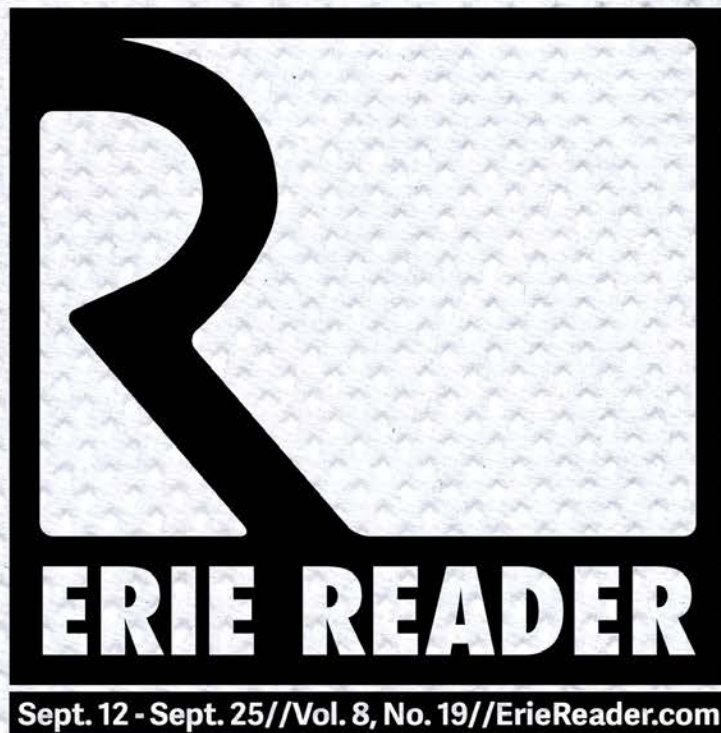




HOW WINGS TOOK FLIGHT

PEPPERONI BALLS, OX ROAST, AND
THE I-90 COMFORT FOOD CORRIDOR

DISPOSABLE DILEMMA

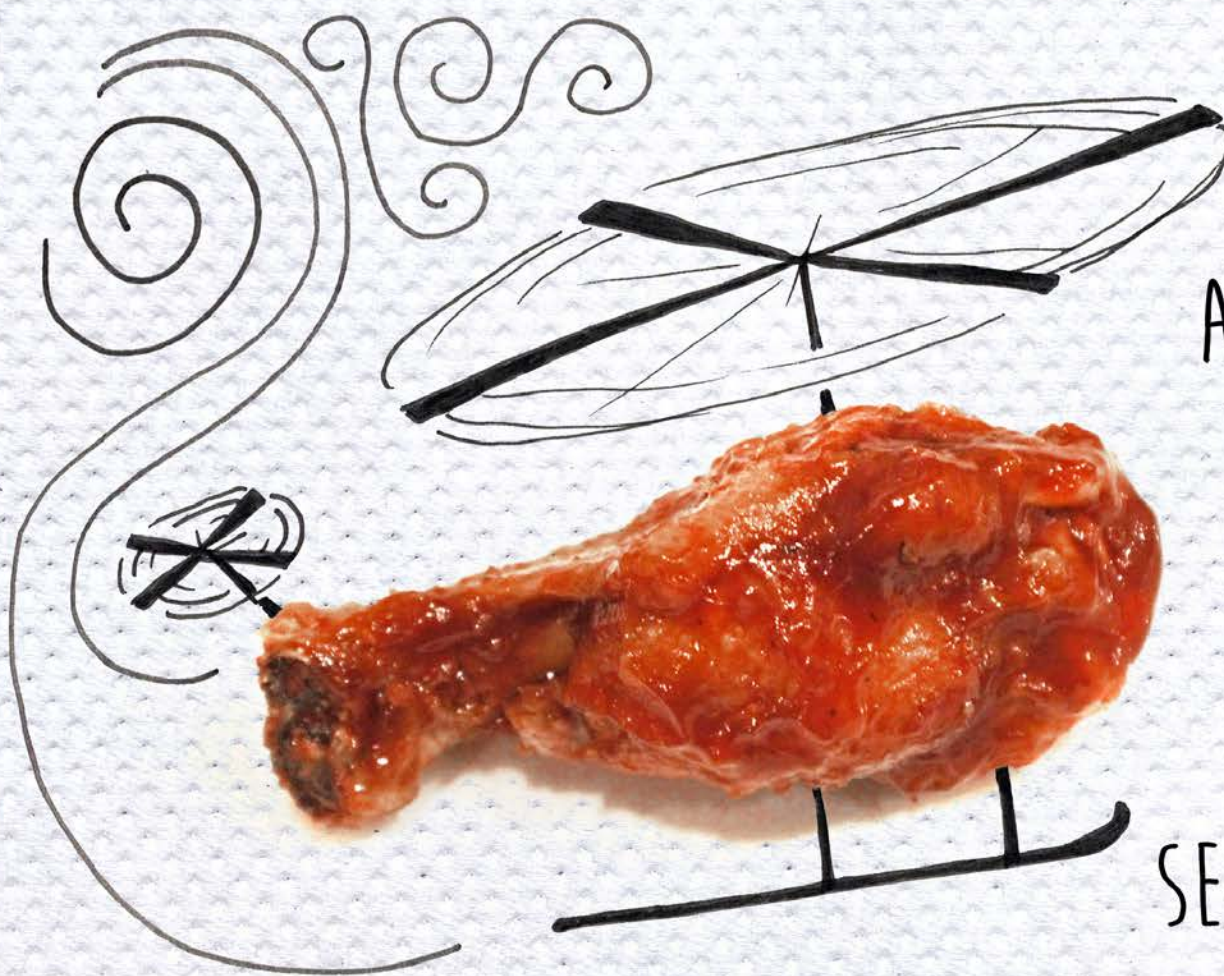
WHY WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO LEARN
NEW RULES FOR RECYCLING



AN INTERVIEW WITH
DAVID HARBOUR



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From the Editors

On cleaning up and getting messy

Whether at work or at play, Erie has never been afraid to get its hands dirty. Historically, we're a tactile breed, with a heritage of blue collar jobs during the day and food we can eat with our fingers when our shifts are through. Somewhere between the dust and dirt of foundries and assembly lines and the drippy ox roast sandwiches and saucy chicken wings, we can only hope soap and water was involved.

To this day, many of us intrinsically favor a hands-on approach — the no-nonsense practice of tearing problems down and building solutions up in a manner appreciable to the senses. To see major construction projects shaping up downtown — at Erie Insurance, the Erie City Mission, UPMC Hamot, and Velocity Network, for example — is gratifying for those of us to whom tangible progress is the only progress. Something like the Erie Downtown Development Corporation's maneuvers behind the scenes — including the recent acquisition of properties along North Park Row — might prove frustrating to those that have difficulty reconciling the haziness of future benefits with their eagerness for more immediate results.

Just ask Dave Harbour, star of Netflix's *Stranger Things* and recent visitor to Penn State Behrend for a speaking engagement. Weighing the practicality of a career in business or the hard sciences against the incertitude of a career in the arts presented a great challenge to him in his youth, as it does many high school and college students today. But if you've ever enthralled yourself in the pages of a comic book or the fantastical scenes of the silver screen, you've likely experienced the byproduct of someone's more convoluted, nebulous, and circuitous path. The Erie ComiCon — a very tangible success last year — is resurrected (in true superhero fashion) for a second go-round this weekend.

In the event you *aren't* ridden with the existential angst of an artist, there are matters in our physical reality that are of utmost urgency. For instance, our oft-degraded and overly-polluted Earth. Columnist Liz Allen addresses her intolerance for littering and the quandaries of recycling rules in her latest piece. It's a lot to soak in, so hopefully you have a few pepperoni balls lying at the pit of your stomach. It's easy to be cynical that we'll ever get things turned around.

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Disposable Dilemma

Why we're going to have to learn new rules for recycling



Plastic bags were stuffed with litter when City Council members Liz Allen (left) and Kathy Schaaf (right) did a cleanup on State Street in June.

By: Liz Allen

It's time to toss out many of our recycling habits — and pitch some new ideas about ways to clean up Erie and save our environment.

That's what I learned from Brittany Prischak, Erie County's environmental sustainability coordinator, and Anna McCartney, communications specialist for Pennsylvania Sea Grant.

Prischak graduated from Mercyhurst University in 2009. She then interned at the Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium and at an animal sanctuary in Texas before being hired to create the position of sustainability coordinator at Mercyhurst, where she had majored in chemistry and biology and did her senior project on carbon emissions and climate change. She began her Erie County job in February 2015.

McCartney and I became friends when she worked as coordinator of the Newspaper in Education program and I edited the weekly NIE pages at the Erie Times-News.

I interviewed both women after I became frustrated about trying to keep a step ahead of the litter problem despoiling downtown Erie, our neighborhoods and the waterfront.

In late June, Councilwoman Kathy Schaaf and I did a small cleanup on State Street between West 18th and West 14th streets. After pawing our plastic-gloved hands through discarded cigarette butts, cigar tips, booze bottles, pop cans, fast-food bags, energy drinks, plastic bags and water bottles, we had barely made a dent in the trash.

I decided that there has to be a bet-

ter way to counter litter than with a two-women brigade or by employing my recent tactic — scolding litterers. I don't think I made an impression on the kid who ripped open an ice pop and threw the wrapper down at a park, the guy near the Avalon Hotel who tore a plastic top off of a milk drink and let it blow away, or the woman who flicked her smoldering cigarette onto State Street near City Hall.

I was burned up about cleaning up after litterers, so Councilwoman Schaaf and I met with McCartney to learn about small and large ways to curb the use of plastics. She immediately gave us one pragmatic suggestion: use refillable, non-plastic containers instead of buying bottled water.

Some businesses and local governments even offer water stations where you can fill up your containers, she says. Now I try to remember to bring my metal water bottle from the 2010 25th International Coastal Cleanup to City Council meetings.

At McCartney's urging, I also visited the "Plastic Pollution Solution: One Small Change" exhibit at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center. The sheer number of plastic bags strung together at the exhibit makes a strong visual impact about what's happened to our environment.

The exhibit also reminded me about how much things have changed since my long-ago encounter with environmental issues.

It was the fall of 1969, my freshman year at journalism school, and as a cub reporter for the college paper, I was

named the "exchange editor." My job was to read dozens of college newspapers for story ideas and trends. After I was done with the papers, I'd haul them to the nearby food co-op, which recycled the papers to raise money.

My duties as exchange editor paid off when I was assigned to my first beat — to cover the debut of Earth Day.

Going to school at Marquette in Milwaukee was a good place to cover that history-making event. It was organized by U.S. Sen. Gaylord Nelson, the former governor of Wisconsin, who in September 1969 had proposed a national teach-in on the environment for April 22, 1970.

In Nelson's May 1970 Senate newsletter, he wrote: "A new movement had begun, and uncounted millions — students, laborers, farmers, housewives, politicians, professional people, liberals and conservatives — who might have found it difficult to find common agreement on any other subject, were gathering together in a massive educational effort to talk about survival and the quality of survival in a world they all share." (You can read more about it at nelsearthday.net/nelson.)

To salvage the environment, we recycled newspapers and aluminum cans. We used returnable pop bottles. We ditched detergents with phosphates.

As packaging materials changed, we recycled those, too — containers for frozen-dessert toppings and margarine; plastic milk jugs; bottles of soap and shampoo.

We didn't anticipate that someday we would be awash in plastic products, but we cheered when trash haulers adopted single-stream recycling. We no longer had the messy chore of separating papers, cans, and bottles; we could plop them all into a blue plastic bag or bin and send them on their way. If a plastic container had a triangle and a number on the bottom, we figured it was OK to recycle.

Then recycling collided with trade policies.

As Prischak explains, in 2017, China

started to ban some recycling from other countries, including the U.S., claiming that materials such as mixed paper products and plastics had "high levels of contamination."

Even if just one bale in giant shipping container was found to have contaminated recyclables, the whole shipment — not just the bale — would be rejected. "It could be one plastic bottle found in a bale of cardboard," she says.

The material rejected by China had to be shipped back, "to be reprocessed, to remove that contaminant, or to find a new market for it," Prischak says.

In response, in March, Waste Management announced a ban on using plastic bags to collect recyclables from commercial customers, including businesses, schools and Erie County government. Plastic bags and even shredded paper don't separate very well. The gears on separating equipment get tangled in plastic and paper, contaminating the recyclables.

Commercial customers wanted to know how they could continue to recycle without using plastic bags.

Penn State Behrend has found one answer by removing recycling containers from classrooms and putting the containers in central locations instead. If you have to walk to a recycling container, it's less likely that you'll accidentally throw contaminated material into a recycling bin.

Erie County will soon launch an educational campaign to inform the public about the new recycling rules.

The educational campaign will address what Prischak calls "wishful recycling," in which you look at a plastic product and just assume it can be recycled.

I'm guilty of being a "wishful" recycler. That's because we were taught that any plastic item numbered one through seven, with a triangle on the bottom, could be recycled. That number with the triangle, though, only indicates the resin content, says Prischak. The only plastic items for which there are recycling markets right now are those with a one or a two on the container.

Do recycle plastic products that "start wide and go to a narrow top with a screw lid." That includes pop, water and juice bottles; milk and laun-



Brittany Prischak, Erie County's sustainability coordinator, is getting ready to launch a campaign to educate Erie County residents about new rules for recycling.

dry jugs; and mayonnaise and peanut butter jars. But don't recycle things like yogurt and sour cream containers and those ubiquitous clamshells used for bakery items, fruits, vegetables and take-out foods.

Prischak's goal for the education campaign about recycling is to make sure there is a consistent understanding throughout the county about which items can be recycled. "We want to be positive," she says. "We don't want residents to see this as taking a step backwards, as taking something away from them."

Waste Management will honor current contracts with municipalities for whatever recycling method is used now, but as new contracts are executed, the new rules will be used, she says.

It will be critical to have good, consistent signage on recycling containers on streets and in public places to make sure consumers know if something is recyclable before they stuff it in the container, she says.

