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# REVIEWING THE CASE FOR JUDGE

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NICK WARREN

**From the Editors**

It's not the suspense that's killing us; it's the lack of communication

Rewind to 1977 — the VHS and Beta-max videocassette recording systems are released in North America. For the first time ever, the at-home movie viewer is empowered to skip past the bad parts and get to the good parts. It's a functionality that is further refined with the DVD's scene selection feature — which will come in handy when fans of that year's *Star Wars* are confronted with Jar Jar Binks 22 years into the future.

Fast-forward to 2019 — impatience for slow developing plot threads and intolerance for ambiguity is greater than ever. Many of us prefer to — and are even conditioned to — race through to the finish of our favorite shows and series, lest someone else spoil them for us. Nowadays we ask *What happens next?* not only of the make-believe and pretend, but of ourselves, our relationships, our world and its institutions. There may be no worse feeling in the 21st century than being left hanging.

The fact of the matter is, however, that our current reality is still up for discussion. Such is the organizing principle of the Jefferson Educational Society's annual Global Summit, where experts, commentators, and personalities of all persuasions gather in Erie to ponder why we are the way we are and how we might be what we want to be. Like the last movie or show you watched, it may be — and probably is — open to interpretation. Unlike that scripted entertainment, the plot of *right now* is forever fluid and changing.

Although it's frustrating, we can't binge-think our way through all of our problems in a single afternoon. *But what will become of us?! And what will become of our glass bottles?!* (Seth Trott has some insight into the latter). All we can do is take it one episode at a time and hope to appoint capable directors. While many are mentally fast-forwarding to the 2020 general election and which of a glut of Democratic candidates might unseat Trump, Ben Spегgen advises us not to lose sight of what's in front of us. On Tuesday, Nov. 5, polls will open for Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, Erie City Council, Erie County Council, County Controller, City School Director, and more.

There's a lot on our plate — more than can be cleared in one, two, three, or 300 public officials' sittings — so for now, let's gather at the table, talk it out, and try not to get too far ahead of ourselves. As Winston Churchill once said: "Only one link of the chain of destiny can be handled at a time."





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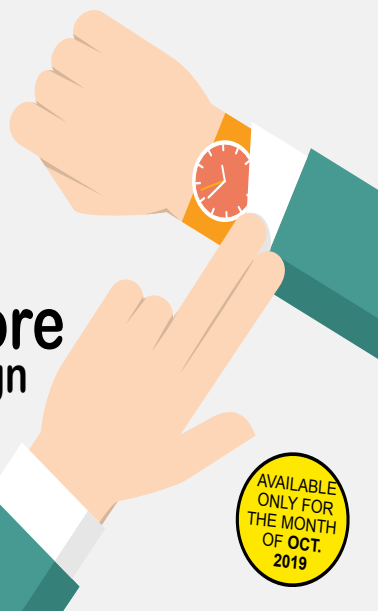
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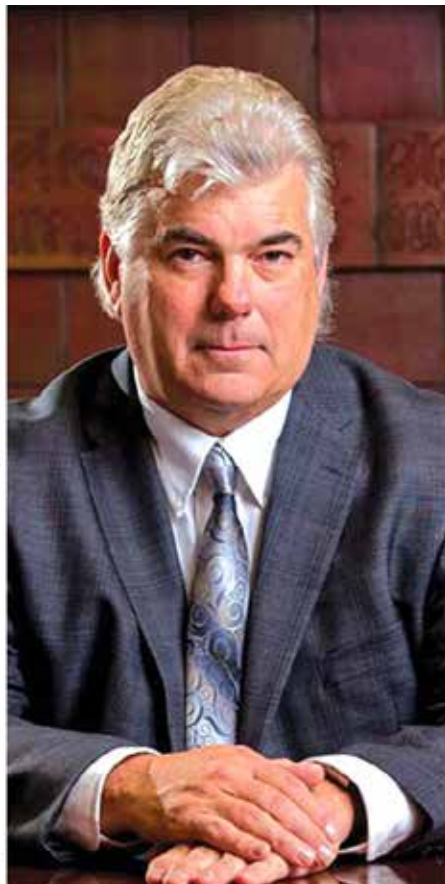
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## Reviewing the Case for Judge for Erie County Court of Common Pleas

Local judicial candidates speak out in their own words



Three candidates — from left to right, Erin Connelly, Dave Ridge, and Ed Smith — will vie for two judge openings on the Erie County Court of Common Pleas in the upcoming Nov. 5 elections. The Court of Common Pleas sits below the Superior Court, Commonwealth Court, and Supreme Court in the United Judicial System of Pennsylvania and handles appeals from the minor courts, appeals not exclusively assigned to another court, and matters involving children and families.

the retirement of Judge John Garhart at the end of 2018.

In short, the Courts of Common Pleas (if the Pennsylvania legal system is to be envisioned as a pyramid) sit above minor courts presided over by magisterial district judges (MDJs) and municipal court judges, with the Superior Court and Commonwealth Court just above them and the State Supreme Court at the pinnacle.

The general trial courts of Pennsylvania, the Courts of Common Pleas statewide are organized into 60 judicial districts, typically following geographical county boundaries. But if you're sitting there noting, "but Pennsylvania has 67 counties!" the lower number of districts results from seven of the 60 being comprised of two counties (though not so for Erie County).

Chiefly, each Court of Common Pleas is charged with handling appeals from the minor courts, appeals not exclusively assigned to another court, and matters involving children and families.

In May's primary where candidates were able to cross-file to appear on both Democratic and Republican tickets (partially nullifying the "closed primaries" issue), there were five candidates looking to make to the general election. Up to four could have continued on, but three did and two did not: former three-term Erie Mayor Joe Sinnott and Pete Sala, a lawyer in private practice in Erie.

The three who did, alphabetically, are: Erin Connelly, Dave Ridge, and Ed Smith.

For Connelly and Smith, this isn't their first rodeo.

Connelly, Chief Deputy District Attorney, 42, of Millcreek, and lawyer Smith, 60, of Millcreek, each sought a spot on the bench in 2015 but were unsuccessful in their bids.

By: Ben Spегgen

The general election cometh. No, still not the one with only now slightly fewer Democratic candidates than available flavors of Baskin-Robbins ice cream, all of whom are still vying to nab the party's nomination to go on to challenge Republican President Donald Trump in November 2020.

The election that lies on the near horizon is the 2019 municipal general election, slated for Tuesday, Nov. 5.

### Setting the precedent

As I wrote back in May, this election lacks a "big" race.

I bemoaned the traditionally low voter turnout for primary elections in general for a number of reasons. One of note, Pennsylvania — in the company of Delaware, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, and Wyoming — remains one of just 14 states to feature closed primary elections, meaning registered voters may only vote along party lines.

What's also worth bemoaning is that municipal elections — those for lo-

cal offices, where electees have more impact on citizens' day-to-day lives — consistently net lower voter turnouts.

Maybe 2019 will be different, maybe it won't be.

Conversely, elections with gubernatorial races (or ones with U.S. senators, congresspersons, or presidential candidates) yield a significant uptick in voter turnout. Take last year's 2018 midterm general election, which featured congressional bids, along with races for the Keystone State's governor and lieutenant governor seats. More than half of registered voters (52.23 percent) cast ballots, the highest midterm election turnout since 1994.

The marquee races in 2017 were by no means insignificant, but they were both local. The executive seats of Mayor of the City of Erie and Erie County Executive were heralded by many as some of, if not *the*, most important races in Erie's history. Yet, a paltry one-third of registered voters voted.

Past 2016's 63 percent turnout for the much-covered presidential race, rewind four more years to 2012 when Erie held its last municipal election, and we'll get our lowest general election

turnout: 27 percent of those registered to vote called the shots.

### What's on the docket

If there's optimism to be had, maybe the times are a-changin'. The headline to Matthew Rink's coverage of the 2018 general election for Erie Times-News read: "Midterm turnout in Erie County highest since '94."

Doug Smith, county clerk of elections told Rink: "I wasn't expecting it to be as high as it was. I thought we would do well, but not this well. Erie County needs to give itself a hand. They really turned out in big numbers today."

Perhaps Erie will be giving itself another round of applause come Nov. 6. Rightfully, Erie should be focused on this election as various key local seats are up for grabs — including *two seats* on the nine-person bench of the Erie County Court of Common Pleas.

Casting ballots in this race bears a greater significance, as seats come with 10-year appointments, meaning who Erie votes in will be there when we revisit these seats in 2029.

The two vacancies are to fill the openings created by the death of Judge Robert A. Sambroak Jr. in March 2017 and

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## NEWS & VIEWS

Ridge, 59, a Democrat from Fairview Township, is a newcomer to a campaign for the seat, but led on both parties' ballots (12,148 votes on the Democratic ticket and 9,589 on the Republican) while Connelly snagged a spot on the Democratic with 11,604 votes and Smith on the Republican with 8,091 votes.

Because Ridge has a spot on both ballots, the general election is a run-off of three candidates rather than four.

To give Reader readers a better sense of these candidates, we asked each a series of questions, the responses to which you will see below.

When voters — hopefully more than one-fifth of those eligible — head to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 5, they can vote for up to two of these three candidates.

**Q:** In six words, please capture the essence of your campaign/platform in running for the position of Judge in the Erie County Court of Common Pleas.

**Erin Connelly:** Experienced Public Servant, Pursuit of Justice.

**Dave Ridge:** I'm prepared to serve Erie County.

**Ed Smith:** Highly recommended. Experienced. Community involvement. TrustEd.

**Q:** What are the top three things you think make you most qualified for this position?

**Connelly:** Experience in the courtroom, commitment to public service, and a passion for justice.

As a prosecutor for 17 years, I have more trial experience than the other candidates combined. I am ready to hit the ground running on day one.

When I first became a lawyer, I thought I would only stay in the District Attorney's office for a few years. Instead, I fell in love with the work and have committed my career to public service. Working in the private sector may make you wealthy, but for me, serving the public was of more value.

I am also passionate about justice and making sure the court system works for everyone involved. As the Chief Deputy District Attorney, I have to look at the whole picture, and consider a myriad of factors. I'm uniquely positioned to see how the entire system works and how we can be advocates for justice.

**Ridge:** No.1: I believe in serving; No. 2: I will be ready from day one; and, No.3: [I received the] highest ranking

for competence, experience, integrity, temperament from the Erie County Bar Association.

**Smith:** I have broad experience in virtually every area of law. The Bar Association has indicated that I am highly recommended to this position. I have life experiences and work experience to perform this important position.

**Q:** Of those who you know are voting for you, what are the three things you think they'd say if asked in a coffee shop why they're voting for you?

**Connelly:** From the thousands of doors that I have knocked on and voters that I've talked to, what seems to resonate most is my experience in the courtroom, my ability to apply the law fairly, and my passion for justice.

**Ridge:** He's honest. He works hard. He'll treat people with respect.

**Smith:** Hopefully, I am approachable. I have the experience to make the judgments required. I have integrity.

**Q:** If someone told you they weren't voting for you, what would you tell them in 15 words or less?

**Connelly:** I have dedicated my career to keeping violent criminals off our streets.

**Ridge:** There are two positions available, but I respect their position either way.

**Smith:** Thank you for your consideration. I hope you continue to research and reconsider.

**Q:** What do Reader readers most need to know about your background to see that you're the "right" person for this position?

**Connelly:** My vast knowledge through my experience of working in the courtroom everyday makes me the most qualified candidate for this position.

**Ridge:** I've been practicing law for 34 years. I've handled every type of trial, case, and individual, and have been in front of many different types of judges. I know what it takes to be a good judge. You must be prepared, know the law and the rules of evidence, and remember that no matter what type of case, the matter before the judge is the most important thing going on in that person's life.

**Smith:** I believe my background and especially my upbringing formed my character. I was raised in a blue-collar family where my father was a steelworker and my mother was a homemaker. I went to school at Penn State and then law school at Duquesne. I have been married for 34 years with

two children. I believe that I have had the life experience and work experience to hold this important position.

**Q:** What might Reader readers be surprised to learn about you or your background that would convince them that you're the "right" person for this position?

**Connelly:** I have prosecuted 27 homicide cases, over 150 jury trials, and have consistently handled the most violent crimes committed in Erie County. While the work is never easy, I believe in being a voice for victims and working to make Erie a place we can safely raise our families.

**Ridge:** My dad was a staunch Truman Democrat who worked two jobs to take care of his family. My mom was a strong Eisenhower Republican who raised her kids and also had a part-time job as a saleswoman at Halle's in the West Erie Plaza. Both my mom and dad made personal sacrifices to create opportunities for their three children.

**Smith:** I worked my way through law school at the Allegheny County District Attorney's office. I was the only clerk to get promoted to the Homicide Division. In the summers before that, I worked for several gas companies mowing gas pipeline hills where a tractor could not reach, mowing the pipelines with a mowing scythe. I started my own law firm at the age of 26 and have earned my keep as a practicing lawyer ever since.

**Q:** If you win, what's next? Conversely, if you don't win, what's next?

**Connelly:** My only focus right now is knocking on doors and talking to as many voters as possible before Election Day.

**Ridge:** If I win, I will do everything I can to be ready to serve from the first day on the job. If I don't win, I will continue to practice law and will attempt to get involved in even more charitable and nonprofit organizations. Plus, I'm going to spend more time fishing.

**Smith:** The first thing I would intend to do as a judge is listen and learn. If I am unsuccessful, I look forward to continuing to try to help my clients through their problems.

For more information on the candidates, visit them online at [erinconnelly4judge.com](http://erinconnelly4judge.com), [daveridgeforjudge.com](http://daveridgeforjudge.com), and [edsmithforjudge.com](http://edsmithforjudge.com)

Ben Speggen can be contacted at [bspeggen@ErieReader.com](mailto:bspeggen@ErieReader.com), and you can follow him on Twitter @BenSpeggen.



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## 2019 Municipal Election Seeking Council

Examining the other races on this year's ballot

By: Ben Speggen

In this issue, you'll find a closer look into the Judge of Erie County Court of Common Pleas and a case for why municipal elections matter, despite the fact that they traditionally draw a significantly lower voter turnout when compared to races with national and state-level marquee candidates.

But that's not the only race on the 2019 General Election ballot that's worth looking into in Erie.

### Erie City Council

For Erie City Council, five candidates are vying for three available seats. Democratic incumbent Melvin Witherspoon is seeking his third four-year term.

The two vacancies on council resulted because Bob Merski successfully won his bid for the District 2 seat of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, and Sonya Arrington, first elected to council in 2015, decided not to run for re-election amidst federal prosecutors' charges in 2018 that she used funds from Mothers Against Teen Violence, a nonprofit she founded, to gamble at Presque Isle Downs & Casino. She has pleaded not guilty and her case is pending.

History and numbers favor the other two Democrats Ed Brzezinski and Michael Keys, who, along with Witherspoon emerged from a crowded pack of

11 who ran in May's primary.

Lone Republican Shawn Lyons and lone Independent Lewis Prest — along with the actively campaigning write-in candidate, Fat Lenny's owner Scottie Freeman — look to do what hasn't been done in quite some time, in large part thanks to the city's near 3-to-1 Democratic voter registration edge: Win a seat on council representing a party other than the Democrats.

Regardless of whether the Republican or Independents can push through, the composition of the seven-person at-large council will shift significantly. Assuming Witherspoon (who recorded the highest number of votes in May's primary) retains his seat, two council members will be new to the job. Councilwomen Liz Allen and Kathy Schaaf are still serving their first terms. What's more: City Councilman Casimir Kwitowski is running unopposed for City Treasurer. Assuming he gets it, that would create another vacancy in January 2020.

