



**SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL PREVIEW**

**THE COPPER CARRIAGE HISTERIE WEEK**

**OFF CONSTANTLY COMEDY PRIMARY ELECTIONS**

**PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING ABNEGATION**

**SEICHE DANCE COLLECTIVE WHAT THE BELLHOP SAW**

**SUNSET GRILL THE WALL THAT HEALS ERIE PHILHARMONIC**

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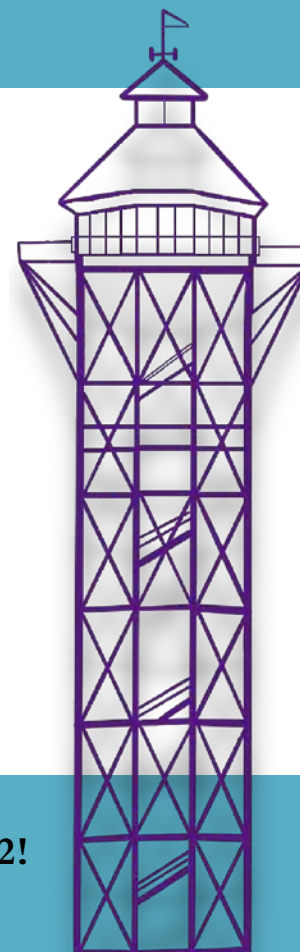


# WE BELIEVE IN ERIE

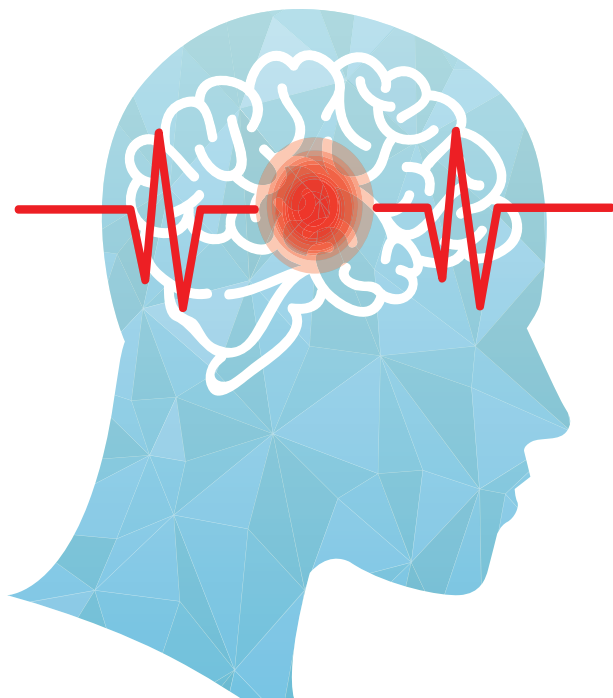
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**Ryan J. Lynch, D.O.**, a neurologist at LECOM Institute for Successful Aging, says a lot of patients don't recognize strokes soon enough. Sudden signs of a stroke include face drooping, arm weakness and speech difficulty. If you or someone you know shows any of these symptoms, even if they go away, call 911 and get to the hospital immediately. If you get to the emergency room within three hours, your stroke can be treated.

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## From the Editors

### The sands of a good time

For as good as it looks each summer, it costs a lot for Presque Isle State Park to stay in shape.

Every year, thousands of tons of sand are swept up by the nearly relentless wind and waves, to be redeposited as nature sees fit — more and more eastward if it had its way (consider that when Presque Isle first formed 3,500 years ago, it was likely located three miles to the west). The only reason it *doesn't* get its way is the two-pronged intervention efforts of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and National Resources and their ongoing beach nourishment program.

With the timely arrival of anywhere between 10,000 and 100,000 cubic yards of clean beach-fill sand (weighing between 13,000 and 150,000 tons), the effects of erosion are mitigated and the graceful curve of the peninsula is restored, just in time for the start of the swimming season on Memorial Day Weekend. The price tag for reconstructive surgery of that extent can total in the *millions*. But considering that 4 million visitors pass through every year — the bulk of them during Erie's hottest months — that's just pennies on the sand dollar to give every individual in these peak season crowds adequate real estate to rest their beach bums.

Although writers Jim Wertz and Dan Schank would heartily disagree with U.S. Rep. Mike Kelly that beach nourishment is Erie's *foremost* priority — not with voting rights under attack and the vast majority of Pennsylvania's public schools tragically underfunded — they would probably agree that everyone deserves a break (unless it's a tax break for the very rich). For the winter-weary, Erie summers are the proverbial sand replenishment of the soul, their warmth and wealth of activities restoring spirits worn down from months of cold — and these days a consistently disturbing news cycle and ideological divisions that have made us islands unto ourselves.

It's the perfect time of year to build back our peninsulas and feel whole again. Perhaps we do that by heading to the library for a good book and some perspective. Or maybe it's by taking in the sights, smells, and sounds of a local or nearby festival (see Nick Warren's robust rundown), wiggling our toes in the grass with a tasty delectation in hand. Or it could be a little retail therapy that you need — keep an eye on our online calendar for all the unique public markets set to open up shop in the coming weeks and months, such as those in the Hill District, Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier Park, and The Shop at 19th and Chestnut (Erin Phillips delves into this creatively repurposed building's history in these pages).

And remember if at least a cubic foot of that clean beachfill replenishment sand isn't nestled into your floor mats between now and September, you haven't been doing your part.

## Public Schools on Trial

Could a challenge to the state's constitution lead to more equitable funding?



HELISTOCKTER

By: Dan Schank

4.6 billion dollars.

According to Penn State's Matthew Gardner Kelly, Pennsylvania has fallen short by this amount in its school funding. In an alarming report authored as part of an ongoing lawsuit against the state, the assistant professor of education found other revelations as well. The funding gap between students in poor districts and those in wealthy ones amounts to \$4,800 per pupil. And that revenue gap has grown by about \$1,000 per student since the 2008-09 school year. Basic funding for education was \$470 million lower in real dollars in 2018 than it was a decade prior in Pennsylvania. In total, more than 80 percent of our 500 districts were found to be underfunded.

Kelly's report was filed last fall in connection to *William Penn School District, et al. v. Pennsylvania Dept. of Education, et al.*, a lawsuit brought forth by two public interest, non-profit legal organizations (the Public Interest Law Center and the Education Law Center), on behalf of six school districts, the Pennsylvania Association of Rural and Small Schools (PARSS), the NAACP Pennsylvania State Conference, and several concerned parents. Witness testimonies for the case concluded in March, with oral arguments scheduled

to begin on July 26.

"We are suing state officials, asking the court to declare that our current system for funding schools does not comply with the state constitution," says Deborah Gordon Klehr, executive director of the Education Law Center (ELC). The ELC and its co-councils are

---

**"Local wealth is determining the quality of education. A child's ZIP code is determining whether or not their textbook has Bill Clinton as the latest president, as was mentioned in Greater Johnstown's witness testimony from our trial." — Deborah Gordon Klehr, executive director of the Education Law Center**

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asking the court "to order the state legislature, the governor, and the Department of Education to create and maintain a thorough and efficient school funding system that allows all students to receive the quality education that they deserve."

Klehr, who spoke to me in late April, is quick to note that the lawsuit does not

**The fact that school districts in poor ZIP codes are grossly underfunded compared to those in rich ones is not exactly hidden behind closed locker doors. Because of disproportionate property values, the funding gap between students in economically disadvantaged districts versus wealthy districts currently amounts to \$4,800 per pupil, a discrepancy that has roused two public interest, nonprofit legal organizations to take action against the Pennsylvania Dept. of Education.**

demand a specific dollar amount. Instead, it claims that current state funding is unconstitutional and the disparities between districts are unjustifiable.

As you may suspect, those disparities play out locally as well. Data compiled last year by Klehr's organization and the Public Interest Law Center indicates that the City of Erie was short \$63,155,620 of our state's benchmark for basic adequacy. All 13 districts were underfunded, and the average student was short-changed \$4,941 annually. Of our economically disadvantaged public school graduates, only 21.5 percent earn a college diploma.

Our state's unusual reliance on local funding may be the culprit for many of these problems. "In most states, the majority of funding comes at the state level," says Klehr. "Pennsylvania is flipped — we rank 45th in the nation in

districts are taxed quite heavily — but because property values remain low, they still can't generate adequate revenue. "Local wealth is determining the quality of education," says Klehr. "A child's ZIP code is determining whether or not their textbook has Bill Clinton as the latest president, as was mentioned in Greater Johnstown's witness testimony from our trial."

Perhaps crunching the numbers locally would be instructive. In the City of Erie, using 2019 numbers, the median household income is \$37,894 and the median property value is \$89,100. Head a few miles west to Fairview and those numbers nearly double. Median household income rises to \$82,368, whereas the average property is worth \$171,700. And the Erie City School District is taxed at a higher rate than nearly 59 percent of Pennsylvania districts.

Testimonies from the trial included many troubling anecdotes. Take Lancaster School District, where Superintendent Damaris Rau indicated that four reading specialists serve 6,000 elementary school students — in a school where 20 percent of the children are English language learners. Noe Ortega, our Secretary of Education, testified that Black and Hispanic students earn degrees at less than half the rate of their white peers in Pennsylvania within six years of graduation. Similarly, in Wilkes-Barre, Superintendent Brian Costello noted that only 18 percent of his district's economically disadvantaged students earn a college degree within six years.

Klehr makes the case for change quite clear: "The pie is not big enough. It's inadequate and it's not distributed based on need. If all you do is redistribute this too-small pie, you aren't solving the problem. You have to grow the pie."

Can this lawsuit, which originated in 2014, make the pie larger? Klehr hopes for a ruling in 2023 — at which point it will most likely end up in the state Supreme Court regardless of outcome. In the meantime, many of our students' needs will continue to be neglected — often on account of geographic circumstance rather than personal integrity.

Dan Schank can be contacted at [danschank@gmail.com](mailto:danschank@gmail.com)





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## Be Present for histERIE

Erie County Public Library rolls out new weeklong event



COURTESY OF KATHLEEN CANTRELL

By: Liz Allen

When Marie Benedict researches her historical novels, she resembles Indiana Jones, she says. In her words, she is “excavating the past.”

Thanks to Benedict’s books, I’ve dug into the lives of Clara Kelley, a fictional Irish maid in Pittsburgh in the 1860s; Belle da Costa Greene, the remarkable African-American book-and-art acquisitions specialist who worked for J.P. Morgan in New York City in the early 1900s; and the beautiful actress Hedy Lamarr, who was also a World War II scientist and inventor in Vienna and Hollywood.

On April 2, Benedict was the keynote speaker at the Mercyhurst University Literary Festival, in a talk co-sponsored by the Erie Friends of the Library and the Erie Branch of the American Association of University Women.

Looking back on that lovely literary interlude, I realized that Benedict’s presentation served as an informal yet pertinent preview for a new Erie County Public Library initiative: histERIE Week 2022, taking place May 22-28. This event, which may become annual, showcases how libraries are both repositories of history and vehicles to make that history relevant today.

During histERIE week, more than three dozen programs will be offered at Blasco Library, library branches, and

historic venues, attractions, and neighborhoods in the City of Erie and Erie County. There will be walking tours, a bicycle ride, movies, hands-on and take-home activities, museum tours, and virtual events. If you attend at least four events, you will be eligible for a prize.

The local people contributing to histERIE week include creator Courtney Baran and program participant Jan Woods. Both women have a talent for fusing history, storytelling, and sense of place into unique experiences and educational adventures, and they each can trace their love of history to treasured books with Erie connections.

For Baran, 28, that book is Stephen E. Ambrose’s classic nonfiction work *Band of Brothers*, which she read when attending Seneca Valley High School in Cranberry, Pa. She didn’t know then that she would eventually marry her husband Andy and move to Erie, home to three members of the World War II *Band of Brothers* paratroopers in Easy Company: the late Ed Bernat, Edward Joint, and Joe Lesniewski.

Baran originally wanted to become a teacher. After earning a master’s degree in public history, writing her thesis comparing Erie’s war memorials to those in Pittsburgh, and interning at the Erie Maritime Museum and the Erie Art Museum, she found her niche at the Erie library, starting as an assistant and now serving as the digital col-

[left] Virginia Sorensen signs copies of her book, *Miracles on Maple Hill*, at the original Erie Book Store at 17 E. Eighth St. Amy Hipple, the girl in the plaid dress, was the inspiration for Marly, the main character in *Miracles on Maple Hill*. The girl to Amy’s right in the poodle skirt is Kathleen Cantrell, daughter of Erie Book Store owner Glenn Cantrell. She began working in the store at age 12, bought the store from her dad in 1979 and operated it at two different locations, on French Street and in Lovell Place, before selling it in 2011. The new owner moved locations twice before closing it in 2014. [bottom right] Courtney Baran, digital collections librarian for the Erie County Public Library, curates exhibits that highlight Erie history for the Michele Ridge Galleria, on the second floor of Blasco Library. Ridge was the former director of the library. The current display features Erie’s New American community.

lections librarian.

If you visit the Michele Ridge Galleria on Blasco’s second floor, in the corridor that leads to the Heritage Room, you can see examples of Baran’s nods to Erie history. Exhibits change three times a year, and recent ones have highlighted the Pontiacs, Erie’s Black baseball team, and the 100-year anniversary of Presque Isle State Park. This is where I spotted an old brochure, probably from the 1940s, touting the Erie Coach Company’s service to the peninsula. The photo of a bathing beauty in a bikini was certain to bring attention to the bus company’s schedule, touting its service from 10th and State streets

to the beach on Saturdays, Sundays, Wednesdays and holidays.

The current “Welcoming Erie” exhibit, showcasing Erie’s New Americans, demonstrates that local history is fluid and evolving. The display features stunning fashions designed by Erie tailor Ansuma Gbembo, originally from Sierra Leone. Coming soon: a look back at Erie’s one-room schoolhouses.

Baran came up with the idea for histERIE, including the play on Erie’s name, to celebrate Historic Preservation Month in May. For Baran, historic preservation isn’t just for professionals who work in that field. “HistERIE’s goal is to promote historic preservation from a community level ... what makes us a community, what helps to preserve our story,” she said.

