

Local Places of Interest

Outdoor Fun

Arboretum at Penn State Behrend

4701 College Drive • Erie, PA 16563

814-898-6160 • arboretum.psu.edu

Dawn to Dusk • Free

Welcome to the Arboretum at Penn State Behrend, which contains many of the area's most notable and unusual trees. More than 200 species are identified, including some trees located inside the John M. Lilley Library, the Reed Union Building, and the Hammermill Building within the Science Complex.

Long recognized by area environmentalists as a haven for some of the area's most interesting trees, Penn State Behrend is a member of the American Public Gardens Association, having gained membership in 2003. This formalized the college's status as an arboretum and opened the way to development of public education, outreach, and research programs focusing on the college's extraordinary collection of native and exotic trees, as well as continued conservation of the area.

You can start your self-guided walking tour from any location, but before you do, please stop by Police Services in Erie Call for directions to visitor parking and a free parking pass.

Childhood's Gate Children's Garden | The design of the garden affords a landscape that is rich in educational content and one that rewards exploration and discovery. During the summer and early fall our adult garden guides welcome and greet children and families and we offer informal garden interpretation activities and tours. Our activities are designed to encourage inquiry-based learning about the beauty and diversity of our regional landscape, native plants, and creatures.

Asbury Woods

4105 Asbury Road • Erie, PA 16506

814-835-5356 • www.asburywoods.org

November 1-March 31 | Nature Center: Monday-Saturday, 10am-4pm; Sunday, 12-4pm • Trails: Daily until Dusk • Free

April 1-October 31 | Nature Center: Monday-Saturday, 10am-5pm; Sunday, 12-5pm • Trails: Daily until Dusk • Free

Asbury Woods consists of a 205-acre tract of wetlands, forests, fields, streams and historic properties.

The Andrew J. Conner Nature Center at Asbury Woods is one of the premier award-winning environmental education centers in northwestern Pennsylvania, providing environmental education programs including school and group programs, public programs, special events, festivals and summer nature camps. More than 84,000 visitors annually participate in outdoor recreational opportunities including hiking, mountain biking, running, cross-country skiing, and more.

Trails | Our 205 natural acres of fields, forests and wetlands offer over 5 miles of breathtaking trails that are free and open to the public during daylight hours every day. One of the most popular Greenway Trail highlights is access to Walnut Creek at the scenic steel walking bridge that spans the Creek.

Andrew J. Conner Nature Center | Asbury Woods Nature Center is a state-of-the-art regional nature center with over 205 acres and 5 miles of hiking trails. The Nature Center is free and open to the public year-round.

Squeaky Frog Gift Shop | The Squeaky Frog Gift Shop is open during regular business hours. All gift shop proceeds directly support programs, trails and exhibits at Asbury Woods. The Gift Shop offers Erie's best selection of beekeeping supplies. Beginning and experienced beekeepers can find everything they need to keep their hives buzzing.

Little Woods | Built as a safe place for young children to explore, and also as a community model to encourage more outdoor play, the Little Woods is designed to foster creativity, encourage exploration, and begin a lifelong connection to natural places. The Little Woods is open to the public from dawn to dusk and is intended for use by toddlers, preschoolers and early elementary school-aged children, who are supervised by an adult.

Browns Farm | the barn and nearby property is used for education programs with a focus on watersheds, agriculture, history and sound land use. In addition to educational programs and events, the large meadow at Brown's Farm is utilized by hikers, mountain bikers, and trail runners.

Bicentennial Tower

1 State Street • Erie, PA 16507

814-455-6055 • dobbinslandingerie.com

October-April: Saturday & Sunday, 11am-4pm

May: Daily, 10am-6pm

Memorial Day-Labor Day: Daily, 10am-9pm

September: Daily, 10am-6pm

*** (weather permitting) ***

\$6 Adults; \$2 Children 7 to 12; Free Children 6 & Under

The Bicentennial Tower was built in 1996 to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the founding of the city of Erie and has become a “must do” for tourists and locals alike. While on the top observation deck, 138 feet above Presque Isle Bay, you can see in every direction and enjoy stunning views of Lake Erie, Presque Isle, the City of Erie and outlying areas. In fact, on a clear day it’s possible to see all the way to Long Point in Ontario, Canada, 27 miles away! **Admission is free on the first Tuesday of every month (excluding holidays).**

Erie Bluffs State Park

Main Parking Lot: 11122 West Lake Road • Lake City, PA 16423

814-833-7424 • www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks/FindAPark/ErieBluffsStatePark

Daily, Sunrise-Sunset

Free

The 587-acre Erie Bluffs State Park lies along the Lake Erie shoreline in western Erie County, twelve miles west of the city of Erie. The park has:

- One mile of shoreline
- 90-foot bluffs overlooking Lake Erie
- Elk Creek—a shallow stream steelhead fishery
- Several plant species of conservation concern
- Uncommon black oak woodland/savannah
- Great Lakes region sand barren ecosystems
- Forested wetlands

The only developed areas in the park are the Elk Creek Access area and the Main Entrance parking lot.

Erie Bluffs State Park is designated as a day-use park, with the exception of fishing and boating. Swimming is prohibited at the park.

Erie Zoo

423 West 38th Street • Erie, PA 16508

814-864-4091 • www.eriezoo.org

Zoo Grounds: Daily March 1-November 30; 10am-5pm • Office Hours (Phone Only): Monday-Friday; 9am-4pm

\$12 Age 13 & Older; \$10 Seniors (Age 62+); \$8 Age 2-12; Free Children Under 2

The Erie Zoo is the perfect place to spend the day or just a few hours. A comfortable walk throughout the Erie Zoo and Botanical Garden takes about 2 hours. You’ll enjoy visiting with nearly 400 animals in our collection as well as the 11 beautiful gardens throughout the park.