### Erie County Council

For Erie County Council, it's an odd year — meaning that odd-numbered districts are up for election. And as is the case with Erie City Council, Erie County Council will inevitably feature new faces with two incumbents deciding to not seek reelection and one ousted in May's primary.

In District 1, Democrat Kathy Fatica, who was serving out her late husband Phil Fatica's term, is not seeking reelection, leaving the seat to a newcomer. Kim Clear bested Democratic challengers Veronica Rexford and Terry Scutella in May's primary to face off against Republican Robert Yates, who defeated Charles Foht.

Mary Rennie defeated District 3 Democratic incumbent Fiore Leone, as well as Democratic challenger Freda Tepper. No Republicans sought the seat in May's primary.

Democratic incumbent Kyle Foust is seeking reelection for his District 5 seat against Republican Brian Shank, who defeated Joseph Cancilla in the primary. What makes this of particular interest is that Foust is running concurrent campaigns for his County Council seat and for County Controller against Republican incumbent Mary Schaaf. He's eligible to win both and then decide which seat he prefers to hold, leaving one post unpopulated and to be decided after the 2019 election.

After more than two decades of service, Republican County Councilwoman Carol Loll decided not to launch a reelection bid, opening the gates for the contest between newcomers Rita Bishop and Ellen Schauerman, Democrat and Republican, respectively.

Assuming Rennie is a lock and noting

that the races for Districts 1 and 7 don't feature incumbents, at least three seats will change. Then, if Foust either wins his bid for Controller or loses both his Controller race and his District 5 contest, it could shift to four new folks in this cycle alone.

Of note, both Carl Anderson (District 4) and Scott R. Rastetter (District 6) are both in their first terms on Council, meaning at least five — if not six — elected officials on Erie County Council will be serving in their first term come January 2020.

The only County Council member not to have been mentioned yet here would be Democrat Andre Horton, who has represented District 2 since 2013, and on Oct. 18 announced that he plans to run for Pennsylvania Senate District 49, currently held by Republican Dan Laughlin.

For local politics, the compositions will be changing no matter what. But will more than 20 percent of those eligible to decide who governs turn up at the polls?

It's hard to think of a more convincing reason — having such a say in such unavoidable and potential change — to drive voters to the polls. If they don't, then four-fifths of voters may just want to remain as quiet as they did on Tuesday, Nov. 5 for the lifespan of these seats up for grabs.

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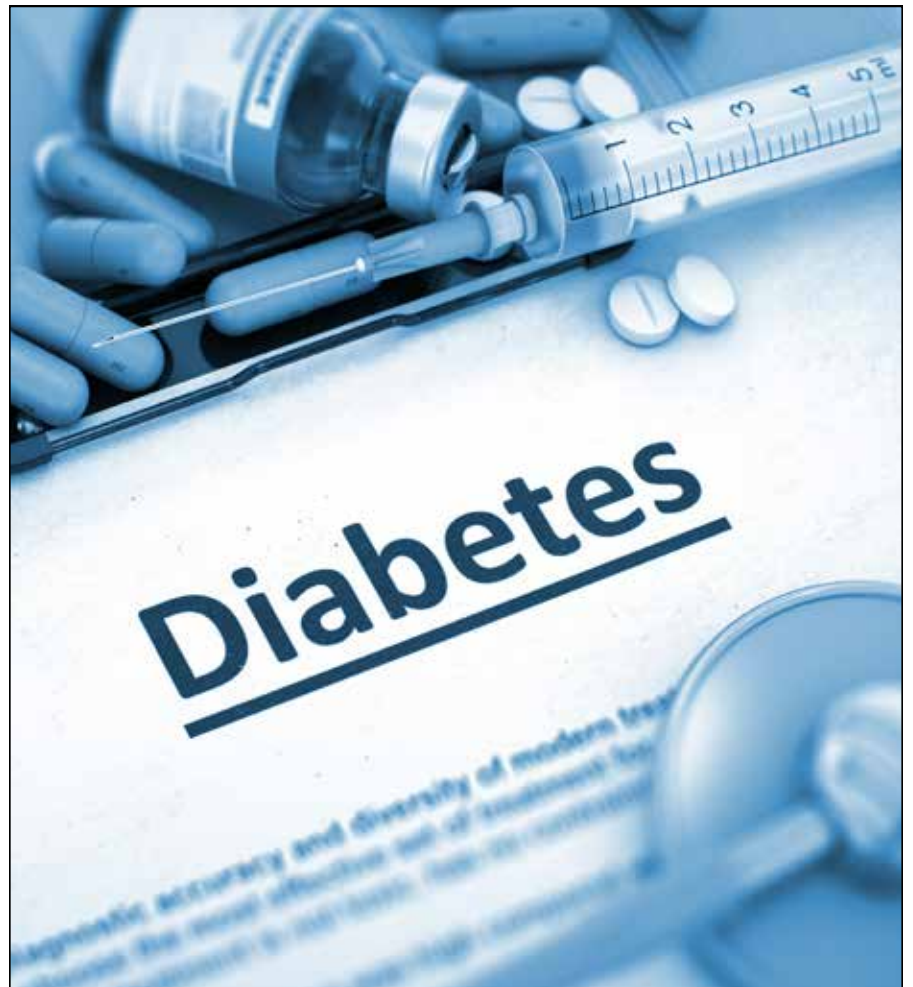
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## Down in the Dumps

The loss (and future?) of glass recycling in Erie



**Many locals have lamented the discontinuation of glass recycling in Erie County, saving up empty bottles in anticipation of a new solution. While county legislators contemplate the issue, elements within the private sector — such as local startup Bayfront Glass, LLC — have hosted pop-up glass drop-off events.**

(MRF) in Buffalo, N.Y. Per New York law, glass is not permitted to be discarded in a landfill and thus, the glass that is brought to the Buffalo MRF is recycled into road aggregate.

In April 2019, Waste Management announced that a subsidiary would acquire Advanced Disposal and the deal is expected to close in the first quarter of 2020. Upon its closing, Waste Management will take over Advanced Disposal's current contracts and will continue to recycle the glass collected from Millcreek at Waste Management's Pittsburgh MRF until Millcreek's municipal contract expires at the end of March 2022.

Erie County government has been working to unearth a solution to both the loss of glass recycling and the lack of viable recycling options in the rural portions of our County. Brittany Prischak, the former environmental sustainability coordinator for the Erie County Department of Planning and the current sustainability manager for Allegheny County, mentions that Erie County sent out a request for proposal in April in search of a firm to conduct a study that identifies gaps in recycling services for the county's rural residents and suggests ways in which to improve and fund local recycling processes. This study will then be used to craft a five-year strategic plan to assist the county government in bolstering waste collection and recycling efforts, policies, and programming. Nestor Resources was recently hired to conduct this study.

Meanwhile, in the private sector, the Erie-based startup company, Bayfront Glass, LLC, is hosting pop-up glass drop-off events around Erie County. Residents can drop their glass recyclables off at one of the pop-up locations and Bayfront Glass will crush the containers and sell them to CAP Glass, a glass manufacturer in Mount Pleasant, Pa.

One hurdle that Bayfront Glass faces is reaching its critical mass of opera-

tions. Though the new firm purchased a manually-fed glass crusher, it hopes to invest in the full line of equipment necessary to establish a glass processing facility, thereby allowing it to process more glass at a faster pace. Unfortunately, to make that investment, Bayfront Glass needs to collect consistent and greater volumes of glass bottles and containers. Mazza Vineyards gave them a kickstart by offering up their (literal) tons of glass bottles that the winemaker was saving so as to not dump them into the landfill.

Check out Bayfront Glass at [bayfrontglass.com](http://bayfrontglass.com) for more information and the locations of future drop-off events.

Equally exciting is the recent proposal in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for the implementation of a bottle bill (HB 1322; part of the "Zero Waste PA" initiative by Pennsylvania Democrats), sponsored by Representative Wendy Ullman (D-Doylestown). It is expected that Senator Sharif Street (D-Philadelphia) will introduce a similar bill in the Pennsylvania Senate in the near future. According to Bottle-Bill.org, bottle bills — more formally referred to as "container deposit laws" — require a minimum refundable deposit on various beverage containers to incentivize high recycling rates for those containers.

When a retailer buys beverages from a distributor, the retailer pays a deposit (say, five cents) for each of the bottles purchased, upon which, the cost of that deposit is passed on to the customer (you and me). After we pay for the drink, plus the extra five-cent deposit, and drink the Vanilla Coke, we take the bottle back to the retailer, a redemption center, or a reverse vending machine and are refunded our five cents. The retailer then turns around and recoups the five-cent deposit from the distributor.

The deposit system has been proven to work and our neighbors in New York have had a five-cent container deposit in place since 1983. In 2017, the State boasted a 65 percent bottle redemption rate (versus Maryland's 25 percent container recycling rate without a bottle bill). The Pennsylvania bill would also enact a five-cent deposit, but it is yet unclear of the level of political support

By: Seth Trott

It has been over ten months since most municipalities in Erie County halted the curbside collection of glass recyclables. We've all felt that searing sense of guilt when we throw our beer or wine bottles into the trash instead of the recycling bin, but we're learning to cope — maybe we've stashed our used glass bottles away until an alternative means of disposal was presented (like Mazza Vineyards did) or maybe we switched to exclusively drinking boxed wine (hopefully not).

But at a time when Erie is experiencing record-high lake water levels and increasingly intense winter storms as a direct result of climate change, we should be acknowledging these natural omens and *increasing* the reduction, reuse, and recycling of our waste, cutting our greenhouse gas emissions, and beginning the shift toward a more sustainable and circular economic model, not lugging our most valuable recyclable material to the landfill. The need to find a new means of economically recycling glass before the public's muscle memory is reprogrammed to think that "glass is trash" has led to many recent developments across our region and state, with each attempting to reintroduce the process of recycling glass in some way.

It's important to remember how we got here: as Mary Birdsong outlines in

a past Erie Reader article, titled "Local Recycling: Sorting Things Out," the elimination of glass recycling in Erie was largely the result of China increasing its restrictions on the quality of recyclable materials that it purchases from other nations, as well as glass contamination at the household level.

In short, because we don't often properly rinse out our glass containers and have grown accustomed to the consumer-convenience of the single-stream recycling system in the United States (meaning that we mix all of our plastics and glass and paper together in a single "stream" during collection and sort the materials later), our glass often contains food remnants or breaks during collection, contaminating the whole batch of recyclables and forcing recyclers to dump about 60 percent of the glass that they collect into landfills. So recyclers' profit margins are being squeezed from the demand-side (China) and from the supply-side (poor quality and low quantity of collected materials), leaving many recycling firms around the nation to cut out the weakest, and heaviest, link: glass.

This is what happened in Erie County when Waste Management decided that it could no longer reasonably accept glass in curbside recycling. Advanced Disposal continues to recycle the glass that it collects from Millcreek and is able to do so by delivering its recyclables to a materials recovery facility

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**NEWS & VIEWS**

for the current proposal in Harrisburg, though a similar bill was introduced in 2009 (SB 588) and died shortly thereafter.

The failure of SB 588 and the yet-unknown standing of HB 1322 is an unfortunate, but frequently told story. Environmental solutions across all sectors of society are presented, discussed, and often tabled by leadership due to the long-term nature and distant pay-offs of the necessary investments. But therein lies an inherent and false assumption that the sole responsibility of attaining a higher level of sustainability and eco-friendliness sits purely in the hands of leadership. As has been exhibited in recent years across the world, leadership can fail and when it does, it's up to us as individuals to carry the world forward. If so, history teaches that, eventually, leadership will follow and that the power does indeed lie in the people's hands.

And us people living in the Great Lakes region have a greater responsibility to ensure that our environment and societal processes are as healthy and eco-friendly as possible to protect

this region's world-renowned natural resources for the future — it's the price we pay for the collective ability to economically leverage our lakes to the tune of a \$6 trillion regional GDP.

Reversing climate change may take a generation of international cooperation, but protecting the Great Lakes watershed takes only the joint action of eight U.S. states, Ontario, and the included population. Making the additional effort to solve and support solutions to our glass recycling dilemma is one minuscule — but necessary — step toward fulfilling our duty as citizens of the Great Lakes region and ensuring that we are on the path toward creating a planet that (at the very least) isn't worse off today than it was yesterday.

*For an in-depth analysis of the loss of glass recycling in Erie County and across the nation, keep a lookout for Seth Trott's upcoming Jefferson Educational Society report, "Down in the Dumps: An All-Inclusive Look at the Issue of Glass Recycling in Erie County, PA." He can be reached at [sethtrott@gmail.com](mailto:sethtrott@gmail.com)*

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## The Jefferson Education Society's Global Summit XI

Eleventh annual event features nationally known figures in politics, science, and media



By: Rebecca Styn

Starting in late October, the Erie community will once again have the extraordinary opportunity to listen to and interact with some of the world's best and brightest thought leaders presenting on issues affecting us globally, nationally, and locally, during the Jefferson Educational Society's premier event, the 11th annual Global Summit.

"What started out as two-and-a-half day event with just around 500 tickets sold has grown into a three-week long initiative with over 6,500 in attendance," Dr. Ferki Ferati, president of the Jefferson Educational Society, notes. As per last year's milestone summit, Ferati exclaimed that they "completely sold out seven of our events and built one of the biggest conferences that any mid-size community has ever seen."

As the Jefferson Educational Society launches new satellite programming in Corry, Edinboro, and Fairview, their flagship event continues to grow as well. And in keeping with the theme of a think-tank, the summit will present a broad variety of perspectives on both sides of the aisle. "We are interested in maintaining a non-partisan organization, and we accomplish this by bringing in some of the leading minds of the country." Social issues including the racial income divide, ecology and humanity, and women's rights will be discussed; historic and political figures such as Abraham Lincoln and Barbara Bush will be reviewed; and well-known thought leaders including a former Secretary of Defense, a Pulitzer prize winning journalist, former White House Press Secretary, and a renowned radio host and author will enliven and

engage the audience.

And according to Erie's own Steve Scully, the prominent face of C-SPAN and the Global Summit's chairperson, "after this year's Summit concludes, more than 100 of the world's best and brightest will have come to Erie to present their cutting-edge research, their keen observations of history and how it impacts us today, and forward-thinking notions both examining the present and exploring the future."

### Monday, Oct. 28 Thinking Differently about Race and Belonging with Camille Busette



According to World Bank, in 2017, 1.7 billion adults lacked a basic bank account, and in the U.S. alone, that number tops off around 18 million. Not surprisingly, this phenomenon is predominantly found in lower- and middle-income populations and minority households. While access to a financial account is a prerequisite to economic participation, it is only one of the indicators of a steadily growing gap in racial and ethnic wealth

The Jefferson Educational Society's headquarters at 3207 State St. will be one of four sites — along with Penn State Behrend's McGarvey Commons and Gannon University's Yehl Ballroom and Hammermill Center — to play host to Global Summit XI's impressive array of guest speakers.

since the Great Recession of 2008.

In this discussion, Camille Busette, a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution will explore the root sources of the racial and income divide; and possible wealth building opportunities with a focus on young Americans. She will discuss how Americans can move out of poverty, protect their economic gains, and advance broader development goals in an inclusive and responsible financial system.

7:30 p.m. // Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St.

### Tuesday, Oct. 29 Harmful Algal Blooms: A Threat to the Wealth of the World" with Patricia Glibert



Did you know in the United States alone, the economic impact of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) equates to \$900 million in annual losses? This past July, Lake Erie experienced a severe bloom of blue-green algae that began spreading across the western half of the lake. The dominant organism — a *Microcystis cyanobacteria* — produces very toxic outcomes — to humans and animals.

