

*PFLAG, True Colors & the Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective  
Scholarship Presentations & Reception*

**June 20, 2012, 7:00 p.m. (prior to our regular 7:30 meeting)  
All are welcome to stay for our monthly meeting.**

**Refreshments will be served.**



## ***The Voice of PFLAG Hartford***

# *Caring*

**Volume 21, No. 3**

**May/June 2012**

IN THE PFLAG HARTFORD FAMILY:

**THANK-YOU** to the PFLAG volunteers at the March 16 & 17 True Colors Conference: Larry & Rose; Connie & Mike; Jason & Eric; Jim W.; Krista H.; Joan J.; Steve B.; the folks from the Southeastern CT Chapter (SECT). Special thanks to Larry for setting up and taking down our booth.

**SINCERE SYMPATHY** goes out to Joan Jansen, and her family, on the recent loss of her step-daughter, Gina.

**PFLAG is a welcoming place for parents and friends of lesbians & gays, but we are much more than that. Gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex people are also encouraged to attend our meetings. GLBTI people come with or without their family members, and parents and friends come with or without their GLBTI loved ones. PFLAG is for YOU!**

**PFLAG HARTFORD MONTHLY SUPPORT GROUP MEETS:** Third Wednesday of each month, 7:30 p.m., Immanuel Congregational Church House, 10 Woodland Street (Just North of Farmington Ave.), Hartford. For more information, please call Marie & Bob at (860) 633-7184 or Becky & John at (860) 633-5111.

**REFRESHMENT REMINDER:**

**May 16 - Susan S.**

**June 20 - Scholarship Presentation  
and Reception**

**July 18 - Mike & Connie**

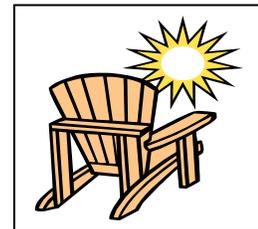
**August 15 - Eric & Jason**

**MEMBERSHIP DUES:**

Student/Limited Income: \$10

Household Membership: \$40

Individual Membership: \$25



*(Paid membership includes a one-year subscription to *Caring* & the National PFLAG newsletter.)*

Please make your check payable to **PFLAG Hartford** and Send it to Joan Jansen, 12 Colchester Commons, Colchester, CT 06415

**Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and their families and friends through:**

**SUPPORT:** To cope with an adverse society

**EDUCATION:** To enlighten an ill-informed public

**ADVOCACY:** To end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights.

***PFLAG provides an opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and gender identity and expression, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.***

## **UPCOMING /ONGOING EVENTS**

- **RAINBOWROOM:** (a program of the **Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective**) - - A welcoming place for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and questioning "LGBTQ" teens (13-21 years old). RainbowRoom meets every Sunday from 3-6 p.m., 1841 Broad Street (Health Collective building), Hartford. For more information please visit our website at <http://www.hglhc.org/> or contact [lizy@hglhc.org](mailto:lizy@hglhc.org) or call 860/278-4163.
- **STONEWALL SPEAKERS** is an all volunteer speakers' bureau composed of LGBT people and allies dedicated to reducing violence and bias while promoting equality for all. We speak to thousands of Connecticut students and adults annually. Listeners will meet LGBT people and their allies in person; hear candid accounts of their lives; and receive honest, informed answers to any questions they have. Let your high school, college, business, religious group or community group know we are available. For more information please contact [coordinator@stonewallspeakers.org](mailto:coordinator@stonewallspeakers.org).
- **XX CLUB "Twenty Club"** – The Transsexual Support Group of New England meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month from 2-5 p.m. at The Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective, 1841 Broad Street, Hartford, CT [www.twentyclub.net](http://www.twentyclub.net)
- **LIVING SOULFULLY** (Men Loving Men In Community) meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month, 7:30-9:30 p.m. at The Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective, 1841 Broad Street, Hartford, CT. 860/278-4163.
- **Mpower CT** – Social gathering for gay and bisexual men ages 18-35 meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month from 7-9 p.m. at The Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective, 1841 Broad Street, Hartford, CT. 860/278-4163.
- **QUEER PROM-"CANDYLAND"** Sponsored by The Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective. **Saturday, June 23, from 7-11 p.m., at the West Hartford Town Hall Meeting & Conference Center, 50 Main Street.** Ages 13-21. Appropriate dress required. \$10 at the door. Info: [jamieb@hglhc.org](mailto:jamieb@hglhc.org). (Queer Prom has a strict no drug and alcohol policy.)
- **THE RAINBOW BALL** - A dance for LGBTQ youth and their straight Allies! **Friday, June 15th, at the Italian Center, 1620 Newfield Avenue, Stamford, CT.** Doors open at 7:30 p.m., dinner served at 8. Cost: \$40. For information or to purchase tickets, e-mail [RNBWBL@gmail.com](mailto:RNBWBL@gmail.com).

