



Buffalo / Niagara

PO Box 617
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716-883-0384

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www.pflag-buffalo-niagara.org

We meet because we have learned that someone very close to us is Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, or Transgendered.

We try to help one another deal with this information in a positive manner.

Although we do not agree at all times, we try to be understanding.

We offer help to those who seek it, but do not force ourselves on others.

We strive to maintain anonymity while sharing on a level that is comfortable for all of us.

We encourage all to attend meetings for their own benefit as well as that of the group.

It is our hope that when each of us reaches a point of understanding and acceptance, we realize that this is when others need us the most.

Buffalo Monthly Meeting

Sunday, June 15, 2008
2:30 – 5:00 PM

The June meeting will be a self-help sharing meeting. As always, newcomers will be offered the alternative of meeting privately with a PFLAG parent.

Heritage Room, Westminster Presbyterian Church
724 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14209

Use the driveway to left of the church to reach the church parking lot. Walk behind the church to other side of the building (through the nursery school) and enter through the kitchen entrance.

SAVE THE DATE: The PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara picnic will be held on Sunday July 20, 2008.

New Parents Meetings

Wednesday, June 11, 2008
Wednesday, July 9, 2008
7:00 PM

If you plan to attend, you must notify us by calling the helpline.

Christ United Methodist Church Library
350 Saratoga (corner of Harlem Road), Snyder, NY
North of the Harlem Road exit of Route 33

Enter through door closest to the lighted parking lot. This self-help one-on-one meeting deals with the concerns of parents and family members who have recently learned that a loved one is Lesbian or Gay.

For Niagara satellite meeting details, call 297-5785.

Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Buffalo/Niagara, is a non-profit, all volunteer, community-based organization not affiliated with any ethnic, religious, economic, or political group. Membership is open to all. PFLAG membership lists are kept confidential; and mailings are sent in plain envelopes.



Local News

Queer Journeys Programs

Queer Journeys is a cable access program sponsored by PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara and coordinated by Camille Cox and Babs Conant. The programs are based on documentaries on GLBT issues. This program only airs in Buffalo, on Mondays at 6:30 pm and Tuesdays at 1:00 am on Adelphia Channel 20.

The schedule for the next two months is:

- Jun 2: Our Faces
- Jun 9: Silent Pictures
- Jun 16: Camp Lavender Hill
- Jun 23: Trevor / I Know Who I Am, - Do You?
- Jun 30: Maybe we're Talking About a Different God
- Jul 7: Coming out Coming Home
- Jul 14: Out for a Change
- Jul 21: The Trials of Jimmy Creech
- Jul 28: Queer Sons

A short description of the storylines and a full schedule can be found on our website at:

www.pflag-buffalo-niagara.org/video_project.shtml

Annual Meeting Notice

Jeffrey J. McConnell

On May 18, 2008 at 2:30 pm, Parents and Friends of Gay Men and Lesbians of Buffalo, Inc. (PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara) held its Annual Meeting in the Heritage Room of Westminster Presbyterian Church, 724 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14209.

The meeting included the election of Jeffrey J. McConnell as Treasurer, and Wendy Christophersen, Diane Covert, Marylou Hess, and Kristian Rickard as Board members.

The following Treasurer's Report shows the final figures for the 2007-08 fiscal year of PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara. The fiscal year began on April 1, 2007 and ended on March 31, 2008.

Of special note: close to one-half of the expense for advertisement is for a new project to place advertisements in high school play programs. This was done in five programs in 2007-08 and will be increased in coming years.

Operating Funds

Beginning Balance \$6,648.37

Income

Membership Dues	\$1,145.00
Donations	\$1,453.32
Fundraising	\$950.00
Merchandise Sales	\$923.50
Interest	\$2,002.72
Advertisements	\$400.00
Other Income	\$0.00
Total Income	\$6,874.34

Expenses

Newsletter Duplication	\$347.99
Postage	\$451.00
Telephone	\$602.59
Office Supplies	\$99.92
Donations	\$0.00
Fundraising Costs	\$160.00
Merchandise Costs	\$585.45
Pamphlets, handouts	\$10.00
National & State Dues	\$735.00
Publicity	\$575.00
Fees	\$256.00
Travel	\$500.00
Other Expenses	\$265.00
Total Expenses	\$4,566.95

Ending balance

\$8,955.76

PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara has a set of funds that are reserved for a specific purpose. The Reserve Fund is money set aside to keep the organization running for about 18 months if all other income sources were to end. The GALE fund is money held for Gay and Lesbian Educators of Western New York. The Curt and Barbara Gregg Memorial fund was set up in honor of two of the early leaders of our chapter. The money in this fund is used to support the purchase of GLBT oriented library materials. The PFLAG Endowment is the result of a special gift to PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara. The rest of this gift was placed with the Community Foundation of Greater Buffalo. The large amount of interest income shown above is earned primarily from these two funds. The Internet Fund was established by a private donation and is used to support our website. The Babs Conant Fund was established in honor of our current secretary.