Patricia Glibert, a phytoplankton ecologist and a professor at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, knows all of this too well. During this event, Glibert will discuss the direct and indirect consequences of these toxins, including lost revenue in the marine economy, costs of medical treatments for cases of sickness in humans, expenses to remove algae from the water

or dead fish from the beaches, and investment costs in preventing and monitoring HABs. Attendees will learn more about her research and how we can help to better protect ourselves, marine life, and the economy.

7:30 p.m. // Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St.

### Wednesday, Oct. 30 Trump's International Trade Policies and How They Affect the Erie Region with Kelly Ann Shaw



In March 2019, Kelly Ann Shaw, then a senior director for international trade, investment, and development at the White House, moved into a key advisory role as Deputy Assistant to the President for International Economic Affairs and Deputy Director of the National Economic Council.

During this presentation, Shaw will focus on how international trade and changes in trade policy affect commerce in the Erie region. She is also expected to address the trade disputes between the United States and China, and the United States withdrawal from trade deals such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) that had been created during the presidency of Barack Obama and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

Shaw received her JD from Columbia Law School, where she was a Harlan Stone Fiske Scholar.

7:30 p.m. // Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St.

### Friday, Nov. 1 Extraterrestrial Life: Are We Alone? with Avi Loeb

On October 19, 2017, astronomers at the University of Hawaii spotted a



strange object traveling through our solar system, which they later described as “a red and extremely elongated asteroid.” Scientists named it “Oumuamua,” the Hawaiian word for messenger. One year later, Avi Loeb, chair of Harvard’s Astronomy Department, co-published a paper that examined Oumuamua’s “peculiar acceleration” and suggested that the object “may be a fully operational probe sent intentionally to Earth’s vicinity by an alien civilization.”

Although he was well-known in the astronomy universe for many years, having been named by Time Magazine as one of the 25 most influential people in space, it would be this experience that would catapult him into “star”dom.

While most scientists assume Oumuamua is some sort of rock (an asteroid or icy comet), when he “visits” Erie, Loeb will explore his theory supporting Oumuamua being an alien ship.

7:30 p.m. // Penn State Behrend’s McGarvey Commons, 4701 College Drive

**Monday, Nov. 4**  
**An Evening with Chuck Hagel,**  
**Moderated by Tom Ridge**



Calling it the “greatest privilege of his life,” Chuck Hagel resigned on November 24th, 2014 as the 24th United States Secretary of Defense under the

Obama administration. And although that statement would seem to be a capstone to a career, Hagel’s other accomplishments occupy a similar stratosphere.

A recipient of two Purple Hearts during the Vietnam War, Hagel also served as two-term U.S. senator becoming the then-first Republican in 24 years to win a Senate seat in Nebraska, and was re-elected two years later with the largest margin of votes in any statewide race in Nebraska history. As senator, Hagel served on committees in foreign relations, international economic policy, and the Senate Climate Change Observer Group. Prior to his election to the Senate, Hagel was a successful business founder and economic adviser. A conservative voice predicated on caution and always fact-based, Hagel will speak to these experiences and more during this intimate event. Erie native and former Pennsylvania Governor and U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge will moderate.

7:30 p.m. // Gannon University’s Yehl Ballroom at Waldron Campus Center, 124 W. Seventh St.

**Wednesday, Nov. 6**  
**The Briefing: Politics, the Press and the President with Sean Spicer**



Although Sean Spicer has a vast and storied career, it was his track record of smokescreen statements during his eight-month tenure as President Trump’s White House press secretary that would become the pinnacle trademark of his profession. His New York Times bestselling book, *The Briefing: Politics, the Press and the President*, will be the focus of his discussion.

In 1999, Spicer joined the United States Navy Reserve as a public affairs officer and he currently holds the rank of commander. As of December 2016, he was assigned to the Joint Chiefs of Staff’s naval reserve contingent in Washington, D.C. During that time, Spicer became a top figure in the national Republican

Party for almost a decade, serving as communications director of the Republican National Committee. Spicer is also the founder and President of RigWil LLC, a strategic consulting firm that provides insights to corporate and association executives. Since leaving the White House, he has traveled the world addressing groups, and served as a visiting fellow at Harvard University’s Institute of Politics.

7:30 p.m. // Gannon University Yehl Ballroom at Waldron Campus Center, 124 W. Seventh St.

**Thursday, Nov. 7**  
**An Evening with George Will**



The Wall Street Journal once called him “perhaps the most powerful journalist in America,” and today he serves as one of the leading conservative voices and pundits in the United States, publishing regular syndicated columns for The Washington Post and providing commentary for NBC News and MSNBC. Since 1973, he has published more than 6,000 columns. One of the leading conservative voices against President Trump, Will has explicitly called upon all Americans to vote against Trump in 2020. Despite this stance, most conservatives would agree that Will has been among their most articulate voices for decades.

Will is currently promoting his latest book, *The Conservative Sensibility*, an examination of how the Founders’ belief in natural rights created a great American political tradition.

7:30 p.m. // Gannon University Hammermill Center, South Park Row and Peach St.

**Monday, Nov. 11**  
**Campaign 2020: Trump, the Democrats, and Road to the White House with Steve Scully, Mary Katharine Ham, Karen Tumulty, and Alexi McCammond**

November 3, 2020 will mark the 59th U.S. presidential election. And while

the parties’ caucuses don’t begin until February 2020, the race is already in full swing. Prepare for the 2020 presidential campaign with those on the front lines of the national political debate. The U.S. military, climate change, the economy, gun control, abortion, and Trump’s fitness to lead are just some of the top issues on the table that will play a defining role in the voter’s decision. Perspective and insights into all these issues and more will be on the table during this discussion.

Moderated by Erie’s own Steve Scully (the voice of C-SPAN and Chairman of the Global Summit), this discussion will feature: Mary Katharine Ham, an American conservative journalist, contributing editor for *Townhall Magazine*, senior writer at *The Federalist*, and CNN contributor; Karen Tumulty, a political columnist for The Washington Post, previously serving at *TIME* magazine for 15 years in the same capacity, where she wrote or co-wrote more than 15 cover pieces for the publication; and Alexi McCammond, political editor for *Axios*, previously reporting from the Democratic National Convention, the presidential debates, and President Trump’s inauguration.

7:30 p.m. // Gannon University Yehl Ballroom, Waldron Campus Center, 124 W. Seventh St.

**Tuesday, Nov. 12**  
**American Life in Columns with Michael A. Smerconish**



Michael A. Smerconish is the host of the weekly television program on CNN aptly called *Smerconish*, the host of *The Michael Smerconish Program* on SiriusXM, and a newspaper columnist and author. An invitee to virtually every television program where politics is discussed, he has been a guest on *Colbert Report*, *Larry King Live*, and *Real Time With Bill Maher* — to name a few. In 2009, he became the first radio host to interview President Barack Obama



live in the White House (and was invited back on more than one occasion).

Smerconish would spend three decades of supporting candidates to the right, but publicly broke ranks with Republicans and endorsed then-candidate Barack Obama in a 2,000-word essay for *Salon* in October 2008.

Less than two years later he made the break official in a column, as he found most folks were “somewhere in the middle.” Keeping in theme, his most recent book, *Clowns to the Left of Me, Jokers to the Right: American Life in Columns*, will be the subject of the evening’s conversation.

7:30 p.m. // Gannon University’s Yehl Ballroom at Waldron Campus Center, 124 W. Seventh St.

**Wednesday, Nov. 13**  
**Understanding Lincoln: Life and Legacy of Our 16th President with Edna Greene Medford**



Although Edna Greene Medford is one of the nation’s foremost historians on President Abraham Lincoln, he wasn’t always her primary focus. Medford, a professor at Brown University, specialized in 19th-century African American history. But in the mid-’90s, an invitation from C-SPAN television network would send her career in a new direction. The television network was filming reenactments of the Lincoln-Douglas debates, and invited Medford to do on-air commentaries and lead workshops for their employees. Since that time she has penned *Lincoln and Emancipation* (2015) and co-authored *The Emancipation Proclamation: Three Views* (2016), and was awarded The Order of Lincoln Medallion for her work.

Medford earned a Ph.D. in History from the University of Maryland.

This presentation will explore the life and legacy of the 16th president of the United States.

7:30 p.m. // Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St.

**Thursday, Nov. 14**  
**Barbara Bush: The Making of an American Dynasty with Susan Page**



The Washington Bureau Chief of USA Today, Susan Page has covered six White House administrations and 10 presidential elections. She has interviewed the past nine presidents (three after they left office) and reported from six continents and dozens of foreign countries. Throughout her storied career, Page has won every journalism award given specifically for coverage of the White House, including twice receiving the Gerald R. Ford Prize for Distinguished Reporting on the Presidency.

And while her professional interviews with presidents is vast and varied, this event will focus on First Lady Barbara Bush in her critically acclaimed book, *The Matriarch: Barbara Bush and the Making of an American Dynasty*, which was published just this past April. The book is based on her close relationship and friendship with Mrs. Bush, along with extended interviews and access to her diaries.

7:30 p.m. // Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St.

**Friday, Nov. 15**  
**An Evening with Eleanor Smeal**

To say Eleanor Smeal’s accomplishments are noteworthy would be an understatement. Smeal, who was raised in Erie, is co-founder of The Feminist Majority Foundation and former three-term

president of the National Organization for Women (NOW), where she led the first national pro-choice march, drawing over 100,000 activists to Washington, DC. She served as publisher of *Ms. Magazine*; and helped lead women to several landmark legislative victories, including the Equal Credit Act, which makes it illegal for creditors to discriminate against applicants on basis of race, sex, religion, country of origin, marital status, or age. She also coined the term “gender gap,” observing the difference in the voting patterns of women and men, and has continually dedicated her life to the fight for women’s equality and human rights.



As 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing and protecting women’s constitutional right to vote, this evening will serve as an opportunity to explore its relevance to the issues of equal rights today with a primary focus on the modern-day American feminist movement.

Smeal will also be the recipient of the Jefferson Educational Society’s highest honor, the Hagen Dignitas Award.

7:30 p.m. // Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St.

Tickets are \$35 for each event, with a \$60 VIP option. Full Global Summit Passes are available for \$175, with a \$375 VIP option. Each event is free to students. VIP passes provide preferred seating. For tickets or more information call (814) 459-8000 or go to [jeserie.org](http://jeserie.org)

Rebecca Styn is VP of Ventures at Erie Innovation District and is the proprietor of Room 33 Speakeasy. She is also completing her Ph.D. in Leadership and Organizational Learning from Gannon University. Follow her on Twitter at [@rstyn](https://twitter.com/rstyn).

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Gentle Temper Soothes the Indie Folk Crowd at Lavery's



LEX PELLETIER

FRIDAY, OCT. 25

The Boston duo Gentle Temper will return to Lavery Brewing Co. for another remarkable performance. The band stopped by the local brewery on Aug. 1, and are happy to be back, having released their debut album, *Our Warm Red Light* in October of last year. A band beautifully hewn from oxymoronic connections, Gentle Temper combines dark tones and themes with an almost undeniably beautiful sonic landscape, exemplified by their opening track "Cut My Brakes." The group is comprised of

Ryan Meier and Marion Earley, and is a self-described "ocean-folk duo with a blues tide from the bay of Boston." Both members have gorgeous voices and play guitar and bass (respectively) during live sets. Perfectly tamed for fans of The Wild Reeds and Wild Child with their effortlessly ethereal harmonies, there's a bit of Shovels and Rope tossed in for good measure, especially in bluesy tracks like "Teeth For Diamonds" or "Ancient Tattoos." A hypnotically engulfing experience, their latest album is crystal clear, a meditative breeze wafting by, marked by minimalist instrumentation able to fill any space. In what promises to be an intimate experience, they'll be showcasing their songs in Lavery's main room for an evening that indie folk fans won't want to miss. — Nick Warren

7 p.m. to 10 p.m. (happy hour 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.) // Lavery Brewing Co., 128 W. 12th St. // Free // 21+ // laverybrewing.com

Film Society's Nightmare on State Street a Halloween Dream



FRIDAY, OCT. 25

The Halloween festivities continue as the Film Society of Northwestern Pennsylvania joins in by hosting their third annual costume party fundraiser, *A Nightmare on State Street*.

John C. Lyons, executive director of the Film Society, points out that "unlike most Halloween parties, ours is for a good cause: to support Erie-based filmmakers and help them make their next project in our region."

The Film Society, which was formed in 2009, holds a mission to "elevate Erie's film industry, empower regional filmmakers, and foster patronage for the art of film." By putting on this event they retain all proceeds raised and put them towards their newly founded Filmmakers Fund. This fund helps local creatives put their artistic vision to the screen, which is the first of its kind in this region. Also, proceeds will go toward their downtown

film series Film Grain: Dinner & Movie, held each Wednesday at Bourbon Barrel.

Besides being able to raise money for local artists, the Halloween party offers high dollar cash prizes for contests in both bull riding and best costumes (single/overall, movie theme, group, couple) valued at \$100 for each. The night — which will be hosted by Charles Brown and Jonny Evans and sponsored by R.Frank Photography and Velocity Network, Inc. — will also include flip cup competitions, basket raffles, 50/50, and a themed food spread. Celebrity bartenders will be mixing up specialty cocktails throughout the night as well. These bartenders include R.A. Mihailoff, who played Leatherface in *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre 3*, R.J. Messenger (Iron Empire, *Undercover Billionaire*), Ryan Bizzarro (PA Legislator), Rebecca Mae (who will be performing that evening), Rebecca Styn (owner of Room 33), and many more.

So if you're dying to have some fun during this spooky season, Lyons says, "it is a damn fun night out where creatives and the business community can cut loose together!" This is one nightmare you won't want to wake up from. — Symoné Crockett

7 p.m. // Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. // \$20 pre-sale (includes specialty cocktail and bull ride), \$20 at the door, \$10 with student ID // 18+, 21 w/ valid ID // filmsocietynwpa.org

This is a 'Ghouls Night Out' Courtesy of Eerie Eric and Erie Art Museum



NICK WARREN

FRIDAY, OCT. 25

Remember childhood Halloween? The gymnasium costume parade, winter coats for trick-or-treating (lucky Erie kids) and parents stealing all the Butterfingers?

You deserve an adult Halloween upgrade. Enter the Erie Art Museum's upcoming Halloween collab with beloved local artist (and tattooist at Wayward) Eric Fargiorgio, a.k.a. "Eerie Eric," the artist on display at the EAM for all of October and your Halloween party co-creator.

"The museum came to me for a 'monster takeover' last year [with] a scavenger hunt involving my art for the trick-or-treat children's events," Fargiorgio explained. "This year we will still have the children's trick or treating on October 27, but we also added for the first time the adult costume party."

Ghouls Night Out is the perfect opportunity for the 21+ crowd to flex their creativity, dress up in uber-creative ways,

and support the local arts scene.

For a minimal cover (which is waived for EAM members), guests are invited to mash-out to live music from Wave Trails and The Coffin Bangers and grooves from DJ Buttercup. Let the voices from beyond speak through Beth Ann Church's tarot skills (\$15/reading), or have a photo op with "Mr. Scratch" and an utterly macabre replica Texas electric chair.

"Electricity not included, but we can strap ya in if you dare!" Fargiorgio said gleefully.

Then there's the specialty drink at the bar, the raffle prize — an animatronic lunging scarecrow sure to terrify your neighbors — and the costume contest, which will feature some incredible prizes, including tickets to ARTrageous, a VIP table at Gallery Night, and an Eerie Eric painting.

