

LAW JOURNAL

Former lawyer writes book on legal issues in pregnancy

By JODI SOKOLOWSKI
Buffalo Law Journal

Pregnancy is a time of change with changes in schedules, sleep patterns and available funds. Along with those changes arise legal issues involving health care rights, insurance coverage and even umbilical cord preservation.

As a mom, Brette Sember has experienced many of those changes and as a former lawyer, she understands those legal rights. To help new parents, she explains those rights and more in one of her recently published books "Your Practical Pregnancy Planner: Everything You Need to Know About the Legal and Financial Aspects of Planning for Your New Baby." The book, published by McGraw-Hill, is available in bookstores and online for \$14.95.

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Glarence resident Brette Sember, a former attorney, holds her recently published book, "Your Practical Pregnancy Planner: Everything You Need to Know About the Legal and Financial Aspects of Preparing for Your New Baby." She has written more than 20 books and numerous magazine

'Justice at Dachau' author talks at Jewish Law event



Above left, Benjie Gachetta, University at Buffalo Law School third-year student studying international law who is also president of the International Law Students Associations, and Larry Rosenthal, second-year law student pursuing a JD and MBA dual degree who is also president of the Jewish Law Students Association, stand with Joshua Greene, author of "Justice at Dachau: The Trials of an American Prosecutor," after his presentation sponsored by the Jewish Law

on legal issues in pregnancy

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"It's a complete legal, financial and practical guide for expectant moms, to help not only deal with legal issues like wills and guardianships, but financial budgeting and insurance (coverage)," she said, adding she found nannies or babysitters must be included on the parents' car insurance to be covered. "How the employment is arranged affects the car insurance and whether the nanny is covered."

The book also addresses non-legal or financial aspects such as finding out about recalls, choosing day care and getting organized.

"It seemed to me there (are) lots of books about your changing body and how to buy a crib, but not a lot of information about flex time at work, an elective C-section or blood preservation from the baby's umbilical cord for its stem cells," said the Clarence resident.



Clarence resident Brette Sember, a former attorney, holds her recently published book, "Your Practical Pregnancy Planner: Everything You Need to Know About the Legal and Financial Aspects of Planning for Your New Baby." She has written more than 20 books and numerous magazine articles and newspaper columns on legal-related issues including marriage, divorce, adoption, parenting, and gay and lesbian rights.

Photo by Jim Courtney

With writing in her background — she was editor of her high school newspaper and an English major in college — along with being a former lawyer, Sember said she not only enjoys the writing aspect but the research as well.

"(A law degree) gave me a heavy emphasis on writing but also on research. Learning to do good research was important for me, and writing is something I've always been good at and enjoyed," she said.

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Sember offers these tips for expectant parents:

1. Know your rights about the right to refuse treatment, the right to ask for additional newborn tests not required by your state, emergency leave during pregnancy, and maternity and paternity leave options.
2. Create budgets for buying a new wardrobe and pregnancy books, and paying for childbirth classes and frequent medical care. Parents also need to compare their health insurance policies and flexible spending accounts.
3. Plan for the future including wills, guardians, life insurance and college savings accounts.
4. Ask questions to understand your rights about health care providers' treatment, child care and insurance coverage for a sitter or nanny using your car.
5. Get organized by conducting a safety check of your home, signing up for free newsletters and magazines, and stocking your pantry and freezer.



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talks at Jew



Above left, Benjie Gachette, University at Buffalo Law School third-year student studying international law who is also president of the International Law Students Association, and Larry Rosen, second-year law student pursuing a JD and a Jewish Law Students Association, stand with The Trials of an American Prosecutor, after the Students Association at UB Law Monday night. Piver, a Buffalo solo practitioner who concentrates

Law Libraries hosts annual

Two judges, three local attorneys and three faculty members of the University at Buffalo Law School will be among the presenters at the 51st fall conference of the Association of Law Libraries of Upstate New York Friday through Sunday at the Millennium Airport Hotel.

The association, a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries, is a professional association of librarians and library staff at courts, private law firms and law schools.

The program will be kicked off by Hon. Sharon Townsend, administrative judge for the 8th Judicial District, and Hon. Sheila DiTullio, Erie County Court judge. They will welcome more than 60 conferees to Buffalo.

Within a theme of refurbishing the Rust Belt, several of the speakers will address the issues of rebuilding and reorganizing, whether it be physical structures, the institutions of government or an academic discipline.

James Gardner, a professor at UB Law, and William Murray, of counsel to the Amherst Industrial Development Agency, will team up to discuss the recent decision of

CORRECTION

In the Sept. 22 issue, attorney Jerry