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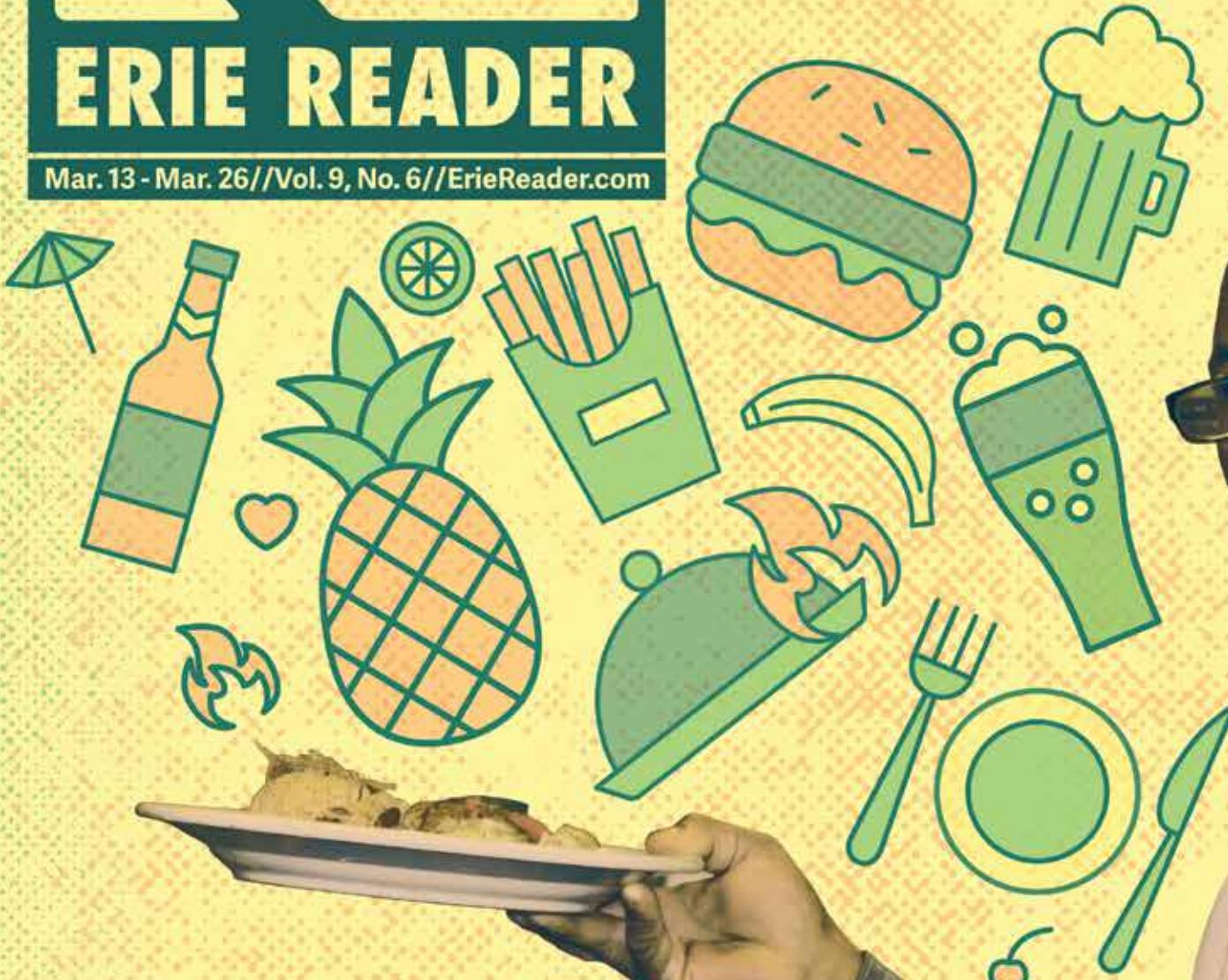
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## ERIE READER

Mar. 13 - Mar. 26 // Vol. 9, No. 6 // [ErieReader.com](http://ErieReader.com)

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

WITH: PINEAPPLE  
EDDIE'S JEAN PAUL



## THE BURGER REPORT

A BURGER-THON OF ERIE'S BEST

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Kalli Oberlander

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Tommy Shannon

Ryan Smith

Jen Sorenson

Rebecca Styn

Cara Suppa

Forest Taylor

Bryan Toy

**Cover Photo:**

Jessica Hunter

**Cover Design:**

Nick Warren

**Photographer:**

Jessica Hunter

**Intern:**

Hannah McDonald

1001 State St. Suite 1315  
Erie, Pa., 16501  
contact@eriereader.com

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# CONTENTS

## March 13, 2019

### Gem City Playbook: Pineapple Eddie's Jean Paul – 5



JESSICA HUNTER

Wise words from Erie's Best Chef at Erie's Best Restaurant

### The Burger Report – 9

Tracking down some of Erie's Best Burgers

### The Need for Mead – 10

IronStone Meadery crafts libations fit for Valhalla

### Shamrock Around the Clock – 12

Celebrating St. Patrick's Day in Erie

### The Mulligans: Erie's Wild Rovers – 13

Irish trio never, nay never disappoint on St. Patrick's Day

### Spotlight on Erie – 14

Love knows nothing of rank, or riverbank

### Movie Reviews – 24

Superpowered pilots and dangerous piano teachers

### Music Reviews – 26

Lil Pump, Sun Kil Moon, Sundara Karma, and The Japanese House

### Crossword Puzzle – 27

This week's latest stumper from David Levinson Wilk

**Correction:** In the Feb. 27 piece "Fouling Erie's Future," the location of the nearest air monitor was incorrectly noted as being located on Presque Isle, when in fact the nearest monitor is on Marne Rd.

## From the Editors

### Where do you feel like eating tonight?

I just wanted to set the table for you. It seems like you needed a little break. This winter has been a long one, but spring is coming in right around the corner. It's been a weird couple of months, I know. But you've done a great job. I know it doesn't always feel like that's the case, but it's true.

You look hungry, are you hungry? Where do you feel like eating? We could try that Pineapple Eddie's place if you think we can get a table.

Oh what? It's Pineapple Eddie? Are you sure? I don't think that's right. I'm pretty sure it's Pineapple Eddie's. Like it's Eddie's place. That just makes sense. Here let me pull it up on my phone.

Hmm. This might be wrong. Let me see if they have an image of the sign.

Well, okay. I don't know. I guess it is just Eddie. It's like that Mandela Affect.

What? Are you sure it's the Mandela Effect? I think you might be remembering that wrong. Here, let me just look that up again and we can – nevermind. Berenstain Bears you say?

Okay, let's try to get out there. Maybe I didn't actually need to set the table for you in that case. In any event, Rebecca Styn talked to Jean Paul, who won the Erie's Best Chef award the past two years in a row. And Pineapple Eddie's has won Best Restaurant the past three years, wow.

I did it again? Oh jeez, I'm sorry.

Or do you feel more like, say, a burger? I know Nick Warren went around to a bunch of local places and really liked them. He must really like burgers. You know, one time, I actually saw Michael Shannon eating a burger. It was intense.

He's the guy from *The Shape of Water*. Not the fish man. You know, the sorority letter guy. I don't know, I thought it was interesting.

Well we could try out this new waffle place out by Presque Isle? I kept hearing about it all last week, I could go for some breakfast food.

What? He's a dog? Oh that's adorable. I'm really glad they found him then. Although now I'm kind of in the mood for waffles, or at least pancakes.

Oh, you decided? I'll clear the table then. Let's go!

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## Gem City Playbook: Pineapple Eddie's Jean Paul

Wise words from Erie's Best Chef at Erie's Best Restaurant



[left] The homemade dessert selection at Pineapple Eddie Southern Bistro has tantalized from the get-go, hugely influential in its being honored as Erie's Best Restaurant in the 2018 Best of Erie Awards. [bottom right] "It's all about the seasoning," says Chef Jean Paul about the food that's won him Best Chef in back-to-back Best of Erie awards, a fusion of the flavors of his native Haiti and the American South.

and my wife and children if we would move to Erie to help open a restaurant." So, they did. "When I first moved here, I worked at Presque Isle Downs restaurant and also opened up O'Charley's restaurant. It was definitely a challenge and I had to take a pay cut." But then came Pineapple Eddie. "With faith and family, the restaurant took off. That was nearly eight years ago."

The response has been incredibly positive ever since. Since the Reader launched its Best of Erie Awards in 2014,

Pineapple Eddie has been recognized as Erie's Best Restaurant thrice (2016-18) and once for boasting its Best Dessert (2014). Jean Paul has been honored as Best Chef the past two years.

"Everyone that comes here has great things to say about it. It's overwhelming to hear." I learn that before any dish goes out, it must meet his family's approval. "I ask my wife or my sister-in-law to try it. If there's a moment of hesitation, I go back to the drawing board. I'm making it for the customer and I want it foolproof. If I'm missing something, I will work on it. I expect bad and good comments, fortunately, I hear many good ones," he adds laughing. "If you love what you do and cook from your heart, you can't go wrong."

Being part of an independent restaurant affords Jean Paul an opportunity to express his culinary finesse. "It's all about

By: Rebecca Styn

Starting a restaurant isn't easy. Keeping one open is even harder. I can personally attest to this.

The fact is, up to 90 percent of independent restaurants will close during their first year of operation. Of those that make it one revolution around the sun, 70 percent will close within three to five years.

But thankfully, that's where trends shift.

After the five-year mark, 90 percent will remain in business for a minimum of 10 years.

A well-established neighborhood gem known as Pineapple Eddie Southern Bistro (not *Eddie's*, as it is often referred to) has long surpassed that five-year mark, having opened its doors back in July 2011.

Jean Paul, executive chef at Pineapple Eddie, has been honing his culinary skills for several decades. Born in Port Au Prince, Haiti, he moved to United States in 1969 and has

remained here ever since. His foray into the culinary world began in New York City.

"I had no idea I was going to be who I am today," Jean Paul says as we started our phone

**"New York City was cutthroat. It was impossible to own a restaurant by yourself in the city. You either had to be exceptionally wealthy or have many investors. And you had to work seven days a week to make ends meet."**

conversation. A welcoming voice, I immediately feel at ease before the conversation ensues. His passion is at once contagious and I learn quickly he is not only eternally grateful for his art, but has been immersed in it since he was young.

"I got into cooking in New York City. At the time, I didn't know the value of this skill. I had no background except cooking at home with my mother." His mother, Marie Paul, had once owned and operated her own restaurant in Haiti.

Although he would go on to spend many years cooking at top restaurants in New York City and Chicago, he expressed the disadvantages of living in a big city. "New York City was cutthroat. It was impossible to own a restaurant by yourself in the city. You either had to be exceptionally wealthy or have many investors. And you had to work seven days a week to make ends meet. Though, I always thought if you could make it in New York City, you can make it anywhere." I jokingly added that I believed the same to be true for Erie.

"Erie, PA opened the door for me," he said.

It wasn't until 2005 that he made the trek to Erie. "My sister-in-law Karen asked me





**Pineapple Eddie Southern Bistro, located at the corner of W. 10th and Weschler, features both a menu and an atmosphere that makes patrons feel cozy inside.**

JESSICA HUNTER

the seasoning,” he tells me. Pineapple Eddie fuses the flavors and cooking techniques of two cultures — Haiti and the American South to create the distinct flavors of the Southern Bistro.

As for where the name came from? “The pineapple is

[an international] symbol of hospitality and Eddie is my father-in-law. He had a catering business in NYC, and he moved here after, although he passed away a few years ago. We named it after him. The Southern Bistro is from the South — it’s a collaboration.”

He knows he couldn’t have done it by himself. “You can’t run a business alone. It’s all about collaboration — there’s a lot of listening and a lot of trust.” But he doesn’t see it as a job. “I love what I do and I believe I am good at it. I was doing this for someone else for 35 years.” He also knows the importance of treating others with respect. “I learned early to treat those like you want to be treated. I was raised to treat every person equally and with that approach, you can’t go wrong.”

As for future plans? “If it were up to me I would open a restaurant in each county in each town — I have people

asking me all the time. I mean, you can’t take the money with you. I work 14-15 hours a day, but it’s not a job to me. I love what I do.”

In keeping with the premise of this column, I ask him for advice to aspiring restaurateurs. “Believe in yourself and be true to your customer. Remember that your staff represents you — they serve the food you create. I can’t say this enough — treat others as you want to be treated. You can’t go wrong with that concept. I have seen managers and owners that talk down to their employees. It’s demeaning and unnecessary.”

And, of course, he follows the motto, *the customer is always right.* “I always tell customers that if they’re unhappy, they’re not leaving until I fix it. Thankfully, it hasn’t happened to me yet.” And I believe this

to be true. When perusing online the reviews I found were generally top notch and the restaurant is currently ranked #1 on Tripadvisor.