Special Reserved Fund Balances

Reserve Fund	\$1,765.35
GALE	\$296.69
C & B Gregg Memorial	\$3,024.26
Colage	\$394.00
PFLAG Endowment	\$10,000.00
Internet Fund	\$177.85
Babs Conant Fund	\$413.12

Funds Total

\$16,071.27

Membership Changes

Jeffrey J. McConnell

The PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara Board has voted to make some changes to the membership structure of our chapter.

First, the name of a "Local Only" membership has been changed to "Subscription Only" due to pressure from PFLAG National. Though the name has changed, there are no changes what members selecting the option will receive.

Second, the Board increased the membership and subscription only fees by \$5 each. Membership will now be \$30 per year and a subscription to our newsletter will be \$15. These dues have not been raised in a number of years. This increase is necessary to keep pace with increases in the costs to produce the newsletter – especially increases in postage.

Lastly, the Board created new levels of membership including Supporting Member (\$50 per year), Sponsoring Member (\$100 per year), Benefactor Member (\$250 per year), and Lifetime Member (\$500 one time donation).

It's a Parade

The Buffalo GLBT Pride Parade will be on June 8th starting at Kleinhans Music Hall and ending at Bidwell Park. Line up for the Parade begins at 11 a.m. in the Kleinhans Music Hall parking lot with step off promptly at 1 p.m. The parade will proceed east on North Street, then continue north on Elmwood Avenue to Bidwell Parkway. Various groups, organizations, floats and many others will be marching!

After the parade, Bidwell Park comes to life with a complete line up of events, entertainment and so much more! Enjoy the parade, stroll through the Marketplace, and take in the incredible entertainment.

Please come out and join us. It is important that our community see a large contingent of parents, family members, and friends who support their GLBT loved ones. The PFLAG group is always well received – getting big applause all along the parade route.

If you can walk the route, we would love to have you carry our banner for part of the parade. If you are unable to walk, we have rented a car that you can ride the route in. Call the helpline or let any PFLAG Board member know of your desire to join us – it is a lot of fun.

Equality & Justice Day, Albany 2008

Babs Conant

Get up at 3 am, meet up at 3:30, bus leaves 3:45, five and a half hours to Albany... The return trip leaves Albany at 5:15pm, arrives Buffalo elevenish. And why does any sane person do this? Why? To spend all of twenty minutes with a politician, that's why.

Kay Patterson, LMHC
Licensed Mental Health Counselor

Counseling for Change

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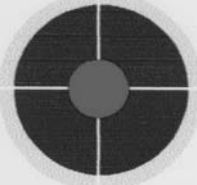


Group meets with Assemblymember Jim Haynes

If that sounds insane, it does feel that way, UNTIL, that is, your bus load pours into the New York State Capitol building along with nearly twelve hundred other lobbyists from all over the state, and the energy of all those voices raised for marriage equality, gender equality and dignity for all students echoes through the hallways. Then it all makes perfect sense. This is Equality and Justice Day for our GLBT community, the one day in the year when we make a concerted effort to visit as many of our elected officials as can be arranged.

According to a report from the Empire State Pride Agenda (ESPA), there were 23 busloads of New Yorkers for the event in Albany: more than 140 people of faith, 100 union members, 400 high school youths, 100 college students and 125 transgender folk. Buffalo contributed two buses to the mix, as well as another smaller bus carrying a contingent of GLBT youth supported by funds from the Buffalo Brunch. This more than doubled our participation compared to last year. On arrival, organizers gave us each a folder with data on our electoral districts, and the names and meeting times with our Assemblyperson and our Senator. Our mandate: talk about our three main issues and hope for increasing support. My group from the 148th District is represented by Senator Mary Lou Rath and Assemblyman Jim Hayes; with Rath retiring this year (and unresponsive to our issues anyway), we skipped her, and concentrated instead on Assemblyman Hayes, whom we had visited last year.

