wrecked stone bridge that crossed the Vesle River, which runs 45 feet across and 15 feet deep, and took their positions in the village's buildings. Just before dawn, German artillery hammered those positions. When the barrage lifted, about 1,000 German shock troops attacked. These were among the best the German army had left this late in the war. They came from multiple directions with proven shock tactics, using machine guns, hand grenades and even flamethrowers.

Company G's commander, Capt. Edward Schmelzer, "Cap Schmelzer" as his men called him, ordered Green to fire off red flares to call for artillery support. Green fired three and took fire from Germans each time. No response came from Americans across the Vesle just a couple hundred yards away. As the Germans pressed their attack in the early morning light, Schmelzer asked — not ordered — Green to cross

when he could, and got across. Once across, a German airplane took a few passes to strafe at Green, who jumped out of the way each time. When he reached the nearest command post, Green couldn't believe what he saw.

"Here they were. You would think they was [sic] at a Sunday School picnic," he told me. Frustrated at a lieutenant's lack of action, Green searched for Captain Lucius Phelps, who was asleep. "Don't you know there's a war on?" Green demanded as he woke Phelps. As he briefed Phelps, an artillery round hit nearby, wounding both men. That's when Green got that piece of shrapnel in his neck.

The rest of the 112th made no serious attempt to relieve the men in Fismette. I think you can chalk it up mainly to being caught by surprise. But about three dozen men escaped by ducking enemy fire, as Green had. Within a few hours of that dawn attack, the rest were dead or captured, spending the next two and a half months in a German prison camp.

I recently learned the story of another doughboy from Company G who was wounded a couple weeks earlier in August when Company G was taking another turn to hold Fismette. Each

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

day, doughboys and Germans fired away at each other from houses and shops, the line between each side frequently shifting. In that fighting, Sgt. Edward Cribbens, age 19, was wounded. His grandson, Art Mills II, told me about it.

Cribbens, a company scout, was trapped in a building with other soldiers, trading fire with the enemy when a man next to him was hit. Cribbens reached over to pull the fatally injured soldier to safety and was hit himself, taking a couple bullets to the right arm and another to the neck. The other Americans in the building retreated, leaving Cribbens in the basement. He was there a few days, at times sharing the space with a German who had leg wounds. When the Germans fell back, leaving Cribbens, Americans got him to a French hospital where doctors planned to amputate his right arm. He begged them to save the arm. They did, but the surgery left it crippled. For the rest of his life, his hand was like a claw clutching his breast, Mills said.

As bad as Fismette was, worse was to come. The 28th Division took heavy casualties in the Meuse Argonne offensive that lasted from Sept. 26 to the Armistice on Nov. 11.

The 28th Division returned to the United States in May 1919. It left 2,165 dead behind. In four-and-a-half months in combat, Company G had 34 men killed and 237 wounded, according to Erie County in the World War, a book honoring those who served. That book lists 154 Erie County men who died in that short time. Total U.S. losses from all causes were 116,708.

This Sept. 15, neighboring commune and battle location Fismes will honor those who fought there. It will center on that bridge over the Vesle River that Green crossed. The bridge was rebuilt in 1927 thanks to funds from Pennsylvania and Fismes' sister city, Meadville. According to Debbie Corll of Meadville's city government, 32 people from Meadville, including descendants of its Company B, plan to attend.

Bill Welch was a reporter and editor at the Times Publishing Company for 29 years. He now teaches in the Intelligence Studies program at Mercyhurst University.



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VN6: An Appeal to the Ethical Voter

Pushing a button to restore decency to democracy on November 6



By: Richard Boler

I’ve decided. I’m making buttons. The first major decision — around fonts — was a challenge. The state-

VN6

... appealed to me, but I fretted over its width, button-wise. Also intriguing was Opus Chords, which offered a playful, enigmatic take ...

VN6

That diminutive “6”, though ... Not easily read on a lapel button. And the “6”, after all, is key. In the end, Bahnschrift won out with

its bold, yet elegant simplicity:

VN6

So, here’s what I’ve gotten: 250 buttons, “VN6” in black text (rendered in good ol’ Bahnschrift) on a plain white background. It set me back \$200. It’s a small price to pay for helping to save the Republic. January 21, 2017 I remember standing across the street from the Erie County Courthouse, in a crowd of a thousand stunned but resolute Erieites on the day of the single biggest demonstration in world history. It was a remarkable day, really — only the first full day of the Trump presidency, before the tribulations of the past God-forsaken months had

Scenes like this were commonplace in the run-up to the election of President Donald Trump, whose contentious rhetoric riled up an impassioned base of disgruntled, predominantly white voters – among his proponents U.S. Representative Mike Kelly, standing in the background during Trump’s August 2016 rally in Erie.

even occurred. Yet people knew. If you had eyes and ears, and a brain that had not shut down, and a heart that had not yet hardened — there was the sinking certainty that something really, really bad had just happened. Even worse, and despite the exhilaration of the moment, there was something else in the air ... Helplessness.

Certainly, people could demonstrate, express outrage, organize, create GIFs, file lawsuits, write and phone the authorities — and they have, heroically. But these have all been reactive responses. They can’t save — and haven’t saved us. The guy had just been elevated to the presidency for four years, after all, and there wasn’t a thing anybody could do about it. At least not for a while. Any chance to repair the damage done to our country in a substantive and binding way was still two nightmarish years away... November 6, 2018. Rep. Kelly Trying to sort out how this happened — how a repulsive, traitorous charlatan became President of the United States of America—can be maddening. However, there is this one simple and unassailable fact: On a single day in

November two years ago, enough people voted (or didn’t vote) to make it so. It sickens me that my hometown — with its immigrant, working-class, FDR-loving history — is now thought of as “Trump country” by outsiders who don’t know any better. Equally ridiculous is the lie that labels any American who honors reason, truth, intelligence and common decency as an out-of-touch urban elite. Here in Erie County, we’ve been given a unique opportunity to correct both of those perceptions. Donald Trump is not on the ballot on a single day this November, but Trumpism certainly is. Right now, Trump hides behind a minority of Americans who control the fate of a slim majority of Republicans in the House of Representatives — a collection of humans whose resemblance, by the way, to the flying monkeys in *The Wizard of Oz* beggars description. And perched prominently among them is our Congressman, Mike Kelly. Rep. Kelly can’t claim to be one of those reluctant Republicans pained by the tweets and the Trumpiness of it all, yet hanging in there because of tax cuts and judicial appointments. He has re-cast himself as a card-carrying Trumpian nihilist, onboard early in all of his MAGA glory. Kelly is actually on record, in an interview with The Washington Examiner, chastising fellow Republicans for not supporting Donald Trump more fervently. Meanwhile, fate has taken an unfortunate turn for him. After going all in on Trumpism and being able to ignore

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NICK WARREN

the northern corner of his district for years, the newly-reconfigured 16th District has reunited Erie County. As the brain-trust in Kelly's campaign studies the shape of his newly-formed district, Northwest Pennsylvania must take on the shape of a recently-whacked hornet's nest.

Defeating a Trumpist in what is still considered a "safe" district would have national implications. Given the current margins, it might even be responsible for flipping the House — and changing everything. This time, there is no Electoral College to skewer the results and thwart the will of the majority. Say what you will about America, but this is still — fingers crossed — a one-person/one-vote democracy. The performance of one single act on one singular day holds great power.

Simply put — whoever votes more on November 6 wins.

VN6
Every day, the President of the United States attacks America — its institutions, its laws, its people, its ideals — while cowering behind his base, a numerical minority. The idea that this is a sustainable winning strategy is nuts.

We need no more outrage — or despair or cynicism or depression. It's not the time to be dividing ourselves around any one issue or squabbling about the future of either political party. This is all hands on deck. We may disagree about what America is, but we sure as hell now know what it isn't.

So, look for me in the coming months. I'll be the old guy passing out self-produced political buttons at events like Celebrate Erie, fending off melano-

Columnist Richard Boler — among the many not pleased with the work of the Trump Administration — entreats groups negatively impacted by the current leadership's policies to fight back in the way democracy intended ... by making their voices heard by voting on November 6 (VN6).

ma with a straw hat, and trying not to think about the fact that I'm now that old guy in a straw hat passing out self-produced political buttons at public gatherings.

If you snag one, think of it as a kind of proactive "I Voted" sticker. Just don't consider it a personal statement, or a reward, because it's not. It's a pledge, a commitment to discharge a sacred obligation to defend our country.

Think of it, also, as a talisman of sorts, warding off the outrages that undoubtedly lay ahead of us. Amid the venality, corruption, stupidity and brutishness our American Mussolini and his movement will undoubtedly produce ...

Take every slap in the face — every insult to your values and intelligence, every utterance and act of cruelty, every humiliation, embarrassment and degradation — and channel it into one single, righteous, devastating counter-punch.

This isn't who we are, and our day is coming.

Vote November 6th.

Richard Boler is a writer, satirist, playwright, native of Erie's east side, and longtime proponent of "Keeping Erie Weird" in the most inclusive sense of the word. He can be reached at rickboler12@gmail.com

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Two Centuries of Making Headlines

A brief history of Erie’s newspapers



Stacks of old newspapers line the shelves of local libraries across the world. The City of Erie has been represented by a number of publications over the years, reflecting a rich history in print media.

By: Jonathan Burdick

In 1971, The New York Times and The Washington Post were involved in a legal battle with President Richard Nixon and his administration. The publications claimed the First Amendment protected their rights to publish the classified *Pentagon Papers*, where-

as Nixon’s administration argued that “further publication of information of this character will cause irreparable injury to the defense interests of the United States”

The Supreme Court sided with the newspapers. Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black stressed the importance of the free press in his concurrence.

“In the First Amendment, the Found-

ing Fathers gave the free press the protection it must have to fulfill its essential role in our democracy,” he wrote. “The press was to serve the governed, not the governors.”

The news media has historically been referred to as the fourth estate — an unofficial, but essential pillar to our political system. Many presidents and political leaders have recognized their importance. In a 1961 speech, John F. Kennedy explained the crucial and sometimes combative role that the media played in American society.

“[The press is] the only business in America specifically protected by the Constitution,” Kennedy explained. “Not primarily to amuse and entertain, not to emphasize the trivial and the sentimental, not to simply ‘give the public what it wants’ — but to inform, to arouse, to reflect, to state our dangers and our opportunities, to indicate our crises and our choices, to lead, mold, educate and sometimes even anger public opinion.”

Today, the national media may receive much of the attention — whether positively or negatively — but local

media and local newspapers are also indispensable. Such print publications provide regional perspectives, filling in coverage gaps that couldn’t possibly be covered at the national level.

