

•Your place to share your proud moments

COMMUNITY ALBUM



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American Legion Post 365 donates to VA Medical Center

Representatives of American Legion Post 365 of Corry presented the Erie Veterans Affairs Medical Center with two checks. The first, for \$1,000, is to pay for activities for the fifth-floor residents. The second, for \$1,400, is the final installment needed to acquire a new wheelchair lift van to replace two vans that were not repairable. From left, Post Vice Commander Phil Barnes presented the check to VA Medical Center Acting Director Dorene Sommers. They were joined by Auxiliary Vice President Kim Cambra, Mary Barnes and Post member Joe Steen.



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PNC Bank donates to United Way

PNC Bank contributed a corporate gift of \$66,000 to United Way of Erie County during the 2015 campaign to help reduce poverty and improve community conditions. PNC Bank Senior Vice President Jim Stevenson, left, presented the check to United Way of Erie County President Bill Jackson.



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GE employees help furnish children's center

Members of GE's Community Service Fund presented the Bradley H. Foulk Children's Advocacy Center with a check to help furnish their new building. The donation enabled the center to purchase furniture for the kid-friendly lobby area and caregiver room. On hand for the check presentation were, from left, Dave Smock, UE 506; Scott Slawson, president, UE 506; Mike Ferritto, vice president, UE 506; Mary Ellen Hermann, UE 506; Rob Celeski, UE 506; Lynn Putt, family advocate, Children's Advocacy Center; and Michael Gaines, executive director, Children's Advocacy Center.



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St. Luke School students win Playhouse contest

St. Luke School's sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade English teacher entered all six of her English classes in a contest from the Erie Playhouse and Newspapers in Education. The students had their choice of submitting either artwork or a written essay. The artwork prompt was to draw a flag that represented themselves. The writing prompt was to explain why bullying should stop in schools and what they could do to help stop it. Three St. Luke students won a four-pack of tickets to the Erie Playhouse's production of "Honk." From left, English teacher Jackie Shaffer, joined Lexi Hulick, seventh grade, Alex Vahey, sixth grade, who won in the artwork category, and Linda Buto, eighth grade, who won in the writing category.



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Woman receives special commendation from PASR Board

At the November meeting of the Erie County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees, Judith Newlin, president of the Erie Chapter of PASR, left, presented Barbara Mitcho with a special commendation from the state PASR board of directors for her many years of service to PASR at the local, region and state levels. Mitcho has served as president of the Erie Chapter; regional director of Region IX, covering PASR chapters in Crawford, Erie, Forest, Venango and Warren counties; and as chairwoman of a number of committees at all levels of the organization. In 2012 she served as chairwoman of PASR's State Convention, which was held at the Ambassador Conference Center in Erie, and she currently serves as PASR's assistant treasurer.



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Students raise funds for Make-A-Wish

Students from the Erie County Technical School recently raised more than \$8,400 for the Walk-For-Wishes Foundation, a school/community fundraiser to support the Make-A-Wish Foundation and to help grant a wish or two for Erie County residents. The walk raised \$8,419, which equates to granting 2.1 wishes. On hand for the check presentation were, from left, Chandler Flak, a culinary arts student from Fort LeBoeuf High School and president of the National Technical Honor Society; Michaela Buckner, a Transition Center student from Girard High School who raised \$540; Jan Stork, senior director, Make-A-Wish; Matt Szweczyk, a Transition Center student from Harbor Creek High School who raised \$1,015 and was the highest student fundraiser; and Shelby Parmeter, a drafting and design student from McDowell High School and the president of the SkillsUSA student organization.



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Bill & Bob Fest raises \$16,200 for StringsforaCure

The Bill & Bob Folk Festival was launched three years ago by Bill Kern and Bob Dartnell, who wanted to make a difference by trying to raise money for StringsforaCure, which provides financial assistance directly to breast cancer patients. The 2015 Bill & Bob Folk Festival, held in August at the Fairview Legion Park, raised \$16,200 for the StringsforaCure Foundation. Dartnell, left, and Kern presented the check to Elisa Guida, StringsforaCure founder and executive director.

SHARE YOUR NEWS

What's going on in your life? Send in your snapshots and share your news. Here's what you need to know:

- THE PHOTOS:** Photos should be in color. Poor-quality photos, i.e., eyes closed, too dark, out of focus, Polaroids and computer-printed photos on paper cannot be used.
- WHAT'S GOING ON?** Tell us about the nature of the event and when and where it was held. Identify everyone pictured in order, row by row, left to right, with first and last names.
- ALSO NOTE:** Provide the name and number of a contact person. If you want the photo returned, put your name and address on the back. Questions? Call 870-1689.

WHERE TO SEND THEM:

- Mail:** Community Album, Features department, Erie Times-News, 205 W. 12th St., Erie, PA 16534.
- E-mail:** communityalbum@timesnews.com. (Attach photos as 200 dpi JPEGs.)