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Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus

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4-2006

### A Concert for Mark's Place

Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus

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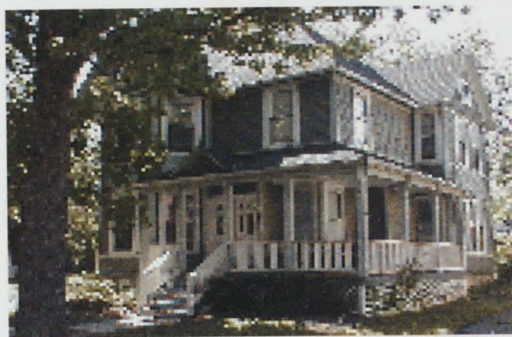
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*A Concert  
For  
Mark's Place*

*Presented by The Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus*



*Sunday April 30, 2006 at 3:00 p.m.*

*First Baptist Church  
Main and Fourth Streets  
Niagara Falls, NY*

*To benefit caregiving at Mark's Place  
At Home for Persons living with AIDS  
Operated by Community Missions*

Community  
Missions  
OF NIAGARA FRONTIER, INC.



### Message from the Mission's Executive Director

Good Afternoon and Welcome! I am so pleased to have you join us today at this Concert for Mark's Place. We are very appreciative of the support from the Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus and their beautiful music this afternoon. We also thank the First Baptist Church and Pastor Mark Breese for the use of their sanctuary and fellowship hall.

For over 80 years Community Missions has responded to the needs of the Niagara Frontier Community. Sometimes the need is short term and basic in nature...food and shelter. At other times, long term skill development and rehabilitation are required. Whatever the need, we are privileged to serve our community in a compassionate, caring way.

We could not do this work without your help! Our donors, volunteers, friends, and supporters have made our programs strong and successful. We thank you for your time, talents and treasures. We hope you enjoy the music and fellowship. We look forward to your continued support in the years ahead.

With kindest regard,

Robyn L. Krueger  
Executive Director



# Let us Entertain You.

The Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus  
Presents:

Friday, June 23, 2006 at 8pm  
and

\*Saturday June 24, 2006 at 8pm

*\*interpreted for hearing impaired*

**BGMC**  
at  
Buffalo State College  
Performing Arts Center  
Rockwell Hall  
1300 Elmwood Ave  
Doors Open at 7pm

Artistic Director: Barbara Wagner  
Accompanist: Debi Overton

Tickets: \$18 for adults

\$16 for seniors/students/disabled

To purchase tickets call the PAC Box Office (716)878-3005  
or contact any BGMC Member

[www.buffalogaymenschorus.com](http://www.buffalogaymenschorus.com)

BGMC Office:  
695 Elmwood Ave  
Buffalo, NY 14222  
716-883-1277

**BGMC**  
The Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus

PERFORMING  
ARTS CENTER  
at Rockwell Hall  
SUFFALO STATE

PROGRAM FOR APRIL 30

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| PROCESSIONAL      | How Can I Keep From Singing Quaker Song<br>Arranged by Ginger B. Littleton                             |
| When I Hear       | Music Words and Music by Michael G. Martin   |
| An die Musik      | Franz Schubert   |
| Chapel of Love    | Words and Music by Phil Spector,<br>Ellie Greenwich And Jeff Barry<br>Arranged by Dr. Kathleen McGuire |
| Beautiful Dreamer | Stephen Foster arranged by Scott Henderson<br>Peter Smith, Clarinet and the Chorus                     |
| If and When       | Music by Robert Seeley Words by Philip Littell<br>From "Naked Man"                                     |
| Sinner Man        | Traditional Spiritual arranged by Kirby Shaw   |
| Ching-a-Ring-Chaw | Adapted and Arranged by Aaron Copland<br>From Copland's collection of<br>American Folk Songs           |
| Home on the Range | Arranged by Paul Peck  |

The Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus  
Artistic Director: Barbara Wagner  
Accompanist: Debi Overton  
President: David Gannon