We also will have to weigh the pros and cons of adding more recycling bins and then having to deal with contaminated products that can't be recycled. "I'm less worried about recycling on the streets and a little more concerned about recycling in the home," where we are less distracted and more likely to actually take the time to check to make sure something can be recycled, says Prischak.

In regard to my concerns with the amount of trash being discarded in downtown Erie and elsewhere, Prischak says that "maybe if you're

dealing with a littering situation, you don't jump to recycling first. Maybe you put out trash containers."

She recently participated in a litter cleanup along the waterfront, from Holland Street to the Bayfront Convention Center and the hotels. In two hours, 20 volunteers from UPMC Hamot cleaned up more than 2,000 cigarette butts. That's not a surprise. Cigarette butts remain the No. 1 source of litter everywhere.

The scold in me wants to scream: "Just walk your butt to a butt container!"

Prischak looks to solve the problem in a different way, by actually working with smokers.

As part of the "Keep Erie County Beautiful" campaign, volunteers at the Downtown Block Parties passed out pocket ashtrays to use at the event and also in their cars. Concert-goers appreciated the gesture; they realized that they were littering when they threw cigarette butts on the ground, but didn't know where to dispose of the butts. "They were glad there was another option," she says.

Of course, you can't hand every smoker a portable ashtray. Prischak says the solution could be to put out more cigarette butt containers or to move them closer to the exits people use at bars, restaurants and hotels.

Schaaf, my Erie City Council colleague, has been researching the Sidewalk Buttler system she saw in use during her vacation this summer to Portland, Maine. A business owner there, Michael Rylos, invented the

Sidewalk Buttler, which disposes, then recycles, cigarette butts.

Meanwhile, McCartney, my friend from Pennsylvania Sea Grant, is busy preparing for the 33rd annual International Coastal Cleanup on Saturday, Sept. 15.

The PA Coastal Cleanup will take place at 18 sites on that date. In addition, about 30 teachers across Erie County will organize cleanups to tidy up school grounds and to encourage students to become environmental stewards.

But just as Schaaf and I discovered during that our litter patrol, more has to be done. "We can't just keep cleaning up litter," says Prischak. "The purpose of the data (collected by the International Coastal Cleanup) is to have us come up with solutions."

"It's not like we fix the problem by doing cleanups. (Rather), we shed light on the problem," says McCartney. "If the next day or week we get a storm, all that stuff is back again."

That's why McCartney expanded her original environmental mantra of "reduce, reuse, recycle," to start with "refuse."

Don't grab a plastic straw for a drink. Don't pick up plastic silverware to eat a takeout meal at home. Push back against grocery stores that wrap everything in plastic. "Remember the green grocer? Now every single thing is in plastic ... those plastic trays don't get recycled and neither does that plastic wrap," says McCartney.

She advocates for "producer responsibility" to address the mounds of trash and litter created by our reliance on disposable products. "We have to get rid of unnecessary plastic. Recycling is not going to do it."

One of the most irksome things she spotted recently was a coconut wrapped in a mesh bag at a big grocery chain in Erie.

I have to agree. That's just nuts.

Liz Allen was inspired to write this column by Isabelle Locco, her 10-year-old granddaughter who belongs to the environmental club at her school, a NOAA Ocean Guardian school in Waldorf, Md. You can reach her at lizerie@aol.com.

Learn more

The film *A Plastic Ocean* returns to the Tom Ridge Environmental Center's Big Green Screen Theatre on Friday, Sept. 14, at 7 p.m.

The film was first shown in Erie in July. "It was so well-received, the S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie agreed to pay for another showing," said Anna McCartney, communications specialist for Pennsylvania Sea Grant.

Seating is limited to 175. For reservations, call 838-4123.

On Friday, Oct. 4, there will be a free lecture and book signing at TREC with Jay Sinha, co-founder and author of "Life Without Plastic: The Practical Step-by-Step Guide to Avoiding Plastics to Keep Your Family and the Planet Healthy."

Sinha's talk is presented in conjunction with the "Plastic Pollution Solution: One Small Change" exhibit at TREC, which is sponsored by the Tom Ridge Environmental Center Foundation, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, PA Sea Grant, the Regional Science Consortium, Erie Arts & Culture, the S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie and Environment Erie. The exhibit continues through Oct. 31.

Doors open at 6 p.m. for Sinha's 6:30 p.m. presentation. Capacity for his talk is also limited to 175.

Get involved

The annual PA Coastal Cleanup takes place on Saturday, Sept. 15, at 15 sites in the Lake Erie watershed, including Presque Isle State Park.

For more information, contact Brittany Prischak, Erie County sustainability coordinator, at (814) 451-7326 or bprischak@eriecountypa.gov.

Did you know?

The Pennsylvania Legislature unanimously passed Senate Bill 431, which Gov. Tom Wolf signed on June 28. The new law goes into effect six months from the date Wolf signed it.

In "litter enforcement corridors," fines for littering will be doubled and in some cases tripled. Violators must also do mandated community service, including cleanup of the litter or illegal dumping.

"We're very much in favor of it. It really does make the punishment fit the crime," said Shannon Reiter, president of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, based in Greensburg.

Details about how the law will be implemented will be coming soon from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. For updates, visit www.keppabeautiful.org.



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Tearing Up the Status Quo: David Harbour Visits Erie

Stranger Things star weighs in on the arts, acting, and life choices



David Harbour, who plays Chief Dennis Hopper on the Netflix series *Stranger Things*, spoke to Penn State Behrend students on September 6 about the importance of pursuing their dreams, no matter how irrational they may seem to others.

Others carried memorabilia from the series.

I made my way to the room designated for interviews to wait for his arrival. A few minutes later, Harbour entered and he immediately began greeting everyone, shaking hands and introducing himself individually to each person in the room.

"Is there any coffee?" he finally asked when he was shown his seat. He'd been traveling nonstop recently, although if he was tired, it didn't show. He settled in as his coffee was brought over — no cream or sugar.

We were each introduced briefly again with what organization we were with — Erie News Now, JET 24, the Behrend student paper. The Erie Reader was described to him as the city's free alternative paper.

"Ah, nice," David said. "The Village Voice of Erie."

We were in a little better shape currently, I said, or at least I hoped so. The Village Voice, as was widely reported, shut down for good only a week earlier. He laughed — a hearty, genuine laugh.

Someone asked what he hoped to talk about with Behrend's students.

He shrugged and said he was open to whatever came up. He wasn't coming to give a prepared speech.

"I love talking with students," he said. "There is a whole future generation of artists out there who I love to talk to and convey my experience and hopefully share something that will, you know, help them along the way or inspire them in some way."

Harbour kept it casual, which seemed to be his preferred way to interact.

Over the years, I told him, I've known so many teenagers, many of them my own high school students, who were passionate about the arts. When I'd first meet them, they'd be ready to fearlessly pursue the unconventional life of a struggling actor or musician or artist. Yet almost all of them, by the time they neared graduation, would change their mind — and there'd often be this twinge of regret behind their eyes as they told me they were going to aim for a more practical career.

"That light that begins to die is so sad to watch," Harbour said. "I think at 15, you can still live the dream a little bit, right? [Graduate and] be broke and go live in New York or wherever and try and be an artist — if you're in it for the right reasons."

His first acting role was as the Tin Man in his kindergarten production of *The Wizard of Oz*. Since then, acting was all he has ever wanted to do. Over the years, he would try other forms of art — the violin, writing — but acting

By: Jonathan Burdick

On September 6th, actor David Harbour visited Erie as the first guest for this year's Penn State Behrend Speaker Series.

Harbour, of course, is widely known for his portrayal of Chief Jim Hopper on Netflix's *Stranger Things*, a role he will reprise again next summer for its third season. It's a part that has not only brought him global stardom, but will also bring him to the 70th Primetime Emmy Awards on September 17th with his second nomination for best

supporting actor.

He already had an impressive career as a working actor, but his rise to international fame was more gradual. Prior to *Stranger Things*, he'd done a significant amount of work on stage and television and appeared in major films such as *Revolutionary Road*, *Brokeback Mountain*, and *Quantum of Solace*.

When I arrived on campus 90 minutes before the engagement was to begin, students were wandering around the university's Junker Center. Many were wearing *Stranger Things* t-shirts.

Just Toyin' Witcha - By B. Toy



was the only passion that stuck, the one constant in his life. He never really knew it was possible to make a living out of it though.

In the mid-nineties, he went to Dartmouth for college and decided to major in English and theater. "I was the anti-Dartmouth," he quipped.

During this time, he had similar feelings and doubts as many of my students had, he said. External pressures had him on the fence as to whether he should continue pursuing acting as a career.

"My parents wanted me to be a businessman and make money and were scared that I wasn't going to [make it as an actor]," he said.

It was around this time that Pulitzer-winning playwright and screenwriter Tony Kushner visited his campus for a speaking engagement. This turned out to be a pivotal moment for Harbour. After listening to Kushner speak, he was convinced that if he was going to do this acting thing, he had to go all in. It had to be his only plan.

"[When] Tony Kushner came and spoke, he said, 'when people tell you that you shouldn't go into the arts, they're the devil,'" recounted Harbour.

It didn't matter if it was family, friends, or otherwise, Kushner had stressed.

"It was so profound to me, because I had never had someone come say that to me. Everybody else told me to have a fallback plan," he explained. "Here was this man who was very successful

at what he did telling me that I should just pursue it hardcore and view everyone who didn't want me to pursue it as an enemy, in a sense. It was the sort of dramatic take that I, at the time, needed to hear."

I joked about getting phone calls from angry parents asking me why I was encouraging their kid to go to drama school.

"Well, hopefully they don't have my phone number then, so I don't get those calls," he said, laughing. "I'm a bit of a punk in my essence and in my core. I'm a bit of an artist and a trickster and, you know, I believe in sort of tearing up the status quo for what people expect you to do."

Despite his encouragement, he's still upfront concerning the challenges of making a living as an actor.

"Until I was about 35, I lived in a 400-square-foot studio in New York City," he said. "There've been years when I've made 20 or 30 grand a year."

He added that being an actor was not much different than being a plumber. Both are people with a set of skills. "We are an occupation," he said. "We are a trade. We are craftsmen, in a sense, of the psychology of a character."

So, when times were difficult, what were the origins of his drive to push forward?

On the plane that very morning, he had watched *The Zen Diaries of Gary Shandling*. Shandling was one of his favorite comedians when he was young and the documentary explored

some of his personal writings.

"There were all of these journal entries [of his] going like, 'I don't think I'm funny. I don't think I'm funny.' ... And I think that's the mark of all of us artists is that we're constantly going over how we can improve and constantly wanting to top the last thing we did."

I asked if this was a continuous cycle of self-doubt with those occasional moments of thinking, "Hey, I guess that was okay."

"I wouldn't call it self-doubt, I'd call it dissatisfaction," clarified Harbour. "In that way, it's more like the fact that you can constantly look at the canvas and continue to paint. Part of it is just the dissatisfaction with things being what they are — even when they are pretty good."

He noted how fame came later for him than some of his actor peers such as Billy Crudup and Ethan Hawke. He couldn't see it at the time, but for him, this was likely for the better.

"Had I got famous around 25 or 30, I'd probably be horribly ungrounded," he laughed. "But I didn't really get famous until I was 40 and by the time you get to 40, you're like, 'We're all going to die.' We're all sort of the same."

He appeared sincerely unsure as to where his career is headed, but if he keeps getting interesting projects, he will be happy, he said. "I'm in it for the art. I just want to continue to create beautiful things that move people."

About thirty minutes later, Harbour was on stage in front of an audience

of hundreds. Behrend's chancellor, Dr. Ralph Ford, briefly introduced him, then turned it over to Harbour, who spent the evening taking questions from and engaging with the enthusiastic and starstruck audience.

"I think that the biggest thing I've learned in terms of pursuing careers," he told the audience, "is that the things that you're most embarrassed about yourself, the things that you feel like are ugly, the things that you really have a hard time with about yourself, are probably the things that are most beautiful about you and they should be embraced and shared with the world."

Those things are what connect us as humans, he stressed.

One thing is for sure: Harbour has a way of connecting with others.

He also will be a very familiar face over the coming year. Besides the new season of *Stranger Things* and his appearance at the Emmys, he will also be in theaters this January as the half-demon protagonist in Neil Marshall's *Hellboy* reboot.

The three hours of makeup each day was awful, he confirmed during the event, but the film is going to be something special.

With Harbour as the lead, I don't doubt it. I'll be there opening night.

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




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BHOFACK2

By: Matt Swanseger

Grease and mortar. Physically, they don't seem to have a lot in common. Grease is slippery to the touch, the unctuous byproduct of caloric excess, liquid shame meant to be wiped away and discarded. Mortar, of course, is the thick, pasty, and wholly inedible substance layered between the bricks and masonry that build civilizations, intended to endure for ages.

But when it comes to a sense of locality, the notion of being *home*, grease is the mortar that binds our collective identity. A city's comfort foods help convey a sense of the general mentality and make-up of its people — in short, what they're all about. With the proliferation of mass transportation and immigration in the 20th century, a city's comfort foods oftentimes became a region's comfort foods, points of communal pride and the basis of friendly competition. In the era of the Internet and social media, all it takes is one Tweet or Instagram post to go viral and it's not long before a local curiosity becomes a national one, like the cotton candy-wrapped hot dog pioneered by the Erie SeaWolves this year.

Erie's thriving bar culture can be in part attributed to large influxes of German, Irish, Polish, and Italian immigrants who quickly filled a number of blue collar roles in the city and were apt to enjoy a beverage after the working day had ended. Add working class tradition to our location — roughly smack dab in the middle of three NFL

cities (each with rabid fan bases) — and bar and finger foods have elevated to celebrity status throughout Erie County. The relationship is not always glamorous, but it is always *amorous* — to hear locals speak of their love of chicken wings, ox roast, and pepperoni balls is to hear the sound of a slightly labored heartbeat.