And speaking of, Fargiorgio's work will be on sale, featuring his wildly popular (and brilliantly executed) altered thrift store paintings, as well as some original watercolors.

How's that to compensate you for those Halloweens spent trudging through snow? — Cara Suppa

7 p.m. to 11 p.m. // 20 E. 5th Street // \$5 for non-members, free for EAM members // [erieartmuseum.org/events/ghoulsnightout](http://erieartmuseum.org/events/ghoulsnightout)

Pickin' and Grinnin' at the Mound Strums Up Good Vibes



FRIDAY, OCT. 25

When legendary musician Sam Edelman showed Jean Criscione how to play "Jumpin' Jack Flash" on the mountain dulcimer, she told him about her job helping families at Gaudenzia. His response was to drive to Erie and do a workshop for the clients and their families. He's back again to headline a fundraiser for Gaudenzia's substance abuse, HIV/AIDS, and mental illness recovery programs. Criscione's favorite charity, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, will share in the proceeds, using the money to inspire hope in children with critical ill-

nesses.

Mound Grove donated their banquet facilities for the party which features four bluegrass-centric bands: The Lake Erie Banjo Club, Misery Bay Mountain Dulcimers, Edelson, and the Mountain Thyme Ramblers. Musician and comic Aaron Forsyth will be the evening's emcee. The kiddos will even have an opportunity to make their own instrument to play along with the twangy fun.

Your \$15 admission ticket gets you drinks and food, including Greek dogs and mac n' cheese from Federal Hill Smokehouse, as well as the best pie you may ever have from Meeder's restaurant. They also donated 15 pies for the Chinese auction, which includes \$3000 in other donated items. — Bryan Toy

4 p.m. to 9 p.m. // Mound Grove Golf Course, 10760 Donation Rd, Waterford, PA 16441 // Admission \$10 per person, \$15 with food (all proceeds benefit Gaudenzia Erie, Inc. and the Make-A-Wish Foundation) // [moundgrove.com](http://moundgrove.com)



Yoga With Goats Brings Smiles



to experience a new way to get in tune with self. Madara Farms was purchased by Amelia and Andrew in 2017 to harvest organic foods, care for animals, and sustain a meaningful living. “We purchased the property to have animals and live a more simplified lifestyle,” Amelia confirmed.

Fast forward two years later, and Erie’s idea of goat yoga was born at a candle-making class

at Candle Box Company where owner Leah Show and Show’s mother also pushed Mrs. Madara to seek out yoga specialists. Instructor Amy VanScoter, who also has a weekly class on Thursdays at School House Yoga Studio, was contacted to lead the four-legged sessions.

“At first I thought goat yoga was kind of a joke; very trendy,” VanScoter admitted. “I tend to be more traditional and spiritual with yoga. But, I love animals and was very excited to meet the goats.”

With positive reviews and a multitude of photos online of the Saturday morning classes, “Yoga with the Goats!” has been catching on, and the goats are enjoying themselves as well, invading one mat a time for smiles and laughs. — Charles Brown

*Saturdays 11 a.m. to noon, weather permitting // Madara Farms, 10031 Plum Rd. // \$20 (cash only) // facebook.com/goatyogaerie*

SATURDAY, OCT. 26

Yoga has always been one of the most effective means to soothe the mind, body, and soul. For centuries, it has been a universal way of practicing peace and harmony to center the human brain and calm the spirit. Many instructors around the world utilize different methods by adding ancient mantras and easy listening music to transcend the art form.

But with Amelia Madara (part-owner of Madara Farms with husband Andrew Madara), the decision to spice things up a bit turned their green pastures into a yoga mat for both human and furry friends. “Yoga with the Goats!” is a fun way to bring forth positive vibes with the innocent interaction with goats seeking love and attention.

Inspired by Breanna Miller, a dear friend of Amelia’s, the wellness event has been drawing people from the area

Musicianship at Its Best: Vince Gill Comes to the Warner Theater



JOHN SHEARER

SATURDAY, OCT. 26

As one of the most popular and most recorded singers of the past quarter-century, superstar Vince Gill has become one of the measures of excellence in country music. His vocal performances are often spellbinding, his songwriting emotionally powerful, and his guitar playing world-class.

Gill achieved his big breakthrough with “When I Call Your Name,” which won the Country Music Association’s Single of the Year award in 1989. Since then, he has won 17 more CMA honors, including Song of the Year four times — making him the most-awarded artist in that category in CMA history.

He dominated the screens of The Nashville Network (TNN) viewers with a cascade of hits in the early ‘90s, including “Never Knew Lonely,” “Look at Us,” and “I Still Believe in You.” His serious face and superb artistry told his sad love stories (just as any respectable country musician should).

Gill has received 21 Grammy Awards and has sold more than 26 million albums. He’s ranked 12th for winning the

most Grammy Awards (tied with Kanye West) and has won the most Grammys out of any male country artist.

In addition to his solo work, Gill was invited in 2017 to join the Eagles for a number of festival shows and has continued to join them since then. He is also a member of the Grammy-winning band The Time Jumpers.

Gill’s high pure tenor voice and unerring sense of harmony have caused dozens of artists — from Reba McEntire to Dolly Parton to Barbra Streisand — to embrace him as a duet partner. Recording the song “Heart of Love,” in 1993, he met one duet partner, Amy Grant, who would eventually become his wife. Gill and the iconic Christian music singer have been married since 2000.

He is also both a world-class guitar picker and a wide-ranging songwriter whose compositions earned him entry into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2005. Gill has made guest appearances on over 1,000 artists’ albums.

Gill, along with his top-notch band, will be performing at the Warner Theatre on Oct. 26. His touring band includes steel player Paul Franklin, keyboardist John Jarvis, drummer Billy Thomas, guitarist Charlie Worsham, guitarist Jedd Hughes, vocalist Wendy Moten, and bassist Jimmie Lee Sloas. — Marie Turko

*7:30 p.m. // Warner Theater, 811 State St. // \$62 // 814.452.4857 // For a full list of tour dates, news and more, visit vincegill.com*

MUSIC

Dave VanAmburg & Friends

Oct. 23, 25, 30, Nov. 1, 6 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
Bel-Aire Clarion, 2800 W. 8th St. belaireclarion.com.

Mercyhurst Concert Choir

Oct. 23 — 7 p.m.  
St. Mary’s Chapel at Mercyhurst North East, 48 N. Pearl St., North East, PA 16428 mercyhurst.edu.

Blue False Indigo

Oct. 23 — 7:30 to 11 p.m.  
Artlore Studio, 3406 W. Lake Rd. facebook.com.

MVP

Oct. 24, 31 — 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Dickey’s BBQ Pit, 3716 Liberty St. facebook.com.

The High Life

Oct. 24 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
The Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428 skunkandgoattavern.com.

Pickin’ & Grinnin’ at the Mound

Oct. 25 — 4 to 9 p.m.

Mound Grove Golf Course, 10760 Donation Rd., Waterford, PA 16441

Dan Baney Country Unplugged

Oct. 25 — 5 to 7 p.m.  
Churchill’s Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

Geek Army

Oct. 25 — 6 to 10 p.m.  
BIGBAR, 14 E. 10th St. bigbar.net.

Karl & Mark

Oct. 25 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
Churchill’s Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

2 For The Show

Oct. 25, Nov. 1 — 7 to 10 p.m.  
The Cork 1794, 900 W. Erie Plaza Dr. cork1794.com.

Gentle Temper

Oct. 25 — 7 to 10 p.m.  
Featuring beautiful male-female harmonies and a blues-tinged folk sound, Boston’s Gentle Temper returns to the Lavery brewpub.  
*Lavery Brewing Co., 128 W.*

*12th St. laverybrewing.com.*

My Gasoline Heart Album Release Party

Oct. 25 — 9 p.m. to midnight  
Fred Oakman and The Flood return to their hometown of Meadville to play Oakman’s new album, *My Gasoline Heart*, in its entirety.  
*Firehouse Tap & Grille, 875 Park Ave., Meadville, PA 16335 facebook.com.*

Fletcher’s Grove

Oct. 25 — 11 p.m.  
Created in 2009, Fletcher’s Grove is an Appalachian jam-rock and Americana band who has recorded one live album and five studio albums. After touring extensively, they are making a stop at King’s Rook Club in the upstairs lounge.  
*King’s Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com.*

Jesse James Weston

Oct. 26 — 5 to 7 p.m.  
Churchill’s Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

The Breeze Band

Oct. 26 — 6 to 10 p.m.  
BIGBAR, 14 E. 10th St. bigbar.net.

Maybelle and the Band

Oct. 26 — 7 to 10 p.m.  
The Cork 1794, 900 W. Erie Plaza Dr. cork1794.com.

A Nightmare on Sass St.

Oct. 26 — 7 p.m. to 3 a.m.  
Come in costume to A Nightmare on Sass St. to get in the Halloween spirit. There will be two stages: one for DJs like Natask, Ozztin, and DJC DUBZ, and another stage for rappers, including Chew Dollaz, Apollo, Ducky, and more.  
*Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. facebook.com.*

Vince Gill

Oct. 26 — 7:30 p.m.  
Warner Theatre, 811 State St. vincegill.com.

RootsCollider w RIZM

Oct. 26 — 9 p.m.  
Roots Collider returns to Erie to perform at King’s Rook Club following their debut set at Night

Lights Music Festival. Roots Collider layers electronic and original melodies and samples in an effort to super-collide dance music genres.  
*King’s Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com.*

Wave Trails, Half Glass

Oct. 26 — 10 p.m.  
Wave Trails brings its experimental and psychedelic rock sound to Jekyll & Hyde’s, accompanied by Half Glass.  
*Jekyll & Hyde’s, 8 E. 10th St. facebook.com.*

George and Ray

Oct. 27, Nov. 3 — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
The Cork 1794, 900 W. Erie Plaza Dr. cork1794.com.

Jamie Holka

Oct. 27 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
The Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428 skunkandgoattavern.com.

Piano Man

Oct. 27 — 1 to 4 p.m.  
Arundel Cellars & Brewing, 11727 E. Main St., North East, PA 16428 arundelcellars.com.

Mercyhurst University Wind Ensemble

Oct. 27 — 4 p.m.  
Mary D’Angelo Performing Arts Center, 501 E. 38th St. mercyhurst.edu.

Erie Philharmonic Chorus

Oct. 27 — 4 to 6 p.m.  
This choral concert will feature the vocal talents of the Erie Philharmonic Chorus as well as the newly-formed Chamber Choir.  
*Strong Vincent Middle School, 1330 W. 8th St. eriephil.org.*

Awake at Last, Shiver, DAMN Nation

Oct. 27 — 7:30 to 11 p.m.  
PACA, 1505 State St. (2nd Fl.) facebook.com.

ZZ Top wsg Ghost Hounds

Oct. 29 — 7:30 p.m.  
Warner Theatre, 811 State St. zztop.com.

Katie and Jesse

Oct. 31 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
The Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428 skunkandgoattavern.com.

Small Town Revolution



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# OH SOLO WAINWRIGHT: AN EVENING WITH RUFUS

**“One of the great  
composers and  
lyricists of the  
21st century.”**

**- Rolling Stone**



**SATURDAY, NOV. 2 • 7:30 p.m.**

Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

**Praised by the *New York Times* for his “genuine originality,”  
Rufus Wainwright has established himself as one of the great male  
vocalists and songwriters of his generation.**



# GLOBAL SUMMIT XI




**Camille Busette**  
Thinking Differently about  
Race and Belonging  
Monday, Oct. 28, 2019  
7:30 p.m.



**Patricia Glibert**  
Harmful Algal Blooms:  
A Threat to the Waters of  
the World  
Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2019  
7:30 p.m.



**Kelly Ann Shaw**  
Trump's International  
Trade Policies and  
How They Affect the  
Erie Region  
Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2019  
7:30 p.m.



**Avi Loeb**  
Extraterrestrial Life:  
Are We Alone?  
Friday, November 1, 2019  
7:30 p.m.



**Chuck Hagel**  
An Evening with  
Chuck Hagel  
Moderated by Tom Ridge  
Monday, Nov. 4, 2019  
7:30 p.m.



**Sean Spicer**  
The Briefing: Politics, the  
Press, and the President  
Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019  
7:30 p.m.



**George Will**  
An Evening with  
George Will  
Thursday, Nov. 7, 2019  
7:30 p.m.



MARY KATHARINE HAM



ALEXI MCCAMMOND



KAREN TUMULTY



STEVE SCULLY

### White House Media Panel

Campaign 2020: Trump, Democrats, and Road to the White House  
Moderated by Steve Scully featuring Mary Katharine Ham,  
Alexi McCammond, and Karen Tumulty  
Monday, Nov. 11, 2019 • 7:30 p.m.



**Michael Smerconish**  
American Life in Columns  
Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2019  
7:30 p.m.



**Edna Greene Medford**  
Understanding Lincoln:  
Life and Legacy of  
Our 16th President  
Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2019  
7:30 p.m.



**Susan Page**  
Barbara Bush: The Making  
of an American Dynasty  
Thursday, Nov. 14, 2019  
7:30 p.m.



**Eleanor Smeal**  
An Evening with  
Eleanor Smeal  
Friday, Nov. 15, 2019  
7:30 p.m.



The  
Thomas B. Hagen  
Dignitas Award  
Recipient



## Long in the Beard, Long in Staying Power

ZZ Top still draws crowds



**Drummer Frank Beard (left), guitarist Billy Gibbons (center), and bassist Dusty Hill (right) of ZZ Top remain beloved elder statesmen of blues rock, having formed the band in Texas over 50 years ago.**

ROSS HALFIN

recalled in a late-August phone interview. "We knew something

TUESDAY, OCT. 29

Hard to believe, but that "Little Ol Band from Texas," otherwise known as ZZ Top, has been bringing their unique brand of Lone Star blues-rock to audiences for 50 years now. That longevity is notable enough, and what's even more impressive is it's been the same three musicians — singer/guitarist Billy F. Gibbons, bassist/singer Dusty Hill, and drummer Frank Beard (famously the least bearded member of the band) — for the entire ride, and for almost all of those five decades, this trio has managed and maintained arena-level popularity.

The sound and personal chemistry, it turns out, is something Gibbons, Hill, and Beard have experienced literally from the first notes they played together.

"Funny thing, our first, I'll call it 'jam session' together, Dusty was in line to pick up the bass guitar and throw his hat into the ring. And what was going to start up as a three-minute shuffle in C turned out to be a three-hour jam session," Gibbons

was cooking."

That initial jam session is recalled quite colorfully in the new career-spanning ZZ Top documentary, *That Little Ol' Band from Texas*. The film, directed by Sam Dunn, hits a lot of highlights, including how ZZ Top got started, how the group got its distinctive high-powered sound and the 1980s reboot that saw the band reach a peak in popularity and become MTV darlings.

"I think the word is 'congratulations' to the director," Gibbons said, offering his take on the documentary. "Where he came up with some of that interesting early footage is beyond us. There were things that we had never seen."

In tandem with the premiere of *That Little Ol' Band From Texas* is celebrating their 50th anniversary in the most appropriate way — with an extensive tour.

Representing 50 years of music in one show wasn't easy, but Gibbons thinks ZZ Top's current show meets that goal.

"It's a tough call," Gibbons said of choosing which songs to play. "We've got

a soft spot in the middle of the show. We kind of rotate filling in the blanks ... At the same time, there are a handful of numbers that we just can't let the night go without laying down ... It's a well-rounded set list, all in all."