## **RACHEL MADDOW ON BEING OUTED - BY HER COLLEGE NEWSPAPER.** *Newsweek, May 12, 2012*

I was a college freshman, and I had just figured out that I was gay. I was heady with the self-importance of a 17-year-old who knows everything and is smarter than everybody—a trait that is great at the moment and really hard to live with in retrospect. I decided I was going to come out of the closet in a very confrontational way. I went to Stanford University, and there was nobody else “out” in my freshman class of more than 1,000 people—which I thought was kind of crazy. So a friend who was coming out at the same time and I did an interview with the student newspaper about being the only two gay freshmen on campus. The mistake I made was that I had not come out to my parents. I told the paper, “I will do this on the condition that you will not run the piece until after this weekend, because I will go home this weekend to tell my parents, and I want them to hear it from me instead of reading it in the paper.” And they ran it before the weekend, and indeed some anonymous person helpfully clipped the article and mailed it to my parents—and that’s how my parents found out that I was gay.

They would have had a hard time with me coming out anyway, but this was a particularly nasty way for them to find out. They’re wonderful now, and couldn’t be more supportive, but they took it poorly at first, which I don’t fault them for. They were shocked and upset and hurt. First of all, they were having to deal with the fact that I’m gay. Second of all, they were having to deal with the fact that I’m gay in the newspaper. And third of all, they were having to deal with the fact that they’ve raised some sort of horrific, callous rug rat who would tell the student paper before telling her family. It took a while for them to get over it. My family’s very, very Catholic, so that was part of the initial upset. But I actually think that having a really strong faith is part of the reason they got over it—despite Catholic teaching being very antigay. Having a faith tradition was helpful for them and gave them the strength to get over this difficult thing.

I learned that making myself dependent on somebody else’s competence and honor was a failure on my part—and that something that was important I could take care of myself. More than 20 years later, I look back and I feel emotional about it. I feel acutely angry at myself for having put myself in that position.

## ***THE TASK FORCE*** **INJUSTICE AT EVERY TURN**

At the Task Force we insist that systemic racism is an LGBT issue – as is immigration, housing, health care, fair wages, Social Security and sexism. That's why our work every day of the year reflects our deep and central commitment to racial justice.

As Black History Month comes to a close, we're reminded of the determination and tirelessness with which those who have come before us have worked to create a more just and equal society. The Civil Rights Movement and all of the anti-racist organizing that has come after have created frameworks through which LGBT people and their families have organized to demand our rights.

Though there have been great strides over the past few decades, there remains much more to do.

A **recent survey** conducted by the Task Force and the National Center for Transgender Equality reminds us that transgender and gender non-conforming people face tremendous discrimination in the U.S. The combination of anti-transgender bias and racism means that transgender people of color experience even more devastating levels of discrimination on every single question we asked. And among them, **black transgender people often report the highest levels of discrimination.**

Of the black transgender respondents to the National Transgender Discrimination Survey:

- 49% reported alarming rates of harassment at school;
- 41% said they had experienced homelessness at some point in their lives, over five times the rate of the general U.S. population;
- 38% of respondents who had interacted with the police reported harassment;
- 21% reported being refused medical care due to bias; and
- 15% reported being physically assaulted at work.

Despite these shocking statistics, black transgender people continue to transition and work towards their goals and dreams as active and visible members of our communities. They're not willing to settle for less than full equality, and neither is the Task Force.

One way you can help is to **demand that the federal government include questions that identify LGBT people and their families in the Census.** By making sure we're counted, we're providing activists and advocates with the data necessary to demand real change and equality.

