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**CONTENTS:**

AUGUST 14, 2019

Learning on a Budget – 5

Making the community college fly in bargain-conscious Erie

Holding Our Breath – 9

Looking at broader economic consequences as Erie Coke hearing concludes

Woodward Waxes on 'Lessons Learned from Watergate' in Jamestown – 11

The iconic investigative journalist on how past connects with future

LECOM in a New York State of Mind – 15

New Elmira campus to continue mission that began in Erie

Bar Exams – 16

Erie's favorite college bars pass with students for good reason

Erie's American Dream? – 19Locally filmed Discovery Channel series *Undercover Billionaire* Premieres**Spotlight on Erie – 20**

And we fly just like birds of a feather, I won't tell no lie

Lavery Lager Haus – 35

BEN SPEGGEN

Sampling the wares at the newly-opened Titusville site

Movie Reviews – 36

Some stories end up being scarier than others

The Living, Breathing Woods – 36

Rachel Burke takes us for a walk in a very gestural forest

Music Reviews – 37

Clairo, Chance the Rapper, Bon Iver, and Marika Hackman

Crossword Puzzle – 38

This week's latest stumper from David Levinson Wilk

From the Editors**Erie goes back to school**

It's been said offhand that Erie is nothing more than just "one big college town." This is, of course, not true. State College is one big college town. It's right there in the name.

Hyperbolic conclusions like this aren't totally unfounded, however. If we were to tally the latest enrollment numbers from the four major higher education spots located in Erie and compare them to the latest census data, we'd see that students make up about 15 percent of our population (that's just over 15,000 from Gannon, Mercyhurst, Penn State Behrend, and LECOM out of a city of roughly 97,000). Compare that to the aforementioned State College, or an even smaller town like Edinboro, where, in both cases, the students actually outnumber the population, and the proportionality becomes even more disparate. Factor in the actuality that most students don't typically claim residence in their school's city, and the statistic reduces much further.

Either way, it's "back to school" time for Erie. That means a lot of things to us. To Liz Allen, it means coming back to the idea of a local community college. Taking a tour of Butler County Community College (BC3), she focuses on what they've learned and how they arrived at their present state. She traces the ongoing discussion our community leaders and non-profit organizations have been having — a ping-ponging back and forth between a few options.

To many Erieites, this time of year also means one of the most obvious things: Our college population is coming back to town. Matt Swanseger looks at this from behind the bar, getting a drink purveyor's take on what makes a college bar a college bar. He also ventures eastward, over to Elmira, N.Y. to look at the recent expansion of the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM). The school, anchored in Erie, is now the largest medical school in the country, with additional campuses in Greensburg, Pa. and Bradenton, Fla.

In addition to LECOM, other Erie businesses continue to grow. Lavery Brewing Co. recently opened their second location in Titusville, Pa. Ben Speggen recently made his way down to sample a few of their wares. Housed in the former location of the Blue Canoe Brewery, the Lavery Brewing Lager Haus has plenty of room and a menu filled with a bounty of delicious handcrafted food and beer options.

Then there's the newly opened Underdog BBQ — future focus of the Discovery Channel's *Undercover Billionaire*, as Nick Warren takes a look at the premier episode, as well as the packed schedule for this year's installment of Celebrate Erie.

So, whether you're a college student or not, there's still more than enough to see, do, and celebrate this August before classes start.



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Learning on a Budget

Making the community college fly in bargain-conscious Erie



CONTRIBUTED

By: Liz Allen

For Haley Kovach, enrolling in a community college was a no-brainer.

"I'm not about to go into debt for the rest of my life," said Kovach, who is studying for an associate's degree in marketing management at the Armstrong County campus of Butler County Community College, also known as BC3.

Kovach, 21, is the first in her family to go to college; her sister, Hannah, 20, followed her to BC3 to study early childhood education.

When Kovach decided to work for two years after high school, skeptics doubted that she would ever go to college. "I'll prove you wrong," she vowed.

Kovach is attending BC3 with help from the College Sponsoring Program offered by Pittsburgh Job Corps. This program, through the U.S. Department of Labor, helps to cover tuition, books, supplies, transportation, clothing, and health and wellness services for eligible students who attend either BC3 or the Community College of Allegheny County. Students also receive a monthly stipend.

"I like to consider it an employability program," said Renea Knauss, a BC3 college counselor, referring to Job Corps. To help graduates with resumes, interviews and job placement, a caseworker

is assigned to each participant for six months to a year after they earn a certificate or an associate's degree

This semester, Kovach will take 18 credits at BC3's main campus while also working full-time as a caregiver for adults with intellectual disabilities. It's a heavy load but she intends to keep up her 4.0 grade-point average.

Kovach picked BC3 because it was the "cheapest" option to further her education, she said.

The word "cheapest" should resonate in Erie, where we are known for being bargain-conscious. With that one simple description, Kovach sums up the appeal of community colleges: They are affordable and accessible no matter what your stage in life. A certificate program can help you to land a job or qualify for a promotion. An associate's degree can be your ticket into the workforce or it can be used to transfer to a four-year institution. You can follow any of those routes without saddling yourself with huge student loans.

At BC3, 75 percent of students graduate without debt, according to William Foley, the college's coordinator of news and media content.

Kovach proved to be the perfect speaker to tout the value of a community college education, but she's not a pitch person. I only met her by chance during my Aug. 7 walking tour of the main BC3 campus, which is between

The main campus for Butler County Community College is on 330 acres at a former golf course. The college also has locations in Cranberry Township, Ford City, New Castle, Hermitage, and Brockway. Butler County residents pay \$165 per credit hour; residents of other counties pay \$265 per credit hour.

summer and fall sessions.

Maybe more real-life stories like Kovach's could persuade people in Erie that a community-college education has multiple benefits.

"We can pump millions of dollars into downtown Erie, but if we don't heal the city [and] fix the economic disparities, nobody will want to come and invest in a broken city," said Ron DiNicola, who co-founded Empower Erie with Erie County Councilman Andre Horton and served as Empower Erie's chair.

In October 2016, Empower Erie received funding from the Erie Community Foundation and other sources for a community-college feasibility study. "We found a community on the cusp of change, anxious to dislodge the status quo and inspired by a bold set of leaders from business, philanthropy and government willing to play big and win big," DiNicola wrote in a letter accompanying the feasibility study in May 2017. "The community understands, and our research shows, that we need to shift from playing defense to playing offense on economic development and education. A community college would help us create a winning strategy, embracing our future and restoring Erie's reputation as a maker city and builder of America," DiNicola concluded.

But Empower Erie couldn't keep the rally going, as a divide emerged about whether Erie should get its own community college or cede to political pressure to become part of the nine-county Northern Pennsylvania Regional College. Based in Warren, the NPRC was founded as the Rural Regional College in 2014; it changed its name in 2018.

But the game doesn't have to be over if enough regular folks and business leaders can raise a ruckus about why Erie has been excluded from state funding ever since the Pennsylvania Community College Act was passed in 1963. "The policy of the Board is to encourage and facilitate the development of community colleges within reasonable commuting distances of every

citizen of this Commonwealth. These colleges may be developed in various forms and by various organizations provided they are consistent with the act and this chapter," the act states. Nearly six decades after the act was passed, Erie does not have community college within "reasonable commuting distance." [variable according to the U.S. Dept. of Labor — ed. note]

As the public editor for the Erie Times-News, I wrote and edited opinion pieces touting the urgent need for an Erie community college, although "urgent" is actually the wrong word. Otherwise, we would have responded in 2001, when consultant Brian Bosworth's study, "Toward an Economic Development Strategy for Erie," laid out dramatic actions to help Erie regain its competitive edge, to attract business, and to stem population loss.

In the section "Getting Smarter," the Bosworth Report recommended "a very focused effort to build an innovative community college that can respond directly and very quickly to skill needs and potential demand in the region." The report stated: "We do not wish to convey the sense that people in Erie are somehow not as 'smart' as people elsewhere. Of course, that is not true. However, on average, the population is not as well-educated or trained beyond high school as are people in other economic regions with which Erie competes."

Since the Bosworth Report, we've lurched forward every few years with a new plan for a community college. Then, again, we falter, as the current controversy shows. On one side is Empower Erie, which advocates for Erie County to host Pennsylvania's 15th community college.

On the other side are those pressuring Erie County to ditch its community-college application to the state Board of Education and to join the Northern Pennsylvania Regional College, which relies on a distance-learning model.

Empower Erie has sought ways to collaborate with NPRC, but there are philosophical differences. Empower Erie advocates for an actual college for Erie, and for a larger role for Erie in governing NPRC and designing curriculum. NPRC wants to stick to its

distance-learning model and the status quo in its governance.

J. Noah Brown, president and chief executive officer of the Association of Community College Trustees in Washington, D.C., says that vigorous discussion about community colleges can be healthy. "If there was no real need, you wouldn't be having this debate," Brown said. The question is how to come up with "the most appropriate instructional model" that will work best to bolster the economy and "create wealth" in Erie, he said.

Unless the college is targeted closely to address the economic situation in Erie, "you've just created another institution in search of a mission," he said, and that's not good for students or taxpayers.

The conversation about whether NPRC and an Erie college might collaborate wasn't helped when Joseph Nairn, NPRC president, revealed his view of creating an actual community college campus in Erie. "We don't want to be in the business of owning the campus. That is where the costs get out of control. I tell people if you are looking for a climbing wall, a lazy river, and a vegan bar, we are not here to entertain them," Nairn told Erie Times-News reporter Jim Martin for a July 9 story.

After reading Nairn's quote, I decided to visit an actual community college. Butler is an easy drive from Erie and the community college there had become a factor in Erie County's lengthy battle to create a community college when then-Erie County Councilman Joseph Giles asked BC3 to expand its footprint into Erie. Thanks but no thanks, BC3 responded.

Butler County Community College "has been caught in the crossfire between those for and against Erie

County's community college venture. It is the board's opinion that reaching agreement between these groups is essential before deciding a creative solution which may involve BC3," Ray Steffler, chairman of the BC3 board, wrote to then-County Executive Barry Grossman, according to a Nov. 18, 2010 Erie Times-News story. Grossman supported a standalone college for Erie, rather than an affiliation with another institution.

My trip to BC3 shored up my belief that without access to a true community college, Erie County residents are missing out on the chance to improve their lot. Employers who bemoan the skills gap are also getting the shaft.

One of the first stops on my tour was the Amy Wise Children's Creative Learning Center Preschool and Child-care facility, which serves BC3 students, staff and community members. "We get so many parents who, without the child care, would not be able to attend the classes," said Gina Rajchel, the center's interim director. Having low-cost child-care on campus is "highly important" to their success in college.

I also met Karen Jack, facilitator for KEYS (Keystone Education Yields Success). KEYS, offered at all 14 colleges that are part of the Pennsylvania Commission of Community Colleges, runs in conjunction with the state Department of Human Services. Open to students eligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and/or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, it helps them pay for expenses such as childcare, bus transportation, car repairs, a driver's license, vehicle registration, test fees, and uniforms. Students can borrow laptops and receive extra tutoring and career counseling.

"Childcare is huge," says Jack. "When

we can say, 'you're going to get help with that,' then education seems doable."

To fully understand the current quarrel between those who want Erie to have its own community college and those who want Erie to join the NPRC, you have to be schooled in the backdoor dealing of state and county politics in both political parties. Someday, that story will be told.

For now, it should be enough to know that previous efforts to devise an alternative to a true community college for Erie have failed. In 2014, for example, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania unveiled the Porreco Promise and retooled its campus in Millcreek to serve as the "community's college" with open enrollment, low tuition, and scholarships.

Community leaders extolled the concept, but by September 2017, the "community's college" experiment was over. "We are going to extricate ourselves from the community-college market," H. Fred Walker, who was then serving as Edinboro's president, told the newspaper.

Edinboro's decision didn't sting as much as it might have, though, because Empower Erie had already completed its well-documented feasibility study.

"We met every Saturday from the fall of 2016 through the fall of 2017," said Judi Roth, a former teacher, guidance counselor, and business owner, who serves as president and treasurer of Empower Erie. "It was not an advisory board. It was a working board."

The feasibility study is so detailed it could be daunting to read. But this group did its homework, and Erie County's application to start a community college explains why a college is needed, outlines how it will be financed, and

suggests possible sites.

When the state Board of Education asked County Council to revise its projected enrollment, the county complied.

In doing its research in 2016 and 2017, Empower Erie met with the NPRC in Warren. "A subsequent invitation was issued to meet here. They never took advantage of it," Roth said.

Empower Erie's goal is not to compete with NPRC. Rather, "it's a case of cooperating, collaborating, complementing," Roth said.

For both colleges to emerge as winners, Roth has been drawing on lessons learned during 10 years of teaching at a Quaker school in Wilmington, Del.

"People say that consensus is compromise, giving in, sacrificing," she said. In a majority-rule system, she explained, "you stand where you are until you convince others to join you or be voted down."

In the Quaker system, "you start with a continuum of 10 and you both move to five. You end up with a solution that can often be better than where either of you started. It's better because you looked at the needs of both groups," she said.

In the meantime, Empower Erie and the task force established by Erie County Council to negotiate with the NPRC will push to make its voice heard, not just in Erie but in Harrisburg.

"We continue to stay focused," said DiNicola, a task force member. "Sometimes, a little bit of adversity brings out the best."

Liz Allen did not find a climbing wall or a lazy river at Butler County Community College. She did, however, spot a peanut-butter-flavored vegan protein snack bar for \$1.99 at the college bookstore.

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Holding Our Breath

Looking at broader economic consequences as Erie Coke hearing concludes



NICK WARREN

By: Katie Chriest

At this writing, Environmental Hearing Board Judge Steven C. Beckman is weighing Erie Coke's case against being shut down, despite numerous violations of its Title V operating permit — even three more during the July hearing.

On Monday, Aug. 12, Beckman filed an order “denying Erie Coke’s petition to reopen the record to include additional evidence in the case that the company did not bring up at the hearing,” according to Group Against Smog and Pollution (GASP). “The order also grants the Department of Environmental Protection’s (DEP) request to strike references to that evidence in Erie Coke’s post-hearing brief.”

Meanwhile, DEP attorneys have filed arguments supporting closing the plant permanently. GASP highlighted several of DEP attorneys’ key points in an Aug. 9 blog post, concluding that “the facts when viewed in their totality demonstrate that Erie Coke chronically and systematically fails to comply with the law. For years, these violations have subjected the environment and residents of the city of Erie to ongoing emissions of particulate matter and coke oven gas — a hazardous air pollutant — and Erie Coke’s own witnesses testified there is no end in sight.”

The Erie Times-News quoted Erie Coke’s lawyers, who wrote in their last-minute post-hearing brief that a shutdown “would be tragic.”

Despite the indisputably sad reality that Erie Coke employees would be out of work, the word “tragic” used in this context feels tone-deaf, even when factoring in economic ripple effects to which the company’s lawyers also refer.

What comes closer to an actual tragedy is the way that Erie Coke has been permitted to pollute our city for so many years, risking the health of Erie’s people and environment, seemingly with little regard for either.

GASP also cites another point by DEP attorneys:

“There can be no question that citizens’ rights to ‘clean air’ and ‘to the preservation of natural scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment’ are implicated by the continuing emissions of particulate matter and coke oven gas from the Erie Coke facility,” DEP attorneys wrote. “Its location on the shore of Lake Erie and adjacent Presque Isle State Park makes these infringements even more egregious.”