In ZZ Top's early years (even after the group notched a breakthrough hit with the song "La Grange" from its third album, *Tres Hombres*) the music press seemingly didn't quite know what to make of the band's blues-rooted, Texas-infused style of rock. That's a key reason why the band decided to bring a bit of the Lone Star State to the rest of the country in the mid-1970s on the "Worldwide Texas" tour. The famous outing had the band joined on stage by live animals, including a buffalo, a steer, and a buzzard, the latter of which hung out near Beard's drum set.

"The only time it got sticky was when the buffalo made his escape," Gibbons recalled. "One afternoon we played Three Rivers Stadium, and I'll never forget seeing the trainer in a golf cart trying to catch up to the buffalo stampeding and zig-zagging across third base to home plate."

ZZ Top stayed popular into the early 1980s, when a convergence of factors — the arrival of sequencers and other recording tools, the debut of MTV (which aired the groundbreaking videos for the hit songs "Legs," "Gimme All your Lovin'" and "Sharp Dressed Man") and some inspired songwriting — made ZZ Top mega-platinum superstars (with Gibbons and Hill debuting their newly grown out-

sized beards).

The makeover in the ZZ Top sound wasn't planned, but the group liked the new sonic toys.

"We still had one foot in the blues," Gibbons said of the band's updated '80s sound. "It really anchored what ZZ Top was all about. We never strayed all that far away from it."

Indeed, after reaching their commercial peak with *Eliminator* and the sonically similar *Afterburner* (1985) and *Recycler* (1990), ZZ Top have returned to more of a stripped back bluesy guitar sound on their most recent albums — *La Futura* (2012), *Mescalero* (2003) and *XXX* (1999). Sales of those albums have fallen off, but ZZ Top remains a touring powerhouse.

Gibbons said ZZ Top may still have more albums to make. In recent years, though, Gibbons has stepped out as a solo artist, releasing the Cuban/Latin-influenced *Perfectamundo* in 2015, followed by the aptly titled *The Big Bad Blues* in 2018.

Gibbons said he's just gotten the green light from Concord Records to make a third solo album, but said ZZ Top will remain busy as well.

"The only challenge is finding time to do both ZZ Top and stay on the solo tip," he said. "But we'll manage to do both. We're never too far, yeah, the road takes us away from home, but we're never too far from getting back to the roots and getting back to the studio." — Alan Sculley

7:30 p.m. // Warner Theatre, 811 State St. // \$87-\$97 // [eriewarnertheatre.com](http://eriewarnertheatre.com)

Nov. 1 — 6 to 10 p.m.

BIGBAR, 14 E. 10th St. [bigbar.net](http://bigbar.net).

### JD Blues & Jazz

Nov. 1 — 7 p.m.  
Room 33, 1033 State St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Litz

Nov. 1 — 10 p.m.  
Maryland jam quartet fuses electronic funk with psychedelia. Join them in the Rook's downstairs complex (\$10 for members, \$15 for non-members — includes membership). *King's Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com*.

### Hear No Evil

Nov. 2 — 6 to 10 p.m.  
BIGBAR, 14 E. 10th St. [bigbar.net](http://bigbar.net).

### Doug Phillips Duo

Nov. 2 — 7 to 10 p.m.  
The Cork 1794, 900 W. Erie Plaza Dr. [cork1794.com](http://cork1794.com).

### Rufus Wainwright

Nov. 2 — 7:30 p.m.

Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center, 501 E. 38th St. [miac.mercyhurst.edu](http://miac.mercyhurst.edu).

### The Hounds of Hasselvander

Nov. 2 — 8 p.m. to midnight  
Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11th St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Witty Tarbox

Nov. 3 — 11 p.m.  
Surf riffs and indie melodies ride a wave of funk into the Rook's upstairs lounge. *King's Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com*.

### Doug Phillips Trio

Nov. 3 — 1 to 4 p.m.  
Arundel Cellars & Brewing, 11727 E. Main St., North East, PA 16428 [arundelcellars.com](http://arundelcellars.com).

### Heather Pierson Acoustic Trio

Nov. 3 — 7 p.m.  
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy. [heatherpierson.com](http://heatherpierson.com).

### Blues Jam & Open Mic

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

### America Part Two

Nov. 5 — 7:30 to 11 p.m.  
PACA, 1505 State St. (2nd Fl.) [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Music at Noon: Aritmia

Nov. 6 — noon to 1 p.m.  
Reed Union Bldg. at Penn St. Behrend, 4701 College Dr. [behrend.psu.edu](http://behrend.psu.edu).

## DANCE

### We Love Our Members Social Dance

Nov. 2 — 6:30 to 10 p.m.  
St. John's Lutheran Parish Center, 2216 Peach St. [usadance.org](http://usadance.org).

## FOOD & DRINK

### Urban Cowboy Celebrity

### Bartender Party

Oct. 24 — 5 p.m.  
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. [bourbonbarrelerie.com](http://bourbonbarrelerie.com).

### Meet the Winemaker

Oct. 24 — 5 to 7 p.m.  
The Cork 1794, 900 W. Erie Plaza Dr. [cork1794.com](http://cork1794.com).

### Erie City Mission Annual Banquet

Oct. 24, 25 — 5 to 8 p.m.  
Gather to celebrate 108 years of service in the Erie community with this dinner and program at the Erie City Mission. *Erie City Mission, 1017 French St. facebook.com*.

### Mercyhurst North East Fall Dining Series

Oct. 24, Nov. 7 — 6 p.m.  
Mercyhurst North East, 16 W. Division St., North East, PA 16428 [mercyhurst.edu](http://mercyhurst.edu).

### Downtown Erie Food Tour

Oct. 26 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Like My Thai, 827 State St. [eriefoodtours.com](http://eriefoodtours.com).

### North East Food Tour

Oct. 26 — 1 to 4 p.m.  
Little Shop of Donuts, 36 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428 [eriefoodtours.com](http://eriefoodtours.com).

### Boos & Blues

Halloween Party  
Oct. 26 — 7 p.m. to midnight  
Room 33, 1033 State St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

### Harvest Celebration Weekend 1

Nov. 1 — noon to 5 p.m. & Nov. 2 — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. & Nov. 3 — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Embark on a tour of picturesque Lake Erie Wine Country, featuring food and wine sample pairings and a commemorative wine glass. *Various locations la-keeriewinecountry.org*.

### Bloody Mary Sunday Funday

Nov. 3 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Luminary Distilling, 8270 Peach St. [300facebook.com](http://300facebook.com).

### Meals on Wheels

Erie Food Tasting  
Nov. 4 — 4 to 5:30 p.m.  
LECOM Sr. Living Center, 5535 Peach St. [mealsonwheelserie.org](http://mealsonwheelserie.org).

## MOVIES

### The Uninvited (1944)

Oct. 23 — 6 p.m.  
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. [filmsocietynwpa.org](http://filmsocietynwpa.org).

### Iron Jawed Angels

Oct. 23 — 6 to 8 p.m.  
The Erie County Chapter of the League of Women Voters hosts the showing of *Iron Jawed Angels*, the story of women's rights activist Alice Paul during the women's suffrage movement. *Woman's Club of Erie, 259 W. 6th St. facebook.com*.



Jeff Dunham Hosts Irreverent Comedy Performance at Warner Theatre



Ventriloquist and comedian Jeff Dunham brings his motley crew of kooky characters to the Warner Theatre on Sunday, Oct. 27.

Comedy Central in addition to two Netflix specials, the most recent of which is entitled *Jeff Dunham: Beside Himself*, and was released in September of this year. During this recent production — filmed in front of 16,000 fans in his hometown of Dallas — Dunham introduced his newest character, Larry, a presidential advisor. After a very impressive first performance, Larry earned his spot on the tour and is now traveling with Dunham as he visits cities in the contiguous U.S. and Canada before embarking on an international tour.

Dunham's Erie show will be a relatively intimate break from his typical arena-sized performances and a treat for lovers of unique comedy experiences. — Hannah McDonald

3 p.m. // 811 State St. // All Ages // Price Varies // 814-452-4857 // [eriewarnertheatre.com](http://eriewarnertheatre.com)

SUNDAY, OCT. 27

Jeff Dunham is coming to Erie's Warner Theatre for a night of stand-up comedy and puppeteering as part of his latest North American tour.

The often irreverent Texas-born comedian and ventriloquist has been a force in comedy for decades, appearing in a long list of television shows, which include *Late Show with David Letterman*, *Comedy Central Presents*, and *The Tonight Show*.

Dunham has six specials that run on

Treat Yourself to Something 'Beautiful' at Warner Theatre



JOAN MARCUS

THURSDAY, OCT. 31 - NOV. 1

Musical prodigies tend to show their gifts when quite young. Mozart composed from the age of five. Alma Deutscher, who was recently featured on *60 Minutes*, debuted her first opera at 10.

And Carole King began to garner notice at age three, when her parents discovered she had perfect pitch and would show off her talents to visiting friends.

Little did they know that decades later she would be one of the most popular and influential pop icons in the world, with 118 hits charted on the Billboard Hot 100.

The story of her rise to fame is likely surprising for those who weren't alive at the time of her smash hit album *Tapestry* in 1971; she worked behind the scenes throughout the '60s, writing song after song with her husband and collabora-

tor Gerry Goffin, whom she had married when she was only 17. Before long they were also teaming up (and competing) with fellow songwriting duo Cynthia Weil and Barry Mann, who would remain lifelong friends.

This is the story that *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* tells: the making of a legend and an icon, from her early days as a songwriter, her complicated and eventually failed marriage, and then the courage she finds to finally set out on her own — and make the earth move with her music.

The *Beautiful* tour has a two-night engagement in Erie, in the glorious Warner Theatre downtown, and it features a book by Douglas McGrath and choreography by Josh Prince, under the direction of Marc Bruni.

It is worth noting that, via the official *Beautiful* website, this musical — which originally opened on Broadway in 2014 (with Kennedy Caughell as Carole) — will be closing its Broadway run on October 27. All the more reason to treat yourself to something "beautiful" right here in Erie. — Cara Suppa

7:30 p.m. (both shows) // 811 State Street // \$44-79 (see website URL for full ticket options) // [nacentertainment.com](http://nacentertainment.com)

Sustainability Film Series: Wall-E

Oct. 23 — 8:15 p.m.  
Trippie Hall at Penn St. Behrend, Aquarius Dr. [behrend.psu.edu](http://behrend.psu.edu).

Halloween III: Season of the Witch (1982)

Oct. 25 — 8 p.m.  
Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. [eriemoviehouse.com](http://eriemoviehouse.com).

Patient No More

Oct. 30 — 7 p.m.  
Reed Union Bldg. at Penn St. Behrend, 4701 College Dr. [behrend.psu.edu](http://behrend.psu.edu).

Midsommar (2019)

Oct. 30 — 6 p.m.  
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. [filmsocietynwpa.org](http://filmsocietynwpa.org).

Spine Chiller (2019)

Oct. 31 — 8 p.m.  
Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. [eriemoviehouse.com](http://eriemoviehouse.com).

There's Nobody at the Bridge

Nov. 2 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. [eriemoviehouse.com](http://eriemoviehouse.com).

Pain Warriors (2019)

Nov. 3 — 3 to 5 p.m.  
This documentary film by Tina Petrova and Eugene Weis tackles the other side of the opioid crisis, that of undertreated and over-stigmatized patients suffering from chronic pain.  
Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake

[Rd.eriemoviehouse.com](http://Rd.eriemoviehouse.com).

Sustainability Film Series: The Lorax

Nov. 5 — 7:30 p.m. & Nov. 6 — 8:15 p.m.  
Trippie Hall at Penn St. Behrend, Aquarius Dr. [behrend.psu.edu](http://behrend.psu.edu).

Be Natural: The Untold Story of Alice Guy-Blaché (2019)

Nov. 6 — 6 p.m.  
This documentary chronicles the unfairly forgotten legacy of Alice-Guy Blaché, who from 1896 to 1906 was the only female filmmaker in the world. Her experiments with sound-syncing, color-tinting, interracial casting, and special effects were ahead of her time.  
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. [filmsocietynwpa.org](http://filmsocietynwpa.org).

VISUAL ARTS

Canvas Class

Oct. 23, 28 — 6 to 8 p.m.  
Claytopia, 924 W. Erie Plaza Dr. [claytopiaerie.com](http://claytopiaerie.com).

Adult Art Classes: Painting Flowers w Soft Pastels

Oct. 23 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
LEAF Education Center, 1501 W. 6th St. [leaferie.org](http://leaferie.org).

Cocktails and Clay

Oct. 24, 25 — 6 p.m.  
Erie ClaySpace, 1505 State

St. (3rd Fl.) [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com).

Too Cute to Spook Polymer Clay Class

Oct. 24 — 6 to 8 p.m.  
Claytopia, 924 W. Erie Plaza Dr. [claytopiaerie.com](http://claytopiaerie.com).

Pumpkin Carving

Oct. 24 — 6 to 8:30 p.m.  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

Coming Home: Reentry After Incarceration

Ongoing through Oct. 26  
Cummings Art Gallery at Mercyhurst Univ., 501 E. 38th St. [mercyhurst.edu](http://mercyhurst.edu).

Port Erie Pumpkin Decorating

Oct. 27 — 2 to 4 p.m.  
Erie Land Lighthouse, 2 Lighthouse St. [porterie.org](http://porterie.org).

Monday Makers: Open Drawing Sessions

Oct. 28 — 6 to 8 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [erielibrary.org](http://erielibrary.org).

Dragon Egg Class

Oct. 29 — 6 to 8 p.m.  
Claytopia, 924 W. Erie Plaza Dr. [claytopiaerie.com](http://claytopiaerie.com).

Adult Art Classes: Drawing Still Lifes w Pen & Ink

Oct. 30, Nov. 6 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
LEAF Education Center, 1501 W. 6th St. [leaferie.org](http://leaferie.org).

Fiber Arts: Hook &

Needle Club

Nov. 1 — 2 to 4 p.m.  
Millcreek Branch Library, 2088 Interchange Rd. Ste. 280 [events.erielibrary.org](http://events.erielibrary.org).

Hands-On: The Best Of

Nov. 1 — 6 to 7:30 p.m.  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

Make and Play

Nov. 2 — 2 to 4 p.m.  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

National Collage Society Juried Exhibit

Opening Nov. 4, ongoing through Dec. 7 thereafter  
Cummings Art Gallery at Mercyhurst Univ., 501 E. 38th St. [mercyhurst.edu](http://mercyhurst.edu).

Art & Music; Heart & Soul

Nov. 6 — 3 to 8 p.m.  
World of Music, 1355 W. 26th St. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

Found Object Art Show

Ongoing through Nov. 9  
Gallery 104, 220 W. Plum St., Edinboro, PA 16412 [erieartsandculture.org](http://erieartsandculture.org).

Annoel Krider: Fragments of Memory

Ongoing through Nov. 19  
Glass Growers Gallery, 10 E. 5th St. [glassgrowersgallery.com](http://glassgrowersgallery.com).

Everything But The Shelves

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

St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

Women's Suffrage in Erie County

Ongoing through Dec. 25  
Watson-Curtze Mansion, 356 W. 6th St. [eriehistory.com](http://eriehistory.com).

Ashley Pastore: Everyday Monumental

Ongoing through Mar. 2020  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

Chuck Johnson Sculptures

Ongoing through Jun. 1, 2020  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

Iverd Exhibit

Ongoing through Jun. 2020  
Watson-Curtze Mansion, 356 W. 6th St. [eriehistory.com](http://eriehistory.com).