Sincerely,

Rea Carey, Executive Director

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force



**THANK-YOU** to our fabulous April meeting speaker, Jim Duke. Jim is a gay man who has been "out" for most of his life. He speaks openly about the importance and benefits of having the support network of family and the broader community in that ongoing process. Jim owns "Guide For Gay Men" - an on-line coaching and consulting service primarily for older gay men on issues of life transitions such as coming out, changing careers and negotiating relationships. For many years he owned successful "gay businesses" in California and has recently returned to CT. Thanks, Jim. We enjoyed your humor and wonderful insights into what being openly gay in a very supportive family and community can mean in order to enjoy a full and happy life.



## **MARYLAND GOVERNOR SIGNS MARRIAGE EQUALITY BILL**

March 1, 2012

Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley today signed the marriage equality bill, making the state the eighth to allow same-sex couples to marry. Maryland joins Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, New York, Iowa, Washington State, along with the District of Columbia, in allowing same-sex couples to marry.

While this marks a tremendous victory, the push for marriage equality in Maryland is poised to continue; the next step is likely to be the November ballot, where voters will support or oppose marriage equality.

**THE LIVING AFTER THE DYING***by Frank Bruni, New York Times, 3/17/12*

I SAT down to watch “How to Survive a Plague,” a new documentary about the history of the AIDS epidemic, expecting to cry, and cry I did: at the hollowed faces of people whittled to almost nothing by a disease with an ugly arc; at the panicked voices of demonstrators who knew that no matter how quickly research progressed, it wouldn’t be fleet enough to save people they loved; at the breadth and beauty and horror of the AIDS quilt, spread out across the National Mall, a thread of grief for every blade of grass beneath it.

I expected to be angry. Here, too, I wasn’t disappointed. The words of a physician on the front lines in the early days reminded me that “when people died in the hospital, they used to put them in black trash bags.” Many politicians mustered little more than contempt for AIDS sufferers. “There’s nothing ‘gay’ about these people, engaging in incredibly offensive and revolting conduct,” snarled Senator Jesse Helms, a Republican from North Carolina, at the time. The documentary memorializes that rant and that mind-set, and also shows Helms saying that he wishes demonstrators would “get their mentality out of their crotches.”

What I didn’t expect was how much hope I would feel. How much comfort. While the movie vividly chronicles the wages of bigotry and neglect, it even more vividly chronicles how much society can budge when the people exhorting it to are united and determined and smart and right. The fight in us eclipses the sloth and surrender, and the good really does outweigh the bad. That’s a takeaway of “How to Survive a Plague,” and that’s a takeaway of the AIDS crisis as well.

I referred to the movie, which was produced and directed by the journalist David France, as a history of the epidemic, and it is. But it teases out a specific strand and tells a particular story, focusing on the protest group Act Up, which was set into motion by Larry Kramer 25 years ago this month. He had already sounded an alarm over the rapidly spreading epidemic with his landmark play “The Normal Heart,” and in March 1987, during remarks at the lesbian and gay community center in downtown Manhattan, he bluntly told a roomful of men that if they didn’t take bold steps to make America and its government care, two-thirds of them could be dead in five years.

That same month Act Up — the acronym by which the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power quickly came to be known — staged the first of its many protests, visiting New York’s financial nerve center and blocking traffic there. It occupied Wall Street long before the verb and address were welded together, in an era when ire over indiscriminate greed, manifest just last week by the viral sensation of a Goldman Sachs executive’s resignation, hadn’t been stoked to its current fury. And the group morphed from then and there into a model for the here and now of how social change occurs.

What you probably remember best about Act Up is its theatrical genius (or gall, depending on your sensibility). Its members held a “die-in” during a Mass inside St. Patrick’s Cathedral, going limp in the aisles so that police officers had to use stretchers to carry them away. They hurled the ash and bone of fallen comrades over the fence around the White House and onto the lawn.

But if boldness had been the sum of Act Up, the group wouldn’t have accomplished so much. It added enterprise and erudition to the mix. A friend of mine who covered an Act Up demonstration in San Francisco remembers standing in the street, chatting over the phone with a group spokesman and telling him that she would file her newspaper story as soon as she rounded up a certain statistic. Minutes later he called back, said that he had found a Kinko’s store nearby and told her that documents with the information she was seeking had already been faxed to her there.

