

# THE ERIE ECHO

*"voice for life"*

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October 2008

## Gov. Palin Speaks Out

*The following is the text of vice-presidential candidate Sarah Palin's remarks on Saturday, October 11 at a rally in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Gov. Palin spoke about Barack Obama, abortion, and her own six-month-old special-needs child.*

In this same spirit, as defenders of the culture of life, John McCain and I believe in the goodness and potential of every innocent life. I believe the truest measure of any society is how it treats those who are least able to defend and speak for themselves. And who is more vulnerable, or more innocent, than a child?

When I learned that my son Trig would have special needs, I had to prepare my heart for the challenges to come. At first I was scared, and Todd and I had to ask for strength and understanding. But I can tell you a few things I've learned already.

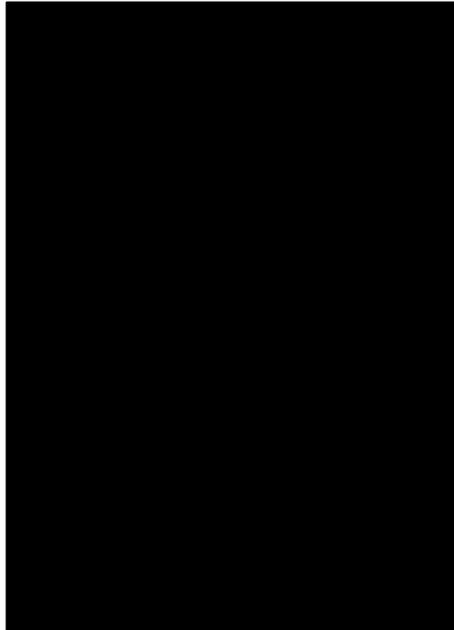
Yes, every innocent life matters.

Everyone belongs in the circle of protection. Every child has something to contribute to the world, if we give them that chance. There are the world's standards of perfection and then there are God's, and these are the final measure. Every child is beautiful before God, and dear to Him for their own sake.

As for our beautiful baby boy, for Todd and me, he is only more precious because he is vulnerable. In some ways, I think we stand to learn more from him than he does from us. When we hold Trig and care for him, we don't feel scared anymore. We feel blessed.

It's hard to think of many issues that could possibly be more important than who is protected in law and who isn't or who is granted life and who is denied it. So when our opponent, Senator Obama, speaks about questions of life, I listen very carefully.

I listened when he defended his unconditional support for unlimited abortions. He said that a woman shouldn't have to be or quote or "punished with a baby." He said that right here in Johnstown or "punished with a baby" or and it's about time we called him on it. The more I hear from Senator Obama, the more I understand why he is so vague and evasive on the subject. Americans need to see his record for what it is. It's not negative or mean-spirited to talk



**Alaska Governor Sarah Palin and baby Trig**

about his record. Whatever party you belong to, there are facts you need to know.

Senator Obama has voted against bills to end partial-birth abortion. In the Illinois Senate, a bipartisan majority passed legislation against that practice. Senator Obama opposed that bill. He voted against it in committee, and voted "present" on the Senate floor. In that legislature, "present" is how you vote when you're against something, but don't want to be held to account.

Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, a Democrat, described partial-birth abortion as "too close to infanticide." Barack Obama thinks it's a constitutional right, but he is wrong.

Most troubling, as a state senator, Barack Obama wouldn't even stand up for the rights of infants born alive during an abortion. These infants or often babies with special needs or are simply left to die.

In 2002, Congress unanimously passed a federal law to require medical care for those babies who survive an abortion. They're living, breathing babies, but Senator Obama describes them as "pre-viable." This merciful

law was called the Born Alive Infants Protection Act. Illinois had a version of the same law. Obama voted against it.

Asked about this vote, Senator Obama assured a reporter that he'd have voted "yes" on that bill if it had contained language similar to the federal version of the Born Alive Act. There's just one little problem with that story: the language of both the state and federal bills was identical.