Erie, Pennsylvania has a long and fascinating newspaper history. Erie was founded in 1795 and recognized as a borough in 1805, but the first consistently published newspaper wasn’t circulated until 1808 when George Wyeth launched *The Mirror*. While it didn’t last long — around two years — it was soon followed by the *Northern Sentinel* in 1812, which publisher R.J. Curtis refurbished as the *Genius of the Lakes*, the *Phoenix*, and then the *Reflector* over the subsequent decade.

“For two or three years during the [War of 1812], I had a very good support, but afterward it was poor indeed,” Curtis said, according to *The History of Erie County* by Laura G. Sanford. He explained that many readers were only able to pay with produce, so he had to take on a second job as a school teacher to continue printing. His only help was his sister and a single apprentice. By the 1820s, the publication had tried relocating to Mayville, New York, but soon shut down production.

The first newspaper with longevity to be published in the city was the *Erie Gazette*, founded in 1820 by Joseph M. Sterrett.





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"The old Erie Gazette is recalled by our older people with much affection," wrote John Elmer Reed in 1925. "Mr. Sterrett was a man close to the people and succeeded in making his paper a member of the families into which it entered."

In 1830, the Gazette was home to a young journeyman named Horace Greeley, who would go on to become the famous newspaperman who founded the nationally-known and outspokenly abolitionist New York Tribune.

According to James Parton's 1854 biography, Greeley said he did "the best he could" at the Erie Gazette, but he wasn't particularly happy with the pay of twelve dollars each month he received from Sterrett. Still, he had boarded with the Sterrett family for his short stint in Erie.

Greeley wrote slowly and methodically, but constantly: seven days a week for seven months straight. When he wasn't writing, he was either walking along the lake, sailing across the bay to Presque Isle, or reading. It was in Erie, according to Parton, that Greeley became "absorbed in politics."

"It is said, by one who worked beside him in Erie, that he could tell the name, post-office address, and something of the history and political leanings, of every member of Congress," Parton wrote.

Greeley seemingly had little affection (or at least not much nostalgia) for his time in Erie — or its citizens. He later referred to Erie citizens who took on the railroads during the Erie Gauge Wars as "traitorous" and never disputed his biographer's description of Erie

as being "the shabbiest and most broken-down looking large town."

In 1830, the Erie Observer was launched in direct response to the Gazette. The Gazette was known for its Whig (and later Lincoln-era Republican) views and was hostile to the city's Masonic order, so the Observer was established as a Democratic paper by a group of Masons who supported the presidency of Andrew Jackson.

The Erie Chronicle was started in 1840 as a Whig newspaper and merged to become The True American, becoming Erie's first openly abolitionist newspaper. It operated until 1861.

The Dispatch was founded in Waterford in 1851 by Joseph S. M. Young, but soon relocated to the city in 1856 and became known as the Erie City Dispatch. It had earned a reputation for its criticism of the powerful railroad companies during and after the Erie Gauge Wars.

"When the railroad war broke out, it took such a lively part on the side of the 'rippers,' or 'anti-railroad men,' that their leaders induced Mr. Young to remove his office to Erie," Benjamin Whitman explained in his 1896 historical reference book on Erie.

Eventually, the Dispatch was purchased by the prominent Charles Hamot Strong and in the early 20th century it merged with the Erie Herald (founded in 1878 by two Erie High School teachers) to become the Erie Dispatch-Herald.

In 1888, another publication was formed by nine printers in a small cellar on State Street: the Erie Daily Times. One of those printers, John Mead, soon bought out the others. Although he

died in 1941, his wife and sons continued to run the publication. In 1957, they acquired the Erie Dispatch-Herald and they began printing the Erie Morning News along with their Daily Times.

In 2000, the Morning News and Erie Daily Times merged to become our current Erie Times-News. It was still being operated by the family of original publisher John Mead. In 2016 though, the newspaper left the Mead family after nearly 130 years. It was purchased by New Media Investment Group and its holding company GateHouse Media, Inc. out of New York. According to their website, they now "publish 145 daily newspapers, 340 community publications and more than 570 local market websites."

And then, of course, there's the Erie Reader. The Reader was founded in 2011 by Adam Welsh and Brian Graham as an independent, alternative newspaper that would emphasize not only news, but also Erie's arts and culture.

This is by no means a comprehensive history of Erie's newspapers, of course, nor does it thoroughly explore the many mergers and changes of names that occurred throughout the decades. Each publication has its own unique history and there are many other publications worth mentioning and exploring: the Erie Express, the Daily Republican, Daily Bulletin, Sunday Graphic, Highland Light, Erie Advertiser, Star of Liberty, Sunday Globe, Argus, Constitution, Erie County Farm Bureau News, Erie County Law Journal, the socialist Labor Press, the populist People, the Catholic Lake Shore Visitor, and the numerous African American, German, Italian, and

Portuguese newspapers distributed throughout the city. There are also the many county newspapers.

Here in the present, these old newspapers provide a unique glimpse into the city's past — historical footprints that help us understand Erie's story. Today, just like then, newspapers continue to play an essential role in our city and region.

In an age where so much information is at our fingertips, it is on us to ensure that these publications live on and that our region's rich history of local newspapers will continue.

Whether it is the Erie Reader, Erie Times-News, Meadville Tribune, Erie Metropolitan Black Yellow Pages, Corry Journal, Edinboro News-Journal, Union City Today, West County News-Journal, Titusville Herald, or any of the local university and high school student-run newspapers, these publications are important pillars of truth and accountability for our region and our communities.

"We have to uphold a free press," President Barack Obama said in 2014, "because in the end, lies and misinformation are no match for the truth."

Support, read, and subscribe to your local newspapers. Share their articles online. Criticize the coverage when necessary. And maybe occasionally click on one of those ads.

Or hey, as history demonstrates is clearly possible, maybe even start your own.

Jonathan Burdick runs the historical blog Rust & Dirt. Follow them on Twitter @RustDirt, and on Instagram @RustandDirt.

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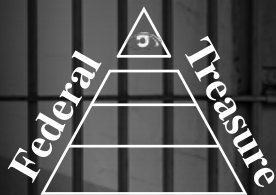
  



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Eerie and Experimental; Dark-comedy Short Film *The Fifth* Premieres



THURS. AUG. 30

The five-part, Erie-centric Pizza Bomber documentary series *Evil Genius* engrossed the true crime fan community earlier this year. Gaining international attention, the series brought millions of eyes to this often overlooked city on Lake Erie's shore.

The Fifth, an experimental film by director Erik Brown creates a thrilling story set in Erie with a dash of dark-comedy. In a Kickstarter campaign to raise money to offset production and festival

costs, Brown said that a "goal of ours was to create this unique project solely using the resources Erie, Pennsylvania has to offer."

Brown has worked on other short films shot and produced in Erie such as *Faces of Terror*, a horror fan film. In this equally eerie experimental tale, a group of teens faces off against classic and modern horror characters. *The Fifth* is a work of pure imagination, right down to the script which was improvised by the actors during filming.

Don't be afraid to catch the premiere at the Bourbon Barrel. Attendees should be advised that the film is intended for mature audiences. — Hannah McDonald

7 p.m. to 9 p.m. // 1213 State St. // twitter.com/TheFifthFilm

Fühlen 22: German Heritage Fest Swiftly Approaches



traditionally the domain of that southeastern state — and particularly its capital of Munich — from mid-September through the first weekend of October. Expect to see dirndls and lederhosen, hear polkas (which originated in what is now the nearby Czech Republic), and taste beers brewed in accordance with the Reinheitsgebot, or German Purity Law of 1516, which dictated that

only barley, hops, and water be used in brewing (yeast's existence was as of then unknown, but is an essential part of the alchemy).

Non-drinkers or pickier eaters need not fear, however, as non-alcoholic carbonated beverages and more Americanized fare will also be available for consumption. A magician, bounce house, and train rides will be on-site to entertain the *Kinder*. Whatever cups are filled up with, just remember the refrain *Prost!* and everything will be all right. — Matt Swanseger

Saturday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. // St. Nick's Grove, 5131 Old French Rd. // \$5 general admission, \$8 weekend pass // dank-erie.org

SATURDAY, SEPT. 1 - 2

Is that a Limburger sandwich or is the 22nd German Heritage Festival right under our noses again? Whether pungent cheese, savory sausage, tangy cabbage, or sumptuous strudel strikes your fancy, the annual pre-Labor Day picnic extravaganza has been the Oktoberfest before Oktoberfest for over two decades, thanks to DANK (Deutsch-Amerikanisch National Kongress) Chapter 71 and Lake Erie Fanfare.

The festival features authentic German cuisine, music, dancing, costumes, and beer — *natürlich*. Once known as the Bavarian Festival before being rechristened, the overall tenor nonetheless best recalls Oktoberfest, which is

Lock, Stock, and Punk Rock the Block

FRIDAY, AUG. 31 - SEPT. 2



Fueled by a DIY ethos and ignited by positive change and community-building, "Punk Rock the Block" is all set to go. Scotty's Martini Lounge — long a center for local music — has found itself the heir apparent to a generation of Erie's bar-going punk rockers, who had previously made homes out of Bobby's Place and the Beer Mug. Hardworking and hard-playing bands are welcome on this cigar and jazz speakeasy's freshly built stage.

This spirit is being galvanized with "Punk Rock the Block," which offers a whole weekend worth of shows and much more.

In what intends to become an ongoing tradition, proceeds from the weekend will benefit The Neighborhood Watch, ServErie, and residents of the Scotty's neighborhood. Guests can get a weekend pass or attend each day separately.

The first evening will give you music from Crooked Cobras, Detroit Red, Pa-

per Matches, and The Trotts. The Pittsburgh serpentine quartet Crooked Cobras plays ferocious, incendiary blasts of punk rock perfect for fans of bands from the '80s who were able to harness aggression and energy, much like the fantastic trio of local bands as well.

Saturday will see the welcome return of a few familiar faces. Rub the Buddha, a long-running power-pop favorite will grace the stage for the first time since their reunion at the Crooked i in 2010. Diesel Houdini will be returning for one of their first shows in almost two years. Josh Gone and Andy Costa will stay on as they swap Jason Pflueger for James Paoello, becoming 40 Rust. They'll be joined by John Zuck — a Columbusite with Erieite roots — with a solo set.

Day Three will see something different, a family-friendly, free swap and small outdoor block party starting at 2 p.m.. Guests are urged to bring in fun things (like old band tees, records, crafts, etc.) and trade them for other things that people bring in, with no money changing hands. There will be food, drink, and acoustic performances during the afternoon. — Nick Warren

Friday and Saturday at 9 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m. // 301 German St. // \$10 for the weekend, \$5 Friday and Saturday // facebook.com/ScottysMartini/

Edinboro University Planetarium Starts Semester-long Series



WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 5

Edinboro University's Planetarium will begin its fall series Wednesday, Sept. 5.