That link between historic preservation and a community’s narrative resonates with Woods. A longtime Erie school principal in Northwest Pennsylvania, Woods, 74, retired early to spend more time with her two children (now adults) and to focus on the avocation she learned as a child on her family’s Edinboro farm: being a sugarmaker. That’s a skill that requires both science and art.

Since 2009, she and partner Lisa Nathanson have run Woods’ family homestead, Hurry Hill Maple Farm and Museum at 11424 Fry Road in Edinboro.



LIZ ALLEN





LIZ ALLEN

**Jan Woods, founder of Hurry Hill Farm and Museum in Edinboro, shows off a cabinet filled with memorabilia associated with Anne Beiler, the Edinboro school nurse and truant officer who made house calls if kids missed school. Beiler was the real-life model for Miss Annie, the stern but goodhearted school nurse in *Miracles on Maple Hill*, the award-winning children's novel set in Edinboro.**

Edinboro landmarks described in the book, including Mount Pleasant ski resort, which is Maple Hill. There is also a guide to a walking tour of the farmland.

But you won't truly appreciate your virtual or in-person visit if you haven't read the book, available throughout the Erie County Public Library system, by a free audio version online on the museum's website, and sold at the museum.

I checked out *Miracles on Maple Hill* from the Edinboro library branch, after driving by the Pennsylvania Historic Museum Commission marker installed nearby to honor Sorensen and her prize-winning book.

I didn't expect to become a fan girl of a children's book that is nearly as old as I am.

But after reading *Miracles on Maple Hill*, I've recommended it to family and friends. In today's world, we desperately need reminders about the restorative powers that await if we are kind to others and pay attention to their joys and their hardships, such as the shellshock (now called PTSD) that Marly's father suffered after World War II.

Miracles abound in this story and real life: spotting wildflowers in the woods, listening to bird calls in the backyard, watching young foxes frolic in a ravine. And, of course, that satisfying sensation of dribbling an intoxicating sample of pure maple syrup down your gullet.

*Liz Allen will do a walking tour of Lincoln Avenue for histERIE on May 26 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. For the complete event schedule, visit [eriecounty-pa.libguides.com/histerie](http://eriecounty-pa.libguides.com/histerie). You can reach her at [lizallenerie@gmail.com](mailto:lizallenerie@gmail.com).*

### If you go

Visit [eriecounty-pa.libguides.com/histerie](http://eriecounty-pa.libguides.com/histerie) for details about histERIE 2022 and to learn whether registration is required or recommended for programs. Most events are free, but some have a charge or ask for a donation.

Hurry Hill Maple Farm and Museum,

11424 Fry Road, Edinboro, will be open from noon to 4 p.m. on three Sundays this month: May 15, May 22 and May 29, before closing until September. On May 22nd, the museum will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Newberry Medal, awarded to the "most distinguished contribution to American literature for children." The children's book *Miracles on Maple Hill*, set in Northwestern Pennsylvania and written by former Edinboro resident Virginia Sorensen, received the Newberry Medal in 1957.

You can see the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Marker highlighting Sorensen, *Miracles on Maple Hill* and the maple sugar industry in Erie and Crawford counties on Route 6N, near the Edinboro branch of the Erie County Public Library.

### Did you know?

**T**he *Personal Librarian*, a historical novel by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray, is based on the real life of Belle da Costa Greene. Due to rampant racism, Greene felt compelled to conceal her Black identity by passing for White and claiming to be part Portuguese when J.P. Morgan hired her to maintain and upgrade his book and art collection.

Readers will easily recognize those same systemically racist attitudes and practices at work in society today.

But local history buffs will also spot a reference in Benedict's book that has an Erie connection. "So do you like our McKim, Mead and White design?" Morgan asks Miss Greene as he boasts about his opulent new library. "Lucky that we worked with McKim instead of White, isn't it?"

Morgan was referring to the prestigious architectural firm that included Stanford White, who designed Washington Square Arch in New York City. Harry Thaw of Pittsburgh, obsessed because his wife had once been White's girlfriend, shot White to death at Madison Square Garden in 1906. Found guilty by reason of insanity, Thaw was sentenced to 10 years in a state hospital for the criminally insane in Pennsylvania. Per the Mercyhurst University archives, several years after Thaw's 1947 death, Mother Borgia Egan, founding dean of Mercyhurst, purchased 20-foot-high bronze gates from Thaw's estate for the bargain price of \$600. Today, the gates still stand at the university's entrance on East 38th Street.

I literally got a taste of what the museum offers (for sale or to sample) when Woods treated me to individual paper thimbles filled with clear maple-sugar sap, maple cream, maple crumbs, maple barbecue sauce, and maple mustard. You will never want to eat stiff and stale pastel cotton candy after you've tried the heavenly spun confection that the museum makes and sells (\$3 for a quart container, \$5 for a bag).

In addition to maple-infused foods, you can buy other gift items, including *Miracles on Maple Hill*, by Virginia Sorensen. Written in 1954 when Sorensen lived in Edinboro, published in 1956, and winner of the prestigious John Newberry Medal for distinguished children's literature in 1957, *Miracles on Maple Hill* should have been on my reading radar when I was a kid.

But the book meant even more to me when I read it a few months ago. Now I understand why Woods has made it her life's work to tell youngsters and adults alike about this tender story, why it touches her heart, and how Erie area readers will delight in recognizing the Edinboro locale, complete with legendary snowfalls.

"The story of *Miracles on Maple Hill* was always part of my life because our family made pure maple syrup and the book was written about our corner of Pennsylvania. Each spring, that book came alive in our sugarhouse," Woods said. "I have been told that Mrs. Sorensen came to our classroom and read it to us. I wasn't there! I had chickenpox," she recalled.

The book's characters were real Edinboro residents. They include Amy

Hipple Bjork and her brother, Karl, whose fictional names are Marly and Joe. Mr. Chris and his wife Chrissie are based on sugarmakers Harvey and Amy Kreitz, while Harry the Hermit was inspired by the reclusive Tony Beigel.

At the museum, you will learn that Sorensen, a Utah native, lived in Edinboro in the 1950s when her husband taught English at Edinboro College. You can see the technique that the book's illustrators, Philadelphia artists Beth and Joe Krush, used for the book's black-and-white and colorized art. If you recognize their style, it's because they also illustrated *The Borrowers* series and the *Golden Picture Dictionary*.

You can hold Sorensen's hallowed Newberry Medal in your hands as you absorb the museum's lessons about John Newberry's mission a century ago to create juvenile libraries, filled with quality literature for youngsters who previously were limited to reading the Bible and nursery rhymes.

Explore the many artifacts that are part of the tactile history of *Miracles on Maple Hill* — the massive RFD mailbox that belonged to Mr. Chris; household furnishings from Mr. Chris and Chrissie; implements used to collect sap to cook and process maple syrup; portraits, photographs and news clippings about Sorensen; the script for a play starring Miss Annie, the formidable but caring school nurse whose real name was Anne Beiler; and examples of the unbroken wooden chains carved by Beagle (the Hermit).

At [hurryhillfarm.org](http://hurryhillfarm.org), you will find directions for a driving tour of the



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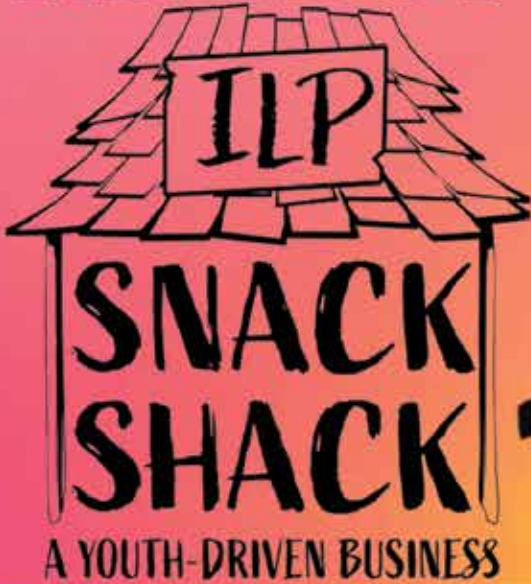
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## Erie At Large: Navigating the 2022 Democratic Primary

Candidates for several of November's key races on the ballot



GOVERNOR TOM WOLF/GOVERNOR TOM WOLF/DANPASTORE.COM

By: Jim Wertz

Our democracy is in peril. We've said it so much over the past few years that it almost seems cliché to continue saying it. But, sadly, it's true.

Across the country and right here in Pennsylvania, Republicans wrap themselves in the flag and declare themselves patriots as they attempt to dismantle our most fundamental rights and privileges. Insurrectionists who participated in the January 6, 2021 assault on the United States Capitol are Republican candidates for Pennsylvania governor, representatives in Congress, as well as State House and Senate candidates.

In Erie County, Republican candidates for the 4th Legislative District include members of the alt-right hate group, the Proud Boys, and other weak men who attempt to display their strength by showing off the size of their guns. It's a Freudian nightmare.

Each of these Republican candidates will, no doubt, theme their campaigns in opposition to the workings of state government and the problems of bureaucracy. Hypocrites all. Let's be real, Republicans are the problem with the government.

This campaign cycle will no doubt include Republican attacks on the quality of education even though they've controlled education spending in the commonwealth for nearly 30 years.

They will attack voting rights and the processes that allow people to freely and easily cast their ballots, even though Republicans voted unanimously in favor of mail-in and early voting. They will talk about our need to court businesses to Pennsylvania to repair our economy, even though they've failed to live up to that promise for three decades. And Republicans will complain about the gas tax, and taxes generally, even though they've controlled the budget negotiations in the General Assembly since 1996.

The truth is they can't fix those problems and they won't fix those problems because they are the problem. Pennsylvania Republicans are sellouts and thieves who will continue to feed at the trough of lobbyists and insurrectionists because they've so badly gerrymandered the commonwealth that they've stood virtually no challenge. Until now.

The new legislative maps, which dictate the political boundaries of legislative districts in the Pennsylvania House and Senate, as well as our congressional districts, are the fairest maps this state has had in more than a generation. The bi-partisan legislative redistricting committee that oversaw the redistricting process created competitive districts that hold the potential to balance the partisan makeup of the state legislature and Pennsylvania's congressional delegation.

Here in Erie County, redistricting

**Among the Democratic candidates who could be competing in key state races this November are (left to right) Attorney General Josh Shapiro (for governor), Lieutenant Governor John Fetterman (for U.S. Senate), and business owner Dan Pastore (for U.S. House). The Pennsylvania primary elections take place on Tuesday, May 17.**

means that every local legislator's district has changed. State House District 1, represented by Pat Harkins, is now composed of the City of Erie, except the Fifth Ward in the southeastern section of the city. The Fifth Ward is now entirely part of House District 2, represented by Bob Merski, who now has constituents in Wesleyville, Harborcreek, and Greene Townships, in addition to Summit Township, which was already a part of HD 2. House District 3, served by Ryan Bizzarro, now includes Millcreek and Fairview townships in their entirety. Harkins, Merski, and Bizzarro are unopposed in the Democratic primary election, although Bizzarro will have a Republican challenger in the general election.

The most significant redistricting change in Erie County is the new House District 4, formerly represented by Republican Curt Sonney, who announced his retirement in January. After redistricting, HD 4 is a geographic behemoth stretching from North East to Corry in eastern Erie County, across the southern tier of Erie County south of Summit Township, to Elgin Boro in west county and north again to Girard and Lake City. There are five Republicans (referenced above) vying for their party's nomination in this very Republican district. Former Corry City Councilwoman Chelsea Oliver is the sole Democrat in the race for HD4.

Republican Brad Roae is seeking a ninth term in House District 6 and will face off against Democrat Narissa Galt in November. Both candidates are unopposed in this primary. Roae used to represent a small portion of Fairview Township, but since redistricting HD 6, which is mostly in Crawford County, now includes a handful of municipalities in southwestern Erie County, from Albion Boro to the Ohio border.

In the race to unseat Kremlin Mike Kelly, the lying, undemocratic, Q-Anon spouting insurrectionist who is seek-

ing his seventh term in Congress, Erie County Democrat Dan Pastore is one of two Democrats seeking the nomination. Pastore was the founder of Erie. Net — the region's first internet service provider in the 1990s — and more recently started the Fairview-based FishUSA, an online fishing tackle and outdoors shop he founded in his garage with the help of his wife and brother and now employs more than 60 people. Pastore will face Rick Telesz, a farmer from Volant, Pa. on the May ballot.

The highest profile race in this primary election cycle has been the race for Pennsylvania's open United States Senate seat. Three seasoned legislators are seeking the Democratic nomination in this race. Lieutenant Governor John Fetterman maintains a healthy lead in recent polls and in fundraising, but Congressman Conor Lamb of Allegheny County and State Representative Malcolm Kenyatta continue to make strong appeals to voters as we head toward the May 17 election. Regardless of who the Democratic nominee will be, any one of these three candidates are a superior option to the millionaires and megalomaniacs seeking the loyal embrace of the Trump base in the Republican Party.

While the Senate race has dominated national and statewide media attention, the most important race on the ballot remains the one for Pennsylvania's next governor. There is no primary contest for the Democratic nomination. Attorney General Josh Shapiro announced his run for governor earlier this year with more than \$10 million dollars in the bank to kickstart his campaign. Shapiro has now run and won two statewide races for attorney general, in 2016 and 2020, demonstrating his ability to win votes across party lines while carrying out a legal defense of Pennsylvanians and the commonwealth on issues from predatory lenders to the Big Lie.

Shapiro hand-picked his choice for lieutenant governor, Allegheny County State Representative Austin Davis, who was endorsed with Shapiro by the Pennsylvania Democratic Party in March. Despite the endorsement of Shapiro and the party, Davis faces a primary challenge from Philadelphia State Representative Brian Sims, who



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## NEWS & VIEWS

Party Control of the Pennsylvania Legislature

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Senate	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
House	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	D	D
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Senate	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
House	D	D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

has campaigned aggressively for the office.

The races for governor and lieutenant governor are the marquee events of 2022 because it is the last check and balance on a General Assembly that has spent the past few years chasing shadows of the past and promoting conspiracy theories with a legislative agenda rooted largely in contempt of the very people they represent. The governor is the last line of defense keeping Pennsylvania from turning into Florida or Texas.