The Wildlife Carousel is open daily 10:30am-4pm, Cost is \$4/non-member and \$3/member. Every person taking a seat on the carousel, regardless of age, requires a ticket. Adults may stand next-to/accompany a paying child or infant free of charge. (The carousel is handicap and wheelchair accessible.) *All hours are weather and attendance permitting.*

The Safariland Express train is open on daily from 10:30am-4:45pm on weekends. Cost is \$4/non-member and \$3/member. *All hours are weather and attendance permitting.*

Concessions: Yak Bar open daily, 10:30am-4:30pm & **Main Stand** open Saturday & Sundays, 10am-4:30pm; weather and attendance permitting.

Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier Park (LEAF)

1501 West 6th Street • Erie, PA 16505

814-453-LEAF(5323) • info@leaferie.org • www.leaferie.org

Anytime • Free

The Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier Park (LEAF) is a tree museum located inside Frontier Park in Erie, PA. LEAF is home to over 1,000 trees, a collection that grows in interest and diversity each year. LEAF strives to generate a greater awareness of the importance of trees to our lives through its mission of creating educational opportunities and outdoor experiences for our community. LEAF Partners with local schools and community organizations to offer free environmental education opportunities mostly focused on trees! One of our favorite collaborative projects is planting trees across the city of Erie. You might see our trees growing around town, especially on the campuses of Erie’s Public Schools!

LEAF is free to all visitors and we invite you to explore the arboretum's beauty during each season. Stroll through our multi-use trails, sit in our "virtual tree" gazebo, walk amid shade, flowering and evergreen trees, and enjoy the ever-changing views over our urban stream valley.

The Griff Slides consist of four metal slides, climbing stones, stone benches, and a decorative stone arch. They are closed during the winter but are open to all during the spring, summer and fall.

The **Enclosed Playground** has two main playsets, one for younger kids and another for older kids. The playground also includes picnic benches, sitting areas, a balance beam, and various swing sets!

The Labyrinth at LEAF is a gift from the Carrie T. Watson Garden Club. Dedicated in spring 2005, the gift commemorates the garden club's 80th anniversary.

A labyrinth is the design formed by a meandering, unicursal path as it folds back and forth from an outer edge to its own center. Often mistaken for a maze that intentionally tests one's memory and patience with dead ends and opportunities for wrong turns, the labyrinth has quite a different effect on its visitor. Free of obstacles and barriers, it is a tool for prayer, meditation and problem solving to those who walk at a leisurely pace.

The Benjamin Winter Garden, which features winter and early spring plantings, was created as a gift to the City of Erie as a memorial to Ben DeCrease, who passed away in early 2015. The intent is not only to honor Ben, but to provide a natural sanctuary for all who struggle with sadness, anxiety and depression. This winter garden at LEAF is only the third of its kind in the United States.

Ben was born in Erie and lived there until age 5, when his family moved to Seattle. Many happy hours were spent at the University of Washington Arboretum a few blocks from his home. A highlight of the UW Arboretum is the Witt Winter Garden, which showcases plants that are at their best when most other plants are asleep. The winter garden represents the promise of spring and renewed life amidst the dreariness of winter.

At LEAF, a quiet site was chosen on the northwest corner of the park, a terraced area overlooking the labyrinth below. The DeCrease Family and other donors enabled the creation of this unique natural asset for Erie and a healing space for all to share.

Presque Isle Boat Tours: Lady Kate

Presque Isle State Park near Perry Monument • Erie, PA 16505

814-836-0201 • piboattours.com

Sight Seeing Tour | May 21-June 5 & September 10-25: Saturday & Sunday • 11am, 1pm & 3pm

June 10-September 5 • Daily; 11am, 1pm, 3pm & 5pm

Sunset Cruise | June 10-September 5: Daily • One hour before sunset

Adults: \$16; Children (5-12) \$9; Age 4 & Under Free

Climb aboard the Lady Kate! The Lady Kate is a very stable, diesel powered, 65-foot Great Lakes Vessel certified by the U.S. Coast Guard to carry up to 64 passengers. She boasts state-of-the-art electronic navigational and communication devices and is equipped with the latest lifesaving equipment. Our Captains are all U.S. Coast Guard licensed.

Sight Seeing Cruise Tour the Great Inland Sea | Our 14 mile, 90 minute, fully narrated tour ventures onto the open waters of Lake Erie and Presque Isle Bay. Enjoy sites including Erie's historic lighthouses, Presque Isle's shores, Erie's skyline, ships, beaches, Gull Point Nature Preserve, wildlife and numerous other sights.

Sunset Cruise Come see Erie's claim to fame | Erie's sunsets are famous around the world for their beauty. Climb aboard and see it in the most stunning way possible, on the open water.

Presque Isle State Park

Peninsula Drive • Erie, PA 16505

814-833-7424 • www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks/FindAPark/PresqueIsleStatePark/Pages/default.aspx

Daily, Sunrise-Sunset • Evening Driving Hours until 9p • Free

Presque Isle State Park is a 3,200-acre sandy peninsula that arches into Lake Erie. As Pennsylvania's only "seashore," Presque Isle offers its visitors a beautiful coastline and many recreational activities, including swimming, boating, fishing, hiking, bicycling, and in-line skating.

Presque Isle is a day-use park that provides year-round recreational opportunities. Overnight accommodations are available nearby.

The neck of the peninsula is attached to the mainland four miles west of downtown Erie. The park creates Presque Isle Bay, a wide and deep harbor for the city of Erie. The bay attracts many pleasure boats and worldwide freighters, making Erie an important Great Lakes shipping port.

A National Natural Landmark, Presque Isle is a favorite spot for migrating birds. Because of the many unique habitats, Presque Isle contains a greater number of the state's endangered, threatened, and rare species than any other area of comparable size in Pennsylvania.

Whether you come to enjoy the sandy beaches, study ecological diversity, or learn about the historical significance of the peninsula, there is something for everyone at Presque Isle State Park.