Along similar lines, in his Aug. 4 column in the Erie Times-News, Pat Howard referred to Erie’s comprehensive plan, *Erie Refocused*, which “identifies maximizing the potential of the bayfront and connecting it to downtown Erie as essential to this community’s turnaround. In a letter he delivered with the plan, Charles Buki didn’t mince words,” wrote Howard.

“If there is a more squandered asset in America than the city of Erie’s shoreline, it is hard to imagine. ... If the city of

The Erie Coke Corporation has continued to plead its case as it faces the prospect of shutdown, arguing that the loss of jobs would be “tragic.” Despite promises to clean up its act, its transgressions against the environment have continued.

Erie is to have a second act, optimizing the bayfront for its cultural and recreational value, its real estate value, and its iconic value, needs to happen,’ Buki wrote.”

None of this is to say that business and industry have no reasonable claim on Erie’s bayfront. But it’s hard to see how a corporation like Erie Coke, which only seems committed to appearing compliant when it’s threatened with closure, can contribute to anything other than perpetuating the squandering of our shoreline — and thus our economic future.

Last November, Austin Frakt wrote in the New York Times that in addition to well-known damaging health outcomes, “increased pollution can also have long-term negative economic consequences.”

Frakt adds, “A study found that higher concentrations of fine particulate matter depressed the productivity of pear packers in Northern California. In another study, the same authors found that when pollution was higher, Chinese call center workers took more breaks.”

“Over the very long term, economic growth has been a boon to health and longevity,” he summarizes. “But when that growth is achieved through increased pollution, that can harm both health as well as longer-term economic prospects.”

At one point as I was writing this, I realized I had a slew of tabs open to other articles and studies linking pollution to negative economic impacts, some presenting evidence that the presence of polluting industries lowers real estate values — no surprise there. I’d intended to cite more of them — but then was struck again with a familiar sense that more statistics are not necessarily the answer. It seems our current predicament is not primarily due to a dearth of data, but rather a failure of imagination.

As we’ve noted before, a significant part of Erie — including the area near Erie Coke — has been designated an

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Environmental Justice community by our DEP. And as we've seen, the impacts of pollution aren't limited to breathing difficulties. They can hinder a person's long-term earning potential. They can keep future investors from locating here. They can ruin quality of life.

During the hearing in July, some residents who live near Erie Coke testified about the black soot they've had to clean off their homes, the windows they've had to keep closed. On one recent perfect summer day, I received a message from an eastside homeowner who'd planned to enjoy that gorgeous Sunday by walking her dog, but the smell from Erie Coke was intolerable.

These are people who invested in Erie. Why should protecting their assets be less of a priority than protecting Erie Coke's?

In the debate about whether or not to let a polluting company continue to operate, if all we're counting is money, we need a new economic model. And if the only neighbors we're concerned

creating unforeseen opportunities for our region.

If we myopically focus on what might be lost if one polluting corporation is forced to shut down, we may block the vision to see what else is possible. This is not about looking to other cities' models of progress and then laminating their identities onto Erie. This is about peeling back layers of stale thinking and limited imagination to reveal the riches we already have: breathtaking natural beauty and a self-respecting community where people care for each other.

That's the sort of currency we should be counting. If we are to thrive, it will take standing up for what we value most, thereby clarifying every day that we are choosing a just, livable, vibrant Erie for all.

Of course, Erie Coke should expect a fair weighing of reasonable evidence as decisions are made regarding the plant's future. Though the past nine years of violations since the 2010 DEP

“The facts when viewed in their totality demonstrate that Erie Coke chronically and systematically fails to comply with the law. For years, these violations have subjected the environment and residents of the city of Erie to ongoing emissions of particulate matter and coke oven gas — a hazardous air pollutant — and Erie Coke's own witnesses testified there is no end in sight.”
– Attorneys for DEP

about are the ones who live next door, we need a wider sense of community — one that even includes those we'll never know.

In their book *Active Hope*, Joanna Macy and Chris Johnstone propose writing a letter to the future, imagining we're answering questions from those who will inherit the city we now call home.

“Ancestor, I hear stories about the period you are living in ... with some people absurdly rich while huge numbers are starving and homeless, poisons in the seas and soil and air ... We're still experiencing the effects of all that. How much of this do you know about? And what is it like for you to live with this knowledge?”

This exercise may feel a bit corny. But it does widen our perception of community to include those who will live in Erie long after we're gone. Or even those who'd love to set up shop here,

consent decree suggest otherwise, is it possible the company could transform into the “good neighbor” we deserve?

DEP's attorneys seem skeptical of that outcome, according to GASP: “DEP attorneys also argued that the company lacks the proper finances to bring the plant — and keep it — in compliance with its permit. It noted that Erie Coke has no capital improvement plan or training budget.”

The department's attorneys also emphasized that Erie Coke has no money set aside for a backup hydrogen sulfide absorber, which is required for them to legally operate under their Title V permit.

Erie Coke keeps arguing that it is on track to clean up its act.

But as a community, we probably shouldn't hold our breath.

Katie Chriest can be reached at Katie@eriereader.com.

Woodward Waxing on 'Lessons Learned from Watergate' in Jamestown

The iconic investigative journalist on how past connects with future



MIGUEL ARIEL CONTRERAS DRAKE-MCLAUGHLIN

Author and Washington Post journalist Bob Woodward, renowned in his field for his incisive brand of political reporting, spoke at Jamestown, N.Y.'s Reg Lenna Center for the Arts on Aug. 11. Woodward's latest book, *Fear: Trump in the White House*, profiles our 45th president's first two years in the Oval Office.

By: Ben Speggen

Forty-five years after the Watergate Scandal that ultimately led to the call for impeachment and the subsequent resignation of President Richard Nixon, famed journalist and living legend of the industry Bob Woodward addressed a crowd of nearly 500 in the Reg Lenna Center for the Arts in Jamestown, N.Y. on Sunday, Aug. 11. Thanks to the Robert J. Jackson Center, he was there to discuss "Have We Forgotten the Lessons of Watergate?" and, of course, the 45th President of the United States — the subject of his latest book.

On the heels of 2018's best-selling *Fear: Trump in the White House* — his 19th overall — Woodward waxed on the lessons learned from Watergate and

what those mean to us today.

Woodward began with the central role of truth in our political system, democracy, and in our rule of law. "The president has destroyed the common agreement of what is a fact," he said, exploring Trump's tropes of "fake news" in a world of "alternative facts."

Woodward recalled the nuclear disaster at Chernobyl, noting the titular 2019 HBO mini-series. While the Soviet Union went to great lengths to obscure the truth from both its people and the world, Mikhail Gorbachev admitted in 2015 that the event and the government's handling was the beginning of its unraveling and demise.

Woodward, an associate editor for the Washington Post, where he's been since the early '70s, added that another lesson is that the president has to hold moral authority. He quoted Nixon's parting words: "Always remember that others may hate you but those who hate you don't win unless you hate them. And then you destroy yourself."

Nixon, Woodward noted, had realized what he had done to the country and to the presidency and knew what needed to happen: He needed to leave the office.

"What is the job of the president?" Woodward asked. "The president ideally should ask the question: What is the next step of good for the country? Not the party but all of the people."

"Trump," he said, "has turned hate into ammunition for warfare."

The damning thing to come from the Watergate tapes, Woodward explained, was that they "exposed the ugliness of Nixon's own mind." What was private, the American people heard in the light of day. Today, the president says "lots of things Nixon said secretly on his tapes ... on the White House lawn — or in tweets."

"President Trump has legitimized hate and violence," Woodward said. "This has happened before our eyes."

Woodward explored the roles of Senators Barry Goldwater and Hugh Scott, the voice of '60s conservatism and the minority leader at the time, respectively. As impending impeachment loomed for Nixon, Goldwater told Nixon that he had consulted Republicans to see how many would vote to save Nixon from impeachment. "You have four votes, Mr. President," Goldwater told

Nixon, as Woodward told the audience, "and one of them is not mine," making clear that GOP legislators were putting the country before the party.

The Pulitzer Prize winner, who shared in awards for his Watergate coverage with fellow investigate WaPo journalist Carl Bernstein, as well as that of 9/11, turned his attention to his industry, recalling a letter that then-publisher of the Washington Post Katherine Graham wrote to Bernstein and him. It warned them of the "demon of pomposity" that "stalks the halls of Washington everywhere," encouraging them not to let the celebrity go to their heads. And it called them "not to be spooked from the job of maintaining an aggressive edge" in their reporting.

"Trump criticizes the news because we are doing our jobs," Woodward said. He cautioned that the media mustn't turn their work into a "them versus him."

Woodward told the audience that upon hearing news that *Fear*, which chronicles the lead-up to the 2016 presidential election and the first two years of the Trump White House, would be coming out, Trump called him.

"Why didn't we talk?" Trump asked Woodward. "I tried," Woodward said, recounting how Trump's circle denied him access to the president prior.

"You always treated me fairly," Trump told Woodward.

"He's since changed his mind," Woodward said, inducing audience laughter.

Woodward drew to his conclusion, noting an interview he secured during his coverage of President George W. Bush with a four-star general who went unnamed. The general had repeatedly declined Woodward's request for interviews. But Woodward still per-

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sisted.

"What's the best time to knock on the door of a four-star general?" he asked the crowd.

"In the morning!" someone from the audience shouted.

"Whatever your profession is, you should stay in it," Woodward said, drawing laughter.

"8:17 p.m. on a Tuesday," he informed us.

His rationale: Mondays are too early in the week; things are just getting started. Wednesdays onward, folks are thinking more about the weekend than their weeks. And in the mornings, the general would be participating in PT to preserve his physique. Plus, he made have had a few "pops," which might make him more inclined to talk.

So Woodward knocked. And was greeted by: "Are you still doing this shit?"

Woodward gave a simple-yet-profound glimpse into how he's deftly been able to get people to talk, often saying a lot of things, that in their own self-interest, they probably shouldn't: "Show up, shut up, and listen," letting the "silence suck out the truth."

The general then invited him in, and they talked for two hours.

Speaking at the invitation of the Jackson Center, an institution preserving the legacy of the former Supreme Court justice and U.S. attorney general, Woodward concluded by noting the eulogy Jackson offered for President Franklin Roosevelt.

"No one but Roosevelt could bow so many human heads in a common sorrow and that sense of personal loss," Woodward said, quoting Jackson. "People feel less secure today because he is gone. He thought of no human being but himself as expendable."

"I read this, and I asked myself, 'Who

will readily give such a eulogy for Donald Trump?'" Woodward posed.

A scattered chorus of "No one!" emerged from the audience.

"That's what I wrote down," Woodward responded, laughing.

Philip Graham, publisher and later co-owner of the Washington Post, once remarked: "Journalism is the first rough draft of history."

We are living our history — which means we are unpacking these lessons in real-time, drafting as our learning moment remains ongoing.

Nearing the point at which the class bell rings, knowing the lessons will and must continue, hoping that we might return to our desks ready to reflect tomorrow on today's occurrences, Woodward finished with his big question.

"It's not just the people who voted for Trump," Woodward said. "We all are responsible. The country elected him. The big question we have to ask is: What have we done to ourselves?"

History and time will tell. But sooner rather than later, we will again have the opportunity to learn from Woodward. He is working on a forthcoming follow-up to *Fear*, which will cover Trump in the White House years three and four, and for which, he said, he will again attempt to interview Trump.

Whether years five through eight follow for Trump or Woodward will have the opportunity to report on a 10th president in his already impressive catalog, the American people will decide in November 2020, when we ask not just "what have we done to ourselves?" but: What do we want to do now, as we anticipate the drafts of our future knowing the lessons we know now?

Ben Spегgen can be contacted at bSpeгgen@ErieReader.com. You can follow him on Twitter @BenSpeгgen.

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LECOM in a New York State of Mind

New Elmira campus to continue mission that began in Erie



[left] Construction is underway on a \$20 million, 49,000 square foot facility on the Elmira College campus that will serve as headquarters for LECOM at Elmira's osteopathic medicine program. [bottom right] An artist's rendering of the completed project, which will open its doors to 120 new medical students in July 2020.

By: Matt Swanseger

The Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine continues to both extend its reach and flex its muscles, strengthening its core and uplifting the communities around it.

Following the establishment of branch campuses to both the immediate (Greensburg, Pa.) and far south (Bradenton, Fla.), LECOM is heading due east to Elmira, N.Y., within the state's underserved Southern Tier region. Dr. Richard Terry, D.O., M.B.A., and LECOM at Elmira associate dean of academic affairs was the chief catalyst in bringing LECOM to New York. A \$20 million, 49,000 square foot facility on the Elmira College Campus will welcome 120 first-year medical students next July.

Pumping life into a new campus was not easy. "A tremendous amount of work is involved in bringing something like this to fruition," says Terry. Gaining accreditation through the New York Board of Education was a process Terry described as at times "onerous." Beyond that, there was the challenge of "building a robust clinical network" to train the students. This will include Elmira's Arnot Ogden Medical Center and 13 other sites across the Southern Tier, mostly in rural areas with a high demand for medical professionals.

LECOM at Elmira's undergraduate and graduate programs will not only provide a welcome infusion of talent into the Southern Tier and Upstate New York healthcare systems, but also a significant economic boost in the form of more than 300 jobs and an estimated \$60.4 million of direct and indirect benefits. By 2028, when those first-year students blossom into practicing physicians, the economic impact is expected to eclipse \$78 million.

Over 70 percent of graduates are likely to become internal, family, or primary care doctors — exactly the sort of physician rural and underserved communities need, according to Terry. "It's consistent with our mis-

sion to create opportunity." That they will be D.O.'s and not M.D.'s is a non-issue; the difference is negligible to the general public. "[D.O.'s] have been on equal footing since the inception of osteopathic medicine," assures Terry. "We have something unique to offer in our holistic approach and integration of the musculoskeletal system. The public accepts and embraces that. One in four medical students [today] will be D.O.'s."

LECOM, which was founded in 1992 by Millcreek Community Hospital physicians and administrators, has since become the largest medical college in the country. The LECOM name is already ubiquitous in the Erie community (and on NFL training camp highlights in the form of practice jersey patches), and Elmira is yet another stride in garnering more attention nationwide. Terry believes the new site will be a great fit for incoming students. "They'll be able to take advantage of everything [Elmira College] has recreationally and educationally, in addition to our simulation lab and state-of-the-art academic complex. It's truly the best of both worlds."

The template has worked for the 12,000-plus students LECOM has already graduated across its three existing campuses, and there's no reason to believe it won't work in Elmira as the college continues to integrate education and community.

Matt Swanseger can be reached at mswanseger@eriereader.com



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Bar Exams

Erie's favorite college bars pass with students for good reason



The patio at the Plymouth Tavern promises to be packed for its Monday quarter draft nights as area college students begin to return for the start of classes.

NICK WARREN

By: Matt Swanseger

According to educational researcher Arthur Chickering's *Theory of Identity Development* (1969), which focuses on college-aged students, the first step to establishing one's sense of self is gauging his or her core competencies in relation to others. No, not in beer pong, flip cup, kings, or quarters — but in terms of intellectual, physical, and interpersonal prowess. In the social sense, at least, there's some correlation. *Never have I ever* claimed to be an expert in the matter, but fitting in has always been the ultimate drinking game.

