

THE ERIE ECHO

"a voice for life"

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Erie March for Life May 4

Please don't miss the 47th Annual Erie March for Life this May 4. We moved this year's March far out of the reach of Old Man Winter with high hopes of making it a much bigger and more impactful event. Join your friends and neighbors (or even better, bring some with you!) as we march in gratitude for the priceless gift of life, thankful for our own lives and thankful to share the awesome mystery of life with each of our fellow human beings, near and far.

The theme of this year's March goes straight to the heart of the matter in five words: *Life is a Human Right*.

We will also march in appreciation for our nation, founded on the conviction that life is a right that belongs to all individuals simply by virtue of their humanity, regardless of social status, age, state of dependency, physical or intellectual abilities, or any other basis for discrimination. Just a week before Mother's Day, we will march especially for those waiting to be born and for their

mothers, who always deserve a double measure of esteem and the highest respect.

Plan to arrive at west Perry Square in downtown Erie by 10:45 a.m. The March will begin at 11 a.m. You will be invited to select a sign to carry from our expanded assortment. You may also create a sign of your own with a positive, on-topic, pro-life message for the Erie community to see. We can expect TV and other news coverage, so it is important that we represent the pro-life cause thoughtfully and responsibly, and address ourselves to as wide an audience as possible.

The Erie March for Life is permitted by the City of Erie. We will be marching on the city streets with the benefit of police supervision. Official permission to assemble at Perry Square and use the Pavilion stage is also part of the deal. We always appreciate the City of Erie's cooperation and the friendly support provided by the Erie Police Department.

The March will proceed from Perry

Square west on 6th St., south on Sassafras, east on 10th St., and north on State back to the Square. After all of the marchers have returned, they will hear some great pro-life speakers, including U.S. Representative Mike Kelly, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation Education Director Remil Teny, and a Gannon University Students for Life spokesperson. Planning for the program is still in progress. We will announce additional speakers in the coming weeks.

Brian Shank has once again generously offered to provide the necessary sound equipment and be our March for Life DJ.

The event will conclude by 12:30 p.m. But there will be even more in-store for you that afternoon, down at the Blasco Erie County Library, as you will see in the article below.

You can find the latest information about the Erie March for Life on peopleforlife.org and at facebook.com/eriemarchforlife. Please like and follow!

Briefing: The Fight for Life in Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation Education Director Remil Teny will travel from Harrisburg to join us for this year's Erie March for Life. Remil will be one of the speakers during the closing program. She will also conduct a separate pro-life briefing at the Admiral Room in the Blasco Memorial Library on Erie's Bayfront, from 1 p.m. until approximately 2:15 p.m. Beverages and light snacks will be provided.

We hope you can attend both the Erie March and Remil's presentation. But, if you cannot get to both, you are certainly welcome to attend just one or the other.

At Library, you will learn more about the work of the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation and its dozens of grassroots chapters across the Commonwealth, from Erie to Philadelphia. Remil will discuss the status of abortion and other threats to human life here in Pennsylvania. You will learn more about the latest pro-life initiatives as well as how the forces of death are threatening the pro-life progress Pennsylvanians have made over the past 50 years. One critical item of concern

right now is HB1888, an attempt to amend the Pennsylvania constitution to make abortion an absolute right even during the final three months of pregnancy. A lot is happening. Our mini-conference will help keep all of us up to speed and motivated to continue the work of building a more pro-life state and nation.

Remil will take questions after her talk. Your People for Life leadership team, including Executive Director Tim Broderick, will also be on hand to answer questions about People for Life and how you can get more involved right in your own community.

In her current position, Remil carries out the Federation's mission of educating the public about pro-life topics through research, writing, and speaking.

Prior to joining the Federation, Remil was a full-time missionary for over three years in the villages of India. Sharing meals and sharing her faith, she developed many friendships among poor and marginalized people. She worked closely with schools and non-profits, instructing young people on a



Education Director Remil Teny

variety of topics, always with an eye toward affirming their human dignity and building their sense of self-worth. Remil's assignments included health and hygiene classes for adolescent girls, human sexuality and dignity education, and outreach to children

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Election 2024 Candidates of Local Interest

It's a big election year with some hotly-contested races. Every vote will be crucial. As usual, the PA Pro-Life Federation (PPLF) and the National Right to Life Committee (NRLC) are doing their homework and doing their part to keep pro-life voters informed.