You can vote early in the Election Office at the Erie County Courthouse

during regular business hours, you can drop your mail ballot in the drop box on the front steps of the County Courthouse, or you can go to your polling place on May 17.

I know it's been a heavy couple of years and people need a break from politics, but the stakes remain too high. Don't waste your right to vote. There are 142 Republicans in Harrisburg trying to take it away from you.

*Jim Wertz is a contributing editor and Chairman of the Erie County Democratic Party. He can be reached at [jWertz@ErieDems.com](mailto:jWertz@ErieDems.com) and you can follow him on Twitter @jim\_wertz.*

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## Local Comedy You Can't Beat

Off Constantly Comedy and the burgeoning stand-up scene



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

(left to right) Anthony Morelli, Dan Brady, and Brittany Alexis are among those injecting life into Erie's budding stand-up scene, with Morelli and Brady hosting a number of open mic nights across the region through their Off Constantly Comedy production company.

By: Jonathan Burdick

I'm on stage alone. It's me, the microphone, and a stool. I'm outwardly still, but my mind is racing. Do I stand or do I sit? Should I hold the microphone or emphasize with both hands? What if I stumble over my words? What if I stumble over my feet? What if I don't get laughs? What if I *bomb*? I take a deep breath, reach for the mic, and look out at the audience: my moderately amused 8-year-old son and the lone employee working the nearby concessions. The latter barely registers my presence. It's a tough audience.

I was on the interactive stage at the National Comedy Center, just a short drive from Erie in Jamestown, N.Y., and while at least half of my audience was guaranteed to laugh at even my worst dad jokes, an unexplainable prickling nervousness was still present as I awkwardly stood there. Maybe it was the flashbacks to that time when I forgot my lines on stage during a play in the fifth grade. Or maybe it was the indifferent employee, who almost certainly assumed that I, like most wannabe funny men sporting New Balance tennis shoes on this stage in front of their kid, wouldn't be nearly as amusing as I thought myself to be. He wouldn't have been wrong.

"Doing comedy alone onstage is the ego's last stand," wrote Steve Martin in his 2007 memoir *Born Standing Up*. As Jerry Seinfeld once joked, death is the second most common fear while public speaking is the first. "This means to the average person, if you have to be at a funeral, you'd rather be in the casket than doing the eulogy," he quipped.

While some comics might make it look easy — and it might surprise some just how many comedians self-identify as introverted — stand-up comedy is often regarded, for good reason, as one of the more challenging careers in showbiz. Martin explained in

his memoir how during his 18 years of doing it, 10 of those he spent learning, four years were spent improving, and only during the last four did he experience, in his words, "wild success."

The first step though? Trying.

"What most people deem the hardest part about stand-up comedy, just getting up on stage, is the easiest part about stand-up," local Erie comic Anthony Morelli says. For Morelli, it's the grind of continually writing that is the most challenging aspect, the replacement of and constant search for those perfect words, the tightening of the act, and the endless self-critical loop of rehearsing, listening to, and watching oneself on stage.

In recent years, Morelli has become one of the most familiar faces in Erie's stand-up comedy scene, which he describes as "bubbling" once again after being uprooted by the pandemic. Yet, his entrance into the stand-up world was never inevitable. A few years ago, he was working as a personal trainer. He regularly used humor to distract his clients from the pain, occasionally mentioning during these sessions that he wanted to try stand-up, but that his stage fright held him back.

"I had started writing down jokes in a notebook and, on a Sunday, one of my clients sent me a picture of the marquee at [Jr's Last Laugh Comedy Club]," Morelli explains. It advertised an open-mic night that Thursday. He called that Wednesday to inquire what he needed to do to get some time and they responded that he'd have five minutes and they'd see him tomorrow. "I thought it was going to be what you hear about: barely anyone there except the bartenders," Morelli recalls. Instead, when he turned up 30 minutes early in order to have time to calm his nerves, he witnessed a full house. Standing room only. "I was scared as shit," he admits.

Despite his nerves (and the emcee announcing to

the audience that it was Morelli's first time on stage), it went pretty well. He was hooked. He quickly realized though that there weren't an abundance of opportunities to hone his craft in the Erie area, so he'd trek to Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and Buffalo to get stage time where he'd get three to five minute slots.

"[A] four-hour commute to do five minutes is hard to keep up," he says, adding that the local comedy club at the time *did* have open mic nights, but they were more used for scouting established talent (which he didn't understand at first being so new to the scene) than being a place to practice and work out new bits.

As a result, he and another local comic, Dan Brady, began organizing open mic nights throughout Erie. Before long, this venture transformed into Off Constantly Comedy and he began producing more shows around the region.

While the pandemic derailed some of his plans, momentum has clearly picked back up in recent months. Brady has hosted numerous shows throughout the area at venues such as the Erie Movie House. With Off Constantly Comedy, Morelli oversees and hosts a monthly open mic night at State Street's Voodoo Brewery and there will also soon be a weekly one at the newly-opened RandyBillDuck at PACA, a few blocks south at 1505 State St. He has also started a headliner series at the Kings Rook Club, as well as rotating comedy showcases at Black Monk Brewery, Erie Distillery, and the Voodoo Brewery Production Facility in Meadville.

One of the comics who has been earning plenty of laughs at these shows is Brittany Alexis, who recently moved to Erie from Pittsburgh. She first tried out stand-up comedy in 2017.

"I always knew I wanted to be a trial attorney, but I was very soft-spoken and relied too heavily on notes when presenting," Alexis describes. "After graduating law school, I decided to take the February bar exam instead of the July [exam] and had some downtime."

During this downtime, she and a neighbor went to snag a bite to eat at a Pittsburgh restaurant called Hambones. It also happened to be their open mic night. She immediately sensed that this could be the perfect tool to help her overcome her fear of speaking in front of small groups.

"It's low risk, high reward," she says. "The next week, I went in and tried it and fell in love with the craft. Getting laughs is addictive."

She took a break in 2018 while preparing for the bar exam, but the following year, she went back to it and was soon booking shows regularly. For New Years 2020, she performed at the landmark Byham Theater in Downtown Pittsburgh, opening for Gab Bonesso

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Local comic Anthony Morelli performs at the Kings Rook Club during a recent installment of Off Constantly Comedy's headliner series.

and Franqi French. She even booked her first comedy festival. Then, one week before she was set to perform there, the world shut down. So, like many, she did what she could: performing over Zoom.

"It wasn't the same as being on stage, but it was good for me to develop new material and make connections with comics in other areas," Alexis says. After some time, she was again performing in front of live audiences, first at outdoor venues and, then more slowly, back into smaller indoor venues. This included a gig in Erie with Morelli, who helped connect her

with other comics and booked her for more shows.

Since moving to Erie recently, she's still kept her Pittsburgh connections and performs there almost every weekend. She is also excited to be in Erie, both for the growing scene here, but also due to its central location to other nearby comedy scenes.

"My hopes as a comic are just to improve constantly," she says. "Push my boundaries and see what I can do with this amazing craft. I really hope to help grow the Erie scene with the other comics and bookers out here. ... There are a lot of creative people here and I'm really excited to see what we can build together."

As for Morelli, his goal is to open a brick-and-mortar comedy club within the next five years. He's also working on developing an Erie Comedy Festival. In the meantime, Morelli hopes to grow the local talent pool. Currently, he is part of the development of a local improv group, which includes Alexis. He describes the venture as something fun and fresh.

"We have some very creative minds and are hoping to have something we can showcase to the community soon," he says, adding that when they've finished for the night, they all seem to be happier for having laughed so hard together. "We're all amateurs, but each brings a different viewpoint and strength into the group and we are becoming more organized."

For those who might be interested in trying out stand-up comedy?

"Just do it. Even if it is one joke, just get on stage and

do it," Morelli stresses. "Once that happens, a weight gets lifted and allows you to focus on what you want to write and joke about rather than [asking yourself] what do I do on stage."

"Definitely hit up the open mics when you see them," agrees Alexis. "That's the best way to start, in my opinion."

"And expect to bomb sometimes," adds Morelli. "No one is going to make every room laugh every single time until you've put in your hours."

"If you don't feel ready yet, just go to the [open] mic [night], meet the people who do them, [and] go to shows," Alexis advises. "I think the more you're exposed, the more you give yourself an advantage once you start."

As for me, I think I'll keep my New Balances and dad jokes, but I'll stay off the stage and in the audience, enjoying the hard comedic work of Alexis, Morelli, Brady, and other local talent from my seat. Like many, I'm simply happy to watch Erie's comedy scene continue to grow and thrive.

Follow Anthony Morelli at [facebook.com/offconstantlycomedy](https://facebook.com/offconstantlycomedy), Dan Brady at [facebook.com/dbcomedys814/](https://facebook.com/dbcomedys814/), and Brittany Alexis at [facebook.com/bfeldz](https://facebook.com/bfeldz)

Jonathan Burdick runs the historical blog *Rust & Dirt*. Find him on Twitter @JonathanBurdick

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## Curated Curiosities on Chestnut

Copper Carriage owners Stephanie and Joe Hunt creatively reuse antique items and decor



ERIN PHILLIPS

By: Erin Phillips

Before walking through the door of the Copper Carriage, a unique antique shop nestled into the old offices for the factory at 1909 Chestnut, a sign reads: “Beware, fluffy guard dog on duty.” That’s Izzy, a little, snuggly floof who runs up to greet you as if you came to visit her at home.

And it’s that feeling of home that owners Stephanie and Joe Hunt are trying to elicit. Stephanie explains: “I always said that if I ever had a shop I’d want it to feel like you were walking into my home but everything is for sale.” So, the couple has worked to create a space that feels comfortable,

Joe and Stephanie Hunt, the proprietors of Copper Carriage, a uniquely curated antique store at 19th and Chestnut pictured in their shop with their “fluffy guard dog” Izzy.

familiar, and inviting. The Hunts didn’t start out with the plan to own an antique shop, but the road rose up before them as their hobby of collecting antiques grew into what is now a successful small business in a beautifully reused historic space on Chestnut Street.

And the couple isn’t keeping their success to themselves. In the summer of 2021, Copper Carriage hosted their first open-air market featuring local vendors, makers, antique sellers, as



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COPPER CARRIAGE

**[left] Copper Carriage is curated to look and feel like a beautifully decorated home. The Hunts have divided the open former office space into different "rooms" like an antique Ikea, set up to give their patrons ideas of new ways to use old items, and give them a new life. [bottom right] The entrance to Copper Carriage at 1909 Chestnut St. on the day of their first Market on 814 day started a regular event featuring local vendors, artisans, food, drink and music.**

well as local food and drink for 814 Day in August followed up by an "Autumn and Oddities" Halloween-themed market in October and a chilly Spring Market at the end of March. These events have been so well received that the Hunts are working to continue the tradition and make the markets a regular event for the Erie creative community.

The story of Copper Carriage began when Stephanie went to pick up an antique cabinet one day. "It all started organically; we moved into an old house in early 2017 and we just started collecting for ourselves," Stephanie recalls. "Some of the very first pieces we got were from this local guy who was a lifelong collector/picker. I went to pick up a cabinet that Joe found on Craigslist for the house. I was amazed: this man has an entire barn and house full of stuff. He told me that if you find something but it's not your style but you find it interesting grab it up, because someone will want it." It was this advice that sparked what would eventually become Copper Carriage. The Hunts began by selling these extra

items on eBay, and while visiting the Edinboro Antique Mall, asked to be put on the waiting list for a vendor stall. In late 2017, they were assigned a 10-by-10 stall at the antique mall and everything cascaded from there.

In October of 2019, Joe noticed a post on Facebook for a retail space for lease in the Shops at 19th and Chestnut. The Shops are owned and operated by the McCreary family, who previously used the space for their roofing company but have since moved that operation to a different facility and now keep the massive industrial building to lease for art studio space and events.

At this point, the Hunts had two stalls at the Edinboro market and were busting at the seams. They went to see the available space on 19th and Chestnut and knew they could make it work. After doing some renovations to make sure the shop was ADA compliant and conformed to fire code (which meant, thankfully, tearing down the drop ceilings to reveal the gorgeous, original high ceilings underneath), as well as having the property zoned for busi-

ness with the help of the ever-present Sisters of Saint Joseph Neighborhood Network, they were set to open in November of 2020.

Walking into a well-curated antique store already gives one a sense of the past, but having that antique store in a building that is over 100 years old amplifies that feeling of history. The building itself has been a fixture on the southeast corner of 19th and Chestnut, along the Nickel Plate Road, for more than a century, but in all that time, it has only had two owners: Germann Bronze (which later became Erie Bronze) and the McCreary Roofing Company. Germann Bronze was started by John G. Germann who came to Erie in 1889 and shortly thereafter incorporated his business at 19th and Chestnut. It was highly successful and Germann was a well-respected citizen. However, he suffered from chronic pain, "nervousness and sleeplessness" which led him to commit suicide in 1909, leaving the business to his partners.

It was shortly after Germann's death that the name of the business was changed from Germann Bronze to Erie Bronze, mainly due to anti-German sentiment following World War I. According to an Erie Times News Article from September of 1993 in which

the vice president of Erie Bronze and Aluminum, Kevin O'Connell was interviewed: "The facility with a big sign that said 'Germann Bronze Company' was located along the railroad tracks and every time a troop train went by the building was bombarded by stones. It lost so many windows that the name was changed." Erie Bronze and Aluminum, the same business started in the 1900s, moved their operation to Fairview in 1967, and is still in business today.

And now the building, shorn up and made modernly comfortable by the McCreary Roofing Company who purchased it after Erie Bronze moved out, is being reused to house some of the most creative minds in our town. MenajErie Studio (video production) has their spot on the 19th Street side of the property with Brad Triana's BOTH Studio, and of course, Copper Carriage with their imaginatively laid out shop on the Chestnut Street side. A corner that was once purely industrial is now a hub of creative local talent.

This mix of history, creativity, and reuse is what drives Copper Carriage; preserving those items, made with the quality and craftsmanship of the past, that would otherwise be overlooked or discarded and showing people how they can be used in different ways. Stephanie explains: "I think it's also about saving things from going into landfills, it's an environmental aspect of reuse. A lot of what we do is repurposing things. Sometimes something can't be reused as it was originally intended. Toolboxes are a good example. No modern carpenter is going to lug around an old wooden toolbox, but it can still be



ERIN PHILLIPS



useful and beautiful as someone's centerpiece or as a shelf. People come in here and say 'Wow, I didn't even know this place was here!' and that's kind of like the way we display our things: 'Oh I didn't know I could use it for that!'"