If the path to happiness is truly felt in service, I believe that Jean Paul has embodied this in the culinary form. He is as compassionate as he is talented — and a better combination of traits cannot be found when it comes to catering to others.

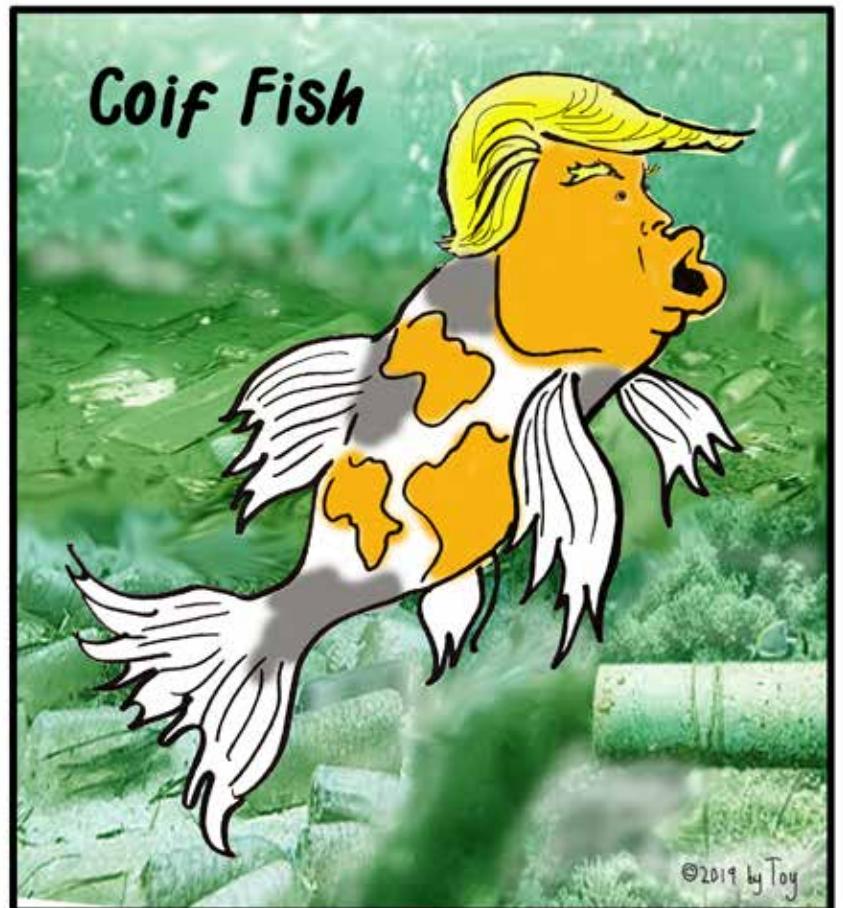
*Rebecca Styn is the Executive Director of the Idea Fund Erie, a nonprofit organization that supports entrepreneurial development and is the proprietor of Room 33 Speakeasy. She is also completing her Ph.D. in Leadership and Organizational Learning from Gannon University. Follow her on twitter at @rstyn*

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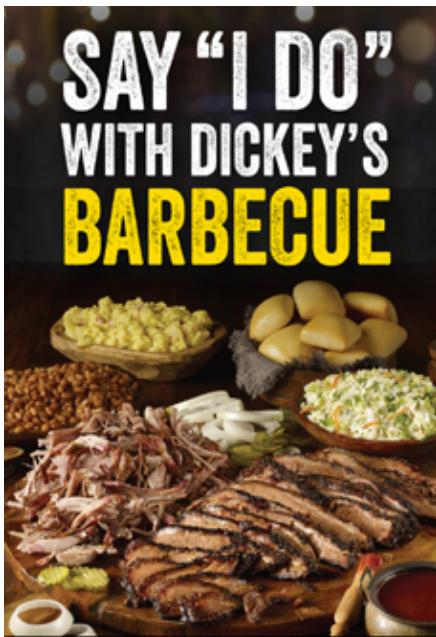
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## The Burger Report

Tracking down some of Erie's Best Burgers

By: Nick Warren

Let's be frank, there's no quintessential "burger joint" in Erie. By that, I mean something that is unique to our area, well-loved, and — for lack of a better term — burger-centric. Those are the stipulations. If there's a place popping into your head, chances are it's either A) more well-known for something else, B) not on enough people's radar, C) not particularly "local," or D) closed. There's Erie pizza, Erie wings, Erie pepperoni balls, and all manner of unhealthy, guilty pleasure foods, but a true "burger place" has been a blank space for our fair city for some time now. That aside, there's no shortage of bun-derful delights out there to check out. While going to every place in town that's known to steam a good ham sounds wonderful, it's pretty unwieldy — not to mention being one of the least healthy challenges one could imagine partaking in. To "narrow" down the field of competitors, we culled our list from the top eight vote-getters of this year's Best of Erie Awards, eaten over the span of a month. Thank goodness I had the heart for it. Half of them come from top-notch watering holes, two of them are chain restaurants, and two of them — while topping my personal list— are more well-known for other cuisines.

In alphabetical order: It's burger time.

### The Brewerie at Union Station — 123 W 14th St.

What I Got: The Pierogi Burger



BURGER PHOTOS BY NICK WARREN

With eight different choices, this one seemed the most inviting; after all, one of my favorite picks at Lucky Louie's is "The Yinzer," which features a similar gimmick (for what it's worth: "The Pittsburgher" on the Brewerie menu is more of a Primanti Bros. take). With Cheddar cheese, sautéed onions, and the titular fried pierogies, this one was delicious,

albeit a bit dry. The soft give of the filled pasta additions was appreciated and distinct. The fries, however almost stole the show, every one of them finely browned, the perfect partner for salt and vinegar — which just happens to be right there on every table. Points for sourcing their buns from Fuhrman's Cider Mill-Bakery-General Store as well.

### Calamari's Squid Row — 1317 State St.

What I Got: Build Your Own



At "Cali's" they encourage creativity, forgoing traditional recipes and requiring the guest to build their own burger. You get to pick three toppings out of 19 (of which eight are cheeses), with seven more choices for a small upcharge. You can also grab anything as a turkey burger (my usual choice), or a chicken breast. Choosing the beef option, of course, I went with cheddar, roasted red peppers, and well-done grilled onions. I don't think I've ever *not* picked roasted red peppers when they're an option. Mine came served with wedge fries but at Cali's, tater tots are always a worthwhile request and come available with Cajun or ranch (or cranch) seasonings. Theirs had a much more manageable bun size than others, making for a cleaner, better-eating experience. I'm not sure my choice was the very best possible, but the fantastic patty and billions of options, you'll love testing your personal pick.

### Five Guys — 1408 Peninsula Dr., 1940 Rotunda Dr.

What I Got: Cheeseburger

Winner of Erie's Best Burger, Five Guys Burgers and Fries is strangely hard to beat. The chain also boasts more than 1,500 locations worldwide, two of them being in Erie. It's no wonder why they're a fast-growing operation, because they make a damn fine burger. The only entry here with a sesame seed bun, the plainly

named "cheeseburger" comes with two patties and two slices of Kraft American cheese. With 15 choices for free add-on toppings, I went with my usual: mayo, ketchup, pickles, green peppers, and jalapeños (one of the relatively few places to opt for the far superior fresh-cut variety, as opposed to the pickled product). At Five Guys, it's practically a sin to not get fries with that, and I opted for a light Cajun seasoning — an addicting augmentation. Keep in mind that even a "Little" fries is still an absurdly large amount and easily shareable. They pride themselves on a fresh, classic taste and pull it off perfectly.

### Jekyll & Hyde's — 8 E. 10 St.

What I Got: The Impossible Burger



Okay, so I know this is not truly a beef endeavor, but this option deserves to be highlighted (full disclosure: I also tried the classic "Dr. Jekyll Burger." Fuller disclosure: it's the closest place on the list to the Reader office and happens to have a great happy hour). This specific patty is a meatless alternative available in over 3,000 locations worldwide, including all White Castle restaurants. It boasts more protein, less fat, and no cholesterol, and this is the only place in Northwest Pennsylvania that has it. I got mine with lettuce, tomato, and vegan mayo, and a side of Jekyll's thin fries with Cajun seasoning. It has an extremely convincing grain and visual similarity to beef, with an earthy taste that lacks the grease and fat. Next time I'll get it with chipotle mayo instead, which one of my table-mates wisely requested. A fantastic option for vegans or vegetarians thirsting for the real burger experience, they also have a black bean burger that's worth noting, though the Impossible Burger so adeptly mimics beef that you need to taste it to believe.

### Max & Erma's — 2078 Interchange Rd.

What I Got: The Tortilla Burger



Max & Erma's loves this particular creation, and for good reason. The Columbus-based regional chain has 51 restaurants in the East and the Midwest, and the Tortilla Burger is one of their flagship offerings. For something that reads as less of a Platonic ideal of a burger on paper, the taste is there. It comes with Cheddar and pepper jack cheese, jalapeños, and tortilla strips, along with lettuce, tomato, and onion. The mix of juicy and crisp items balance it out brilliantly. The addition of the tortilla soup for dipping is interesting, although it kind of takes you out of the "burger experience," and adds a chaotic element (read: messy) to the mix. You will be sold on their soup, however.

### Odis 12 Sports Bar & Grille — 3702 W. 12 St.

What I Got: The Angry Odis



For a place that is almost solely championed for their wings, their burgers might be the best in town. After polling our waitress for a good representation, I went with The Angry Odis (if you haven't noticed by now, I have a penchant

for spicier foods). It comes with pepper jack cheese, bacon, jalapeños, tomato, lettuce, onion rings, and their “Angry Odys” wing sauce. A very wide and flat patty, it’s a big one in diameter, but their choice of buns hold it all together. It’s savory and spicy, with a sauce reminiscent of hot honey mustard. There’s a fabulous equation of textures, and somehow nothing was overpowering. I went with the curly fries because if you can get curly fries, do it. Their burger was the one to beat.

**The Skunk and Goat Tavern — 17 West Main St., North East, PA**

What I Got: The Gunslinger Burger



Well, this one came as a shock and was one of the best burgers I’ve had in my entire life. Maybe it was dumb luck, but this was the definition of savory for me. It comes loaded with a fried egg, cheddar cheese, candied bacon, “cotton-fried” onion, and roasted garlic aioli. For a restaurant that offers several higher-end entrees, one might skip past the burgers, but you probably shouldn’t. For my side, I chose mac and cheese, which in hindsight was far too heavy of a complement to an already achingly rich burger. You’ll want to eat this one slow and watch out for the egg because it can tend to drip if un-

checked. If you’re in North East, or up for a small journey, be sure to check the 2018 Best of Erie awards’ “Best New Restaurant” out.

**Voodoo Brewery Erie — 101 Boston Store Pl.**

What I Got: The Kettle

This was the best ordering experience. “The Kettle” is a build-your-own option that is done via a checklist. If you’ve ever been to places like Pittsburgh’s amazing Burgatory or the West Coast’s The Counter, then you know what to expect. Though their menu has seven other choices, this one is by far the most inviting for anyone who likes things customizable. For better or worse, that puts the onus on the orderer. I ordered mine with all free ingredients: The basic bun and patty, with roasted red peppers, Cheddar cheese, and garlic aioli (unintentionally mirroring my Calamari’s order which was nearly a month later). Although the thrill of deciding which ingredients to put together was a tangible one, I’m clearly not to be trusted and should have gone for some of the incredibly tempting, albeit costlier options. The burger came with Voodoo’s delectable (but salt-heavy) kettle chips, but ultimately my own poor choices lead to a mediocre taste profile. I won’t make that mistake when I go there again. If Voodoo wasn’t a brewery (and we’re letting its Meadville roots slide here), this would be “the burger joint,” with points for creativity, versatility, and uniqueness.

*When asked, burgers were ordered “medium.”*

*Nick Warren needs to have a salad, or eight and can be contacted at [nick@eriereader.com](mailto:nick@eriereader.com)*

**The Need for Mead**

IronStone Meadery crafts libations fit for Valhalla



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**Mead, crafted by fermenting honey with either beer or wine yeast in water, is one of humanity’s oldest potations.**

By: Maggie Fry

A drink once known only to Viking reenactors and fans of Old English poetry, mead’s popularity is growing. The alcoholic beverage, which is made by fermenting honey with either wine or beer yeast in water, can showcase a broad range of flavors depending on the type of honey used and any fruit, spice, herbal, or botanical components that may be added. Since opening its doors in April of 2018, IronStone Meadery has made 1,200 gallons of mead, used 4,500 pounds of honey, and is already preparing to expand in its Greene Township location.