Both organizations have endorsed Donald J. Trump for president by virtue of his phenomenal pro-life accomplishments in his first term. They are too numerous to recite here, but the one President Trump points to with pride most often is the overturn of the infamous Roe v. Wade decision. Roe would certainly not have fallen had President Trump not appointed three strongly conservative justices to the U.S. Supreme Court. Those of us who attended the March for Life in January 2020 will never forget President Trump's historic personal appearance at that event. It was the first and, so far, only time a sitting president has ever attended that iconic pro-life event.

NRLC evaluates candidates for federal offices: president, U.S. Senate, and U.S. House of Representatives. State-level candidates are evaluated by PPLF. The determinations presented here are based on voting records when possible, surveys, and/or the candidates' position statements.

President of the United States

Donald Trump (R) is pro-life, while incumbent Joe Biden (D) is pro-abortion and more militantly so than any other president to

date. Longshot candidate Robert F. Kennedy (I), Jr. is also pro-abortion.

U.S. Senate

Pennsylvania will elect a U.S. Senator this year. Incumbent Bob Casey (D) is pro-abortion. Challenging Casey is Dave McCormick (R) who is pro-life. McCormick met with People for Life Director Tim Broderick while he was running for governor a few years ago and expressed solid pro-life convictions.

Congress

The race for Congress in the 16th District, which includes most of northwestern PA, features incumbent Mike Kelly (R), who is pro-life, and a challenger, Preston Nouri (D), who is pro-abortion. Mike Kelly has a 100% pro-life voting record. He attends People for Life's Pro-Life Breakfast consistently. In January 2023, Mike Kelly became the first-ever member of Congress to attend the Erie March for Life. He is planning to join us again, for the next Erie March for Life on May 4.

PA Senate

District 49: Dan Laughlin (R) Mixed | Robert Wertz (D) Pro-Abortion | Selena King (D) Unknown.

PA House of Representatives

District 1: Incumbent Patrick Harkins (D) Pro-Abortion | District 2: Incumbent Robert Merski (D) Pro-Abortion | Matt Strupczewski

(R) Unknown | Incumbent Ryan Bizzarro (D) Pro-Abortion | Micah Goring (R) Pro-Life | District 4: Incumbent Jake Banta (R) Leans Pro-Life | Joseph Cancilla (D) Unknown | District 6: Incumbent Brad Roae (R) Pro-Life | Michael Walker (D) Unknown | District 7: Incumbent Parke Wentling (R) Pro-Life | District 65: Incumbent Kathy Rapp (R) Pro-Life | District 64: R. Lee James (R) Pro-Life.

District 3 incumbent Ryan Bizzarro can be aptly described as stridently pro-abortion. Bizzarro began his political career claiming to be pro-life. Before long, however, advancing "a woman's right to choose" became a major obsession for him.

PA Attorney General

Eugene DePasquale (D) Pro-Abortion | Keir Bradford-Grey (D) Pro-Abortion | Joe Khan (D) Pro-Abortion | Jared Solomon (D) Pro-Abortion | Jack Stollsteimer (D) Pro-Abortion | Dave Sunday (R) Pro-Life | Craig Williams (R) Mixed.

PA Auditor General

Malcolm Kenyatta (D) Pro-Abortion | Mark Pinsley (D) Pro-Abortion | Tim DeFoor (R) Pro-Life.

PA Treasurer

Ryan Bizzarro (D) Pro-Abortion | Erin McClelland (D) Pro-Abortion | Stacy Garrity (R) Pro-Life. Note that Ryan Bizzarro is running concurrently for state treasurer and state representative.

Major Pharmacy Chains Announce Abortion Pill Rollout

The day we were hoping would never arrive is here. Walgreens, the pharmacy giant (Walgreens Boots Alliance), announced on March 1 that it is now in the business of dispensing mifepristone, the "abortion pill," and Pennsylvania is one of five states being initially targeted.