Erie has undoubtedly felt the cultural and economic ripples of nearby Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and Buffalo throughout the years — but when it comes to its favorite foods, it is Western New York whose influence has resonated the most. As the days grow shorter and darker and our metabolisms gear up for the heartier fare of pre-hibernation, it would serve us well to examine how and when some of our most beloved game-day fare got here.

JUST WINGIN' IT

For a food of such humble origins, humility is in short supply when it comes to chicken wings. Just about every bar and pizzeria in Erie boasts the "best wings in town!" You'd be setting yourself up for major trust issues if you were to fall for every player in the game. If you were to ask native Buffalonians, however, they might dispute that our wings are even "real" wings to begin with. From an anatomical perspective, they'd be wrong. But if you're arguing semantics, it's true that the most authentic "Buffalo" wings are found in the city where they were invented.

Arthur Bovino's *Buffalo Everything: A Guide to Eating in the "Nickel City"*

chronicles the somewhat convoluted origin story of the chicken wing in its initial chapter. Chicken wings could be found listed on Buffalo menus dating back to before the Civil War — on July 1, 1857, the Clarendon Hotel's were even being served fried! However, their flavor profile and preparation methods were a far cry from the Buffalo wing America has come to know and love. Almost everyone agrees that the Buffalo wing phenomenon was born in Frank and Teressa Bellissimo's Anchor Bar on a Friday night in 1964. Where the idea came from, though, is a subject of some debate.

The narratives align on a couple points: 1) that the Bellissimos' son, Dominic, and his friends were the guinea pigs for the first batch of Buffalo wings, and 2) that "Mother Teressa" concocted the recipe. They diverge as to whether: 1) the excess of chicken wings was delivered by mistake or was going to be used for soup (back then, chicken wings on their own were essentially disposable), and 2) whether they were born of divine inspiration (one legend claims Teressa woke up at around four in the morning with her "Eureka!" moment) or adapted from another Buffalo restaurateur's specialty.

African-American entrepreneur John Young also sold chicken wings out of his Wings 'N Things eatery starting in 1966, although he claimed to have been frying them up much earlier. Unlike the Anchor Bar's wings, which were cut in half (the flap and drumette) and coated in butter and Frank's Red-Hot Sauce (allegedly for no other reason other than Frank being Teressa's husband's name), Young's wings were breaded, fried whole, and slathered in "mombo" sauce, a sweet and spicy ketchup-like condiment that had circulated through the African-American community in Chicago in the 1950s, penetrated the Washington, D.C. market through a popular African-American run, Chinese-owned establishment also called Wings 'N Things, and made their way to Buffalo with Young.

Needless to say, it was the Anchor Bar's version that stuck. The wings were set out on the bar in place of traditional bar snacks such as peanuts or pretzels and quickly disappeared. The

Bellissimos discovered that customers were not ordering as many dinners (the Anchor originally served Italian fare) because they were gorging themselves on the wings. Consequently, Frank added them as a menu item with the auxiliary elements of celery and blue cheese (both components of the antipasto dish), now standard. In Buffalo (not Erie), carrots only make the occasional cameo, but Ranch dressing is roundly shunned (although you're welcome to ask for it).

The concept of "heat levels" was likely the innovation of Ron Duffney, co-owner of Duff's, another Buffalo wing institution. Duff's was founded as a gin mill by Ron's mother in 1946 and started selling wings in 1969. The disclaimers Ron posted around the original location have become the chain's slogan: "Medium is HOT! Medium hot is VERY HOT! Hot is VERY VERY HOT!" (I can personally verify this based on a recent trip) Although today's wing joints offer a panoply of unique sauces and flavors, mild, medium, and hot are almost universal. With this, the heat was on. Between 1972 and 1977, hot sauce sales to restaurants and food services in Western New York quadrupled.

Despite wings' obvious boom in popularity, they were seldom written about, even in the city that so ravenously devoured them. In 1978, a stockbroker named Robert M. Budin contributed a lighthearted piece to the Buffalo Courier-Express suggesting that the city rally behind the chicken wing as its official symbol and mascot. Buffalo natives might have gotten a (zesty chili pepper) kick out of that, but it made little impact outside the already wing-obsessed municipality. The phenomenon only began to enter the national consciousness when Calvin Trillin of *The New Yorker* penned "An Attempt to Compile a Short History of the Buffalo Chicken Wing" in 1980, a wryly humorous account of the Anchor Bar/Young's story recounted above.

The article is prophetic in places, especially a passage that mentions Buffalonians' dream of "introducing Buffalo chicken wings to some virgin territory." It is around this same time frame that Erie's wing craze caught on,



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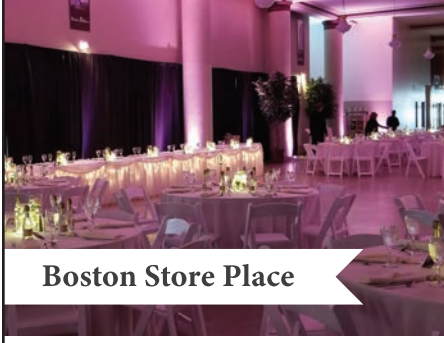
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with current champions of the area's pizza-and-wing scene pointing to the early '80s.

Cris Leszek (a.k.a. "Lizzard"), who manages the Park Tavern in Lawrence Park, traces his wing heritage back to "Erie's original wing haunt," Stack's, which was technically located in North East at the corner of Route 20 and 89 (now Speed'eez Sports Bar & Grill). "My parents started their food board in the early '80s. We have decades of experience as one of Erie's perennial favorites." For the record, the Park Tavern finished third in last year's Best of Erie polls for Best Chicken Wings — "pretty awesome for a little tavern on Route 5." Lizzard also made mention of the all-you-can-eat wing special at the former Warsaw Cafe (for a now unheard of \$2), which was situated in one of Erie's old Polish neighborhoods at 620 E. 24th St.

Writer Kevin Cuneo reflects warmly on Stack's wings in a column for The Erie Times-News, denying the notion they were Anchor Bar clones. Word is owner Dwayne "Stack" Dye *did* try to replicate them in his kitchen after driving up to Buffalo, but the experiments yielded something different. Cuneo notes a "toastier" quality that was totally individual. From there, wings took their saucy grip on the area's residents, with places like The Red Fox Inn, The Fiddle Inn, Chippers Tavern, Lefty's, and Eli's House of Wings each building substantial followings of loyal acolytes under the shadow of towering bones. Aside from Eli's (closed in 2013 and warmly remembered by former patrons), all of these places are still welcoming new devotees.

If the '80s were the decade that chicken wings began to strut their stuff on a bigger stage (the Hooter's and Buffalo Wild Wings franchises were also

founded in these years), the '90s were the decade they took flight, blazing new trails from coast to coast. John E. Harmon marks 1992 as a pivotal year for Buffalo wing dispersment in his *Atlas of Popular Culture in the Northeastern United States*. At the time, the country was wild about Bills (both newly-elected President Clinton and the football team, which was in the midst of four consecutive, albeit unsuccessful, Super Bowl runs) — national pizza chain Domino's seized on this publicity by spotlighting Buffalo wings, testing them first in the Western New York market before rolling them out nationwide in 1994. Pizza Hut and Little Caesar's (more tentatively) soon followed suit.

Independent and family-owned pizzerias in Buffalo had already been offering wings for decades, but Erie's mom-and-pop shops seemingly didn't give into the trend until the national franchises set them as an expectation. John Wildwood, who has been in the business for nearly 40 years (and was a 2017 Best of Erie winner in the pizza category), does not recall adding wings to his menu until the mid-'90s, adding that they "were much smaller then!" This is because geneticists have been breeding progressively larger specimens for bigger breasts. Eyes up here for a startling statistic: the average chicken in 1920 weighed 2.5 pounds; today the average chicken weighs in at 6 pounds!

The more bountifully bosomed birds coupled with the rising demand for wings has spawned the oxymoronic "boneless wing" — which as you probably know is a chicken tender playing dress-up with wing sauce. Despite being made from white meat and a cheaper price tag, connoisseurs rou-



NICK WARREN

tinely snub them for their bone-in counterparts. Whether you attribute that to the power of tradition or simply the primal appeal of the experience, chicken wings have indelibly left their saucy imprint on two Erie counties (Pennsylvania and New York) — and if the football crowds at places like Best of Erie award-winner Odis 12 are any indication, we can safely expect the aftertaste to linger.

WELL, IF YOU OX ME...

...the origin story of Erie's signature roast beef sandwich is a little easier to digest. According to Mike Weber, the semi-retired chairman and de facto historian of Smith's Provisions, ox roast far predated his company's beloved product, which was only introduced to supermarkets about a decade ago: "The story starts with volunteer fire departments and the carnivals and fairs they'd hold as their big fundraisers. The [North East Firemen's] Cherry Festival is a throwback to that. They would roast a half or a quarter of beef, carve off pieces, and put them on a semi-hard roll."

Counterintuitively, the meat is not actually ox — oxen are draft animals

A cross-section of a pepperoni ball, perhaps the crown jewel of Erie's comfort food convention. Despite its portability and seeming mass appeal, it has yet to gain cachet among populations that didn't grow up with it.

(usually castrated males) used for heavy labor and (sadly) work until they can't — tough break, tough meat. Smith's had a great burden to haul in its quest for the product to be officially sold as "ox roast." There were acres of federal regulations to plow through before the USDA approved the label. "They wanted to know why ox wasn't in it. They'd never heard of it," Weber chuckles.

What is ox roast then? "Generally it's a lean cut, like a round of beef ... we use choice round fully cooked with an au jus. We roast it in a bag with its own juices and dilute the au jus — otherwise it would be too salty and too spicy — then carve it and slice it," explains Weber. Weber gives a nod to Urbaniak's, Bello's, Top's Market, and McDonald's Meats in Girard as other good takes on the local delicacy.

He cannot pinpoint any relationship

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FEATURE

to Buffalo's signature beef-on-weck sandwich, other than both feature a generous portion of roast beef and are best served with horseradish (he is a big fan of Trawka's on East Seventh and Payne). "There are only so many ways to cook and serve it." The "weck" in beef-on-weck is short for "Kümmelweck," a pretzel salt and caraway seed-topped roll introduced to the Buffalo area by German immigrant and bakery owner William Wahr (German Kümmel, or caraway seed + Weck, or roll). In doing my due diligence for this article, I stopped at the famous Bar-Bill Tavern in East Aurora, N.Y., which also boasts incredible (hand-painted!) wings, to try to discern the difference. There was considerably less seasoning and juice to the meat itself and a consequently softer roll — the beef stood out more on accord of its inherent beefiness. Commendable, yes — but somehow less fun.

LET'S GET THE PEPPERONI BALL ROLLIN'

Whether it's underappreciated, misunderstood, or just mysterious, the pepperoni ball has never gained much traction outside of Northwest Pennsylvania. These roly-poly, doughy globes of pepperoni are hearty, satisfying, and portable, not to mention aerodynamic. It is the pepperoni ball, not the hot dog, that should be shot into the stands during the seventh inning stretch — after all, it and a baseball are about the same size. Speaking of sporting events, so iconic is the pepperoni ball in Erie that the G League's BayHawks totally rebranded their team after it this past March — including launching a brand new website!

Our own Jonathan Burdick delves into the spicy, greasy core of this Erie

delicacy in "The Mythical Origins of the Pepperoni Ball" on eriepepperoniballs.com. Although it has parallels to the pepperoni roll, a popular co-mestible of West Virginian coal miners during the 1930s, in Erie it evolved from the fish ball generations ago. Similar in concept, the fish ball ensconced scraps of seafood in a casing of baked or fried dough, but just didn't have the same allure. Once the family-owned stores and bakeries of Little Italy replaced their hearts with pepperoni, they anchored themselves in our cultural identity — and our stomachs.

Culinary traditions travel with the people that carry them; thus the pepperoni ball diaspora aligns with the Erie diaspora living in other states around the country. While several bakeries and pizzerias offer pepperoni balls (International Bakery, Arnone's, Barbato's, Valerio's, etc.), one brand stands as the most ubiquitous. Stanganelli's Italian Foods is one of the few outlets that wholesale pepperoni balls, distribute to grocery stores, and ship them out of state. According to a Stanganelli's representative, however, the biggest buyers tend to be Erie expatriates.

Bonnie Raimy, who operates the online store Bonnie's Balls, has experienced a similar phenomenon with her product. But, she adds, "I'm absolutely interested in taking my product nationally." She named shipping costs the biggest obstacle in getting her startup off the ground and into toaster ovens across America. "Honestly, the best way to get my product into cities around the country would be through bars. The product is simply reheated (just like the original pepperoni ball)."

Bonnie's Balls are a little more gussied up for broader gustation, incorporating seasoning into the shell and mozzarella into the center — which a purist might sneer at.

If you're looking to make some dough, making inroads into the watering holes of America remains the golden-brown path to success. Perhaps the pepperoni ball could follow the blueprint of pizza logs, another Buffalonian bar food innovation that has spread well beyond Western New York and into Pennsylvania (PNC Park and PPG Paints Arena in Pittsburgh, the Wells Fargo Center in Philly), New Jersey (MetLife Stadium), Florida (Universal Studios Orlando), New York City, Boston, Wisconsin, Texas, and Las Vegas.

Described by Original Pizza Logs owner Jason Cordova as a "gourmet pizza egg roll," the product has become a staple of pub appetizer menus in the Northeast, including local establishments like the Plymouth Tavern. His father, Robert, "muscle through it," working hard to build accounts with local bars and spread the word. "The harder you work, the more you're lucky," Cordova said in an interview with *Buffalo Everything* author Bovino.

Are we not marketing the pepperoni ball aggressively enough? Are we just going to keep these gems all to ourselves? It won't keep me up at night — unless, you know, heartburn.