At least two experts, psychologists M. Lynne Cooper of the University of Missouri and Christopher Cronin of the University of St. Leo, agree with me. Both cite “social motive” or “social camaraderie” as one of three primary reasons college students drink, along with mood enhancement and tension reduction (or coping). Our college years are all about putting ourselves out there, sometimes for the first time — as a candidate for new and more diverse friendships, intimate relationships, internships ... all kinds of *-ships*. There's a lot of opportunity implicit in that and — for better or worse, a lot of pressure alcohol can help relieve.

If the presence of alcohol were enough, though, college students would go just anywhere. But context

matters. So what makes a bar a college bar? Firstly and most obviously, its proximity to college campuses and college students. For instance, Best of Erie 2018 “Best College Bar” runner-up Cornerstone Bar and Grill is almost synonymous with Mercyhurst University students, owing to its prime location on the corner of East 38th and Pine Avenue and relative lack of nearby competition. Gannon University is located in Downtown Erie, making the surrounding area their students' playground.

The next major consideration is affordability — unfortunately, the “poor, starving college student” is also one of the most common. Matt Gawlik, a recent graduate of Gannon, has become somewhat of an authority on budget barhopping through his work with a team of software and business students on the Hippoh smartphone app. The crowdsourced app has helped over 4,000 downloaders find their “watering hole” since its July 2018 launch, listing nearby food and drink specials based on the user's current location. The app has since expanded to include local festivals and limited-time goings-on.

“If it has to do with eating or drinking, we promote it,” Gawlik affirms.

Hippoh also sponsors several bar crawls throughout the year, especially during the colder months when it's important for young people to “shake cabin fever” and get them out of their dorms, apartments, or houses to be

more social. The bar crawls make stops at venues like Bourbon Barrel (2018 Best of Erie runner-up for “Best Nightclub”), Docksider, Coconut Joe's (the “Best Nightclub” category winner), and BIGBAR (runner-up for “Best New Bar or Club”), with the dance floors and club beats that encourage twenty-somethings and collegians to forget their inhibitions and let loose.

Gawlik most closely interacts with the college-aged crowd, however, as a bartender at the Plymouth Tavern.

How the Plymouth Tavern Became Everyone's Bar

Perhaps no other bar in Erie has the same crossover appeal as The Plymouth Tavern, as evidenced by our readers voting it both “Best College Bar” and “Best Neighborhood Bar” last year. Whether it qualifies as a “neighborhood bar” in terms of location is somewhat debatable, but it certainly *feels* that way. As for the “college bar” designation? Stop in on virtually any night of the week between 9 and 11 p.m. and try to argue against it.

“Everyone feels welcome there,” says Gawlik. “Some of the other establishments are more about the clubbing or dancing or whatever. But at the Plymouth you're talking to and *being around* people. The people that have been there since the beginning stick to their guns about what they're doing.”

Debbie Mancini, general manager at the Plymouth, who has been around *almost* since the beginning, agrees. “We do what we do and we don't change it. Consistency makes things more comfortable. No bands, no DJs. Just good service, great food, a clean space, and reasonable prices.”

Owner Mike Haggerty *has* been around since the beginning, when the Plymouth opened its doors in 1973. Back then, he says, downtown “was a lunch and happy hour place” and by “eight or nine o'clock, things were pretty quiet.” The weeknight specials, which draw *huge* college crowds from all of Erie's universities, were originally intended just “to get people to come downtown

after dark,” according to Haggerty.

Although downtown after sundown has changed in the past 45 years, a couple of the more notable specials have not. The Monday quarter drafts were to get “people to show up for *Monday Night Football* rather than stay home out in the suburbs.” Thursday dollar imports nights were meant to, quite simply, get his customers to try the imports. When I ask him how the Plymouth became regarded as a college bar, he tells me that “not much is by design. The point is to make *everyone* feel welcome. That's what the hospitality business is about.”

“This is a meeting place. This is where you come to meet people, to be seen,” Mancini explains. Whether you're seeking social camaraderie as a 21-year-old or a 52-year-old, the Plymouth shares a mutual function. The demographics shift by the hour of the evening or time of the year, but the joint is never devoid of enhanced moods, reduced tensions, and plenty of socialization.

“People like to be where other people are, in the bar business especially,” Haggerty elaborates. “The colleges matured around us. Downtown made a bit of a comeback with the arena and the ballfield. There's a diverse group of people down here and they became our business population.”

In short, the Plymouth became both a college bar and everyone's neighborhood bar by being itself. If the specials seem like a steal (especially the Wednesday half-off everything, an idea Haggerty and his late wife Barb lifted from State College), they kind of are. “Profit isn't always a motive. It's important to create an energy and get both the customers and employees into something fun,” says Haggerty.

The word “energy” is echoed by Mancini and Gawlik, who see it manifested in both the bustle of the patronage and the chemistry of the staff. That's because any set of employees on a given night is accustomed to working with one another. “Same servers, same cooks, same door guys, same bar backs.”

And at the end of the night, the same Plymouth.

Matt Swanseger's go-to import is a Guinness Stout. His go-to work email is mswanseger@eriereader.com



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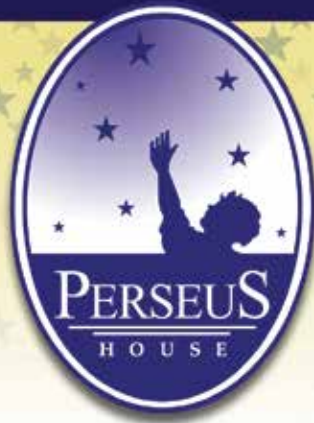


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Erie's American Dream?

Locally filmed Discovery Channel series *Undercover Billionaire* Premieres



By: Nick Warren

"Sure does look cold out there." That was one of the first impressions Glenn Stearns had while flying into Erie. "It's going to be an adventure," he quickly added. Stearns is the star of the new Discovery Channel reality series, *Undercover Billionaire*, and it's all set in Erie, Pa. The first episode, "Million Dollar Bet" premiered Tuesday, Aug. 6 at 10 p.m. The first season is set to run for eight hour-long episodes.

Stearns is the titular billionaire of the show, though, during his time in town, he went by the moniker "Glenn Bryant." The premise is this: a wealthy self-made entrepreneur gets dropped off in a typical American city with only \$100 and none of his personal connections, and must build a million-dollar business in 90 days. If he fails to do so, he'll have to pump up to one million dollars of his own money into the business — ergo the initial episode's title. Through gumption and creative thinking, he'll use what he's learned to parlay his starting sum into a valuation 10,000 times greater than its original.

A recipient of the esteemed

Horatio Alger Award in 2011, the 56-year-old businessman and survivor of throat cancer founded Stearns Lending and also heads up Anivive Life Science, as well as several holding companies. At the start of the show, his net worth was valued at \$2.2 billion. The dyslexic son of alcoholic parents, he was no stranger to hardships growing up, becoming a father at the age of 14. He founded Stearns Lending as a mortgage company in 1989; though the company filed for bankruptcy this July due to rising interest rates, it remains the fifth-largest privately held lender in America.

To some, the show's story is a shining real-life exercise in American Exceptionalism, underscored by the pretense that someone, with hard work and the right know-how, can succeed in pulling themselves up by their bootstraps to make it in this economy (and what's the worst that could happen with a reality TV series centered around a billionaire, anyway?). In short, it's a take on "The American Dream," which not-so-coincidentally served as the working title for the show while it was being shopped around as early as 2017. The

producers of the show reached out to The Greater Erie Film Office (GEFO) about setting the show here, with individuals like Stewart Nash helping to secure its production in Erie. "As director of GEFO, I continue to improve and share film production opportunities in Erie; it has been a personal mission of mine for the past six years," Nash explained. According to a statement from the GEFO, the project has injected an estimated \$5 million into the Erie economy over a three-month span, factoring in the visiting crew of 25 and 10 local student hires (three of which are now working on other national productions). "I am always happy to be involved with projects that have beneficial returns for Erie" he noted. "We struck gold with *Undercover Billionaire* and with continued support, we will do it again when given the opportunity."

The show takes Stearns from Miami to the Venango Regional Airport and gives him a blue Chevrolet truck. In March, he arrives in Erie and sets his opening goal of just getting enough money to survive for three months, which he estimates at \$3,300. He sleeps by

Glenn Stearns, alias "Glenn Bryant," is the titular *Undercover Billionaire* in the new Discovery Channel reality series, set in Erie. Stearns' objective is to build a million-dollar business from scratch, starting with \$100 and none of his personal connections.

the Bicentennial Tower, getting a room one night at the Thunderbird Motel. He scours Craigslist and starts searching for tires to sell. He volunteers with the Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network at the soup kitchen at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. He talks to Lake Erie Rubber and unsuccessfully tries to sell dog toys in Larry R. Fabrizi Dog Park. One of the most significant events is Stearns' team-up with RJ Messenger, of Iron Empire Clothing. A captivating television presence, Messenger proves to be a perfect partner for Stearns, just as eager to teach him screenprinting as he is to sell marked-up St. Patrick's Day souvenirs.

What was not directly revealed in the opening episode is the show's most visible impact on the Erie community: Underdog BBQ. The restaurant, owned by Messenger, is located at 3040 W. Lake Rd. (formerly home to The Club, The Presque Isle Grill, and Breakwater Restaurant). Opening its doors on Friday, June 21, Underdog has continued to generate a groundswell of public interest, especially as rumors of its involvement with the show became a well-known public secret. Many Erieites noticed the large camera crews on hand for this year's Ribfest, where they took first place overall in the ribs for juniors category and tied for first place for best ribs overall. After articles about the show started circulating in early July, Bryant's cover was pretty much blown.

Much like the Hawthorne Effect (or similarly, the Observer effect) subjects being filmed are aware that they're

being filmed. Simply having the professional camera crew is difficult not to notice, and Stearns and company concocted a slightly more vague premise for the "documentary" they were shooting, centered around Glenn Bryant's late-in-life entrepreneurship in order to slow down questions. Though they knew they weren't giving everyone the *whole* story, they wanted to keep to the spirit of their synopsis. This was met with levels of vocal criticism, especially leading up to the show's premiere.

For the average viewer, the weight of the show will rest on Stearns himself, a charismatic and charming presence, unflappable and grateful even during the bleakest moments.

The production of *Undercover Billionaire* is what you would expect from a national-level program, quick edits, beautiful aerial footage, and a fast-paced narrative that's easy to watch. For the average viewer, the weight of the show will rest on Stearns himself, a charismatic and charming presence, unflappable and grateful even during the bleakest moments. It's that gratitude that Erie audiences will find to be a key, as this show doesn't condescend to the city or its people, who often find themselves playing defense to perpetual negativity. Fittingly, ours does tend to be an underdog story.

*Nick Warren is barely an above-cover thousandaire and can be reached at nick@eriereader.com. *Undercover Billionaire* airs on Tuesday nights at 10 p.m. on the Discovery Channel and is viewable online at go.discovery.com*

Celebrating Erie from the Chalkwalk to the Mainstage



[left] This year's Celebrate Erie will accommodate five stages and a slew of entertainment to go with them. At the foot of Fourth Street will be the Mainstage, which last year hosted the Erie All Stars' Tom Petty tribute. **[bottom right]** The Erie All Stars rehearse for their Celebrate Erie Queen tribute (with Trevor Huster as Freddie Mercury) with members of the Erie Philharmonic at the Bayfront Convention Center.

NICK WARREN

FRIDAY, AUG. 16 - 18

Celebrate Erie is back, the second of its kind to be helmed by the Schember administration. This year, once more, the city is doing its best to pull together dozens of unique elements that make our city distinct, exciting, and worthy of celebrating.

Taking over State Street from Ninth all the way down to Fourth Street, along with both sides of Perry Square, the event will close off downtown traffic, encouraging guests to stroll through the many specially designated sections.

Moving northward from Ninth Street, guests can take a look at the block-long Chalkwalk, a much-loved aspect of the festival comprised of 40 individual murals, this year sponsored by Marquette Savings Bank. From there, one can check out five different districts, each with their own brand of interests.

Alongside the Boston Store will be the Celebrate Erie Arts District, with original pieces for sale, interactive exhibits, and live demonstrations. An expanded edition of Artlore Studio's "Erie Lore" art show will be displayed, celebrating the city's history through the work of local artists. The first of five stages will be in the Art District as well. The "Living Room Stage" will be an eclectic assortment in a comfortable setting, with musicians like Tom-

my Link, Gem City Revival, and Zack Orr performing, along with a "uke jam" hosted by World of Music.

The Great Lakes Building & Construction Business District is next. Gain insight into a wide array of local professions and trades, all coupled with a farmer's market and an outdoor video game lounge.

Between City Hall and the Federal Court House will be the Erie Insurance Culture District. There, guests will find the Port of Erie Culture Stage, with music from acts as distinct as Jordy the Traveler and Paper Matches, and performances by Rebecca Mae, Little Dance Studio, and many more. The Jefferson Educational Society will host a lecture series outside City Hall, with talks from Patrick Cuneo, Jerry Skrypzak, Corine Egan, Johnny Johnson, and a screening of *Rust Belt New Americans* (a film by MenajErie Studios based on the photo exhibition by Maitham Basha-Agha).

On the western side of Perry Square will be the Giant Eagle Food District. Local food trucks will be flanking the park, intermingling with regional breweries in the beer garden. Brick-and-mortar restaurants, not to be left out, will be part of the new Food Passport program in conjunction with Erie Food Tours. Get your passport stamped at Alkeme, Andora's Bubble Tea Shop, El Amigo

Mexican Grill, Ember + Forge, Molly Brannigan's, and Voodoo Brewery to be entered to win a \$150 prize pack of gift cards. Gourmands are encouraged to use the hashtag #erietasteslike throughout the weekend. The Perry Square Stage is sponsored by the PA Lottery and will have bands like TK Blues Company, Diesel Houdini, and Eric Brewer & Friends playing from Friday to Sunday.

The PNC Bank Family District will be on the eastern (fountain) side of Perry Square, its own stage featuring dance, exercise, yoga, martial arts activities, with youth performances from the Footlights Theatre Program and the Erie Playhouse.

"Really this year is about the in-betweens," explained Aaron Loncki, marketing strategist for the City of Erie and one of the principal organizers behind Celebrate Erie. "It's about engaging people while they're here and making them want to stay. For example, we have a number of vendors and folks that are going to have a set up. We've charged everybody with doing something interactive, whether that's [giving] a demonstration, whether they're selling something, or [hosting] an activity." Putting last year's comments to work, Loncki and his team welcome the event's evolution and improvement. "We found from the survey last year that we want to keep people engaged and they want to be engaged when they're down here. Our goal is to keep people on their toes, throw some surprises in along the way, and make sure that they're excited to be there and they want to stay."

After all the districts, at the

foot of Fourth Street will be the Mainstage. Opening up will be YouTube sensations First to Eleven, followed by Matty B & The Dirty Pickles with their 15th-anniversary show. Headlining Friday will be Erie All Stars Present Queen, in one of the most ambitious local performances in recent memory. "The great thing about this is it's not only local musicians like the Erie All Stars as the base-band, we have the Erie Philharmonic, we have the Erie Thunderline [the drumline project of the Erie Thunderbirds], and we have the Erie All Stars Choir as well," Loncki said excitedly as the groups rehearsed, their music reverberating in hallways of the Bayfront Convention Center. "This year to me is more about collaborations; it's about showcasing our local talent."