The star-gazing series begins with a program called "What's Up Wednesday," which highlights current constellations, and continues through December with more than a dozen shows.

"Celtic Nights," the second show in the series, will be held in conjunction with the Edinboro Highland Games & Scottish Festival. With viewings at 5 and 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 8, these programs will feature views of the night sky as can be seen in Edinburgh, Scotland


and discussions about Celtic constellations, Scottish traditions and mythology.

Other planetarium shows include "Legends of the Night Sky" at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 10; "Fall Nights" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 18; a 50th anniversary show at noon and 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29; "Think about it" at noon Tuesday, Oct. 9; "What's Up Wednesday" at 7 p.m. Wednesday, October 17; "World at Night" at 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 22; "Legends, Myths and Spooks" at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 31; "Andromeda: A Close Encounter" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 6; "Laser Christmas" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 27; and "Star of Wonder" at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4 and 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12. — Tracy Geibel

Times vary // Edinboro University Planetarium, 161 Cooper Science Center, Edinboro // Free with required reservation // 814-732-2493 // edinboro.edu

Waterford and Albion Fairs Set for September

Fair season isn't over yet. Both the Waterford Community Fair and the Albion Area Fair are right around the corner.



rides. Passes are \$20 at the fair. — Tracy Geibel

13012 Route 19, Waterford // \$4 admission, \$8 weekly admission, free for children 8 & under // 796-6923 // waterfordfair.org

Albion Area Fair

TUESDAY, SEPT. 11 - 15

The "biggest little fair around" will feature truck pulls, horse shows and plenty of live music.

The 74th Albion Area Fair starts Tuesday, Sept. 11 with a baked foods auction, karaoke and the fair queen and junior miss contests.

In the evenings, musical acts will dominate the grandstand. Steeltown Cowboy will perform Wednesday, Small Town Revolution Thursday, the Moore Brothers Friday and North of the Mason Dixon (NOMaD) Saturday. NOMaD placed runner-up in the Colgate Country Show-down in 2005.

Ride-a-Rama passes can be purchased for \$15 per day. — Tracy Geibel

30 Academy Street, Albion // \$5 admission, \$10 weekly admission, free for children 12 & under // 756-3911 // albionfair.com

Edinboro Highland Games Celebrate 25th Anniversary



THURSDAY, SEPT. 6 - 9

Edinboro University's annual celebration of Scottish heritage returns from Thursday, Sept. 6 through Sunday, Sept. 9.

Bringing the Edinburgh to Edinboro, The 25th Annual Highland Games & Scottish Festival delivers a small piece of Scotland to Northwestern Pa., complete with bagpipe competitions, traditional heavy athletic events (like the "caber toss") and an array of Scottish foods.

The festival kicks off Thursday with High Tea at the Scotland Yards Greenhouse and continues into the evening with Music and Ale at the Sprague Farm & Brew Works. Friday features a single malt whisky tasting and bonfire at the Edinboro University campus and harp music at Erie and Edinboro Presbyterian Churches.

"The festival is full of fascinating events," said co-director Melissa Gibson. "From the 'high tea' to the bonfire and beyond, we celebrate the Scottish spirit of independence and thoughtfulness."

Most of the festival events are scheduled Saturday at the university, both in and around McComb Fieldhouse and the Frank G. Pogue Student Center. Highlights include the national fiddle and harp championships, heavy athletic events, highland dance competitions and archery tag.

Festival co-director and founder Tim Thompson recommends attending from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the very least.

"Get here by noon to see the opening ceremony — it's pretty spectacular," he said.

Those who stay into the evening may also want to attend the Ceilidh at 6 p.m. in Van Houten Dining Hall and the planetarium show, called Celtic Nights, at either 5 or 7 p.m. in Cooper Hall. The planetarium show will feature views of the night sky as can be seen in Edinburgh, Scotland.

The festival wraps up Sunday with a concert from the Chelsea House Orchestra at Edinboro United Methodist Church. — Tracy Geibel

4:30 p.m. Thursday, 2:30 p.m. Friday, 7:45 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, 10:45 a.m. Sunday // Edinboro University, 219 Meadville St, Edinboro, PA 16444 & other venues // Free (donations welcome), \$35 single malt tasting, \$40 ceilidh // edinboro.edu/events/highland-games

MUSIC

Abby Paulson & Brooke Surgener

Aug. 29 — noon to 1 p.m.
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

Dave VanAmburg and Friends

Aug. 29, 31, Sept. 5, 7, 12 — 5 to 8 p.m.
Bel-Aire Clarion, 2800 W. 8th St. belaireclarion.com.

MVP

Aug. 30, Sept. 6 — 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Dickey's BBQ Pit, 3716 Liberty St. facebook.com.

The High Life

Aug. 30 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428 skunkandgoattavern.com.

Tyler Smilo

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

The Groove

Aug. 31 — 6 p.m.
Coconut Joe's, 28 N. Park Row facebook.com.

Duke Sherman Band

Aug. 31 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Arundel Cellars & Brewing Co., 11727 E. Main Rd. North East, PA 16428 arundelcellars.com.

Adam McKillip

Aug. 31 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St, Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

Key West Express

Aug. 31 — 8 p.m. to midnight
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. bourbonbarrelerie.com.

This American Song, NICE

Aug. 31 — 9 p.m. to midnight
Running along the indie rock vein, This American Song of Presque Isle Records will headline a trackside show with NICE at The Brewerrie at Union Station. [Trackside at the Brewerrie, 123 W. 14th St. facebook.com](http://TracksideattheBrewerie,123W.14thSt.facebook.com).

Punk Rock the Block

Aug. 31, Sept. 1, 2 — 9

p.m. to 2 a.m.
Scotty's Martini Lounge, 301 German St. facebook.com.

Division Street Blues Machine

Aug. 31 — 9 p.m.
Presque Isle Downs, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

Tiny Music (Stone Temple Pilots tribute)

Aug. 31 — 9 p.m.
Sherlock's, 508 State St. facebook.com.

Friday Nite Nitro: Classic Rock, Pop, and Hip-Hop

Aug. 31 — 11 p.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com.

Kevin Howard Quartet

Sept. 1 — 5 to 9 p.m.
Penn Shore Winery and Vineyards, 10225 E. Lake Rd, North East PA, 16428 pennshore.com.

Twisted Lid

Sept. 1 — 6 p.m.
Coconut Joe's, 28 N. Park Row facebook.com.

Leeanna Golembiewski

Sept. 1 — 6:30 p.m.

Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St, Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

Flow Nite with DJ Voto & Hekate

Sept. 1 — 11 p.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com.

Jimmy Cuneo

Sept. 2 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428 skunkandgoattavern.com.

Boyd Baker & Alexa Klemm

Sept. 2 — 1 to 4 p.m.
Arundel Cellars & Brewing Co., 11727 E. Main Rd. North East, PA 16428 arundelcellars.com.

The Bangerzz

Sept. 2 — 5 to 9 p.m.
Peek'n Peak Resort, 1405 Olde Rd, Clymer, NY 14724 pknpk.com.

Miracle Music Fest

Sept. 2 — 6 to 11 p.m.
A bridge between music and alternative medicine in the Erie Community, Miracle Music Fest, hosted will be hosted at Zem Zem Shrine Club.

Zem Zem Shrine Club, 2525 W. 38th St. facebook.com.

Rachel Short

Sept. 2 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St, Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

Subdution, JOHN 3:16, onewayness, Nathan Kairis

Sept. 2 — 7 to 11 p.m.
The latest in the electroFLUX experimental music series, featuring soundscapes and electronic and industrial music of the mind-bending variety. [Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. facebook.com](http://ErieMovieHouse,3424W.LakeRd.facebook.com).

Abadon Faluz

Sept. 3 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St, Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

Blues Jam & Open-Mic

Sept. 4 — 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Dickey's BBQ Pit, 3716 Liberty St. facebook.com

Gem City Jazz Ensemble

Sept. 4 — 7 to 8 p.m.
The Gem City Jazz Ensemble will

play at the St. John's Lutheran Church for an evening show. [St. John's Lutheran Church, 2216 Peach St. gemcitybands.org](http://StJohnsLutheranChurch,2216PeachSt.gemcitybands.org).

Katie & Jesse

Sept. 6 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428 skunkandgoattavern.com.

Jay Baumgardner

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

Steve Miller Band and Peter Frampton

Sept. 6 — 7:30 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. erieinsurancearena.com.

Music at Noon: Pennsylvania Quintet

Sept. 7 — noon to 2:30 p.m.
Internationally acclaimed Pennsylvania Quintet will play in Erie, at Penn State University's branch campus. [Reed Union Building at Penn St. Behrend, 4701 College Dr. behrend.psu.edu](http://ReedUnionBuildingatPennSt.Behrend,4701CollegeDr.behrend.psu.edu).



3 GREAT DAYS

Friday, September 14 - 5:00 to 11:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 15 - 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 16 - 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



Official
Irish Festival
Tee Shirts!

All New
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FRIDAY

- Irish Pub Band Favorites
- County Mayo
- Erie's Mountain Thyme Ramblers
- St. Patrick's Bagpiper Parade
- Irish step dancing

SATURDAY

- Lunch with County Mayo
- Erie's First and Only Irish Polka Party with Celtic Moon
- Pittsburgh's Hottest Irish Band
- Corned Beef and Curry
- Ohio Trad Band Ballinloch
- More Irish step dancing

SUNDAY

- Even more Irish step dancing
- Lunch with Corned Beef and Curry
- Matinee with Ballinloch
- Closing and Irish trip raffle

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Celebrate the Seasons with the Fall Edition of Arts & Drafts



THURSDAY, SEPT. 6

If you’ve followed our publication for long enough, you know where some of our interests lie: local art, local brews, and local festivals. The bi-annual Arts & Drafts Fest is the culmination of those very three things, and this season’s event happens to be a special one.

“This year marks the celebration of 10 years with the fall edition of the festival,” says Art Director Amanda Ferguson. “We’re happy to highlight this year’s featured artist, Corey Thompson,” painter and co-owner of Wayward tattoo. Ferguson also pointed out their new fall logo

Since-disbanded Fall Risk plays trackside at the second volume of the 2017 Arts & Drafts Festival. The event unfolds bi-annually at the Brewerrie at Union Station, with plenty of artwork, music, and brews to take in over the course of three days.

created by Eric Fargiorgio, the artist of the original illustration the festival has used for many years.

A decade is a long time to consistently throw a festival of this size (and a bi-annual one at that); it’s a feat that could never happen without the community’s renewed interest and investment in the event. And over the past 10 years, the Arts & Drafts Fest has had a firsthand glimpse of Erie’s artists growing alongside it.

“Every year we’ve seen an increase in artists, and this year is no exception,” says Ferguson. “As somewhat of an incubator for local artists who are just getting into the Erie art community, we’ve seen

some artists evolve over the years, and that’s exciting.”