Similarly, CVS (CVS Pharmacy, Inc.) issued the following statement on March 1. "We've received certification to dispense mifepristone at CVS Pharmacy and plan to fill prescriptions for this medication [sic] in states where legally permissible." The first pre-born babies targeted will be in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Until recently, mifepristone could only be legally administered at an abortion facility or a prescribing doctor's private medical practice. Walgreens is the first pharmacy chain in Pennsylvania to partner with the abortionists by dispensing the lethal drug. The abortionist still writes the prescription.

Mifepristone, marketed under the brand name Mifeprex, is FDA approved for abortions up to 10 weeks. One dose costs about \$75, not including the bill from the prescribing abortionist. In 10% or more of cases there is the extra cost of one or more emergency room visits due to complications.

Surgical intervention is required in 7% of all mifepristone abortions done at 10 weeks.

Mifepristone should not be confused with what is called the "morning after pill," which prevents or ends a pregnancy only during the first 72 hours after the procreative act and costs about \$35 per dose. The morning after pill was first approved by the FDA in 1998 and is now available over the counter. It is sold under various trade names but perhaps best known commercially as Plan B.

Planned Parenthood has been charging, on average, \$580 for a mifepristone abortion, but this presumably includes proper testing to protect the health and safety of the woman. The abortion facility that used to do business here in Erie was charging about \$450 for a similar chemical abortion regimen 20 years ago.

Now, however, because the Biden administration has gutted the health and safety standards for using mifepristone, the new plan is to merely write a prescription for the "pill that kills" after nothing more than a cursory online consultation. Total costs, going forward, can be expected to be lower, but the savings will come at the cost of increased health and safety risks for the woman.

Stop Selling

PILLS THAT

KILL

Chemical abortion, usually using mifepristone, now accounts for approximately 60% of all abortion killings carried out in the United States.

Only a limited number of Walgreens locations will stock the abortion pills, but all locations will know where to send the mother and unborn child to receive the deadly chemical. Likewise, abortionists will know where to call-in their prescriptions.

These death-peddling pharmacy corporations will be as sneaky as possible to prevent the public from knowing exactly which locations are issuing the abortion

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FROM PAGE 2 Abortion Pill

drugs. Eventually, however, the truth will come out. If you acquire any information about exact locations, please let us know as soon as possible.

For a very revealing look at the history of mifepristone, its dangers, and why adverse effects of the drug might be grossly under-reported, see "The Case Against the Abortion Pill" at www.firstthings.com.

Rallies at Walgreens

People for Life will soon be encouraging Erie-area residents to come together for sidewalk rallies at the Walgreens store on the corner of W. 38th and Peach streets. Signs with messages designed specifically to address the Walgreens' problem will be available to use. Respect for the babies who

will suffer grave injustice at the hands of Walgreens, compassion for their mothers, and concern about the degradation to our community all call for a sustained outcry from local residents.

If you are up for this mission, please notify People for Life with an email, text, or phone call. For the latest news about future rallies, subscribe to our Email Updates by sending your request to office@peopleforlife.org.

People for Life has a long history of helping concerned citizens conduct peaceful, orderly, and carefully-messaged public demonstrations in support of the most basic of all human rights, the right to life.

At this time, we are also calling expressly for a boycott of the Walgreens Erie location. One alternative, the Tops Pharmacy at 38th & Cherry, is practically right next door.

When CVS begins targeting Pennsylvania with abortion pills, they too will be due for some public pro-life attention. The Rite Aid company initially announced that it wanted a piece of the abortion killing business, but they have been rather quiet about their plans in recent months.

Registration Now Open

PA March for Life Bus Trip September 23, 2024, 5 a.m. to 8 p.m., \$40 per seat. Register at tinyurl.com/34f3z98m or mail-in your contact information and payment with a name for each seat and ages for those under 18.
Life Run 5K/10K & Fun Walk October 12, 2024, 9 a.m., Slade Park, Harborcreek Township. Register by October 2 to get a free shirt. Register online or download a mail-in form at peopleforlife.org/liferun.