In “How to Survive a Plague,” gay men and their allies are shown educating themselves about antiviral medications, about clinical-trial protocols, about the Food and Drug Administration approval process. They are shown successfully making the case that the trials should be less restrictive, and the process much faster. Because what they’re saying is so concrete and constructive, scientists can’t avoid paying it heed.

“If you come at a problem in a way that’s just disruptive and iconoclastic, but you don’t know what you’re talking about, all you are is a nuisance,” said Anthony S. Fauci, the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, when we talked last week. Act Up’s leaders, he told me, knew what they were talking about. As a result, they “cracked open the opaque process” of drug development, altered the patient-doctor relationship and “changed the whole face of advocacy,” he said.

That’s a remarkable tote board, and it’s not all. Act Up gets crucial credit for advancing the acceptance of gay people. A slogan it popularized, “silence equals death,” persuasively argued that gay men had to emerge from hiding so that people around them would see AIDS not as a distant abstraction but as a killer potentially stalking their brothers, sons, co-workers. Those men indeed came out, and people indeed saw. That’s why same-sex

marriage is now such a prominent issue, with so many ardent advocates. That's why the bullying of gay teenagers has become a national concern, and why the conviction of a Rutgers University student for spying on and taunting a roommate who then committed suicide has drawn national attention.

There are still politicians like Helms out there, but not as many. There's still hate, but not as much. After more than 600,000 deaths from AIDS in this country and about 30 million around the globe, scientists still haven't found a cure or vaccine. But there are highly effective treatments, and H.I.V.-infected people who get proper medical care — which isn't, mind you, nearly enough of them — can expect long, full lives. And that's largely because 25 years ago, a tribe in desperate trouble did something that religious conservatives who can get *their* minds out of people's crotches should in fact admire. It elected self-reliance over self-pity, tapping its own reserves of intellect, ingenuity and grit to make sure its members were cared for.

In "How to Survive a Plague," being screened just twice in Manhattan later this month in advance of an expected fall release, one of the epitaphs for that effort is given by Kramer himself.

"We had the brainpower, and we had the street power," he says on-camera. "We, Act Up, got those drugs out there. It is the proudest achievement that the gay population of this world can ever claim."



Friday, March 23, 2012

Good morning,

Earlier this week, Valerie Jarrett, Senior Advisor to the President, joined Attorney General Eric Holder in Arlington, Texas to deliver keynote remarks at the White House LGBT Conference on Safe Schools & Communities.

In speaking before an audience of over 400 teachers, students, parents, community advocates, law enforcement officers and officials, and elected officials, Valerie described the steps the Obama Administration has taken to ensure safety and security for all our young people — including LGBT students — in our schools and neighborhoods.

As she closed her remarks, Valerie told the story of Tempest Cartwright, a 12th grader from Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, who experienced — but was able to overcome — bullying and whose story inspires us to continue to fight for safe schools and communities:

So in closing, I would share one more story from a leader who is here today. Because change doesn't begin in Washington. Change happens because ordinary people do extraordinary things ... people like Tempest Cartwright.

Tempest is from Broken Arrow, Oklahoma — she's 18 years old. When word first got around her high school that she was gay, she lost friends. Some people stopped talking to her at church. Other students called her hurtful words that no young person should ever hear. For a while, Tempest was depressed. But she refused to let bullies ruin her life. As she put it, "Their attitudes and assumptions need to change, not me. If I don't help that along, who will?"

So today, Tempest is the president of her school's gay-straight alliance — an alliance that has more than quadrupled its membership since she became involved. It's not easy. In fact, it is hard. When her organization places posters around the school, they often get torn down. But she and other members keep putting them right back up. And every day, bit by bit, she changes the world around her. As she put it, "When people put me down, it inspires me to stand up."

Well, young people like Tempest should inspire us all to stand up, and keep standing up, for what is right. To stand up for the safety of our children and neighbors. To stand up for the belief that in America, no one should face bullying, harassment, or violence because of who they are, because that's not who we are.

...