In short, Senator Obama is a politician who has long since left behind even the middle ground on the issue of life. He has sided with those who won't even protect a child born alive. And this exposes the emptiness of his promises to move beyond the "old politics."

In both parties, Americans have many concerns to be weighed in the votes they cast on November fourth. In times like these, with wars and a financial crisis, it's easy to forget even as deep and abiding a concern as the right to life. And it seems our opponent hopes that you will forget. Like so much else in his agenda, he hopes you won't notice how radical his ideas and record are until it's too late.

But let there be no misunderstanding about the stakes.

A vote for Barack Obama is a vote for activist courts that will continue to smother the open and democratic debate we need on this issue, at both the state and federal level. A vote for Barack Obama would give the ultimate power over the issue of life to a politician who has never once done anything to protect the unborn. As Senator Obama told Pastor Rick Warren, it's above his pay grade.

For a candidate who talks so often about "hope," he offers no hope at all in meeting this great challenge to the conscience of America.

There is a growing consensus in our country that we can overcome narrow partisanship on this issue, and bring all the resources of a generous country to the aid of both women in need and the child waiting to be born. We need more of the compassion and idealism that our opponent's own party,

continued on page 4

# Party platforms take opposite sides on killing the unborn

## The 2008 Democratic Party Platform

öThe Democratic Party strongly and unequivocally supports *Roe v. Wade* and a woman's right to choose a safe and legal abortion, regardless of ability to pay, and we oppose any and all efforts to weaken or undermine that right.ö *From section titled "Choice"*

## The 2008 Republican Party Platform

öFaithful to the first guarantee of the *Declaration of Independence*, we assert the inherent dignity and sanctity of all human life and affirm that the unborn child has a fundamental individual right to life which cannot be infringed. We support a human life amendment to the Constitution, and we

endorse legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment's protections apply to unborn children. We oppose using public revenues to promote or perform abortion and will not fund organizations which advocate it. We support the appointment of judges who respect traditional family values and the sanctity and dignity of innocent human life.

öWe have made progress. The Supreme Court has upheld prohibitions against the barbaric practice of partial-birth abortion. States are now permitted to extend health-care coverage to children before birth. And the Born Alive Infants Protection Act has become law; this law ensures that infants who are born alive during an abortion receive all treatment and care that is provided to all newborn infants and are not neglected and left to die. We must protect

girls from exploitation and statutory rape through a parental notification requirement. We all have a moral obligation to assist, not to penalize, women struggling with the challenges of an unplanned pregnancy. At its core, abortion is a fundamental assault on the sanctity of innocent human life. Women deserve better than abortion. Every effort should be made to work with women considering abortion to enable and empower them to choose life. We salute those who provide them alternatives, including pregnancy care centers, and we take pride in the tremendous increase in adoptions that has followed Republican legislative initiatives.ö *From section titled "Maintaining the Sanctity and Dignity of Human Life"*

## PA Pro-Life Federation PAC publishes candidate information

The Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation Political Action Committee has published a voter guide that includes the presidential candidates, PA congressional candidates, candidates running for PA state-wide offices and candidates for the PA General Assembly.

### STATEWIDE OFFICES

In the race for State Attorney General, republican Tom Corbett and democrat John Morganelli are both identified as pro-life. Tom Corbett, the incumbent, is endorsed.

In the race for State Auditor General, republican Chet Beiler and democrat Jack Wagner are both identified as pro-life. Jack Wagner, the incumbent, is endorsed.

In the race for State Treasurer, republican Tom Ellis is listed as öposition unknown,ö and democrat Robert McCord is identified as pro-abortion.

### CONGRESS

For the 3rd Congressional District

republican Phil English and democrat Kathy Dahlkemper are both identified as pro-life. Incumbent Congressman Phil English is endorsed and his ö100% record on key pro-life issuesö is noted.