INTERMISSION

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| I Ain't Afraid               | Words and Music by Holly Near<br>Arranged by Steven Milloy  |
| You Can Fly                  | Words and Music by Alan Stein<br>Arranged by Neal Richardson  |
| Rhythm of Life               | Music by Cy Coleman Words<br>by Dorothy Fields<br>Arranged by Richard Barnes                                |
| Bring Him Home               | Music by Claude Michel Schönberg<br>Words by Herbert Kretzmer and Alain Boublil<br>Arranged by John Leavitt |
| Red Red Rose                 | Music by James Mulholland Poem<br>by Robert Burns   |
| For Good                     | Music and Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz<br>from "Wicked"<br>Matthew Mooney and Shaun Doyle, Tenors             |
| Seasons of Love              | Words and Music by Jonathan Larson<br>From "Rent"   |
| Standing On the Side of Love | Jason Shelton<br>Shaun Doyle and the Chorus   |

*Please Join us for a Reception  
Immediately following the Performance*

# The Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus

## Tenor I

Robert Black  
Josh D. Blasdell  
Peter A. Bruschi  
Robert C. Donner  
Shaun Doyle Jr. \*  
Norm Duttweiler  
Tom Gleed  
Ronald Houk  
Mike Liska  
Matthew Mooney  
Aidan Ngin  
John Rex  
Brian Schuster  
Hanford Searl Jr.  
Michael A. Sulzbach

## Bass II

Jim Estep  
Ronald J. Galena  
Jaime Stephan Goldfuss  
Lorne E. Gretsinger  
Jim Jagow  
Rob Keefe  
Randall D. Kozlowski  
Paul LaDuca  
Russell C. Link  
Timothy H. Mahiques  
David K. Mathewson  
Ryan J. McKane  
L. Martin Palcic \*  
Todd B. Ruth  
Andy Steck  
Derek K. Teneycke+  
Dr. Lawrence Van Heusen  
Joseph Zimmerman

\* Section Leader  
+ On Leave

## Tenor II

Donald Behr  
Edward F. Ciszek Jr.  
Dave Gannon  
William C. Hardy  
John Iaconno  
Gerry Klein  
Delwyn Milander  
Michael Mroczka  
Nelson Neels  
Roger Parris  
Mark J. Peszko  
Mike Styn  
Cedric 'Flip' Taporco  
Jason A. Ward

## Bass I

Christopher Babbitt  
Dave Batt  
Dan Folwell  
William H. Gardner  
Andrew Giarrizzo  
Michael P. Gillis  
Vincent Kuntz  
Aaron Le Beau  
Nicholas Mawer  
Ramon 'Ray' Melendez  
Raymond Neil  
Andy Newbert \*  
Paul R. Newell  
Benjamin Phillips  
Joe Puma  
Jim Rigo  
Robert Rose  
Michael Shanahan+  
Sherwood 'Woody' Sipprell  
Peter C. Smith+  
Dennis C. Stuart  
Bobby Suwala  
Steven Young

\*\* Chorus Marshall

# The Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus

## Board of Directors:

Dave Gannon, President  
Dennis C. Stuart, Vice President  
Timothy H. Mahiques, Secretary  
R. Mark Meyer, Treasurer  
Christopher S. Babbitt  
William H. Gardner  
Edward N. Giannino  
Michael P. Gillis  
Steven Young

## Non-Singing Members:

Edward N. Giannino  
David Hetherly  
Mike Longo  
R. Mark Meyer  
Clifford Whitman  
Danny Winter  
Steve Niemiec

## Artistic Director:

Barbara Wagner

## Accompanist:

Debi Overton

## News and Information:

Kathleen Bryce-Niles

## Archivist:

Chuck Alaimo

The Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus is dedicated to producing vocal music of high quality in the rich tradition of men's choral singing. We seek through song not only to enlighten, but to entertain. We sing to create harmony as we celebrate pride in the community and in ourselves.

While we could easily use several full-time staff, as a non-profit organization we thrive on the volunteers who assist us whenever they are able to do so. We always need volunteers to help out in many different support roles that enable the singers to do what they do best -- sing! If you are interested in a volunteer position with the BGMCM, please contact our office at 716-883-1277. "If you are willing to work for nothing, we definitely have something for you!"