Presque Isle Lighthouses

Peninsula Drive • Erie, PA 16505

814-833-3604 • www.presqueislelighthouse.org

Closed November - March

Presque Isle Lighthouse: Daily, 10am-5pm • \$8 House Tour & Tower Climb; \$5 House Tour; Free Grounds Walk

Erie Land Lighthouse: Friday-Monday; 10am-4pm • \$6 Tower Climb | First Tuesday of the Month; 11am-3pm • Free

Explore Erie's Lighthouses! Visit the Presque Isle Lighthouse and Erie Land Lighthouse to take in breathtaking views from the top of each tower. In 2014, Presque Isle Lighthouse was transitioned from a private residence for park staff to a public building for visitors with the purpose to learn about the rich maritime history of the lighthouse.

Wooden Nickel Buffalo Farm

5970 Koman Road • Edinboro, PA 16412

814-734-2833 • Text 814-434-6212 • buffalodan1963@live.com • www.woodennickelbuffalo.com

Saturdays & Sundays; 11am-5pm • Starting May 1: Daily; 11am-5pm

Wooden Nickel Buffalo Farm, a three-generation family-owned farm that has sold high-quality bison meat to customers for over 20 years. Our mission is to provide high-quality, 100% grass-fed bison meat. We promise lean protein, nutrient-rich, and delicious-tasting bison meat. In addition to our bison meat products, we also offer a range of family-friendly attractions, including a petting zoo, a corn maze, and a pumpkin patch. Usually, visitors can also see the live bison in the fields and learn about the history and ecology of these majestic animals.

Gift Shop | The gift shop offers many bison-themed products, including t-shirts, hats, and stuffed animals. We also sell locally-made crafts and artisanal foods. Let's not forget that we are a farm; we have farm-fresh eggs from chickens and ducks.

Petting Zoo | Family-friendly attraction! Want to give your little ones an educational experience they'll never forget? Try our small petting zoo with many friendly farm animals, including goats, donkeys, chickens, and more. Visitors can enjoy animal encounters by petting, feeding, and getting hands-on learning about their care and behavior. In essence, they are out there year around and love to have visitors.

Live Bison Viewing | There are many trails throughout the farm for you viewing pleasure of our live bison in the fields. We also offer guided tours of the farm and educational programs for and groups that want to learn more about these majestic animals.

Corn Maze and Pumpkin Patch | Fall activities, our corn maze is a family-friendly activity that challenges visitors to find their way through a twisting and turning maze of corn stalks. In the fall, our pumpkin patch offers many pumpkins in all shapes and sizes, perfect for Halloween and pumpkin carving.

Arts & Entertainment

Claytopia

924 W Erie Plaza Drive • Erie, PA 16505

814-836-7722 • www.claytopiaerie.com

Monday; 10am-4pm • Tuesday & Thursday-Saturday; 10am-8pm • Wednesday; 11am-3pm • Sunday; 12-5pm

Cost of Piece + Studio Fee (Call to Inquire)

Looking for family friendly entertainment for all ages and skill levels in our area? As Erie PA's #1 Pottery Painting and Canvas Class studio since 2004, Claytopia's got you covered! We're a relaxing & hip DIY studio located in the West Erie Plaza with great rates! There is a huge Pottery selection ranging from \$5 to \$99, with an average cost per person of \$20. Pottery prices include paint & kiln firing. Walk-ins welcome, no reservations needed.

Erie County Public Library

www.erialibrary.org

Free

Blasco Memorial Library

160 East Front Street • Erie, PA 16507 • 814-451-6900

Monday-Thursday; 9am-8:30pm • Friday & Saturday; 9am-5pm • Sunday; 1-5pm*

**The Idea Lab and Heritage Room are closed on Sundays.*

Edinboro Branch Library

413 W Plum Street • Edinboro, PA 16412 • 814-451-7081

Monday & Tuesday; 9am-8pm • Wednesday-Saturday; 9am-5pm

Iroquois Avenue Branch Library

4212 Iroquois Avenue • Erie, PA 16511 • 814-451-7082

Monday & Tuesday; 9am-8pm • Wednesday-Saturday; 9am-5pm

Lincoln Community Center

1255 Manchester Road • Erie, PA 16505 • 814-451-7085

Monday & Tuesday; 9am-8pm • Wednesday-Saturday; 9am-5pm

Millcreek Branch Library

2088 Interchange Road • Suite 280 • Erie, PA 16565 • 814-451-7084

Monday & Tuesday; 9am-8pm • Wednesday-Saturday; 9am-5pm

The Erie County Public Library system is made up of five library locations and a Bookmobile. We provide access to services and resources throughout the county and serve as the Erie-Crawford District headquarters. Sign up for our monthly newsletter to catch up on all the latest program and collection information and be sure to browse our site to learn all about your library's history and future plans.

Bookmobile

(814) 451-6935

The Erie County Public Library's Bookmobile serves areas of the city and county that have limited access to library resources. The Bookmobile carries hundreds of books, DVDs, and audiobooks that will appeal to patrons of all ages. The Bookmobile stops at more than 30 locations throughout Erie County. Each stop is open to be used by the general public. [View our schedule](#) for upcoming stops and times.

McCord Memorial Library

32 W Main Street • North East, PA 16428

814-725-4057 • mccordmemorial@gmail.com • mccordlibrary.org

Monday-Thursday; 9:30am-7pm • Saturday; 9am-4pm

Free

McCord Memorial Library is a free public library located in North East. The library is open to residents for book borrowing and in person programming. Preschool Storytimes are scheduled on Mondays at 1-1:30pm and Tuesdays & Wednesdays at 11-11:30am. Toddler Storytimes are scheduled on Thursdays at 11-11:30am. For Tweens & Teens, there is Teen Time Monday-Thursday at 3:30-4pm every week.

Check out Storytime Videos at mccordlibrary.org/storytime-videos. We have downloadable activities available at mccordlibrary.org/handouts. We also have activity kits for kids available at the library. Stop by and pick one up. *For most up-to-date information, check out our website, Facebook, Twitter or Instagram. Call with questions or concerns.*

Presque Isle Skating

3162 West Lake Road • Erie, PA 16505

814-833-0740 • www.facebook.com/PresqueIsleSkating

Friday; 7:15-9:15pm • Saturday; 7-9pm

\$10

Welcome to Presque Isle Skating and Event Center, formerly known as Evan's Skateland West. We are a family orientated facility that wants to provide good clean fun for our customers. Public skate times are available on Friday and Saturday evenings. Parties can be booked any day by booking online.