Speaking of those artists, this years Fall Edition of the Arts & Drafts Fest will house a plethora of them, showcasing 70 local artists and 16 local bands, including The Claire Stuczynski Band, Six Year Stretch, Fred Oakman and the Flood, and The New Morning Sunrise among others. Ferguson has some thoughts as to why the festival continues to draw new artists year after year:

“It’s such a good networking opportunity. Everyone you want to see is at Arts & Drafts at some point over the weekend. You can catch up with people and meet new connections, and for the artists, the sales revenue is fantastic. Many pieces sell very quickly.”

Not to be overlooked, another huge part of Arts & Drafts is the festival’s relationship with one of Erie’s most popular breweries, The Brewerrie, located in the historic Union Station.

“Our organizers and the whole team at the Brewerrie are fantastic and do a lot to embrace the event year after year,” says Ferguson. She’s also looking ahead to year 11, with plans to build a formal website and hopes to start bringing on and incorporating the performing arts as well.

Ferguson says the festival is likely to continue as long as the community and local arts scene continue to demand it. And how could they not, considering its role as Best Art Event in the Erie Reader’s annual Best of Erie awards three years running?

What can we say? We love Arts & Drafts. — Aaron Mook

11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. (Thursday) or midnight (Friday & Saturday) // The Brewerrie at Union Station, 123 West 14th Street // \$3 cover on Friday & Saturday after 8 p.m. // facebook.com/artsanddraftsfestival

Blue Sky
Sept. 7 — 6 p.m.
Coconut Joe’s, 28 N. Park Row facebook.com.

Brooke Surgener
Sept. 7 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St, Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

Wolf King, Of Shadows, Human Delusion
Sept. 7 — 8 p.m.
Erie metal bands Of Shadows and Human Delusion support headliner Wolf King, a hardcore band from California, at Sherlock’s. Sherlocks, 508 State St. facebook.com.

Vinyl Nite with Maynard
Sept. 7 — 11 p.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com.

Rick Magee and the Roadhouse Rockers
Sept. 8 — 6 p.m.
Coconut Joe’s, 28 N. Park Row facebook.com.

Shameless Hex
Sept. 8 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St, Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

All-Strings Chamber Orchestra
Sept. 8 — 7:30 to 10 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, 250 W. 7th St. eriephil.org.

Dirty Blanket
Sept. 8 — 10 p.m.
Bluegrass and newgrass Dirty

Blanket will cap off the summer with a bonfire and hoedown on the patio at the Rook. Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com.

Good for Nuthin’ String Band
Sept. 9 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428 skunkandgoattavern.com.

Chillbilly’s
Sept. 9 — 1 to 4 p.m.
Arundel Cellars & Brewing Co., 11727 E. Main Rd. North East, PA 16428 arundelcellars.com.

Six Year Stretch
Sept. 9 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St, Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

Music in the Woods: The Honest Mistakes
Sept. 10 — 6 to 8 p.m.
For the first time, American mid-power pop group Honest Mistake will play the Music in the Woods series. Sticks and Bricks Wood-Fired Pizza food truck will be on site. Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. registrationdesk.asburywoods.org.

Obituary, Exmortus
Sept. 11 — 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.
Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. facebook.com.

DANCE

Tap Dance
Aug. 29, Sept. 5 — 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach St. lifeworkserie.org.

Stardust Dance Lessons
Sept. 4, 11 — 7 to 9 p.m.
SAGA Club, 3828 Washington Ave. 814-833-8286

FOOD & DRINK

Happy-Appy Food Tour
Aug. 29 & Sept. 12 — 5 to 7 p.m.
Bolero, 16 W. 10th St. eriefoodtours.com.

Downtown Erie Food Tour
Sept. 1, 8 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Like My Thai, 827 State St. eriefoodtours.com.

North East Food Tour
Sept. 2 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
The Bean Coffee Shop, 12 S. Lake St, North East, PA 16428 eriefoodtours.com.

Wine Spirits ‘n Taco”Palooza”
Sept. 2 — noon to 4 p.m.
Featuring free local wine tasting, food and shopping vendors, this all-inclusive wine, spirits and taco party will be hosted at the Ambassador Banquet and Conference Center. An RSVP is suggested so organizers can get a head-count. Ambassador Conference Center, 7794 Peach St. localwineevents.com.

Rebecca Mae’s Drag Brunch
Sept. 9 — 11 a.m.
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. facebook.com/.

Taste of the Arts
Sept. 11 — 5 p.m.
2018 Taste of the Arts fundraiser will feature interactive art stations, a silent auction and Art

House student performances. Inner-City Neighborhood Art House, 201 E. 10th St. neighborhoodarthouse.org.

MOVIES

The Fifth Film Premiere
Aug. 30 — 7 to 9 p.m.
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. facebook.com.

Game Night (2018)
Sept. 5 — 5:30 to 9 p.m.
The Film Grain dinner-and-movie series returns after a brief hiatus with the 2018 film Game Night, starring Rachel McAdams and Jason Bateman. Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. filmsocietyynwpa.org.

Wait Until Dark (1967)
Sept. 7 — 8 p.m.
Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. facebook.com.

You Were Never Really Here (2018)
Sept. 12 — 5:30 to 9 p.m.
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. filmsocietyynwpa.org.

Amazon Adventure
Ongoing — 11 a.m. & 4 p.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. biggreenscreen.com.

Earthflight
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.

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

VISUAL ARTS

Donna Nicholas: The Space Between
Opening Aug. 31
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

Erie’s Historic Lakefront: from Harbor to Point
Ongoing through Sept. 2
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

8 Hour Projects: Beyond These Walls
Sept. 2 — 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. & Sept. 5 — 7 to 9 p.m.
Allegheny alumni create art on-site Sept. 2, with gallery talk and opening reception Sept. 5. Exhibit open during normal gallery hours through Sept. 24 thereafter. Gallery at Allegheny College, 520 N. Main St., Meadville, PA 16335 sites.allegheny.edu/art.

Maria Spaeder Haas: Paintings & Assemblages
Ongoing through Sept. 4
Glass Growers Gallery, 10 E. Fifth St. glassgrowersgallery.com.

Arts & Drafts Festival
Sept. 6, 7, 8 — 11:30 a.m. to midnight
The Brewerrie at Union Station, 123 W. 14th St. brewerrie.com.

Greg Zbach: Recent Photographs
Opening Sept. 7
Glass Growers Gallery, 10 E. Fifth St. glassgrowersgallery.com.

Vintage Neon: Images by Chuck Biddle
Ongoing through Sept. 9
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

Second Sundays: Crazy for Color
Sept. 9 — 2 to 4 p.m.
Color is the focus of this month’s Second Sunday programming, a free event for kids and families featuring wax resist watercoloring techniques. Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

Annual Art Faculty Exhibition
Ongoing through Sept. 15
Cummings Art Gallery at Mercyhurst University, 501 E. 38th St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

Archiving Ephemeral Beauty
Ongoing through Sept. 15
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

Mary Beth McKenzie: A Life in Art
Ongoing through Sept. 24
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

A Celebration of Life & Work on Our Waterways
Ongoing through Oct. 1
Erie Maritime Museum, 150 E. Front St. flagshipniagara.org.

Gary Spinos: Divine Instinct

CALENDAR

Discussing Art and Politics with PSU Laureate John Champagne

THURSDAY, SEPT. 6



David's *The Emperor Napoleon in His Study at the Tuileries*. Holbein's *Anna of Cleves*. Leutze's *Washington Crossing the Delaware*.

For centuries artists have danced with and around the political climate of their time. After all, for a long while many people, particularly in the lower classes, could not read for themselves,

and so art has been a universal method of conveying — or inciting — a feeling, an emotion.

Penn State University's Laureate for 2018, John Champagne, Ph.D., knows this well. The Behrend-based lecturer's discussion, *Art and Politic: the Case of Corrado Cagli*, examines how the Jewish, Italian-born painter spent the early part of his career taking up his brush in support of the Italian fascist regime, which rose to power in the 1930s. A profoundly gifted artist, Cagli worked for what we now recognize as the "wrong side of history;" so how should we approach his pieces?

The presentation is open to the public, with light refreshments served alongside some thought-provoking commentary which addresses a conundrum as contemporary as it is polarizing. — Cara Suppa

4 p.m. to 5 p.m. // Trippe Hall lobby, Aquarius Drive // Free and open to the public // behrend.psu.edu

Chief Hopper Comes Dancing into PSB's Junker Center

THURSDAY, SEPT. 6



Okay, David Harbour probably won't actually dance. (I mean, he might if we ask nicely enough. But probably not.) The actor (in case you haven't turned on your Netflix for a few years) is now best known for the role of Chief Jim Hopper, the curmudgeonly, waffle-providing, Upside Down creature-battling police officer of *Stranger Things*, Netflix's break-out '80s-nos-

talgia sci-fi insta-classic. For the role, he has been nominated for an Emmy, Golden Globe, SAG and Critics' Choice award — and there have only been two seasons so far.

Harbour's career is absolutely lighting up, with the actor going viral on numerous occasions, such as when a still from the upcoming *Hellboy* was released; when he won the Super Bowl (the ad race, anyway) with his multi-scene Tide commercial; and when he showed off his dance moves for Eleven in Season 2 of *Stranger Things*.

Most of the audience in attendance for the opening of the Penn State Behrend Speaker Series likely did not grow up in a laboratory, so they will probably already know how well to bust a move to some sweet tunes. But really, David Harbour, feel free to give us all a refresher. — Cara Suppa

7:30 p.m. // 5103 Station Road // Free and open to the public // behrend.psu.edu

Ongoing through Jan. 6, 2019
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

James McMurray:
Faces and Paces

Ongoing through June 10, 2019
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

THEATER

Run For Your Wife

Aug. 31, Sep. 1, 7, 8 — 7:30 p.m. & Sept. 2, 9 — 3 p.m.
All An Act, 652 W. 17th St. allanact.net.

The Canterbury Feast

Sept. 8 — 5:30 p.m. & Sept. 9 — 2:30 p.m.

Station Dinner Theater is featuring a new show, *My Heart is So Full of You*, written by David Durst.
Station Dinner Theatre, 4940 Peach St. canterburyfeast.com.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time

Sept. 9 — 12:55 p.m.
Taylor Little Theatre at Mercyhurst University, 501 E. 38th St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

COMEDY

Comedy Open-Mic

Sept. 5 — 8 to 9 p.m.
Hardcore venue Basement Transmissions' stages to host a full lineup for their open-mic comedy night.
Basement Transmissions,

145 W. 11 St. facebook.com.

Stand-Up at 9th & State

Sept. 11 — 7:30 to 10 p.m.
9th & State Beer Cafe, 832 State St. facebook.com.