### PA SENATE

For the 49th Senatorial District, incumbent republican Jane Earl and democrat Cindy Purvis are both identified as pro-abortion.

### PA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The candidates for the State House of Representatives have been evaluated by the PPLF PAC as follows:

**District 1** Patrick J. Harkins (D) Incumbent, Pro-Life, Endorsed (Unopposed)

**District 2** Florindo J. Fabrizio (D) Incumbent, Pro-Abortion (Unopposed)

**District 3** John Hornaman (D) Incumbent, Pro-Life, Endorsed | Jason Owen (R) Leans Pro-Life

**District 4** Rick Mitchel (D) Pro-Abortion | Curt Sonney (R) Incumbent, Pro-Life, Endorsed

**District 5** John Alward (D) Pro-Abortion | John Evans (R) Incumbent, Pro-Life, Endorsed

**District 6** Brad Roae (R) Incumbent, Pro-Life, Endorsed (Unopposed)

**District 7** Mark Longjetti (D) Incumbent, Pro-Life, Endorsed (Unopposed)

**District 8** Dick Stevenson (R) Incumbent, Pro-Life, Endorsed (Unopposed)

**District 17** Donald Duke Whiting (D) Unknown\* | Michele Brooks (R) Incumbent, Pro-Life, Endorsed

**District 64** Scott E. Hutchinson (R) Incumbent, Pro-Life, Endorsed (No democratic opposition)

**District 65** Kathy L. Rapp (R) Incumbent, Pro-Life, Endorsed (Unopposed)

\* Although Donald Duke Whiting did not answer the PAC questionnaire, he did tell a People for Life member in a personal conversation that he was personally opposed to abortion but he did not think the government should be involved.

## Rep. English attends Crawford County Banquet

Crawford County Citizens for Life held its second Annual Pro-Life Banquet on September 19 in Blooming Valley, near Meadville.

The main speaker was Bryce McMinn, Southwest Regional Coordinator for the PA Pro-Life Federation. Bryce talked about his transformation from an uniformed, pro-choice college student to a serious pro-life advocate with a passion for restoring protection for unborn children.

A reporter from the *Meadville Tribune* covered the dinner. The newspaper carried a story along with a photograph of McMinn talking with People for Life's Marielle Lafaro.

Among the 175 guests were

Congressman Phil English and State Representatives Michele Brooks, John Evans, and Brad Roae.

Congressman English was asked to say a few words. He thanked all present for working to protect unborn children and encouraged everyone to attend the March for Life in Washington, DC this January.

Since coming to office in 1994, English has always provided a warm welcome and plenty of refreshments for northwestern Pennsylvanians attending the March for Life. It has become a popular custom for everyone to meet with the Congressman right after the March.

English used to reserve the spacious Cannon Caucus Room for our meeting. The room would be open by early afternoon so the marchers had a comfortable place to

warm up and relax. But as English explained during his talk, the Cannon Room has been off limits for us since 2006 when the Democrats took control of Congress and pro-abortion Nancy Pelosi became Speaker of the House.

Speaker Pelosi is refusing to allow House members to reserve rooms for meetings with their constituents on the day of the March.

Congressman English still greets the marchers, but he is forced to do so within the crowded confines of his regular congressional office.

### Join the E-Mail List

for late-breaking pro-life news and information of special importance to the Erie region. Find out about the latest pro-life activities before they happen. Send your request to:

[office@peopleforlife.org](mailto:office@peopleforlife.org)

## Catholic statements on abortion and responsible citizenship

It is common knowledge that People for Life is not a Catholic organization and that the *Erie Echo* is not a Catholic publication, but we are presenting the following quotes from Catholic sources because:

There are deceitful, though sophisticated efforts currently underway to manipulate the Catholic Church's teaching about the dignity of the human person in such a way as to obscure the gravity, urgency, and preeminence of abortion ó the wanton murder of over 3,200 innocent, defenseless human beings every day ó as a political issue in the current presidential election.