Expanded Griswold Exhibit

Ongoing through Jun. 2020  
Watson-Curtze Mansion, 356 W. 6th St. [eriehistory.com](http://eriehistory.com).

Brett Kern: The Lost World

Ongoing  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

Chuck, Up Close

Ongoing  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

THEATER

Night of the Living Dead: The Musical

Oct. 25, 26 — 8 p.m.  
PACA, 1505 State St. [pacal505.org](http://pacal505.org).

A Canterbury Feast

Oct. 26, Nov. 2 — 5:30 p.m. & Oct. 27, Nov. 3 — 2:30 p.m. & Nov. 1 — 7 p.m.  
Station Dinner Theatre, 4940 Peach St. [canterburyfeast.com](http://canterburyfeast.com).

Beautiful: The Carole King Musical

Oct. 31, Nov. 1 — 7:30 p.m.  
Warner Theatre, 811 State St. [nacentertainment.com](http://nacentertainment.com).

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

Nov. 1, 2 — 7:30 p.m.  
Erie Playhouse, 13 W. 10th St. [erieplayhouse.org](http://erieplayhouse.org).

COMEDY

Jeff Dunham: Seriously?

Oct. 27 — 3 p.m.  
Warner Theatre, 811 State St. [jeffdunham.com](http://jeffdunham.com).

SPORTS

Erie Otters vs. London Knights

Oct. 26 — 7 p.m.  
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. [ottershockey.com](http://ottershockey.com).

SafeNet's Boo Run

Oct. 27 — 9 a.m.  
Rotary Pavilion at PI State Park,



The Erie Playhouse's Curious Incident



MEGS HARRISON

Luke Bongiorno (center) stars as Christopher in the Erie Playhouse production of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, a play highly regarded for its gripping mystery and thoughtful treatment of its autistic protagonist's condition.

loved ones.

"*Curious Incident* is an incredible piece of theater that I've been drawn to since it debuted," said Kate Neubert-Lechner, "When we were constructing our season, 'Mystery, Mischief, & Mayhem,' this was one of the first pieces that came to mind," she continued.

"I love the style of onstage storytelling that the show supports. The show takes you inside Christopher's mind and reveals how he sees the world, so it relies very heavily on the actors, production team, and audiences to use their imagination and think outside of the box."

Some readers may be having déjà vu, thinking they've read this spotlight before. They have, in summer 2018 when Erie's Dramashop did the same play, but according to Neubert-Lechner, that's part of the fun. She said that "The beauty of creating theater is that it's never the same way twice and that's especially true of this show. Every director approaches the same story in a different way and every actor finds different things in the same character, so even if the words and the story are the same, the show and sometimes the message or themes the audience sees are not the same."

— Hannah McDonald

Running Nov. 1 to Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m., 2 p.m. Sundays // Erie Playhouse, 13 W. 10th St. // All ages // \$13.95 - \$20.75, \$12 for students // [erieplayhouse.org](http://erieplayhouse.org)

FRIDAY, NOV. 1

The death of a beloved neighbor's dog is troubling to most, though especially so to Christopher. He's 15, highly intelligent, and dedicated to finding out what really happened to his local canine neighbor, who died under mysterious circumstances. To find answers, this young math whiz turns his attention from arithmetic to amateur detective work in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* which will be on the mainstage of the Erie Playhouse throughout early November.

Comparing himself to Sherlock Holmes, Christopher (portrayed by recent Cathedral Prep graduate Luke Bongiorno) searches for the dog's murderer. His quest leads him to challenging confrontations, the most notable of which is with his father Ed (Ken Brundage). The audience soon learns that Christopher is on the autism spectrum. His condition is delved into as onlookers get to know the main character and follow him through his often challenging interactions with strangers and

1 Peninsula Dr. [safenerie.org](http://safenerie.org).

**Mid-Atlantic Broomball Tournament**

Nov. 2, 3  
Loosely described as a combination of hockey, soccer, and lacrosse, broomball involves sweeping an inflatable rubber ball across a skating rink — in specialized shoes.  
[ERIEBANK Sports Park, 8155 Olivier Rd. pittsburghbroomball.org](http://ERIEBANKSportsPark,8155OlivierRd.pittsburghbroomball.org).

**Erie Otters vs. Ottawa 67s**

Nov. 2 — 7 p.m.  
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. [ottershockey.com](http://ottershockey.com).

**Erie Otters vs. Niagara IceDogs**

Nov. 3 — 2 p.m.  
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. [ottershockey.com](http://ottershockey.com).

COMMUNITY

**2019 Fall for Arts & Culture**

Oct. 23 — 5:30 p.m. (enhanced), 7 p.m. (main)  
Temple Anshe Hessed, 930 Liberty St. [erieartsandculture.org](http://erieartsandculture.org).

**Harborcreek Supervisors Debate**

Oct. 23 — 6 p.m.  
Reed Union Bldg. at Penn St. Behrend, 4701 College Dr. [behrend.psu.edu](http://behrend.psu.edu).

**Port Farms Harvest Festival**

Oct. 23, 28 — 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. & Oct. 24, 25, 31 — 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. & Oct. 26, 27 — 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Port Farms, 2055 Stone Quarry Rd., Waterford, PA 16441 [portfarms.com](http://portfarms.com).

**ZooBoo 2019**

Oct. 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30 — 6 to 9 p.m. & Oct. 26 — 2 to 9 p.m.  
Erie Zoo, 423 W. 38th St. [eriezoo.org](http://eriezoo.org).

**The Berlin Wall: Thirty Years Later**

Oct. 23 — 7 p.m.  
Walker Recital Hall at Mercyhurst Univ., 501 E. 38th St. [mercyhurst.edu](http://mercyhurst.edu).

**Haunted History Tours**

Oct. 23, 28, 29, 30 — 7:30 p.m. & Oct. 25, Nov. 1 — 7 or 9:30 p.m.  
The Brewerrie at Union Station, 123 W. 14th St. [brewerrie.com](http://brewerrie.com).

**Mystery and Fiction Book Sale**

Oct. 24 — 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. & Oct. 25 — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. & Oct. 26 — 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. [erielibrary.org](http://erielibrary.org).

**Pro Patria Mori: Poetry and the Great War**

Oct. 24 — 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.  
Diebold Center for the Performing Arts, 217 Meadville St., Edinboro, PA 16444 [events.edinboro.edu](http://events.edinboro.edu).

**Smith Creative Writing Reading Series: Clare Beams**

Oct. 24 — 5:30 p.m.

Accomplished fiction author Clare Beams, lecturer at Carnegie Mellon University and St. Vincent College, will read at Behrend's Smith Creative Writing Reading Series following a reception.  
*Metzgar Lobby at Penn St. Behrend, 4701 College Dr. [behrend.psu.edu](http://behrend.psu.edu).*

**Beginning Genealogy**

Oct. 25 — 10 a.m. to noon  
Edinboro Branch Library, 413 W. Plum St., Edinboro, PA 16412 [events.erielibrary.org](http://events.erielibrary.org).

**Sensory Day**

Oct. 25 — 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Splash Lagoon, 8091 Peach St. [splashlagoon.com](http://splashlagoon.com).

**Fall Foliage Day Sail Onboard the Lettie G. Howard**

Oct. 25, 26 — 2:30 to 4 p.m. or 5 to 7 p.m.  
Erie Maritime Museum, 150 E. Front St. [flagshipniagara.org](http://flagshipniagara.org).

**A Nightmare on State Street**

Oct. 25 — 5 p.m.  
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. [bourbonbarrelerie.com](http://bourbonbarrelerie.com).

**Centennial of the 19th Amendment**

Oct. 25 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
The Erie County Chapter of the League of Women Voters will celebrate the past 100 years of fashion, hair, and art with a

decades/fashion show and live music by Stephen Trohoske.  
*Artlore Studio, 3406 W. Lake Rd. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).*

**Guest Speaker James McCann**

Oct. 25 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
The Little Church on the Hill, 10410 High St., Albion, PA 16401 [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

**Ghouls Night Out**

Oct. 25 — 7 to 11 p.m.  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. [erieartmuseum.org](http://erieartmuseum.org).

**Spooky Hayride & Walk of Darkness**

Oct. 25, 26 — 7:30 p.m.  
Sparrow Pond Campground, 11103 Rt. 19N, Waterford, PA 16441 [sparrowpond.com](http://sparrowpond.com).

**An Evening of Spirit**

Oct. 25 — 7:30 p.m.  
The Academy Theatre, 275 Chestnut St., Meadville, PA 16335 [theacademytheatre.org](http://theacademytheatre.org).

**Haunted House**

Oct. 25, 26 — 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.  
Presque Isle Wine Cellars, 9440 W. Main Rd., North East, PA 16428 [piwine.com](http://piwine.com).

**SoulCollage as Mindful Self-Care**

Oct. 26 — 10 a.m. to noon  
Thrive Therapy Space, 3910 Caughey Rd. Ste. 120 [artforwellbeingeverywhere.com](http://artforwellbeingeverywhere.com)

**TREC or Treat**

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VOTING CLOSSES SATURDAY, NOV. 30





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Saturday  
October 26, 2019**

**Party: 3pm -9pm**

**A Waffle Miracle food truck will be here to satisfy your gluttony.**

**Costumes Encouraged**



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www.wbu.com/erie

## CALENDAR

Oh Solo Wainwright: An Evening with Rufus Comes to the MIAC



**SATURDAY, NOV. 2**

Next Saturday, indie pop music fans in Erie will receive a treat in the form of popular “baroque pop” songwriter Rufus Wainwright performing at Mercyhurst University. Brett Johnson, director of the Mercyhurst Institute of Arts and Culture, wastes no time praising the artist’s authentic work.

“Rufus Wainwright is one of the greatest singer-songwriters of his generation,” Johnson says. “Erie audiences are in for a treat when he takes the stage of the Mary D’Angelo Performing Arts Center on Nov. 2.”

Wainwright, who has released seven studio albums, three DVDs, and three live albums, has been celebrated by the New York Times for his “genuine originality.” He’s sure to bring some of that along with him for his current stage show, “Oh Solo Wainwright: An Evening with Ru-

fus.”

During his live sets, Wainwright switches between piano and guitar, and this aptly named 22-date tour finds himself unaccompanied throughout the performance.

Wainwright’s most recent album was 2016’s *Take All My Loves: 9 Shakespeare Sonnets*. The collection featuring sonnets set to music stands as a unique tribute to Shakespeare, released a day before the 400th anniversary of his death. It showcases collaborations with the likes of Helena Bonham Carter, William Shatner, and the late Carrie Fischer, along with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and many others.

In addition to his more traditional recordings, Wainwright has also penned two full-length operas. His first, *Prima Donna*, premiered in July of 2009 at the Manchester International Festival, with production at London’s Sadler’s Wells Theatre mounting in April 2010 (and later productions in Toronto and Brooklyn). It was relaunched in 2015 with acclaimed photographer Cindy Sherman in the title role. His second opera *Hadrian* — about the Roman emperor’s relationship with his young consort Antinous — premiered in Toronto with the Canadian Opera Company in 2018.

Show up to the Mary D’Angelo Performing Arts Center and witness one of pop’s brightest collaborators at work. — Aaron Mook

7:30 p.m. // Mary D’Angelo Performing Arts Center, 501 E. 38th St. // Students & youth \$26, seniors \$31, adults \$36 // [miac.mercyhurst.edu/](http://miac.mercyhurst.edu/)

**PLYMOUTH**  
THE  
TAVERN & RESTAURANT

**Costume Party  
Saturday, Oct 26th  
Registration at 9pm**

**Saturday  
Specials**

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Something Blue Moon Long Labatt’s  
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Plymouth  
prize pack**

814.453.6454  
1109 State St.

Oct. 26 — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Tom Ridge Environmental  
Center, 301 Peninsula Dr.  
[events.dcnr.pa.gov](http://events.dcnr.pa.gov)

**Erie Guild of Craftsmen  
2019 Fall Craft Show**

Oct. 26, 27 — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
The Erie Guild of Craftsmen’s Fall  
Craft Show will have demonstra-  
tions for different crafts, includ-  
ing sewing, crocheting, painting,  
papermaking, and more, along  
with handmade items for sale.  
Kids can come too, with the  
Kid’s Make and Take station  
and Seed Flower Workshop.  
*Zem Zem Shrine Club,*  
2525 W. 38th St. [erie-  
guildofcraftsmen.com](http://erie-<br/>guildofcraftsmen.com).

**Boo at the Lagoon**

Oct. 26 — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Splash Lagoon, 8091 Peach  
St. [splashtagoon.com](http://splashtagoon.com).

**Halloween Spooktacular**

Oct. 26 — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Erie Maritime Museum, 150 E.  
Front St. [flagshipniagara.org](http://flagshipniagara.org).

**Eerie Fall Fest**

Oct. 26 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
A great festival for families,  
this event is filled with games,  
crafts, snacks, horse and wagon  
rides, and more at Gridley Park.  
*Gridley Park facebook.com*.

**Personal Archiving:  
Basics of Digitization**

Oct. 26 — 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160  
E. Front St. [erielibrary.org](http://erielibrary.org).

**ERIEBANK Sports  
Park Fall Festival**

Oct. 26 — 3 to 7 p.m.  
Erie Bank Sports Park is  
hosting its first Fall Fest with  
food trucks, arts and crafts  
vendors, local wineries and  
breweries, activities for kids,  
and live music from Abbey  
Road, a Beatles tribute band.

*ERIEBANK Sports Park (Bas-  
ketball Courts), 8159 Oliver  
Rd. [eriebanksportspark.org](http://eriebanksportspark.org).*

**Wags to Witches Party**

Oct. 26 — 5 to 10 p.m.  
Join the ANNA Shelter at  
Voodoo Brewery for a howling  
good time. There will be auctions  
and raffles, games, 50/50,  
prizes for best costume, and live  
music from Matt Thompson.  
*Voodoo Brewery Erie, 101 Boston  
Store Pl. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).*

**Erie’s Largest  
Halloween Party**

Oct. 26 — 5 p.m. to 2 a.m.  
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State  
St. [bourbonbarrelerie.com](http://bourbonbarrelerie.com).

**Uzuri wa Africa**

Oct. 26 — 6 to 9 p.m.  
Gannon University Yehl  
Ballroom, 124 W. 7th  
St. [gannon.edu](http://gannon.edu).

**AKA Honors: A Pink**



**Carpet Affair**

Oct. 26 — 6 to 10 p.m.  
Ambassador Banquet & Conference Center, 7792 Peach St. eventbrite.com.

**Halloween Party**

Oct. 26 — 7 to 9 p.m.  
Churchill's Bourbon & Brew, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

**History & Legends of Hope Cemetery**

Oct. 26 — 8 to 9 p.m.  
Elk Creek Twp. Historical Society, 10410 High St., Albion, PA 16401 facebook.com.

**Hill District Flea**

Oct. 27 — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
For the last Flea of the season, the Hill District is going out in a spooky style. Each shop/vendor on the hill will be giving out treats to kids in costume.  
*Hill District, W. 26-24 and Peach St. facebook.com.*

**Trick or Treat 2019**

Oct. 27 — 1 to 3 p.m.  
Erie Art Museum, 20 E. 5th St. erieartmuseum.org.

**Kooky Spooky Halloween Party**

Oct. 27 — 1 to 4 p.m.  
expERIENCE Children's Museum, 420 French St. eriechildrensmuseum.org.

**Fall Foliage Extended Open Lake Sail Aboard the Lettie G. Howard**

Oct. 27 — 2 to 5 p.m.  
Erie Maritime Museum, 150 E. Front St. flagshipniagara.org.