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**The Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus (BGMC)** performs a rich catalog of classical, contemporary, Broadway, pop and multi-cultural music. The repertoire is as diverse as the 90 men who are singing with pride as members of the BGMC. A balance of educating, entertaining and enlightening allows us to maintain our integrity as a gay chorus while providing inclusion and appreciation by all members of our respective communities.

The BGMC has been honored by the Empire State Pride Agenda with a Community Service Award. This award was in recognition of efforts to raise awareness and to enlighten our region through song. To that end, the BGMC has performed in a variety of venues throughout Western New York and Ontario for many community events. Additionally, the BGMC has traveled to Montreal to participate in the seventh annual GALA Festival, an international gathering of gay and lesbian choruses.

While maintaining a strong presence within the gay community, The BGMC also has been privileged to perform with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra at Kleinhans Music Hall and has done benefits for the Amherst Unitarian Universalist Church music program; Blessed Trinity Roman Catholic Church's restoration; the annual World AIDS Day Memorial Service; and, the AIDS Community Services fundraiser Cause for Celebration. Additionally, BGMC performed for the arrival of The Amistad; participated in "Gusto at the Gallery" at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery; sang at the Ars Nova Musicians "Viva Vivaldi" Concert; sang at Fredonia College for their diversity and multicultural groups; and, at the Nichols School for Diversity Week. Of course, our four major concerts annually bring our work to thousands of avid listeners.

Incorporated in 2001, The BGMC is a membership association dedicated to producing high quality vocal music in the rich tradition of men's choral singing. Through song, the Chorus endeavors to entertain and enlighten, create harmony and celebrate personal and community pride.

**Barbara Wagner (Artistic Director)** has served as Minister of Music at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo for 42 years. She was the director of choral activities at the Nichols School for more than 24 years and served the congregation of Temple Beth Am as its Music Director for 12 years. She was in charge of vocal activities at the Buffalo Seminary and conducts the Unitarian Universalist Church Choir as well as the Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus. In addition to its Sunday morning responsibilities, the UU Church Choir has made two highly acclaimed European tours, the first to Germany, Austria and the Czech Republic and the second to Ireland, Wales, England and Scotland. The UU Church Choir, under the direction of Ms Wagner, has recorded for American Public Radio, performed locally with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, Amherst Saxophone Quartet and the Ars Nova Chamber Orchestra. Ms. Wagner was the conductor for the Peace Odyssey Tour of Hungary and the former Soviet Union. Choral singers from all over the USA participated in this tour.

She was a member of the prestigious seven member Hymnbook Resources Commission that was responsible for the denominational hymnbook **Singing the Living Tradition**, published in 1993. She was chair of the New Hymns Task Force, which produced, **Singing the Journey**, another denominational songbook, published in June, 2005. She ran a choral program at Nichols High School that involved over 100 young singers including a concert chorus, women's ensemble, men's ensemble and a mixed chamber group. She was also guest conductor for the City of Good Neighbors Chorale. Ms. Wagner earned a BFA degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo, where she studied organ with Squire Haskin, and has done graduate work at Westminster Choir College. She did advanced Organ study with Karl Richter at Munich Conservatory and has done advanced conducting study with Raymond Harvey, the former Assistant Conductor of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and presently the Music Director of the Kalamazoo Symphony. She is a member of The American Choral Director's Association, Erie County Music Educators Association, MENC, Unitarian Universalist Musician's Network (founding member, former vice president and board member), NYSSMA, American Guild of Organists (sub dean of the Buffalo Chapter) and Chromatic Club. She was presented with the Erie County Music Educator/Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra award for excellence in choral education in May of 2002. Ms. Wagner is included in the 2004 edition of **Who's Who in American Women**, and will be included in the 2006 edition of **Who's Who in America**. She is the charter Artistic Director of the Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus.