Public Libraries of Erie County

Free

Albion Area Public Library

111 E Pearl Street • Albion, PA 16401 • 814-756-5400

Monday & Wednesday; 9am-7pm • Saturday; 9am-3pm

Corry Public Library

117 West Washington Street • Corry, PA 16407 • 814-664-7611

Monday, Tuesday, Friday; 11am-5:30pm • Wednesday; 1-6pm • Thursday; 11am-7pm • Saturday; 11am-2pm

Rice Avenue Public Library

705 Rice Avenue • Girard, PA 16417 • 814-774-8286

Monday; 11am-7pm • Tuesday-Friday; 11am-5pm • Saturday; 9am-3pm

Weekly preschool storytime on Mondays at 1pm
Union City Public Library
2 Stranahan Street • Union City, PA 16438 • 814-438-3209
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday; 9am-6:30pm • Saturday; 9am-4pm
Waterford Public Library

24 South Park Row • Waterford, PA 16441 • 814-796-4729
Tuesday; 10am-4pm • Wednesday; 11am-5pm • Thursday; 3pm-7pm • Friday; 1pm-5pm • Saturday; 10am-2pm
Weekly storytime on Tuesdays at 10:30am

Schaefer's Auto Art
3705 Hershey Road • Erie, PA 16506
schaeferautoart@gmail.com
Daily • Sunup to Sundown • Free

Schaefer's Auto Art, located in Erie, is home to larger-than-life sculptures made out of recycled metal and automotive parts! We have been in the Erie area for over 25 years now! We're that little hidden gem on Hershey Road but also have been featured in Ripley's Believe It Or Not "Unlock The Weird!"

It's free and always will be to walk around and see the auto art! As Richard says, it's "just for smiles!"

The Auto Art was created by Richard (Dick) Schaefer with a lot of help from his friends. Richard was employed at a junkyard and was able to use parts from there to create the sculptures.

Parking is available in the pull-off area on the side of the road. Please do not park in the driveway.

Winter: Please be advised that we do not maintain or plow the side of the road during winter months and it can build up snow and ice from Hershey's road maintenance. Snow may be hard to walk in during this time. Please be careful!

Sculptures include:

License Plate Flag | An American Flag made up of 273 license plates! The stars are made all of older PA plates. And the red stripes have all the states going alphabetically down.

The Spider | The Spider, the first sculpture made for the yard, took around five months to complete. It is made out of the body of a VW Beetle, steel pipes for the legs, front suspension arms for the fangs, and a metal frame for it all to sit on. Just like most of his creations, Schaefer purchased the used VW beetle and the steel pipes came from his brother's junkyard. Each steel pipe was individually carried from the back of the yard to the truck. Making their way to Schaefer's house, the pipes lay in the driveway until after he consulted an encyclopedia to research how to build the spiders legs. After configuring and planning how to make the legs, Schaefer and a few friends went on to make eight of them. They next assembled a frame to hold the body of the spider; on it they also built metal stubs which they slid the legs onto. Using a crane, the Spider was assembled in the yard and Schaefer hired a painter to give it its real spider look. The first Spider was painted black with details and all to look like a real spider. Since then it has gone through a few different paint jobs, different every time.

The Rocket | Created and displayed for the 2000 Millennium.

The Bumblebee | "On the way back from Michigan, I had a bee on the dashboard and saw these big cement mixers going by, (they) looked just like the back of a bee to me." - Richard Schaefer, Auto Art Artist

It's not every day you get to see a larger than life bumblebee on the side of the road. But that's exactly what we have in Erie, Pennsylvania! Schaefer's Auto Art is home to the cement mixer bumblebee. Richard, the artist, bought the mixer from Warren Steel Company back in the day. It had sat at in the parking lot for a while, not being used and starting to gather rain and rust. So much that when Richard was able to get it up and running that's exactly what came out of the cement mixer!

We've come a long way from the rain and rust, this Bumblebee is complete with a SAAB face, drive shaft legs, and front suspension torsion bars for its antennae.

The Two Headed Dinosaur | The Two Headed Dinosaur was originally made with just one head, and painted green with white teeth. He made an appearance coming out of a dirt mound on Hershey Road. He rode around in the back of a Lincoln trunk car. A little while later he was given another head, painted yellow, and spent his time in the back of a His and Her Truck. For the past few years he's resided with the other Auto Art, in front of the Rocket.

Yahn Planetarium at Penn State Behrend Public Shows

4205 College Drive • Erie, PA 16563 • 814-898-7268

behrend.psu.edu/school-of-science/programs-events/yahn-planetarium/yahn-planetarium-at-penn-state-behrend

Thursdays; 1pm • Saturdays; 1pm & 2:30pm

\$5 Adults; \$3 Children 12 & Under; Free PSU Staff & Children Under 2

For years, it's been the place where thousands of young people and adults come to learn about the universe and worlds beyond our reach. The Erie Planetarium served as a resource for the Erie community for more than fifty years,

and it continues today as the Yahn Planetarium, now a part of Penn State Behrend. The planetarium is located in the School of Science complex on the Behrend campus. Masks are required to enter the Yahn Planetarium.

•**Saturdays @ 10am** | “Secret of the Cardboard Rocket” Follow two kids as they travel the solar system learning about the planets. We’ll go along for the ride! Recommended for ages 5-9.

•**Saturdays @ 11:30am** | “Forward to the Moon” NASA’s 21st-century Artemis program, named after the Greek moon Goddess and twin of Apollo, is the next step in our mission to explore the universe and land humans back on the surface of the Moon. Recommended for ages 10 to adult.

