

Slate Belt Pride Event Saturday, July 12

By Joshua Biechy / Vice President Slate Belt LGBTQ+ Community Association

BANGOR - The Slate Belt Pride, a community initiative dedicated to fostering inclusivity, raising awareness, and providing support for the LGBTQ+ community in the Slate Belt region of Eastern Pennsylvania. We are excited to invite you to support our upcoming event, and we would be truly honored to have your involvement.

Our event will take place in on Saturday, July 12, 2025, from 12 PM to 6 PM, between South 1st and South Main Streets. This event has two core goals:

Promote awareness and education while building a more cohesive and supportive community in the Slate Belt.

Raise funds to establish an LGBTQ+ Community Center in our region.

The Slate Belt, a close-knit area of ten boroughs and townships located between the Poconos and Lehigh Valley, is a beautiful and vibrant community. However, our region lacks vital resources for LGBTQ+ individuals, particularly for youth. The creation of a dedicated LGBTQ+ Community Center would address this gap by offering crucial services such as medical support, safe social spaces, and potential shelter for individuals facing homelessness.

To achieve these goals, we are seeking sponsorships ranging from \$250 to \$2,000. Your contribution would not only underscore your commitment to diversity and inclusivity but also directly improve the lives of LGBTQ+ individuals in our area. Additionally, we are seeking vendors and entertainers for the event. While we have a limited entertainment budget, we warmly welcome volunteers willing to share their time and talent.

Attached, you'll find a sponsorship form for your consideration. Should you have any questions or need further details, please feel free to contact me at Joshua.Biechy@yahoo.com or SlateBeltLgbtPride@yahoo.com.



Welcome home!



Arbel Yehoud, 29



Agam Berger, 21



Gadi Mozes, 80



WELCOME HOME!

By Jewish Federation of the Lehigh Valley

LEHIGH VALLEY - Our community is overjoyed to welcome home Arbel Yehoud, Gadi Moses, and Agam Berger, as well as five Thai nationals, after a horrific 482 days held in Hamas captivity.

Arbel Yehoud's family has lived in Kibbutz Nir Oz for three generations. She lost her brother Dolev Yehoud on October 7th. Her partner Ariel Cunio and his brother David Cunio remain in Hamas captivity.

80-year-old Gadi Moses is an agronomist from Kibbutz Nir Oz. His partner Efrat was murdered the day he was taken hostage.

Agam Berger, was taken from Nahal Oz, where she was an observer, and was taken alongside observers Liri Albag, Karina Arie, Daniella Gilboa, and Naama Levy, who were released in previous rounds.

The five Thai nationals were in Israel working in agriculture: Thenna Pongsak, Sathian Suwannakham, Sriaoun Watchara, Seathao Bannawat, Rumnao Surasak. Few details have been released about them individually.

With every soul released from captivity in Gaza and reunited with their families, we are filled with emotion and hope. Yet our community cannot fully begin to heal until every last one of the remaining 82 hostages is released. We pray that in the coming weeks, they all will be.

Calling all Lords, Ladies, Pirates & Peasants

2025 CAST AUDITIONS

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March 8 & 9

Blackfryar Auditions
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MAR. 8

8-10PM

LARRY XL

If there's a club, bar or basement that needs a joke, Larry XL is ready to entertain. He's performed with top names in some of the nation's best comedy clubs.

JENNIFER ESPENSHADE

Entertaining crowds for the past 30 years as a performer at the PA Renaissance Faire. Has performed in MD, DE, NJ, NY, VA and PA.

BILL CHIANG

Bill is a Comedy Competition Winner in NYC that uses the absurdity and silliness of everyday life as source for his comedy.

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