For Joe Hunt, preserving local antiques is particularly important to him: "My family has been here in Erie since like 1820. My fourth-great uncle started Erie City Iron Works. There was so much manufacturing in Erie, that now there are so many collectible items left from those days. Griswold Cast Iron, Marx Toys, Erie Iron Works, even tools like from Reed Manufacturing ... For a collector, Erie items are really desirable."

It is in this spirit of supporting locally made products that the Copper Carriage came up with the idea of hosting their markets, allowing local creatives as well as other antique dealers to have the opportunity to share their wares with a larger audience. "I think it's amazing how many creative people live in Erie." Stephanie continues, "The markets are a way to give back to those people who don't have their own retail

space. Everyone wants it to be a success, everybody promotes everybody — we're really working together in that community sense."

Sally Jankowski, former owner of the vintage shop Attic Rehab and a regular vendor at the markets hosted by Copper Carriage, reflects on their importance: "The markets have been great! This is such a fun opportunity to do the creative work I enjoy with furniture and vintage pieces without the stress of running an entire business. I can approach it with a more relaxed mindset." Jankowski continues, "I think so many people are drawn to the markets because it's an easy way to explore the world of entrepreneurship without the risk. I also see the community come out in droves for these events."

Charmain Wismar, owner of Charmain's Custom Creations is also a happy vendor of the Copper Carriage Markets. She has been overwhelmed with the amount of support she has received from the Hunts, as well as the Erie community: "Copper Carriage is supportive of not just the business I run but of other local businesses. Joe

and Steph see the positive in everyone that surrounds them. All it takes is for one person to believe in you and that sparks a fire to succeed. I look forward to the market this summer and all the success and happiness it brings to Erie."

Currently, Copper Carriage has a Summer Market scheduled for Saturday, June 25 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. which will take place on a closed-off Chestnut Street just south of West 19th Street, as well as in the Copper Carriage parking lot. In addition to a menagerie of local vendors, there will also be live music, local beer and spirits, and food trucks. And, of course, the Copper Carriage will be open for business during the market, with all of their best, most unique, and most recent finds ready to find a new purpose in your home.

*The Copper Carriage (1909 Chestnut St.) can be reached via Instagram or Facebook at @coppercarriage or at coppercarriage.com. And look for their recurring ads in the Erie Reader for notifications of their upcoming Market events.*

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## 2022 Music Festival Guide

Fun-filled weekends around the region await



JESSICA HUNTER

By: Nick Warren

Music Festivals are back in a big way in 2022. While it's certainly no secret that the live music industry has been hurting after the life-altering events of the pandemic, these events persevere. People want to go to them, and keep coming back year after year.

A lot of sensory memories will probably be triggered this summer. The smells, from food trucks to stale sleeping bags, the trees and nature interspersed with colorful tents and tapestries, and most importantly, the sounds, as the leaves crunch while you're chatting with friends on the way to see one of your favorite bands.

Can you hear the faded music in the distance? The lower bass tones hit first, and you can physically feel it getting closer. The mids pop in, and then those glorious highs (don't forget your earplugs, by the way). At long last, you're finally on your way back to the main stage.

Note: This list is subject to change. This is not a complete list.

### Music Festivals by Home Base

Here we can find some of the best-known Erie weekends. As Edinboro kicks things off, the summer is packed with things to do nearly every day. There are long-running fests like The Gathering at Chaffee's (in its 42nd year) and Erie's

Blues and Jazz Fest (in its 28th year), as well as newer returning festivals like the Riverside Music Festival and Edinboro's EDM-focused Firelights. Celebrate Erie is back too, along with Arts & Drafts and many more.

### Edinboro Art & Music Festival

May 20 - 22  
Downtown Edinboro, PA // [edinboro-artandmusic.com](http://edinboro-artandmusic.com)

Donna the Buffalo, Juvenile Characteristics, The Tiger Maple String Band, Rose & the Bros, Richie & Rosie, Jim Avett, Way Behind the Sun, Stewed Mulligan, Company Townes, Sunday at the Station, the V Band, and many more

### Riverside Music Festival

June 23 - 26  
1 Fountain Street, Cambridge Springs, PA // [riversidebrewing.co](http://riversidebrewing.co)  
Lineup TBA

### Erie Food Truck Festival

Saturday, June 25, 2 to 8 p.m.  
Former G.E. fields in Lawrence Park, 800 Water St. // [eriefoodtruckfestival.com](http://eriefoodtruckfestival.com)  
Lineup TBA

### Gears N' Grub

July 16 - 17  
Millcreek Mall // [gears-n-grub.com](http://gears-n-grub.com)  
The Remixx, Hooligan's Holidays, Bad Habits, Honey Echo, and more TBA

[left] Erie's Blues & Jazz Festival will return to Frontier Park this summer in its more typical first weekend of August slot. [bottom right] After a two year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Celebrate Erie and its signature Chalk Walk will be back in Downtown Erie.

### The Gathering at Chaffee's

July 22 and 23  
8296 Mill St., Girard, PA // [thegatheringatgatchaffees.com](http://thegatheringatgatchaffees.com)

With: ekoostik hookah, Mungion, God Street Wine Set with Lo Faber and Eric Brewer & Friends, Funktional Flow, Eric Brewer & Friends, Doctor Lo Faber and Le Band, The Sweet Life, Phunkademic, Charles Brown Experience, Stephen Trohoske's Electrohope Band, Yurt Alert, Cosmic Rhythm, Matt "Broke" Boland, Josh Travis Band, The Dwellers, Matt Texter, Local Failures, Shoefly Soul, Paper Matches, Seann Clark & Friends, Optimistic Apocalypse, Spades

### Discover Presque Isle

July 25 - 31  
Presque Isle State Park, 301 Peninsula Dr. // [discoverpi.com](http://discoverpi.com)  
Lineup TBA

### Whirlybird Music Festival

Aug. 11 - 13  
Jamestown, NY // [whirlybirdfest.com](http://whirlybirdfest.com)  
Lineup TBA

### Erie's Blues & Jazz Festival

Aug. 5 - 7  
Frontier Park, 1501 W. 6th St., Erie // [eriebluesandjazz.com](http://eriebluesandjazz.com)  
Lineup TBA

### Firelights Festival

Aug. 12 - 14  
1000 Washington Dr., Edinboro, PA // [firelightsfestival.com](http://firelightsfestival.com)

With: Champagne Drip, Sunsquabi, kLL Bill, the Widdler, An-Ten-Nae, Equanimous, Humandala, Josh Teed, Kick the Cat, kLL Smth (chllsmth), Luzcid, Magic Beans, Mr. Bill (Idm), NotLö, Sully, the Fritz, Vibe & Direct, Yam Yam, and over 50 more artists

### Celebrate Erie

Aug. 19 - 21  
Downtown Erie, PA // [celebrateerie.com](http://celebrateerie.com)  
Lineup TBA

### Arts & Drafts Festival

Sept. 8 - 10  
The Brewerrie at Union Station, 123 W. 14th St., Erie // [brewerrie.com](http://brewerrie.com)  
Lineup TBA

### The Great Blue Heron and Beyond

Anyone who has been to the Heron's festival grounds in Sherman, N.Y. knows that it's truly a special place. This year, not only do we get the signature event on the first weekend of July but four more satellite weekends titled "Beyond the Blue." It's going to be one happy Heron.

2361 Wait Corners Rd, Sherman, NY // [greatblueheron.com](http://greatblueheron.com) // [theheron.org](http://theheron.org)

### Great Blue Heron

July 1 - 3  
Donna the Buffalo, Rev. Peyton's Big Damn Band, Driftwood, The Town Pants,



NICK WARREN





NICK WARREN

Featuring largely roots, blues, and folk music, The Great Blue Heron in Sherman, N.Y. is a regional summer staple, transpiring each year on Independence Day weekend.

Sun King Warriors, The Probables, Dr. Bacon, The Comb Down, Rose & the Bros. Richie & Rosie, Buffalo Zydeco, New Planets, PA Line, Julia, Orquesta La Muralla, Tiger Maple String Band, Stewed Mulligan, Bill Ward & Friends, Uncle Ben's Remedy, Nick & Oliver, Slyboots Circus

#### Beyond the Blue I

July 15 - 17

Upstate, Bella's Bartok, the Arcadian Wild, Dirty Blanket, Folkfaces, the Plate Scrapers

#### Beyond the Blue II

July 29 - 31

Giant Panda Guerrilla Dub Squad, Keith Secola, Root Shock, Carlos Jones and the Plus Band, Mosaic Foundation, December Wind, Kitestring

#### Beyond the Blue III

Aug. 19 - 21

Jimkata, the Comb Down, Funk You, Caleb Hawley, Organ Fairchild

#### Beyond the Blue IV

Sept. 2 - 4

Pokey LaFarge, Ryan Montbleau Band, Dr. Bacon, Eric Brewer & Friends, Henhouse Prowlers, John Welton & the Awakening, Dead Alliance, the Audience, Universal Funk Order, Smilo & the Ghost, Honey Smugglers, Gnu Speedway, Deep Fried and Dipped in Honey, Three Ukadz, Bill Ward, Painted Birds, Vincent Ban Jogh and Co., Archimedes, St. Vith

#### Weekends at Nelson Ledges

Discerning festies have a soft spot for Nelson Ledges Quarry Park. It's an enchanting place only an hour and 40 minutes from Erie. Bring your camping gear, and go for a swim, a hike, or take a dive off their signature cliffs.

12001 Nelson Ledges Rd., Garrettsville, OH // [nlqp.com](http://nlqp.com) // [ticketquarry.com](http://ticketquarry.com)

#### Sunny Days

May 20 - 22

Iration, Tropidelic, The Elovaters, Pasafire, Kash'd Out, Of Good Nature

#### Spring Badfish

June 3 - 5

Badfish, Bumpin Uglies, the Expendables, Ballyhoo!, Little Stranger, the Ries Brothers

#### Spring Classic Fest

June 17 - 19

Radio Floyd, Kashmir, Limelight, The Breakers, Ball n Chain, The Next Doors, Jim & Beth Miller

#### Grassfire

Aug. 19 - 22

Trampled By Turtles, Del McCoury Band, The Infamous Stringdusters, Leftover Salmon, Yonder Mountain String Band, Peter Rowan Bluegrass Band, The Travelin' McCourys, Donna the Buffalo, Darin & Brooke Aldridge, Joe Mullins & The Radio Ramblers, Rumpke Mountain Boys, Henhouse Prowlers, Wu Grass, The Bluegrass

Sweethearts, Stringus Khan, Blue Moon Soup, The Chatfield Boys

#### Regional County Fairs

A long-running tradition, there are a handful of county fairs in our surrounding areas worth checking out.

#### Cochranon Fair

Aug. 1 - 6 // Their 94th year

Cochranon, PA // [cochrantonfair.org](http://cochrantonfair.org)

#### Warren County Fair

Aug. 9 - 13 // Their 91st year

Pittsfield, PA // [warrencountyfair.net](http://warrencountyfair.net)

#### Crawford County Fair

Aug. 21 - 27 // Their 75th year

Meadville, PA // [crawfordcountyfairpa.com](http://crawfordcountyfairpa.com)

#### Erie County Fair

Aug. 29 - Sept. 3 // Their 137th year

Wattsburg, PA // [wattsburgfair.com](http://wattsburgfair.com)

#### Spartansburg Community Fair

Sept. 5 - 10 // Their 100th year

Spartansburg, PA // [facebook.com/SpartaFairPA](http://facebook.com/SpartaFairPA)

#### Waterford Community Fair

Sept. 5 - 10 // Their 85th year

Waterford, PA // [waterfordfair.org](http://waterfordfair.org)

#### Albion Area Fair

Sept. 13 - 17 // Their 77th year

Albion, PA // [albionfair.com](http://albionfair.com)

#### A Bit of a Drive But Worth It

Mostly located between two and four hours away, there are some festivals that are just worth knowing about, as sometimes, the further out you go, the bigger the headliners get.