Best regards,  
Gautam Raghavan  
Office of Public Engagement, The White House

**GLSEN: MICHIGAN TEEN'S PETITION HELPS MORE KIDS SEE 'BULLY' DOCUMENTARY***Excerpts from a 4/8/12 Detroit Free Press Article**by Julie Hinds Staff Writer*

... Ever since late February, Katy Butler has been on a grassroots campaign for the documentary "Bully" that's taken her to New York, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C. She's rubbed shoulders with ... Meryl Streep and been interviewed by Anderson Cooper. On daytime TV, Ellen DeGeneres told her, "I'm proud of you." At an awards ceremony hosted by two stars from "Glee," she was given a special prize. But one of the coolest parts of her journey has been ... talking anti-bullying policy with members of Congress. "I want to go into political activism," says Butler, who was bullied herself several years ago.

Butler has learned that speaking out can help others. In a few short weeks, she harnessed the power of the Web to gather more than 500,000 supporters for a petition aimed at allowing a wider audience to see "Bully," a movie that could be a powerful force for the anti-bullying movement. "Bully," ... is being praised by reviewers for its unblinking approach. Director Lee Hirsch spent the 2009-10 school year filming the lives of five families affected by bullying, a problem that impacts an estimated 13 million American children each year, the U.S. Department of Education says. The movie covers raw, painful, tragic territory. A 12-year-old boy, Alex, is shown being hit and teased mercilessly, while a 16-year-old girl, Kelby, is targeted for abuse after coming out as gay. Two of the families featured in the film have lost children to suicide. "The best social documents on film do more than show you what's wrong with the world -- they make it personal," writes Rolling Stone's Peter Travers, hailing "Bully" as a provocative look at an out-of-control problem.

"Bully" was set to open at a time of growing national interest in the anti-bullying movement. But it faced a stumbling block -- the R rating it was originally given for profanity by the Motion Picture Association of America. Since an R requires children under 17 to be accompanied by a parent or adult guardian, it likely would make it harder for teenagers to see the movie -- and discourage schools and youth groups from considering screenings. In late February, the movie's distributor, the Weinstein Co., led by famed studio chief Harvey Weinstein, narrowly lost an appeal to the MPAA to change the rating to PG-13. Around the same time, Butler, who lives in Plymouth and spends most of her time at school and activities in Ann Arbor, had received an e-mail that put "Bully" on her radar. I watched the clips and the trailers," she recalls. "When I saw that it was rated R, I said, that's ridiculous. That's so counter-productive, because the message of this movie is for middle school and high school students, who can't see it if it's rated R." In late February, Butler posted a petition on [www.Change.org](http://www.Change.org) urging the MPAA to change the rating to PG-13. Change.org is a Web site that provides the tools for people to launch online petition drives. Last year, she and a friend had tried a petition there that supported Michigan's then-proposed anti-bullying law and called for removing language involving religious exemptions for bullying. It got about 56,000 signatures. And in the end, the exemptions weren't part of the final law. Back in November, Butler was spending a couple of days a week in Lansing to work for the anti-bullying bill with Equality Michigan, a statewide advocacy group for the gay and transgender community. Emily Dievendorf, the group's director of policy, became her mentor not long after Butler told her she wanted her job. Remembering an instance when a bunch of students were gathered on the state Capitol lawn in the pouring rain as reporters arrived, Dievendorf says, "They needed a kid to step forward and talk to the local TV stations. I said, 'Katy Butler, take it away.'" ...

When she first put her "Bully" petition online, she had no idea how many signatures it would get. After her father texted her that the total had reached 100,000, she knew something viral was happening. From there, things continued to blossom. "We had a 24-hour period where it went from 300,000 to 400,000," says Butler, describing how stars like DeGeneres, Justin Bieber, Demi Lovato, NFL quarterback Drew Brees and Martha Stewart stepped up to support it. As the momentum kept building, Butler went to New York to meet Weinstein in person, then to Los Angeles to deliver boxes of signatures to the MPAA. Next up was Washington, where she met legislators like U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi, who had been praising her efforts. Then it was back to New York for a "Bully" screening sponsored by Meryl Streep. On March 24, Weinstein presented Butler with a special recognition award at the GLAAD (Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) media awards ceremony in New York. "She is such a rock star," director Hirsch told the Free Press last month.