The business is the culmination of a dream shared by Rich and Diana Konkol and Brian and Kelly Murray. The two couples have been friends for more than 10 years and both men were hobby brewers and manual laborers. As they grew older, injuries and the wear and tear of their jobs began to take a toll. Rich worked as a welder and black-

smith, while Brian was a DJ, construction worker, truck driver, and furniture mover. “People liked the homebrew so much, we started talking about doing it on a commercial scale,” Rich said. “It was a pipe dream for eight or nine years, but then we started to look into it more seriously.”

The name, IronStone, is a combination of the Konkols’ Iron Willow Farm and Murray’s Stone Mountain Construction. The four have also combined to share responsibilities for the business. Brian focuses on brewing, procuring insurance and permits, and purchasing ingredients and supplies. Rich is also a brewer and handles social media and public relations. Kelly, an accountant, takes care of most of the paperwork, including licensing and accounting and also runs the website. She is also responsible for many of the unique names of the different flavors and creates the custom labels. Diana is in charge of the



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tasting room, which includes sales and stocking product. She also decorates the space with her own pottery and paintings, which are for sale to customers. In the past, Diana has worked as a welder and a veterinary technician.

IronStone buys its honey primarily from Dutch Gold, a honey distributor in Lancaster, Pa., that gets honey from all over North and South America. "We use six or seven varieties," Brian said, "including buckwheat and Tupelo."

Tupelo honey is the sweetest and most expensive flavor of honey and is prized by mead makers. "We got it cheap because of Hurricane Michael last year," Brian said. The storm severely damaged a warehouse in North Carolina, so the company needed to sell the honey as quickly as possible.

Brian brewed his first batch of mead 12 years ago after attending a weekend workshop, led by George Lee, at Rich's farm. Lee, who passed away several years ago, was well-respected among local brewers and gave many mead makers their start. Brian remembers his first batch was too dry. "New brewers either use too much or not enough honey because they go for high alcohol content." Mead-making is both an art and a science. The brewer is looking for a high alcohol content along with a good flavor.

"It takes two months to 10 years to make a batch, depending on what you're doing," Brian said. IronStone is currently brewing a port mead that will have a 22 percent alcohol level by volume when it is done. This variety will take 10 years to complete. It takes about six to 12 months to produce a mid-grade mead, which will have an alcohol level anywhere from eight to 14 percent. The ratio of honey to water determines how high the alcohol percentage will be in the final product. "We keep it over eight percent," Brian said. "If it is under seven, we need a nutrition label, which we would rather avoid." IronStone's license is for a limited winery. They are allowed to make under 2,000 gallons per year.

Sanitation is the most important part of the mead-making process. After all of the equipment is spotlessly clean, honey and water are mixed together with yeast in a 75-gallon plastic tank. This process—called primary fermentation—takes about two weeks. Then the batch is degassed, which involves stirring it vigorously to remove carbon dioxide. The liquid then sits in the tank for a couple of more weeks until the specific gravity is reduced. At this point, it is transferred to a secondary vessel in a process called racking, which removes some of the spent yeast and clarifies the batch. Brian uses stainless steel, variable capacity tanks for secondary fermentation. "We measure the specific gravity and alcohol content, but mostly we go by taste."

The mixture spends four to six weeks in the second tank before it is filtered to remove sediment. Then the mead is bottled, corked, shrink-wrapped, and labeled. Brian adds fruit and spices at the beginning of the process and then adjusts throughout the process. Rich starts with a traditional plain mead mixture of honey, water, and yeast then adds flavorings later. There is a bit of friendly competition between the two brewers, and they are planning to let customers decide which process they prefer. Right now, IronStone is offering two buckwheat meads, "Bucking Wheat," made by Rich, with an alcohol content of 8.8 percent, and "Buck You" at 16.8 percent, made by Brian. The two are also planning a competition when their next batches of traditional mead are ready. "The loser must wear something really annoying, perhaps a pink, fluffy bunny costume ala *A Christmas Story*," Brian said.

The proprietors of IronStone Meadery definitely have a sense of humor and this is most evident in the names they give their varieties. Screw Your Passion started as a major screw-up that they fixed by adding passion fruit mash to the batch. Other names refer to the length

of time it takes to brew a batch, such as A Quicky; or to the ingredients, for example, Bloody Berry (black currant and strawberry), Clov'N Moon (cinnamon and cloves), The Strawman (strawberry and cherry), and Pop Your Cherry, (buckwheat honey and cherries). "We skirt a fine innuendo line," said Rich. They also have several flavors with names that refer to role-playing games, such as Level 1 Bandit and Level 2 Samurai because many of their customers are gamers. "We only take our mead-making seriously," Brian added. "If you can't laugh about something, come see us. You'll leave laughing."

IronStone Meadery hosts special themed events when they bring out a new flavor. The theme parties feature local food trucks, such as Boom Boom Pow, Give a Crepe La CrepeErie, and Waffle Miracle. They are also working on an event to be held at the same time as Roar on the Shore, which will be called Whisper in the Country and feature music, local food trucks, and bonfires. "I'd rather see local businesses work together and people come up and have fun," Rich said.

To that end, IronStone Meadery is already planning to expand. They are waiting for permits and bonding to come through, and then they will be cutting a door in the wall between their current brewing area into another classroom in the former elementary school where they are located. The new space will be used to expand production and storage, as well as create a dedicated science lab for testing. They also plan to increase the size of the tasting room. "We hope to go up to 4,000 gallons," Brian said, "and eventually distribute to restaurants, craft breweries, and wineries, but in order to do that we need a product that is shelf-stable for one to two years."

Plans beyond the expansion include a future mead hall, which would be a Viking-style longhouse with a restaurant and possibly a bed-and-breakfast attached. "We want to become a destination spot," Brian added. The plan is to host weddings and banquets and offer a Viking menu with costumed entertainment along the lines of Medieval Times, except set in the Viking era.

*IronStone Meadery is located at 9333 Tate Road, Erie, Pennsylvania and is open Thursdays from 4 - 9 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays from 1 - 9 p.m. They can be reached at (814) 616-0086 or at ironstonemeadery.com.*

(clockwise from bottom left) Marc and Marje Koehlert of Edinboro and Bob Gulick of Millcreek gather around the counter at IronStone Meadery in Greene Township, which is the collaborative enterprise of Rich Konkol and Brian Murray and their wives Diana and Kelly (not pictured).



MAGGIEFRY



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## Shamrock Around the Clock

Celebrating St. Patrick's Day in Erie



YAKORCHUK/OLENA

By: Hannah McDonald

The island of Ireland — which includes the province of Northern Ireland (part of Great Britain) and the independent Republic of Ireland — has a reported population of nearly 7 million. Across the pond, 10.5 percent of the U.S.'s population report ancestry from the Emerald Isle, and they are proud to celebrate this fact.

These 33 million Americans (and others who simply enjoy a good time) celebrate their Irish roots on a grand scale once a year. Chicago and New York City host the largest St. Patrick's Day celebrations, each of them attracting over 2 million spectators.

Erie's turnout is quite a bit smaller, but our Rust Belt city still revels in its Irish ancestry. After the city was incorporated in 1851, the U.S. received several waves of immigrants from Europe, and many of them settled in Erie. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, nearly 20 percent of the Erie population today is made up of immigrants and almost 15,000 Erie residents report Irish ancestry.

While the Irish are widely known for their ethnic pride, this weekend they're bringing it to the forefront with St. Patrick's Day-themed events across town. Expect Irish pubs like Lavery Brewing Company, Molly Brannigan's, McGarrey's Oakwood Cafe, Sullivan's, Irish Cousins, and Cornerstone Bar & Grill to be going the extra mile all weekend long, with most bars joining in on the festivities as well. Here's just a small sampling of some of the special events going on around the city.

### Erie's Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade

A staple of any St. Patrick's Day celebration, the parade gets the celebration rolling. The festivities will include Irish-

themed floats, dance troupes, traditional Irish music, face painting and more. The parade begins at 11th and State streets and makes its way down to (surprise, surprise) St. Patrick's Church on East Fourth.

Saturday, March 16, 2 p.m. // Downtown State Street

### Food and Drink

#### Luck of the Irish at Harley-Davidson

If you're feeling the luck of the Irish, test it out with chances to win prizes at Harley-Davidson's cornhole contest. There will even be free beer, and wings courtesy of their neighbors, Odis 12.

Saturday, March 16 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. // Harley-Davidson of Erie, 3712 W 12th St.

#### Luck o' the Irish Weekend Celebration at Room 33

Room 33 celebrates all weekend with live music, extended hours, drink specials and a unique Irish inspired tapas menu. The speakeasy-style bar will open their doors at 11 a.m. on Saturday so you can warm your belly before the parade. They'll be ready to welcome you back after the event for live music from Dan Dahlkemper, Tom Kitchen, Tommy Link, Jim Tometsko, and Jon Sedelmyer. On Sunday (if you're up for it), they'll greet you with a warm Irish style breakfast and more live music starting at 10 a.m.

Saturday, March 16, Opens at 11 a.m. // Room 33, 1033 State St. // No Cover // 21+

#### Bringing Back the Snakes at IronStone Meadery

Not feeling the green? Wear some orange and black for a contrarian celebration, and stop down to the IronStone Meadery for their "Bringing back the snakes" celebration featuring 10% off bottle and glass sales. The LIL Wagon food truck will be on hand to offer up

As usual, the lads and lasses of Erie can easily get their fill of activities (and beverages) on St. Paddy's Day weekend.

some Long Island flavor.

Saturday, March 16 1-8 p.m. // IronStone Meadery, 9333 Tate Road #205 // 21+

#### Pastrami-O-Rama at Erie Ale Works

When the party starts so early in the day, it's easy to lose steam before the night has even begun. Food truck The Que Abides will be at Erie Ale Works creating custom pastrami sandwiches. They'll make a nice bed in your belly so the drinks can rest and you can dance.

Saturday, March 16, 2-8 p.m. // Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th St.

#### Millcreek Brewing Company

Pennsylvania State Senator Dan Laughlin will host a special celebration at the Millcreek Brewing Company. For \$25 you'll be treated to appetizers, soft drinks, and beer.

Saturday, March 16, 4-6 p.m. // Millcreek Brewing Company, 4102 West Lake Rd. // \$25 // RSVP to melanie@vote-laughlin.com to attend

#### Dave's Diner

With special extended hours, Dave's Diner will feature "shamrock shakes," Irish coffee, shepherds pie, and reubens will be added to the menu.

Sunday, March 17, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. // Dave's Diner, 26 North Park Row

#### Plymouth Tavern

Stop in to the famed local watering hole for some green beer, giveaways and specials, and even some free green popcorn.

Sunday, March 17, 11 a.m. - 2 a.m. // Plymouth Tavern, 1109 State St.

### Music and Dance

#### Parade Day and St. Patrick's Day at Lavery Brewing Co.

The Mulligans will be dropping by two days in a row (more on them in this very issue) to the local Irish craft brewery. Catch a special brunch menu on Sunday morning and extended hours for the holiday.

Saturday 11 a.m. - 12 a.m., Sunday 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. // Lavery Brewing Company, Division Street Machine at Molly Brannigan's

After the parade, Division Street Machine will be bringing their danceable funk and rock to Molly Brannigan's, vot-

ed Erie's Best Irish Pub — surely one of the key places to be all weekend long.

Saturday, March 16, 5-9 p.m. // Molly Brannigan's Irish Pub & Restaurant, 504 State St.

#### The Tradesmen with Steve Trent at the 9th Street Beer Cafe

The Tradesmen, Erie's longrunning band of Celtic punks, will be at the 9th & State Beer Cafe playing hits inspired by bands such as Ramones, The Dubliners, and Flogging Molly for their annual St. Patty's Day show.

Saturday, March 16, 8-11 p.m. // 9th & State Beer Cafe, 832 State St. // Free // 21+

#### Barefoot Fisherman at Mound Grove

Just south of the city, The Barefoot Fisherman — a rock band from Wattsburg — invite Erieites out to be Irish with them. Their four-hour set at the Mound Grove Golf Course will feature \$2.50 Yuenglings all day.

Saturday, March 16, 8-12 p.m. // Mound Grove Golf Course, 10760 Donation Rd., Waterford, PA

#### The BIG St. Patrick's Day Bash

This BIG place to be will be open all day and night, giving out free shirts to the first 250 guests. Local country heroes Small Town Revolution will hit the freshly renovated stage from 4-8 p.m. There will be DJs all day long, with giveaways, and a party bus transporting folks from BIGBAR to Resolution Nightclub and Coconut Joe's, specially opened for the holiday. Coconut Joe's will host a free breakfast buffet starting at 8 a.m.

Sunday, March 17, 8 a.m.-2 a.m. // BIGBAR, 14 E. 10 St., Resolution Nightclub and Coconut Joe's, 28 North Park Row, // 21+

#### St. Patty's Day Dueling Pianos

On Sunday, Jr.'s Last Laugh will keep the party rolling (for free!) with the riff-war of the year; a piano duel.