SPORTS

Erie SeaWolves vs. Akron RubberDucks

Aug. 31 — 7 p.m. & Sept. 1, 2 — 6 p.m. & Sept. 3 — 1:30 p.m.

The Erie SeaWolves will host their regular season finale on Labor Day with \$1 beers, hot dogs, and popcorn.

UPMC Park, 110 E. 10th St. milb.com.

Bull Dam Trail Run

Sept. 2 — 7 a.m.
9843 Black Rd., North East, PA 16428 trailrunner.com.

2018 Barber Beast on the Bay

Sept. 8
Beach 11 in Presque Isle State Park, 1 Peninsula Dr. barberbeast.org.

COMMUNITY

Goodell Gardens Farmers Market

Aug. 29, Sept. 5, 12 — 3 to 6 p.m.
Goodell Gardens & Homestead, 221 Waterford St, Edinboro, PA 16412 goodellgardens.org.

Herbal Infused Oils & Vinegars

Aug. 30 — 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.
LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach

St. lifeworkserie.org.

Satya Yoga Flow

Aug. 30, Sept. 6 — 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Soma Erie, 2601 Peach St., 2nd Fl. somaerie.com.

August Silent Peace Walk

Aug. 30 — 6 to 7:30 p.m.
St. Benedict Child Development Center, 345 E. 9th St. eriebenedictines.org.

Horticulture: Educational Workshop

Aug. 30, Sept. 6 — 6 to 8 p.m.
Albion Area Community Garden, 80 Third Ave., Albion, PA 16401

Block Party

Aug. 30 — 6:30 to 10:30 p.m.
The final block party of the seasons kicks off at Griswold Park, featuring Erie favorites East Ave and The Groove.
Griswold Park, 150 W. 14th St. eriedowntown.com.

Karaoke Nite with DJ Nitro

Aug. 30, Sept. 6 — 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com.

Lights of Hope

Aug. 31 — 6 to 8 p.m.
Shades Beach, 7000 E. Lake Rd. 814-392-4288

Candlelight Ghost Walk

Sept. 1, 2 — 8 p.m.
Dobbins Landing, 1 State St. candlelightghostwalks.com.

Round 1 Grand Opening

Sept. 1 — 10 a.m.
Millcreek Mall is hosting the

grand opening of Round 1 Entertainment, a two-story event space, full of games and activities for all ages.
Millcreek Mall, 5800 Peach St. facebook.com.

German Heritage Festival

Sept. 1 — 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. & Sept. 2 — 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
St. Nick's Grove, 5131 Old French Rd. dank-erie.org.

Saturday Stroll Under the Arch

Sept. 1 — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
West Erie Plaza, 800 W. Erie Plaza Dr. westerieplaza.com.

Hispanic Heritage Festival

Sept. 1 — noon to 7 p.m.
Erie Latino Leadership Association is hosting a Hispanic Heritage Festival, featuring food, live music and children's activities.
Perry Square, 601 State St. facebook.com.

5th Annual Dash J. Makowski Charity Raffle & BBQ

Sept. 1 — 2 to 7 p.m.
Sparrow Pond Campground, 11103 US-19, Waterford, PA 16441 sparrowpond.com.

Waterford Community Fair

Sept. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
13012 Rt. 19S waterfordfair.org.

19th Annual Ride for The Refuge

Sept. 3 — 7:30 a.m.
Multiple locations, ema-erie.org.

NWPA ALF Labor Day Parade

Sept. 3 — 10 a.m. to noon
NWPA Area Labor Federation invites members, families and friends in the Erie Area to decorate floats and join the parade — or simply watch and enjoy — to celebrate the last holiday of the summer.
11th & State St. union-hall.aflcio.org.

Plant Walks

Sept. 4 — 10 to 11 a.m.
Chautauqua Park, Lakeside Dr. 16511 lifeworkserie.org.

Single Mom Empowerment Support Group

Sept. 4 — 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Millcreek Branch Library, 2088 Interchange Rd. Suite 280 erielibrary.org.

The Exchange

Sept. 4 — 7 to 9 p.m.
The Exchange Erie, 7300 Grubb Rd, McKean, PA 16426 theexchangeerie.com.

Fall Homeschool Program: Water Studies

Sept. 5 — 9:30 a.m.
Lagoon Boat Launch at PI State Park, 1 Peninsula Dr. trecpi.org.

What's New With Social Security?

Sept. 5 — 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach St. lifeworkserie.org.

Hatha Yoga 1

Sept. 5 — 11 a.m. to noon
Edinboro Branch Library, 413 W. Plum St., Edinboro, PA 16412 erielibrary.org.

QiGong

Sept. 5, 7 — 1 to 2 p.m.
Multiple locations, erielibrary.org.

Adult Art Classes

Sept. 5, 12 — 7 to 9 p.m.
Frontier Park, 1501 W. 6th St. leaferie.org.

Edinboro Highland Games Festival

Sept. 6, 7, 8, 9
Edinboro University Campus, 219 Meadville St., Edinboro PA 16444 edinboro.edu.

2018 Expo & Flu Kickoff

Sept. 6 — 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Erie Shrine Club, 2525 W. 38th St. lifeworkserie.org.

Art and Politic: The Case of Corrado Cagli

Sept. 6 — 4 to 5 p.m.
Trippe Hall at Penn State Behrend, Aquarius Dr. behrend.psu.edu.

33 Charity Challenge: L'Arche Erie

Sept. 6 — 5 p.m.
Room 33, 1033 State St. facebook.com

Smith Creative Writers Reading Series: Jared Yates Sexton

Sept. 6 — 6 to 7:15 p.m.
American author and political commentator Jared Yates Sexton will read his work as part of Penn State Behrend's creative writer's series.
Smith Chapel at Penn St. Behrend, 4701 College Dr. behrend.psu.edu.

Body in Motion with



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German Heritage Festival

September 1 - 2

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2018 Fall Term

VISITING SPEAKERS



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Marc-André
Hamelin

Gerhard Weinberg, Ph.D.
In Partnership with the Robert H. Jackson Center

Marc-André Hamelin
In Partnership with the Erie Philharmonic

For the full list of events, please visit
www.JESErie.org or call us at 814.459.8000.

Events at Jefferson Educational Society: 3207 State St, Erie, PA 16508.

Sep. 10/2-4 p.m.	Meet the Schooner Lettie G. Howard **This event is at the Hirt Auditorium at the Blasco Library.
Sep. 11/7-8:30 p.m.	Public Libraries: Breaking Barriers, Building Connections
Sep. 12/7-8:30 p.m.	Peacemaking at Versailles: 1919 – A Carthaginian Peace?
Sep. 17/7-8:30 p.m.	We Don't Do "Nation Building": America's 200-Year-Old, Dirty Little Military Stabilization Lie
Sep. 19/7-8:30 p.m.	Trump's Iran Policy: Are We Heading for Another War in the Middle East?
Sep. 20/7-8:30 p.m.	The Gauge War: When Erie Ripped the Railroads —and America — Apart
Sep. 24/7-8:30 p.m.	New Boundaries for the World: The Visions of Eight World War II Leaders
Sep. 25/7-8:30 p.m.	1968 Part IV – "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow": What Hath "The '60s" Wrought?
Sep. 27/7-8:30 p.m.	The Lurking Threat: Harmful Algae Blooms Pose Global, Local Hazard
Oct. 1/7-8:30 p.m.	Vincent Thomas Lombardi: Best Football Coach Ever?
Oct. 2/7-8:30 p.m.	Qualified Charitable Distribution: A Look at Charitable Giving for Those 70 ½ or Older with an IRA
Oct. 4/6-7:30 p.m.	An Evening with Pianist Marc-André Hamelin
Oct. 9/7-8:30 p.m.	The American Dream in the U.S., Europe, and Asia: Is It Healthier There than Here?
Oct. 10/7-8:30 p.m.	American Elections: Is There a Better Way?
Oct. 11/4-5:30 p.m.	Remarkable Women: Sara Ann Delano Roosevelt

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Slippin' Into the Future



Steve Miller (left) and Peter Frampton (right) will play indoors at Erie Insurance Arena after Presque Isle Partnership's Best Summer Night concert at Beach 11 was washed out.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 6

It was going to be the "Best Summer Night," but Mother Nature had other plans. A benefit for the Presque Isle Partnership (PIP), the Steve Miller Band and Peter Frampton were both originally scheduled for Friday, June 22 at Presque Isle State Park at Beach 11. The special outdoor concert — the third of its kind since 2012 — had to be canceled at the last minute due to dangerous storms. But don't worry, PIP didn't "Take the Money and Run," as they were able to reschedule a performance from the two iconic acts indoors at the Erie Insurance Arena on Thursday, September 6 — technically still summer. Anyone

who has been around a radio in the past 40 years should be familiar with both of these acts. With a huge roster of hits, the Steve Miller Band has been a staple of classic rock, recording their most memorable work in the mid to late 1970s (their *Greatest Hits 1974—78* collection just happens to be one of the 25 best selling albums of all time). English singer/guitarist Peter Frampton also found huge success around the same time, with hits like "Show Me the Way," "Baby, I Love Your Way," and "Do You Feel Like We Do," finding a giant hit in the double live album *Frampton Comes Alive!* Ticket holders from the June concert are required to exchange their tickets at the Erie Insurance Arena box office. — Nick Warren

7:30 p.m. // 809 French St. // \$100, \$125, or \$175, bases on seating // (814) 452-4857 // bestsummernight.com

Annual LEAF Festival Celebrates Flora and Fauna



SATURDAY, SEPT. 8

The drive along West Sixth Street eastward from the Peninsula can be quite picturesque, but as you pass beautiful home after beautiful home, they gradually give way to an astoundingly scenic view: Frontier Park. It's a veritable oasis, filled with green space, trees, critters, trails, creek life, tennis courts, a playground — and, of course, LEAF's (that's Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier Park) home base, the education center.

For years, the Erie community has gathered at Frontier to learn about the abundant natural world around us, and 2018 marks the 20th anniversary of the Annual Leaf Festival, dedicated to just that. This free, all-ages event will be chock full of activities for the little ones — and the young-at-heart — with a live animal display from the Erie Zoo, craft table, reel casting with SONS of Lake

Erie, Maria Blakeslee and a monarch butterfly exhibit, tree ring education with the Bureau of Forestry, rocks and fossils with Penn State Behrend professor Michael Naber, plus a scavenger hunt and an auction.

The auction's drawings will be held at 1:45 p.m., so if you are interested in any of the baskets you had best arrive and purchase your tickets in advance. Retailers like Peek'n Peak Resort, the Erie Otters Hockey Club, Glass Growers Gallery, and Potratz Floral Shop and Greenhouses have generously donated baskets, and of course all the proceeds from the auction ticket sales will go right back into LEAF and supporting their mission.