... On Thursday, the Weinstein Co. announced that it had reached an agreement with the MPAA to give "Bully" a PG-13 rating. Three expletives will be edited out, a relatively small tweak to a film that opened as unrated March 30 in New York and Los Angeles. "Bully" filmmaker Hirsch called Butler personally to give her the news. "Obviously I'm super excited it's PG-13," Butler said Friday by phone. "I'm so glad people are going to see it." Then she answered a question about her role in the ratings battle -- without mentioning herself. "I feel it wouldn't have happened if half a million people hadn't stood up," she said, turning the focus back to the petition signers.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES DIRECTORY:** If you would like to advertise your business/service in *Caring* for one year (6 issues), send your business card and a check for \$40 (made payable to PFLAG Hartford) to: Jean Cormier, 156 Randal Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06110. Your Patronage of our advertisers, who help us pay the costs of sending the *Caring* newsletter to you, would be greatly appreciated by them and by us. Please mention that you saw their advertisement in *Caring*.

*Healing begins within the heart...*



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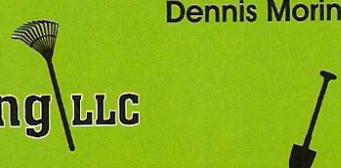
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Helpline: (860) 633-7184

Phone: (860) 633-5111

Transgender Issues: (860) 231-8582

**PFLAG SOUTHWESTERN CT**

When: 7:30 pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday (bi-monthly)

Jan./Mar./May/July/Sept./Nov.

Where: Triangle Community Center  
16 River Street (lower level) Norwalk

Help Line: (203) 226-0257 - Westport

(203) 322-5380 - Stamford

(203) 925-0445- Shelton

(203) 847-9183 - Norwalk

Email: [PFLAGSWCT@yahoo.com](mailto:PFLAGSWCT@yahoo.com)

**PFLAG SECT (SOUTHEASTERN CT)**

When: Second Monday of every month,

Potluck at 6:00 pm; Meeting at 7:00 pm

Where: Noank Baptist Church,  
18 Cathedral Heights, Noank (Groton)

Helpline: (860) 447-0884

Email: [bjalthen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bjalthen@sbcglobal.net)

Web site: [www.pflagsect.org](http://www.pflagsect.org)

**PFLAG GREATER NEW HAVEN**

166 Lovers Lane, Guilford, CT 06437

Meeting: 3rd Tuesday of the Month, 7:30 pm

Church of the Redeemer  
185 Cold Spring Street, New Haven  
(Corner of Whitney Avenue)

Phone/Help Line (203) 458-0493

Email: [greaternewhavenpflag@yahoo.com](mailto:greaternewhavenpflag@yahoo.com)

**Central and Western Massachusetts**

**PFLAG FRANKLIN-HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER**

**Northhampton**

When: Second Tuesday of every month

Where: Highland Valley Elder Services,  
Cutlery Building, 320 Riverside Drive

Helpline: 413/625-6636

Email: [jcmalinski48@gmail.com](mailto:jcmalinski48@gmail.com)

**Williamstown Area:**

When: Second Sunday of every month, 2 pm

Where: First Congregational Church, Williamstown

Contact: (413) 243-2382

**Springfield Area:**

Where: Agawam

Contact: (413) 732-3240 or (413) 783-7709

**Greenfield, MA**

Help Line: 413/625-6636

E-Mail: [PFLAGPV@valinet.com](mailto:PFLAGPV@valinet.com)

**CARING IS THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF PFLAG HARTFORD**

**Editor/Circulation Manager: Jean Cormier**

*Caring* welcomes articles, letters and other submissions for publication.

**Deadline:** 15<sup>th</sup> of even numbered months. Send articles to: *Jean Cormier*

156 Randal Avenue,

West Hartford, CT 06110



**SUMMERTIME AND THE LIVING IS EASY**

**STRAIGHT SPOUSE SUPPORT NETWORK:**

**In Connecticut and Western Massachusetts**

**Monthly Support Group, Third Sunday, West Hartford, CT.**

Contact Jane Harris at (413) 625-6636 or

[jcmalinski48@gmail.com](mailto:jcmalinski48@gmail.com)

or at [www.straightspouse.org](http://www.straightspouse.org)

**FOR OTHER PFLAG LOCATIONS**

Contact a Hartford Chapter Board Member or call the National PFLAG office at (202)638-4200. You may also sign onto PFLAG's Home Page at [www.pflag.org](http://www.pflag.org).