Matt Swanseger gained at least 5 pounds in the writing of this article. Keep him active by directing all questions, comments, and comprehensive fitness plans to mwsanseger@eriereader.com

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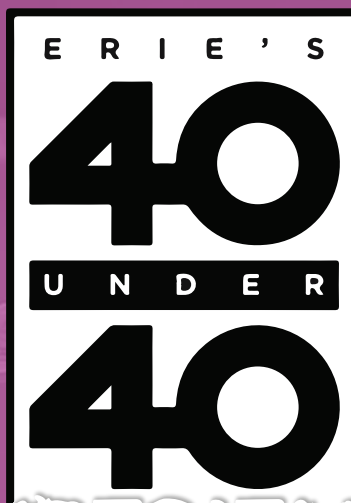
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FRIDAY, SEPT. 14 – 16

The second installment of ComiCon Erie is here, and it shows no signs of slowing down. This year showcases a wide breadth of talented creators and personalities ranging from the paper panel to the big screen. That's good news to comic fans all across the region, and looking at this year's box office receipts, that number is at a record high. Over the past several years, geek culture has gained a ubiquitous presence in mainstream society. Geek culture is, arguably, now pop culture. Out of the top ten domestic box office earners of all-time, seven of them are either superhero movies or *Star Wars* films. It's a watershed time to be a geek these days, and ComiCon Erie lets fans indulge their love of media to superhuman degrees.

At the heart of it all are comic books (or as legendary creator Stan Lee would prefer, "comicbooks"). Decades ago, comic book conventions looked wildly different. They were simple events with few frills, often lumped together with sports cards and other barely-adjacent collectibles (though this writer recalls walking out of the Avalon having exhausted several months of allowances, making off with a copy of *The Adventures of Superman* #500 signed by guest artist Doug Hazlewood and a pretty slick Spider-Man Vs. Venom hologram card that's somehow increased in value). These days, thanks in no small part to the world-famous convention in San Diego, they're a media spectacle, packed with celebrities, eye-popping displays, and throngs of guests cosplaying (i.e., impersonating/dressing up) as their favorite characters.

Things kick off at the Bayfront Convention center on Friday afternoon at 2 p.m. and go all weekend until 4 p.m. on Sunday. There will be plenty of guests, artists, cosplayers, and displays to check out.

One of the guests who is, in fact "supposed to be here

Among the notable guests for the second volume of ComiCon Erie are (top row, left to right) Brian O'Halloran of the *Clerks* films, Falk Hentschel of the CW's *Legends of Tomorrow*, Randy Havens of *Stranger Things*, (bottom row, left to right), Jason Faunt of *Power Rangers: Time Force*, and *Walking Dead* zombies Michael Koske and Greg French, who will appear fully alive and unrotted.

today" is Brian O'Halloran, known primarily for his role as Dante Hicks (and various other members of the Hicks family) in Kevin Smith's "View Askewniverse." Diligent local convention-goers will recall that O'Halloran appeared at the 2013 Eerie Horror Film Festival as well.

Fresh off the heels from a visit by Chief Jim Hopper, another pillar of the Hawkins community will be in Erie: Randy Havens, best known as Mr. Clarke from *Stranger Things*. Fans will know the AV club leader well from his integral explanation of "the upside down."

Falk Hentschel, better known as Hawkman on the CW's *Legends of Tomorrow* will also swoop in. Portraying Carter Hall, Hentschel has appeared as the character in *The Flash* and *Arrow* as well (not to mention starting his television career as one of the "Hot Cops" in *Arrested Development*).

Fans of *Power Rangers: Time Force* will be eager to meet Jason Faunt, who plays Wesley Collins, the Red Ranger. Faunt starred in the series and has appeared in various other *Power Rangers* titles.

Michael Koske and Greg French will be in attendance as well. Both actors have had numerous appearances as "walkers" in the tremendously popular AMC series *The Walking Dead*. On Sunday morning, they'll host a special class, "Zombie School." For an extra \$40 (usually \$100, but available at a discount to con attendees), you'll be learn to walk the walker's walk mirroring the same instruction they received from the show.

Artist Graham Nolan (appearing Saturday and Sunday only) has done a back-breaking amount of work



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dan Drake, better known as "Dancakes," utilizes a hot griddle as his canvas, layering various colored batters to recreate characters from pop culture.

for the mythos of Batman comics. Working with writer Chuck Dixon during the monumental "Knightfall" storyline, he co-created and designed the villain Bane. He also had a long stint as the artist for *The Phantom*, a strip that is syndicated in newspapers nationwide.

In brightest day and in blackest night, writer Ron Marz has helped shape multiple comic universes since the

mid-1990s. With long runs in titles like *Green Lantern*, *Silver Surfer*, and *Witchblade*, he's been an important name in the landscape of comics storytelling, having helmed many notable company crossover events.

Pop culture artist David O'Keefe will also be one of the celebrity artists. With a distinct style of caricature-influenced illustration, he re-envisions moments from movies like *The Big Lebowski* and *Caddyshack*, as well as having a penchant for the world of sports, politics, and rock 'n' roll icons.

Finding a firm foothold in the world of animation and cartooning, Stephen Silver was the lead character designer for *Kim Possible* and brought fellow guest Brian O'Halloran to life on the animated version of *Clerks*. Silver will be returning to ComiCon Erie with artist Kurt Lehner and Tom Fluharty. Lehner has worked in both the animation and comics worlds with work on the *Gargoyles* franchise, *Space Jam*, and more. Fluharty has a rich method of painting, and specializes in stylized celebrity and pop culture portraits.

For another unique flavor of artistry, pancake artist Dan Drake will be appearing on Saturday and Sunday. With more than a quarter million YouTube subscribers, Drake is the titular "Dan" of "Dancakes." Making incredible, edible art, Drake has racked up millions of views with his entrancing method of layering colored pancake batter to make beautiful art, often depicting superheroes, cartoon characters, and colorful pop cul-

ture figures.

Additional featured artists include The Art of Shane & Devon, Kristian Lehner, Kelci Crawford, Beckham a.k.a. "The Squid Kid," McSoss, Nate Jeffers, Dave Nesler, Fringe Night Comics, facepaint artist Taradoodles, Stacie and Nathan from 819 Comics, Sean Usyk, Dan Ekis, Benny Miller, Franklin Barkley, Kevin Fellows, Tom Waterhouse, James Broadhurst, and more.

There will be several vehicles and displays to check out, like the Mach 5 from *Speed Racer*, the '67 Impala from *Supernatural*, a TARDIS from *Dr. Who*, and more. Special guest cosplayers for the weekend will include Ruby Rinesko, Jennifer Rose, OBX Megatron and Jazz from BNB Cosplay, Amanda Robinson, Maiacat Cosplay, and Erie's own Brooke Surgener. Groups Fleet 31 and the 501st Legion will be there too, in large-scale Star Trek and Star Wars cosplay, respectively. Friday night will also have special "Cosplay Ball" held at the Bourbon Barrel starting at 8 p.m. for an additional \$10 for guests over 21.

With such a packed schedule, catching everything sounds like a superhuman feat. — Nick Warren

Friday 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Sunday 10:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.// The Bayfront Convention Center, 160 E Front Street // \$15 Friday or Sunday, \$18 Saturday, \$30 "Geekender" pass // eriepromotions.com/comicon-erie

PACA'S 2018 THEATRICAL SEASON

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?

By Edward Albee

Starring Patty Corella, Michael Burns, Grant Miller, and Kayla Corwin.

Directed by Mark Tanenbaum

ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT PACA1505.COM



September 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29
and Sunday September the 16th at 2 pm
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TICKETS \$15
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Sláinte! Erie's Irish Festival Will Have You Doing a Jig



FRIDAY, SEPT. 14 - 16

Now, technically the U.S. only officially celebrates St. Patrick's Day once a year, but here in Erie we're lucky enough to get a shamrock shake-up in September, thanks to the annual Erie Irish Festival, held downtown on the grounds of the incomparable Saint Patrick church. It is no small coincidence that the party's weekend marks the halfway point to St. Patrick's Day in March.

Truth be told, Erie's Irish Festival brings us much closer to the culture of the Emerald Isle, from the traditional Irish dancing entertainment, to the long tables full of Irish goods at the vendor village, to the plentiful pub-style food and drink, plus the ever-packed sports bar with all the big football games (cue the Notre Dame fight song!). It is a wonder this

festival fits on the one block between East Third and Fourth and Holland and French.

As always, Friday is the opening of the festival, and there will be live music, the Rince Na Tiarna Irish Step Dancers, plus the fish n' chips special that is only available on Friday. Saturday opens with Long's Step Dancers, more uplifting, lilt-ing Irish music, and the addition of an Irish Polka Party, featuring the music of Celtic Moon. Bring the whole family to enjoy the Leprechaun Village and its kid-friendly activities, or grab your crew and catch college football in the sports bar with a beer and an order of Irish nachos.

Step dancers return again on Sunday, and if you didn't catch the musical stylings of Corned Beef and Curry or Ballinloch on Saturday, this is your last opportunity for the weekend.

Admission to Irish Fest is totally free, with ample parking throughout the neighborhood. But if you plan on taking full advantage of Erie's open-container laws, grab an Uber and earn two pots of gold with one rainbow. — Cara Suppa

Friday, 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturday 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. // 130 East 4th Street // Free admission // erieirishfestival.com/new

Wrath Begins at Basement Transmissions



FRIDAY, SEPT. 14

Wrath of Ages (WOA) are kicking off their latest tour with a hometown show. Included in the lineup are California post-hardcore group Capsize, Illinois metalcore bands Ghost Key and Borrowed Time, and Erie metal-hardcore band Bushido Code.

This is WOA's first Erie show in some time, the last one being in December before their trip to Europe to tour this spring.

In a recent phone interview, WOA lead

singer Leroy Hamp spoke of the band's excitement to return to Erie.

"We've been through a lot of different changes," Hamp said of the Erie music scene, "But the one thing that's always constant is the fan base, always coming out to support us...It's really awesome."

At the upcoming show, fans can expect to hear a setlist of "a little bit of everything," Hamp said. Lately they have been trying to play a mix of old and new songs, often two from each album per show but, "it's hard because you can only scream for so long," Hamp continued jokingly.

Capsize and Ghost Key will continue on the Wrath Tour with WOA for a total of 28 shows across the country. — Hannah McDonald

Doors, 5:30 p.m., Start, 6:30 p.m. // 145 W. 11th St. // All Ages // \$13 and \$15 // facebook.com/Basement.Transmissions or 814.520.8328

PACA Pours a Dark Glass of Albee



RICK KLEIN

FRIDAY, SEPT. 14

This autumn the Performing Arts Collective Alliance (PACA) is bringing some of the finest examples of 20th century theater to Erie, and the upcoming *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* is no exception. Director Mark Tanenbaum is on a roll, following up his production of *Equus* with this Edward Albee classic.

Written in 1962, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* is as darkly funny today as it was then. Even if you've seen the play before, it never ceases to be a wonder of word-play. If you are new to Albee's work, you can't help but be awed by the sharp dialogue and humor.

The play begins after a faculty party when Martha informs her husband, George, that she has invited Nick, an up-and-coming professor, and his wife,

Honey, over for cocktails.

Drinks are consumed and George and Martha's banter becomes more personal and scathing, turning quite vicious at times as the evening progresses. Nick and his wife become entangled in the verbal games played out by their hosts. Every twist and jagged turn is followed by a sharper one. However, the drama is tempered by the comedy delivered through fast paced dialogue and great characters.

"It is amazingly well-written, family-friendly and perfect for school kids to see great literature come to life," said Tannenbaum. Having had the pleasure of discovering Albee in school, I am inclined to agree.

With a great and experienced cast, seasoned director, and wonderful sets, this should be as much a treat to those new to *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* as it will be to the well-versed. — Marnie Foss

Fridays and Saturdays, Sept. 14-29, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, July 29, 2 p.m. // 1505 State St. // \$15, \$10 Sunday // paca1505.com

Hello, Dolly! Greet the Erie Playhouse Stage



RICK KLEIN

FRIDAY, SEPT. 14

Since 1916, Erie Playhouse has brought a lot to the stage: from student productions to Broadway performances, from comedies to dramas, and of course, all manner of musicals. This fall, the pillar in Erie's theater scene is kicking off their 102nd season with the opening of, *Hello, Dolly!*, a hit musical that debuted in 1964.

The music and lyrics were written by Jerry Herman who found inspiration in Thornton Wilder's 1955 book *The Matchmaker*. The tale follows Dolly Gallagher-Levi, a widow and talented matchmaker living in the greater New York area at the turn of the century.

Hello, Dolly!'s combination of humor, romance, lively musical numbers and dance has continued to impress

throughout its four Broadway revivals. Through the years, the musical has earned 15 Tony Awards including Best Musical and Best Revival of a Musical.

During this run of the show, Dolly is played by Karen Brennan. Her co-star, Richard Tryzbiak, plays a widowed, affluent and authoritative older gentleman named Horace Vandergelder. Dolly's line of work as a "woman who arranges things" leads her to Yonkers, New York to find Horace a bride.

Other notable cast members include Rebecca Ropelewski as Ermengarde, Horace's niece, and Seamus Clerkin as Ambrose Kemper, an artist who has his mind set on marrying Ermengarde.

Cornelius Hackle and Barnaby Tucker — Horace's chief clerk and his assistant, respectively — are played by Josh Lap-ping and A.J. Ferretti.

The show opens on the mainstage, Sept. 14 and will run throughout the remainder of the month. — Hannah McDonald

7:30 p.m. // 13 W. 10th St. // For more showtimes and ticket information, visit EriePlayhouse.org.

CALENDAR

Magic for Muggles: Edinboro's Potterfest Casts a Spell



SATURDAY, SEPT. 15 - 23

Did your owl forget your invitation to Edinboro Potterfest?

No worries — unlike Hogwarts, you can come be a part even if you aren't broom-and-wand-ready!

For the eighth year, Edinboro University is hosting its own Harry Potter festival, a week-long celebration of books, films, magic of the wizarding world, and of the courage, the cleverness and constancy of its main characters, Harry, Ron and Hermione.