Sunday, March 17, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. // 1402 State St. // Free // 18+ w/ 25+ chaperone // jrslastlaugh.com

#### Stormalong Scoundrels, Drednecks, and Paper Matches

If you're feeling a little rowdy and shanty-ready, let your inner pirate out with the Stormalong Scoundrels, Erie's very own picaresque ensemble. Catch the raucous antics of the Drednecks, and the alt-rock sounds of the Paper Matches to boot.

Sunday, March 17, 6 - 11 p.m. // 301 German St. // \$5 // 21+

## The Mulligans: Erie's Wild Rovers

Irish trio never, nay never disappoint on St. Patrick's Day



Joe Nolan (left), Brian Strobel, and Jonathan Nolan at Lavery Brewing Co.

it. We're teaching it to people. We heard people do those songs and there are so many songs — when you go there — that everybody knows all the words and the whole bar sings along. So we went one night, and well, by the third night, we knew the songs!" So the brothers took that tip across I-90 and back home, later enlisting Strobel. At the time, they were one of the only bands with that kind of Irish flavor, but soon others started coming up.

The three are highly seasoned musicians and can make nearly any room their own — particularly Lavery Brewing Company and U Pick 6 Tap House, where they're playing dual sets. Jonathan fronts the bluesy rock band Hard Luck Story, and plays fingerstyle classical guitar — both brothers perform in the metal band Save Yourself as

well. They also founded Nolan School of Music (note the shamrocks present on the signage of their Buffalo Road storefront). In addition to playing "Eileen," his bass in The Mulligans — as well as mandolin, harmonica, and other instruments — Joe has been a pivotal player in the Erie hardcore and punk scene, providing guitar for bands like Digression, Smoke and Mirrors, and the world-famous Shockwave. Strobel is a well-versed theater drummer, playing for Mercyhurst, the Erie Playhouse, and numerous visiting productions. "He's the perfect drummer for any room we play. He's kind of our secret weapon," Nolan said assuringly.

With performances in the Philadelphia area and Cleveland the week preceding the holiday, the three are set to gear up for six different sets between March 15 and March 17. "We try to do a 45-minute set, take a 15-minute

break, repeat that, and then go the last hour straight through. It's slightly harder on Joe and Brian, because slapping that upright bass and playing the drums are a little more physical. So I actually have the easiest job of the whole thing," Nolan laughed.

You can catch *The Mulligans* at the following times and locations:

Friday, March 15: Millcreek Brewing Company: 7-10 p.m.

Saturday, March 16: U Pick 6 Tap House: 1-2 p.m., 3-5 p.m. (with a break for Erie's St. Patrick's Day Parade), Lavery Brewing Company: 8-11 p.m.

Sunday, March 17: The Brewerie At Union Station: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., Lavery Brewing Company: 2-5 p.m., Molly Brannigan's Irish Pub & Restaurant: 7-10 p.m.

Nick Warren can be reached at [nwarren@eriereader.com](mailto:nwarren@eriereader.com)

By: Nick Warren

When asked what St. Patrick's Day means for The Mulligans, the band's singer and guitarist Jonathan Nolan joked that "it means being really busy, actually." When you look at the band's schedule in March, however, you find that it's not exactly a joke. The trio is made up of Jonathan, his brother Joe Nolan on upright bass, and Brian Strobel on drums. Catching the band over St. Patrick's Day

weekend has become a tradition for some, with the first iteration of the group forming back in 1997. Before that, the brothers would visit relatives in the Boston area every year. "When you went into the pubs in Boston and they did 'The Wild Rover,' everybody knew how to clap and everything," Nolan explained. For those who have nay, never heard the tune, he emphatically enthused, "it's the greatest drinking song ever." He elaborated that "not everyone knows

## MUSIC

### Dave VanAmburg & Friends

Mar. 13, 22, 27 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
Bel-Aire Clarion, 2800 W. 8th St. [belaireclarion.com](http://belaireclarion.com).

### Hilary Philipp

Mar. 13 — 8 p.m.  
Walker Recital Hall at Mercyhurst Univ., 501 E. 38th St. [miac.mercyhurst.edu](http://miac.mercyhurst.edu).

### Musician Mashup

Mar. 13 — 11 p.m. &  
Mar. 27 — 9 p.m.  
Scotty's Martini Lounge, 301 German St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### MVP

Mar. 14, 21 — 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Dickey's BBQ Pit, 3716 Liberty St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Gem City Revival

Mar. 14 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
The Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428 [skunkandgoattavern.com](http://skunkandgoattavern.com).

### Mushroomhead, Hellzapoppin

Mar. 14 — 7 p.m.  
Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Jesse James Weston

Mar. 15 — 5 to 7 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. [pr-esqueisledowns.com](http://pr-esqueisledowns.com).

### Bootleggers Bible Club

Mar. 15 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
Bel-Aire Clarion, 2800 W. 8th St. [belaireclarion.com](http://belaireclarion.com).

### Crush

Mar. 15 — 6 to 10 p.m.  
BIGBAR, 14 E. 10th St. [bigbar.net](http://bigbar.net).

### St. Litty's Day Rave

Mar. 15 — 7 p.m.  
Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Rick Magee Acoustics

Mar. 15 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. [pr-esqueisledowns.com](http://pr-esqueisledowns.com).

### Katie & Jack

Mar. 15 — 7 to 10 p.m.  
Members of Katie & Friends Acoustics perform in the West Erie Plaza at one of city's hottest new restaurants.  
The Cork, 900 W. Plaza Dr. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Cee Brown's Variety Show

Mar. 15 — 10 p.m.  
Scotty's Martini Lounge, 301 German St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### St. Petty's Day w Erie All-Stars

Mar. 15 — 10 p.m.  
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Stone Cold Mosh Olympics

Mar. 16 — 3 p.m.

Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### The Highlife

Mar. 16 — 5 to 7 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. [pr-esqueisledowns.com](http://pr-esqueisledowns.com).

### The Mixx

Mar. 16 — 6 to 10 p.m.  
BIGBAR, 14 E. 10th St. [bigbar.net](http://bigbar.net).

### SLAP, Human Delusion

Mar. 16 — 7 p.m.  
Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Six Year Stretch Unplugged

Mar. 16 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. [pr-esqueisledowns.com](http://pr-esqueisledowns.com).

### The Mulligans

Mar. 16 — 7 to 10 p.m. &  
Mar. 17 — 2 to 5 p.m.  
Lavery Brewing Co., 128 W. 12th St. [unit101facebook.com](http://unit101facebook.com).

### Aqueous

Mar. 16 — 9 p.m.  
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Northern Accents

Mar. 16 — 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.  
Sandbar, 2835 W. 8th St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Chris Higbee

Mar. 16 — 9:30 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. [pr-esqueisledowns.com](http://pr-esqueisledowns.com).

[esqueisledowns.com](http://esqueisledowns.com).

### Charlie Wheeler Band, 40 Rust, Paper Matches

Mar. 16 — 10 p.m.  
Scotty's Martini Lounge, 301 German St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Katie & Jesse

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

### Denny & Heather Acoustics

Mar. 17 — 1 to 4 p.m.  
Arundel Cellars & Brewing, 11727 E. Main St., North East, PA 16428 [arundelcellars.com](http://arundelcellars.com).

### Mercyhurst Civic Orchestra: Aria Competition Concert

Mar. 17 — 4 p.m.  
The final performance of the Aria Competition — in which classical musicians competed for a guest spot in the orchestra — will be at the Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center.  
Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center, 501 E. 38th St. [miac.mercyhurst.edu](http://miac.mercyhurst.edu).

### Small Town Revolution

Mar. 17 — 4 to 8 p.m.  
BIGBAR, 14 E. 10th St. [bigbar.net](http://bigbar.net).

### Stormalong Scoundrels, Drednecks, Paper Matches

Mar. 17 — 6 p.m.  
Scotty's Martini Lounge, 301

[German St. facebook.com](http://GermanSt.facebook.com).

### Showtunes Singers Night

Mar. 19 — 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
Dickey's BBQ Pit, 3716 Liberty St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### The Vics

Mar. 19 — 7 to 11 p.m.  
PACA, 1505 State St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Matty B & 57 Pickup

Mar. 20 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
Bel-Aire Clarion, 2800 W. 8th St. [belaireclarion.com](http://belaireclarion.com).

### The High Life

Mar. 21 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
The Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428 [skunkandgoattavern.com](http://skunkandgoattavern.com).

### Dan Baney Country Unplugged

Mar. 22 — 5 to 7 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. [pr-esqueisledowns.com](http://pr-esqueisledowns.com).

### BluesBeaters

Mar. 22 — 6 p.m.  
Bullfrog Bar, 3866 Peach St. [bullfrogbarerie.com](http://bullfrogbarerie.com).

### Geek Army

Mar. 22 — 6 to 10 p.m.  
BIGBAR, 14 E. 10th St. [bigbar.net](http://bigbar.net).

### Funkin Blues Night

Mar. 22 — 7 p.m.  
Room 33, 1033 State St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### SASS Acoustics

Mar. 22 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. [pr-esqueisledowns.com](http://pr-esqueisledowns.com).

### Mallory Run, Dead Fall, Past Comfort, Lyle Sallade

Mar. 22 — 7:30 p.m.  
The Ballet Haus, 1020 Holland St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Cosmic Rhythm

Mar. 22 — 10 p.m.  
Rock 'n' roll, and two dollar beer and liquor? What could be better?  
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Rhythmic Explorations World Drumming Workshop

Mar. 23 — 2 p.m.  
Learn how to play the African djembe drum to traditional rhythms and songs in this 10-person workshop. Seats are limited.  
PACA, 1505 State St. [paca1505.com](http://paca1505.com).

### Kevin & Jack

Mar. 23 — 5 to 7 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. [pr-esqueisledowns.com](http://pr-esqueisledowns.com).

### The Earthquakers

Mar. 23 — 6 to 10 p.m.  
BIGBAR, 14 E. 10th St. [bigbar.net](http://bigbar.net).

### Acoustic Adelaide

Circus of Madness & Mayhem with Mushroomhead, Hellzapoppin at Basement Transmissions



Joining the Madness & Mayhem Tour are Mushroomhead affiliates Ventana, the Los Angeles based Worldwide Panic, and two locals, Brotherhood of the Jam and Never to Suffer. Mushroomhead previously played at Basement Transmissions in 2015 to support their most recent studio album, *The Righteous & The Butterfly*, and Erie fans can't wait to hear what the band has in store this time.

THURSDAY, MAR. 14

It's not every day that Erie gets a circus sideshow. This March, alternative metal mask-bearers Mushroomhead return to Basement Transmissions accompanied by Hellzapoppin, the one-of-a-kind traveling sideshow whose credits include Bob Dylan, Snoop Dogg, and Kings of Leon alongside hundreds more.

"Mushroomhead has played Erie several times in the past," says Sam Edwards, general manager of Basement Transmissions. "Although a lot of these bands are growing into bigger markets, keeping a positive relationship with tour managers and booking agents helps to get a band back to the area. I should note that Bev from [the recently closed] Sherlock's helped us reach out for this run of the tour; she still has a love for music and I'm glad we have other helping hands around town to bounce ideas back and forth."

"Events like this are critical for Erie right now," continues Edwards. "I don't think it's a secret that we're at a low point in the number of places around town for live music. In my short run so far with the scene, I've watched Forward Hall, The Hangout, Bobby's Place, Sherlock's, and several others close their doors. Our objective with BT is to be a one-stop shop for all genres of music in the near future. We've also just partnered with Voodoo Brewery to serve their craft beers at our bigger shows [including this one], so we're really trying to move forward in being the venue that everyone wants to come to. I think this Mushroomhead show and the ones we have booked coming up are going to help make that happen." — Aaron Mook

7 p.m. to midnight // 145 W. 11th St. // \$21 // All Ages // Drinking with 21+ Valid ID Only // facebook.com/basement.transmissions

Shakespeare in Love: A Sure Cure for Writer's Block



RICK KLEIN

Maeve Kirby and Curtis Jones III star in the Erie Playhouse production of *Shakespeare in Love*.

plot has stayed completely intact: Will Shakespeare, (played by Curtis Jones III), owes *Romeo and Ethel, the Pirate's Daughter* to two different troupes, both of whom are eagerly awaiting the script so that they can get on with production and start generating some coinage. He meets a young actor who is — surprise — a beautiful maiden named Viola de Lesseps (played by Maeve Kirby), disguised as a male so that she can pursue her love of the stage. Poor Viola is from a well-to-do family and has been promised in marriage to a pompous aristocrat with an ancient name. Obviously, Will and Viola will become passionate lovers, but their feelings must begin and end there.