Saturday will see a double headlining bill, with Keri Hilson and Sister Sledge set to perform after Erie's take on Motown, the Familiar Spirit Band, opens up the evening. Hilson is a well-loved figure in the R&B landscape, predominantly known for her successful debut album *In a Perfect World...* Released in 2009, the album is certified Gold and spawned eight different singles. Prior to her own career, Hilson had also penned songs for artists like Britney Spears and Mary J. Blige. Closing out the

night will be Sister Sledge, the disco-era family group now consisting of real-life sisters Kim, Debbie, and Joni Sledge. The group is most well-known for their smash hit "We Are Family," the eponymous track off their 1979 Platinum-selling album.

Sunday has traditionally been the "country" day of the festival, and this year is no exception. 100 Proof, a "Next of Kin production" which features members of the band will kick off the last day. Refuge will warm up the crowds, with their high-energy country set featuring male and female vocals. The last performance of the evening will be the silvery baritone of Scotty McCreery. Rising to national prominence after winning *American Idol* at the age of 17, McCreery's 2011 debut album was certified Platinum, with his latest, *Seasons Change* released in 2018.

In addition to this already packed schedule, the Erie Seawolves will face off against the Akron RubberDucks at UPMC Park all three days of the event, with fireworks on Saturday. All in all, there's bound to be something for everyone — lifelong Erieites, visiting guests, and returning students — as long as they don't mind a little celebrating. — Nick Warren

Friday to Sunday // Downtown Erie // Free // For a full schedule of events, go to celebrateerie.com



NICK WARREN

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AS THE PIÑATAS.



GATES: 6 PM
GAME: 7:05 PM

WED, AUGUST 28
GATES: 6 PM • GAME: 7:05 PM



THURS, AUGUST 29
GATES: 6 PM • GAME: 7:05 PM



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Dawes Continues to Expand Musical Narrative

Band's latest tour stops in Chautauqua



Dawes, led by singer-songwriter and guitarist Taylor Goldsmith (right center), will bring its lightly synth-sprinkled folk-rock sound to the Chautauqua Institution on Friday, Aug. 16.

FRIDAY, AUG. 16

Each time Dawes goes on stage, Taylor Goldsmith says, the band is telling more of an ever-expanding, always deepening musical story, most often to those who have been reading the tale from its beginning.

"We've been doing this for a little bit," Goldsmith said in a recent phone interview. "We're on our sixth record now. It's like if you read 800 pages of the book rather than 50, the experience gets richer and richer and deeper. That definitely happens for us. I don't know what it's doing to the audience. We have this deep catalog to explore and we want to take them along with us."

That exploration will, of course, include songs from *Passwords*, Dawes' latest album, and its first to hit the *Billboard* magazine Top 10. But those songs may or may not be featured in the set

which changes from show to show.

"We're trying to create that live culture where fans go and have a completely unique experience night after night," Goldsmith said. "We might start with the same song. Then we try to explore the far reaches of our catalog for the audience and for us."

Dawes, especially early on, was tagged as retro, a band that hearkened back to the Laurel Canyon singer-songwriter folk-rock sound. It's easy to understand why the group was hit with that label by the hipper-than-thou set, Goldsmith explained.

"There are certain things we do that create an easy target," he said. "We let the lyrics be the focus of the song. Which is not what you hear with some of the zeitgeisty bands, like the War on Drugs, who I love; their lyrics are usually buried. And [for] The Na-

tional, one of my favorite bands, [frontman] Matt Berninger writes in fragments, in a very impressionistic way."

"I've always been a little more narrative, a little more linear, a little more direct. People instantly want to classify that as something retro," Goldsmith said. "It's just a way of writing songs."

Goldsmith has been crafting those Dawes songs for a little over a decade — since he discovered he wanted to write and make music for life.

Dawes, which grew out of the band Simon Dawes (a mashup of former member Blake Mills' middle name with Goldsmith's), was put together by Goldsmith and his drummer brother. Appropriately enough, the band recorded its first album, *North Country*, direct to tape in a Laurel Canyon studio in 2009.

By 2016's *We're All Gonna Die*, Dawes had added synthesized sounds to its organic folk-rock mix, crafting an instantly identifiable sonic palette, a sound that is further enriched on *Passwords*.

The new album has some political and social lyrical references,

but they aren't overt.

"When everything is very obviously and intentionally political, I feel like the buck stops there," Goldsmith said. "It becomes something easy to toss aside at that point. When you talk about the undercurrent of the political opinion, you're talking about what it's like to be a human being. When you break it down to the human level, it's hard to deny people's thoughts and feelings."

"It's easy to project your feelings onto someone who disagrees with you, all the evils, bad intentions and ideas. Unfortunately, it's not that easy," he elaborated. "With these songs, I wanted to remind people of that. With these songs, I wanted to remind people that we need to have a conversation."

Passwords, however, isn't only topical. It's got a heartbreaking story song in "Telescope" and a good share of songs about breaking up and finding new love.

"With this record, I was thinking a lot about what it meant to be alive in 2017-2018," Goldsmith said. "But at the same time, I was also falling in love and getting engaged. So the songs are about these things, bringing together these things."

For those who don't follow celebrity news, Goldsmith was falling in love with actress Mandy Moore — beginning a relation-

ship that, he said, has already profoundly changed him.

"What's helped me in living through these times is living for someone else, living for love," he said. "Putting somebody before our personal concerns can be freeing."

Now Goldsmith and Moore are apart from each other for a while as he heads out on the road with Dawes and she works on her projects.

"We're getting good at it," Goldsmith said of their separation. "I was home for a lot of months and left the other day. It was hard. I don't like being away from her. But we know that to do what we want, to put that out in the world, we have to be away from each other."

And, Goldsmith said, Dawes has to go out and play shows for those who have become attached to the band over the last decade. He doesn't take that for granted either.

"For people to come out to see us, we want to make sure they're getting absolutely every dollar's worth and (we're) leaving everything out there that we can," Goldsmith said. "That's what our heroes did. I feel like that's the job. That's when we feel most satisfied and proud." — L. Kent Wolgamott

8:15 p.m. // Chautauqua Institution, 1 Ames Ave., Chautauqua, NY 14722 // For tickets, visit chq.org.

MUSIC

Dave VanAmburg & Friends

Aug. 14, 23, 28 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Bel-Aire Clarion, 2800 W. 8th St. belaireclarion.com.

Songwriter Sunset

Aug. 14 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St., Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

Music in the Park: Fugitives

Aug. 14 — 7 to 9 p.m.
Lake Erie Community Park, 10192 W. Lake Rd., Lake City, PA 16423 // 814-774-4738

Elvis Impersonator Kurt Novakowski

Aug. 14 — 7 to 9 p.m.

Whitford Park, 5400 Iroquois Ave. harborcreektownship.org.

GareFest 2019

Aug. 15, 16, 17, 18
Three days of good music, good people, and good vibes.
Garefield, 60 Crystal Spring Rd., Sandy Lake, PA 16145 facebook.com.

MVP

Aug. 15, 23 — 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Dickey's BBQ Pit, 3716 Liberty St. facebook.com.

The High Life

Aug. 15 — 6 to 9 p.m.
The Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428 skunkandgoattavern.com.

Salmon Frank

Aug. 15 — 6:30 p.m.

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

Chris Stapleton

Aug. 15 — 7 p.m.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. erieinsurancearena.com.

Brokenstring Music Festival

Aug. 16, 17, 18
An art and music festival featuring a variety of music styles including rock, metal, hip-hop, alternative, folk, jazz, instrumental, indie-rock, and many others.
Brokenstraw Fish & Game Club, Mead Run Rd., Youngsville, PA 16371

Brown Dog

Aug. 16 — 5 to 7 p.m.
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

Bootleggers Bible Club

Aug. 16 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Bel-Aire Clarion, 2800 W. 8th St. belaireclarion.com.

The Breeze Band

Aug. 16 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Arundel Cellars & Brewing, 11727 E. Main St., North East, PA 16428 arundelcellars.com.

Refuge

Aug. 16 — 6 to 10 p.m.
Coconut Joe's, 28 N. Park Row facebook.com.

Brooke Surgener

Aug. 16 — 6:30 p.m.

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

Six Year Stretch Unplugged

Aug. 16 — 7 to 9 p.m.
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

Eerie Daze

Aug. 16 — 7 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. facebook.com.

The Rooftop Project

Aug. 16 — 8 to 11 p.m.
Room 33, 1033 State St. facebook.com.

An Evening with Dawes

Aug. 16 — 8:15 p.m.
Chautauqua Institution Amphitheater, 1 Ames Ave.,

Chautauqua, NY 14722 chq.org.

SASS Acoustics

Aug. 17 — 5 to 7 p.m.
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

Music in the Vineyards: The Screaming Ducks

Aug. 17 — 5 to 9 p.m.
Rock'n'roll with this veteran five-piece or kick back and relax on the winery's back patio.
Penn Shore Winery & Vineyards, 10225 E. Lake Rd., North East, PA 16428 pennshore.com.

Malpractice

Aug. 17 — 6 to 10 p.m.
Coconut Joe's, 28 N. Park Row facebook.com.

Justin Moyar

Eerie Daze Rave at BT



FRIDAY, AUG. 16

Eerie Beats' own Keegen Lee (DJ Bass Bandage) and Christopher Krasniewski (DJ TAPGEO) will be hosting another rave for local bass lovers to enjoy.

"[Whether] you're antisocial, weird, anxious, or whatever—none of that matters here," assures Lee.

Eerie Daze is a rave comprised of performances from DJs, rappers, comedians, and a load of other surprises as well. The lineup includes Wave Trails, LAV8, Bass Bandage, DJC DUBZ, Payso Best Ever, KWavy, Dana Weez, OMENZ, Fader Zim, The Buddha Stylus, RIZM, Robert

Jensen, and more. The event is hosted by social media influencer Fat Derrick and music producer Cardi Beats.

Not only can attendees expect to hear booming bass and contagious jokes, but there will also be a variety of challenges, art, and games. Food will be provided by PFP Pizza as well as baked goods produced by the vendor Phat Flavors, made by Darnell McCoy.

Compared to previous raves thrown by Eerie Beats, the list of vendors seems generous: Interglasstic Studios, Full Melt Exotic Glass, Crew Life Productions, Night Lights, The BOX, Dom Greco Glass, Off Brand Threadz, and a few more pop-up affiliates.

VIP options will also be available at an added cost so that you can "party like a legend with the legends." So make sure to get down at one of the latest and greatest raves to hit the Erie community.

—Symone Crockett

7 p.m. // Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. // \$10 general admission, \$15 for VIP // facebook.com/BasementTransmissions

Gliding to Victory: The Annual Cardboard Boat Regatta



SATURDAY, AUG. 17

The Bayfront Marine Center (BMC) of Erie is calling all local clubs, school groups, scout troops, families and competition-lovers of all ages to participate in the annual Cardboard Boat Regatta.

The event, hosted in the East Canal Basin just outside the BMC, asks competitors to craft their own boats using only cardboard, tape, paint, glue, and creativity. These engineering masterpieces will then compete in two-by-two races,

powered only by their riders, for the ultimate prize in four categories — Fastest Time, Crowd Favorite (given to the boat that collects the most donations that day), Most Creative, and Most Dramatic Sinking.

Registration for the regatta begins at 10 a.m., followed by a boat parade at 11 a.m., and the races at noon.

— Hannah McDonald
Sat. Aug. 17, 10 a.m. // Bayfront Maritime Center, 40 Holland St. // All Ages // \$35 per boat, free to watch // bayfrontcenter.org

Aug. 17 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St., Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

Paul Hunter

Aug. 17 — 7 to 9 p.m.
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

All Vinyl DJ w Matt Texter

Aug. 17 — 7 to 10 p.m.
Tippy Bean, 2425 Peach St. tippybean.cafe.

Paul Hunter

Aug. 18 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
The Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428 skunkandgoattavern.com.

Show Sundays: Becca Lynn, Molly O'Malley, Slim & Red

Aug. 18 — 1 to 4 p.m.
Louisville solo artist Molly O'Malley will be joined by singer Becca Lynn and duo Slim & Red. 6 Mile Cellars, 5727 Firman Rd. facebook.com.

Rankin & Schell

Aug. 18 — 1 to 4 p.m.
Arundel Cellars & Brewing, 11727 E. Main St., North East, PA 16428 arundelcellars.com.

Tommy Link

Aug. 18 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St., Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

Showtunes Singer Night

Aug. 20 — 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Dickey's BBQ Pit, 3716 Liberty St. facebook.com.

8 Great Tuesdays: Classic Rock Experience

Aug. 20 — 6:30 p.m.
Highmark Amphitheater at Liberty Park, 726 W. Bayfront Pkwy. porterie.org.

Mid-Day Art Break: Campfire Jams w Jeremy Jaeger

Aug. 21 — noon to 1 p.m.
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. erieartmuseum.org.

Sing-Along at the Speakeasy

Aug. 21 — 5 to 8 p.m.
Sing along to videos of songs you know by heart; belt out classic rock, pop, current hits, TV and movie themes, Broadway showstoppers, and everything else in between. Room 33, 1033 State St. facebook.com.

Matty B & 57 Pickup

Aug. 21 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Bel-Aire Clarion, 2800 W. 8th St. belaireclarion.com.

Night Lights Music Festival

Aug. 22, 23, 24
The Heron Farm & Campgrounds, 2361 Waits Corner Rd., Sherman, NY 14781 nightlightsfest.com.

Jay Baumgardner

Aug. 22 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St., Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

Dan Baney Country Unplugged

Aug. 23 — 5 to 7 p.m.

Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

Tennessee Backporch

Aug. 23 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Arundel Cellars & Brewing, 11727 E. Main St., North East, PA 16428 arundelcellars.com.

Geek Army

Aug. 23 — 6 to 10 p.m.
Coconut Joe's, 28 N. Park Row facebook.com.

Clever Norman

Aug. 23 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St., Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

Kevin Wilson

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

William Weyes, Walkman, First to Eleven

Aug. 23 — 7:30 to 11 p.m.
The Ballet Haus, 1020 Holland St. facebook.com.

Salmon Frank

Aug. 23 — 7 to 9 p.m.
Goodell Gardens & Homestead, 221 Waterford St., Edinboro, PA 16412 goodellgardens.org.

Ron Yarman

Aug. 24 — 5 to 7 p.m.
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

Music in the Vineyards: Kevin Wood

Aug. 24 — 5 to 9 p.m.
Penn Shore Winery & Vineyards,

10225 E. Lake Rd., North East, PA 16428 pennshore.com.

Mans Room Band

Aug. 24 — 6 to 10 p.m.
Coconut Joe's, 28 N. Park Row facebook.com.

Fred Oakman & The Flood

Aug. 24 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St., Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

Ted Nugent

Aug. 24 — 8 p.m.
Ted Nugent, who has earned a permanent place in rock & roll history as the ultimate guitar-shredding showman, comes to the Erie Insurance Arena. Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. tednugent.com.

Acoustic Ear Candy

Aug. 25 — 1 to 4 p.m.
Arundel Cellars & Brewing, 11727 E. Main St., North East, PA 16428 arundelcellars.com.

Barbershop Harmony Concert

Aug. 25 — 2:30 to 4 p.m.
Chautauqua Institution, 1 Ames Ave., Chautauqua, NY 14722 chq.org.