Historical Societies

Corry Area Historical Society

945 Mead Avenue • Corry, PA 16407

814-664-4749 • admin@corryareahistoricalociety.org • www.corryareahistoricalociety.org

Thursdays; 10am-2pm • By Appointment

Free

Feel free to join us as we work to collect and preserve the history of the Corry area. We strive to share the stories, memories, and lives of those who are a part of local history, through our artifacts and archives. We are reopening our museum on Saturdays for visits. Usually volunteers are also available on Thursdays, while they work on our archives. Our volunteers provide wonderful opportunities and experiences for our visitors, so please be considerate. If you would like to setup an appointment for a different day or time, please call the museum.

Our museum houses over 10,000 artifacts in 12,000 sq. ft. of space. We look forward to sharing with you our local history in an area that covers 250 sq. miles, the same geographic area as the Corry Area School District. In addition, our Archive Room is chock full of interesting photographs, maps, genealogical information, and notebooks filled with newspaper articles organized by last name, organization, business, or event.

Edinboro Area Historical Society

126 Water Street • Edinboro, PA 16412

814-734-6109 • edinborohistory@gmail.com • www.facebook.com/eahs.pa

April to December: Tuesday & Saturday • 9am-12pm

Free

The Edinboro Area Historical Society is dedicated to the preservation, interpretation and presentation of the rich history of Edinboro, PA and adjacent areas. The purpose is to promote an interest in local history; to identify, file and record documented historical data and to preserve artifacts unique to the Edinboro area; to inform the people of the community about such through publications and meetings; and to encourage educational activities and the preservation of historical buildings and other sites.

The EAHS was founded in 1998. It is a volunteer-managed organization headquartered in the 1861 Doucette House. Our archives and special collections library is open to the public every Tuesday and Saturday, 9am to 12pm and other times by appointment.

Fairview Historical Society: The Sturgeon House

4302 Avonia Road • Fairview, PA 16415

814-814-474-5855 • fahsmail3@gmail.com • sturgeonhouse@hotmail.com

fairviewhistory.org

By Appointment and Special Dates (See Below) • Free

The Sturgeon House is located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Avonia Road and Water Street in the village of Fairview. The village area, once commonly called Sturgeonville, and incorporated as Fairview Borough from 1868 through 1997, is the largest settlement in Fairview Township.

In June 1980 The Sturgeon House was listed on the Pennsylvania Inventory of Historical Sites and the following December it was accepted for placement on the National Register of Historical Places. The Fairview Area Historical Society formed in 1976 at the close of a year of activities relating to the nation’s Bicentennial. The Society has restored The Sturgeon House for use as a museum, depository of local historical/genealogical data, and as a meeting place. In 2002 the Society removed a poorly constructed addition to the original house and added an appropriately designed meeting/exhibit room with handicap entry onto the south side of the building.

REGULAR OPEN HOURS ARE:

Membership meetings, third Wednesdays, 7:30pm. Membership meetings feature programs of an historical nature. Meetings are open to the public.

Memorial Weekends: Sunday, 12 to 4pm, Monday, 10am to 4pm.

Christmas Open House, 1st Saturday/Sunday in December: Saturday 10am to 4pm, Sunday 12 to 4pm.

Or by appointment. Call (814) 474-5855 for tours and appointment.
Admission to The Sturgeon House is free for all meetings and events. Visitors are very welcome.

Fort LeBoeuf Historical Society

P.O. Box 622 • Waterford, PA 16441

814-796-4014 • flbhistoricalsociety@gmail.com • www.fortleboeufhistory.com

May 1-October 31 • Friday; 10am-3pm • Saturday; 10am-4pm • Sunday; 12pm-4pm • By Appointment

Free Admission (Donations Accepted)

The Fort LeBoeuf Historical Society was created by a team of hard-working and history-loving volunteers to honor our past and elevate our future. When the Eagle Hotel, built in 1823, was in danger of being torn down, a local group of individuals laid down their own money to save this important building. They not only invested dollars but years of manpower and also formed the Fort LeBoeuf Historical Society.

Waterford's location on French Creek gave it a prominence as the pathway to the south led to many making their fortunes with the delivery of people and products. Once the home to three different forts, beginning with the French Fort LeBoeuf in 1753. A young George Washington, who was representing the Virginia Militia and Governor Dinwiddie, visited this fort. The job entrusted to him was to tell the French they were encroaching on British property and must leave. Their refusal was the spark that kindled the French and Indian War.

The Campus is composed of the French and Indian Museum, a modern building that houses one of the most prolific collections of this time in history. The Judson House was built by one of Waterford's earliest citizens, Amos Judson. It is maintained as a house museum. Across the street is the Eagle Hotel, built in 1823. It has served as a Public House, Inn, or Hotel, for most of its history. It currently houses the Sugar and Spice Restaurant, well known for their Amish style cooking and generous servings. The 18th Century Garden is a relatively new addition, located in Washington Park, but a peek into heirloom plantings and the gardens that would have been popular in Colonial America. Another recent addition is the Fort LeBoeuf Center, which houses a gift shop, a community center, and the offices of the Historical Society. Future additions will include a genealogy center.

Amos Judson House

31 High Street • Waterford, PA 16441

Heidi Longstreet • 814-882-3562

The Amos Judson House, built in 1826 on what is believed to be the property of the original French Fort. Edinboro University sponsored an archaeological dig there and although few artifacts from the colonial period were found, large areas of wood charcoal in the vicinity of the Judson House suggest the remains of either the French or British forts (both were destroyed by fire). Remains from the American period are much more plentiful, numbering over 160,000 artifacts and garbage remains. Old entrances and a past porch were discovered associated with the Judson House. This stately home is furnished in the style of the period.

Part of the second floor houses our library and extensive genealogy collection, as well as a model of the original Fort LeBoeuf, as described in the journal of George Washington.