#### Three Rivers Arts Festival

June 3 - 12

Pittsburgh, PA // [traf.trustarts.org](http://traf.trustarts.org)

Cory Henry, Sierra Hull, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Lizz Wright, Bette Smith, the Dirty Dozen Brass Band, Eric Krasno & the Assembly, the Devon Allman Project, Nick Lowe's Quality Rock & Roll Revue, Goodie Mob, Femi Kuti & the Positive Force

#### The Peach Music Festival

June 30 - July 3

Montage Mountain, Scranton, PA // [thepeachmusicfestival.com](http://thepeachmusicfestival.com)

Trey Anastasio Band, The Black Crowes, Billy Strings, Goose, Joe Russo's Almost Dead, The Revivalists, Pigeons Playing Ping Pong, Trouble No More, The

Word, Steel Pulse, Jason Bonham's Led Zeppelin Evening, Ripe, Andy Frasco & The U.N., Keller Williams, G. Love & The Juice, Celisse, The Wailers, The Motet, Eric Krasno & The Assembly, and many more

#### Wonderstruck Music Festival

July 9 - 10

Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, OH // [wonderstruckfest.com](http://wonderstruckfest.com)

The Lumineers, Vampire Weekend, All Time Low, Michael Franti & Spearhead, 24Goldn, Tai Verdes, Dean Lewis, Saint Motel, Smallpools, Neil Frances, Mills, Big Freedia, Valley, Weathers, Trella, Niko Rubio, Hembree, Michigander, Rebounder, Noah Chenfell, and more

#### Finger Lakes GrassRoots Festival

July 21 - 24

Trumansburg Fairgrounds, Trumansburg, NY // [grassrootsfest.org](http://grassrootsfest.org)

Donna The Buffalo, The Infamous Stringdusters, Galactic ft. Anjelika Jelly Joseph, Cory Henry, Marty Stuart & His Fabulous Superlatives, John Brown's Body, Dobet Gnahoré, Dakhbrakha, Peter Rowan's Free Mexican Airforce ft. Los Texmaniacs, Willie Watson, Keith Frank & Soileau Zydeco, Driftwood, Giant Panda Guerrilla Dub Squad, Sophistafunk, Mosaic Foundation, Dirty Blanket, and many more

#### Flood City Music Festival

July 29 - 30

People's Natural Gas Park, Johnstown, PA // [floodcitymusic.com](http://floodcitymusic.com)

Spin Doctors, Railroad Earth, Big Something, Brandon "Taz" Niederauer, Ally Venable Band, Karina Rykman, Vanessa Collier, The Fritz, Habitat, Shelf Life String Band, Silver Screen, Buffalo Rose, Kevin Dale, The Rusty Shackles

#### MoPop Festival

July 30 - 31

Hart Plaza, Detroit, MI // [mopopfestival.com](http://mopopfestival.com)

Glass Animals, Big Sean, Jhené Aiko, Kaytranada, Khruangbin, Girl In Red, Dominic Fike, Dayglow, Ashe, The Backseat Lovers, The Marías, Tai Verdes, Beach Bunny, Mariah The Scientist, Wet Leg, Daisy, Horsegirl, whiterosemoxie, Tiny Jag, Whu Else, Charity, Gabriel Duran, Haute To Death & Friends

#### Wonderbus Music Festival

Aug. 26 - 28

The Lawn at CAS, Columbus, OH // [wonderbusfest.com](http://wonderbusfest.com)

Duran Duran, Lorde, The Lumineers,

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## EVENTS

Cannons, Daisy The Great, Coin, Young The Giant, Tayls, Almost Monday, Chloe Lilac, Neal Francis, Morgxn, Mills, Rebounder, 90's Kids, Argonaut + Wasp, Hembree, Noah Chenfeld, Little Image, Madeline The Person, .wavrunner, Cousin Simple, Day Tvvo, Transviolet, Detention, Phangs, The Orphan The Poet

### **Nelsonville Music Festival**

Sept. 2 - 4

5685 Happy Hollow Road, Neslonville, OH // [nelsonvillefest.org](http://nelsonvillefest.org)

Japanese Breakfast, Angel Olsen, Yo La Tengo, Lucinda Williams, Neko Case, Mdou Moctar, Town Mountain, Michael Hurley, Nubya Garcia, La Luz, Madi Diaz, Aida Victoria, Tré Burt, Sunny War, Danielle Ponder, The Lowest Pair, S.G. Goodman, The Ophelias, Rich Ruth, Teke::Teke, Myriam Gendron, Dos Santos, Tobacco City, Blue Cactus, Bill Mackay, In The Pines, Logan Halstead, Dana, Little Mazarn, Lung, Oyo, Weedghost, Amp

### **Four Chord Music Festival**

Sept. 9 - 10

Wild Things Park, Washington, PA // [fourchordmusicfestival.com](http://fourchordmusicfestival.com)

Bad Religion, Descendents, All Time Low, Jimmy Eat World, Pennywise, The Story So Far, The Starting Line, The Maine, Silverstein, The Amity Falcon, Story of the Year, Mom Jeans, Games We Play, Lagwagon, H2O, I Am The Avalanche, Destroy Boys, Eternal Boy, Angel Du\$t Patent Pending, Cherie Amour, The Bombpops, SurfBort, Keep Flying, Summer Years, Look Out Loretta, and more TBA

### **The Fests at Legend Valley**

Just four hours from Erie, east of Columbus, there's a place called Legend Valley. Relatively close by, it's home to some of the best fests on record, especially catering to the jam band circuit. Whoop whoop.

7585 Kindle Rd., Thornville, OH // [legendvalleymusic.com](http://legendvalleymusic.com)

### **Hookahville**

May 13 - 14 // [hookahville.com](http://hookahville.com)

ekoostik hookah, Papadosio, Dopapod, Tauk, Aqueous, Glostik Willy, Zoo Trippin, Flowpoetry, Krisb's Midnight Railroad, Evanoff, Lizz Vega, Dustin Smith & The Daydreamers, Subterranean, Gunk, Goatfether, Justin Moon, Evan Lane, Cozmik Spirit, Kita Da Monster

### **Domefest**

May 19 - 22 // [domefestival.com](http://domefestival.com)

Pigeons Playing Ping Pong, Lotus, Spaf-

ford, Sunsquabi, The Domefest All-stars, Kitchen Dwellers, Star Kitchen, Octave Cat, Magic Beans, Karina Rykman, Joe Hertler & The Rainbow Seekers, Funk You, Litz, Great Blue, Eggy, Dizgo, Dogs in a Pile, Yam Yam, Scrambled Greg, The North 41, Schwa, Puremotion

### **Dark Star Jubilee**

May 27 - 29 // [darkstarjubilee.com](http://darkstarjubilee.com)

Dark Star Orchestra, Railroad Earth ft. Peter Rowan, Yonder Mountain String Band, Melvin Seals & JGB, Galactic ft. Anjelika Jelly Joseph, Keller Williams' Grateful Grass, Donna The Buffalo, BoomBox, Holly Bowling, Jeff Mattson & Friends, Rumpke Mountain Boys, Magnolia Boulevard, Con Brio, The Quasi Kinds, Katie Henry Band

### **The Werk Out**

July 14 - 16 // [thewerkoutfestival.com](http://thewerkoutfestival.com)

The Werks, Umphrey's McGee, Lawrence, Andy Frasco & The U.N., Stevie Wonder Dance Party, Lespecial, Doom Flamingo, Melt, Hannah Wicklund, Couch, Eggy, Zoo Trippin', Aaron Kamm & The One Drops, Dustin Smith & The Daydreamers, Chalk Dinosaur, Friends of the Dead, Baccano, Cotter, and more

### **Gathering of the Juggalos**

Aug. 3 - 6 // [juggalogathering.com](http://juggalogathering.com)

Insane Clown Posse, ICP's Super Mix Juggalo Juke Box Show, Ouija Macc, Big Hoodoo, and more TBA

### **Everwild Music Festival**

Aug. 12 - 13 // [everwildfestival.com](http://everwildfestival.com)

Dirty Heads, Tropicadelic, Hirie, Bump-in Ugliers, 99 Neighbors, Little Stranger, Artikal Sound System, The Quasi Kings, Joe Samba, Tobaraps, Cassidy King, Mooky

### **Secret Dreams Music & Arts Festival**

Aug. 18 - 20 // [secretdreamsfest.com](http://secretdreamsfest.com)

Tipper, STS9, Papadosio, Jade Cicada, Detox Unit, Emancipator, Desert Dwellers, Mickman, Tipp St. Aeroject, Axel Thesleff, Bluetech, Chris Karns, Cloudchord, Cool Customer, Danny Grooves, Defunk, Entangled Mind, Klo, Mad Zach, Megan Hamilton, Random Rab, Schmoop, and more TBA

### **Lost Lands Music Festival**

Sept. 23 - 25 // <https://www.lostlandsfestival.com/>

Lineup TBA

Nick Warren wants to go to quite a few of these if time permits. If you would like to be added to this list, email [nick@eriereader.com](mailto:nick@eriereader.com).



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## CONCERTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS

### **Sheryl Crow**

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Keb' Mo' and Southern Avenue  
Tuesday, July 12  
\$69-\$124

### **Girl Named Tom**

Friday, August 19  
\$39-\$69

### **An Evening with The Avett Brothers**

Wednesday, August 24  
\$65-\$140

### **A Very Special Evening with Emmylou Harris and Mary Chapin Carpenter**

Thursday, August 25  
\$60-\$100

### **Voice and the Violin:**

**Joshua Bell & Larisa Martínez**  
Saturday, June 25 • \$59-\$119

### **Ben Folds: In Actual Person Live for Real Tour**

Tuesday, June 28 • \$45-\$75

### **Sons of Mystro**

Friday, July 1 • \$35-\$45

### **Renee Elise Goldsberry**

Friday, July 8 • \$45-\$75

### **Aladdin Live in Concert with the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra**

Saturday, July 9 • \$45-\$75

### **ABBA The Concert**

Friday, July 15 • \$45-\$65

### **Jay Leno**

Friday, July 22 • \$65-\$140

### **Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back in Concert with the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra**

Saturday, July 23 • \$45-\$75

### **Carl Reiner at 100: Celebrating a Comedy Legacy**

*Presented in Partnership with the  
National Comedy Center*  
Wednesday, July 27 • \$45-\$55

### **An Evening with Lyle Lovett and his Large Band**

Friday, July 29 • \$45-\$75

### **Family Entertainment Series: Stars of the Peking Acrobats**

Tuesday, August 2 • \$25

### **VOCES8**

Tuesday, August 9 • \$45-\$65

### **The Washington Ballet**

Wednesday, August 10 • \$45-\$65

### **The Washington Ballet with the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra**

Saturday, August 13 • \$45-\$55

### **Matthew Whitaker**

Wednesday, August 17 • \$45-\$65

### **Hiss Golden Messenger & Aoife O'Donovan**

Saturday, August 20 • \$45-\$65

### **Punch Brothers**

Monday, August 22 • \$45-\$85

### **An Evening with Rhiannon Giddens and the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra**

Tuesday, August 23 • \$50-\$70

### **The Beach Boys and The Temptations**

Friday, August 26 • \$79-\$139

Order online at [tickets.chq.org](https://tickets.chq.org)

Or call our Ticket Office at 716.357.6250



All information subject to change.

For updates and other concerts scheduled to date, visit [concerts.chq.org](https://concerts.chq.org)



## EVENTS

### Live Music Back at Sunset Grill

Some of the best regional acts drop by the Edinboro Lake Resort



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

#### BEGINNING THURSDAY, MAY 5

Meander along the usually quietish Route 99 side of beautiful little Edinboro Lake on any/every given summer weekend evening — and on lots of weeknights, all the way into autumn — and you'll see that the Sunset Grill has what looks to be a packed-

to-the-gills house and patio.

Even that old hack COVID couldn't change that, making the Sunset a trusty local oasis during a long existential dry spell.

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

Doesn't hurt that the Sunset is also at Edinboro Lake Resort, where a bevy of tourists and townies' guests make cool little lakeside rental cabins their homes away from their homes throughout the summer.

All that makes the Sunset a pretty inviting spot. But, for us, a big part of what makes the place notably cool is its long-running music series, a relaxed-fit run that brings an abundant cast of fine-skilled local and regional singer-songwriters and bands onto the little stage by the lake — with a certain predilection toward original songwriters.

It's been going on there for years now with plenty of live music to chill and get down to, and with an act set up every Thursday through Sunday from now all the way through the beginning of October, this year's

lineup is no exception. — Ryan Smith

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

**May 5 and 19** - Jay Baumgardner; **May 6** - Tiger Maple Trio; **May 7** - Fred Oakman; **May 13** - The High Life; **May 14** - Josh Travis Band; **May 15** - Sunday at the Station; **May 20 and 21** - Edinboro Art & Music Festival; **May 22** - Jesse Weston; **May 26** - Jeff Fetterman Trio; **May 27** - Tommy Link; **May 28** - Clever Norman; **May 29** - Dom DeCecco

**June 4** - The Shameless Hex; **June 9** - Salmon Frank; **June 10** - The HighLife; **June 11** - Brook Surgener; **June 12** - Josh Travis Band; **June 16** - Jay Baumgardner; **June 17** - Tommy Link; **June 18** - Fred Oakman; **June 19** - Tiger Maple Trio; **June 23** - Jesse Weston; **June 24** - Sean P. Clark and Friends; **June 25** - Kevin Wilson; **June 26** - Dom DeCecco; **June 30** - Rachel Shortt

To find out more about Edinboro Lake Resort's Sunset Grill and its summer (and into-the autumn) music series — including several more to-be-announced performances for May and June, and a full slate each week through September and early October — visit [edinborolakeresort.com](http://edinborolakeresort.com), call (814) 434-3307, or take a drive (or stroll, or bike, or boat) out to 12690 Edinboro Road.

Ryan Smith can be reached at [rsmith@eriereader.com](mailto:rsmith@eriereader.com).



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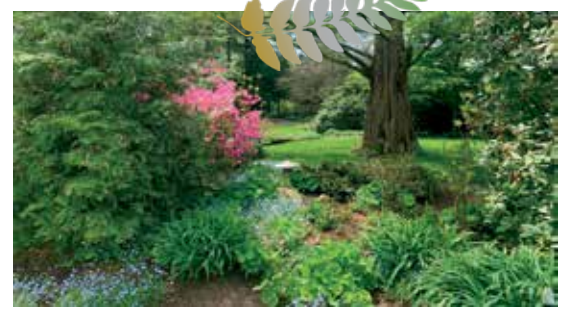


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## Seiche Dance Collective Makes Proximal Connections

Dance company premieres new program at Hirt Auditorium



NICK WARREN

**FRIDAY, MAY 6 - 7**

The members of Seiche Dance Collective have been hard at work in preparation for the opening of "Proximal Connections," their latest performance slated to run for one weekend only at the Blasco Library's H.O. Hirt Auditorium.

Established in 2019, Seiche (pronounced "saysh") brought together talented, trained dancers of various professions, for an adult collective (Four of the company's nine artists are past 40 Under 40 honorees for their work outside of Seiche).

Soon after their formation, however, contact wasn't an option. Though they would eventually regroup, the theme of "Proximal Connections" began to take shape. Artist Director Danielle Kaiser remembers a moment last year between two dancers "where they

were meant to grab hands, and they couldn't reach each other. My company manager and I looked at each other and it was this awesome moment, kind of a vibration on stage. So that's where it started."

Kaiser noted that "It's centered on the idea of the human desire to have a connection. But then it expanded into investigating connections of all different types. As a company, we like to experiment with classical ballet in combination with contemporary."

Describing the piece's narrative, Kaiser explained that they are "investigating the connection of physical touch. So the piece goes from not even making eye contact with each other to being full contact improv with contact partner work."

One performance in two acts, "Proximal Connections" showcases captivating choreography that's as entrancing as it is breathtaking. This choreography is done entirely in-house, by the members of the collective itself.

The first act is entirely composed of one section, "Classical Divergence" set to "Serenade for Strings in C major, Op. 48" by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky. The second act is broken up into five sections, capped off by the "Budding Exuberance" with "Spring 1, Autumn 3, Spring 3" by Max Richter as a backdrop.