Bravura, Entheogen

Aug. 25 — 6 to 11 p.m.
Blackened death metal, Steel City metal, new metalcore, and more. Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. facebook.com.

Hultman & Barb

Aug. 25 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St., Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

The CookOut

Aug. 26 — 1 to 7 p.m.
Columbus Park West, 601 W. 15th St. eventbrite.com.

Ukulele Workshop

Aug. 27 — 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Dickey's BBQ Pit, 3716 Liberty St. facebook.com.

Mid-Day Art Break: Monica Lewis

Aug. 28 — noon to 1 p.m.
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. erieartmuseum.org.

FOOD & DRINK

Happy Appy Food Tour

Aug. 14, 21, 28 — 5 to 7 p.m.
Bolero, 16 W. 10th St. eriefoodtours.com.

Monk Night at Play Port

Aug. 15 — 5 to 9 p.m.
Play Port, 2730 W. 12th St. facebook.com.

Taste of Local

Aug. 15 — 5:30 p.m.
Whole Foods Co-Op, 1341 W. 26th St. wfcerie.coop.

WILD Wine Dinner: A Passport Through the Americas

Aug. 15 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Erie Zoo, 423 W. 38th St. eriezoo.org.

Flagship Trolley Wine Tours

Aug. 17 — noon to 6 p.m.

Millcreek Mall (east of Towne-Place Suites at Home), 5800 Peach St. 814-453-4666

Solar S'mores and Marshmallow Shooters

Aug. 17 — 1 to 2:30 p.m.
Columbus Branch Library, 4212 Iroquois Ave. events.eriehistory.org.

North East Food Tour

Aug. 17, 24 — 1 to 4 p.m.
Little Shop of Donuts, 36 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428 eriefoodtours.com.

Wine & Woofs

Aug. 17 — 5 to 9:30 p.m.
Peek'n Peak Resort, 1405 Olde Rd., Clymer, NY 14724 pknpk.com.

1st Annual Lobster Festival

Aug. 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 — 4 to 9 p.m.
The Cork 1794, 900 W. Plaza Dr. cork1794.com.

Vietnamese Summer Rolls

Aug. 20 — 6 p.m.
Whole Foods Co-Op, 1341 W. 26th St. wfcerie.coop.

Downtown Erie Food Tour

Aug. 23, 24 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Like My Thai, 827 State St. eriefoodtours.com.

Salty Dogs Brews & Tours

Aug. 23 — 5 to 7 p.m.
Watson-Curtze Mansion, 356 W. 6th St. eriehistory.org.

Beer in the Vineyard

Aug. 24 — 5 to 8 p.m.
Arundel Cellars & Brewing, 11727 E. Main St., North East, PA 16428 arundelcellars.com.



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Saturday, August 31



BE INCREDIBLE

Family Trail

5K

& Street Run

Adult-only Run - 9:00 a.m.

All Ages/Family Run - 9:30 a.m.

Pool Party - 12-3:00 p.m.

\$15/Person (Pre-Registration) \$20/Person (Day of Registration)

Price includes event t-shirt. Rain or shine. Kids 5 and under free.

- Shorter distances for younger runners
- Come for costume prizes, food trucks and a pool party!

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10 PM to Midnight

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Come Get 'Decked' Down at Tall Ships Erie

Come Sail Away: Tall Ships Erie 2019



MICHAEL SHAKE

The U.S. Brig *Niagara* sits docked outside the Erie Maritime Museum at 150 E. Front St. It is just one of 14 tall ships that will appear at Tall Ships Erie 2019, with activities transpiring at locations all around the bayfront.

have never even been down to the ship before, or haven't been down since [they toured] ages ago in grade school," said Sydnee Groenendaal, co-chair of the Tall Ships Erie 2019 Committee and operations manager of the Flagship Niagara League (FNL). "The maritime history of our city can feel completely foreign."

Speaking of traveling the world, the globe-trotting ships on parade in the Bayfront include 14 tall ship vessels: the very familiar U.S. Brig *Niagara* and the *Lettie G. Howard*; the breathtaking *Denis Sullivan* (the flagship of Wisconsin); the *St. Lawrence II* out of Kingston, Ontario; the incomparable Spanish replica *Nao Santa Maria*; and the entirely homemade (yes, you read that correctly) *Fair Jeanne*, which originally operated as a private family sailing yacht.

As in previous years, Tall Ships Erie offers one-day passes for general admission and access to all the festivities, including live music, vendors, and educational seminars (food and drink from trucks and beer vendors must be purchased separately), as well as weekend passes, neither of which include deck tours. Deck tours (for nine of the participating ships) can be added for only \$5 per pass. The weekend VIP passes, however, include refreshments, VIP parking, VIP line access and deck tours, too. The festivities will shove off with

the Parade of Sail on Presque Isle at 4 p.m. on Thursday, with fireworks that evening. The main festival will begin Friday and run to Sunday; the grounds open from 10 a.m. and close at 6 p.m., for deck tours of the ships, exhibits and more. Music runs until 4 p.m. with a shuttle service running from 8:30 a.m. until 7 p.m.

"We have multiple types of educational offerings all over the festival," Groenendaal continued, "from the exhibits in the Maritime Marketplace, to a lecture series in the Bayfront Convention Center, to history and storytelling at the Erie Maritime Museum."

She added, "We also have fun hands-on educational activities at the Holland Street Pier, as well as a Kids Zone with some really cool activities."

But perhaps most importantly, you'll also find the World's Largest Rubber Duck and her baby over at the Holland Street Pier. Mama Duck caused a sensation during her previous appearance on Erie's Bayfront and clocks in at over six stories high and 11 tons in weight.

The future for Tall Ships Erie is clearly looking bright, but it is also a time to reflect on how lucky we are to have this natural resource in our backyard.

Groenendaal remarked, "Festivals like this give us a chance to imagine what life was like for people living here when the waterfront played a more central role, when water was the primary way that people, ideas, and trade traveled the world." — Cara Suppa

Grounds and activities open Friday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. // 150 E. Front St. // Daily GA: \$10, Deck tour add-ons: \$5; Weekend pass: \$39; VIP Pass: \$119 // tallshipserie.org

THURSDAY, AUG. 22 - 25

Were you to Google "tall ships definition" you would get a deceptively simple result: "A sailing ship with high masts."

Is that all the U.S. Brig *Niagara* is to Erie, though? Just a ship that sails and has long masts?

Think again, Google. Because in Erie, the phrase "tall ships" is loaded with both a rich maritime history and a source of fierce civic pride, which is why it is so exciting (and so logical) that Erie is once again hosting its Tall Ships Erie event, a full weekend jam-packed with everything that is seaworthy and see-worthy in the Bayfront area, perfect for both out-of-towners and locals who might take the significance of Erie's location on a major national waterway for granted.

"I've spoken with so many people over the years who

ArborEAT'em

Aug. 24 — 6:30 to 10:30 p.m.
The annual ArborEAT'Em Party in the Park event is a delightful evening of delicious food, fun, entertainment, artwork, and fireworks.
LEAF Education Center, 1501 W. 6th St. leaferie.org.

MOVIES

Apollo 11

Aug. 14 — 6 p.m.
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. filmsocietynwpa.org.

Murder in the Front Row (2019)

Aug. 16 — 8 p.m.
The 2019 documentary explores how Bay Area bands were inspired by U.K. groups like UFO, Iron Maiden, and Motörhead to create a new sound, with the Erie thrash band Maniacal Device playing live beforehand.
Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. eriemoviehouse.com.

Rust Belt New Americans

Aug. 17 — 5 to 6:30 p.m.
MenajErie Studio's Jessica Yochim and Nick Taylor and photojournalist Maitham

Basha-Agha speak with JES program developer Ben Spegger in panel discussion to follow.
Erie City Hall, 626 State St. jeserie.org.

Solo: A Star Wars Story (2018)

Aug. 18 — 1:30 to 3:45 p.m.
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.erieibrary.org.

Destroyer

Aug. 21 — 6 p.m.
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. filmsocietynwpa.org.

Altered States (1980)

Aug. 23 — 8 p.m.
A Harvard scientist conducts experiments on himself with a hallucinatory drug and an isolation chamber that may be causing him to regress genetically.
Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. eriemoviehouse.com.

Volcanoes: The Fires of Creation

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

Turtle Odyssey

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

biggreenscreen.com.

Backyard Wilderness

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

Mysteries of the Great Lakes

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

VISUAL ARTS

Suffragette Sash Making Workshop

Aug. 14 — 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Wood-Morrison House, 338 W. 6th St. eriehistory.org.

Land Art

Aug. 14 — 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Brown's Farm Barn, 5774 Sterrettania Rd., Fairview, PA 16415 asburywoods.org.

Photography Basics: All About Composition

Aug. 15 — 6 to 7 p.m.
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.erieibrary.org.

Wind Chimes from Clay Class

Aug. 15 — 6 to 8 p.m.
Claytopia Erie, 924 W. Erie

Plaza Dr. claytopiaerie.com.

Beautiful Birdy Ring Holder Class

Aug. 16 — 6 to 8 p.m.
Claytopia Erie, 924 W. Erie Plaza Dr. claytopiaerie.com.

Critic Basics: Making Vinyl Stencils for Glass Etching

Aug. 17 — 6 to 7 p.m.
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.erieibrary.org.

Faculty Art Exhibition

Opening Aug. 19, ongoing through Sept. 14 thereafter
Cummings Art Gallery at Mercyhurst Univ., 501 E. 38th St. mercyhurst.edu.

Dots/Mandala Technique Class

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

Deer Friend Canvas Class

Aug. 21 — 6 to 8 p.m.
Claytopia Erie, 924 W. Erie Plaza Dr. claytopiaerie.com.

Pelican at the Lake Canvas Class

Aug. 26 — 6 to 8 p.m.
Claytopia Erie, 924 W. Erie Plaza Dr. claytopiaerie.com.

Monday Makers: Open Drawing Sessions

Aug. 26 — 6 to 8 p.m.
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.erieibrary.org.

96th Annual Spring Show

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

The Art of Water

Ongoing through Sept. 7
Gallery 104, 220 W. Plum St. (Ste. 650), Edinboro, PA 16412 pasnwpa.org.

Rachael Burke: Recent Paintings

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

Artist Takeover: Roman Glass

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

Everything But The Shelves

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

Women's Suffrage in Erie County

Ongoing through Dec. 25
Watson-Curtze Mansion, 356 W. 6th St. eriehistory.org.

Ashley Pastore: Everyday Monumental

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

THEATER

42nd Street

Aug. 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24 — 7:30 p.m. & Aug. 18, 25 — 2 p.m.
Erie Playhouse, 13 W. 10th St. erieplayhouse.org.

Live From Studio Q: Erie Playhouse Season Preview

Aug. 16 — noon
WQLN, 8425 Peach St. wqln.org.

How The Elephant got His Trunk

Aug. 16 — 10 a.m. & Aug. 17, 18 — 2 p.m.
When Elton the Elephant's questions become too much for his family and neighbors, the young pachyderm sets out on a journey to find his own answers — but that journey may prove to be perilous!
Schuster Theatre, 620 Sassafras St. erieplayhouse.org.

How To Survive the Zombie Apocalypse

Aug. 16, 17 — 7 p.m.
It's the end of the world and zombies are about to kill you. What would you

Experience Real Magic at Night Lights

Heron grounds set aglow with grooves



NICK WARREN

Aqueous, a favorite guest of the Kings Rook Club, performs a late night set on the Main Stage at the 2018 Night Lights Music Festival in Sherman, N.Y. The jazz-inflected jam band will return to the Heron-hosted fest this year, just one of 36 diverse musical acts scheduled to play over the course of three days.

THURSDAY, AUG. 22 - 24

Strange, magical, and even sinister things have been said to occur in the woods. Shapeshifting and illusions. Brushes with immortality, the supernatural, and fantastical creatures. Dense, mysterious, and just beyond the realm of ordinary human experience, the woods have captivated our imaginations for millennia.

Music, too, can take us many places, inhabit many forms, and often consume us. It is fitting, then, that an enchanted forest become the backdrop of the Night Lights Music Festival. Like something out of a funky fairy tale, the Heron Farm and

Event Center in Sherman, N.Y. is transformed into a midsummer night's dreamland each August, its grounds bathed in the glow of many-colored lights. Over the course of three days and three nights, a total of 36 artists will grace its three stages with all manner of sonic sorcery — but only the fun kind.

The acts vary greatly stylistically, but are united in their underlying pulse and sense of rhythm. Here is just a sampling of the bands whose animation spells will get your body moving throughout the weekend:

FRIDAY

Danielle Ponder and the Tomorrow People: The social-

ly-conscious powerhouse vocalist and her band will also play a Saturday set, paying tribute to the "Women of Soul."

Witty Tarbox: Also returning with a Saturday set, this Buffalo band stitches together surf rock riffs, indie melodies, and funky rhythms.

Ghost-Note: This jazz-funk collective will satisfy fans of bands such as Lettuce, Lotus, and Snarky Puppy.

Big Something: Pop-rock and reggae-inflected jams with sci-fi-inspired lyrics.

Dirtwire: Hard to classify but easy to embrace, this Oakland trio fuses American and world music instrumentation and traditions, adds electronic flourishes, and makes it all danceable.

Aqueous: A perennial favorite at the King's Rook Club, this group's jazz influence and pop

sensibilities bring to mind jam giants such as Umphrey's McGee.

SunSquabi: An entrancing amalgam of jazz, dubstep, electronic, and prog rock melded together in real-time.

SATURDAY

Midnight North: Helmed by Grahame Lesh, son of Grateful Dead legend Phil Lesh, Midnight North ties together rock and Americana in a fashion reminiscent to Graham Parsons and The Band.

Funktional Flow: Their first set of the day will pay homage to The Police.

Consider the Source: Self-described as "Sci-fi Middle Eastern fusion," this group offers up mind-bending instrumental jams.

!!!: Pronounced "chk-chk-chk," this band emerged from the New York post-punk scene in the early 2000s, incorporating disco and funk elements into their indie rock sound.

Sego: This raucous dance-rock outfit from Los Angeles keenly layers distortion and dissonance while still remaining accessible.

Girl Talk: The alter-ego of Pittsburgh DJ Greg Gillis expertly splices together workouts for both the ears and the body from a dizzying array of pop samples. Sure to be a festival highlight.

Marco Benevento: This wildly inventive pianist and graduate of Boston's esteemed Berklee College of Music marries jazz, classical, pop, and electronica.

Thursday evening's lineup, headlined by supergroup Uncle Mike's Random Co. (featuring members of Aqueous, Moe., Dopapod, and Tauk) will be exclusive to weekend pass holders only. Day passes will be available for Friday and Saturday. Camping is permitted within designated areas, outside firewood and glass containers are prohibited, and staying up all night dancing is highly encouraged. — Matt Swanseger

Thursday through Saturday // The Heron, 2361 Wait Corners Rd., Sherman, N.Y. 14781 // Advance weekend passes \$149.99 (\$170 at gate), advance day passes \$79 (\$90 at gate), additional fees for camping and parking // Visit nightlightsfest.com for complete lineup

do? This production acts as a guide for surviving the zombie apocalypse. Schuster Theatre, 620 Sassafras St. erieplayhouse.org.

Good Good Trouble On Bad Bad Island
Aug. 17, 18 — 2 p.m.