Eagle Hotel

32 High Street • Waterford, PA 16441

Dick Arthur • 814-438-2728

The Eagle Hotel, also called the Stone Hotel, was constructed in 1826 in the general area of three forts and the American Blockhouse, with locally quarried stone. This area was still a rough frontier so the elegance of the Eagle Hotel was impressive. Built by Thomas King, son of one of Waterford's earliest settlers, Robert King, who brought his family here in 1795. At this time many inns grew out of an Innkeeper's home, but the Eagle Hotel was built as an Inn, stagecoach stop and an excellent livery stable attached.

In 1977, the Eagle Hotel was purchased by the Fort Le Boeuf Historical Society with the hope of preserving this important historical building. The hotel was renovated and the kitchen modernized from October 1997 to February 1998. In October 1998, the Eagle Hotel was leased by Sugar 'n Spice who continue to maintain a restaurant on the first floor.

Fort LeBoeuf Center

108 High Street • Waterford, PA 16441

Kathy Williams • 814-881-8235

Located at 108 High Street, the Fort LeBoeuf Center is a new addition to the Fort LeBoeuf Campus. This is a working building that houses a gift shop, an office, a classroom/research room and an event space. The Eagle Hotel Gift Shop took up residence in this building in early 2019 when we rented the space. This allowed better access to the gift shop and proved a good move. Needing a space for an office and for storage, we purchased the building in October 2019.

We will be moving all the genealogical records from the Judson House to the research room where we can better control the environment to protect those assets. There will be computers available for genealogical research for those

who might not have Internet access at home.

Starting with the 2021 season, there will be many events and classes offered at the center. Please check the website often to see the list of offerings. If you are interested in any of these or have questions, please email us at FLBCenter108@gmail.com.

Fort LeBoeuf Museum

103 S High Street • Waterford, PA 16441

Jim Edwards • 814-449-0607

South of the Judson House is the Fort LeBoeuf Museum. Built on the site of the original French fort, this modern building includes numerous exhibits on the Indians who lived here, the French and British fur trade, and archaeological excavations of the site that was conducted by Edinboro University. The Museum is open for touring. Group tours and additional availability by appointment.

Washington Park & Teaching Garden

13 High Street • Waterford, PA 16441

Don Pearce • 814-860-0221

Washington Park was constructed to honor the visit of George Washington to the French Fort LeBoeuf on 11 December 1753. In 1922, the citizens of Waterford honored his visit with a statue in the center of the street for all to see. Fort LeBoeuf was burned down twice and rebuilt twice on this space. It was burned finally in 1882 and was not rebuilt. The Daughters of the American Colonists secured this bit of land and decided not to restore the block house but to restore and beautify the grounds. In 1945 the statue of George Washington, the only one that exists depicting him as a young man, was moved from its original site by the Pennsylvania Historical Commission onto the Fort LeBoeuf Chapter Washington Memorial Lot.

Hagen History Center

814-454-1813 • events@eriehistory.org • www.eriehistory.org

Hagen History Center formerly known as the Erie County Historical Society is a public museum located in Erie, Pennsylvania and focuses on the history of Erie County for the past 200 years. There is also an additional campus known as the Battles Estates in Girard, Pennsylvania.

The museum includes exhibit buildings, archival and curatorial collections, educational classrooms, and house museums in Erie & Girard.

Erie Campus

356 West 6th Street • Erie, PA 16507

Tuesday-Saturday; 10am-5pm • Sunday; 12-5pm

\$10 Adults; \$7.50 Seniors & Students; Free for Active Military w/ID

Our campus at 356 W. Sixth Street includes four buildings with more than 18 exhibits. It is named for our benefactor, Thomas B. Hagen, who grew up across the street from the Erie location at 341 W. 6th St.

We started out as the Erie Public Museum in 1898 and later became the Erie County Historical Society. The name changed a few times, and we are currently known as the Hagen History Center.

Carriage House Visitor Center & Gift Shop | The carriage house belonged to the Watson family and housed transportation vehicles from carriages to cars throughout its service. When the Historical Society owned the property, it also included the Erie Planetarium, a popular attraction inside. The Historical Society transferred the planetarium to Penn State Behrend where it is now called the Yahn Planetarium.

The carriage house includes the gift shop, research area, reading room and library with more than 5,800 books published in the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. The Hagen History Center staff offices are also in the building.

Watson-Curtze Mansion | Built in 1891, the mansion features a Richardsonian Romanesque style and includes 24 rooms, filled with extraordinary architecture, stained-glass windows, mosaics, 12 fireplaces, a ballroom and solarium. Harrison F. Watson (1853-1904), a paper manufacturer, built the house along with his wife Carrie. Their daughter, Winifred, married Eli Griswold, of Griswold Manufacturing. After Carrie died, Frederic Felix Curtze (1858-1941), a bank president and industry leader, bought the home and lived there with his family until his death. The family included his wife Caroline Stohlman Curtze and two children, Louise M. and Frederick A.

After Mr. Curtze died, the family donated the home to the Erie School District, and it later became known as the Erie County Historical Society. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1983.

Wood-Morrison House | This historic house predates the Watson-Curtze Mansion and was built next to the Erie Extension Canal. Dr. William Maxwell Wood built the house in 1858. He served onboard USS Michigan, the U.S. Navy's first iron-hulled warship. He and his wife, Rose Mary Carson, raised six sons and a daughter.

In 1865, Leverett and Missouri Bliss Morrison, of Westfield, New York, bought the house. After Leverett died, their son, Lieutenant Commander William Morrison, and his wife, Katherine Mack Morrison, took over home ownership. They had two children, but only their daughter Anne survived. They owned the land that included where the Watson-Curtze Mansion was built in 1891.

New Exhibit Building | The building was planned in 2018 and built in 2019 specifically for new exhibits. The first floor of the new exhibit building features multiple exhibits and the second floor will feature a comprehensive gallery of exhibits on the history of Erie County. The second floor will open in 2022.

King-Martens Archive Building | This building's 10,000 square feet of space includes archival material, diaries, letters, correspondence, books, typescripts, reports, photographs and other historical resources. This special subject research library is devoted to the history of Erie County and its environs. The Robert J. MacDonald Great Lakes maritime history is also part of the collections. The ECHS Library & Archives' holdings present the history of people, places, things, events and activities.