Watching the nine company artists perform quickly makes you realize the physicality and athleticism these dancers exude, coupled with the grace and fluidity that contemporary dance demands. — Nick Warren

*Friday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. // H.O. Hirt Auditorium, 160 Blasco St. // \$20, students \$10 // for tickets and more information, visit [seichedancecollective.org](http://seichedancecollective.org)*

## You'll Be Laughing When You See *What The Bellhop Saw*

All An Act Theatre now taking reservations for their latest comic caper



PRESSMASTER

**PREMIERING FRIDAY, MAY 6**

When a mild-mannered young man checks into an expensive suite at one of New York City's finest hotels, his only intention is to begin an illicit affair. What follows is far from what he imagined.

All An Act Theatre's production of *What The Bellhop Saw*, written by Billy Van Zandt and Jane Millmore,

will have you rolling with laughter. As events begin to occur at rapid speed, topical humor along with the typical antics of farce are employed throughout the production: gag lines, doors slamming, characters careening, and confusion all blend into the perfect mix of drama and comedy on the stage.

Sit back and enjoy the show as the young man's worst nightmares come to fruition as things spiral further out of control. Joining him is a cavalcade of characters, including a Salman Rushdie-like author, a vengeful terrorist, a wife from hell, a conniving bellboy, an incompetent FBI agent, a celebrity-mad maid, a doltish secretary, and a little girl in pigtails.

The All An Act production is directed by David W. Mitchell and stars Tony Lewandowski, Dave DiCola, Jessica LaFlamme, Tori Snyder, Eli Coppock, David W. Mitchell, Larry Lewis, Wayne Gardner, Michael Weiss, Aubree Dick, and Marie Glaser. — Ally Kutz

*Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m. through May 22 // All An Act, 652 W. 17th St. // \$5 - \$15 // for tickets and more information go to [allanact.net](http://allanact.net)*



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**FRI/SAT, MAY 6 & 7**

**MOTHER'S DAY**

**SAT, JUNE 4**

**SEAFOOD FEST — SNOWCRAB & MORE!**

**SAT, JUNE 18**

**FATHER'S DAY "MEATFEST"**

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## EVENTS

### Erie Philharmonic Premieres Commissioned Work by Timothy Adams

Piece to be performed during 'Beethoven 7' program



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

#### SATURDAY, MAY 14

The Erie Philharmonic will be holding a world premiere of the commissioned piece "Harriet Tubman" by Timothy Adams Jr. for its "Beethoven 7" concert on May 14th. Along with the premiere, the orchestra will be performing three other works, including Jacques Ibert's Concertino da Camera, Alexander Glazunov's Concerto for Alto Saxophone and String Orchestra, and Beethoven's 7th Symphony.

"We are honored to commission a brand new work by African-American composer Timothy Adams based on the life of Harriet Tubman," the orchestra said in the concert description on its website. "Adams brings his eclectic and rich musical instincts to a subject so crucial to the understanding of our national identity. Scored for strings and percussion, this new work is destined to become a powerful statement to lead off our concert."

Adams is currently the Chair of the Percussion Department at the Hugh Hodgson School of Music at the University of Georgia after holding the position of principal timpanist in the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra for 15 years. He has worked with orchestras in Pennsylvania, Georgia, Indiana, Connecticut, North Carolina, and Florida, along with performing in concert halls across the world in Europe, Japan, Taiwan, Korea, Australia, China, and Malaysia.

"Adams is a prolific composer, having written solo and chamber works for percussion published under Mostly Marimba Publications. His timpani etude book, entitled, '75 Etudes for the Accomplished Timpanist' is self-published under his own, Demery Bennett Music," the University of Georgia writes in Adam's biography for the School of Music. "In 2008, Adams

African-American composer and timpanist Timothy Adams Jr. (left) will debut the commissioned piece "Harriet Tubman" during the Erie Philharmonic's "Beethoven 7" program on Saturday, May 14. Actor Harry Lennix (center) will narrate the concert, with saxophonist Stephen Banks (right) performing with the orchestra on works by Jacques Ibert and Alexander Glazunov.

premiered his composition, Kyoto duo concerto for percussion and orchestra with the Pittsburgh Symphony and Andrés Cardénés as soloist."

Adams has worked with many prolific composers and musicians throughout his career, including Leonard Bernstein and John Williams as a fellowship recipient at the Tanglewood Music Center, and also with Yo-Yo Ma, Manfred Honeck, Luciano Pavarotti, Andre Watts, Tony Bennant, and Grammy-award winning jazz trumpeter Terence Howard. He was featured on an episode of *Mister Rogers Neighborhood* where he demonstrated percussion instruments.

The concert is also set to feature Stephen Banks, assistant professor of saxophone at the Ithaca School of Music and baritone saxophonist of the Kenari Quartet performing with the orchestra on pieces by Jacques Ibert and Alexander Glazunov. Banks has performed with The Cleveland Orchestra on many occasions, and won First Prize at the 2019 Young Artists International Auditions.

Award-winning actor Harry Lennix will be the narrator for the concert, who is known for his work on *The Blacklist*, the *Matrix* films, and Zach Snyder's *Justice League*. — Thomas Taylor

8 to 10:30 p.m. // Warner Theatre, 811 State St. // Tickets between \$23 - 56, \$12 for students // For tickets and more information, visit [eriephil.org/calendar/beethoven](http://eriephil.org/calendar/beethoven)

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## EVENTS

### From Burrow to 'Boro: Edinboro Art & Music Fest Blooms Again

Free, family-friendly three-day festival returns

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



The Edinboro Arts & Music Festival is a cozy, folksy, down-home prelude to summer concert season, unfolding in bucolic settings such as Goodell Gardens (pictured) and other intimate venues within the tiny college town to our south.

years have passed since the Edinboro Art & Music Festival went on in its fullest form.

But the seasons have changed — and the show will once again bloom in the heart of one of Erie County's finest towns.

From May 20-22, downtown Edinboro will explode with live music, art, crafts, dancing, workshops, vending, yoga — plenty of fun-filled, family-friendly activities, so bring the whole gang.

The 2022 musical lineup includes festival regulars Donna the Buffalo and the Tiger Maple String Band, plus Juvenile Characteristics, Rosie & the Bros, Richie & Rosie, Jim Avett, Way Behind the Sun, Claire Stuczynski, Salmon Frank, Matt Texter, Justin Moyar, The Chain Gang, and many more (as of publishing, the schedule has not been set).

One of the regular hosts for the festival, Goodell Gardens, will once again feature the Student Art Show and Artisan Vending, as well as the Kid's Tent where the little ones can participate in workshops and magic demonstrations, or partake in free painting, flower crown fashioning, and even instrument making.

Again, that is 100 percent free — and all the activity and running around in the fresh air will 100 percent tire your kids out, so what's not to love?

And speaking of tires, consider signing up for the Rhythm & Roll Ride on Saturday, May 21. Choose from the Staccato (15 miles, 400 ft. elevation), Moderato (33 miles, 800 ft. elevation) or Fortissimo (50 miles, 1800 ft. elevation) rides. Show up at 8 a.m. for registration and begin the ride at 9; the cost is \$45 and t-shirts are available while supplies last.

The Edinboro Art & Music Festival 2022 blossoms in May like spring itself, heralding a joyful reawakening after a long, cold winter. — Cara J. Suppa

Friday through Sunday // Edinboro Downtown area and Goodell Gardens // Free to the public // For full details, visit [edinboroartandmusic.com](http://edinboroartandmusic.com)

#### BEGINNING FRIDAY, MAY 20

The coronavirus' impact on arts and music — from the bright lights of Broadway, to the solo acts playing in our bars and taverns — cannot be understated.

It shuttered performances and canceled events, even those held outdoors, during the worst of the first wave. For a year, those stages were cold, barren ground.

It might surprise you to learn that, in fact, three long

### Pause and Reflect at The Wall That Heals

Traveling exhibit pays respects to Vietnam War veterans

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



#### FRIDAY, MAY 27 - 30

Drugging out for nearly 20 years, the Vietnam War (1955-1975) gouged deep scars in the American psyche. Widely misunderstood and hugely unpopular, the conflict pitting the pro-communist forces of the north against the pro-democratic forces of the south came at an immense cost — 58,220 U.S. service members were killed, 1,626 went missing in action, and more than 150,000 were wounded (with more than 21,000 of those injuries leading to permanent dis-

ability).

Perhaps even more incalculable than the loss suffered abroad was the sense of loss veterans felt after they returned home — stemming both from the traumas they sustained overseas and a tragic lack of support on domestic soil. The catastrophic failure of the Vietnam War as an ideological crusade and as a military operation had significantly eroded the public goodwill, with many opposers unable or unwilling to separate the atrocities of the war from the humani-

ty of the men who were conscripted to fight in it. Some were greeted with derision or hostility; many more were greeted with circumspection or indifference.

For 50 years, Vietnam vets have been striving to attain the same dignity, respect, and appreciation afforded to veterans of other conflicts. And for most of that period, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) has been the nonprofit organization driving that effort. Formed in 1979, the VVMF was authorized by the U.S. Congress in 1980 to build the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (aka "The Wall") in Washington, D.C., which was dedicated in 1982. Engraved in the black granite of the chevron-shaped structure are the names of every U.S. service member who lost his or her life in the war — a staggering 58,000-plus individuals listed by day of casualty.

It's no doubt an affecting experience, and thanks to *The Wall That Heals* traveling exhibit, one not limited to the District of Columbia — in fact, this Memorial Day Weekend, you can experience it right here in Erie on the grounds of the Zem Zem Shrine Club. *The Wall That Heals* consists of two major components — a ¾ scale replica of The Wall spanning 375 feet long and 7.5 feet high (at the apex) and a mobile education center featur-

ing photos, artifacts, and Vietnam War timelines and background information. Since its debut on Veterans' Day 1996, the exhibit has been hosted in nearly 700 communities — it comes to Erie courtesy of sponsors Erie News Now and Lilley Broadcasting.

Visitors will be able to stop by at any hour during the exhibit's three-day stay, from Friday at 2 p.m. to Monday at 2 p.m. The 140 aluminum frame-mounted, Avonite synthetic granite panels will be fully illuminated all throughout the night, with paper and charcoal available for name rubbings. Those casualties and deceased returning veterans who listed their home of record in the Erie area will be commemorated in the "Hometown Heroes" and "In Memory Honor Roll" displays of the mobile education center, respectively.

If you know or know of anyone who participated in this controversial conflict — or were a participant yourself (thank you for your service) — *The Wall That Heals* invites anyone to pause and reflect, and stands as a strong salute to America's most often unheralded veterans. — Matt Swanseger

2 p.m. Friday through 2 p.m. Sunday, open all day // Zem Zem Shrine Club, 2525 W. 38th St. // Free // [erienewsnow.com/vietnam](http://erienewsnow.com/vietnam)



## Pink Martini Shakes and Stirs

Internationally touring, diversely influenced group puts the olive on the 2021-22 MIAC Season



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

### SATURDAY, JUN. 4

For over 25 years, Pink Martini has been shaking things up with their stirring blend of classical, traditional pop, Latin, and jazz. It's all top-shelf stuff, and after imbibing crowds have been apt to come back for more.

The internationally touring band has performed on six different continents (sorry Antarctica, we're sure you'll get your turn eventually), collaborating with some of the world's most prestigious orchestras in the process — among them the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, the Boston Pops, the National Symphony at the Kennedy center, the San Francisco Symphony, the Cleveland Orchestra, and the BBC Concert Orchestra at Royal Albert Hall.

Anchored by the talents of classically trained pianist Thomas Lauderdale and his longtime friend and Harvard classmate China Forbes on co-lead vocals (sharing the mic with Storm Large), Pink Martini features a rotating cast of 12 to 14 musicians and performs songs in 15 different languages, owing to the band's cosmopolitan influences. Their tunes

Despite being named Pink Martini, the band's influences are very Cosmopolitan, reflecting the travels of pianist and founder Thomas Lauderdale and longtime lead vocalist China Forbes (seated together front center).

have popped up in an equally diverse cross-section of pop culture, including TV series and commercials, film, and even video games. Lauderdale self-describes their music as "if the UN had a house band in 1962" and "an urban musical travelogue."

Joined by new vocalist additions Jimmie Herrod and Edna Vazquez, Pink Martini splashes into the Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center for a second time (they previously performed there in 2018) to conclude the Mercyhurst Institute for Arts and Culture's 2021-2022 season. If that show was any indication, it should coat the palate nicely going into a well-stocked 2022-2023. — Matt Swansger

7 p.m. // Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center at Mercyhurst University, 501 E. 38th St. // Adults: \$40-\$55, Seniors: \$35-\$50, Non-Mercyhurst students and youth: \$30-\$45 // [miac.mercyhurst.edu](http://miac.mercyhurst.edu)

# HARRIET

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Steven Banks, saxophone



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## The Return of Abnegation

Talking with Jason “Iggy” Imig about the vegan straight edge band’s continuing popularity



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By: Nick Warren

There’s an Erie band headlining a sold-out event in New Kensington, Pa. called SincerityFest. That band? Abnegation. Old-school Erie hardcore fans may rejoice now — Human Animal is on the show too. Formed in 1992, Abnegation became well-known in the scene, and their music has been rediscovered for decades by eager HXC (shorthand for hardcore) acolytes.

Just in case you didn’t yet get a ticket to SincerityFest, I would advise you to pop over to The Bunker at Lavery Brewing Co. (irony noted) on Friday, May 27. Mala Sangre, Maniacal Device, and Shiver will be playing the show with Buffalo band Juggernaut. If you’re there, you might just be able to catch a special set from Abnegation, with their mid ’90s lineup of Jason “Iggy” Imig on vocals, Dave Steele on bass, Paul Nowoczynski and Stephen Maynard on guitar, and Chris Leonard on drums. The band, its members now spread to the corners of the country, utilized Zoom and some frequent flier miles to make things happen for their reunion. We talked to frontman Iggy Imig and here’s what he had to say.

**Nick Warren:** For anyone who doesn’t know about Abnegation, can you give me an elevator pitch? Why do people love his band so much, even decades later?