FRIDAY, MAR. 15

Writer's block has confounded novelists, poets, and playwrights for centuries. While it is never easy to overcome, typically inspiration has its way of interjecting itself and setting things aright.

Inspiration can, of course, come in many forms, but surely none is as exciting, enchanting, and energizing as falling in love.

The Erie Playhouse certainly believes so, and they will make you believe it, too, with their latest production, *Shakespeare in Love: The Play*, a stage adaptation of the wildly popular 1998 film (which won Best Picture at the Oscars) about one of the world's most famous writers and the fictionalized, imagined inspiration behind the penning of *Romeo and Juliet*.

Fans of the film will be pleased that the

Or must they? As their situation deepens, evolves and grows ever more tragic, so does Will's play.

With a cast of nearly two dozen, including four stage debuts, sumptuous costumes reflecting the Elizabethan period, and many references to the Bard's body of work, this Erie Playhouse production, set for a two-week, 11-show run, is bound to inspire even the most blocked-up of writers. — Cara Suppa

7:30 p.m. // 13 W. 10th St. // Tickets start at \$12 // erieplayhouse.org (see website for full show schedule and ticketing info)

Mar. 23 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy.  
presqueisledowns.com.

**Lisa Vroman Returns**  
Mar. 23 — 8 p.m.  
Warner Theatre, 811  
State St. eriephil.org.

**Irregardless, Ish, Ice Cream Socialists**  
Mar. 23 — 10 p.m.  
Scotty's Martini Lounge, 301  
German St. facebook.com.

**Charlie Wheeler Band**  
Mar. 23 — 10 p.m.  
Kings Rook Club, 1921  
Peach St. facebook.com.

**Sam Hyman**  
Mar. 24 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
The Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W.  
Main St., North East, PA 16428  
skunkandgoattavern.com.

**Rankin & Schell**  
Mar. 24 — 1 to 4 p.m.  
Arundel Cellars & Brewing,  
11727 E. Main St., North East,

PA 16428 arundelcellars.com.

**Youth Fountain w The Standby**  
Mar. 24 — 7:30 p.m.  
The Ballet Haus, 1020 Hol-  
land St. facebook.com.

**Simple Gifts**  
Mar. 25 — 7 p.m.  
Celtic folk music and come-  
dic duo host free concert as  
part of returning How Sweet  
the Sound series.  
Abiding Hope Church,  
2402 W. Grandview Blvd.  
simplegifts.com.

**Shabti, Perditiion, Lordran, & STM**  
Mar. 26 — 5 p.m.  
Death metal from Port-  
land, Maine meets variety  
of Erie heavy metal bands  
for all ages show.  
Basement Transmissions, 145  
W. 11th St. facebook.com.

**Ukulele Workshop**  
Mar. 26 — 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Dickey's BBQ Pit, 3716  
Liberty St. facebook.com.

**DANCE**  
**NYCDA Preview Performance**  
Mar. 16 — 2 to 5 p.m.  
Sovereign Ballet, 2539 W. 12th  
St. sovereignballet.com.

**Moonlight Serenade 1940s Dance**  
Mar. 16 — 6 p.m.  
St. John's Lutheran Par-  
ish Center, 2216 Peach  
St. facebook.com.

**Golden Dragon Acrobats**  
Mar. 23 — 7:30 p.m.  
Mary D'Angelo Performing  
Arts Center, 501 E. 38th St.  
miac.mercyhurst.edu.

FOOD & DRINK

**Crafts and Cocktails**  
Mar. 13 — 6:30 p.m.  
Luminary Distilling, 8270 Peach

St. Ste. 300 facebook.com.

**St. Patrick's Day Weekend Celebration**  
Mar. 15 — 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. &  
Mar. 16 — 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. &  
Mar. 17 — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Topsy Bean, 2425 Peach  
St. facebook.com.

**Beer & Cookies**  
Mar. 15 — 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
The Brewerrie at Union Station,  
123 W. 14th St. brewerrie.com.

**Free Wine Tastings, Cupcakes, and Cheesecake**  
Mar. 16 — noon to 2 p.m.  
Icing on the Lake, 940 W. Erie  
Plaza Dr. facebook.com.

**Pastrami-O-Rama**  
Mar. 16 — 2 p.m.  
Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th  
St. eriealeworks.com.

**Luck o'the Irish Weekend Celebration**  
Mar. 16, 17  
Room 33, 1033 State  
St. facebook.com.

**St. Paddy's Day**  
Mar. 17 — 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
The Brewerrie at Union Station,  
123 W. 14th St. brewerrie.com.

**Yoga & Cocktails w Kelly**  
Mar. 17 — 4:30 p.m.  
Topsy Bean, 2425 Peach  
St. facebook.com.

**Cooking for Digestive Health**  
Mar. 19 — 6 p.m.  
Whole Foods Co-Op, 1341  
W. 26th St. wfcerie.coop.

**Mind, Body, Beer**  
Mar. 19 — 7:30 p.m.  
Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th  
St. eriealeworks.com.

**Cocktails & Color**  
Mar. 20 — 6 p.m.  
Voodoo Brewery Erie, 101 Boston  
Store Pl. facebook.com.

**Artist Happy Hour**  
Mar. 21 — 5 to 8 p.m.  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th  
St. erieartmuseum.org.

**Cocktails and Clay**

Mar. 21 — 6:30 to 9 p.m.  
Erie ClaySpace, 1505 State  
St. erieclayspace.com.

**Coffee and Clay: Mug Making Workshop**  
Mar. 23 — 2 to 3:30 p.m.  
Erie ClaySpace, 1505 State  
St. erieclayspace.com.

**Mighty Microgreens**  
Mar. 26 — 6 p.m.  
Whole Foods Co-Op, 1341  
W. 26th St. wfcerie.coop.

MOVIES

**Widows**  
Mar. 13 — 6 p.m.  
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State  
St. filmsocietyynwpa.org.

**Out & Around**  
Mar. 14 — 6 to 8 p.m.  
A compilation of 55 interviews  
collected during travels of  
more than 51,000 miles, the  
film paints an intimate picture  
of LGBT life around the world.

PACA'S 2019 THEATRICAL SEASON

# The Proletariat

By Ernest Hemmings



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The Vics Pick Things Up at PACA



TUESDAY, MAR. 19

Three New York bands are set to stand on PACA's stage with indie headliners The Vics. Dizzy Bats, Johnny & the Man Kids, and Marquee Grand will add lo-fi rock, new wave, and alternative rock to mix.

The Vics' roster includes four musicians, three of which were commercial music tech majors at California University of Pennsylvania. The Pittsburgh band builds a base for soulful vocals with catchy multi-guitar riffs and jazzy percussion akin to Arctic Monkeys. In the two years since their self-titled debut, The Vics have continued to play across the East Coast and work on new

music. Their most recent single, "Fourth and Clay," hints at an exciting musical shift on the horizon.

Supporting acts include Buffalo's pop-punk Marquee Grand, Johnny & the Man Kids, and New York City's Dizzy Bats. Various musicians have shuffled in and out of The Dizzy Bats' lineup since their formation in 2011. The band, currently a trio, specializes in punk-tinged power pop. Johnny & the Man Kids was started by brothers John and Tyler when they were in high school. Since their early work, the group has channeled their teenage attitude into experimental rock featuring lo-fi vocals and keyboard effects to complement creative guitar work.

Each band stands apart from the next, but the similarities in lyrical and vocal style and swaying beats are sure to make for smooth transitions between sets at this energetic show. — Hannah McDonald

7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. // PACA, 1505 State St. // \$10 Pre-sale; \$12 Door // BYOB w/ 21+ ID // All Ages

Jay Pharoah at JRs



LISA GANSKY

THURSDAY, MAR. 21 - 23

There's something spectacular in watching a true master at work, and when it comes to comedic impressions that's exactly what Jay Pharoah is. A cast member of *Saturday Night Live* from 2010 to 2016, Pharoah proved to be an invaluable asset to the cast, portraying dozens of well-known figures. Perhaps most notably, he took over — replacing Fred Armisen — as then-President Barack Obama. His take on the President garnered praise even

from the commander-in-chief himself. He was able to work in hilariously accurate takes on figures like Kanye West, Ben Carson, and Eddie Murphy. Noting each person's unique mannerisms and vocal tics, he was able to re-contextualize the idea of certain celebrities for millions, especially for figures like Jay-Z and Denzel Washington. In 2017, Pharoah starred in *White Famous*, which ran for one season on Showtime. The ten-episode series was inspired by and featured Jamie Foxx, taking place in the same universe as *Californication*. In 2018 he worked with the highly innovative Steven Soderbergh in *Unsane*, a psychological thriller shot on iPhones. Branching out and exploring new facets of his career, Pharoah is returning to the road of stand-up, with over 200 impressions to draw from, and of course, his own personal take on things as well. — Nick Warren

Thursday 7 p.m., Friday and Saturday 6:45 and 9:30 p.m. // 1402 State St. // Thursday \$22, Friday and Saturday \$25 // jrslastlaugh.com

Smith Chapel at Penn St. Behrend, 4701 College Dr. behrend.psu.edu.

Two Weeks to Live (1943)

Mar. 14 — 8 p.m. Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. facebook.com.

A Star is Born (2018)

Mar. 14 — 8 p.m. Pogue Student Center at Edinboro Univ., 405 Scotland Rd., Edinboro, PA 16444 events.edinboro.edu.

The Favourite

Mar. 20 — 6 p.m. Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. filmsocietynwpa.org.

Mechanical Heart

Mar. 23 — 7 p.m. to midnight Erie filmmaker and NYU student Jack Rys showcases his film and hosts local bands to raise money for his thesis film project as he believes art should be for the community. Any money raised over the goal budget will be donated to RAINN. Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. facebook.com.

Encore: Audience Choice

Mar. 27 — 6 p.m. Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. filmsocietynwpa.org.

Volcanoes: The Fires of Creation

Ongoing — 10 a.m., 1 p.m., & 4 p.m.

Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. biggreenscreen.com.

Amazon Adventure

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

Backyard Wilderness

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

VISUAL ARTS

Visualize and Create Your Tree of Life

Mar. 13 — 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. AWE, 915 State St. Ste. LL1 facebook.com.

Adult Art Classes

Mar. 13 — 7 to 9 p.m. Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier Park, 1501 W. 6th St. leaferie.org.

Challenging Borders

Ongoing through Mar. 15 Allegheny Art Gallery, 520 N. Main St. Meadville, PA 16335 sites.allegheny.edu.

Hands-On: Hokusai's Manga

Mar. 15 — 6 to 7 p.m. Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. erieartmuseum.org.

Lake Erie Fiberarts Guild Indigo Exhibit

Mar. 15 — 7 to 10 p.m.

Beginning with the ancient practice of fermenting green leaves to create a brilliant indigo dye, local fiber artists create uniquely embellished pieces that make up the main exhibit. Artlore Studio, 3406 W. Lake Rd. facebook.com.

Spring Canvas Classes

Mar. 20, 25 — 6 to 8 p.m. Claytopia, 924 W. Plaza Dr. claytopiaerie.com.

For the Love of Art

Mar. 22 — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Local art will pair smoothly with artisanal goods and light refreshments at the daily show and market. Lakeside Commons, 220 W. Plum St., Edinboro, PA 16412 facebook.com.

Create a Dimensional Finger Labyrinth

Mar. 22 — 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. AWE, 915 State St. Ste. LL1 facebook.com.

Patricia S. Yahn '50 Juried Art Show

Ongoing through Mar. 26 Cummings Art Gallery at Mercyhurst, 501 E. 38th St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

Tyanna Buie: Recollections

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

Michael Kashey: You Got Me in Stitches

Ongoing through Apr. 9 Glass Growers Gallery, 10 E. 5th St. glassgrowersgallery.com.

Laura Gooley & Brian Pardini

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

James McMurray: Faces and Paces

Ongoing through June 10 Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. erieartmuseum.org.

Bill Brady

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

Brian Pardini

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

THEATER

Getting Mama Married

Mar. 13 — noon & Mar. 16, 23 — 5:30 p.m. & Mar. 17 — 2:30 p.m. & Mar. 22 — 7 p.m.

In this charming comedy, the young, married daughter of main character Ann Finnery encourages her mother to date again after divorce.

Station Dinner Theatre, 4940 Peach St. canterburyfeast.com.

Shakespeare in Love: The Play

Mar. 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 27 — 7:30 p.m. & Mar. 24 — 2 p.m. Erie Playhouse, 13 W. 10th St. erieplayhouse.org.

The Proletariat

Mar. 15, 16, 22, 23 — 8 p.m. PACA, 1505 State St. pacal505.com.

The Met Live: La Fille Du Regiment

Mar. 16 — 12:55 p.m. The Metropolitan Opera comes to Mercyhurst via live telecast "for a feast of bel canto vocal" conducted by Enrique Mazzola. Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center, 501 E. 38th St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

Youtheatre Auditions

Mar. 18, 19 — 5 p.m. Erie Playhouse Rehearsal Hall, 1158 E. 12th St. erieplayhouse.org.