Built in 2015, holdings include 800+ separate collections and 8,200+ linear feet of material. Professional staff continues their commitment to helping researchers and other visitors find what they need in a timely, efficient manner.

Girard Campus

436 Walnut Street • Girard, PA 16417

Our Girard campus at 436 Walnut Street, with the Yellow House and the White House that sits on more than 130 acres of farmland and includes nearly a mile of public walking trails. The Yellow House was built in 1858 by Rush Battles, a Girard banker who founded the Webster-Battles Bank, which later became the Battles Bank. In 1861, Battles and his wife, Charlotte McConnell Webster, built the neighboring White House. They had three children. Their daughter Charlotte Elizabeth lived there until she died in 1952. She had inherited the farm, both of the mansions, the banking. The Yellow House and White House formed what is called the Battles Estate. The estate was donated to the Historical Society of Erie County in the 1980s and both homes were turned into museums. The White House contains the Charlotte Elizabeth Battles memorabilia.

Harborcreek Historical Society

5661 Buffalo Road • Harborcreek, PA 16421

814-899-4447 • HarborcreekHistory@gmail.com • www.harborcreekhistory.org

Saturday; 10am-2pm • By Request

Free

Harborcreek Township is located in Erie County. Incorporated in 1803, it encompasses 34 square miles and includes 7 miles of Lake Erie frontage. The 2010 census population is 17,234.

The Harborcreek Historical Society is a 501c3 non-profit organization created to promote local history. With the help of the community, the Society continues to safeguard and preserve Harborcreek history, artifacts and memories. You are invited to browse our displays, join us for programs and events, and use the archives for family and local history research.

Please call or email to make a special appointment or request.

Lake Shore Railway Historical Society & Museum

31 Wall Street • North East, PA 16428

814-725-1911 • lakeshorerailway.com

Grounds: Daily; Daylight-Dusk

Museum | May-June 14: Saturday & Sunday, 12-4pm

June 15-Labor Day: Thursday-Sunday, 12-4pm

Labor Day-October: Saturday & Sunday, 12-4pm

Free (Donations Appreciated)

The LSRHS Museum complex is a neighborhood revitalization anchor for its section of North East Borough and provides a safe and open area for viewing railroad operations (as cited in nationally distributed Trains Magazine). In addition to the historic locomotives and rolling stock we have many other artifacts and much equipment pertinent to America's and the region's railroad heritage, all maintained by LSRHS at the museum. The LSRHS museum is open to the public on a regular basis on weekends until the end of October. The LSRHS Museum grounds are open to the public year-round, weather permitting.

North East Historical Society Museum

25 Vine Street • North East, PA 16428

814-403-8709 • northeasthistoricalsociety@yahoo.com • www.northeasthistoricalsociety.org/museum.html

June-December • Fridays & Saturdays; 4:30pm-8:30pm • (Other hours by appointment)

Free

The North East Historical Society's mission is to promote the study of local history and the collection and preservation of historical records of the area; the preservation, maintenance, and protection of historical sites, buildings, and objects; the provision of adequate historical, educational services to any educational, charitable or scientific endeavor which will accomplish the above objectives.

The Society was formed in 1989, incorporated in 1990, and opened the museum in 2002.

The building, now known as the North East Cultural Center was completely renovated as a joint venture of the North East Historical Society and the North East Arts Council.

This building is completely handicapped accessible and is occupied on the first floor by the Historical Society and the second floor by the Arts Council. We remember Mrs. Gerrie Smith - who helped bring the Historical Society to life as an active member in the North East Community.

History of the Building | the building was built in 1880 to be used as a town hall. The first years saw the second floor used as an armory for the local militia. The first floor housed the town hall and a hand drawn fire cart before the advent of a local hose company. At this time the cart was available to any citizens needing to use it to combat a fire in town. In the early years the building was used mainly for a town meeting place, but it has also been used for a school, street maintenance building, town jail, election place, and even a roller skating rink.

When the Citizen Hose Company was organized in 1886 it was located in this building and it later became the Crescent Hose Company. In addition to their equipment, they also kept, in this building, horses to pull the wagons. They built the addition on the south side of the building until 1997, when they built a larger building on Main Street.

Union City Historical Society

11 South Main Street • Union City, PA 16438

814-438-7573 • unioncitypa.us/museum

Thursday; 10am-2pm • Friday; 2pm-7pm • Saturday; 10am-2pm • Free

Founded in 1965 by the citizens of Union City as a repository of our region, the Union City Historical Society Museum's collection is quite extensive and is the only one of its kind in Northwestern Pennsylvania.

The community of Union City, once known as Miles Mills, was founded in 1789. William Miles developed the community as a market and industrial center. Settlers found the region to be covered in primeval forest with large open tracts among the rolling hills.

Within the collection you will find many unusual items of everyday use from the 18th and 19th century rural and urban life. The collection is large and diverse, our community small and friendly. Come share our treasures and local history. Admission is free, but donations are gratefully accepted to keep up the collection.

Museums

Erie Art Museum

20 East 5th Street • Erie, PA 16507

814-459-5477 • www.erieartmuseum.org

Wednesday; 11am-6pm • Thursday & Friday; 2-8pm • Saturday; 10am-5pm • Sunday; 1-6pm

\$10 Adults; \$8 Seniors Citizens/Students; Free Members/Children under 16

Welcome to Erie's Art Museum! The Museum houses a collection of over 8,000 objects—a mix of local and regional art, plus work by some of the biggest names in art history

Discounts Available - The Erie Art Museum offers free admission to **active duty military members** including Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marines, National Guard and Reserve members with up to five family members. Please present military ID to redeem this discount.

Discounts are also available to individuals and families with an **ACCESS EBT card**. Present your EBT card at the admission desk and you'll receive discounted admission of \$2 for up to four people. Please present photo ID with your access card to receive the discount.