It is incredibly rare to have such a diverse and thorough collection of natural specimens — and the experts and educators who know them best — all in one place, but then, that is typically true of Frontier Park and the LEAF organization, day in and day out. — Cara Suppa

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. // 1501 W. 6th Street // Free and open to the public // leaferie.org/leaf-festival

Angela DiFiore

Sept. 7 — 10 to 11 a.m.
Soma Erie, 2601 Peach St.,
2nd Fl. somaerie.com.

Bridge the Gap Viaduct Fundraiser

Sept. 7 — 6 to 10 p.m.
To support efforts to save the Erie Viaduct, Erie CPR: Connect + Respect is hosting a benefit highlighting live poetry, music, local food and drink.
Sunset Inn, 1990 Lakeside Dr. facebook.com.

Beginner Mandala Painting Classes

Sept. 7 — 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The Village of Healing and Wellness, 2558 W. 8th St. facebook.com.

Car Show Cruise-In

Sept. 8 — 9 a.m.
Greenfield Baptist Church, 9028 Williams Rd., North East, PA 16428

Birding by Pontoon

Sept. 8 — 9 a.m.
Pontoon Boat Station at PI State Park, 1 Peninsula Dr. trecpi.org.

20th Annual LEAF Festival

Sept. 8 — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Frontier Park, 1501 W. 6th St. leaferie.org.

Witches and Wizards

Potions Class

Sept. 8 — 10:30 a.m. to noon
Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. registrationdesk.asburywoods.org.

5 Strategies to Inspire Your Meditation Practice

Sept. 8 — 1 to 3 p.m.
Plasha Yoga Studio, 3330 W. 26th St. (Village West) plashayoga.com.

Printmaking 101

Sept. 8, 11 — 3 to 4 p.m.
Multiple locations, erielibrary.org.

Walk for Small Animals

Sept. 9 — 1 p.m.

Highmark Amphitheater at Liberty Park porterie.org.

DiscoverE: Birds

Sept. 9 — 2 p.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. trecpi.org.

Pennsylvania Orchid Sale

Sept. 9 — 2 to 4 p.m.
Erie Zoo Classroom, 423 W. 38th St. facebook.com.

What Is Junior Jeopardy?

Sept. 10 — 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Edinboro Branch Library, 413 W. Plum St., Edinboro, PA 16412 erielibrary.org.

4 Week Hand-Building

Sept. 10 — 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Erie Clayspace, 1505 State St. erieclayspace.com.

Cruise the Bay

Sept. 10 — 6 p.m.
Bayfront Park & Ride Lot porterie.org.

Soma Erie Acroyoga Basics

Sept. 10 — 6:30 to 8 p.m.
Soma Erie, 2601 Peach St. (2nd fl.) somaerie.com.

Erie Symphonic Singers Open Rehearsal

Sept. 10 — 7 to 9 p.m.
Wayside Presbyterian Church, 1208 Asbury Rd. 814-774-8425

Albion Area Fair

Sept. 11, 12
Albion Area Fairgrounds, 30 Academy St., Albion, PA 16401 albionfair.com.

What's the Buzz About Bees?

Sept. 11 — 6 to 8 p.m.
Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. registrationdesk.asburywoods.org.

Ready to a Therapy Dog

Sept. 12 — 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Edinboro Branch Library, 413 W. Plum St., Edinboro, PA 16412 erielibrary.org.

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The Wright Stuff

Bruce Morton Wright Chamber Series debuts



SATURDAY, SEPT. 8

There will be movement(s) at the First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant again, a development that will be a symphony to the ears of classical music fans.

The Bruce Morton Wright Chamber Series will debut with-

in the intimate worship space that was the site of so many mesmerizing Erie Chamber Orchestra (ECO) performances throughout the years. This April, the ECO played its final show after 40 years of supplying free classical music to locals, punctuating the legacy left by former

Gannon musical director Dr. Bruce Morton Wright and principal donor Clarence E. Beyers. While the Erie Philharmonic may never be able to fully replicate the ECO (by its own admission), this series is an effort to keep the beauty and grandeur of orchestral performance accessible to all who seek it. There will be a total of eight to 10 free concerts throughout the 2018-19 Philharmonic season, made possible through contributions from Erie Arts & Culture, Scott Enterprises, and key stakeholders.

This show will start out on an upbeat note with Johann Sebastian Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 3, a stately composition originally presented to Christian Ludwig, Margrave of Brandenburg-Schwedt (margrave = German nobleman assigned to look after the borders

of his corner of the Holy Roman Empire). In Bach fashion, it makes great use of contrapuntal melody and demands virtuosic technical ability from its performers.

Tomaso Albinoni, wealthy paper merchant of Venice, furnishes the second piece of music, the melancholy Adagio in G Minor (or does he? Biographer Remo Giazatto wrote the bulk of it, allegedly from a fragment of an Albinoni draft). Sonically, it feels heavier than 18-point card stock. In contrast, Gioachino Rossini's Sonata for Strings No. 3 in C Major is a 98 brightness sheet of standard copy paper floating in a meadow breeze.

Estonian (and still extant) composer Arvo Pärt's *Silouan Song* will then move in like a dark cloud. Named for the Russian mystic Father Silouan, the piece is full of pregnant pauses

and sustained harmonies, lending an air of solemnity. The radar clears a bit for Edward Elgar's *Serenade for Strings*, dreamy and wistful like a misty morning in an English garden, bitter-sweet but not threatening like an F5 funnel cloud.

Capping off the night is Edvard Grieg's *Holberg Suite*. Originally composed for piano, the suite is comprised of five movements based on 18th century dance forms, drawing heavily from Norwegian folk music. The suite was written in 1884 to celebrate the bicentennial of Dano-Norwegian humanist playwright Ludvig Holberg's birth. It is lively and passionate and should leave the audience feeling energized about having a chamber ensemble back. — Matt Swanseger

7:30 to 10 p.m. // 250 W. 7th St. // Free // eriephil.org



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Beauty of a Beast

Sixth Barber Beast on the Bay aims to beguile, but battlers will not bow



SATURDAY, SEPT. 8

Believe it or not, there are such things as monsters. The Beast we are going to address today is neither hiding in your closet nor lurking beneath your bed; instead, it's splayed out audaciously along 10 miles of Presque Isle State Park trails, swamps, and beaches. Its scare tactics are openly advertised — 30 obstacles to navigate that will twist and test your frame in every which way. Unprepared, it might eat you alive — but the mad scientists behind it are encouraging would-be victims to implement a rigorous training and nutritional program, stretch, and drink plenty of fluids beforehand. All told, they want you to get out there and knock its teeth out for a great cause.

The Sixth Annual Barber Beast on the Bay returns this September, raising thousands of dollars to benefit children and adults living with physical, intellectual, and developmental challenges. The deviously-devised military-style main course begins at Beach 11, winding through the park's marshy interior and then back out along the coast, passing the Tom Ridge Environmental Center before ending in tandem with the 1-mile adapted course at Waldameer Park and Water World. The adapted course unfolds exclusively within the confines of the amusement park, with its last two obstacles — the "Beast Backbreaker" (with special needs participants helping their 10-mile counterparts up and over a wheelchair ramp) and the "Wave Goodbye" (a final push through the Water World wave pool) — uniting people of all ability levels, in line

Competitors will grind through 10 miles of obstacles across varied terrains at the Sixth Annual Barber Beast on the Bay, held at Presque Isle State Park.

with the Barber National Institute's mission.

As for new additions to the lakeshore scramble, be on the lookout for four new obstacles favoring a more methodical approach: 1) "Are You Tire-d?" (a swing between suspended tire platforms); 2) "No Monkeying Around" (an upside-down, backwards shimmy clinging to the underside of a steel beam); 3) "Over-Under" (roll under and over a staggered set of elevated bars); and 4) "Walking the Plank" (a balance beam hanging on chains).

Competitors will go at the Beast in waves, starting promptly at 8:30 a.m. for those most eager to tame it, with secondary and tertiary timed waves setting off 10 and 20 minutes thereafter, respectively. Participants who want to attempt the course at a more leisurely pace will be able to do so between 9:15 and 11:15 a.m. Beat it up or test it out; just be aware it will be back next year. And the over 6,100 individuals served by the Barber Institute are thankful for it. — Matt Swanseger

8:30 a.m. // Beach 11 at Presque Isle State Park (10-mile course), 1 Peninsula Dr.; Waldameer Park & Water World (1-mile adapted course), 3100 W. Lake Rd. // \$125 (through Sept. 4), \$150 (after Sept. 4), \$25 (adapted) // barberbeast.org



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CALENDAR

Give us a twirl, Rebecca Mae: September Drag Brunch



SUNDAY, SEPT. 9

If you have lived in a U.S. city of reputable size, you may have noticed an interesting and rather steep rise in the number of drag brunches hosted on a regular basis.

If you have been living here in Erie, however, this has not been the case.

"Every other big city has drag brunches everywhere, and Erie deserves to have one that's successful and bring top-quality entertainers to the city," said Tom Widdowson, the creative, glamorous and twirling force that, once bewigged, bejeweled and gussied up with layers of expertly applied make-up, becomes Erie's own Rebecca Mae.

With sell-out events averaging every other month, Widdowson has brought something to Erie that most of the area's inhabitants didn't even realize they were

missing: the spectacularly entertaining performances of drag queens at the top of their game, served up alongside bangin' brunch foods and many mimosas. September's Drag Brunch remains at the Bourbon Barrel, with Erie's original queen Michelle Michaels co-hosting, and house cast Siren Kelly and Evon Michelle, plus special guests Sasha Nolan and Danyel Vasquez, bringing the fierceness all afternoon long.

"And there is definitely going to be a big surprise at this September show," Widdowson confided.

Also new this year are sponsorships by local businesses, as well as raffle baskets and giveaways. Widdowson commented, "I'm amazed that so many local businesses are willing to help out."

He shouldn't be, though — even in the last week, we can find examples of small businesses helping one another, while the past six months or so have been an incredibly empowering time for the LGBTQ community in Erie.

Widdowson is definitely excited for the future, both the city's and Rebecca Mae's. "Erie is changing. Erie is growing. Erie is embracing every walk of life." — Cara Suppa

11 a.m. (doors); 12:15 p.m. (show) // 1205 State St. // \$35 (tickets available until Sept. 7) // facebook.com/rebeccamaesdragbrunch

Obituary's Heavy Metal Legacy Alive at Basement Transmissions



TUESDAY, SEPT. 11

Death Metal pioneers Obituary are coming to Basement Transmissions on Tuesday, September 11, courtesy of Mr. Smalls Presents.

Since the late 1980s, Obituary has been a powerhouse of metal. Their early albums *Slowly We Rot* and *Cause of Death* were crucial to the legitimization of death metal in their home state of Florida, and helped pave the way for the countless bands that followed in their footsteps as the genre spread across

the globe.