Our contingent was made up of four "adult" types and 13 LGBT youth from UB and Daemen College. We



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probably talked with Hayes for 25 minutes, finding him friendly and apparently open to our issues. He described a very long and emotional floor debate on the marriage bill last year, three hours of passionate and personal stories on both sides of the issue. At one point a Hasidic Assemblyman was saying how wrong and totally unacceptable gay marriage was. He ended his speech with "Only a miracle could make me change my mind,,," - at which point an enormous clap of thunder shook the State House walls! The resulting laughter was a perfect release for them all. It would not surprise me if Hayes voted with us the next time it comes up, even though we don't "need" his vote to pass the bill. He has voted for the Dignity for all Students Act and seemed able to see the GENDA Bill as a matter of civil rights. We left him promising to return next year.

In all, ESPA reports, there were office visits to 175 elected officials. Even more important, there was a shift in support that hints to progress. The day after we were all in Albany, the GENDA bill outlawing discrimination against transgender people "passed out of the Assembly's Governmental Operations Committee" to the Codes and Rules Committee, on the way to the entire Assembly for a vote. There were eight more supporters in the assembly for this bill than the number recorded before equality and justice day visitations.

So maybe all that 3 am stuff paid off, after all.

See you there next year.

tens of thousands of gay people to wed in California, starting as early as mid-June.

The majority opinion, by Chief Justice Ronald M. George, declared that any law that discriminates on the basis of sexual orientation will from this point on be constitutionally suspect in California in the same way as laws that discriminate by race or gender, making the state's high court the first in the nation to adopt such a stringent standard.

The decision was a bold surprise from a moderately conservative, Republican-dominated court that legal scholars have long dubbed "cautious," and experts said it was likely to influence other courts around the country.

But the scope of the court's decision could be thrown into question by an initiative already heading toward the November ballot. The initiative would amend the state Constitution to prohibit same-sex unions.

The campaign over that measure began within minutes of the decision. The state's Catholic bishops and other opponents of same-sex marriage denounced the court's ruling. But Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who previously has vetoed two bills in favor of gay marriage, issued a statement saying he "respects" the decision and "will not support an amendment to the constitution that would overturn" it.

The ruling was greeted with loud cheering and whooping when it was released at the high court's headquarters here Thursday morning. About 100 people lined up outside to purchase copies of the decision for \$10 apiece. Some people bought 10 to 15 copies, calling it a historic document. One man said he planned to give them out as Christmas presents. Gay groups planned celebrations up and down the state.

"I can finally say I will be able to marry John, the man that I love," said Stuart Gaffney, one of the plaintiffs in the case, referring to his partner of 21 years, John Lewis. "Today is the happiest and most romantic day of our lives."

Conservative and religious-affiliated groups denounced the decision and pledged to bring enough voters to the polls in November to overturn it. Mathew Staver, founder of Liberty Counsel, called the decision "outrageous" and "nonsense." "No matter how you stretch California's Constitution, you cannot find

Education

California Supreme Court overturns gay marriage ban

Maura Dolan, Los Angeles Times Staff Writer

The California Supreme Court struck down the state's ban on same-sex marriage Thursday in a broadly worded decision that would invalidate virtually any law that discriminates on the basis of sexual orientation.

The 4-3 ruling declared that the state Constitution protects a fundamental "right to marry" that extends equally to same-sex couples. It tossed a highly emotional issue into the election year while opening the way for

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Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus

Connections

Friday, June 20th (8 pm) - Unitarian Universalist Church
695 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, NY
Saturday, June 21st (8 pm) - First Presbyterian Church
One Symphony Circle, Buffalo, NY
Sunday, June 22 (4 pm) - United Methodist Church
5681 Main St, Williamsville

Tickets & info: 883-1277
www.buffalogaymenschorus.org

anywhere in its text, its history or tradition that now, after so many years, it magically protects what most societies condemn," Staver said.

The decision came after high courts in New York, Washington and New Jersey refused to extend marriage rights to gay couples. Only Massachusetts' top court has ruled in favor of permitting gays to wed.

The court's ruling repeatedly invoked the words "respect and dignity" and framed the marriage question as one that deeply affected not just couples but also their children. California has more than 100,000 households headed by gay couples, about a quarter with children, according to 2000 census data.

"Our state now recognizes that an individual's capacity to establish a loving and long-term committed relationship with another person and responsibly to care for and raise children does not depend upon the individual's sexual orientation," George wrote for the majority. "An individual's sexual orientation -- like a person's race or gender -- does not constitute a legitimate basis upon which to deny or withhold legal rights."