**Novel & Short Story Writing for Beginners**

Oct. 28 — 2 to 3 p.m.  
Edinboro Branch Library, 413 W. Plum St., Edinboro, PA 16412 events.erieilibrary.org.

**Strategic Thinking in 3D: Current Geopolitics in the Middle East**

Oct. 28 — 4 to 6 p.m.  
Zurn Hall at Mercyhurst Univ., 501 E. 38th St. mercyhurst.edu.

**Let's Get Spooky!**

Oct. 28 — 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.  
Lincoln Community Center Library, 1255 Manchester Rd. events.erieilibrary.org.

**Women's Wellness Night**

Oct. 28 — 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
Whole Foods Co-Op, 1341 W. 26th St. wholefoodcoop.org.

**Hands All Around Erie Quilt Guild Meeting**

Oct. 28 — 6:30 p.m.  
Wayside Presbyterian Church, 1208 Asbury Rd. facebook.com.

**Thinking Differently About Race and Belonging**

Oct. 28 — 7:30 to 9 p.m.  
Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. jeserie.org.

**Nonprofit Day 2019**

Oct. 29 — 7:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.  
Bayfront Convention Center, 1 Sassafras Pier NonprofitDay2019.org.

**Early Reader Book Club: Spooky Stories**

Oct. 29 — 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. erielibrary.org.

**Escape Room: Haunted Mansion**

Oct. 29 — 5:30 (family), 6 or 6:45 p.m. (teens)  
Lincoln Community Center Library, 1255 Manchester Rd. events.erieilibrary.org.

**Global Research on Harmful Algal Blooms**

Oct. 29 — 7:30 to 9 p.m.  
Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. jeserie.org.

**Rick Hart Reading and Book Signing**

Oct. 30 — 2 to 3 p.m.  
Accomplished in the world of information sciences, retired Lilley Library Director Rick Hart will be returning to Penn State Behrend to speak with students.  
*Metzgar Alumni Center at Penn St. Behrend, 4701 College Dr. behrend.psu.edu.*

**Legends of the Night Sky**

Oct. 30 — 7 p.m.  
Edinboro University Planetarium, 230 Scotland Rd., Edinboro, PA 16444 events.edinboro.edu.

**Trump's International Trade Policies and How They Affect the Erie Region**

Oct. 30 — 7:30 to 9 p.m.  
Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St. jeserie.org.

**Raven Awards**

Oct. 30 — 8 p.m.  
In true Halloween spirit, Penn State Behrend invites students to gather and tell poems and stories in the style of Edgar Allen Poe, and the best one will receive the Raven Award.  
*Wilson Picnic Grove at Penn St. Behrend, 4701 College Dr. behrend.psu.edu.*

**Old Fashioned Halloween**

Oct. 31 — 6 to 8 p.m.  
The Little Church on the Hill, 10410 High St., Albion, PA 16401 facebook.com.

**Green New Deal: Root Causes Training**

Nov. 1 — 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Renaissance Centre, 1001 State St. facebook.com.

**Big Brothers Big Sisters Ultimate Raffle Fundraiser**

Nov. 1 — 7 to 10 p.m.  
St. John's Lutheran Church, 2216 Peach St. facebook.com.

**Extraterrestrial Life: Are We Alone?**

Nov. 1 — 7:30 to 9 p.m.  
Reed Union Building at Penn St. Behrend, 4701 College Dr. jeserie.org.

**Ladies Night: Magic Mike XXL**

Nov. 1 — 8 p.m.  
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. bourbonbarrelerie.com.

**Denim & White Affair**

Nov. 1 — 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.  
Xclusive Wear LLC is hosting a denim and white affair, with a live DJ playing R&B and hip-hop all night, along with

a catered dinner and reality TV star Deelishis hosting.  
*Ambassador Center, 7794 Peach St. facebook.com.*

**2019 Halloween Party**

Nov. 2  
Peek'n Peak, 1405 Olde Rd. Clymer, NY 14724 pknpc.com.

**Indoor Yard Sale**

Nov. 2 — 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Union City Fire Dept. Social Hall, 50 Second Ave., Union City, PA 16438 // 814-438-9002

**Rummage Sale**

Nov. 2 — 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Wesley Church Center, 3308 South St. ewesley.com.

**Adult Admissions: Coffee and Conversations**

Nov. 2 — 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.  
Metzgar Alumni Center at Penn St. Behrend, 4701 College Dr. behrend.psu.edu.

**Intro to Vinyl Cutter and Cricut Maker**

Nov. 2 — 10 to 11 a.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. erielibrary.org.

**Community Craft Show**

Nov. 2 — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
RealLife Assembly Church, 3902 W. 38th St. rlaerie.com.

**Fall Craft & Vendor Show**

Nov. 2 — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Brookside Fire Dept., 3560 Athens Rd. brooksidefiredepartment.com.

**Drop in and Discover: Winter Recreation**

Nov. 2 — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Asbury Woods Nature Center, 4105 Asbury Rd. registrationdesk.asburywoods.org.

**Epilepsy Project Presents Midnight in Paris**

Nov. 2 — 6 to 10 pm.  
Ambassador Banquet & Conference Center, 7794 Peach St. theepilepsyproject.org.

**An Evening with Chuck Hagel**

Nov. 4 — 7:30 to 9 p.m.  
Gannon University Yehl Ballroom, 124 W. 7th St. jeserie.org.

**DNA and Genealogy: Using DNA Painter to Create Colorful FAN Charts**

Nov. 4 — 6 to 7:30 p.m.  
Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. erielibrary.org.

**Global Boarders: Higher Education in Africa, The Palm Institute Experience**

Nov. 5 — 6 p.m.  
Trippe Hall at Penn St. Behrend, Aquarius Dr. behrend.psu.edu.

**Transit Show**

Nov. 5 — 7 p.m.  
Edinboro University Planetarium, 230 Scotland Rd., Edinboro, PA 16444 events.edinboro.edu.

**The Briefing: Politics, the Press, and the President**

Nov. 6 — 7:30 to 9 p.m.  
Gannon University Yehl Ballroom, 124 W. 7th St. jeserie.org.

America Part Two, Real Fake Doors, Nox Boys, and Penny Racer, at PACA

**TUESDAY, NOV. 5**

America Part Two formed in 2017 in New Jersey, and shortly after recorded their debut EP, *Pure*, which is equal parts pop-punk and emo. In 2018, the trio released the much darker, rawer, and more politically charged single "Split," with the chorus "Well maybe it's too f-ing late for you, but we fight for America Part Two," tying in the band's name into the song's meaning. Showing further versatility in their sound, in July of this year the band released another single with strong grunge-rock vibes, titled "I Don't Wanna."

Erie's own Real Fake Doors are one of the city's quickest growing pop-punk bands, bolstering their fanbase by opening for every show they can get their hands on. This

year they released their debut EP, *11th and State*, along with the anthemic single with accompanying music video, "Falling."

Opening acts also include Nox Boys, from Blawnox, Pa., and Erie's Penny Racer. Nox Boys' style draws from garage rock, grunge, blues-rock, and punk. These influences can be heard in both their 2014 self-titled debut album and its follow-up *Out of Touch*, released in May of this year. Penny Racer is one of Erie's newest bands, and just released their first demo in March, containing three tracks of punk-rock akin to bands like Jawbreaker and Alkaline Trio.

— Tommy Shannon  
7:30 p.m. // PACA, 1505 State St., second floor // \$10 advance, \$12 doors // All Ages, BYOB with ID // facebook.com/theandromedaagency

World of Music's Heart and Soul Art Show



NICK WARREN

**Musician Eric Brewer finger-frames an instrument display at World of Music, winkingly alluding to the shop's upcoming Heart and Soul music-themed art show.**

**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 6**

When young students first start learning the piano, there's one song in particular that seems to be one of the most memorable. It's a *big* song in a small package, one often performed as a duet, called "Heart and Soul"

Fittingly, that also happens to be the name of a special event at World of Music, itself a collaboration between them, R. Frank Photography, and Artlore Studio.

This music-themed art show will be exhibited at World of Music, running from its kickoff event Wednesday, Nov. 6 through Saturday, Nov. 9. Artists of all ages and levels of education will be welcome to submit their work to Artlore Studio by Friday, Nov. 1.

"Music is so much more than just audible or cerebral, it opens up multiple doors in the mind, heart, and soul, and often creates or reflects on visuals, memories," mused Stephen Trohoske, co-owner of Artlore.

Concerning the work to be showcased by Heart & Soul in particular, he related that "we are looking for these artists to bring those visions to life for others to see and enjoy using music-related materials." He clarified that "the event is to celebrate music in every form, from musical artists to

the sheet music their work is printed on." "Musicians often express themselves through other outlets and this will give them a chance to share," added World of Music store manager Rome Caccamo. "This will be the first time in several years that we have opened the store for an art event," he admitted. "We are looking forward to seeing local artwork that might not always make it into the public eye."

In addition to these works, Robert Frank's photography, in the form of an eye-catching series on Erie musicians will be displayed, a series which was exhibited at Artlore this April.

"I got involved in the Heart and Soul event because Stephen Trohoske and I did an Erie Musician's gallery at Celebrate Erie," explained Frank. He recounted that Caccamo "saw the gallery and said he wanted to feature it in WOM for a show, so we expanded the idea and invited other artists to bring in their music-related items."

Trohoske added, "We also have a bunch of artists painting old 78s and a portion of sales of those will go to Strings for a Cure," featuring local artists Brad Lethaby, Fran Schanz, Barb Crone, Annie Rosenthal, Brad Ford, Lena Logvina, and more.

The exhibit will feature an opening event with hors d'oeuvres, and performances from Trevor Vogt, Eric Brewer, and Zack Orr.

— Nick Warren  
3 p.m. to 8 p.m. // World of Music, 1355 W 26th St. // Free // All Ages



## Fred Oakman Opens His Heart

A Q&A with the local songwriter in the about his newest album, *My Gasoline Heart*



Fred Oakman and The Flood take the stage during a recent gig at the King's Rook Club. Oakman, a veteran of the local punk scene, will release *My Gasoline Heart* on Oct. 25 — the first album under his name.

apprehensive because I've known these guys for so long I should have known better than to stress about it. When I brought them in I did everything possible to inform them that this was a pet project of mine.

I mentioned before that these songs were all written before bringing The Flood into the fold and at that time I had been billed so many times as Fred Oakman. I already have one EP titled *The God Fearing Boy*, a single, a split with Fleets, and a four-song demo all released under my name Fred Oakman. I didn't want to muddy things up with the naming conventions. "The Flood" certainly gets credit in the liner notes and I'd never want to take anything away from their musicality with the songs we're performing.

**NW:** It seems like a bold choice or a mission statement to start an album out with a slower number like "That Ain't the Way," as opposed to a more traditional, anthemic opener like "Something New" or "You Make Me Sick." Were there any intentions there?

**FO:** Definitely. I've always preferred the slow, sad, lyrical side of songwriting. I've learned that sometimes when people get loud, an interesting approach is to get quieter. I really wanted to set the album off with a song that commanded a semblance of attention. I've poured so much into these songs and the lyrics that I really want people to listen to this record and sit down with it. Maybe it is really bold, but most likely probably just a bad decision [laughs]?

Going back to what I mentioned earlier, the pacing of a record is so important to me. For this album, one of the most difficult decisions I had to make was choosing the order of the songs and the actual songs that would appear on the record. It caused a lot of sleepless nights.

*Fred Oakman and The Flood will be performing My Gasoline Heart in its entirety at The Firehouse Tap & Grille in Meadville on Friday, Oct. 25 with supporting acts This American Song and Sunday at the Station.*

*9 p.m. to midnight // 875 Park Ave, Meadville, PA 16335 // Free // For more information, go to [fredoakman.com](http://fredoakman.com) or listen to My Gasoline Heart at [fredoakman.bandcamp.com](http://fredoakman.bandcamp.com)*

By: Nick Warren

Fred Oakman has been making some of the region's best original music for decades now. From his work in The Twirpentes and Signal Home to his current project One If By Land, he's made a name for himself in the punk scene. In more recent years, however, the Meadville-based songwriter has been playing solo or accompanied by his band as Fred Oakman and The Flood (with Troy Messerall, Nate Kuhn, and Jacob Peters). The first album under his own name, *My Gasoline Heart*, is set to debut on Oct. 25. We sat down with him to catch up.

**Nick Warren:** What inspired the album's title?

**Fred Oakman:** Initially I knew this project was going to be a pretty big undertaking, so in an attempt to not distract myself any more than necessary, I took the easy route. I decided to use the title of one of the tracks for the album. I'd rather not get too metaphorical about it and leave it up to interpretation.

**NW:** How did writing and recording this record differ from previous efforts?

**FO:** For those who don't know, I've been playing punk rock for a long time and this album is definitely not that. The writing process wasn't much different

than how I approach the writing for One If By Land. All of the songs on this album have been written for quite some time now and they never really fit in with One If By Land's catalog of music.

[With] the backlog of songs accumulated, I started performing solo sets around the area with pretty much every song I had written that never found a home with punk rock.

The interesting thing that I was cornered into doing this time around was to kind of be more of a leader than ever before. The songs were already complete before I brought The Flood into the picture to perform and record with me. It's incredible how a song can stay the same yet still get a new lease on life by adding more instrumentation. One of the most difficult turns to navigate in all of this was to ensure that these songs could still be performed solo and not sound different than how they would sound alongside The Flood.

Recording was a blast. I built a home studio recently and it was nice to put it to use. It's a blessing for sure, but also it can be a huge hangup. You need to learn when to stop pressing record [laughs]. I think we did a great job with that on this release.

**NW:** Did any other artists directly influ-

ence how you went about this?

**FO:** I've found pockets of inspiration from other singer-songwriters for sure. Guys like John Moreland and Jason Isbell have been on heavy rotation for the last few years. Whether it's an accurate perception of the music industry or not, I've been feeling that the art of making a solid record from start to finish is slowly being lost on us as artists. The music industry is putting more emphasis on singles and EPs these days. While that's completely fine if that's your thing, I've always been smitten by artists who can put down 10 tracks on an album in such a manner that it almost has a life of its own, ebbing and flowing from one song to the next.

**NW:** What made you decide to bill this as a solo record as opposed to a Fred Oakman and the Flood record?

**FO:** Of course you'd ask this [laughs]! I deliberated for a month or two on how to title it. I even called a meeting with The Flood to put the feelers out ... If I'm bringing The Flood it'll say it on the flyer; otherwise, it's just me.

It's touchy in one regard but yet in another, it's not at all. I was worried The Flood were going to peg me for some kind of megalomaniac or ungrateful band dictator. I'm not sure why I was so





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## MOVIE REVIEWS

### You Can't Go Home Again: Judy has a Great Central Performance, but Not Much Else

★★



LD ENTERTAINMENT

The life of Judy Garland is such an iconic and tragic one that telling the whole story would require several movies. It was wise of director Rupert Goold to set the story of his film *Judy* within the space of only a few months. That was the only wise decision he made, as the film itself looks and plays like a TV movie-of-the-week. To take such a vibrant and interesting life and turn it into something so utterly dull is an achievement unto itself, I guess.

Set in late 1968, Judy Garland (Renee Zellweger) has fallen onto hard times, struggling to find work, buried in debt, and engaged in a bitter custody battle with her ex-husband. She agrees to perform a series of concerts in London merely as a way to earn a living. Once she arrives, however, the demons of her past, as well as her problems with alcohol, begin to emerge.