Every day of the festival guests can: visit the Wooden Nickel Buffalo Farm for their annual corn maze, plus the Potterfest raffle; partake in the Earthshine House Cup scavenger hunt; watch a different Potter film each day in Cambridge Springs' own Mugs and Muggles, a Harry Potter-themed cafe with a magical assortment of tasty drinks and treats; and

sweep on into local favorite Flip Cafe in downtown Edinboro, where they will be serving up butterbeer and pastries like you might find at Hogsmeade.

Each day also brings its own individualized activities, like A Day at the Castle on the 15th, where those aged 5-13 are specially invited to experience a real school day at Hogwarts (the Pogue Student Center acting as a stand-in). This year's featured speaker, Beth Sutton-Ramspeck, Ph.D., is an associate professor of English Literature at OSU-Lima and the author of *Mischief Managed: Rule Breaking in the Harry Potter Series*, and she will lecture Monday the 17th. The can't-miss Potterbowl trivia contest, hosted by Joey Laythe, takes place Wednesday the 19th, for teams of up to three, three different age groups and prizes available for the last wizards standing.

Each year Potterfest grows in both size and ingenuity, and the full event schedule can be found both at Edinboro Potterfest on Facebook and via their website. — Cara Suppa

September 15-23, various times // Various locations in Edinboro and Cambridge Springs // Most activities free and open to the public // potterfest.cs.edinboro.edu

Goodell Gardens Plans Homegrown Harvest Festival



SUNDAY, SEPT. 16

Goodell Gardens will wind down its 2018 season Sunday, Sept. 16 with its annual Homegrown Harvest Festival from noon to 5 p.m.

The event will feature locally grown food, live music, a butterfly release and more.

"You'll be supporting local farmers, local artists and a great community organization," said Goodell Garden's executive director, Amber Wellington. "And seeing dozens of butterflies released at once is downright magical."

Throughout the afternoon, people can purchase handcrafted goods and local produce, participate in a beehive painting competition, see quilts and antique tractors on display, and walk through a live butterfly tent. Entrance to the butterfly tent costs \$2.

The butterflies will be released at 4

Guitarist Seann Clark and bassist Adam Holquist of Basket Eddy perform at last year's iteration of the Goodell Gardens Homegrown Harvest Festival.

p.m. Guests can reserve a monarch butterfly for \$10 or a painted lady for \$6. To reserve a butterfly, people should call or visit squareup.com/store/goodellevents to order their butterfly before Friday, Sept. 14. Quantities are limited.

The Goodell Gardens String Band will perform at noon, Jay B. & the Vigils at 1, and TK Blues Company from 3 to 5 p.m.

"It's a family-friendly occasion, and there really is something for everyone," says Wellington.

The festival began 13 years ago as a mum festival, but quickly expanded to become the Homegrown Harvest Festival.

The event is sponsored by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority and several Erie area businesses and organizations. — Tracy Geibel

Noon to 5 p.m. // Goodell Gardens, 221 Waterford St., Edinboro // free, \$2 parking fee, \$2 admission into butterfly tent // (814) 734-6699 // goodellgardens.org

MUSIC

Dave VanAmburg and Friends

Sept. 12, 14, 19, 21, 26 — 5 to 8 p.m.
Bel-Aire Clarion, 2800 W. 8th St. belaireclarion.com.

MVP

Sept. 13, 20 — 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Dickey's BBQ Pit, 3716 Liberty St. facebook.com.

Sam Hyman

Sept. 13 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428 skunkandgoattavern.com.

Salmon Frank

Sept. 13 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St, Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

SASS Acoustics

Sept. 14 — 5 to 7 p.m.
Brew Bros. at PI Downs & Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

War of Ages, Capsize, Ghost Key

Sept. 14 — 5 to 11 p.m.
Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11 St. facebook.com.

Next of Kin

Sept. 14 — 6 to 10 p.m.
Coconut Joe's, 28 N. Park Row facebook.com.

The Highlife

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

Bruce Johnstone Buffalo Quartet

Sept. 14 — 8 p.m.
Saxophonist Bruce Johnstone plays as part of jazz quartet on Erie's west side.
Artlore Studio, 3406 W. Lake Rd. facebook.com.

Rodger Montgomery, Colin John

Sept. 14 — 9:30 p.m.
Scotty's Martini Lounge, 301 German St. facebook.com.

Bat House, goo, The Indeterminates

Sept. 14 — 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
A night of experimental punk, chaos and math/psych-rock at The Rook
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com.

Dan Baney Country Unplugged

Sept. 15 — 5 to 7 p.m.
Brew Bros. at PI Downs & Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy.

presqueisledowns.com.

Small Town Revolution

Sept. 15 — 6 to 10 p.m.
Coconut Joe's, 28 N. Park Row facebook.com.

Fred Oakman

Sept. 15 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St, Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

Songs to Fill the Air: A Grateful Dead Celebration

Sept. 15 — 7 to 10 p.m.
Honoring a defining force in psychedelic rock, Artlore hosts a family-friendly show.
Artlore Studio, 3406 W. Lake Rd. facebook.com.

Chris Higbee

Sept. 15 — 9 p.m.
Brew Bros. at PI Downs & Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

Litz, Electric Love Machine

Sept. 15 — 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
All-night doubleheader played in the downstairs concert complex of The Rook.
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com.

Adam Hammerlee & Friends

Sept. 16 — 1 to 4 p.m.
Arundel Cellars & Brewing Co.,

11727 E. Main Rd. North East, PA 16428 arundelcellars.com.

Sunday Sesh: Tyler Smilo

Sept. 16 — 1 to 4 p.m.
Five & 20 Spirits and Brewing, 8398 West Main Rd., Westfield, NY 14787 fiveand20.com.

Dennis Malley

Sept. 16 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St, Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

James Brandon Lewis Trio

Sept. 16 — 8 p.m.
Saxophonist from Buffalo, New York plays with a three-person ensemble in Erie.
Artlore Studio, 3406 W. Lake Rd. facebook.com.

Mallory Run, Young Culture, The Real Fake Doors, Lyle Sallade

Sept. 19 — 7:30 to 11 p.m.
PACA, 1505 State St., facebook.com.

Jonathan Moser & Kellen Degnan

Sept. 19 — 8 p.m.
Mercyhurst Institute for Arts & Culture hosts string musicians Jonathan Moser and Kellen Degnan for one night recital.
Walker Recital Hall at Mercyhurst Univ., 501 E. 38th

St.miac.mercyhurst.edu.

The Acoustic Jukebox

Sept. 20 — 6 to 9 p.m.
Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428 skunkandgoattavern.com.

Jesse Weston

Sept. 20 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St, Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

Escape the Fate, Slaves

Sept. 20 — 6:30 p.m. to midnight
Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11 St. facebook.com.

Kevin Wilson

Sept. 21 — 5 to 7 p.m.
Brew Bros. at PI Downs & Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

Refuge

Sept. 21 — 6 to 10 p.m.
BIGBAR, 14 E. 10th St. facebook.com.

Scarlett Ledbetter

Sept. 21 — 6:30 p.m.
Sunset Grill, 508 Erie St, Edinboro, PA 16412 edinborolakeresort.com.

End of Summer Punk Show

Sept. 21 — 8 p.m.
Closing out the summer season, the 9th & State Beer Cafe will host a punk show

featuring bands from Erie, Pittsburgh and Detroit.
9th & State Beer Cafe, 832 State St. facebook.com.

Kung Fu

Sept. 21 — 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921 Peach St. facebook.com.

Ish, Aria and Voiceless, Ice Cream Socialists

Sept. 21 — 9:30 p.m.
An evening of alternative rock from three innovative local bands.
Scotty's Martini Lounge, 301 German St. facebook.com.

Matt Gavula

Sept. 22 — 5 to 7 p.m.
Brew Bros. at PI Downs & Casino, 8199 Perry Hwy. presqueisledowns.com.

Geek Army

Sept. 22 — 6 to 10 p.m.
BIGBAR, 14 E. 10th St. facebook.com.

Dionisio/Colette Bone

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

1812 Pops Favorites

Sept. 22 — 8 p.m.
Warner Theatre, 811 State St. eriephil.org.

St. Patrick Church | Downtown Erie



3 GREAT DAYS

Friday, September 14 - 5:00 to 11:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 15 - 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 16 - 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Official
Irish Festival
Tee Shirts!



All New
Wine Bar with
our own Irish
Cream Liqueur!

FRIDAY

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

All your favorite Irish brews and whiskeys!
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SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

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Mallory Run Packs Bags for PACA



WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19

Edinboro favorite Mallory Run is headed north to the Performing Artists Collective Alliance, headlining a four-band lineup. Though it's taking place at PACA, this show is being hosted by The Andromeda Agency, a new force in the Erie DIY scene. Elvis Mayshire, owner of The Andromeda Agency expressed her excitement for the upcoming show. "This is Mallory Run's first home show since June," she said, continuing, "and first home show of the college semester." In mid-April, the band dropped *Spin*, a five-track EP. The release is the band's first since 2016. "Being our first release

in over a year, we really tried to take our time and perfect the songs in the mix," Mallory Run bass player Albert Kotala said, continuing, "(We) took out time releasing it because we felt very strongly about the quality of this EP and didn't want to rush anything." The 'Boro hard-rockers will play alongside their Erie neighbors The Real Fake Doors, a punk band who has recently come onto the scene, and Lyle Sallade (of The Wildeyes). The PACA show will be Sallade's first show promoting his solo project. Young Culture of Albany, New York will disrupt the hometown uniformity of these Erie County acts and is on its way to big things, Mayshire said. "Young Culture...is breaking out. (They) just announced they were signed to Equal Visions Records, their new single, 'Drift,' has been featured on Spotify's 'New Punk Tracks' playlist." — Hannah McDonald
7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. // 1505 State St. // 18+ // BYOB with valid ID // \$7 presale, \$9 at door // facebook.com

Mercyhurst Highlights Faculty Talent with Recital



Violinist Jonathan Moser (left) and cellist Kellen Degnan (right) will open a succession of recitals highlighting the abilities of Mercyhurst faculty.
titions, including the Pittsburgh Concert Society Solo Competition and the Northern Virginia Music Teachers Association Solo Competition. He earned his Bachelor of Music in Performance degree from Shenandoah University and his Master of Music in Performance degree from Arizona State University. Degnan has been a member of the Ashland Symphony Orchestra and later the Toledo Symphony Orchestra. He's also performed in the Canton Symphony Orchestra, Akron Symphony Orchestra, Traverse Symphony Orchestra and Erie Philharmonic. He studied music at the University of Michigan. The recitals are intended for students and the public. They are free to all. — Tracy Geibel
8 p.m. // Walker Recital Hall, 501 E. 38th St. // Free // (814) 824-2394 // miac.mercyhurst.edu

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19

From now through May, Mercyhurst University's D'Angelo Department of Music will look to promote its in-house talent in a succession of recitals. The annual series kicks off Wednesday, Sept. 19 with a show featuring Jonathan Moser, violin instructor and director of the Mercyhurst Civic Orchestra, and cello instructor Kellen Degnan. "It definitely showcases the faculty talent here at Mercyhurst," said Victoria McIlvain, music department secretary and music admissions coordinator. Moser is a regular performer in the Erie Philharmonic and has served as concertmaster for the Erie Junior Philharmonic, the Pittsburgh Opera Theater and other places. He has won several solo compe-

Gem City Revival

Sept. 23 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Skunk & Goat Tavern, 17 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428
skunkandgoattavern.com.

Go For Broke Acoustics

Sept. 23 — 1 to 4 p.m.
Arundel Cellars & Brewing Co., 11727 E. Main Rd. North East, PA 16428
arundelcellars.com.

Ron Yarmon

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

Yashira, Shiver, Revolutionibus

Sept. 25 — 7 to 11 p.m.
Florida metal band take an off date from their planned tour to play with Erie metalcore band SHIVER and rap-rock group Revolutionibus.
Basement Transmissions, 145 W. 11 St. facebook.com.

REO Speedwagon

Sept. 25 — 7:30 p.m.
Warner Theatre, 811 State St. speedwagon.com.

DANCE

Gothic Romance Dance

Sept. 15 — 6 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran Church, 2216 Peach St. facebook.com.

FOOD & DRINK

Happy-Appy Food Tour

Sept. 12, 26 — 5 to 7 p.m.
Bolero, 16 W. 10th St. eriefoodtours.com.

Yappy Hour

Sept. 13 — 5 to 8 p.m.
The Brewerie at Union Station, 123 W. 14th St. brewerie.com.

Ramen Night

Sept. 13 — 5 to 8 p.m.
Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th St. facebook.com.

Erie Ale Works Turns Four

Sept. 14 — 4 to 10 p.m.
Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th St. facebook.com.

SSJNN Celebrity Bartending Event

Sept. 14 — 5 to 9:30 p.m.
La Nuovo Aurora Club, 1518 Walnut St. facebook.com.

Total Taco Throwdown

Sept. 15 — 1 to 9 p.m.
Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th St. facebook.com.

Wine & Brew Walk 2018

Sept. 15 — 3 to 7 p.m.
Downtown Mall Meadville, 920 Water St., Meadville, PA 16335 facebook.com.

2018 Food Truck Stampede

Sept. 15, 16
Bison Beer, 13782 Rte. 19, Waterford, PA 16441 facebook.com.

Downtown Erie Food Tour

Sept. 15, 22 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Like My Thai, 827 State St. eriefoodtours.com.

Anniversary Party and Double Dulachan Release

Sept. 15 — 11 a.m. to midnight
Lavery Brewing Company, 128 W. 12th St., Unit 101 facebook.com.

North East Food Tour

Sept. 16 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
The Bean Coffee Shop, 12 S. Lake St, North East, PA 16428 eriefoodtours.com.

Soups & Stews

Sept. 19 — 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Curves, 1511 W. 38th St. vegancheers.com.

Craft Lager Beer Fest

Sept. 22 — noon to 4 p.m.
Lavery Brewing Co., 128 W. 12th St., Unit 101 facebook.com.

Erie Oktoberfest Tapping

Sept. 25 — 11:30 a.m.
Erie Brewing Co., 6008 Knowledge Pkwy. facebook.com.