A native of North Carolina, **Debi Overton (Accompanist)** is the Organist and Choirmaster at Calvary Episcopal Church in Williamsville. Ms Overton has held positions as coach/accompanist at the University of Texas at Austin and served as Director of the Chamber Music Program at the New School of Music in Philadelphia. From 1979 to 1986, she was active in the summer music festival in Aspen, Colorado as the coach/accompanist for the choral department. In this capacity she served as assistant to noted conductor Fiora Contino. She has assisted in preparing choruses and soloists for such conductors as Tamara Brooks, John Nelson, Robert Shaw, Sergei Commissiona and has herself coached with coach/accompanists David Garvey, John Wustman, Brooks Smith and Dalton Baldwin.

In addition to her duties at Calvary Church, Ms. Overton serves as Chair of the Music Commission of the Western New York Episcopal Diocese and is active in this area teaching, accompanying and performing with singers and instrumentalists.

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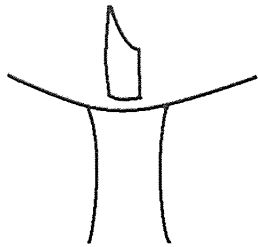
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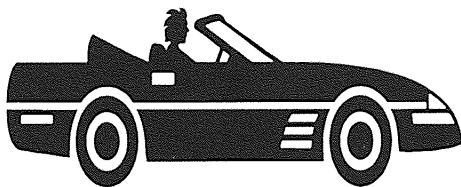
*Where every soul is welcome*

*and every mind is free*

*The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Niagara  
639 Main St.  
Niagara Falls, NY 14301*



*In memory of a wonderful sister  
and the good times we had*

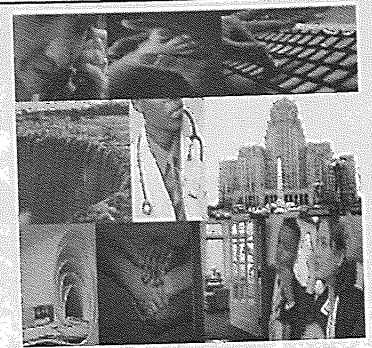


*To Candy with Love,  
Nancy*

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NETWORK**  
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**REACH**

The Youth Services staff of CMI offers  
congratulations and encouragement to  
Mark's Place for their continued service  
to persons living with AIDS.



# Mark's Place

*Mark's Place is a residence for persons living with Aids*



*Mark's Place is a transitional residence for HIV positive persons with an AIDS specific diagnosis. Located in a large Victorian house in Niagara Falls, there is an intimate family like atmosphere with no more than four residents. The program is designed to facilitate advancement to permanent and independent housing within a limit of one year.*

*Niagara County has the second highest incidents of HIV/AIDS in Western New York. Mark's Place provides a short term, transitional residence for persons who would otherwise be homeless due to their HIV status. It has changed the lives of those who live there.*

*Services available to residents:*

- Enhanced MICA Services*
- Consumer Advocacy*
- Transportation*
- Substance Abuse Services*
- Counseling*

*One client, "Joe," lived on the streets and had never received any of the protease or reverse transcriptase drugs. Receiving these after coming to Mark's Place, "Joe" saw his viral load drop to one-twentieth its prior level. "This is a new lease on life!" he said. "I feel better. I sleep and eat better. My energy has doubled!" Another client, "Dave," left a Masters degree program in Business Administration when he became quite ill. After coming to Mark's Place, CMI caseworkers helped him request educational benefits and obtain SSI payments. "Dave" found an apartment and plans to re-enter his Master's degree program. The third client "Jack" was a whirlwind in the residence, stripping woodwork, refinishing built-in cabinets, helping to landscape the property, etc. Indeed, all three of these clients have taken great pride in improving their home. In the past all referrals received by Mark's Place had been for male residents, however, a young woman recently moved into the remaining available bedroom.*



*For More Information and Contributions:*

*Mark's Place /Community Missions*

*1570 Buffalo Ave.*

*Niagara Falls, NY 14303*

*716.285.3403*

*Ext. 2278 Information &/or Ext. 2226 Contributions*

Community Missions thanks the following individuals who made special contributions for today's concert:

Sue Maunderiville  
Russell Ram  
Cindy Oberjosh  
Patricia Lynch  
Audrey & Jim Mang

Mark Lynch & Tom Korn  
Kelly King  
Nancy Hodges  
Joe & Brian Schuster  
Bonnie Lawrence

And, especially, we thank Pastor Mark Breese and the First Baptist Church of Niagara Falls.