Many gay Californians said that even the state's broadly worded domestic partnership law provided only a second-class substitute for marriage. The court agreed.

Giving a different name, such as "domestic partnership," to the "official family relationship" of same-sex couples imposes "appreciable harm" both on the couples and their children, the court said. The distinction might cast "doubt on whether the official family relationship of same-sex couples enjoys dignity equal to that of opposite-sex couples," George wrote, joined by Justices Joyce L. Kennard, Kathryn Mickle Werdegar and Carlos R. Moreno. All but Moreno were appointed by Republican governors. George was appointed by Gov. Pete Wilson in 1991. The ruling cited a 60-year-old precedent that struck down a ban on interracial marriage in California.

The three dissenting justices argued that it was up to the electorate or the Legislature to decide whether gays should be permitted to marry. In 2000, 61% of California voters approved a ballot measure, Proposition 22, that said "only marriage between a man and a woman is valid and recognized in California." Since then, the Legislature has passed one of the strongest domestic partnership laws in the country, giving registered same-sex couples most of the rights of married people.

"In my view, California should allow our gay and lesbian neighbors to call their unions marriage," Justice Carol A. Corrigan wrote in the first sentence of her dissent. "But I, and this court, must acknowledge that a majority of Californians hold a different view and have explicitly said so by their vote. This court can overrule a vote of the people only if the Constitution compels us to do so. Here, the Constitution does not."

Justice Marvin R. Baxter, joined by Justice Ming W. Chin, said the ruling "creates the opportunity for further

judicial extension of this perceived constitutional right into dangerous territory."

"Who can say that in 10, 15 or 20 years, an activist court might not rely on the majority's analysis to conclude, on the basis of a perceived evolution in community values, that the laws prohibiting polygamous and incestuous marriages were no longer constitutionally justified?" Baxter wrote.

The decision takes effect in 30 days. Gay couples would then be permitted to marry in California, even if they do not live in the state, gay rights lawyers said. Under federal law, however, other states would not have to recognize those marriages as valid. And same-sex couples would remain ineligible for certain federal benefits, including Social Security benefits for spouses and joint filing for income taxes.

Lawyers on both sides of the debate said they were uncertain how a victory for the proposed November initiative -- which both sides predict will qualify for the ballot -- would affect gay couples who marry during the next several months.

University of Santa Clara law professor Gerald Uelmen, who has closely followed the state high court for decades, said he was "blown away" and "very surprised" by the ruling. "The court is exerting some leadership here, and I think it needs to be said that it is a new role for the court," Uelmen said. "This has not been a court that has been willing to stick its neck out and lead the way on cutting-edge issues like this that involve such strong political feelings." Uelmen said the court's vote probably reflected the fact that a growing number of Californians favor marriage for gay couples. He noted the case attracted a record number of friend-of-the-court briefs, most of them in favor of same-sex marriage.

Although critics of the ruling, including the dissenters, argued the court should have waited for the voters to decide the question of same-sex marriage, "the majority is not always supposed to have its way" in constitutional democracies, said University of Pennsylvania constitutional law professor Kermit Roosevelt, one of many legal scholars who weighed in on the case Thursday. Roosevelt predicted more states would follow California's example and that the U.S. Supreme Court would eventually rule in favor of same-sex marriage. "That decision will come at the end of a process that is now just beginning," Roosevelt said. He predicted it would follow the pattern of state courts that struck down laws banning interracial marriage decades ago.

The decision followed several recent rulings by the state high court recognizing the rights of same-sex parents, including those not biologically related to their children. The children in those families figured prominently in the court's reasoning in those cases.

The road to Thursday's ruling began with San Francisco's highly publicized same-sex weddings, which in 2004 helped spur a conservative backlash in an

election year and a national dialogue over gay rights. Several states later passed constitutional amendments banning gay marriage, and same-sex marriage became an issue in the race for president.

After a month of jubilant gay weddings here, the California Supreme Court intervened and ordered the city to stop issuing licenses to same-sex couples. The state high court later invalidated the licenses, saying the city should have waited for a judicial ruling before acting.