**Iggy Imig:** We were part of a wave of militant vegan straight edge bands. And not only that, I think more importantly, musically we were right on the cusp of when metal — I don’t want to call it metalcore — but when metal influenced hardcore and really caught a second wave. We were adding a lot more of a death metal influence to hardcore at a time that wasn’t really happening.

**NW:** And obviously there’s a huge difference between metalcore in the mid ’90s and metalcore now. [laughs]

**II:** Definitely, man. We laid a lot of the groundwork for bands that would come after us, using those death metal influences, like Morbid Angel and Neurosis and Meshuggah. I believe that really made a lasting impression. We probably started to get a lot more recognition after we had broken up. I think that’s why the idea of doing the reunion show has been pretty well received. The Pittsburgh show sold out pretty rapidly because there’s a lot of people that found out about us later on, that never had the chance to see us and now are going to be able to.

**NW:** What are some of the bands that have cited you as influences?

**II:** A big one that always keeps on coming back up — and they’re playing with us — is Zao. And they have repeatedly put us down as influences. Arkangel, which is a band from Europe. A lot of bands after the fact, like that we probably initially influenced, don’t like to say it because we all “sold out.” [laughs] But, bands like 7 Angels 7 Plagues or Eighteen Visions, there’s a whole run of metal-hardcore that definitely took that — and it wasn’t just us, there’s Day of Suffering, Racetractor, and other bands coming out all around the same time using those same influences.

**NW:** Can you define what it meant to be a militant, straight edge, vegan band?

**II:** We believed that abstaining from alcohol, drugs, tobacco, as well as meat and any animal byproducts, you know, was the best way to live your life. And that we felt it was necessary to sing about it to put that message out there to get it across to as many people as we pos-

Seminal Erie hardcore band Abnegation will reunite for an under-the-radar performance in The Bunker at Lavery Brewing Company on Friday, May 27, joined by Mala Sangre, Maniacal Device, Shiver, and Juggernaut. Members include Dave Steele (left), Paul Nowoczynski, Stephen Maynard, Chris Leonard, and Jason “Iggy” Imig.

sibly could at the time.

**NW:** And this was a time when people barely even knew the word vegan.

**II:** Right, and especially when you think of a band like Earth Crisis, who was a huge influence on us? When you think of what they did, and the groundwork they laid, I feel that they’re primarily responsible for how big veganism has gotten now.

**NW:** Are any of you still vegan or straight edge?

**II:** No, no. A couple of us have had our run-in with alcohol consumption and have been sober for quite some time. I can’t say that I’m sober or anything or technically in recovery, but we definitely have reined it in and learned more about moderation. We were a militant vegan straight edge band. We broke up, I went through a really, really bad state of depression, and ended up turning to drugs. I fought a lot of battles with addiction and got to the place where I’m at now — I’m a nurse at a methadone suboxone clinic out here. So dealing with a lot of people in recovery, and trying to get sober and everything.

---

**“We laid a lot of the groundwork for bands that would come after us, using those death metal influences, like Morbid Angel and Neurosis and Meshuggah. I believe that really made a lasting impression. We probably started to get a lot more recognition after we had broken up. I think that’s why the idea of doing the reunion show has been pretty well received.”**  
— Immy Imig of Abnegation

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**NW:** It’s kind of come full circle. Maybe you might “sell out,” but some of the fundamentals behind these ideas are things that will stay with you forever.

**II:** Oh, for sure. I think that’s a big part of why I feel good about still singing the songs, even though we may not be vegan or straight edge. It’s not like we disagree with those things. And those things are great. For me, man, being in Erie, straight edge and hardcore definitely saved my life, and I was so lucky to have it.

*Nick Warren saw Abnegation (post-Iggy) several times at places like IQ Records. He can be reached at [nick@eriereader.com](mailto:nick@eriereader.com)*



## Book Review: *Elektra*

Jennifer Saint's follow-up to *Ariadne* weaves another brilliant tale spun from Greek mythology

For many, Greek mythology can be difficult or even boring to read; but when the stories are placed into Jennifer Saint's hands, she spins them into gold.

Following major success with her first novel *Ariadne* (one of the Reader's top books of 2021), Saint continues to impress with the captivating story of Elektra, one of Greek mythology's most infamous heroines. Intertwined with the stories of two other women — Clytemnestra and Cassandra — Elektra's journey seems doomed from the start, thanks to an ancient curse.

When Clytemnestra marries Agamemnon, she dismisses the rumors of the curse upon his family line, opting instead to fiercely love and protect their children as they grow. But when she is betrayed by her own husband on the day he sets sail for the Trojan War, she must now come face to face with the all too real truth of it all.

In Troy, Princess Cassandra has sworn herself to a life lived as a priestess of Apollo, wishing for nothing more than to have the gift of prophecy. Apollo himself bestows this gift upon her, but with one terrible consequence: she will be able to see the future, but no one will ever believe what she sees. When she is faced with the vision of what will happen to her beloved city when Agamemnon and his army arrive at their walls, she is unable to prevent the tragedy that will occur.

Elektra is the youngest daughter of Agamemnon and Clytemnestra. Wanting nothing more than for her adored



father to come home safe from war, she is tangled in the curse of her family line and the potential for her destiny to also be bound by violence.

With narration traded off between each female protagonist, Saint's work is absolutely captivating from the start. The lyrical style of her writing along with such vivid imagery and character development all lead one to conclude that Saint is nothing less than a master at conveying the beauty of Greek mythology in a way that is both faithful and refreshing. With such prowess and understanding of the form, Saint bridges the gap between those who struggle with the mythology and the wonderful stories found within it. — Ally Kutz

*Flatiron Books // 304 pages // Mythology, Fantasy*

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## Book Review: Mothers, Fathers, and Others: Essays

Siri Hustvedt's latest collection is fiercely intelligent

Siri Hustvedt has published 15 books, including poetry, fiction, non-fiction and essays, as well as multiple translations. She has had four books published about her. Her viewpoint is a kind of feminist philosophy meets literary/art criticism. Her latest collection, *Mothers, Fathers, and Others: Essays* was my first experience reading her and it made a very strong impression.

I checked out a copy of this book from the library and, soon after starting it, I realized I would need to buy a copy of my own. There were so many passages that I wanted to underline, to remember forever. There are parts of this book that are so well stated; I would read one sentence, set the book down, and just think on that sentence for a while.

The book begins with autobiographical accounts from her own family, her parents and their relationships with their parents, her Norwegian lineage, and the inherent misogyny of genealogy. It is

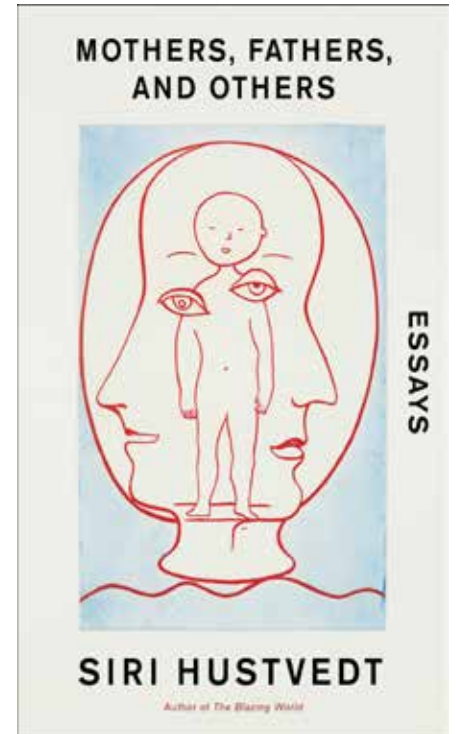
her essay on motherhood that rang particularly true for me. She discusses her own experience with motherhood in a refreshingly honest way: "My experience with my daughter is my own — it is not intended to stand in for universal motherhood. That may be the crux of the matter. Motherhood has been and is drowned in so much sentimental nonsense with so many punitive rules for how to act and feel that it remains a cultural straitjacket, even today. The metaphor is highly conscious."

She writes about her grandmother's experience of living in Nazi-occupied Norway, her mother's death, and her early pandemic experiences. As the book goes on, I find myself feeling the urge to underline less, but my engagement does not wane. She moves from autobiography into her thoughts on literature and provides analytical essays on topics like translation, particularly of poetry, as well as several critical essays, presenting

new ways of reading several classics like *Sinbad the Sailor* ( a book I haven't read, but her brilliant take on the seven stories of Sinbad made me add it to my list), Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights* (which has inspired me to reread that book for the fourth time) and Jane Austen's *Persuasion*. She tackles art, misogyny, and also includes an analysis of a brutal true crime that examines the psychological science of group-think, guilt, and shame. Every essay is written through the lens of feminism and current politics, imbuing it all with a sense of perspective and relevancy.

As I said, this is my first foray into Hustvedt's writing, but it will most certainly not be my last. Her voice is unique while somehow remaining universal, bold, honest, and fiercely intelligent. — Erin Phillips

*Simon & Schuster // 304 pages // Nonfiction, Essays*



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**MOVIES**

**Local Film *Alexander the Brain* is Daring and Dynamic**

Oddity Productions' 1800s-era short is a mix of beauty and blood



Alexander Conroy is a bare-knuckle boxer born into the violence of the Civil War. Now, 19 years after the war, he finds himself in the same power-hungry fight his ancestors fell into, attempting to assert his dominance as a force beyond that of pure physicality. *Alexander the Brain*, Oddity Productions' debut short film, follows the boxer, played by Jacob Ames, as he becomes a mentor to a younger fighter.

The film, written by Danny Pakulski, shows promise for stories to come from the young creatives of Oddity, but what makes this film a stand-out is its cinematography and production value, credited to Simon Yahn and Liam O'Brien. The dynamic fight scenes not only add action to the screen but include an introspective aspect untold through the script. Quick cuts, strong sound effects, and striking visuals heighten the storyline that at points becomes drawn out with monologues.

It is worth noting that for being a short film, it does not feel rushed, as lines like "tell me about your father" evoke emotion and background that act as catalysts for the rest of the film.

The height of tension peaks as Alex-

**Jacob Ames portrays bare-knuckle boxer Alexander Conroy in *Alexander the Brain*, a short film produced by Erie-based Oddity Productions.**

ander meets with Mr. Barley, an established war friend of Alexander's less-than-fondly-recalled father, who gives Alexander an ultimatum.

Alexander remains unfazed, shown through witty comebacks against Mr. Barley, who seems to represent the disparities of the class system to a larger degree.

The film explores themes of patriotism, violence, masculinity, and mental health as Alexander's greatest opponent seems to be himself. The audience comes just as close to seeking clarity in the final blow of the fight, only to find the moment clouded by the dust dissipating in the ring, hungry for more.

This *Peaky Blinders*-esque historical piece speaks to the great creative freedom that can be expected in the future from Oddity Productions. — Chloe Forbes

*Written and Directed by: Danny Pakulski //*

*Starring: Jacob Ames, Connor McNelis, David Durst //* Oddity Productions

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## Return to Yggdrasil: *The Northman* is a New Kind of Epic

★★★★★



Robert Eggers has only directed two prior films (*The Witch* and *The Lighthouse*), but he can already be relied on for two things: obsessive attention to detail

(including period accurate dialogue) and surreal, almost psychedelic visuals. So when I learned that he was given \$90 million to tell a Viking revenge epic, my excitement could not be overstated. *The Northman*, while arguably his most mainstream and accessible film to date, is still full of Eggers' usual touches resulting in a fascinating and visceral tale of vengeance, destiny, and family that successfully bridges the gap between history and mythology.

Set in the 10th Century, the film follows Amleth, a young prince whose world is shattered when his father the king (Ethan Hawke) is betrayed by his brother Fjöl-nir (Claes Bang), who kills the king and takes his queen (Nicole Kidman) as his own. Amleth escapes and grows into a fierce warrior (now played by an almost animalistic Alexander Skarsgård) who now has a single goal in his heart: to avenge his father, save his mother, and kill Fjöl-nir.

Based on the possibly true (but probably fictional) Norse folk tale "Vita Amlæthi," the film is filled with Eggers' historically accurate period details, giving us all the danger and brutality found in this world. However, Eggers is also interested in the rich mythology of the people presented, resulting in dreamlike sequences of spiritualism and mysticism. This combination of reality and myth turns Amleth's quest from a simple revenge tale into a surreal battle for the soul. Those looking for a mere action movie may be disappointed (although the film is not without its share of blood and fury) because as usual, Eggers is after something far grander than basic genre conventions. — Forest Taylor

*Directed by: Robert Eggers // Written by: Robert Eggers and Sjøn // Starring: Alexander Skarsgård, Anya Taylor-Joy, Nicole Kidman, Claes Bang, Gustav Lindh, Elliot Rose, Phil Martin, Eldar Skar, Olwen Fouéré, Ethan Hawke, Willem Dafoe, and Björk // 137 minutes // Rated R // Focus Features*

## Podcast Picks: May 2022

Inspired audiotainment that is nothing to sneeze at

### A Slight Change of Plans with Maya Shankar

Hosted by: Maya Shankar // [pushkin.fm](https://pushkin.fm)

"We've all had a moment in our lives that changes everything." For Maya Shankar, that moment was quicker than she would've ever thought possible.

A violinist from a young age, Shankar dreamed of becoming a concert violinist and was well on her way until a quick but life-altering injury during practice — a pop in her finger — derailed those dreams and set her on a new path.

Now a cognitive scientist with a doctorate in the field, Maya Shankar studies how and why we change over time. From small moments like hers to larger, more drawn out events, her podcast aims to understand how minor and major life changes affect human behavior and mentality.

The deep, intimate conversations Shankar has with her guests shows just how intricate the human brain is. While some may gravitate to the more famous guests — Tiffany Haddish, Kacey Musgraves, and Hillary Clinton, to name a few — the real treasure is in the lesser known interviewees. From a Black man who inspired hundreds of people to leave the Ku Klux Klan and other white supremacist groups to a blind woman who goes from home cook to professional chef, each episode brings its own set of surprises, realizations, and touching stories.

Named by Apple as the Best Show of the Year in 2021, *A Slight Change of Plans* tackles the difficult questions about who we are and what we become in the face of change. — Ally Kutz



### The A24 Podcast

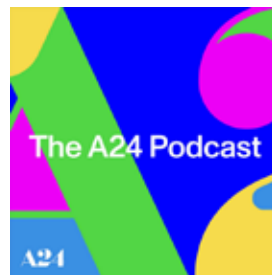
Hosted by: Various // [a24films.com/notes](https://a24films.com/notes)

The A24 Podcast is based on a pretty simple concept. Put two talented people in the room; let them talk for an hour.