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### **John F. Donohue**

Attorney at Law

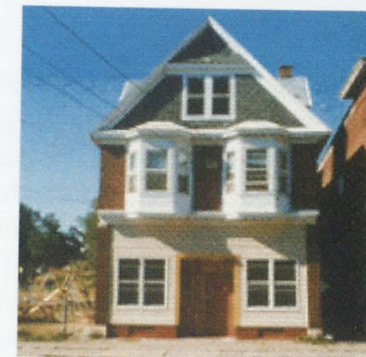
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Office: 716-693-3244  
Fax: 716-693-1158  
Home: 716-741-2274

Website: [www.donohuelaw.com](http://www.donohuelaw.com)

*Since our founding in 1925, Community Missions has provided a unique blend of referral, crisis, community support, and residential services for youth and adults. These services are offered in cooperation with donors, churches, groups, clubs, other providers, and government agencies:*

- Crisis Shelter
- Bank of America Kids Café
- Clothes Closet
- Community Kitchen
- Food Pantry/Distribution
- Children's Summer Activity Program



## **CRISIS/COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Services provided by this program include 24 hour a day emergency housing, a community kitchen for meals, food pantry, clothing, furniture, holiday food baskets, and youth activities for the disadvantaged in the community. These services are designed to be temporary in nature, helping individuals and families through a crisis period in their lives as they work to find more permanent solutions to their needs. There is no charge to utilize any of these services. For further information: 285-3403 ext. 2224

**2005**

### **THROUGH...CRISIS/COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Sheltered: 409 People for 4,061 Nights Served 11,602 Meals  
Community Kitchen Meals: 18,862 Adults Served 1,062 Youth Served  
Food Baskets: 3,520 Individuals Served or 31,680 Meals  
Kids Café: 304 Children Served 1,916 Meals

## ADULT RESIDENTIAL SERVICES (C.H.O.I.C.E.S.)

- Apartment Treatment Program
- Canal View Supervised Residence
- Supported Housing
- Hansen House Supervised Residence
- Mark's Place: Home for Persons with AIDS

Adult residential programming houses individuals 18 years of age and older. Programs serving those with a psychiatric disability include the CHOICES Apartment Program: a treatment program with community based apartments; Hansen House and Canal View: supervised treatment community programs; and Supported Housing: subsidized long-term housing with monitoring and support. Mark's Place is a transitional residence serving individuals living with AIDS. These programs focus on helping adults realize their full potential for living independently in the community. Funding sources include the NYS Office of Mental Health, NC Department of Mental Health, the Social Security Administration, Medicaid, HOPWA/HUD, the Wendt and East Hill Foundations as well as private grants and contributions. For further information: 285-3403 ext. 2278

2005

### THROUGH...ADULT RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Apartment Program:  
72 Adults Served – 17,682 Care Days



Mark's Place:  
7 Adults Served – 1,192 Care Days



Hansen House :  
18 Adults Served – 3,565 Care Days



Supported Housing:  
88 Adults Served – 29,301 Care Days

Canal View:  
15 Adults Served – 4,230 Care Days



## ADULT COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES (CSS)

- Clubhouse Programs in Niagara Falls and Lockport
- Supported Employment Program
- Respite Services
- Drop-In-Center
- Transportation Services
- Intensive Psychiatric Rehabilitation Treatment Program
- Vocational Rehabilitation Competitive Employment Program

The CSS programs are dedicated to providing a community-based, rehabilitative, restorative environment for persons 18 years of age and older, who have a psychiatric disability. Our programs are designed to assist persons who need additional support to complete vocational, recreational, social, housing, and employment skills to maintain their independence. These programs are funded through a variety of resources including the Niagara County Department of Mental Health, NYS Education Department, and in some cases Medicaid. For further information: 285-3403 ext. 2268