Erie Maritime Museum

150 East Front Street • Erie, PA 16507

814-452-2744 • sailfnl.org

Museum Hours: Friday & Saturday; 9:30am-5pm

Administrative Hours: Monday-Friday; 9am-5pm

\$10 Adult; \$8 Seniors (65+); \$5 Youth (age 3-11); Free Children 2 & Under/Flagship Niagara League Members

Originally intended to serve as an interpretive tool for the U.S. Brig Niagara, the museum initially focused on the War of 1812 and Battle of Lake Erie. In 2005, a new vision was forged with the inclusion of the USS Michigan/Wolverine exhibit on the museum's second floor. Our sole purpose is to tell the story of our region's maritime heritage and how it fits into the history of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The Erie Maritime Museum has a diverse collection of three-dimensional objects and archival documents – totaling nearly 3,000 separate items. While most are in storage, some are used for our exhibits, loans to other Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) sites and other regional museums.

Visitors can look at our artifacts and collections throughout the museum exhibits as well as request to view items or documents in storage for research purposes with an approved appointment. To request access, please contact us in advance by email or phone.

expERIENCE Children's Museum

420 French Street • Erie, PA 16507

814-453-3743 • www.eriechildrensmuseum.org

Monday, Wednesday-Saturday; 10am-5pm • Sundays; 1-7pm

\$10 Age 1 & Older; Free Members, Children Under 1

The expERIENCE Children's Museum is a place that has been inspiring creativity and imagination in children for twenty years. The museum is a non-profit organization located in the historic cultural district of downtown Erie whose entire mission is to engage children and families in a fun and educational experience and is committed to educating children across a broad range of topics including math, science, art, culture, literacy and health.

The new Children's Museum is a common ground where children and families from different economic, social, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds gather under one roof to create, explore, imagine, and play with one another.

The new entrance is on the corner of 5th and French Street.

Available Discounts

•Attention ACCESS EBT Card Participants: Present your Pennsylvania Access EBT Card (green card with "Access" in yellow) at the admission desk and you'll receive discounted admission for up to four people: \$2 per person.

•We offer a \$2 discount to senior citizens ages 62 and older and for active or retired military w/ID for up to 5 family members attending with them.

Firefighters Historical Museum

428 Chestnut St. • Erie, PA 16507

814-456-5969 • firefightershistoricalmuseum.org

Starting in June: Saturday; 12-4pm

Call for current Admission Prices

The Firefighters Historical Museum was established to create a centralized collection of items of firefighting heritage as a historical and educational legacy for Erie, Pennsylvania and its citizens of tomorrow. In addition, the Museum serves as a permanent tribute to firefighters of Erie, the country and the world, whose dedication and devotion to duty, at the risk of their own lives, is an eternal vigilant protection for the citizenry whose lives they are entrusted with.

Grape Discovery Center

8305 West Main Road • Westfield, NY 14787

716-326-2003 • info@grapediscoverycenter.com • www.grapediscoverycenter.com

Thursday-Saturday; 11am-5pm • Free

Welcome to the Lake Erie Concord Grape Belt! Visit the Grape Discovery Center in Westfield, NY and view exhibits and displays that tell the story of over 150 years of grape-growing along the southeastern shores of Lake Erie in western New York and northwestern Pennsylvania. This area is home to the oldest and largest Concord grape-growing region in the world and is bursting with natural beauty, historic communities, and places to explore. From wineries and museums, to festivals, fishing, shopping and dining, you'll find plenty to discover and enjoy in America's grape country.

The Grape Discovery Center is the official Visitor's Center for the Lake Erie Concord Grape Belt, designated a New York State Heritage Area in 2006. Developed by the Concord Grape Belt Heritage Association, it seeks to be an experiential destination that supports and promotes the grape industry through sharing stories and engaging, educating and informing the public about all things grape.

Admission to the Center is free, however donations are graciously accepted.

Tasting Bar: Enjoy a glass of wine or grape juice with friends in the Tasting Bar or on the Steve Baran Memorial Patio nestled beside a Concord vineyard. The Tasting Bar features local artisanal cheeses, cured meats, snacks, grape juice, and a weekly selection of wines from Lake Erie Wine Country.

Exhibits: Walk through the Star Family Exhibit Room to learn the story of the Concord grape and 150 years of grape growing in the Lake Erie region. Explore the history and science of grape growing, and the lifestyle of those in the industry. Interactive exhibits are fun and interesting for visitors of all ages and allow you to see, touch, smell, and feel different components of what makes this area special.

·Family-friendly

·Tours offered for pre-booked groups

·Interactive learning displays

Gift Shop: Browse through a gift shop filled with “grapey” apparel, art, vinaigrettes and sauces, and crafts made by local artisans, and take home a piece of the Lake Erie Concord Grape Belt, America’s grape country.

Tom Ridge Environmental Center (TREC)

301 Peninsula Drive • Erie, PA 16505

814-833-7424 • www.trecf.org/trec

Daily; 8am-4pm • Free

April 1-October 31: Daily; 8am-4pm

November 1-March 31: Tuesday-Saturday; 8am-4pm

TREC is an educational center dedicated to teaching visitors about the unique 3,200 acres of Presque Isle and the many different forms of life that inhabit the peninsula. TREC also serves as a center for research—contributing to conservation efforts and promoting environmental awareness, helping to preserve the unparalleled beauty of Presque Isle and Lake Erie, the site of Pennsylvania’s only seashore.

The Tom Ridge Environmental Center is an educational resource with displays and exhibits, indoor and outdoor classrooms, interpretive programs, and more. It is also a research center, where scientists from across the United States and Canada study the Great Lake watersheds and the life of Presque Isle and its plant and animal inhabitants.

Big Green Screen Theater: The \$3 million, 6,500 square foot TREC Big Green Screen Theater is equipped with the most modern technology available for large-format movie projection. Get as close to reality as you can get without being there. The TREC Big Green Screen Theater seats 175 in tiered, amphitheater seating and features nature and environmental films on a screen that is four stories high. Put yourself in the middle of the action!