Obituary called it quits in 1997, but came back from the dead in 2005 with the release of their sixth studio album *Frozen in Time*, which featured the instrumental mosh anthem, "Redneck Stomp." Three albums later, Obituary is still stomping on, and remaining an influential force in the metal scene.

Touring with Obituary are Exmortus, whose shredding and technical riffage can contend with the best of them. Fans of thrash and death metal with a dash of neoclassical will love headbanging to Exmortus' discography.

Opening the show are one of Erie's favorite local metalheads, Bravura. Check out their latest album, *Battle of the Suns*. — Tommy Shannon

7 p.m. // 145 W. 11th St. // \$17 adv. \$20 doors // facebook.com/basement.transmissions



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FOOD & DRINK

Drink to Health: Zero Gravity Nutrition

Shakes and teas in new Millcreek beverage shop offer nutritious meal replacements with great taste



MARIE TURKO

By: Marie Turko

I kept an open mind while visiting Zero Gravity Nutrition for the first time. The new shake and tea shop in Millcreek serves up health and I'm more of a "tons of sugar and butter and fat" consumer. I entered the healthy establishment at noon on a Friday. There were customers already enjoying beverages with a steady stream of post-gym dwellers quickly entering and exiting with to-go drinks. A friendly girl working the counter greeted me, asking if this was my first time visiting. I said yes and introduced myself, and then owner Tia Carlos took over. Carlos explained the premise of Zero Gravity Nutrition — to offer a positive environment and nutritious community where visitors can consume Herbalife products in an individual size. They sell a three-part drink system of shakes (there are tons of flavors), teas, and aloe. The shakes replace meals and are generally less than 250 calories each. The tea is the next step and is said to burn 80-100 calories while also providing an energy boost. Finally, the aloe shot promotes digestion and aids nutrient absorption. Nutrition and energy aside, I wanted to get down to the taste.

First, I was presented with the Caramel Frappe shake. Each sip registered in my brain as, "This is a Starbucks Frappuccino." So if you're down with Frappuccinos I would definitely recommend. Being less than 250 calories, it certainly saves calories over a Starbucks treat and I assume it's a much better meal replacement. Plus, there's no caffeine. For your caffeine fix try the tea that is the next step of the system. I didn't try the tea because I'm pregnant and avoiding caffeine but I plan on trying the tea, which can be iced or hot, as soon as I re-introduce caffeine into my repertoire.

My second shake underwhelmed despite being called Birthday Cake. It kind of tasted like if you made a cake and accidentally rinsed the batter bowl before you were done licking it, and then decided to eat the rinsed batter anyway. Watered-down cake batter taste aside, the shake contained crunchy parts, sported a light purple hue, and was topped off with sprinkles. So, just like making a cake at home and posting it for all your fans and haters, drink this one for the 'gram and post a #no-filter pic to show off that you and your drink are fit and pretty.

Next, I consumed the Banana Caramel Shake. This meal replacer had an overall pleasing flavor. In my short experience with Zero Gravity's flavors, shakes containing caramel were taste winners. On top of the

Zero Gravity Nutrition in Millcreek Township offers three-part meal replacements in liquid form. The system includes a shake (containing most of the calories and nutrients), a tea to boost energy, and an aloe drink to ease digestion.

caramel deliciousness, the banana flavor tasted genuine and not like a fake candy banana (no offense, Runtz and banana popsicles). The caramel, banana, and finely chopped ice perfectly complemented each other, achieving an overall desirable consistency.

For my digestive health, I sampled a shot of Mandarin Aloe. Typically, the aloe shot would be added in the tea, but since I wasn't having the tea, I tried the aloe solo. I remembered one time I thought I'd be healthy and tried an aloe drink from a fancy grocery store. It was foul. Carlos could sense my hesitation and said, "You don't have to drink that." I declared, "No, I need to." I pumped myself up, convincing my brain that with all of my TMI-to-share pregnancy digestive issues I've been experiencing, anything that might improve digestion was worth trying. I downed the clear and slightly thicker than water shot. It was not gross AT ALL. It was basically flavored water. I couldn't say for sure if I was experiencing a miracle from heaven or if the aloe juice/smoothie combo truly settled well with my pregnant belly but I didn't feel my usual heartburn/acid reflux after consuming. In other words, I was sold. (Side note: I returned later to Zero Gravity and had another aloe shot and shake with the same results — no acid reflux or heartburn. Dream come true for my worn-out pregnant body.)

Before I left, I received one last shake. "This is the Beefcake Shake," Carlos proclaimed. I felt my face contort from the name. It was brown and all I could think of was roast beef ground up with milk and ice. She quickly explained the shake contained oats, pb2 (powdered peanut butter), and three types of chocolate. My brow stopped sweating and I took a sip. This shake trumped the others in flavor and contained more protein than the others I tried. Again, the flavors were a compliment to each other without overwhelming or tasting artificial. The oats improved the overall texture adding thickness and substance. I thanked Carlos for providing me with lunch and left the store feeling happy.

I would definitely recommend trying out Zero Gravity Nutrition — the prices are equal to a Starbucks drink but add the value of nutrition, the super-friendly customer service, and the fact that everything I drank settled nicely with my extra sensitive acid reflux and we've got a winner. Plus, if you have to eat, it tastes pretty good for something that has about ¼ of the calories of a single donut. Visit them at 4447 West Ridge Road in Millcreek Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Marie Turko is no stranger to sweet, less health-conscious treats. Find her further journeys online at donut-diaries.com

MOVIE REVIEWS

A Boy and His Dog: *Alpha* is a Fun Adventure the Whole Family can Enjoy

★★★★

As something of an amateur Anthropology buff, I'm always excited when movies about the early days of mankind are released. They don't get made very often, but when they do, I make sure to seek them out. Naturally, when I'd first heard about Albert Hughes' (*Menace II Society*, *The Book of Eli*) new film *Alpha*, I couldn't wait to see it. The film ended up pleasantly surprising me in many different ways.



SONY PICTURES

Set in Europe 20,000 years ago, the film follows young Keda (Kodi Smit-McPhee) on his first hunting trip with his tribe. After a chaotic battle with some bison, the boy gets separated from his tribe and must find his way back home alone. Along the way, he meets a wounded wolf who he nurses back to health and the two lost souls begin to form a bond that serves as the beginning of the connection between man and dog.

The first surprise is the fact that the film is absolutely gorgeous, with some of the most amazing visuals I've seen in quite some time. The even bigger surprise was to see a major studio release with so little dialogue, and when there is dialogue, there isn't a single word of English (it seems the filmmakers created a new language for the film inspired by American Indian languages). This fact may scare away some viewers, but I think they will find much to enjoy. Some parents may find it too intense for children, but slightly older kids will really connect with the bond between boy and wolf. Don't let the slow pace and lack of dialogue intimidate you. Who knows? It may even get some kids interested in anthropology. — Forest Taylor

Directed by: Albert Hughes // Written by: Danielle Sebastian Wiedenhaupt // Starring: Kodi Smit-McPhee, Johannes Haukur Johannesson, Natassia Malthe, Leonor Varela, Jens Hulten, Mercedes de la Zerda, Spencer Bogaert and introducing "Chuck" // 96 minutes

Dial "M" for Muppet: *The Happytime Murders* Isn't as Shocking as It Thinks It Is

★★

Making an adult-themed movie about a child-related subject is tough. The story needs to be really clever, otherwise it will just come off as try-hard edginess for the sake of edginess. That being said, I really hoped that Brian (son of Jim) Henson's detective noir *The Happytime Murders* could provide that clever story. Unfortunately, all I got was try-hard edginess for the sake of edginess.



STX ENTERTAINMENT

The film follows a puppet ex-cop (voiced by Bill Barretta) who finds himself in the middle of a series of grisly murders involving cast members of an old children's TV show. He must now team up with his former partner (Melissa McCarthy) to find out who could benefit from these killings while also avoiding the FBI, who thinks he may be involved.

Much like *Who Framed Roger Rabbit?*, the film takes cues from film noir and popular children's entertainment to serve as a metaphor for bigotry. However, the film isn't nearly as smart as Zemeckis' masterpiece, so all that's left is the inappropriate humor. Even though the filmmakers clearly think they're making something really taboo, this film isn't nearly as gleefully offensive as something like Peter Jackson's *Meet the Feebles*. Unlike *Roger Rabbit*, the mystery and the bigotry subplot don't connect in any way and the mystery is so simplistic that observant audiences could guess it before the film's even half over. Despite all the creativity that went into the puppet effects, the plot is too bare bones to hold any interest. — Forest Taylor

Directed by: Brian Henson // Written by: Todd Berger and Dee Robertson // Starring: Melissa McCarthy, Elizabeth Banks, Maya Rudolph, Joel McHale, Leslie David Baker and the voices of Bill Barretta, Dorian Davies and Kevin Clash // 91 minutes

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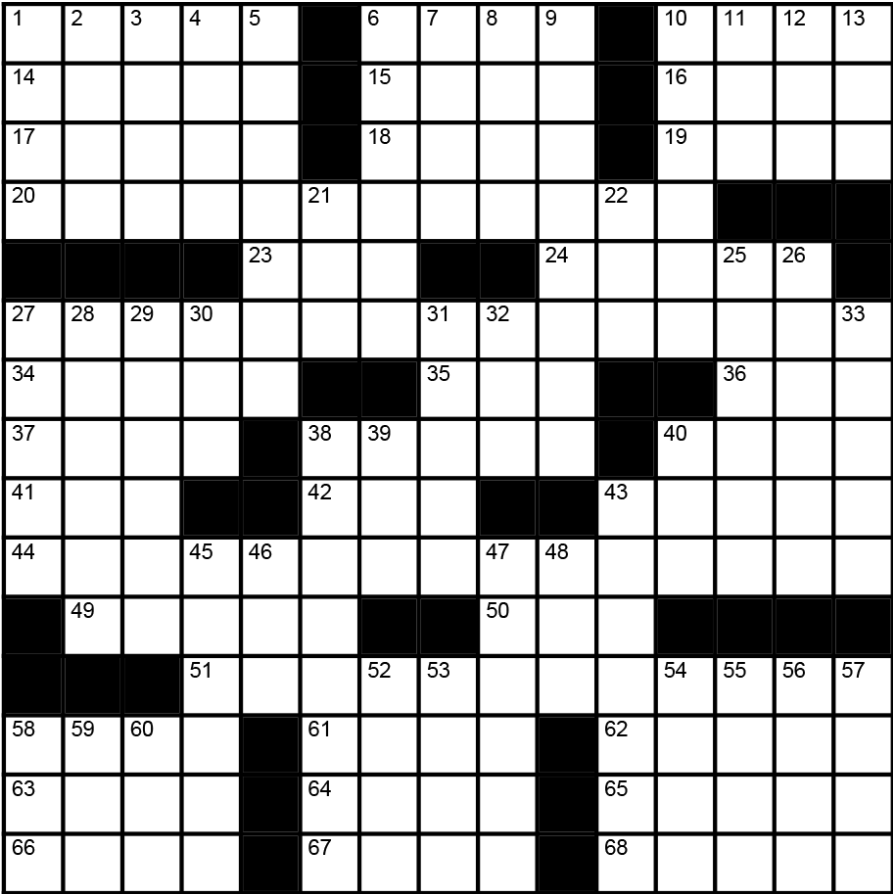
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Across