When a package bound for Good Good Island is mistakenly delivered to Bad Bad Island, the Bad Bads find something frighteningly horrible inside: a little girl who proves that family and Good-ness can be found in even the most surprising places. Schuster Theatre, 620 Sassafras St. erieplayhouse.org.

Drinking Habits 2: Caught in the Act
Aug. 17, 24 — 5:30 p.m. & Aug. 18 — 2:30 p.m.
Station Dinner Theatre, 4940 Peach St. canterburyfeast.com.

Crimes of the Heart
Aug. 23, 24 — 7:30 p.m. & Aug. 25 — 3 p.m.
All An Act, 652 W. 17th St. www.allanact.net.

Revival, A Southern Gothic Gospel

Aug. 24 — 8 to 10 p.m.
Revival is a first-hand unpacking of Bobby Britton Jr.'s Texas upbringing, experience with conversion therapy, and the music of the church that raised him. Schuster Theatre, 620 Sassafras St. gannon.edu.

COMEDY

Giggle Water
Aug. 14 — 8 to 9:30 p.m.
Room 33, 1033 State St. facebook.com.

SPORTS

Erie SeaWolves vs. Reading Fightin' Phils
Aug. 14, 15 — 7 p.m.
UPMC Park, 110 E.10th St. milb.com.

Presque Isle Volleyball Tournament
Aug. 15, 22 — 6 to 9 p.m. & Aug. 17 — 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Beach 6 at PI State Park, 1 Peninsula Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

Erie SeaWolves vs.

Akron RubberDucks
Aug. 16, 17, 18 — 7 p.m.
UPMC Park, 110 E.10th St. milb.com.

2019 Step-Up Erie 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run
Aug. 17 — 8 a.m.
Beach 1 at PI State Park, 1 Peninsula Dr. thearcoferie.org.

2019 PA Army National Guard Great Lakes Challenge
Aug. 17 — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Perry Square facebook.com.

Cardboard Boat Regatta
Aug. 17 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Bayfront Maritime Center, 40 Holland St. bayfrontcenter.org.

Drift Paohny Open Drift/Soft Gripp Season Opener
Aug. 17, 18 — 2 to 8 p.m.
Lake Erie Speedway, 10700 Delmas Dr., North East, PA 16428 facebook.com.

Presque Isle Poker Paddle
Aug. 18
Lagoon Boat Launch at PI State Park discoverpi.com.

2019 Monica K. Speice Memorial Golf Tournament

Aug. 24 — 10:30 a.m.
Beechwood Golf Club, 6401 Gorski Rd., Fairview, PA 16415 lakeeriebighorns.com.

Tri-State Softball Showcase 2019
Aug. 25 — 8 to 11 a.m. or 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Mercyhurst Campus, 501 E. 38th St. mercyhurst.edu.

Erie SeaWolves vs. Richmond Flying Squirrels
Aug. 26, 27, 28, 29 — 7 p.m.
UPMC Park, 110 E.10th St. milb.com.

COMMUNITY

814 Day at Erie Apparel
Aug. 14 — 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Erie Apparel, 2309 W. 12th St. facebook.com.

Goodell Gardens Farmers Market
Aug. 14, 21, 28 — 3 to 6 p.m.
Goodell Gardens & Homestead, 221 Waterford St., Edinboro, PA 16412 goodellgardens.org.

West BayFit
Aug. 14 — 6 p.m.
Bayview Park, W. 2nd and

Cherry.events.gannon.edu.

The 20th Century Europe Series: The Battle of Britain
Aug. 14 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. jeserie.org.

Charles Williamson: Erie's Last Republican Mayor
Aug. 14 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Fairview Area Historical Society, 4302 Avonia St., Fairview, PA 16415 jeserie.org.

Crash Into Kindergarten
Aug. 15 — 10 to 11 a.m.
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.erielibrary.org.

Be a YouTuber
Aug. 15 — 10 to 11:30 a.m.
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.erielibrary.org.

Erie Zoo Visits the Library
Aug. 15 — 11:15 a.m. to noon
Lincoln Community Center Library, 1255 Manchester Rd. events.erielibrary.org.

Picnic in the Park
Aug. 15 — 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Gibson Park, North East, PA 16428 nechamber.org.

Read to a Therapy Dog

Aug. 15 — 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. & Aug. 27 — 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Multiple library locations events.erielibrary.org.

Off The Shelf: Stranger Than (Science) Fiction
Aug. 15 — 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.erielibrary.org.

Electronics for Beginners: Part 1
Aug. 15 — 6 to 8 p.m.
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.erielibrary.org.

Truth and Consequences: Can News Media Regain Credibility?
Aug. 15 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. jeserie.org.

Thomas Forster: The Man Who Helped Settle the Erie Frontier
Aug. 15 — 7 to 8:30 p.m.
The Corry Higher Educational Council, 221 N. Center St., Corry, PA 16407 jeserie.org.

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Friday, Aug. 16 at 4 p.m.
"Great Personalities of Erie Politics"
Pat Cuneo, Jefferson Educational Society Publications Coordinator

Saturday, Aug. 17 at 2 p.m.
"Buggin' State Street"
Jerry Skrypzak, Ret. Lt. City of Erie Bureau of Police

Saturday, Aug. 17 at 5 p.m.
Screening of *Rust Belt New Americans*
Panel Discussion featuring MenajErie Studio's Jessica Yochim and Nick Taylor and photojournalist Maitham Basha-Agha in conversation with Ben Speggen, Jefferson Educational Society Director of Operations

Sunday, Aug. 18 at 2 p.m.
"Remarkable Elected Erie Women"
Judy Lynch, former Erie County Executive, and former Erie Mayor Joyce Savocchio in conversation with Remarkable Women Lecture Series leader Corrine Egan

Sunday, Aug. 18 at 4 p.m.
"Erie's Black Heroes"
Johnny Johnson, retired educator

Find us on  and follow us on  for more information.

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All An Act Proudly Presents Crimes of the Heart

FRIDAY, AUG. 23

All An Act is bringing another big production to Erie's stage — Beth Henley's *Crimes of the Heart*. A hilarious, dysfunctional family tale, this 1981 Pulitzer Prize-winner follows the Magrath sisters as they have gathered to wait and hear the fate of their dying grandfather.

J.D. Mizikowski, director of this production, states "I'm excited for Erie audiences to see a very strong cast truly bring the production to life. While *Crimes of the Heart* is an often produced play, there is a reason for that. The text is still as slick, funny, and heartfelt as it ever was."

The cast features Dorothy Kaliszewski, Giovanni Ciminella, Jessie Thorpe, Marie Glaser, Jade Mitchell, and Logan Kearney.

When asked about what, if anything, was different in this production of *Crimes of the Heart* compared to others, Mizikowski stated that "As far as the spin we are bringing to it, the set is a bit more [of an] open concept with few walls, giving a great deal of playing for the actors."

When actors are able to play with the space and have fun with what they're doing, then it's a guarantee that anyone watching will have just as much fun too. — Kalli Oberlander

Aug. 23 through Sept. 8, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 2:30 p.m. // All An Act Theatre, 652 W. 17th St. // \$12 students, \$10 seniors, \$5 children (ages 6-11) // allanact.net

Weyes Goes Out of the Woods and Onto the Stage



FRIDAY, AUG. 23

He "came a long way from the thistles and thorns" and deserves to be "feeling way better than ever before." Lyrics from William Weyes' newly released song, "Thorns" speak volumes as he is prepared to make his local headlining debut.

"This is the first step in a very long journey. I have been doubting myself for a while, but that is all going away due to the support that I continue to receive," expressed Weyes. "I'm glad that people enjoy what I make and that they can find use and relate to the music I produce. That is why I am so excited and grateful for this opportunity."

The local hip-hop artist has been on the rise in the music scene lately. Weyes is known for his introspective lyrics that go into depth on his real life experiences with depression and anxiety, as well as his firsthand experiences with the darkest aspects of relationships

The music video for local hip-hop artist William Weyes' latest single, "Thorns," is set at Mighty Fine Donuts. Weyes will headline locally for the first time ever on Aug. 23 at the Ballet Haus, with support from Walkman, First to Eleven, Sammy C, and ROG.

and the bright side that lies ahead. "I intend to be honest with you and the things that you hear have actually [happened] to me," says Weyes. Produced by Pittsburgh's Big Jerm who has worked with artists such as the well-known Wiz Khalifa and Mac Miller, Weyes' rapid-fire rhymes are backed by the best of the best trap-beats with a touch of ambient synth textures which create depth and atmosphere to his music. Also with a resume including collaborations with RIFF RAFF, D-Roc and Hardo as well as opening for Chief Keef, K Camp, and the Ying Yang Twins, Weyes continues to make a name for himself.

His show will also include a variety of other performers such as Walkman, an artist from Pittsburgh who was recently featured in the song "Like You," and First to Eleven, the Erie rock band that recently eclipsed 400,000 YouTube subscribers. There will also be support from local up-and-coming artists Sammy C and ROG. A special guest from Atlanta, Kanayo King, is expected to make an appearance to perform a previously unheard song with Weyes.

"I want this event to be very inclusive, everybody to have a good time and I hope we can all help each other reach new heights in the future." — Symone Crockett

7:30 p.m. // The Ballet Haus, 1020 Holland St. // \$10 pre-sale, \$13 at the door // facebook.com/theandromedaagency

Fairy Tale Friday

Aug. 16 — 10 to 11 a.m.
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.erieliibrary.org.

Strollers & Striders

Aug. 16, 23 — 11:15 a.m.
expERIENCE Children's Museum, 420 French St. eriedowntown.com.

Dance It Out Downtown

Aug. 16, 23 — 12:15 to 12:30 p.m.
Perry Square eriedowntown.com.

Little Perry Story

Time + Play
Aug. 16, 23 — 12:30 to 1 p.m.
Perry Square eriedowntown.com.

Admiral Perry Dog Obedience Rally

Aug. 17, 18 — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
The oldest dog training club of its kind in NWPA shows off the area's most disciplined doggos.
Bayfront Convention Center, 1 Sassafraas Pier apotcerie.wixsite.com.

Joe Root

Aug. 17 — 10 a.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

Block Party

Aug. 17 — 10 a.m. to noon
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E.

Front.St.events.erieliibrary.org.

Game Day

Aug. 17 — noon to 2 p.m.
Iroquois Branch Library, 4212 Iroquois Ave. events.erieliibrary.org.

Personal Archiving: Basics of Digitization

Aug. 17 — 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.erieliibrary.org.

Buggin' State Street

Aug. 17 — 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Jerry Skrypzak is a retired lieutenant from the City of Erie Bureau of Police and served as an instructor in photography and crime scene investigation at the Pennsylvania State Police Northwest Regional Training Center and the PA Game Commission Training Center.
Downtown Erie jeserie.org.

Pokemon League

Aug. 17 — 2 to 4 p.m.
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.erieliibrary.org.

Iroquois Band Boosters Reverse Raffle Fiesta

Aug. 17 — 5 to 10 p.m.
Polish Falcons Club, 431 E. 3rd St. facebook.com.

Park After Dark 2019

Aug. 17 — 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Park After Dark includes after-hours access to all amusement park rides (excluding Kiddieland), as well as Cliffhanger Falls Water Slide.
New Conneaut Lake Park, 12382 Center St., Conneaut Lake, PA 16316 facebook.com.

Summer Sunday Fundays

Aug. 18 — noon to 3 p.m.
Presque Isle Wine Cellars, 9440 W. Main Rd., North East, PA 16428 piwine.com.

VNA Butterfly Release

Aug. 18 — 1 to 3 p.m.
The Wings of Hope ceremony will include music, inspirational messages, a public reading of the names of those being honored or remembered, and a butterfly release.
LECOM West Campus, 2000 W. Grandview Blvd. erievna.org.

Remarkable Erie Women

Aug. 18 — 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Corrine Halperin Egan runs a Great Books discussion group each semester for the Jefferson and delivers four lectures a year on Remarkable American Women.
Erie City Hall, 626 State St. jeserie.org.

All Things Operation

Christmas Child

Aug. 18 — 2 to 4 p.m.
Acts 2:42 Bible Fellowship, 4845 W. Lake Rd. samaritanspurse.org.

Erie's Black Heroes

Aug. 18 — 4 to 5:30 p.m.
Johnny Johnson taught health and physical education at several middle and high schools in Erie's Public Schools for more than 30 years and was the first African-American to coach a varsity basketball team in Erie's history.
Erie City Hall, 626 State St. jeserie.org.

Erie Homecoming 2019

Aug. 19, 20
Various locations homecoming. eriepa.com.

Erie Trauma Summit

Aug. 19, 20 — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Penn State Behrend, 4701 College Dr. trauma-aware-erie.ticketleap.com.

Rep. Ryan Bizzarro's 7th Annual Sr. Fair & Older Living Expo

Aug. 19 — 9 a.m. to noon
McDowell Intermediate HS, 3320 Caughey Rd. pahouse.com.

Perry Peddlers

Aug. 19, 26 — noon

[Perry Square erie-downtown.com](http://PerrySquare.erie-downtown.com).

Total Body Bootcamp

Aug. 19, 26 — 12:15 to 12:45 p.m.
Erie Art Museum steps, 411 State St. eriedowntown.com.

Little Italy Farmers Market

Aug. 19, 26 — 3 to 6 p.m.
Little Italy Farmers Market, 331 W. 18th St. ssjnn.org.

Throwback Game Night

Aug. 19, 26 — 6 p.m.
Topsy Bean, 2425 Peach St. tipsybean.cafe.

Cruise the Bay Cruise-Ins

Aug. 19, 26 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Bayfront Park & Ride Lot, 726 W. Bayfront Pkwy. callingallcruiserz.com.

Time Out Tuesday

Aug. 20, 27 — 6:30 a.m., noon, & 5:30 p.m.
Dobbins Landing & Perry Square eriedowntown.com.

Alien Encounters

Aug. 20 — 4 to 5 p.m.
Lincoln Community Center Library, 1255 Manchester Rd. events.erieliibrary.org.

Clue Tournament

Aug. 20 — 5:30 to 7 p.m.
Edinboro Branch Library, 413 W. Plum St., Edinboro, PA 16412 events.erieliibrary.org.

Construction of Perry's

Fleet and Life of a Sailor

Aug. 21 — 10 a.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. events.dcnr.pa.gov.

August Silent Peace Walk & Cookout

Aug. 21 — 6 p.m.
St. Benedict Child Development Center Playground, 345 E. 9th St. eriebenedictines.org.

Tall Ships Erie

Aug. 22, 23, 24, 25
Erie Maritime Museum, 150 E. Front St. tallshipserie.org.

Story Time Shenanigans: Pajama Party

Aug. 22 — 10 to 11 a.m.
Lincoln Community Center Library, 1255 Manchester Rd. events.erieliibrary.org.

Workshop: Crafting w Knives

Aug. 22 — 6 to 8 p.m.
Learn how to whittle useful items out of wood as well as safely use a knife for everyday tasks like sharpening a pencil with Matt Fang.
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. erieartmuseum.org

Intro to Access

Aug. 23 — 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.erieliibrary.org.