2005

### THROUGH...ADULT COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

Clubhouse Niagara:  
238 Adults Served – 16,096 Visits



Future Visions Clubhouse:  
118 Adults Served – 5,591 Visits

Supported Employment:  
34 Adults Served - 11 Adults Placed



Intensive Psychiatric Rehabilitation Treatment Program:  
82 Adults Served - 13,831 Total Hours



Respite:  
84 Adults Served - 1,405 Care Days



Drop-In Center:  
154 Adults Served – 5,020 Visits



Transportation:  
325 Adults Served – 29,687 Transports

Vocational Rehabilitation Program:  
87 Adults Served - 41 Adults Employed



## YOUTH SERVICES (R.E.A.C.H.)

(Residential Programs for Ages to 21  
Years)



- Aurora House: Emotionally Handicapped Youth
- Midway Manor: Adoption Transition for Youth (closed 8/31/05)
- Onesimus House: Homeless Young Adults
- Orchard House: Non-Secure Detention
- 48 Hour Holdover: Secure Detention (closed 8/31/05)
- Community Service Academy: Electronic Monitoring Project (end 11/05)
- Recreation Department
- Niagara Falls Juvenile Arrest Diversion Program (opened 11/05)

The Youth Services program and staff accept the challenge and commitment of providing services to the needy, troubled, emotionally disturbed, and homeless youth populations, under the age of 21, through the current referral and/or placement processes operating within New York State.

Staff provides a professional, nurturing and supportive structure to allow youth and their families to achieve the most desirable and appropriate level of family reintegration, while providing guidance and encouragement for youth to recognize their decisions and actions toward the attainment of these goals.

Varied community based residential settings are offered depending on the individual goals and emotional needs of each youth seeking program services. These programs are funded by Niagara County Department of Social Services, NYS Office of Mental Health, NYS Office of Children and Family Services and NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services. For further information: 285-3403 ext. 2231

2005

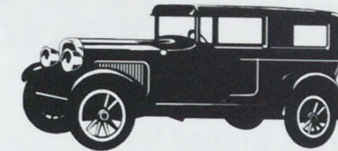
### THROUGH...YOUTH SERVICES

- Aurora House: 13 Youth Served - 2,209 Care Days
- Midway Manor: 6 Youth Served - 676 Care Days
- Onesimus House: 30 Youth and 3 Infant Served - 1,516 Care Days
- Orchard House: 74 Youth Served - 1,308 Care Days
- 48 Hour Holdover: 0 Youth Served - 0 Care Days
- Community Service Academy: 2 Youth Served - 10 Hours
- Recreation Units: 220 Activities - 598 Participants
- Arrest Diversion Program: 16 Cases Referred - 10 Youth Served



*In Memory of my friend Candy,*

*-Carl*



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### *Gospel Fest 2006 A Celebration of Joy and Hope*



Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>

7:00 p.m.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church  
1004 Michigan Avenue  
Niagara Falls, NY

### *4<sup>th</sup> Annual "Feet or Famine" Walk*

Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>

Registration begins 10:30 AM  
Whirlpool State Park

### *5<sup>th</sup> Annual "Par Fore A Mission" Golf Classic 2006*

Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

Registration forms are available at CMI  
Niagara Frontier Country Club, Youngstown

Chairs:

NFPD Supt. John Chella  
NCSD (Ret.) Inspector Ed Stefik  
Attorney John Aversa

For more information, to volunteer or for tickets please contact  
Brad Frank 285-3403 ext.2225



**Community Missions  
Announces its**

# 3rd Annual CAREWALK

Saturday, October 7th 2006

Saturday, October 7th 2006

## Whirlpool State Park

Walk registration begins at 10:30 AM

**To benefit Mark's Place,  
a home for persons living  
with AIDS.**

**Chinese Auction**

*Prizes will be awarded to all walkers who collect \$50 or more in pledges. Special Prizes awarded to the top 5 individuals who collect the most dollars in pledges.*

For information, pledge sheets or to sponsor this event, please contact Don at 285-3403 ext. 2226.