The magic is in the pairings though. Some are obvious; they take Jonah Hill's directorial debut (*Mid90s*) as an opportunity to reunite him and *Superbad* co-star Michael Cera. Some are thematic: Elsie Fisher, the young and authentic performer that anchors the film *Eighth Grade*, gets to chat with her 1980s counterpart Molly Ringwald. The more offbeat pairings, like Nathan Fielder and *Euphoria* star Alexa Demie, often lead to the most thrilling conversations; this one in particular rolls from Demie's high school sunglasses business, to Nathan Fielder's high school play *Yellow Squash*, to an examination of Fielder's logical nature and how that would play into potential interdimensional travel (you'll just have to listen to it!)

The show isn't particularly time-bound, so you can binge from the beginning, but other recommendations include the Toni Collette and John Early combination, and the recent episode featuring musician Michelle Zauner (Japanese Breakfast) and filmmaker Kogonada (the stellar *After Yang*).

A24 is the current king of indie cinema. This show takes that cred and uses it for some of the best guest bookings in the podcast world. — Christopher Lantinen



### Improv4Humans

Hosted by: Matt Besser // [earwolf.com/show/improv4humans](https://earwolf.com/show/improv4humans)

It only makes sense that out of the countless podcasts that rely on improvised comedy, *Improv4Humans* stands out as one of the pinnacles. Improv in its most basic form is something that most podcasts rely on in one way or another.

From unscripted interviews, to the character-based long-form of *Comedy Bang Bang*, to every D&D campaign, it's being relished by creators around the world.

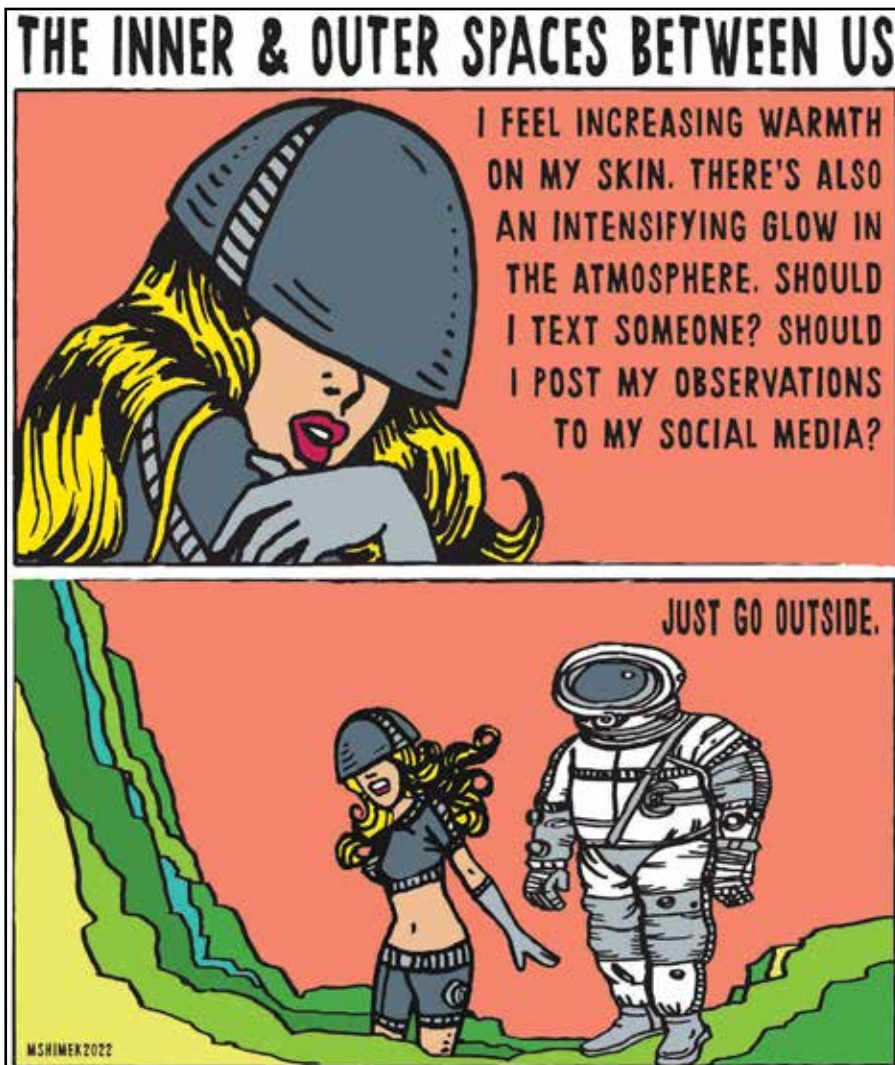
Leading that generation into modern improv is Matt Besser. He is one of the founding members of the Upright Citizens Brigade (UCB), which spawned an eponymous sketch series and — more importantly — the UCB Theatre and Training Center to teach long-form improv.

Since 2011, the easiest place to find Besser has been his weekly podcast *Improv4Humans*. Joined by a revolving door of comedians and improvisers, Besser and company create hilarious scenes on the air. The show uses a variety of suggestions, from Twitter to their own conversations (like Besser's first-hand Oscar experience) to generate ideas for a series of sketches.

Some of the most memorable episodes are the ones featuring a live musical guest, with two of the most recent being ME REX and Fat Mike from NoFX. The guests are simply some of the greatest comic improvisers in the world like Andy Daly, Will Hines, Lauren Lapkus, Jon Gabrus, and hundreds more. Be sure to check out episodes featuring Besser's wife, actress and improviser Danielle Schneider, for their added subtext and unforgettable interplay. — Nick Warren





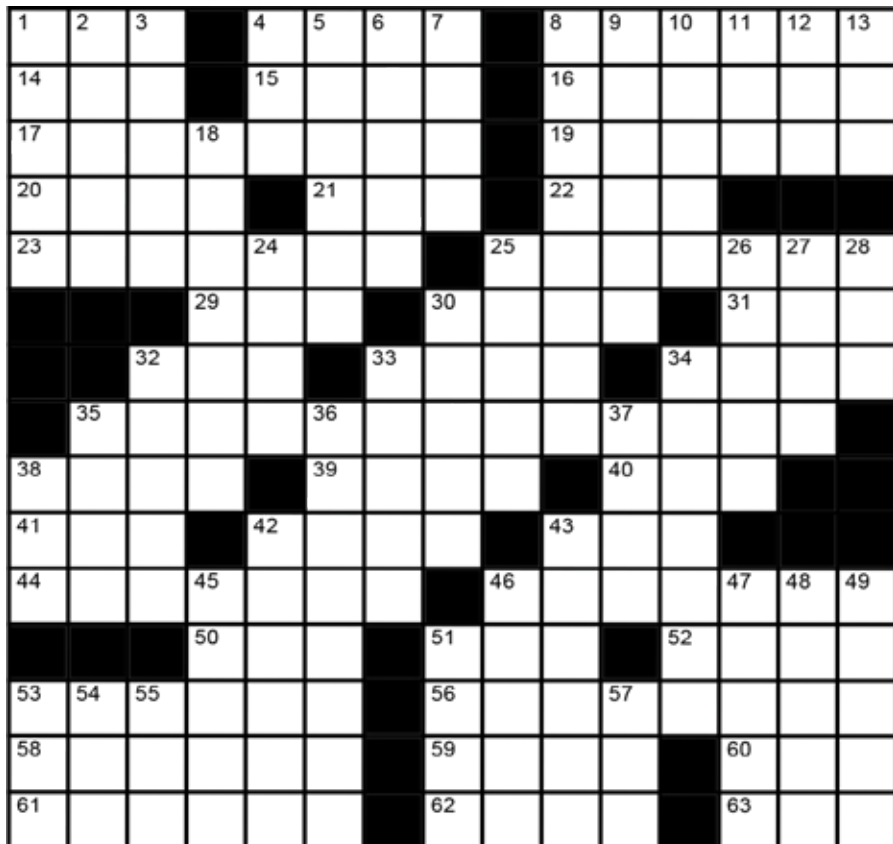








# CROSSWORD



## Across

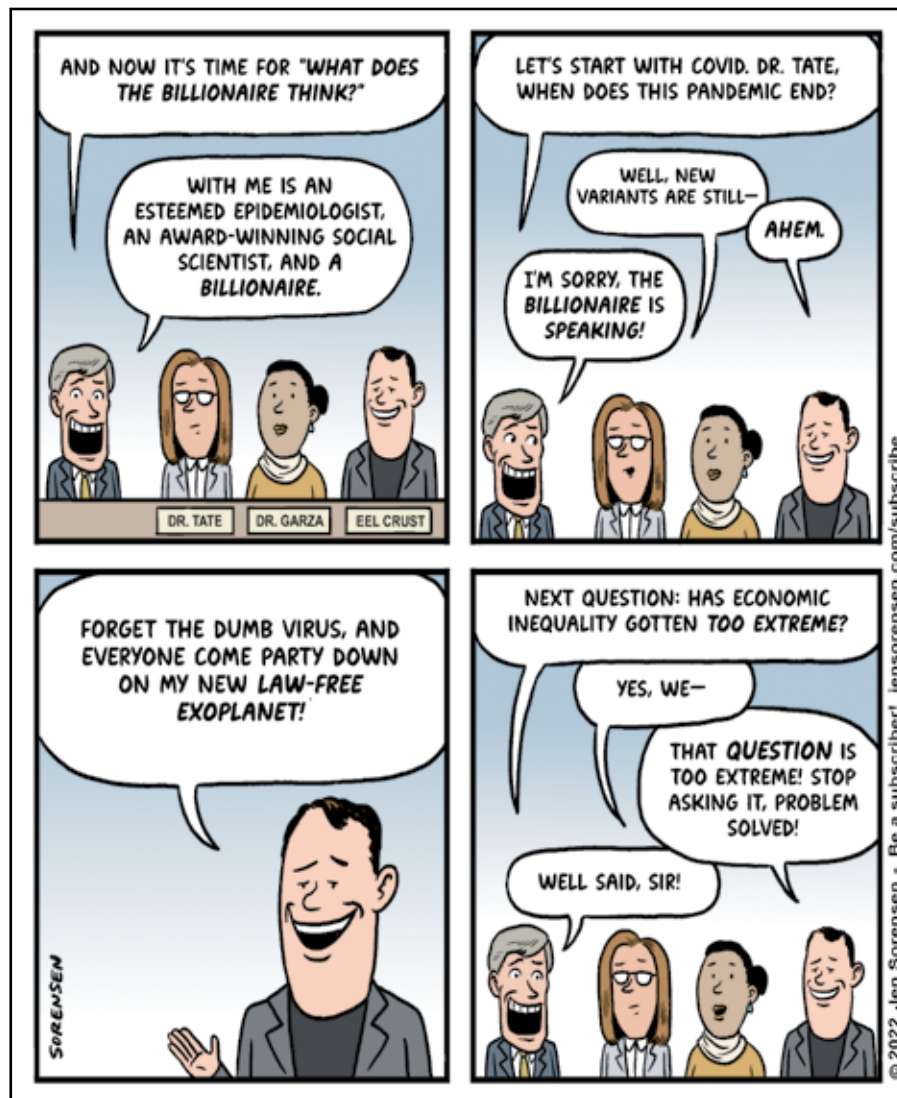
1. Original ainer of "Doctor Who" and "Monty Python's Flying Circus"
4. Heavy-landing sound
8. Woodworker's vise
14. Big part of a dachshund
15. Barn topper
16. Rob who directed "The Princess Bride"
17. Phys. for someone suffering from ennui?
19. Repeated cry in Buster Poindexter's "Hot Hot Hot"
20. Tapered hairstyle
21. Study
22. It's at the center of some court battles
23. Drool
25. Line of footwear sold by a company known for its personal lubricant?
29. Na+ or Cl-, in NaCl
30. Clark's crush at the Daily Planet
31. Landmark 1973 Supreme Court case, informally
32. Nursing \_\_\_\_
33. PETA pet peeves
34. It's not a good look
35. What some lasers are used for ... or what's seen in 17-, 25-, 44- and 56-Across
38. Alternative to Venmo
39. Like refreshing agua

40. "The tongue of the mind," per Cervantes
41. Flexible blackjack card
42. John Legend's "All \_\_\_\_"
43. Self starter?
44. Something you get when purchasing 20 Scrabble sets?
46. Having feelings
50. Volcanic \_\_\_\_
51. "THERE you are!"
52. Timeline spans
53. Skating great Yamaguchi
56. Poppcock coming from a "Star Wars" character?
58. Six-line stanza
59. Tina Turner, vocally
60. It might be brown or pale
61. Cry from a balcony, maybe
62. Common medical advice
63. Kyoto dough

## Down

1. Gripes
2. Trite
3. Words to live by
4. "The whole family can watch" program rating
5. "Nashville" actress Panettiere
6. Completely anesthetized
7. "Marriage Story" Oscar winner Laura

8. Playing favorites
9. People people
10. Not be straight with card
11. "Sorry, it's \_\_\_\_ from me"
12. Blanc who voiced Bugs Bunny
13. Lead-in to calculus
18. Renaissance, literally
24. Dory, e.g.
25. Home of the boy band BTS
26. Instrument with stops
27. Travel expense
28. "Comprende?"
30. Pulitzer-winning novelist Alison
32. More despicable
33. Much paperwork
34. Like maritime trade routes
35. Street food choice
36. Cream or eggshell
37. Warm up the crowd
38. Half-\_\_\_\_ (request to a barista)
42. Seafood in a "shooter"
43. Quarter deck?
45. What kitsch lacks
46. Oil-bearing rock
47. Wide variety
48. Put on ice
49. German steel city
51. Slightly cracked
53. The Wildcats of the Big 12 Conf.
54. One ab crunch, say
55. "Eh, give or take"
57. Quickly note (down)



## Answers to last puzzle





# BUD LIGHT SELTZER COCKTAIL HOUR

LOUDEST  
FLAVORS  
EVER



## AVAILABLE NOW!