Mind, Body, Beer

Sept. 25 — 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th St. facebook.com.

MOVIES

You Were Never Really Here (2018)

Sept. 12 — 5:30 to 9 p.m.
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. filmsocietynwpa.org.

A Plastic Ocean

Sept. 14 — 7 p.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr.

trecepi.org/localistcalendar.

The Theta Girl (2017)

Sept. 14 — 8 p.m.
One-night event featuring 2017 sci-fi action film *The Theta Girl*.
Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. facebook.com.

Disobedience (2018)

Sept. 19 — 5:30 to 9 p.m.
Bourbon Barrel, 1213 State St. filmsocietynwpa.org.

Backyard Wilderness

Ongoing — 10 a.m., 1 p.m., & 4 p.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center, 301 Peninsula Dr. biggreenscreen.com.

Amazon Adventure

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

Earthflight

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

VISUAL ARTS

Ceramic Sculpture by Chuck Johnson

Sept. 14
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

Annual Art Faculty Exhibition

Ongoing through Sept. 15

Cummings Art Gallery at Mercyhurst University, 501 E. 38th St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

Archiving Ephemeral Beauty

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

Third Thursday

Sept. 20 — 1 p.m.
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

Gallery Night

Sept. 21
Multiple locations, erieartmuseum.org.

Artist Takeover: Roman Glass

Starts Sept. 21
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

3D Art and Virtual Reality Night

Sept. 21 — 6 p.m.
Experience art tech, virtual reality, 3D printing and live music as part of Erie Movie House and Artlore's combined event.
Artlore Studio, 3406 W. Lake Rd. facebook.com.

Affirm Video Installation

Sept. 21 — 7 to 10 p.m.
For one night only, AFFIRM, a video art installation hosted by Britty Lea will be at Erie's newest locally owned coffee shop.
Ember + Forge, 401 State St. facebook.com.

Ellen Anon: Not Just Another Shot

Sept. 22 — 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Zurn Science Center at Gannon University, 143 W. 7th St. erieartsandculture.org.

Mary Beth McKenzie: A Life in Art

Ongoing through Sept. 24
Erie Art Museum, 411 State St. erieartmuseum.org.

8 Hour Projects: Beyond These Walls

Ongoing through Sept. 24
Gallery at Allegheny College, 520 N. Main St., Meadville, PA 16335 sites.allegheny.edu/art.

Photography of the NPAA

Sept. 24 — 2:15 p.m.
Cummings Art Gallery at Mercyhurst Univ., 501 E. 38th St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

A Celebration of Life & Work on Our Waterways

Ongoing through Oct. 1
Erie Maritime Museum, 150 E. Front St. flagshipniagara.org.

Greg Zbach: Recent Photographs

Ongoing through Oct. 9
Artist's reception Sept. 21 (7 to 10 p.m.)
Glass Growers Gallery, 10 E. Fifth St. glassgrowersgallery.com.

Gary Spinosa: Divine Instinct

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

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CALENDAR

Shirley You Jest



role in Alfred Hitchcock's *The Trouble with Harry* in 1954, she followed up with the Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis film *Artists and Models*. She subsequently did six more films with Martin, and is often cited as the only female member of the famed "Rat Pack." In 1958 she received an Academy Award nomination for *Some Came Running*, her first of six. After starring in landmark films like *The Apartment*, *Sweet Charity*, and *Being There*, she won the award for Best Actress for *Terms of Endearment*, reinventing herself for a new generation of moviegoers.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 20

One would be hard pressed to think of another Hollywood legend with such a positively unique perspective as Shirley MacLaine. The iconic actress — not to mention singer, dancer, activist, and author — will be sharing her fascinating experiences and point-of-view at Mercyhurst University's Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center. With a career ranging from the era of classical Hollywood cinema to the modern day, MacLaine will offer up stories of her life through clips, anecdotes, and revealing first-hand accounts.

MacLaine initially garnered public attention in the mid-1950s. After her first

During the latter half of her career, MacLaine became known as an outspoken proponent of new age beliefs, becoming synonymous with concepts like reincarnation, transcendental meditation, and UFOs. She holds that she has had previous lives in Atlantis, and has been witness to alien spacecraft on numerous occasions. In 2007 she penned a book entitled *Sage-ing While Age-ing* recounting her lifelong spiritual journey.

This first event of the 2018-2019 season at the D'Angelo Center is surely to be an eye-opening evening. — Nick Warren

7:30 p.m. // 501 E. 38th St. // Adults: \$35;
Seniors: \$30; Students/Youth: \$25 // miac.mercyhurst.edu

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St.erieartmuseum.org.

**James McMurray:
Faces and Paces**

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

THEATER

Hello Dolly!

Sept. 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 26 — 7:30 p.m. & Sept. 23 — 2 p.m.
Erie Playhouse, 13 W. 10th
St.erieplayhouse.org.

**Who's Afraid of
Virginia Woolf?**

Sept. 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29 — 7:30 p.m. & Sept. 16 — 2 p.m.
PACA, 1505 State St.,
paca1505.com.

The Canterbury Feast

Sept. 15, 22 — 5:30 p.m.
& Sept. 16 — 2:30 p.m.
& Sept. 21 — 7 p.m.
Station Dinner Theatre, 4940
Peach St. canterburyfeast.com.

The Tempest

Sept. 16 — 2 p.m.
Schuster Theatre at Gannon University, 620 Sassafras St. gannon.edu.

An Evening with

Shirley MacLaine

Sept. 20 — 7:30 p.m.
Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center at Mercyhurst, 501 E. 38th St. miac.mercyhurst.edu.

Mainstage Auditions

Sept. 24, 25 — 6 p.m.
Erie Playhouse Rehearsal Hall, 1158 E. 12th St.
erieplayhouse.org.

COMEDY

Comedy Open-Mic

Sept. 19 — 8 to 9 p.m.
Basement Transmissions,
145 W. 11 St. facebook.com.

Comedy Extravaganza

Sept. 22 — 7 to 10 p.m.
Erie talent meets stand-up comedians from Pittsburgh and Cleveland for a night of laughter at Erie Movie House's 18+ comedy show.
Erie Movie House, 3424 W. Lake Rd. facebook.com.

Stand-Up at 9th & State

Sept. 25 — 7:30 to 10 p.m.
9th & State Beer Cafe, 832 State St. facebook.com.

SPORTS

**Kayak Bass Fishing
Northeast Open**

Sept. 14, 15
Presque Isle State Park, 1 Peninsula Dr. kayakbassfishing.com.

Battle of Lake Erie Regatta

Sept. 15, 16
Rickloff Community Boathouse, 1 Ravine Dr. mercychurst.edu.

Five & 20 Westfield Ride

Sept. 19 — 5 to 8 p.m.
Five & 20 Spirits and Brewing
8398 West Main Rd., Westfield,
NY 14787 fiveand20.com.

**Eerie Roller Girls vs.
Death and Derby**

Sept. 22 — 5 to 9:30 p.m.
Bayfront Convention Center, 1 Sassafras Pier facebook.com.

**Erie Admirals Elite
Challenge Cup**

Sept. 22, 23
ErieBank Sports Park,
8155 Oliver Rd. eriesports-commission.com.

**Erie Otters vs.
Flint Firebirds**

Sept. 22 — 7 p.m.
2018-19 home opener.
Erie Insurance Arena, 809 French St. ottershockey.com.

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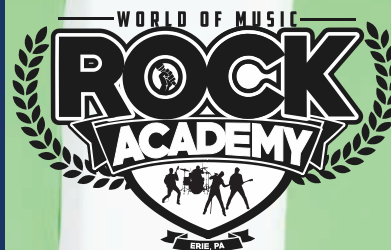
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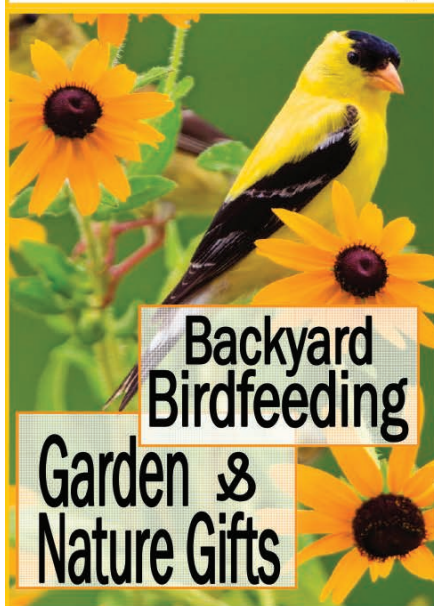
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2018 Fall Term

VISITING SPEAKERS

Ryan Rydzewski,
M.F.A.

Gerhard Weinberg, Ph.D.

Marc-André Hamelin

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

Marc-André Hamelin
In Partnership with the Erie Philharmonic

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

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

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

Discover Local Artists at Erie Art Museum's Gallery Night



FRIDAY, SEPT. 21

The Erie Art Museum will be hosting their latest Gallery Night at 18 different locations all across the city. Gallery Night presents the unique opportunity to discover local artists, explore their exhibitions, and to network/socialize over refreshments in the numerous venues the city has to offer. In addition to the magnitude of work on display from artists such as Tana Cadena-Vuignier, Tom Ferraro, and Deborah Sementelli, the event will feature live performances from Jennifer Dennehy's Lake Effect Hoop Troop, the Erie Dance Theater, and many more.

The night might begin at the Crime Victim Center, where the aforementioned visual artists' work will be featured, but with 17 more venues to choose from, Gallery Night could take you just about anywhere. And this edition's artists are just as diverse as the venues they're featured in. At Attic Rehab in the Performing Artists Collective Alliance building, you will find the social and political abstract paintings of Caesar Westbrook, accompanied by Northern Scoop Craft Ice Cream and demonstrations by the



The latest Erie Art Museum Gallery Night will feature unique exhibits at 18 locations around town, such as Erie ClaySpace (left) and Ember + Forge.

Erie ClaySpace Artists Association. At the First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, Pat Bywater's photo gallery of our city's weather conditions and architecture, titled *Sense of Place — Erie Landmark*, will be on display. Erie Apparel will host Scott Gladd's *Procrastinwork: A Collection of Digital Illustrations Highlighting the Work Done while Avoiding Work*. Live music and a meet-and-greet with the artist will also be held here — a recurring perk of Gallery Night.

Mixed media shows, painted dancers, and cultural pieces (such as Chinese Folk Art from the Shaanxi Region) are just a few of the experiences waiting to be discovered throughout our city during the Erie Art Museum's upcoming Gallery Night. — Aaron Mook

7 p.m. to 10 p.m. // Various locations // Free // A full list of venues' addresses and featured exhibits can be found at erieartmuseum.org/events-gallery-night

Kung Fu Centers Chi on the Rook



FRIDAY, SEPT. 21

When it comes to laying down some real high-flying, hard-kicking, up-in-your-face prog-funk jams, Kung Fu are ... well, let's just say they're most proficient indeed.

The New Haven, Conn.-based quintet of funk ninjas — long a staple in the greater Northeast region's festival and live music scene — have just one piece of advice for those interested but uninitiated in their onslaught of sound: "Enter the dragon!"

Sound advice from a group that bases its name on one of the finest martial arts, and its sonic backbone on some of the finest truly adventurous music (think Zappa, Mahavishnu Orchestra, Weather Report, The Headhunters).

And however you take it — especially if you're into very well-played improvisation — we suggest you follow it when Kung Fu shows up to kick it for two sets at the Kings Rook Club on Friday, Sept. 21.

They're well-schooled. Well-disciplined. Well-practiced. And, well, badass and fun as hell.

— Ryan Smith

9 p.m. to 2 a.m. // 1921 Peach St. // facebook.com/kingsrookclub

Erie Phil Kicks Off Season with Pops Series Show



SATURDAY, SEPT. 22

The Erie Philharmonic will kick off its 2018-19 season Saturday, Sept. 22 with the first of five shows in its Pops Series, entitled "1812 Overture and Pops Favorites."

The evening will feature local tal-

ent in a Boston Pops-style concert and an "over-the-top" performance of Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture, which will include the Erie Philharmonic Chorus, lights, and cannons.

The orchestra will be led by conductor Daniel Meyer and the choir by director Thomas Brooks.

Later shows in the pop series will bring in popular performers like Byron Stripling, a trumpeter who will bring New Orleans-style jazz to the Philharmonic, and Broadway's Lisa Vroman, who was well-received last year. — Tracy Geibel

8 p.m. // Warner Theatre, 811 State St. // \$10 to \$56 // 455-1375 // eriephil.org

COMMUNITY

Albion Area Fair

Sept. 12, 13, 14, 15
Albion Area Fairgrounds,
30 Academy St., Albion, PA
16401 albionfair.com.

The Power of Animal-Assisted Crisis Response

Sept. 12 — 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach
St. lifeworkserie.org.

Goodell Gardens Farmers Market

Sept. 12, 26 — 3 to 6 p.m.
Goodell Gardens & Homestead,
221 Waterford St., Edinboro, PA
16412 goodellgardens.org.

The Pizza Bomber Case: 15 Years Later

Sept. 12 — 6:30 to 8 p.m.
Blasco Memorial Library, 160
E. Front St. erielibrary.org.

Adult Art Classes

Sept. 12, 19, 26 — 7 to 9 p.m.
Frontier Park, 1501 W.
6th St. leaferie.org.

Scotty's Open Mic Night

Sept. 12, 19 — 10 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.
Erie musician Seth Bremmer
will host the open mic on
the 12th, with Chris Ehrich
handling the latter date.
Scotty's Martini Lounge, 301
German St. facebook.com.

Accessorize with Jewelry

Sept. 13 — 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach
St. lifeworkserie.org.

Erie Arts & Culture Project Grant Workshop

Sept. 13 — noon to 1
p.m., 6 to 7 p.m.
Erie Blasco Library, 160 E. Front
St. erieartsandculture.org.

Scam Busters

Sept. 13 — 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

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

New Horizons Music Project: Strings and Folk

Sept. 13 — 4 to 6 p.m.
LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach
St. lifeworkserie.org.