CALENDAR

Celebrate the Lives of Your Old Favorites with Dead Celebrity Revival at The Brewerrie



The Brewerrie at Union Station is set to host an art show like no other in Dead Celebrity Revival. Over 35 artists from the tri-state area will showcase portraits of late entertainers as Erie punk bands No Comply and Penny Racer provide a musical backdrop.

from Erie. Garage-rock act No Comply released a pair of singles, "Them Vices" and "Trailing Lights," earlier this summer, likely hinting at a longer release later this year. Indie-rock band Penny Racer released their first three-song demo just this past March. Also joining them is the pop punk, powerpop quartet Heart & Lung, from Ohio.

The event will also feature a bake sale and merchandise from The Eerie Roller Girls, as well as craft beers and cocktails served by Brewerrie Trackside bartenders. Regardless of your reason for attending, you won't want to miss Erie's most unique art show of the summer. Did we mention celebrity costumes are encouraged? Dress like your favorite fallen idol and you might win the costume contest. — Aaron Mook

7 p.m. to 11 p.m. // 123 W. 14th St. // 21+ // \$5 // thebrewerrie.com

FRIDAY, AUG. 23

There are art shows, and then there are art shows, and Dead Celebrity Revival at The Brewerrie sounds like no other. For starters, the event will feature over 35 visual artists from the tri-state area showcasing their portraits of your favorite late entertainers. These paintings will also be for sale.

Soundtracking the night are two punk bands

Revival, a Southern Gospel Cabaret Not Here to Preach

SATURDAY, AUG. 24

The Southern Gothic style "employs macabre, ironic events to examine the values of the American South," according to Wikipedia.

Enter Bobby Britton, Jr., the featured guest artist at Gannon University's Schuster Theater, a young man who asked, "Where do religion and theater intersect?"

He ended up answering his own question with the new musical, *Revival, a Southern Gothic Gospel Cabaret*, which explores the crossroads of sexual identity, religion and theater. While erecting a storytelling platform that exhibits his Texan upbringing, the music that permeated his church experience intermingles with his encounter with the all-too-grotesque practice of gay conversion therapy.

Britton – along with an accompanist – will present a special performance of the work at Gannon's Schuster Theatre for one night only.

A Houston native with a BA in Theater from Stephen F. Austin State University, Britton has created a musical event that is as painfully honest as it is infused with the joy of acceptance and love of oneself. *Revival* premiered in New York City in April 2018, with a performance in Boston that same weekend.

The adult themes in *Revival*, including sexuality and religious conflict, make this evening performance best for mature audiences. — Cara Suppa

8 p.m. to 10 p.m. // 620 Sassafras Street // Pay-what-you-will (suggested \$5 donation) // gannon.edu/schustertheatre



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CALENDAR

Go Back in Time for Fun, and a Great Cause



PIN UP PENNY PHOTOGRAPHY

Ladies are invited to embrace *Grease*-inspired '50s chic (such as this look modeled by Quinn Biscoff) at the latest iteration of the Great Lakes Bombshells' Pin Up in the Park.

SATURDAY, AUG. 24

Are you looking for an event where you can dress up like the characters in *Grease*, check out incredible classic cars, and play games that are fun for the whole family? Then look no further, because the Great Lakes Bombshells have you covered with their Pin Ups in the Park event.

If you think this sounds familiar, then you'd be right. Pin Ups in the Park used to be known as Penny's Pin Up Party. For the last four years, the Great Lakes Bombshells (an inclusive, powerful social club of women whose mission it is to uplift other women), have hosted this annual party to promote the Pin Up lifestyle while giving back to the community — in particular, to women.

All proceeds of this event go to a charity of choice, and this year, that charity is Women in Combat (WINC). Jenn Sider (aka "Jenni Girl") is the co-founder and head of public relations for the Great Lakes Bombshells, as well as co-chairwoman of Pin Ups in the Park. Sider

is very excited that this year's event is different from years past as it "allows everyone to spend time with their family." It is a full daytime event, and while fans can still experience the Classic Car Cruise, it also provides newcomers and those returning to try out a few different things, like vintage carnival games and the Retro Miss in the Park (ages 14-17), Little Retro Miss (ages 8-13), and Dapper Fella in the Park (boys ages 8-14) costume contests. If you're wondering what you or your children should wear, *Grease* is a great film to reference, as a Sider points out that "for the Little Miss Retro, you probably want more Sandra Dee, less Rizzo."

For just ten dollars, you get a full day pass and access to all the rides in Conneaut Lake Park, including the new Ferris wheel. Sider explains that "with all the classic cars right on the lake and the rockabilly clothing, you get on that Ferris wheel and it will truly take you back in time." Add to that a fun and different Chinese auction, a 50/50, DJs, the new "Forbidden Fruit" beer from The Brewery, as well as hanging out with Pin Ups or dressing like one yourself, this is a charitable blast you absolutely should not miss. — Kalli Oberlander

11 a.m. to 8 p.m. // New Conneaut Lake Park, 12382 Center St, Conneaut Lake, PA 16316 // facebook.com/GreatLakesBombshells

Sensory Day

Aug. 23 — 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Splash Lagoon, 8091 Peach St. splashlagoon.com.

26th Annual Zabawa

Aug. 23 — 5 to 10 p.m. &
Aug. 24 — noon to 10 p.m. &
Aug. 25 — noon to 6 p.m.
Holy Trinity Parish, 2220 Reed St. dioceseoferie.org.

Dungeons & Dragons

Aug. 24 — 10 a.m. to noon
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. events.eriellibrary.org.

Patio Yoga w Deb

Aug. 25 — 10 to 11 a.m.
Five & 20 Spirits and Brewing, 8398 W. Main Rd. (Rt. 20), Westfield, NY 14787 fiveand20.com.

Hill District Flea

Aug. 25 — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Bring the whole family for a variety of vendors, food, activi-

ties, music, and entertainment.

Hill District, W. 26-24 and Peach St. facebook.com.

135th Erie County Fair at Wattsburg

Aug. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31
Erie County Fairgrounds, 13933 PA-8, Wattsburg, PA 16442 wattsburgfair.com.

Back to School, Back to the Library

Aug. 26 — 2:15 to 5 p.m.
Iroquois Branch Library, 4212 Iroquois Ave. events.eriellibrary.org.

Robot Rally

Aug. 26 — 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Edinboro Branch Library, 413 W. Plum St., Edinboro, PA 16412 events.eriellibrary.org.

Hands All Around Erie Quilt Guild Meeting

Aug. 26 — 6:30 p.m.

Wayside Presbyterian Church, 1208 Asbury Rd. facebook.com.

DNA for Genealogy

Aug. 27 — 10 a.m. to noon
Lincoln Community Center Library, 1255 Manchester Rd. events.eriellibrary.org.

Dog Days of Summer

Aug. 27 — 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Brown's Farm Barn, 5774 Sterrettania Rd., Fairview, PA 16415 asburywoods.org.

Craft Creations

Aug. 27 — 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Edinboro Branch Library, 413 W. Plum St., Edinboro, PA 16412 events.eriellibrary.org.

Blue Zones: Where Are We Now, Where Are We Headed?

Aug. 27 — 7 p.m.
Alexander Music Center, 110 Kiltie Rd., Edinboro, PA 16444 events.edinboro.edu.

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Lavery Lager Haus

Sampling the wares at the newly-opened Titusville site



BEN SPEGGEN

The Lavery Lager Haus recently opened at the site of the former Blue Canoe Brewery in Titusville. Its 12 taps will consistently feature at least four lagers, as well as some area exclusives.

ery's flagship beer, a flavorfully plucky West Coast-style IPA and one of the best made products coming out of Erie, period (at least according to this Erie Reader contributor), is on tap.

So are 11 other brews. Four of the taps, according to the Laverys, will be dedicated specifically to the namesake of the location: Lagers. The other eight will rotate, with some beers being imported from their brewing facilities in Erie, others — chiefly German-style beers — will be crafted on-site in Titusville. And some will only be available on Franklin Street, such as the T-Vegas Hefeweizen, a nice, soft, light counterbalance to the equally nice and light-yet-crisp Ya Basic Lager.

For those stronger in spirit, the Greatest Hits of the '80s Double IPA packs a hoppy punch, as does the heftier That's Gold Darling Horchata Stout. And there's plenty of range in between with a farmhouse Saison, a wit beer, a black lager, and a Berliner — essentially something for everyone, including craft cocktails made from Pennsylvania spirits.

Just as Dulachan now has two homes, so do food favorites formerly confined to only the Lavery Pub location at 128 W 12th St. in Erie. Nachos Borrachos, tortilla chips topped with beer queso, borracho beans, pickled onions and jalapeños, crema, and salsa verde; a selection of pizzas; and a shrimp roll (with Duke's mayo here) are great familiars or recognizable variations.

With a kitchen near the size of the entire Erie pub location, newcomers are plentiful. Lager Haus Chef Nathan King is no stranger to the tastes of Titusville, as he served as the chef at Blue Canoe.

The two-sided menu starts with an array of appetizers and shareables, ranging from house-pickled vegetables to barbecue peanuts to heavier fare by way of the Salmon Benedictine, complete with cream cheese, cucumber, dressed salmon crudo, and herbs, and crostini for scooping up the delectable Kentucky-inspired dip.

A standout by far is the Fried Lake Smelt. Think adult fish sticks. Seasoned lightly with Old Bay, fried with parsley, and served with a rich green tomato tartar, these tasty treats are damn-near-perfect snacking bar food.

The list of "Supper" items is impressive, including Pork & Succotash, Steak Frites, and Seared Salmon, amongst others — a quick, loud wake-up call that this is a full-fledged restaurant that also happens to be a brewery.

The Spaetzle "cacio e pepe" is a funky-good German-meets-Italian cultural-cuisine mashup, with the German-style dumplings taking the place of the traditional pasta. The addition of sweet corn offers a sugary-yet-clean note to the savory "mac-and-cheese got a job and grew up" dish.

Ordering the Pork Schnitzel Sando is worth the gut-laugh-inducing visual-reaction spectacle alone. A beer-marinated crispy-fried pork cutlet comes spilling over the hulking spicetopped brioche bun. If ever there was a sandwich that'll fill you up for supper, this contender is ready to go toe-to-toe with anything else out there.

The show-stealers, though, are the LagerHaus Burger and French fries. Yes, you can get a burger-and-fries just about anywhere. But you can't get this burger-and-fries just anywhere (including Lavery's Erie location). And earlier, before entering the Lager Haus, the first person Adam and I encountered on the street, whom we told where we were headed,

empathetically instructed us: "You have to have the burger," as if not doing so was simply not an option.

So we did as we were told.

The juicy, double-smashed stack of beef patties — which comes topped with green tomato relish, mustard onions, and white American cheese — is what a burger should be: Humble enough without being modest so that you can taste the good quality of the "so melty in your mouth you might not need your teeth" meat. Not overly topped, not overly dressed up, not overly charred, not overly anything. Just outstandingly simple in all the right ways a burger's burger should be.

The fries can be ordered one of three ways: Plain, herb-dusted, or tomato-chile. While I'll assume the plain are just fine, we opted for the latter two, neither overly seasoned, both delicious, shoestring-cuts reminiscent of McDonald's French fries — in a good way.

If anything, the menu is fun and diverse — just like the catalog of Lavery beers. There's plenty of German-style fare, keeping in line with the Lager Haus' theme, pub-grub that isn't solely straight from the deep-freezer to deep-fryer, and fan favorites that folks are already familiar with.

Just as a portion of the beers on tap will continually change, Chef King will rotate the menu to highlight what's in season — all the more reason Titusville locals will want to stop by again and again and folks throughout Erie and Crawford counties and beyond will want to take a trip to Titusville two or three or 30 times.

Lavery Lager Haus kitchen hours of operations: Wednesdays and Thursdays: 3 to 9 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays: noon to 9 p.m.; Sundays: noon to 6 p.m.

Ben Spегgen can be contacted at bSpeгgen@ErieReader.com. You can follow him on Twitter @BenSpeгgen.

By: Ben Spегgen

Nestled in the heart of "the Birthplace of the Oil Industry" at 113 S. Franklin St., Titusville, Pennsylvania, Lavery Lager Haus opened its doors to the public July 31, just 30 days after co-owners Jason and Nikki Lavery got the keys. Just a week and a few days into the operation, with the beer cold and flowing steadily, it seems like a place that might've been there for years already.

"I love the idea of putting breweries in the middle of downtowns," Jason Lavery explains. "It's our modus operandi as a company."

The fact that the turnkey location formerly housed a brewery (Blue Canoe Brewery) made the decision to launch another brick-and-mortar 45 miles from the Laverys' home base in Erie easier. The Laverys were already familiar with the area, having participated in the Titusville Beer Festival (hosted by Orr's Brewing Company, just a few doors down from Lavery's new location at 109 S. Franklin) for the past several years.

"Folks here, they don't give me a last name. They just shake my hand and say 'welcome to town!'" says Nikki Lavery, pointing to a table and chairs outside of their kitchen. Ross Rout of the just-around-the-corner

Stonehouse Jack (a purveyor of "home furniture and décor, art, textiles, oddities, and so much more"), had dropped them off to use as needed.

Rout isn't riding solo on the welcome wagon. Nikki mentions Naomi Wescoat of Pots and Posies country store and florist, while other locals gleefully make their way in and out of the Lager Haus on a breezy Friday evening.

It's Wine Walk night when Erie Reader Editor-in-Chief Adam Welsh and I are there, with various locations throughout the downtown area serving as spots along a walking tour featuring wine samples along the way and the opportunity to purchase bottles. With Franklin Street and others shut down to vehicular traffic, it's also the beginning of the area's Oil Festival weekend, complete with the also aforementioned Titusville Beer Festival.

Inside the spacious Lager Haus, the seats at the bar are quickly becoming filled. The interior thankfully lacks TVs, thusly encouraging conversations amongst friends, strangers, and the knowledgeable bar staff. Across the bar, and to the right of the entrance, is the dining area, where families and groups of friends happen in off the streets for food and beer — and yes, Dulachan, the brew-

Fear of the Dark: *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark* Pales Compared to Its Source Material

★★

For many children of the '80s and '90s, reading Alvin Schwartz's *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark* book series was our first foray into the world of horror. The collection of creepy tales was made ten times creepier thanks to Stephen Gammell's grotesque illustrations, surely the subject of countless tales of nostalgic dread. It comes as no surprise then that they would be made into a film so fans could finally see these chilling stories brought to horrifying life. Sadly, this film doesn't even come close to the books' frightening level.

Set in 1968 (for some reason), the film follows a group of young people who wander into the seemingly haunted Bellows House and end up taking a book of stories belonging to the disturbed and tortured Sarah Bellows. Soon these creepy stories become all too real for this group of teens who must now solve the mystery of Sarah and her family before the scary stories consume them all.

The film has some wonderful imagery, making the most of its source material by bringing these unsettling illustrations to life. It's also well shot and the characters are memorable for the most part. The biggest problem with the film is its story, which tries to connect all these campfire tales and urban legends into one overarching plot that just doesn't do the tales justice. It could've worked much better as an anthology in the style of *Creepshow* or *Tales from the Dark Side* but it insists on a narrative that is far less interesting. In the end, the scary stories which should be front and center take a backseat to a predictable narrative which never comes alive the way the books had no trouble doing. — Forest Taylor

Directed by: Andre Ovredal // Written by: Dan and Kevin Hageman, based on the book series by Alvin Schwartz // Starring: Zoe Margaret Colletti, Michael Garza, Gabriel Rush, Austin Zajur, Natalie Ganzhorn, Austin Abrams, Gil Bellows, Lorraine Toussaint, Kathleen Pollard and Dean Norris // 111 minutes // Rated PG-13



LIONSGATE

"And Then...": *The Kitchen* Sinks to New Lows in Filmmaking

★

Trey Parker once said that the two most important words in storytelling are "therefore" and "but," meaning that every scene should segue nicely into the next scene, telling the story as it goes. If you don't have that, then you just have "and then" where things just happen without any real story progression whatsoever. Somebody should've told Andrea Berloff this rule before she made *The Kitchen*, one of the sloppiest and most bafflingly awful movie experiences in recent memory.