The plan by San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom, City Atty. Dennis Herrera and gay rights lawyers to challenge state law by marrying same-sex couples was carefully drawn. City officials chose the first couples to wed, hoping their long unions and sympathetic stories would put a face on same-sex marriage that courts would find difficult to reject. The city also decided to begin the weddings on a day when courts were closed to deprive opponents of quick legal intervention. One of the first couples to wed has since separated. The long parade of weddings at City Hall -- across the street from the California Supreme Court -- provided a dramatic backdrop for the gay rights debate.

As the issue moved into the high court, Brad Sears, executive director of the Williams Institute at UCLA's law school, which examines sexual orientation and the law, said the state's broad domestic partner law had undercut the traditional argument that children were better off being raised by opposite-sex parents.

"Taking those issues off the table, which the domestic partners act did, might have made this an easier case for everyone," Sears said. Once the state recognized the right of gays to rear children, the fight for same-sex marriage was shaped as "the right to have a family" and the ruling became "about family being protected."

The court concluded that giving gays a separate institution -- domestic partnership -- "marked gays and lesbians as second-class citizens," Sears said.

The Massachusetts high court ruling that permitted gays there to marry did not give sexual orientation the same kind of constitutional protection that Thursday's decision did, nor was the Massachusetts ruling as explicit in stating that marriage licenses must be given to same-sex couples in the immediate future, legal analysts said.

Sears said recent polls show that Californians are divided over same-sex marriage. Forty-three percent of Californians supported gay marriage in a Field Poll taken a year ago. He added that the issue was likely to affect the political debate even outside California. "It is going to give some new teeth to an issue that was losing its potency in terms of being a wedge issue," Sears said.

people in their communities by education and altered the direction of national policy through their advocacy.

Started in 2002, Bringing the Message Home is a project that focuses the advocacy efforts of PFLAG members to influence federal legislation by helping them meet with legislators between Mother's Day and Father's Day to discuss issues that matter to our families.

The project features a set of issue briefs and talking points on bills pending at the federal level that members can use for lobbying visits, and includes a guide on the "how-to's" of everyday lobbying.

You can read the full Bringing the Message Home project online or download a printer-friendly version of the guide by pointing your browser to <http://tinyurl.com/5rjbh9>

Federal Court Rules for Gay Students in Button Case

365Gay.com Newscenter Staff

After a two-day trial in which a Florida high school principal testified that he believed clothing, buttons or stickers featuring rainbows would make students automatically picture gay people having sex, a federal judge ruled that the school violated the First Amendment rights of students.

Heather Gillman, a 16-year-old junior at Ponce de Leon High School, sued the school with the help of the American Civil Liberties Union after she was told she could not wear buttons, stickers or clothing that supported LGBT civil rights.

After she received the warning the ACLU last November sent a letter to the school board's attorney on behalf of Gillman, asking for clarification as to whether a variety of symbols and slogans, such as the rainbow flag or "I support my gay friends," would be allowed at the school. The school district replied that it would not allow any expressions of support for gay rights at all because such speech would "likely be disruptive." The district then said that such symbols and slogans were signs that students were part of a "secret/illegal organization."

Judge Richard Smoak of the United States District Court issued an order Tuesday that forces the school to stop its censorship of students who want to express their support for gay people. The judge also warned the district not to retaliate against students over the lawsuit.

"Standing up to my school was really hard to do, but I'm so happy that I did because the First Amendment is a big deal to everyone," said Gillman in a statement.

During the trial, which was held in Panama City yesterday and today, Ponce de Leon High School's principal David Davis admitted under oath that he had banned students from wearing any clothing or symbols supporting equal rights for gay people.

Davis also testified that he believed rainbows were "sexually suggestive" and would make students unable to study because they'd be picturing gay sex acts in their mind. The principal went on to admit that while censoring



Advocacy

Bringing the Message Home

PFLAG's history has been an amazing story of how members across the nation have changed the lives of

rainbows and gay pride messages he allowed students to wear other symbols many find controversial, such as the Confederate flag.

According to students, problems began in September of 2007 when a lesbian student tried to report to school officials that she was being harassed by other students because she is a lesbian. Instead of addressing the harassment, students say the school responded with intimidation, censorship, and suspensions. That student testified on Monday, breaking down on the stand as she described the school's indifference to the harassment she experienced.

"Freedom of speech for every person and every idea is one of the bedrock principles on which America was founded," said Christine Sun, a staff attorney with the ACLU national Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Project. "Censorship reflects a deep lack of faith in the American system, and it teaches students exactly the wrong lesson on what America is about."