Moonlight and Magnolias

Mar. 22, 23 — 7:30 p.m. & Mar. 24 — 3 p.m. All An Act, 652 W. 17th St. allanact.net.

Mainstage Auditions

Mar. 25, 26 — 6 p.m. Erie Playhouse Rehearsal Hall, 1158 E. 12th St. erieplayhouse.org.

COMEDY

Negin Farsad

Mar. 14 — 7 p.m. Henderson Campus Center at Allegheny College, 520 N Main St, 52, Meadville, PA 16335 events.allegheny.edu.

Drew Lynch

Mar. 14 — 7 p.m. & Mar. 15, 16 — 6:45 or 9:30 p.m. America's Got Talent Season 10 runner-up turned YouTube-er, vlogger, and stand-up comedian headlines five sets in Erie. Jr's Last Laugh, 1402 State St. jrslastlaugh.com.

St. Patrick's Day Dueling Pianos

Mar. 17 — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jr's Last Laugh, 1402 State St. jrslastlaugh.com.

Jay Pharoah

Mar. 21 — 7 p.m. & Mar. 22, 23 — 6:45 or 9:30 p.m. Jr's Last Laugh, 1402 State St. jrslastlaugh.com.

Michael Che

Mar. 22 — 7:30 p.m. Junker Center at Penn St. Behrend, 5103 Station Rd. behrend.psu.edu.

Laugh the Pain Away: A Comedy Benefit

Mar. 23 — 7 p.m. Will Ayers hosts Daniel McArdle, Ian McIntosh and Daniel Brady at this comedy benefit for the American Founda-

Make a Run for The Ballet Haus



NICK WARREN

FRIDAY, MAR. 22

**E**dinboro's premier emo/rock outfit, Mallory Run, are returning to Erie, playing for the first time ever at The Ballet Haus.

Mallory Run breathed new life into Erie's music scene with their 2016 self-titled EP and 2018 EP *Spin*, released on Wilhelm Records. Their expert songwriting and guitar work, along with memorable lyrics and catchy hooks, make it impossible to stand still at one of their shows and has helped them build a solid local fanbase. Now the band is back in the studio, and

may be giving some new songs a test run. "We haven't put together a setlist yet," said Mallory Run's singer, Dan McClune, "but there's a very solid chance that we play a new tune or two". McClune included that the new songs will be released as singles, and hinted at the possibility of another upcoming EP.

Next on the bill are pop-punk band and former tourmates Dead Fall from Kent, Ohio. Dead Fall released *Never Expected* this past January, an energetic five-track EP recommended for fans of aggressive yet melodic pop-punk bands like Such Gold and The Story So Far. The title track slows down the tempo, but not the intensity, giving more variety and emotion to the EP.

Touring with Dead Fall are Arkansas emo band Past Comfort, who just released their latest single, "Silhouette". Opening the show is a solo act by bassist of The Standby, Lyle Sallade. — Tommy Shannon

7:30 p.m. // 1020 Holland St. // \$10 advance, \$12 doors // All Ages, BYOB with ID for 21+

Moonlight and Magnolias — A Show About the Making of One Very Famous Movie

FRIDAY, MAR. 22

**D**o you know the classic film *Gone with the Wind*? Whether it just sounds familiar, or if you're someone who can recite the infamous end line with a smile, you'll be leaving All an Act's *Moonlight and Magnolias* show in a fit of laughter.

Hollywood producer David O. Selznick, played by Chris Bucci, finds himself in quite the bind. He can't seem to get the script right, and he just fired the director. Now, he needs to hire a new director and writer — fast.

The writer he wants is Ben Hecht, who is not at all familiar with the story he's trying to make into a blockbuster film. Accomplished local Erie actor Jawn Gross plays Ben Hecht, and explains that "a movie producer hires a screenwriter because he wants to turn the book *Gone With the Wind* into a movie. They only have a short time to get it done. So between the producer, his assistant, the writer, and the film's director, they do the best they can in a less than ideal working situation. They have one

week to put their creativity to the test, while trying to avoid the pitfalls in all the personality mayhem that ensues."

What makes this a standout comedic piece is that Selznick's ways of making his film are very unconventional. He locks his key players in his office ... making sure work gets done.

"It's one of those comedies where timing is everything. A lot of set-up and delivery, a few comedic sucker-punches, all the good stuff. And a bit of physical comedy thrown in for good measure," adds Gross, describing the atmosphere of the show. It's not often a behind-the-scenes look at the making of a film is such a hilarious disaster. Come see for yourself what happens when one eccentric person won't stop until their work is properly finished. — Kalli Oberlander

Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m. through Apr. 7 // 652 W. 17th St. // \$12 adults, \$10 students and seniors, \$5 children under 12 // (814) 450-8553 // [allanact.net](http://allanact.net)

tion of Suicide Prevention. *Basement Transmissions*, 145 W. 11th St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

SPORTS

**Erie Otters vs. Kitchener Rangers**  
Mar. 13 — 7 p.m.  
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. [ottershockey.com](http://ottershockey.com).

**Erie Otters vs. Guelph Storm**  
Mar. 16 — 7 p.m.  
Otters regular season finale.  
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. [ottershockey.com](http://ottershockey.com).

**Erie BayHawks vs. Maine Red Claws**  
Mar. 20 — 7 p.m.  
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. [league.nba.com](http://league.nba.com).

**Erie BayHawks vs. Wind City Bulls**  
Mar. 22 — 7 p.m.  
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. [league.nba.com](http://league.nba.com).

**Erie Bayhawks vs. Westchester Knicks**  
Mar. 23 — 7 p.m.  
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. [league.nba.com](http://league.nba.com).

**Revenge Pro: Luck Is for Losers**  
Mar. 23 — 7 to 10 p.m.  
Root for the underdog in this pro v. amateur wrestling match featuring "Big Time"

Bill Collier, Wardlow, "Big League" John McChesney, Aaron Darven, Anthony Gaines and Kevin Bennett.  
Avalon Hotel, 16 W. 10th St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

**EPIC Volleyball Tournament**  
Mar. 24  
ERIEBANK Sports Park, 8155 Oliver Rd. [ovr.org](http://ovr.org).

COMMUNITY

**Global Boarders: Turkey & North Africa**  
Mar. 13 — 6 p.m.  
Trippe Hall at Penn St. Behrend, Aquarius Dr. [behrend.psu.edu](http://behrend.psu.edu).

**Trivia Night w The Eerie Roller Girls**  
Mar. 13 — 6 p.m.  
The Brewerie at Union Station, 123 W. 14th St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

**PA Biodiversity Teacher Workshop**  
Mar. 13 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. [trepci.org](http://trepci.org).

**Sustainable Bath and Body**  
Mar. 13 — 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. [registrationdesk.asburywoods.org](http://registrationdesk.asburywoods.org).

**The Great War & Its Connection to Erie & Pennsylvania**  
Mar. 13 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.

The lecture, which introduces the Erie County World War I Centennial Committee, will focus on how World War I changed the course of American history and the lives of the nearly 300,000 Pennsylvanians who were enlisted.  
Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. [jeserie.org](http://jeserie.org).

**Speaker Series: Linda Bernardi**  
Mar. 13 — 7:30 p.m.  
Leading technologist and former co-leader of the Watson team at IBM discusses her passion for sharing life-changing technology worldwide.  
Reed Union Building at Penn St. Behrend, 4701 College Dr. [behrend.psu.edu](http://behrend.psu.edu).

**Pi Day**  
Mar. 14  
Edinboro University Mathematics and Computer Science Department prepares a day of pi-centric activities for nearly 400 high school students.  
Ross Hall, 220 Scotland Rd., Edinboro, PA 16444 [edinboro.edu](http://edinboro.edu).

**Pennwriters Group**  
Mar. 14 — 1 to 4 p.m.  
Millcreek Branch Library, 2088 Interchange Rd. Ste. 280 [events.erieibrary.org](http://events.erieibrary.org).

**Basic Video Editing**  
Mar. 14 — 6 to 7:30 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E.

Front St. [events.erieibrary.org](http://events.erieibrary.org).  
**Silent Peace Walk**  
Mar. 14 — 7 p.m.  
W. 11th & Myrtle [erie-benedictines.org](http://erie-benedictines.org).

**St. Patrick's Weekend at the Peak**  
Mar. 15, 16, 17  
Peek'n Peak, 1405 Olde Rd., Clymer, NY 14724 [pknpk.com](http://pknpk.com).

**CSWNA and Gannon Social Work Conference**  
Mar. 15 — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Gannon University, 109 University Sq. [gannon.edu](http://gannon.edu).

**Fairytale Friday**  
Mar. 15 — 10 to 11 a.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.erieibrary.org](http://events.erieibrary.org).

**Stuffy Friends Sleepover**  
Mar. 15 — 4 to 6 p.m.  
Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. [registrationdesk.asburywoods.org](http://registrationdesk.asburywoods.org).

**Rejoice Refresh Renew Women's Conference**  
Mar. 16 — 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Grace Church McKean, 7300 Grubb Rd., McKean, PA 16426 [wctl.org](http://wctl.org).

**Princesses in the Park**  
Mar. 16 — 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Splash Lagoon Indoor Water Park, 8091 Peach St. [splashlagoon.com](http://splashlagoon.com).

**Birding Hike: Waterfowl**  
Mar. 16 — 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Perry Monument at PI State Park, 1 Peninsula Dr. [trepci.org](http://trepci.org).

**Learn to 3D Print/3D Printer Open Lab**  
Mar. 16 — 10 a.m. to noon  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.erieibrary.org](http://events.erieibrary.org).

**Coloring for Grown-Ups**  
Mar. 16, 23 — 10 a.m. to noon  
Multiple library locations [events.erieibrary.org](http://events.erieibrary.org).

**Master Builders: Block Party**  
Mar. 16 — 10 a.m. to noon & Mar. 18 — 4:30 to 6 p.m. & Mar. 25 — 6 to 7 p.m.  
Multiple library locations [events.erieibrary.org](http://events.erieibrary.org).

**Brain Awareness Day**  
Mar. 16 — noon to 3 p.m.  
Millcreek Mall, 5800 Peach St. [events.edinboro.edu](http://events.edinboro.edu).

**Dogs Outdoors**  
Mar. 16 — 1 p.m.  
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. [trepci.org](http://trepci.org).

**Trivia Trail**  
Mar. 16 — 1 to 2:30 p.m.  
Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. [registrationdesk.asburywoods.org](http://registrationdesk.asburywoods.org).

**42nd Annual Erie St. Patrick's Parade**  
Mar. 16 — 2 to 3:30 p.m.  
11th & State St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

**Blasco Writers' Group**  
Mar. 16 — 2:30 to 4 p.m.

Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.erieibrary.org](http://events.erieibrary.org).

**Exploring Erie Bluffs**  
Mar. 17 — 9 a.m.  
Erie Bluffs State Park, 11100 W. Lake Rd., Lake City, PA 16423 [events.dcnr.pa.gov](http://events.dcnr.pa.gov).

**Sugar Science**  
Mar. 18 — 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.  
Millcreek Branch Library, 2088 Interchange Rd. Ste. 280 [events.erieibrary.org](http://events.erieibrary.org).

**PI History Series: Evening Walk Through Time**  
Mar. 18 — 6 p.m.  
Saw Mill Entrance at PI State Park, 1 Peninsula Dr. [trepci.org](http://trepci.org).

**Pepper & Tomato Plants Workshop**  
Mar. 18 — 6 p.m.  
Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th St. [eriealeworks.com](http://eriealeworks.com).

**Throwback Game Night**  
Mar. 18, 25 — 6 to 8 p.m.  
Topsy Bean, 2425 Peach St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

**Monday Makers: Seed Starting Workshop**  
Mar. 18 — 6 to 8 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.erieibrary.org](http://events.erieibrary.org).

**Intro to Word I & II**  
Mar. 19, 26 — 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.erieibrary.org](http://events.erieibrary.org).

**Game Night**

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Experience the Mind of Michael Che at Penn State Behrend



Comedian Michael Che, most famous for his work on *Saturday Night Live*, will perform at Penn State Behrend's Junker Center.

work he laid for that gig is equally as impressive. Che first worked as a news correspondent for Comedy Central's *The Daily Show* with Jon Stewart. The comedian also had the opportunity to perform stand-up on late nights shows hosted by the likes of Seth Meyers and David Letterman before releasing his first

hour-long special, *Michael Che Matters*, on Netflix. Most recently, following acting stints in Comedy Central's *@midnight* and the Chris Rock directed film *Top Five*, Che co-hosted the 70th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards. Regardless of whatever new material Che is likely to be working, there's no doubt that audiences are getting one of the country's most relevant comedians at the peak of their career. — Aaron Mook

7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. // 5103 Station Road // \$10 Student Tickets, \$20 Public Tickets // [behrend.psu.edu/che](http://behrend.psu.edu/che)

FRIDAY, MAR. 22

Comedian Michael Che will be gracing the Junker Center stage at Penn State Behrend. This event is open to public, with discounted tickets being provided to students of the university. Che has been performing on the stand-up circuit for years, including Funny or Die's Oddball Festival, but most are likely to recognize him now from *Saturday Night Live*, where Che is not only a co-headwriter, but an anchor alongside Colin Hanks on the show's iconic Weekend Update segment.