Set in Hell's Kitchen in 1978, the film follows three mob wives (Melissa McCarthy, Tiffany Haddish, and Elisabeth Moss) who find themselves in a dire situation after their husbands are sent to jail. These women must now get deeper into a life of crime in order to make ends meet and they soon realize that they can run a criminal empire as good as, if not better than, anyone else in the city.

This film is an editing nightmare, with a first act that goes by so fast it could compete in Daytona, characters that show up or disappear without any rhyme or reason, and a tone that varies so much it feels like three films playing at the same time. The jumbled and haphazard plot is only made worse thanks to a lifeless script and over-the-top performances, truly childish blocking, and some of the worst green-screen effects ever seen in a major motion picture. On one hand, I want to tell everyone to stay far, far away from *The Kitchen*, on the other hand, filmmaking this inept almost has to be seen to be believed. — Forest Taylor

Written and directed by: Andrea Berloff, based on the comic book series by Ollie Masters and Ming Doyle // Starring: Melissa McCarthy, Tiffany Haddish, Elisabeth Moss, Domhnall Gleeson, James Badge Dale, Brian d'Arcy James, Jeremy Bobb, Margo Martindale, Bill Camp, E.J. Bonilla, Myk Watford, and Common // 104 minutes // Rated R



WARNER BROTHERS PICTURES

The Living, Breathing Woods

Rachel Burke takes us for a walk in a very gestural forest



RACHEL BURKE

Rachel Burke utilizes gestural technique — or "action painting" — to evoke the moods and feelings of nature in her "All Around Me" exhibit at Glass Growers Gallery, shown here in her piece "Reaching."

works such as "Spring Gestures" and "April Greens," where bright lemon-lime greens burst forward

and dash hurriedly around the canvas. Winter's more stark architecture is drawn in works like "Shadow Paths," depicting a simple path meandering its way through slim, leafless trees

and long, sinuous shadows on a bright but cool afternoon.

While nature is center stage in all of these works, some are more figural than others.

Many reach towards abstractions built with linear motion and bold blocks of color. "Up Close Far Away" contains a riot of gestural lines across the surface that hold back loose areas of red and green, creating a frantic quality that moves the viewer's eyes forward and back in a tense but cohesive struggle.

These are not serene landscapes that soothe the eye in the same way a typical landscape might. These works reveal "the underlying structures [of nature] that pulsate with life," as Burke explains in her artist's statement. They

breathe, depicting a place where "branches, stems, and roots are the arteries and veins" of a living, changing organism.

It's clear Burke spends much time in the woods around her home that are the inspiration for this collection of 12 works. And her many years of dedication to painting are evident. She not only sees the woods and the intricate relationships working together there, but feels it and offers works where the tendrils of a complex ecosystem reach out to the viewer to tell their stories.

Ongoing through Sept. 10, Mon-Fri 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Sat 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. // Glass Growers Gallery, 10 E. Fifth St. // glassgrowersgallery.com

Mary Birdsong can be reached at mbirdsong@eriereader.com

By: Mary Birdsong


"All Around Me" at Glass Growers Gallery.

With lush, sweeping color, Burke captures different seasons and moods. Spring's chaotic burgeoning is captured in


With a master hand, Rachel Burke unravels nature through line, color and gesture in her recently opened show

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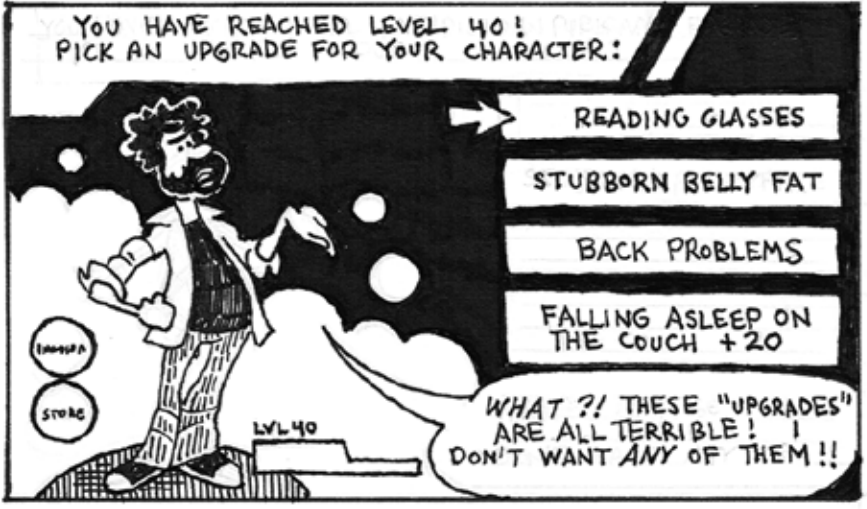


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YOU HAVE CHOSEN "ALL OF THEM"



NOOO! RESTART! RESTART! CONTROL ALT DELETE!!

UPGRADING...

MUSIC REVIEWS

Clairo

Immunity
Fader Records



Clairo is an Internet success story if there ever was one. Born out of bedroom pop and DIY music videos (a la Mac DeMarco), the burgeoning songwriter's debut studio album, *Immunity*, finds her upgrading in nearly every aspect imaginable. Where her music was once marked by its quirky lo-fi aesthetic, it now rests comfortably in the realm of tastefully polished soft rock and R&B. Not unlike Bon Iver's self-titled masterpiece, *Immunity* succeeds in being seamlessly transitional, representing a significant change in Clairo's artistry but still belonging uniquely to her. Pre-release single "Bags" chugs along with the same nostalgia as Smashing Pumpkins' "1979," while songs like "Sofia" and "Softly" bring an undeniable sensuality along with their knockout pop sensibilities. The production here is stunning but never overbearing, helmed by Rostam [Batmanglij] and a team of indie specialists (including drums by Danielle Haim). Someday, *Immunity* may be seen as an event record, a collection of anthems about love, sexuality, and growing up dedicated to the millennials and gen-z's who grew up with Clairo as their Liz Phair.

— Aaron Mook



Chance the Rapper

The Big Day
Self-Released



For a moment, Chance the Rapper was on top of the world. A Chicago-based Kanye protégé, the young rapper seemed to revolutionize modern hip-hop between 2013's *Acid Rap* and 2016's *Coloring Book*. So despite its fair share of successes, why does his "debut studio album," as he so passionately refers to it, arrive with an air of disappointment? Sometime in the past three years, the public consensus on Chance's childlike energy began to shift. Perhaps it was his railing against MTV over a mediocre review, or the self-seriousness with which he separated his mixtapes (now available on all streaming platforms) from his upcoming album. At 22 tracks, *The Big Day* is big, bold ("Handsome," "Big Fish"), and often, likely as fun as the wedding its name was inspired by. But for every banger ("All Day Long") or star-studded feature, there seems to be another track ranging from forgettable to outright bad ("Hot Shower," the title track). *The Big Day* isn't a bad album, but it also never seems to approach the lyrical peaks of Chance's game-changing mixtapes.

— Aaron Mook



Bon Iver

i,i
Jagjaguwar



If you haven't kept up with Bon Iver since *Forever Ago*, you're in for quite the surprise. A move further afield from 2016's glorious *22, A Million* is the brilliant yet hard-to-accurately punctuate *i,i* (pronounced "I comma I"), a feat of modern indie pop recording far more akin to hip-hop that essentially transcends genre. Using his voice as an elemental instrument, Justin Vernon crafts a gorgeous aural vista with one foot planted in the future. Can you tell what he is singing? In most cases, no. That doesn't take away from the listener's reaction however. The sounds contained in *i,i* are so effective they're almost emotionally manipulative. Vernon expresses a divine ennui, melded with a meditative acceptance. There's an overwhelming warmth wrapped around despondency at work here that's terrifically successful. There are moments of freedom like the lush saxophone solo from Minneapolis musician Mike Lewis on "Sh'Diah." Guests like Bruce Hornsby on "U (Man Like), James Blake ("iMi"), and Camilla Staveley-Taylor ("Faith") pepper in new and welcome tones through the album's 13 tracks.

— Nick Warren



Marika Hackman

Any Human Friend
Sub Pop



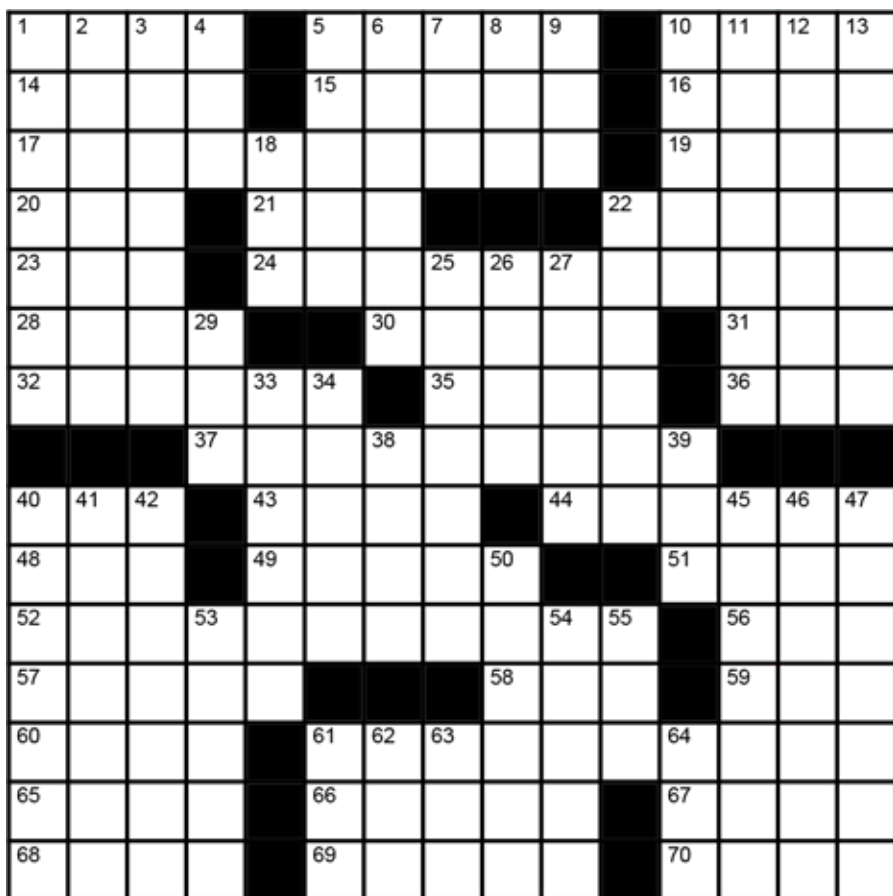
Starting off with the deceptively minimalist opener "wanderlust," Marika Hackman almost has you fooled. It's with the opening notes of the following track "the one" where the hits really start coming (all stylized with lowercase titles). Compared to her wonderful, albeit slightly overlooked 2017 album, *I'm Not Your Man*, Hackman's latest effort is more outwardly strong and danceable, coupled with darker tones more reliant on minor key signatures. Combining through late '80s new wave synth and '90s-flavored indie, she winds up with her own brand of groovy angst. It's a bit like Metric mixed with Kate Bush but shifted an octave or so down. The infectious melodies of "all night" grabs you almost immediately, as does perhaps the catchiest cut of the entire album "i'm not where you are," with its college radio-ready disco beats ideal for any melancholic hipster nightclub. For the 27 year-old British singer's third studio album, she's not afraid to discuss issues like sex on a frank and personal, more realistic level. There's diary-like truths to mine in nearly every track, as Hackman embraces honesty even more than she does hooks.

— Nick Warren



TOMMY IN TOON — BY TOMMY LINK





Across

- 1. "___-a-doodle-doo!"
- 5. Totally destroy
- 10. "Stop procrastinating!"
- 14. French possessive
- 15. Outlet from the left ventricle
- 16. The "A" of A.D.
- 17. Savion Glover's forte
- 19. Panamá's San ___ Islands
- 20. Weep
- 21. Suffix with beat or neat
- 22. Bottomless pit
- 23. Ad ___ committee
- 24. Pop star with the 1988 hit "Tell It to My Heart"
- 28. Spanish pronoun
- 30. "Star Wars" name
- 31. What's used to row, row, row your boat
- 32. Like family-friendly films
- 35. Basic trig ratio
- 36. FedEx rival
- 37. It's celebrated every April 6th in honor of Scottish heritage
- 40. Peaks: Abbr.
- 43. Bjorn with 11 Grand Slam tennis titles
- 44. Hall of Fame Atlanta Braves pitcher John ___
- 48. ___ Speedwagon
- 49. Tchaikovsky ballet roles
- 51. Painter Cassatt
- 52. Publication that was once a South China Sea island's largest newspaper
- 56. Sponge (up)

- 57. "Some Like ___"
- 58. French word on some wedding announcements
- 59. One snapping a ball to the QB: Abbr.
- 60. Do a barista's job
- 61. Timing for a project's completion
- 65. Put on a happy face
- 66. Interjected
- 67. "A Clockwork Orange" antihero
- 68. Drought-stricken
- 69. Line that ended with Nicholas II
- 70. "Look what I did!" (also, look at the answers to 17-, 24-, 37-, 52- and 61-Across)

Down

- 1. Yogi Berra, for one
- 2. ___ Manigault Newman, author of 2018's "Unhinged: An Insider's Account of the Trump White House"
- 3. Mimic
- 4. What Rick called Ilsa
- 5. Actress Mallet of "Goldfinger"
- 6. 1990 Stallone sequel
- 7. Man's name that's an investment spelled backward
- 8. RR stop
- 9. Witchy woman
- 10. Part of a Fred Flintstone's yell
- 11. 1955 hit by the Platters
- 12. Quickly

- 13. Horseshoes players
- 18. Aesop's "The ___ and the Grasshopper"
- 22. What Martin Luther King, Jr. famously had
- 25. Common entree at a potluck dinner
- 26. Role in "Thor," 2011
- 27. Pulls apart
- 29. Move low toward the horizon
- 33. Touches, as with a tissue
- 34. Unlike a child
- 38. Like much folk music: Abbr.
- 39. ___ Kippur
- 40. "They call me ___!" (#19 on AFI's Top 100 movie quotes)
- 41. Plant with fragrant leaves
- 42. "Yes, that news has reached my ears ..."
- 45. Milan opera house
- 46. Horsed around?
- 47. Alternative to Risperdal, in prescriptions
- 50. Pink, e.g.
- 53. "Okay, I'm waiting to be impressed by your pitch"
- 54. English industrial city described by Dickens as "an odious place"
- 55. Still
- 61. Bit of ink
- 62. Annoyances in some free apps
- 63. Food label stat
- 64. "Can't Help Lovin' ___ Man" ("Show Boat" song)



Answers to last puzzle





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