Memorials & Tributes

| <i>Given by</i> | <i>In Memory of</i> | <i>Given by</i> | <i>In Memory of</i> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Maureen Anthony | Judge Fred Anthony | Allen Erickson | Cornelius Legters |
| Lawrence F. Berdis | Johanna Berdis, Wife | Mary A. Vogt | Catherine Ann Murphy |
| Gary & Laura Borowy | Mark Borowy | Dale & Lynn Klobusnik | Ed Owens |
| Lois Borowy | Mark Borowy | Randy & Nancy Pertl | Frank Pertl |
| Linda Etter | Mark Borowy | Ann Marie & Christopher Carbo | Lillian Przepierski |
| Teri Burbules | Julia Burbules | Kathy & Joe Daniels & Family | John Seepe |
| Joseph R. Cicero | Betti Cicero | Sue & Jerry Verga | Jesse Verga |
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| Gerie Gromacki | Tom Gromacki | | |
| Sharlene D. Guzzy | Ted Guzzy | <i>Given by</i> | <i>In Honor of</i> |
| Matthew & Sheryl Thomas | Carl Herrigstad | Arlene Kubit | All unborn human lives |
| Ronald Kopf | Patricia Kopf | Kathy & Joe Daniels & Family | Roberta Seepe |
| Jerilyn Schultz | Alice Froess Kuhn | | |

JOIN PEOPLE FOR LIFE OR DONATE

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ADDRESS _____ E-MAIL _____

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Best Phone _____ Mobile? Yes | No Other Phone _____ Mobile? Yes | No Do not text

AFFILIATED WITH (church, club, organization, business, etc.) _____ WORK/PROFESSION _____

1. DONATION: \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 \$10 Other Amount _____

2. MEMBERSHIP DUES (one year): Individual \$10 Family \$20 Senior Citizen /Student \$5 New Renewal

3. TRIBUTE DONATION AMOUNT _____ In Memory of or In Honor of

4. TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Donations may also be made using the DONATE button on www.peopleforlife.org or by calling-in your credit card information.

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|--------------------------------|---|--|--|
| VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational Booths | <input type="checkbox"/> Liaison to Another Organization | <input type="checkbox"/> March for Life Bus Trip Help |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Phone Calling | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Demonstrations | <input type="checkbox"/> Erie March for Life Help |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Office Staff | <input type="checkbox"/> Pro-Life Breakfast Help | <input type="checkbox"/> Call me when you need a hand. |
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Please make your check payable to: **PEOPLE FOR LIFE, INC.**
P.O. Box 1126
Erie, PA 16512

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The official registration and financial information of People for Life, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999.
Registration does not imply endorsement.

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Call for evening and Saturday hours.

FROM PAGE 1 Working Together

vulnerable to drug abuse. Remil's favorite topic is the infinite value of each individual life and the reverence we owe every person because of their inherent dignity. This, she believes, is the pro-life message in a nutshell, with the power to change the world.

Remil has a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering, but her passion for all human life led her to devote herself to a cause she considers a higher calling and a more fruitful investment of her time and effort.

Remil is also the host of the *Positively Pro-Life Podcast*, an educational outreach of the Federation.

The Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation is the largest single-issue pro-life organization in the Commonwealth with 45 volunteer-based grassroots chapters, most serving an individual county.

Vote Pro-Life Signs

People for Life is once again offering highly-visible "Vote Pro-Life" signs for yards and windows. The red, white, and blue signs are double-sided and printed on tough, corrugated plastic. A donation of only \$7 will cover the cost of one sign and a steel wire stand. Get them at People for Life headquarters in Erie.

Anti-Life Legislation

Pro-abortion democrats in the PA House of Representatives have introduced two especially odious bills that would impose unlimited and unregulated abortion in the Commonwealth. Both measures go well beyond the holdings of *Roe v. Wade* in sanctioning abortion on demand.

HB1888 presents the gravest threat. It is a joint resolution to amend the state constitution to declare that abortion for any reason or no reason is a "fundamental right." It extends this so-called right to minors, abolishing a parent's right to be involved in a

daughter's abortion decision, no matter how young she happens to be. Here are actual words from the amendment: "Every individual has the fundamental right to... continue or end the individual's pregnancy... without discrimination on the basis of race, AGE, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion or relationship status [EMPHASIS added]."