Mosaic Thursdays

Sept. 13, 20 — 5 to 8 p.m.
Artlore Studio, 3406 W.
Lake Rd. facebook.com.

Saint Mary's Follies

Sept. 13 — 5 to 8 p.m.
Bayfront Convention
Center, 1 Sassafras Pier
stmaryshome.org.

Erie Animal Network Charity Challenge

Sept. 13 — 5 to 8 p.m.
Room 33, 1033 State
St. facebook.com

Heart Walk

Sept. 13 — 5:30 p.m.
Highmark Amphitheater at

Liberty Park, 726 W. Bay-
front Pkwy. heart.org.

Yoga Classes for Kids

Sept. 13 — 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Tumble 84, 4505 W. Ridge Rd.
apluseventsforkids.com.

Heart and Soul Party

Sept. 13 — 5:30 to 9 p.m.
Prepare for BLOOM's annual
Heart and Soul Party, a night
of art, food, music and drinks
by Luminary Distilling and Five
& 20 Spirits and Brewing.
BLOOM Collaborative, 138
E. 26th St. facebook.com.

Horticulture: Educational Workshop

Sept. 13, 20 — 6 to 8 p.m.
Albion Area Community Garden,
80 Third Ave., Albion, PA 16401

Karaoke Nite with DJ Nitro

Sept. 13, 20 — 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Kings Rook Club, 1921
Peach St. facebook.com.

Body in Motion with Angela DiFiore

Sept. 14 — 10 to 11 a.m.
Soma Erie, 2601 Peach St.,
2nd Fl. somaerie.com.

Erie Arts & Culture Project Grant Workshop

Sept. 14 — noon to 1 p.m.
Edinboro Branch Library, 413
W. Plum St., Edinboro, PA 16412
erieartsandculture.org.

Espanol Basics

Sept. 14, 21 — 2 to 3 p.m.
LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach
St. lifeworkserie.org.

ComiCon Erie

Sept. 14 — 2 to 7 p.m. & Sept.
15 — 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. & Sept.
16 — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m..
Bayfront Convention
Center, 1 Sassafras Pier
comiconerie.com.

Erie Irish Festival

Sept. 14 — 5 to 11 p.m. &
Sept. 15 — 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. &

Sept. 16 — 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
St. Patrick Church, 130 E. 4th
St. erieirishfestival.com.

Un-confusing, Confusing Art

Sept. 14 — 6 to 7 p.m.
Erie Art Museum, 411 State
St. erieartmuseum.org.

Glass Painting Class

Sept. 14 — 6 to 8 p.m.
McCord Memorial Library, 32
W. Main St., North East, PA
16428 mccordlibrary.org.

Operation Christmas Child Packing Party

Sept. 14 — 6 to 9 p.m. &
Sept. 15 — 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Grace Church, 7300 Grubb Rd.
samaritanspurse.org/occ.

Beginner Mandala Painting Classes

Sept. 14, 21 — 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
The Village of Healing
and Wellness, 2558 W.

CALENDAR

Last Local Laps Let Loose



SATURDAY, SEPT. 22

The Erie Roller Girls are just about set to close out their home season. Our own cadre of multi-wheeled speed demons will face off against the Ladies Death and Derby Society of Madison County, N.Y., located just east of Syracuse. Our team of female athletes have had a great season, bringing in crowds to watch and support their bouts at the Bayfront Convention Center. The team, a member of the Women’s Flat Track Derby Association (WFTDA), the sport’s

governing body, experienced a swell in its numbers this year, with more active skaters than ever before. For those of you who still haven’t gotten the chance to catch this invigorating breed of sport — one well-suited for those weary of traditional mainstream teams and leagues — this is your chance to catch the ladies as they swiftly circle around their opponents (that’s how the “jammers” score points after all). This evening will also feature a youth bout — with skaters ranging from age 8 to 17 — between the Pittsburgh Derby Brats and Kitchener, Ontario’ Tri-City Junior Roller Derby before the main event. — Nick Warren

5:00 p.m. doors open, 5:30 p.m. whistle for youth event, 6:30 and 7:30 for main event // Bayfront Convention Center, 1 Sassafras Pier // \$12 at the door, \$10 pre-sale (door tickets \$2 off with non-perishable food item, donations going to Second Harvest Food Bank) // eerierollergirls.com

Award-winning Photographer Hosts Hands-on Photography Workshop

SATURDAY, SEPT. 22

Ellen Anon is an award-winning, internationally renowned photographer. Her work is highly regarded as being nature-based but made unique with the blending of both abstract and realistic elements. In addition to her personal works, Anon has co-authored nine books on photography and is a member of the SanDisk Extreme Team.

On Saturday, Sept. 22, Anon will be leading a full-day photography seminar at Gannon University, sponsored by the Photographic Arts Society of Northwestern Pennsylvania (PASNWP) . As part of the seminar, attendees will have the opportunity to listen to lectures by Anon as well as practice hands-on techniques to elaborate on their photography skills.

The event, which will be held in Room 104 of Zurn Science Center at Gannon, costs \$49. This payment includes lunch. If you are a college or high school student, the event is free. To reserve a spot in advance, a check must be written to PASNWP for the full amount.

The non-profit organization PASNWP advances fine art photography in the Northwestern Pennsylvania area and provides economic benefits for its member artists. One of PASNWP’s goals is to provide education on fine art photography to the public.

Those planning to attend should be sure to bring their personal camera and lenses — or at least a cell phone — for the hands-on parts of the lecture. — Hannah McDonald

9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. // Zurn Science Center, 143 W. 7th St. // \$49 per person, students free w/ ID // Kathy Welte, 814.744.2723

8th St. facebook.com.

Edinboro Potterfest

Sept. 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23
Edinboro University Campus, 219
Meadville St., Edinboro PA 16444
potterfest.cs.edinboro.edu.

2018 Walk to End Alzheimer’s

Sept. 15 — 9 a.m.
UPMC Park, 110 E. 10th
St. act.alz.org.

International Coastal Cleanup

Sept. 15 — 9 a.m.
Pl and Erie Bluffs State
Parks trecpi.org.

Getting Unstuck

Sept. 15 — 10 to 11 a.m.
Millcreek Branch Library,
2088 Interchange Rd. Suite
280 erielibrary.org.

The Big Day of Books

Sept. 15 — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Erie Blasco Library, 160
E. Front St. wqln.org.

Designer Bag & More Co-Ed Bingo

Sept. 15 — noon to 6 p.m.
Perry Hi-Way Hose Co., 8281
Oliver Rd. <http://wrterie.org>.

Homegrown Harvest Festival

Sept. 16 — noon to 5 p.m.
Goodell Gardens & Homestead,
221 Waterford St, Edinboro, PA
16412 goodellgardens.org.

Friends of Frontier Vendor Fair

Sept. 16 — noon to 5 p.m.
Little Wonders Day Care, 1347
W. 6th St. facebook.com.

Plug-in Electric Vehicle Show and Tell

Sept. 16 — noon to 5 p.m.
Hilton Garden Inn, 2525 Downs
Dr. driveelectricweek.org.

What Is Junior Jeopardy?

Sept. 17 — 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
& Sept. 24 — 4 to 5 p.m.
Multiple locations, erielibrary.org.

Cruise the Bay

Sept. 17, 24 — 6 p.m.
Bayfront Park & Ride
Lot porterie.org.

Soma Erie Acroyoga Basics

Sept. 17, 24 — 6:30 to 8 p.m.
Soma Erie, 2601 Peach St.
(2nd fl.) somaerie.com.

ECDP LGBT Caucus Organizing Meeting

Sept. 17 — 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Erie County Democratic Party,
1305 State St. facebook.com.

Book Club

Sept. 18 — noon to 2 p.m.
LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach
St. lifeworkserie.org.

Showtune Singer’s Night

Sept. 18 — 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Dickey’s BBQ Pit, 3716
Liberty St. facebook.com.

Active Apples

Sept. 19 — 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. &
Sept. 22 — 9:30 to 10:15 a.m.
Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier
Park, 1501 W. 6th St. leaferie.org.

Makeup for the Older Woman

Sept. 19 — 11 a.m. to noon
LifeWorks Erie, 406 Peach
St. lifeworkserie.org.

Magical Farmers Market

Sept. 19 — 3 to 6 p.m.
Goodell Gardens & Homestead,
221 Waterford St, Edinboro, PA
16412 goodellgardens.org.

Heavy Metals and Your Health

Sept. 19 — 6 to 7 p.m.
Millcreek Municipal Bldg., 3608
W. 26th St. lifeworkserie.org.

Job Fair at Presbyterian SeniorCare Network

Sept. 20 — 2 to 6 p.m.
PSN Erie Corporate Office,
1225 School Rd. manchestertecommons.srcare.org.

Read to a Therapy Dog

Sept. 20 — 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Millcreek Branch Library,
2088 Interchange Rd. Suite
280 erielibrary.org.

Sunset Hikes

Sept. 20 — 7:30 to 9 p.m.
Asbury Woods Nature Center,
4105 Asbury Rd. registrationdesk.asburywoods.org.

Psychology Workshop & Lecture

Sept. 21 — 7:30 p.m.
Mercyhurst University, 501
E. 38th St. <http://www.mercyhurst.edu/events>

Candlelight Ghost Walk

Sept. 21, 22 — 8 p.m.
Dobbins Landing, 1 State St.
candlelightghostwalks.com.

Fall Drift MatsErie + Soft Gripp Car show

Sept. 22, 23
Lake Erie Speedway, 10700
Delmas Dr, North East, PA

16428 facebook.com.

LES Exotic Driving Experience

Sept. 22 — 8:30 a.m. to noon
Lake Erie Speedway, 10700
Delmas Dr, North East, PA
16428 facebook.com.

Monarch Biology and Tagging Program

Sept. 22 — 9 a.m.
Tom Ridge Environmental Center,
301 Peninsula Dr. trecpi.org.

Wholly Happy Festival

Sept. 22 — 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The 2nd annual event will feature Erie health and wellness practitioners as well as vendors and organizations to help community members understand and support a healthy lifestyle.

Jefferson Educational Society,
3207 State St. facebook.com.

Iadeluca Chiropractic 20th Anniversary Bash

Sept. 22 — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Iadeluca Chiropractic, 2921
W. 26th St. <https://www.eriechiropractic.com>.

Honey Harvest

Sept. 22 — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Asbury Woods Nature Center,
4105 Asbury Rd. asburywoods.org.

Applefest

Sept. 22 — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
YMCA Camp Sherwin, 8600
W. Lake Rd., Lake City, PA
16423 ymcaerie.org.

Eerie Roller Girls Final Home Bout Hang Out

Sept. 22 — 2 to 4:30 p.m.
Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th
St. facebook.com.

Rickmobile

Sept. 22 — 2 to 5 p.m.
Erie Brewing Co., 6008 Knowledge Pkwy. facebook.com.

Freedom of Artistic Expression

Sept. 23 — 10:30 a.m.
Unitarian Universalist Cong. of
Erie, 7180 Perry Hwy. erie-bluegreen.blogspot.com.

Punk Rock Flea Market

Sept. 23 — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Black Eagle Goods, merchantiser of oddities, vintage and antiques, hosts a flea market at Basement Transmissions. More details and info for vendors can be found on Facebook.
Basement Transmissions, 145
W. 11th St. facebook.com.

AJO Fundraiser: Purple Party

Sept. 23 — noon to 5 p.m.
Harborcreek Social Hall, 7275
Buffalo Rd., Harborcreek,
PA 16421 814-454-5750

2018 Girls and Dolls Gala of America

Sept. 23 — 1 to 4 p.m.
Ambassador Conference Center,
7794 Peach St. girlsanddollsgala.com.

Little Leaves

Sept. 24 — 10 to 10:45 a.m. & 11:15 a.m. to noon
Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier
Park, 1501 W. 6th St. leaferie.org.

Gentle Yoga &

Meditation: Level 1

Sept. 24 — 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Lincoln Community Center
Library, 1255 Manchester Rd. erielibrary.org.

Disorderly Women

Sept. 24 — 6 to 8:30 p.m.
Dr. Jerra Jenrette, a professor at Edinboro University, lectures on the place of women in politics throughout history at Penn State Behrend.
Metzgar Admissions & Alumni Center (Behrend), 4701 College
Dr. behrend.psu.edu.

Erie County Poet Laureate Finalist Reading

Sept. 24 — 7 to 9 p.m.
Three finalists for the Erie County Poet Laureate will read their works at the Hirt Auditorium in the Blasco Library.
Blasco Memorial Library, 160
E. Front St. facebook.com.

Read to a Therapy Dog

Sept. 25 — 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Iroquois Ave. Branch Library,
4212 Iroquois Ave. erielibrary.org.

Charity Challenge Fall Event

Sept. 25 — 5 to 8 p.m.
Room 33, 1033 State
St. facebook.com.

Ukelele Workshop

Sept. 25 — 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Dickey’s BBQ Pit, 3716
Liberty St. facebook.com.

Dog Days of Summer

Sept. 25 — 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Brown’s Farm Barn, 5774 Sterret-tania Rd., Fairview, PA 16415
registrationdesk.asburywoods.org.

CALENDAR

Rock & Roll Music Courtesy of REO Speedwagon



TUESDAY, SEPT. 24

The iconic classic rock band REO Speedwagon will grace the stage of the Warner Theatre this September. Hailing from Champaign, Ill., the quintet was responsible for a number of indelible hits with active-verb-heavy song titles that mostly read like full sentences unto themselves. Erieites will get to “Roll With the Changes,” “Take It on the Run” or — in their biggest hit — “Keep on Loving You” (lest we forget the infinitive “Time for Me to Fly”). Taking their name

Radio rock stalwarts REO Speedwagon have rolled through some changes in their lineup over the years, but since 1989 they’ve been riding the storm out with (left to right) Bryan Hitt, Bruce Hall, Kevin Cronin, Dave Amato, and Neal Doughty.

and elements of their winged logo from a pickup truck precursor introduced in 1915, the band played their first show in 1967. For many, they serve as one of the quintessential bands of the 1980s, even though some of their most successful albums were released before the decade was in full swing, including *You Can Tune a Piano, but You Can’t Tuna Fish*, and 1980’s decuple-platinum album *Hi Infidelity*. Along with founding member Neal Doughty (keyboards) and longtime vocalists Kevin Cronin and Bruce Hall, the band is joined by Dave Amato and Bryan Hitt for a lineup they’ve kept consistent since 1989. — Nick Warren

7:30 p.m. // Warner Theatre, 811 State St. // Tickets start at \$48.50 // reospeedwagon.com

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Thursday, Sept. 20 • 7:30 p.m.