The film presents us with everything we already know about Garland's life (yes, she was pushed into super-stardom at a very young age. Yes, this led to substance abuse problems. Yes, the last years of her life were bitter and full of resentment), but it never tries to examine Garland as a person and instead maintains a frustratingly detached approach. Fortunately, Zellweger is as good as advertised and she imbues the scenes where Judy is performing on stage with an energy and life that becomes noticeably absent for the rest of the film. It's a great performance, to be sure, but one great performance does not a great movie make. — Forest Taylor

*Directed by: Rupert Goold // Written by: Tom Edge, based on the stage play "End of the Rainbow" by Peter Quilter // Starring: Renee Zellweger, Jessie Buckley, Finn Wittrock, Rufus Sewell, Michael Gambon, Bella Ramsey, Gemma-Leah Devereux, Andy Nyman, Phil Dunster, Royce Pierreson, Gaia Weiss, and Darci Shaw // 118 minutes // Rated PG-13*

### Are You For Real?!?: *Dolemite is My Name* is the Funniest Film of the Year

★★★★

For the last 20 years or so, the blaxploitation sub-genre has finally been receiving the respect that it deserves. No longer just a curiosity known only to grindhouse and drive-in aficionados, these entertaining and often very bizarre films have been celebrated in the form of biopics like Mario Van Peebles' *Baadasssss!* or parodies like the hilariously insane *Black Dynamite*. And now we have *Dolemite is My Name* to join them and bring attention to one of the strangest and most inspiring Hollywood success stories of all time. The result is just as funny and entertaining as its title character.

The story follows Rudy Ray Moore (Eddie Murphy in his best performance in years), a stand-up comedian who releases a series of raunchy spoken-word albums that garner him some unlikely fame. As his notoriety grows, Moore decides to take things to the next level and begins working on his own movie. The result would become the obscenity-spewing, kung-fu fighting action/comedy known as *Dolemite*, and Moore would become a blaxploitation icon.

From the screenwriting duo of the legendary *Ed Wood* (Scott Alexander and Larry Karaszewski), this movie — like that film — takes you right into the trenches with a man of dubious taste and talent, to say the least. Similarly, the main character has a determination that is so infectious, you can't help but root for him. The film does a phenomenal job showcasing the DIY indie energy that made Moore's films so enjoyable as well as highlighting the importance of these films to marginalized groups. It's a rags-to-riches story like no other: one full of gunfights, car crashes, and the best bad kung-fu ever committed to film. *Dolemite is My Name* comes to Netflix Instant on October 25th. — Forest Taylor



NETFLIX

*Directed by: Craig Brewer // Written by: Scott Alexander and Larry Karaszewski // Starring: Eddie Murphy, Keegan-Michael Key, Da'Vine Joy Randolph, Mike Epps, Craig Robinson, Tituss Burgess, Ron Cephas Jones, Wesley Snipes, Snoop Dogg, and Chris Rock // 118 minutes // Rated R*

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## JUST TOYIN' WITCHA — BY B. TOY





## ALBUM REVIEWS

### Fred Oakman

*My Gasoline Heart*  
Self-released



With unforgettable emotive moments just begging for a singalong, *My Gasoline Heart* finds songwriter



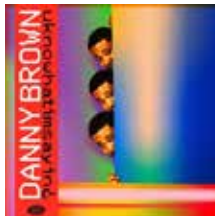
Fred Oakman exactly where he needs to be. In the tradition of fellow punk rockers Chuck Ragan, Tim Barry, and Frank Turner, Oakman picks up his acoustic guitar and sits down for an inspired folk experience. Beginning the album with an almost reverential solemnity in "That Ain't the Way," he urges the listener to pay close attention. Employing a stripped-down simplistic arpeggiation, it's a far cry from the titular opening track on his former band Signal Home's *A Fragile Constitutional*. It's been more than a dozen years since then of course, but Oakman is able to harness every bit of that raw earnestness, just in a more mature package. In the album's next opening tracks, Oakman cranks up the heat, with both "You Make Me Sick" and "Something New" bringing some of the record's catchiest hooks. Wonderfully reminiscent of some of Lucero's early work, Oakman's gravelly vocals give nods to alt-country, with his backing band (The Flood) providing pitch-perfect accompaniment. Exquisitely listenable, *My Gasoline Heart* offers a steady burn that stays with you. — Nick Warren

### Danny Brown

*U Know What I'm Sayin?*  
Warp Records



Danny Brown is nothing if not eccentric. Ironically, *U Know What I'm Sayin?* — an album Brown has called his "stand-up comedy" album — is his most straightforward and toned down, while retaining the rapper's penchant for punchlines and wordplay. This is the fifth studio album released by the 38-year-old Detroit rapper, with 2013's *Old* and 2016's *Atrocity Exhibit* being two of the most critically lauded releases of their respective years. This one balances out as Brown's most cohesive — and potentially, his best — album yet. At times, like on opening track "Change Up" and single "Best Life," Brown's delivery is uniquely calm, landing with the cadence of Andre 3000. But Danny Brown is still Danny Brown, and on tracks like "Dirty Laundry" and "Savage Nomad," he raps like it. Brown is at his best when he's tip-toeing around playful beats from a producing superteam comprised of Q-Tip, Flying Lotus, Thundercat, JPEGMAFIA, and more. These moments are only made more dizzying by features from Run the Jewels, Blood Orange, and yes, even Q-Tip. *U Know What I'm Sayin?* isn't just an essential Danny Brown album; it's easily one of 2019's most essential hip-hop albums. — Aaron Mook



### Jimmy Eat World

*Surviving*  
RCA Records



Ten albums into their career, Jimmy Eat World is still growing with each new release. It's impressive to see a band at their level continuing to release essential albums, and for Jimmy Eat World fans, *Surviving* is the definition of essential, the band joining a very small list of bands who remind us every few years of why they're still on top. Perhaps most impressively, Jimmy Eat World have managed to remain true to themselves while growing exponentially over the past two decades. *Surviving* is almost like a greatest hits album comprised of entirely new songs; it's a victory lap that features the emotion of *Clarity*, the crunch of *Bleed American*, and the maturity of an album like *Damage*. Songs like "Criminal Energy" and "All the Way (Stay)" immediately play like anthemic, Jimmy Eat World staples, while a centerpiece like "555" — a dark combination of pop-rock melody and thick, electronic bass — even showcases the band trying some new tricks. Where other, less experienced bands might butcher it, they succeed with the same grace and energy they had in 1999. For them, it might be surviving, but to us, it sounds an awful lot like thriving. — Aaron Mook



### Big Thief

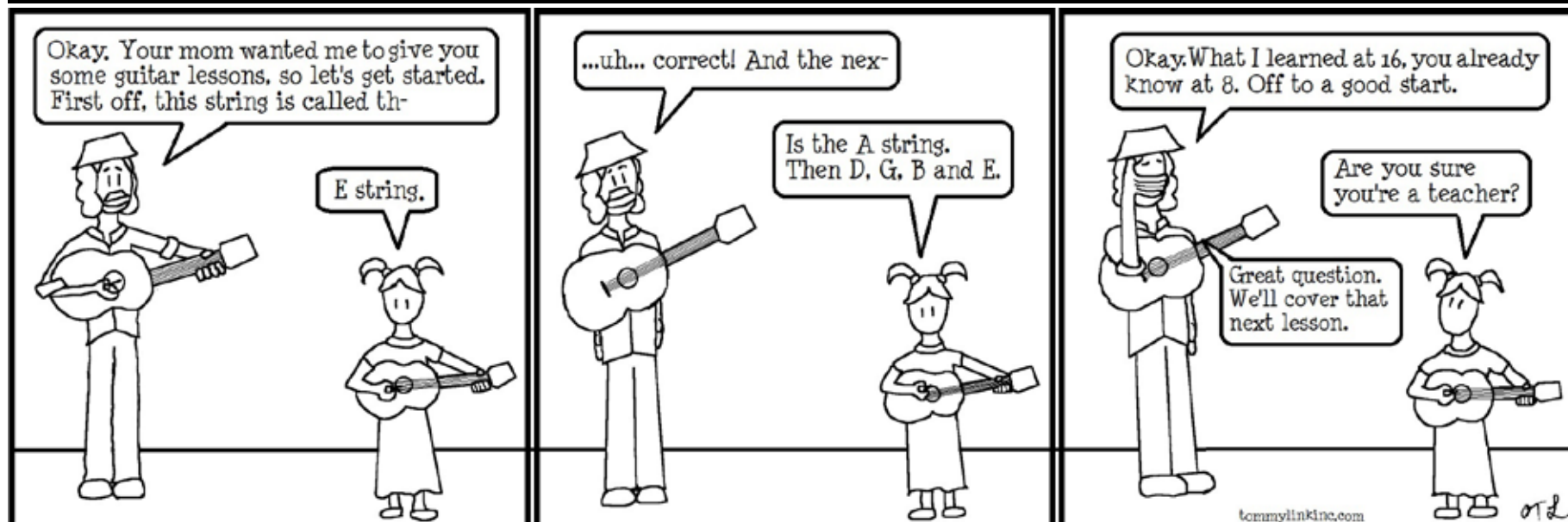
*Two Hands*  
4AD



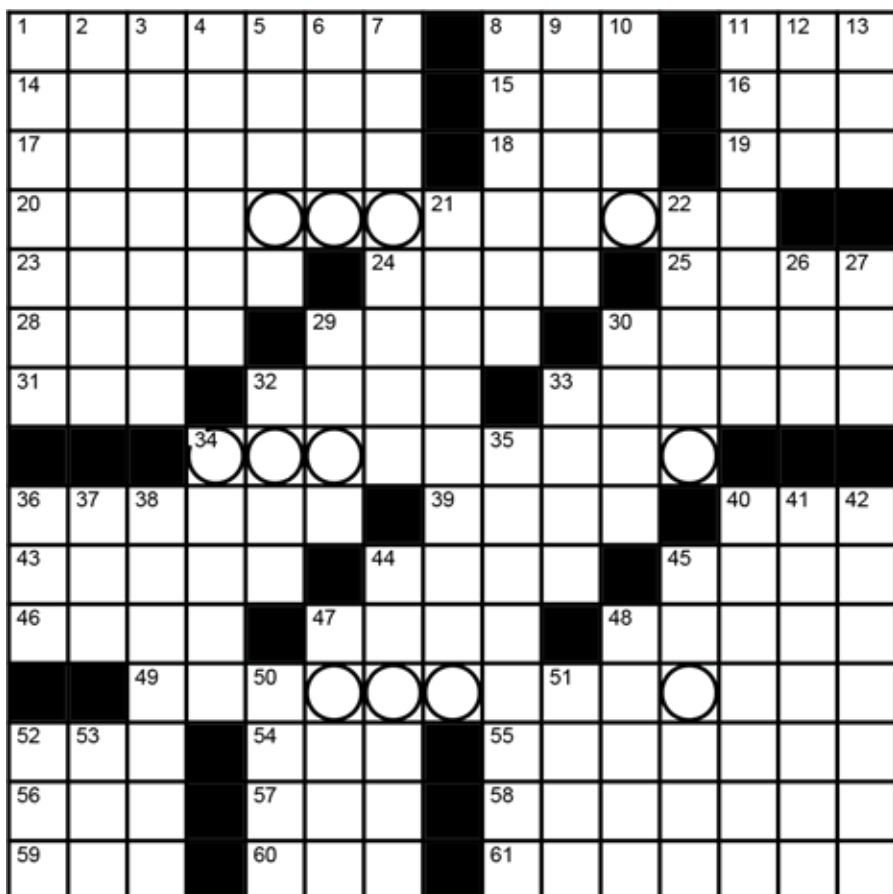
This is a big year for Big Thief. One day this summer, a strange package came. It was plainly folded cardboard mail with no return address and no markings to give any clues. Chancing fate, I opened it. It was about the thickness of a vinyl shipper, after all. I found a mysterious unmarked white label seven inch, the blank test press-looking record yielding no further clues. I of course immediately threw it on my turntable to hear what was on it. I heard a familiar voice that sounded like Adrienne Lenker, and though I tried to search the lyrics online, nothing came up. By the next day, a few like-minded recipients had confirmed that it was indeed from Big Thief. The A-side of that seven inch was a track called "Two Hands." It wouldn't be until Oct. 11 that I would hear that again (the date etched into the vinyl), this time as the title of the band's newest album. Coming just five months after *U.F.O.F* (whose pre-order had initiated the mysterious package in question), this is stated to be the "earth twin" to its extraterrestrial sibling. Though they're clearly bookends, both of these albums stand easily on their own and are both things any fan of indie rock needs to hear in 2019. — Nick Warren



## TOMMY IN TOON — BY TOMMY LINK







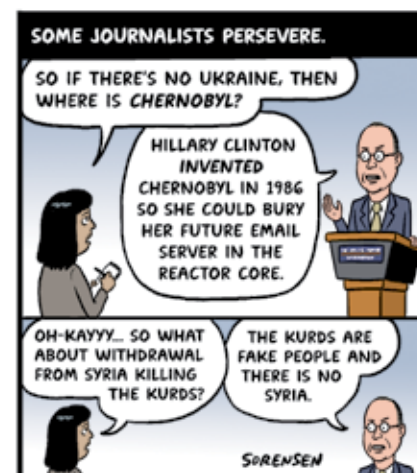
**Across**

- 1. Stays off the grid, say
- 8. \_\_\_-Caps (candy)
- 11. Misbehaving
- 14. On the line
- 15. J's value in Words With Friends
- 16. Man's name that's an investment spelled backward
- 17. "You can be sure"
- 18. "\_\_\_ day now ..."
- 19. Calligraphy tool
- 20. Means of escape preferred by those born in the '60s and '70s?
- 23. Holds dear
- 24. "No way, José"
- 25. Limo-riding sorts
- 28. Cabinet dept. since 1977
- 29. \_\_\_ school
- 30. Got ready for the camera
- 31. Ian Frazier's "On the \_\_\_"
- 32. Pear variety
- 33. Big blood vessels
- 34. Song-and-dance man preferred by those born in the '80s and early '90s?
- 36. Age, and not try to hide it
- 39. Supermodel Sastre
- 40. Fitting
- 43. Live in a studio
- 44. '60s civil rights org.
- 45. City where you can view Edvard Munch's "The

**Down**

- 1. Office gizmo
- 2. Agenda starter
- 3. "The Breakfast Club" actor
- 4. Pack rat
- 5. Film directors Fritz and Walter
- 6. '30s migrant
- 7. Milk maid?
- 8. Decline to recline?
- 9. "Buffalo Stance" singer
- 10. Shade of black
- 11. Martin Luther King Jr., for one
- 12. Sister Sledge's "We \_\_\_ Family"
- 13. Cacophony

- 21. Drop by, say
- 22. \_\_\_-billed woodpecker
- 26. Fairy tale "lump"
- 27. Vietnam War protest grp.
- 29. Little horse on the prairie?
- 30. Capitol insiders
- 32. What a koala really isn't
- 33. Trump portrayer Baldwin
- 34. Pam of "Jackie Brown"
- 35. Make gradual inroads
- 36. Quetzalcoatl, e.g.
- 37. Singer whose name sounds like a cry of dismay
- 38. Gets ready to hit the road
- 40. "In my opinion ..."
- 41. Subject of the mnemonic "My very eager mother just served us nachos"
- 42. Bullfighters
- 44. Nicks on albums
- 45. Come through slowly
- 47. Response to a pledge drive request
- 48. The sun, for one
- 50. Nonsense word repeated before "oxen free"
- 51. Uma's role in "The Producers"
- 52. Path
- 53. Jungle chest-beater



**Answers to last puzzle**







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