Two-Thirds Of Canadian LGBT Students Feel Unsafe At School

365Gay.com Newscenter Staff

The first national study of LGBT students in Canada has produced shocking results in a country that prides itself on diversity. The survey of students from grades 8 through 12 was undertaken by Egale, Canada's national LGBT rights organization. It found that more than two-thirds of LGBT students feel unsafe in their schools. A quarter of the LGBT students said they had been victims of physical threats because of their sexuality. More than half said they had been verbally harassed. Almost half have had malicious rumors spread about them on the internet or through text messages. The survey found that harassment of LGBT students occurred at a rate almost twice that of heterosexual students. Harassment is also affecting learning the survey found. More than a third of the LGBT students said they had skipped classes because of safety concerns.

"We may have human rights for LGBTQ people in Canada, but you'd never know it based on these results," said Helen Kennedy, executive director of Egale.

The survey was launched in December of last year, although some Roman Catholic schools refused to participate. The survey was distributed in schools across the country - in large cities, small town, rural areas, and in schools on reserves and armed forces bases.

The Egale survey results were similar to those found in the US in a similar questionnaire by the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network. The GLSEN survey, released in 2005 found that bullying and verbal harassment also is a national problem across the United States. The National School Climate Survey found that three-quarters of students surveyed across America said that over the past year they heard derogatory remarks such as "faggot" or "dyke" frequently or often at school,

and nearly nine out of ten reported hearing "that's so gay" or "you're so gay" - meaning stupid or worthless - frequently or often. Over a third of students said they experienced physical harassment at school on the basis of sexual orientation and more than a quarter on the basis of their gender expression. Nearly one-in-five students reported they had been physically assaulted because of their sexual orientation and over a tenth because of their gender expression.



Support

There are dozens of new terms that you might see on the PFLAG site or the websites of our allies and colleagues. Here are a few helpful definitions to get you started.

GLBT: Gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender. This acronym is used to refer to these individuals collectively. (It is sometimes stated as LGBT.) Occasionally, the acronym is stated as GLBTA to include allies – straight and supportive individuals – in the community.

Sexual Orientation: Enduring emotional, romantic, or sexual feelings to other people. Heterosexual (straight) individuals experience these feelings primarily for people of the opposite sex. Homosexual (gay or lesbian) individuals experience these feelings primarily for people of the same sex. Bisexual (bi) individuals experience these feelings for people of both sexes.

Gender Identity: A person's sense of being male or female; resulting from a combination of genetic and environmental influences. Awareness of gender identity is usually experienced in infancy and reinforced in adolescence.

Gender expression: A person's way of communicating gender identity to others.

Transgender: A broad term describing the state of a person's gender identity which does not necessarily match his/her assigned gender at birth. Other words commonly used are female to male, male to female, crossdresser, drag queen or king, gender queer, gender blender, two-spirit, and androgyny. [Click here for more information on transgender issues.](#)

Intersex: individuals born with chromosomal anomalies or ambiguous genitalia. The medical term "hermaphrodite" has been used, but is not accepted by many intersex people. Medical professionals commonly assign a male or female gender to the individual and proceed to perform gender assignment surgeries beginning in infancy and often continuing into adolescence, before a child is able to give informed consent. The Intersex Society of North America (www.isna.org) opposes this practice of genital mutilation on infants and children.

**PFLAG BUFFALO/NIAGARA
2008 – 2009**

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun 6/8 Buffalo Pride Parade.
 Wed 6/11 PFLAG New Parents meeting.
 Sun 6/15 PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara monthly meeting.
 Tue 6/17 PFLAG St. Catharines, Ontario monthly meeting. www.pflag.ca/StCatharines.htm
 Fri 6/20 Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus Concert. See ad on page 5.
 Sat 6/21 Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus Concert. See ad on page 5.
 Sun 6/22 Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus Concert. See ad on page 5.
 Wed 7/9 PFLAG New Parents meeting.
 Tue 7/15 PFLAG St. Catharines, Ontario monthly meeting. www.pflag.ca/StCatharines.htm
 Sun 7/20 PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara Annual Picnic.
 Wed 8/13 PFLAG New Parents meeting.
 Sun 8/17 PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara monthly meeting.
 Tue 8/19 PFLAG St. Catharines, Ontario monthly meeting. www.pflag.ca/StCatharines.htm

PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara Chapter – 2008 Membership

- \$23.00 – Full Membership (includes national membership)
- \$15.00 – Local Membership only
- \$____.____ – Tax Deductible Contribution

Name(s) _____ Date _____

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