Che's credits stretch beyond *Saturday Night Live*, however, and the ground-

Erie Phil Pops Closing Out Season with Erie Favorite Lisa Vroman



Lisa Vroman, whose soaring vocals landed her the role of Christine in the Broadway production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Phantom of the Opera* in the '90s, returns to the Warner Theatre to close out the Erie Philharmonic's 2018-19 Pops season.

temporary show tunes sure to delight Erie's many fans of musical theater.

The uber-accomplished soprano, who currently resides in Pasadena, California, did her graduate work at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh shortly before taking on the Big Apple, debuting on Broadway in 1990. It was in NYC that Vroman began performing in the lead female role, Christine Daaé, in Andrew Lloyd Webber's renowned *Phantom of the Opera*, a role which she would perform over 2,500 times during the next few years, before switching coasts and continuing her work as Christine in San Francisco.

Vroman inevitably brings the house down with her soaring vocals — won't you join her for an incandescent night at the Warner, celebrating the very best of Broadway? — Cara Suppa

SATURDAY, MAR. 23

Lisa Vroman has made a few appearances in Erie since her 2017 debut with the Erie Philharmonic, when she opened the pops season with the Cathedral of St. Paul Choristers and a bevy of Broadway hits, but the Gem City simply cannot get enough of this sparkling presence.

So conductor Daniel Meyer, at the head of the Erie Phil in the incomparable Warner Theatre, is giving the people what they want without further delay. Vroman will be closing the pops season this time around with the Back to Broadway program, featuring classic and con-

8 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. // Warner Theatre, 811 State St. // Tickets start at \$22, \$10 for students with ID // [eriephil.org](http://eriephil.org)

Mar. 19 — 5:30 to 7 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**Intellectual Property: Ask Me Anything**

Mar. 19 — 6 to 7 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**Using CBD Oil to Promote Healing**

Mar. 19 — 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
Edinboro Branch Library, 413 W. Plum St., Edinboro, PA 16412 [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**Theology Pub and Cafe**

Mar. 19, 26 — 7 to 8 p.m.  
Topsy Bean, 2425 Peach St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

**Packing Party Work Day for Operation Christmas Child**

Mar. 20 — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Grace Church, 7300 Grubb Rd., McKean, PA 16426 [samaritanspurse.org](http://samaritanspurse.org).

**Hatha Yoga**

Mar. 20 — 11 a.m. to noon  
Edinboro Branch Library, 413 W. Plum St., Edinboro, PA 16412 [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**Beach Glass Jewelry**

Mar. 20 — 2 to 4 p.m.  
Lincoln Community Center Library, 1255 Manchester

[Rd. events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**Impact of Income Inequality in Erie**

Mar. 20 — 5 p.m.  
Associate Professor of Economics at Behrend and Director of the Economic Research Institute of Erie Dr. Ken Louie lectures on the effect of income disparities on Erie.  
Metzgar Alumni Ctr. at Penn St. Behrend, 4701 College Dr. [behrend.psu.edu](http://behrend.psu.edu).

**Fiber Arts Meetup**

Mar. 20, 27 — 6:30 to 8 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**Erie Bluffs After Dark**

Mar. 20 — 7 p.m.  
Erie Bluffs State Park, 11100 W. Lake Rd., Lake City, PA 16423 [events.dcnr.pa.gov](http://events.dcnr.pa.gov).

**Read to a Therapy Dog**

Mar. 21 — 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. & Mar. 26 — 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.  
Multiple library locations [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**Intro to Computers & Internet II**

Mar. 21 — 5 to 8 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**FamilySTEM Night**

Mar. 21 — 6 p.m.  
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. [trecpi.org](http://trecpi.org).

**Applied Clinical Psychology Information Session**

Mar. 21 — 6 p.m.  
Penn State Behrend, 4701 College Dr. [behrend.psu.edu](http://behrend.psu.edu).

**Getting the Most from Your Phone Camera**

Mar. 21 — 6 to 7 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**Active Apples**

Mar. 22, 23 — 10 to 10:45 a.m.  
Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier Park, 1501 W. 6th St. [leaferie.org](http://leaferie.org).

**Vision & Hearing Screenings**

Mar. 22 — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Millcreek Branch Library, 2088 Interchange Rd., Suite 280 [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**Home & Garden Expo**

Mar. 22 — noon to 8 p.m. & Mar. 23 — 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. & Mar. 24 — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Bayfront Convention Center, 1 Sassafras Pier [eriepromotions.com](http://eriepromotions.com).

**Art Talk: The History of Painting**

Mar. 22 — 6 to 7 p.m.  
Erie Art Museum host

lecture which looks into the full history of painting since it began on cave walls, the artist's first canvas.  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

**Seven Years of Discipleship at Shiloh**

Mar. 22 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
Shiloh Baptist Church, 901 E. 5th St. 814-969-6145

**Story Shenanigans: Unicorn PAR-TAY!**

Mar. 23 — 10 to 11 a.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**Dungeons & Dragons**

Mar. 23 — 10 a.m. to noon  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**DiscoverE: Volcanoes**

Mar. 23 — 11 a.m.  
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. [trecpi.org](http://trecpi.org).

**Guide to CBD**

Mar. 23 — 11 a.m.  
Whole Foods Co-Op, 1341 W. 26th St. [wfcerie.coop](http://wfcerie.coop).

**Growing Peppers**

Mar. 23 — 1 p.m.  
Whole Foods Co-Op, 1341 W. 26th St. [wfcerie.coop](http://wfcerie.coop).

**Music Industry 101**

Mar. 23 — 1 to 2 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**Super Science Saturday**

Mar. 23 — 1 to 3 p.m.  
Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. [registrationdesk.asburywoods.org](http://registrationdesk.asburywoods.org).

**Breath Awareness for Inner Calm**

Mar. 23 — 1 to 3 p.m.  
Edinboro Branch Library, 413 W. Plum St., Edinboro, PA 16412 [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**DIGITfest**

Mar. 25, 26 — 4 to 10 p.m.  
Reed Union Building at Penn St. Behrend, 4701 College Dr. [sites.psu.edu](http://sites.psu.edu).

**Book Tasting**

Mar. 25 — 3:15 to 4:15 p.m.  
Iroquois Branch Library, 4212 Iroquois Ave. [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**Monday Makers: Open Drawing Sessions**

Mar. 25 — 6 to 8 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**Social Security Benefits for People with Disabilities**

Mar. 26 — 1 to 4 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E.

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

**Slime Series: Fluffy Slime**

Mar. 26 — 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**Perils of Plastic**

Mar. 26 — 5 p.m.  
You use plastic everyday, but do you know what it's made of? Where it comes from? Where it goes when you're done with it?  
Metzgar Alumni Ctr. at Penn St. Behrend, 4701 College Dr. [behrend.psu.edu](http://behrend.psu.edu).

**Book Club Discussion: A House in the Sky**

Mar. 26 — 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
Lincoln Community Center Library, 1255 Manchester Rd. [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**Yoga by the Bay**

Mar. 27 — 5:15 to 6:15 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

**Global Boarders: Iberian Peninsula**

Mar. 27 — 6 p.m.  
Trippe Hall at Penn St. Behrend, Aquarius Dr. [behrend.psu.edu](http://behrend.psu.edu).

**Interview Skills**

Mar. 27 — 6 to 7 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [events.erieliibrary.org](http://events.erieliibrary.org).

## CALENDAR

### Golden Dragon Acrobats Captivate at Mercyhurst



#### SATURDAY, MAR. 23

The Golden Dragon Acrobats were first established in 1967, but when they perform, they are representing a time-honored tradition that dates back to over 25 centuries ago.

In 2005, Golden Dragon Acrobats had a six-week stay on Broadway, where they had a sold-out opening night show filled with standing ovations. During their Broadway debut, they received not one, but two New York Drama Desk nominations for both Unique Theatrical Experience and Best Choreography.

The masterminds behind this unique theater experience are Danny Chang (their world-renowned manager) and their brilliant choreographer Angela Chang. Together they combine award-winning acrobatics with traditional dance, breathtaking costumes, and theatrical expertise, with music ranging

from ancient to contemporary.

What makes the Golden Dragon Acrobats stand out even further is that they remain the only Chinese acrobatic touring company to tour year-round in the United States. There's a reason these shows maintain their sold-out status. What you could expect to see in a Las Vegas show is coming straight to Erie, but for one night only.

Be sure you don't miss this incredible opportunity to be dazzled by the talent and sheer beauty of an art form that dates back so long ago. Golden Dragon Acrobats withstand the test of time, and will give you a show that's guaranteed to be unlike anything you've seen before. — Kalli Oberlander

7:30 p.m. // Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center, 501 E. 38th St. // Adults \$25, Seniors \$20, Students \$15 // [miac.mercyhurst.edu](http://miac.mercyhurst.edu)




**Music Industry 101**  
 Saturday, March 23 • 1-2PM  
 Idea Lab Community Classroom

Ever wonder why some favorite songs rarely make it on the radio? Join Kwame Dankwa, Afternoon Host and Program Director for Star 104, to learn about the basics of radio, why certain songs hit the air and others do not.

Meet us in the Community Classroom to hear from the expert! Registration is not required.











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# Back to Broadway

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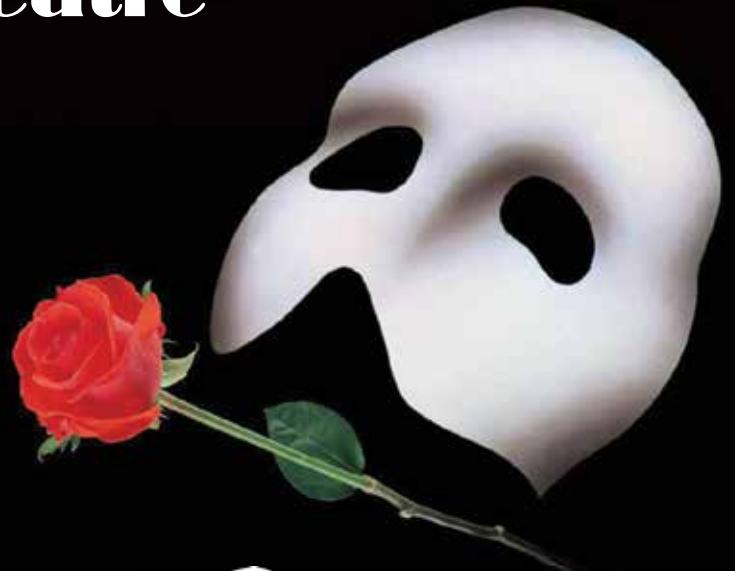
*Guys & Dolls*

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## MOVIE REVIEWS

### "Oh Captain, My Captain": *Captain Marvel* is so Much Less Than it Could Have Been

★★★

The Marvel Cinematic Universe has shown us a lot of things. It's given us robots, super-soldiers and a Norse god battling with a green behemoth. We've seen magic, monsters, and aliens from thousands of worlds, yet it wasn't until their 21st film that Marvel finally gave us a female-led story. Because of that, *Captain Marvel* is cause for celebration. Unfortunately, the same can't be said about the film itself.

This is the story of Vers (Brie Larson), a powerful being fighting in a war between two alien races. A dangerous mission takes Vers to Earth circa 1995 where the enemy is looking for a power that may turn the tide of the war. Teaming up with a young Nick Fury (a digitally de-aged Samuel L. Jackson), she must uncover the memories of her former life as pilot Carol Danvers.