1. ____ card
6. Fearless
10. Vodka brand whose bottles are, aptly, blue
14. "Whatever ... see if I care!"
15. Together, in Toulouse
16. Self-defense, e.g.
17. Clear the slate
18. Examined by the doctor
19. Clock radio toggle
20. Chopping, kicking, bowing to a sensei, etc.?
23. Abbr. on a baby announcement
24. "At Last" singer James and others
27. Radio shows hosted by Earl Scruggs and Steve Martin?
34. Brand that tweeted "Retweet if you floss everyday. It's so important!"
35. Google result
36. Letters often appearing in front of Queen Elizabeth II's name
37. 2013 Oscar winner Jared
38. Tops
40. Woodwind whose name is from the French for "high" and "wood"
41. Young Darth Vader's nickname
42. 2016 Olympics city
43. Bad thing to be caught in
44. Projects for adobe-loving architects?
49. Switched to, as on a thermostat
50. Singer-songwriter with the 2014 #1 album "1000 Forms of Fear"
51. Economist's concern ... or

- what you're doing by solving
20-, 27- and 44-Across
58. Group named for its members Anni-Frid, Benny, Bjorn and Agnetha
61. Sean Connery, e.g.
62. Kind of column, in architecture
63. Gloom's partner
64. Radiohead head Yorke
65. City known as the "Venice of Japan" because of its many canals and rivers
66. "Enough already!"
67. Word often sung in the first moments of a new year
68. Hombre's title

Down

1. Was in the lineup, but didn't play the field
2. On 1/1/2014, Latvia became the 18th country to adopt it
3. Key with five sharps: Abbr.
4. ____ facto
5. 1958 film that featured a gelatinous mass and Steve McQueen in his first starring role
6. #41, in relation to #43
7. ____ Day vitamins
8. "Ray Donovan" star Schreiber
9. Kept from
10. City-state involved in the Peloponnesian War
11. Airline which, in 1924, made its first intercontinental flight from Amsterdam to Batavia
12. "Fer sure!"
13. Thanksgiving staple
21. Withdraw

22. Like Advil or Benadryl: Abbr.
25. Place where rubbish goes
26. Having a lot of alcohol
27. Pakistan's ____ Pass
28. Where some fights are fought
29. ____ American
30. In 2014, Sir Mix-a-Lot admitted she inspired his 1992 hit "Baby Got Back"
31. Buckeye State sch.
32. Order between "ready" and "fire"
33. Gets rid of
38. Million Man March and Million Mom March, for two
39. One in a cage
40. It's a wrap in Kurosawa films
43. Slow movements
45. How some kids spend the summer
46. Mason ____
47. "Am I the crazy one?"
48. Vietnam Veterans Memorial designer
52. In need of a massage
53. SpongeBob, e.g.
54. 1998 Literature Nobel Saramago
55. "Chestnuts roasting ____ open fire ..."
56. In 2007, Johannesburg's Apartheid Museum put up an exhibition commemorating the 30th anniversary of his death
57. Plastic surgeon's concern
58. Lead-ins to many YouTube videos
59. Droid
60. "You're blind, ump! Blind!"

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CONTESTANT #3: THE SOUTHEAST



CONTESTANT #2: THE NORTHEAST



CONTESTANT #4: THE SOUTHWEST



Answers to last puzzle



MUSIC REVIEWS

Foxing
Nearer My God
Triple Crown Records
★★★★★

A perfect score in our review section is a coveted thing. It is fitting, then, that St. Louis post-emo pioneers Foxing have earned that designation (from more publications than just ours) with their third genre-bending LP, *Nearer My God*. Nodding to their roots as often as their influences, the band successfully blends emo, post-rock, and anything else they manage to get their hands on for a sonic experience steeped in apocalyptic splendor. Foxing toe the impossible line between loud and soft dynamics masterfully, from the menacing progression of opener “Grand Paradise” to the orchestral swells of “Heartbeats.” The fact of the matter is, the band never wastes a moment here, delivering a balanced mix of the self-seriousness that defined 2015’s *Dealer* and the flirtation with power-pop found on frontman Conor Murphy’s 2017 project, *Smidley*. One minute, the band is trying their hand at uplifting alt-rock (“Nearer My God,” “Bastardizer”), and the next, they’re paying tribute to Radiohead’s glitchier moments and even The National on closing track “Lambert.” In this sense, *Nearer My God* is both bombastic and refined, fearless and genuine in one fell swoop. — Aaron Mook



Wild Nothing
Indigo
Captured Tracks Records
★★★★

Wild Nothing’s career trajectory is interesting mostly because mastermind Jack Tatum has never attempted to emulate his 2012 breakthrough, *Nocturne*. Unfortunately, he also has yet to craft a follow-up worthy of that album’s place on the dream-pop mantel, and while *Indigo* may not be that follow-up, it’s a creative foot forward defined by synthesizers, arpeggiated guitar riffs and an adoration of 1980s pop-rock. The problem is never so much his songwriting chops as it is his vocals. Never quite as clean as they were on *Nocturne*, Tatum sings nasally in a way that often works against him as it did on his original home recordings. Elsewhere, Tatum’s lyrics lie in muddled metaphors (“I caught you in the doghouse drinking coffee with your new wife/How is your new life?” he sings on single “Partners in Motion”). But despite its flaws, *Indigo* takes more calculated risks than its predecessor, 2016’s straightforward *Life of Pause*, lending to both its credibility and creativity. Wild Nothing has always been at its best when focusing on huge choruses (“Letting Go”) and experimental textures (“Flawed Translation”), both of which Tatum pays close attention to here. — Aaron Mook



goo
parentheses
Self-released
★★★★★

In a solid, remarkably varied collection of tracks that comes together in its own distinct voice, goo’s debut album has come out fully formed. The trio from Corry is made up of singer/guitarist Matt Drayer, bassist Atom Nichols, and Eric Oliver on drums. A lo-fi blend of indie rock subgenres, *parentheses* has a little something for anyone who’s a fan of fuzzy experimental rock built on punk and shoegaze foundations. The recording, split by Gabe Poland of Burn Forever Records and Drayer, is an intimate one, lovingly matching the tone of ‘80s punk (check out “eraser”) and modern garage revival bands. Starting off delicately, “in” — the band name, album name and every single-word song titles are all in lower-case — has a spacey sound over a mildly unsettling, yet barely noticeable background narration. There are doses of humor, like in track four’s suggestion of “you and I, yea let’s be single together.” Songs like “light” have a fair bit of Black Lips or Thee Oh Sees bite. There’s even a smoky, psychedelic spoken-word appearance from Michael Bennet, in the aptly-named tune “fazed,” as well a hidden track past the tinny noises of “out.” Overall, the album stands as one of the most creative local works this year. — Nick Warren



Mitski
Be The Cowboy
Dead Oceans
★★★★★

She did it again. With a remarkable streak of three absolutely brilliant albums since 2014’s *Bury Me at Makeout Creek*, Mitski Miyawaki deserves to be virtually without peer in the indie world. Not unlike this year’s *Masseffect* by St. Vincent (one of her few equals), *Be The Cowboy* employs a much more explicit touch of electronic music. It’s a natural evolution, a proper reinvention without really being a reinvention. It’s powerful. The album is of course, emotionally wrenching and soul-crushingly affective, but with a fearless ownership that almost weaponizes emotion. Moving on from the masterpiece of *Puberty 2*, the lyrical content is less voyeuristically personal and touches on wider themes, while still being densely rewarding. Tonally, there’s a winking sense of humor in having a country song “Lonesome Love” (it is called *Be The Cowboy* after all) and a Broadway-ready disco song that could even be a mainstream hit in “Nobody.” From the eerie ringing meditation of “Geyser” to the moving finale of “Two Slow Dancers,” the album will effectively wreck you. Mitski is a gift, a transcendently genius artist whose music, for the right people, will be extremely important. — Nick Warren



TOMMY IN TOON — BY TOMMY LINK

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THE CORNERSTONE
THE VINE BAR & GRILL
TK'S TAVERN

WEST

APPLEBEE'S WEST
AVONIA
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CHESTNUT ST. PUB
CHICO'S TRAVELERS INN
COACH'S

WEST

DARCY'S PUB & GRUB
EDUARDO'S
GIRARD CAFÉ
HI & DRI
LAST SHOT
LEFTY'S TAVERN
LOMBARDO'S
OAKWOOD CAFE
ODIS 12
PENNYS PUB
RACK N ROLL
RESERVOIR 26
SANDBAR
SAUCERY
THAT PLACE
TOWER'S TAVERN

WEST

TREEHOUSE TAVERN
THE CAB
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UPTOWN BROWNS
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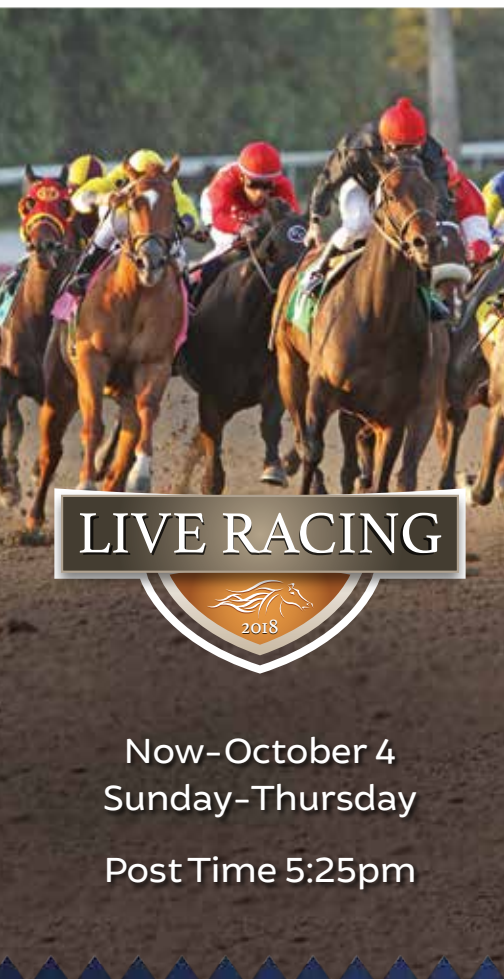
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