HB428 is more insidious but just as extreme. It masquerades as an update to Pennsylvania's Abortion Control Act, which has undoubtedly saved thousands of lives since the 1990s. Some of the new verbiage looks nearly identical to the old, but gone without a trace is the section that prevents taxpayer funding of abortion killing.

The new language facilitates abortion pills by telemedicine, specifically waiving any requirements for gestational age and Rh factor testing. Parental rights are abolished except when the pregnancy involves an "incapacitated person." A mental health loophole is tagged-on to the restriction on third trimester abortions, effectively removing any obstacles to abortions even late

in pregnancy. The same mental health ruse is applied to the old requirement that post-viability abortions be done by the procedure most likely allow the baby to survive the abortion. The new language empowers the abortionist to choose the method least likely to threaten the mother's mental health. The replacement language ridiculously substitutes the word "pregnancy" for "baby" and speaks of the *pregnancy* surviving the abortion.

End of Life Decisions and the Peril of Euthanasia

Join us for an informative discussion of end-of-life issues with Erie Neurologist John Flamini, MD on April 15 at the Blasco Library in Erie. There is no charge to attend. Refreshments will be provided.

Learn how life-affirming decisions are made when the end of life is approaching and learn more about the unfortunate spread of assisted suicide and euthanasia in the United States, Canada, and other countries.

Having practiced medicine for 38 years, Dr. Flamini is well-qualified to speak on these topics. He has served on the Bioethics

Committee at St. Vincent Hospital and on the Erie Catholic Diocese Moral-Medical Advisory Board.

Breakfast Sponsors

Special thanks go out to all of the wonderful businesses, organizations, and professionals who sponsored our Pro-Life Breakfast this past January. Space is limited, but we would like to mention our top contributors: Institute for Faith & Freedom at Grove City College | Concordia Lutheran Ministries | David and Cherryn Ross | Hallman Auto Group | Hosford International, Inc. | Lafaro Insurance Agency | Lucky Dog Stay and Play | OLP Knights of Columbus Council 11454 | St. Peter Cathedral.

Please support our sponsors whenever you have an opportunity. A full list of the sponsors is available at peopleforlife.org.

2024 PRO-LIFE CALENDAR 2024

| | |
|-------------|---|
| April 8 | Last day to register before the PA primary election |
| April 13 | People for Life High School Oratory Contest – Erie |
| April 15 | Videos due: PA Pro-Life Federation H.S. Oratory Contest |
| April 15 | End of Life Talk by Dr. Flamini, 6:30 p.m. – Blasco Library |
| April 16 | Last day to request PA mail-in or absentee primary ballot |
| April 23 | Pennsylvania Presidential Primary Election |
| April 29 | Entries due: People for Life Essay Contest Entries Due |
| May 4 | 47th Annual Erie March for Life, 11 a.m. – Downtown Erie |
| May 12 | Mother's Day |
| May 20 | Annual Election Meeting – 1625 W. 26th St., Erie |
| 5/29-6/1 | First public pro-life booth of 2024: Erie's Wild Rib Cook Off |
| June 13-15 | Educational Booth – Lake City Fire Company Carnival |
| June 16 | Father's Day |
| June 28-29 | National Right to Life Convention – Crystal City, VA |
| July 17-20 | Educational Booth – North East Firemen's Cherry Festival |
| Aug. 1-3 | Educational Booth – Dan Rice Days, Girard, PA |
| Aug. 23-31 | Educational Booth – Wattsburg Erie County Fair |
| Sept. 2-7 | Educational Booth – Waterford Community Fair |
| Sept. 10-14 | Educational Booth – Albion Area Fair |
| Sept 23 | Pennsylvania March for Life Bus Trip |
| Oct. 12 | Life Run 5K/10K & Fun Walk, 9 a.m. – Harborcreek Twp. |
| Oct. 12 | PPLF Celebrate Life Banquet – Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA |
| Oct. 21 | Last day to register before the Presidential Election |
| Nov. 5 | Presidential Election |