The film's story manages to be both formulaic and convoluted with a first half that packs in so much backstory and lore that it almost overwhelms the entire film. After Danvers and Fury join forces, the film improves somewhat but it's still full of all the typical Marvel problems: over-reliance on quippy humor, weightless, effects-heavy action scenes, and far too many pop culture sight gags (this film tries to do for '90s music what *Guardians of the Galaxy* did for '70s music). I would love to be able to praise *Captain Marvel* because it's about time we had women leading these big, tent-pole movies, but it's just not good enough to break what I call the "Curse of Marvel Mediocrity." — Forest Taylor

Directed by: Anna Boden and Ryan Fleck // Written by: Anna Boden, Ryan Fleck, Geneva Robertson-Dworet, Nicole Perlman and Meg LaFauve // Starring: Brie Larson, Samuel L. Jackson, Jude Law, Ben Mendelsohn, Annette Bening, Lashana Lynch, Gemma Chan, Clark Gregg, Lee Pace and Djimon Hounsou // 124 minutes // Rated PG-13



WALT DISNEY STUDIOS

### No Good Deed Goes Unpunished: *Greta* is Silly Fun Anchored by a Great Actor

★★★

Neil Jordan's (*The Crying Game*, *Interview with the Vampire*) new film *Greta* is an odd duck. It is as silly, illogical, and melodramatic as an entire year's worth of Lifetime movies of the week, and yet I was oddly drawn into the film's twisted, nonsensical world. The film manages to take a B-movie premise and turn it into A-movie material thanks mainly to some clever cinematography and one master performer having as much fun with her role as she can.

The story follows Frances (Chloe Grace Moretz), a young woman who has recently moved to New York City after the death of her mother. She finds a handbag left on the seat of a subway train and decides to return it to its owner, a lonely older woman named Greta (Isabelle Huppert). Frances and Greta have an immediate connection and begin spending more time together, but it is slowly revealed that Greta is not all that she seems.

The film is beautifully shot, with ingenious camerawork that elevates it above its made-for-TV movie story. Also, Huppert has a lot of fun in her role as the titular character and somehow manages to rise above the film's most ridiculous scenes and dialogue. That being said, the dialogue is often goofy and the story meanders and features insane leaps of logic in order to get us to the third act. I'm not complaining, though, because that final act when the film finally lets its hair down and becomes the camp spectacle it was always meant to be is worth everything that came before. *Greta* is not a good movie (in fact, it is often quite bad), but it's so earnest in its silliness that it is just impossible to hate. — Forest Taylor

Directed by: Neil Jordan // Written by: Neil Jordan and Ray Wright // Starring: Isabelle Huppert, Chloe Grace Moretz, Maika Monroe, Colm Feore, Zawe Ashton, Jeff Hiller, and Stephen Rea // 98 minutes // Rated 'R'



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# LIVE

## NEWS 7 DAYS A WEEK

### WEEKEND

#### MORNING NEWS

SAT - SUN 8AM - 9AM

### sunrise

MON - FRI 5AM - 7AM

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Schedule Highlights

POV  
**306 HOLLYWOOD**  
A House is a Universe

March 18 at 9pm  
on WQLN-TV 54.1

## WOMEN WAR & PEACE II

March 25 & 26 at 9pm  
on WQLN-TV 54.1

**Waldrich Coburg NA, Inc.** in Erie, PA seeks Service Technician.

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## MUSIC REVIEWS

### Lil Pump

*Harverd Dropout*  
Warner Bros. Records



No, that album title isn't a typo. *Harverd Dropout* is the sophomore LP from "Gucci Gang" rapper Gazy Garcia, better known as Lil Pump. It is a puzzling and brief affair, and similar to his self-titled debut, the album clocks in at just 40 minutes, spanning 16 tracks. But unlike its 2017 eponymous predecessor, *Harverd Dropout* sacrifices the one thing Lil Pump had going for him — outrageously loud, but borderline irresistible beats — in favor of thin, EDM-tinted instrumentals that suck the life out of the rapper's admittedly colorful world. Even the features can't save Pump here. Playful verses from Offset ("Fasho Fasho") and, yes, Kanye West on the frustratingly catchy "I Love It," only go to show how out of his element Pump is as an MC. Still, even at its repetitive worst, there are moments that run on pure adrenaline alone, whether it's the beat of "Racks on Racks" or one of the aforementioned features (which include Lil Uzi Vert, Lil Wayne, and 2 Chainz among others). Unfortunately, Pump has some work to do before he earns the presence of those desperately needed peers. — Aaron Mook



### Sun Kil Moon

*I Also Want to Die in New Orleans*  
Caldo Verde Records



Here are the facts: *I Also Want to Die in New Orleans* was originally to be titled *Mark Kozelek with Donny McCaslin and Jim White*, until Kozelek saw a promotional poster for \$uicideboy\$ album *I Want to Die in New Orleans* and changed the title as a response. It is the third full-length album we've gotten from the prolific singer-songwriter over the span of a year. Depending on your relationship with his work, this is either very good or very bad news as *I Also Want to Die in New Orleans* is more of the same, for better or worse. At this point, Kozelek has made it clear that he has no intention of abandoning his lengthy (often 10+ minute), stream-of-conscious movements, and if his musings on topics including (but not limited to) housework, gun violence, dreams, traveling, politics, and pets have held your attention in the past, they likely will now. Not unlike the singer's gurgling on "Linda Blair," there's a unbelievable moment in the 23-minute closing track "Bay of Kotor" when Kozelek imitates the meow of a hungry cat, and in some experimental, avant-garde way, the songwriter remains as fascinating as ever. — Aaron Mook



### Sundara Karma

*Ulfilas' Alphabet*  
Sony



At first take, Sundara Karma might elicit some well-warranted eye rolls. In particular, the overly theatrical vocals of Oscar "Lulu" Pollock seem so unnaturally affected that it's nearly impossible to stop thinking about just how much of a David Bowie impression he's doing. Because the band heralds from Reading, just an hour west of Bowie's London, the similarity via accent and vocal register is somewhat explained. Is sounding like one of music's most beloved icons an intrinsically bad thing? Answers may vary depending on if you ask The Tallest Man On Earth, Nap Eyes, or (shudder) Greta Van Fleet. *Ulfilas' Alphabet* is the quartet's sophomore album, a full 13 songs in under an hour. The first half of the album goes by remarkably fast, filled with light disco beats and mildly psychedelic bright rock. It's a decent, but far from a groundbreaking modern alternative record. Charming, but relatively banal — perfect college radio companions for Imagine Dragons, Cage the Elephant, or Two Door Cinema Club. It's candy. Pop that you can in the end feel decent about, but leaves you with a hunger for something more substantial. — Nick Warren



### The Japanese House

*Good At Falling*  
Dirty Hit

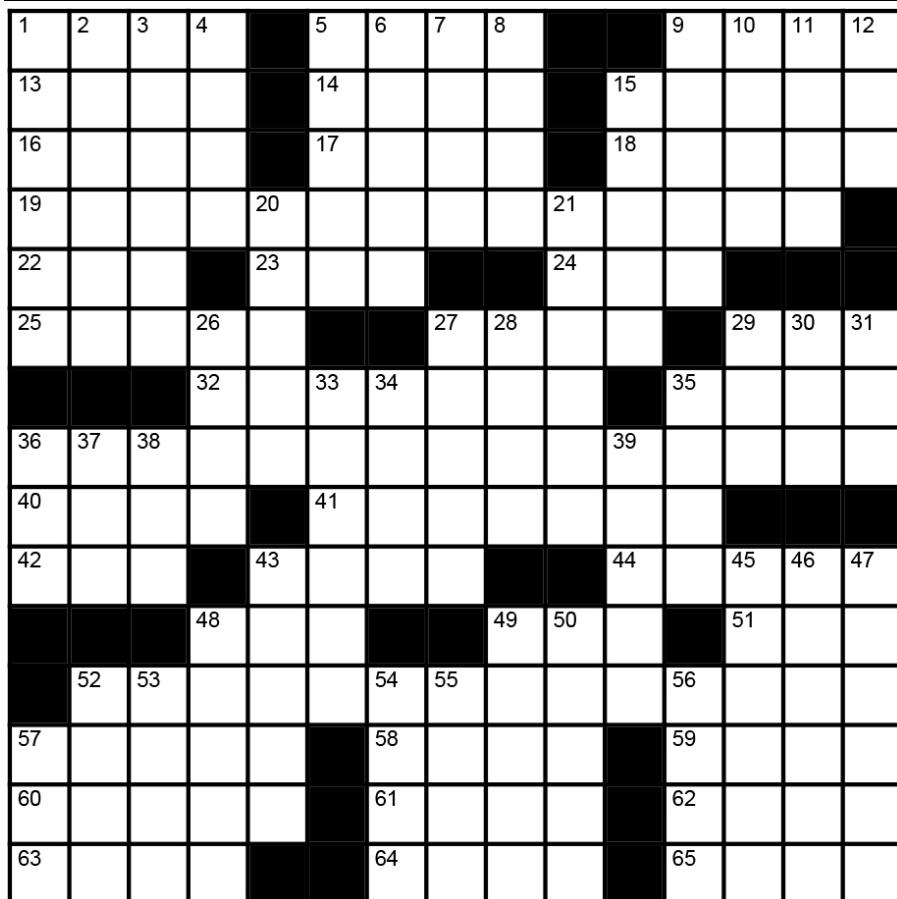


With a crystal-line beauty, the debut album from The Japanese House is a futuristic dream. The work of 23-year-old Buckinghamshire artist Amber Bain, *Good At Falling* sells its strange concoction of gleeful ennui in an authentic package. Several of the album's tracks were co-produced by The 1975 drummer George Daniel, and that influence is readily apparent — Bain also toured with the band, opening up for them on two different tour runs. Having released four EPs from 2015 to 2017 prior to this album, Bain has established a clear voice for herself. Sure, that voice might sound like what Imogen Heap has been doing for decades, mixed with Kanye-era Bon Iver and the aforementioned 1975, but it's more of an assemblage than a ripoff. Though the album is a slow listen, it's positively warming like a wool blanket in a Scandinavian villa overlooking something like the album cover's visage. The midpoint finds two welcoming back-to-back tracks, with the uptempo "You Seemed so Happy" and the catchy chorus of "Follow My Girl," while the album is full of synthy ruminations and entrancing soundscapes throughout. — Nick Warren



## TOMMY IN TOON — BY TOMMY LINK





**Across**

- 1. Intl. oil group
- 5. SpaceX founder Musk
- 9. Like a merciless movie review
- 13. \_\_\_ Grant (college financial aid)
- 14. It may be stored on the cloud
- 15. Company that buried 700,000+ unsold video games in 1983
- 16. Cruz with the 2010 #1 hit "Break Your Heart"
- 17. "Eat up every moment" sloganeer
- 18. Instruments hit with mallets
- 19. Really fuming
- 22. Mo. when the Supreme Court reconvenes
- 23. \_\_\_ Beta Kappa
- 24. Food scrap
- 25. Shellac ingredient
- 27. Poet \_\_\_ St. Vincent Millay
- 29. One of four in a grand slam
- 32. Provoking sort
- 35. Tylenol target
- 36. Shakespeare play in which Beatrice says "I love you with so much of my heart that none is left to protest"
- 40. Apple debut of 2001
- 41. Litter makeup
- 42. It breaks in the morning
- 43. Lavish care (on)
- 44. Pueblo building material
- 48. State-issued driver ID

**Down**

- 1. Select
- 2. Actor Guy of "Memento"
- 3. George and T. S.
- 4. Attire
- 5. Archie's wife on "All in the Family"
- 6. Emmy winner Christine
- 7. "Looking at it a different way," in texts
- 8. Back of the neck
- 9. Bar selection
- 10. Pessimist's word
- 11. Frustrated exclamation
- 12. "That may be true, but ..."
- 15. Lead-in to phobia
- 20. Sleep clinic concern
- 21. "Happy Birthday, Mr.

- President" singer
- 26. Having a crisp picture, say
- 27. Overjoy
- 28. What many college students accrue
- 29. Supervised
- 30. Dust jacket part, usually
- 31. Latest fad
- 33. Three-term Big Apple mayor
- 34. "Stop procrastinating!"
- 35. Condition once called "shell shock," for short
- 36. Prefix with life or wife
- 37. \_\_\_ creek
- 38. Playfully shy
- 39. Not suitable
- 43. Chicago Bears coaching legend Mike
- 45. Mark who was the 1998 PGA Player of the Year
- 46. Swimwear option
- 47. Title locale in a 1987 Cheech Marin film
- 48. Exams with a max. score of 180
- 49. Broom-\_\_\_ of the comics
- 50. Complete reversal
- 52. Initials on a cross
- 53. Raising canines?
- 54. Airline that flies only six days a week
- 55. Certain downer, for short
- 56. Common symbol in heraldry
- 57. The Beatles' \_\_\_ Pepper

**A Field Guide to Bad-Faith Social Justice Activists**

These species are often mistaken for actual civil rights advocates.



**Dunkus opportunistica**

Has done little for cause they purport to care about beyond weaponizing it against opponents

**Opprobrium selectivus**

Engages in chest-puffing display while ignoring massive prejudice on own side



**Wokeum impersonatus**

Claims to hate "social justice warriors" except for when mimicking them

**Bigotus blurtus**

Can't help saying bigoted things while trying to make an argument against discrimination



If you see one of these invasive pundits in the wild, IGNORE and DO NOT FEED.

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**Answers to last puzzle**



# CHRIS HIGBEE



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