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miac.mercyhurst.edu or 824-3000


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September 12, 2018

MOVIE REVIEWS

The Anti-Social Network: *Searching* is Mostly Great, Until It Isn't



The "Social Media" film is a very new concept in movie-making but it is already making waves. In these times it seems like a natural progression for the way that stories can be told and I've seen filmmakers use the intriguing premise for genres like romance (the tragically under-seen *Hank & Asha*) and horror (the overrated *Unfriended*). *Searching* gives us a drama/mystery taking place entirely on social media and its story is an interesting statement for how we process information and maintain relationships in the Information Age. Unfortunately, by the end it settles on becoming a bad CSI episode.

After his 16-year-old daughter goes missing, David Kim (John Cho) begins looking for clues to her whereabouts in the place that she spends the most time: the Internet. His desperate search is filled with twists, secrets, and the most shocking discovery he could find: that his daughter was not the person he thought she was.

The first half of the film makes for a compelling societal critique. The idea that people think they know someone because of their online presence only to find that that's just a mask that people can project to the world is an idea that could fill an entire movie. Sadly, the mystery starts to take over in the second half and the film suffers because of it, culminating in a finale so ridiculous that it practically ruins the entire film. I wish that I could give *Searching* a higher rating because the premise is solid, but the ending is so convenient, ludicrous, and frankly insulting that it just can't make the grade. — Forest Taylor

Directed by: Aneesh Chaganty // Written by: Aneesh Chaganty and Sev Ohanian // Starring: John Cho, Michelle La, Sara Sohn, Joseph Lee, and Debra Messing // 102 minutes

Head Trip: *The Theta Girl* Brings Micro-Budget Insanity to the Erie Movie House

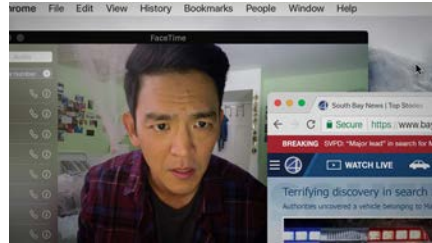


Leave it to the Erie Movie House to find the strangest, most off-the-wall, most creative, and most exciting movies playing today. This week the Movie House has another special treat for audiences looking for something beyond what the multiplexes will show, because *The Theta Girl*, an imaginative little indie title is making its Pennsylvania debut on September 14th.

Set in a bizarre alternate present, the film follows Gayce (Victoria Elizabeth Donofrio), a dealer in a new mind-expanding drug called Theta that she sells to attendees of concerts for her friends' all-girl rock band. However, when a mysterious killer begins murdering her friends, Gayce finds herself on the run from cops and criminals alike while also trying to learn the terrifying truth about Theta and maybe even her whole world.

Made on an estimated \$14,000, the film makes up for its small budget with a relentless energy, some otherworldly dream sequences and a few truly shocking kills. Though clearly inspired by exploitation films of the "video nasty" era, the film isn't content simply being a paint-by-numbers homage or a dull self-parody. Instead, it takes its story seriously and uses its 1980s style not to wrap audiences in comforting nostalgia, but as a true stylistic choice. The result is a groovy, surreal punk-rock splatter film that is easily one of the more entertaining bargain basement movies I've seen in quite some time. So, check out *The Theta Girl* at the Erie Movie House on Friday, September 14th at 8 p.m., hosted by SlaughterFilm.com co-hosts Cory Carr and yours truly. — Forest Taylor

Directed by: Christopher Bickel // Written by: David Axe // Starring: Victoria Elizabeth Donofrio, Shane Silman and Darelle D. Dove // 98 minutes



SONY PICTURES



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www.OldFirehouseWinery.com

Ashtabula
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www.VisitAshtabulaCounty.com



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**Must enter by Friday,
September 28, 2018**

MUSIC REVIEWS

Idles
Joy as an Act of Resistance
Partisan Records

★★★★★

A bombastic collection of twelve tracks, *Joy as an Act of Resistance* is an invigorating work of post-punk energy. The follow-up to their debut album, *Brutalism*, it builds up slowly with the two-part opening track, "Colossus," wherein a simple drum click grows to a caustic, metallic cacophony by the end of the first section, giving way to a fiery chorus reminiscent of Iggy Pop's "Lust for Life" if it was recorded by Metz. The musical allusions continue with "Never Fight a Man With a Perm" and its "These Boots Are Made for Walkin'" quotes. Then there's the B-list name-dropping fully self aware lyrics making a rare blend of humor, slams against toxic masculinity, and threats of physical violence. The quintet from Bristol, England have that danger, like an overeducated skinhead starting up a drunken conversation with you. The skinhead in this example is, to be clear, firmly against racial prejudice, as nearly every song is fighting explicitly against the ethos of ignorance and xenophobia with songs like "Danny Nedelko." It's a new breed of punk, one that's weird, frenetic, and a perfect rallying cry for the modern age. — Nick Warren



Murder By Death
The Other Shore
Bloodshot Records

★★★★★

Eight albums in, it's refreshing to report that Murder By Death know exactly what kind of band they are. The kings (and queen) of goth-folk have made a career out of developing unique concept albums with a dash of the occult, delivered in a baritone that would make Johnny Cash blush. On *The Other Shore*, Murder By Death boldly goes the one place they've never gone before — outer space. *The Other Shore* plays like a career retrospective, bridging the world-building of the band's early work with the melodicism of their recent output. The detail put into sequencing here is part of why the album works; while its A-side remains safe but strong ("Alas" wouldn't sound out of place on any of the band's post-2010 records, and single "True Dark" recalls fan-favorite "Red of Tooth and Claw"), its back half confidently explores larger themes and new instrumentation (standout "New Old City" makes excellent use of synth, a sound rarely found throughout the band's catalog). The band may never go full-Radiohead while tinkering with their sound, but their best storytelling often comes from a familiar place. — Aaron Mook



Eminem
Kamikaze
Interscope Records

★

Revival, last year's mostly disposable attempt at a comeback, had one thing going for it: regardless of faceless pop features and ill-advised classic-rock samples, more often than not, it felt genuine, though it wasn't enough to save the album in the end. Marshall Mathers, the storied MC behind the moniker, could have handled the world's polarized response to *Revival* any number of ways, but as the kids say, this ain't it. *Kamikaze* is an insincere, self-serving, and gleefully offensive set of songs, in both the ways you'd expect and beyond. Fans may praise the rapper's technical ability (which has never truly come into question), but instead of using it to say something, anything at all, he spends half the album taking cheap shots at rappers more relevant than him (opening track "The Ringer") and the other half trying to rectify his old subject matter with new-school beats ("Good Guy"), culminating in the aforementioned single closing out the project. *Kamikaze* succeeds in meeting its implied purpose, not by taking down those around Eminem, but by tarnishing the rapper's own legacy while trying. — Aaron Mook



Alkaline Trio
Is This Thing Cursed
Epitaph Records

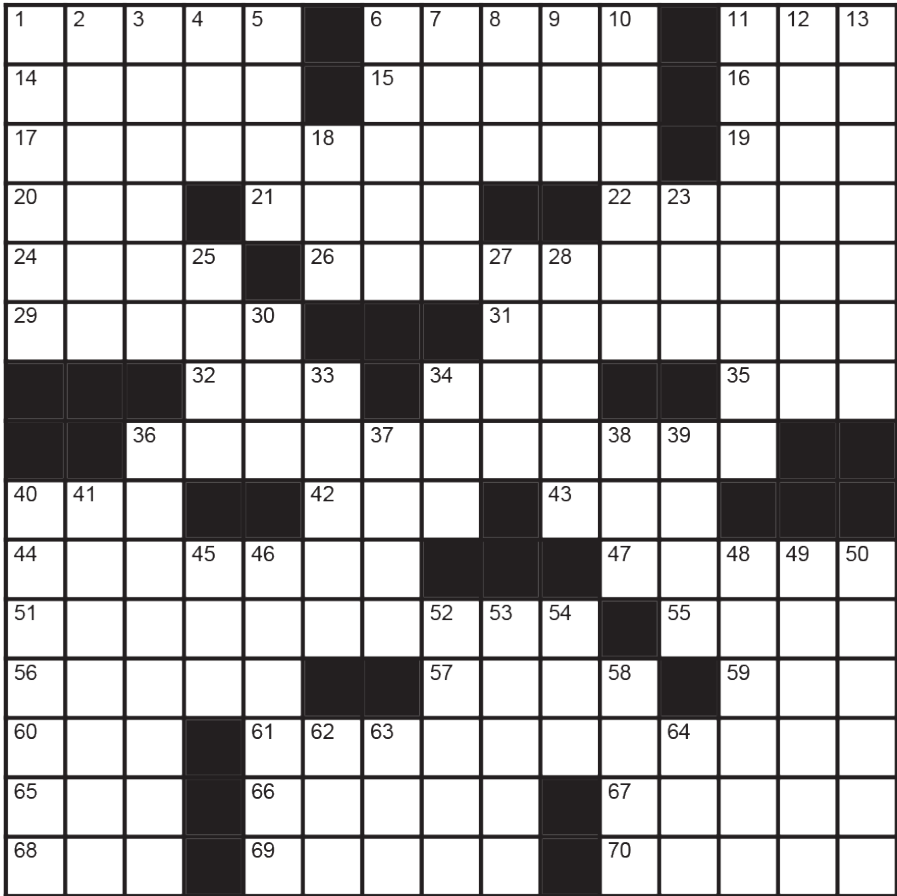
★★★★★

Alkaline Trio are a strangely frustrating band. They've been so bad for so long that the bar is set lower than ticket sales for next year's Warped Tour. They did, however, make some of the greatest, most generation-defining music for millions of former emo kids. *Goddamn*, *Maybe I'll Catch Fire* (not to mention the self-titled EP compilation from that time), *From Here to Infirmary*, and to a lesser extent, *Good Mourning* were consistently, albeit decreasingly fantastic albums. Then came the post-*Crimson* era, wherein Matt Skiba, Dan Andriano, and Derek Grant embraced the always-prevalent Hot Topic brand of goth-ness that the band had always toyed with. Fast-forward a decade-and-a-half and fans finally get a real return to form. It has the dark humor, self-deprecation, *Infirmary*-era production, and vocal trade-offs between Matt and Dan (indistinguishable to more casual fans) that made so much of their early catalog work. Has Skiba exorcised enough of his cheesy demons as a member of Blink-182? *Is This Thing Cursed* is an addicting (we're not looking at you *This Addiction*) collection of 13 tracks that might just ignite your aging indie soul. — Nick Warren



TOMMY IN TOON — BY TOMMY LINK





Across

1. Everyone working in an office
6. Fragrant wood
11. Hiking trail reference
14. "___ Go Again" (1987 #1 song)
15. African nation renamed in 1997
16. First in a Latin 101 trio
17. It lasted from circa 3100-30 BC
19. "Far out!"
20. Vinyl albums, for short
21. Salt, chemically
22. Get around
24. Latvia neighbor: Abbr.
26. It lasted from 1095-1291
29. Where bombs are bursting, per Francis Scott Key
31. Pantomimes
32. Chick-___-A
34. Corp. bigwig
35. Eavesdropping org.
36. It lasted from 1837-1901
40. Org. with a "100 Years ... 100 Movies" list
42. Camera named for a goddess
43. Its govs. have included Mario and Andrew Cuomo
44. Roughen before re-painting
47. Odds' opposite
51. It lasted from circa 1300-1700
55. Ibuprofen target

56. Like a five-star Yelp review
57. Slithery fishes
59. Original "King Kong" studio
60. Co. led by Baryshnikov in the 1980s
61. Apt four-word description of 17-, 26-, 36- or 51-Across
65. Turner of pages in history
66. Language from which "kayak" comes
67. Justice Kagan
68. Sensitive conversation topic
69. Aster relative
70. Razzie Award word

Down

1. "Would you like me to?"
2. Tough pickup for some bowlers
3. Record label founded by Clive Davis
4. Doctor's charge
5. Hero role in "The Force Awakens"
6. Brno native
7. Two under par
8. Like some home improvement projects, briefly
9. Sculptor/collagist Jean
10. Examination do-over
11. With Pelé, co-winner of FIFA's Player of the Century award
12. Best Picture of 1984
13. John ___, 1990s White House Chief of Staff
18. Pec pic, perhaps
23. ___ deferens
25. Player of oldies when they were newies
27. Court star Nadal, informally
28. NCAA women's basketball powerhouse
30. Slowing, in music: Abbr.
33. Fertile soil
34. Prefix with gender
36. Brief scene
37. Supreme leader?
38. ___ contact
39. Click "Going" on a Facebook event, e.g.
40. Supermodel Lima
41. Item strapped over a horse's head
45. Anaheim nine, on scoreboards
46. Like many old lanterns
48. Breadwinner
49. Popular cameras
50. Ski resort vehicle
52. Backing
53. Like mesh
54. Peyton's QB brother
58. Duck variety
62. Keep ___ short leash
63. Convent inhabitant
64. 1970s-'80s band inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2017



Answers to last puzzle



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Sunday-Thursday

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Sunday, September 30, 2018

First 500 fans through the gate at 4:30pm
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First 500 kids will receive a free ice cream.

A free T-shirt to the first 500 kids and
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Join us near the Winner's Circle for Baseball
Caps, Plush Ponies and Kid's T-shirt Toss.
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