There are also high-profile efforts by certain influential Catholics, perhaps most notably Pepperdine University law professor Douglas Kmiec, to fool voters into thinking that it is unnecessary for society to affirm the rights of unborn children or to extend legal protection to them in order to substantially limit the number of abortions that are carried out.

Naturally, the confusion being generated in the Catholic community is affecting the entire nation.

The following citations are merely a tiny sample of the vast amount of similar material that is available from Catholic sources.

H ðSen. Barack Obama's views on life issues ranging from abortion to embryonic stem cell research mark him as not merely a pro-choice politician, but rather as the most extreme pro-abortion candidate to have ever run on a major party ticket.ö ó Catholic scholar **Robert P. George, Ph.D.**, McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence, Princeton University

H ðAbortion is the issue this year and every year in every campaign. Catholics may not turn away from the moral challenge that abortion poses for those who seek to obey God's commands. They are wrong when they assert that abortion does not concern them, or that it is only one of a multitude of issues of equal importance. No, the taking of innocent human life is so heinous, so horribly evil, and so absolutely opposite to the law of Almighty God that abortion must take precedence over every other issue. I repeat: It is the single most important issue confronting not only Catholics, but the entire electorate.ö ó **Bishop James Timlin**, former Bishop of Scranton

H ðNo one who sponsors or supports legislation like FOCA [Barack Obama's *Freedom of Choice Act*] can credibly claim

to be part of a good-faith discussion on how to reduce abortions.ö ó **Cardinal Justin Rigali**, Archbishop of Philadelphia, Letter to Congress, September 2008

H ðThe moral gravity of procured abortion is apparent in all its truth if we recognize that we are dealing with murder and, in particular, when we consider the specific elements involved. The one eliminated is a human being at the very beginning of life. No one more absolutely innocent could be imagined.ö ó **Pope John Paul II**

H ðConsider this: The finest health and education systems, the fairest immigration laws, and the soundest economy do nothing for the child who never sees the light of day. It is a tragic irony that pro-choice candidates have come to support homicide ó the gravest injustice a society can tolerate ó in the name of social justice.ö ó **Bishop Joseph Martino** of Scranton, (October 2008)

H ðProf. Kmiec argues that there are defensible motives to support Senator Obama. Speaking for myself, I do not know any proportionate reason that could outweigh more than 40 million unborn children killed by abortion and the many millions of women deeply wounded by the loss and regret abortion creates.

öTo suggest ó as some Catholics do ó that Senator Obama is this year's real pro-life candidate requires a peculiar kind of self-hypnosis, or moral confusion, or worse. To portray the 2008 Democratic Party presidential ticket as the preferred pro-life option is to subvert what the word pro-life means.ö ó **Archbishop Charles Chaput** of Denver (October 17, 2008)

H ðWhile it is said that one may vote for a pro-abortion politician for truly grave moral reasons, it is difficult to see what rises to the level of nearly 49 million defenseless lives lost to the evil of abortion.ö ó **Most Rev. William E. Lori**, öConscience and the Catholic Voter,ö USCCB *Respect Life Program 2008*

H ðThis endless and seamless garment of social concerns often tends to push the primary moral issue of abortion to the back burner, when in reality it clearly should be at the heart and center of our discussion on the survival of African American people.ö ó **Most Rev. Martin D. Holley**, öA Reflection on the African American Family and the Culture of Life,ö USCCB *Respect Life Program 2008*

H ðAbortion is a holocaust that has taken and continues to take more human lives than any holocaust in human history. We are deeply concerned at how easily so many people trivialize this slaughter of the unborn, especially since it hasn't yet stopped.ö ó Joint Statement by **Fr. Frank Pavone**, National Director, Priests for Life and **Dr. Alveda King**, Baptist minister (September 23, 2008)

H ðChildren truly are the family's greatest treasure and most precious good. Consequently, everyone must be helped to become aware of the intrinsic evil of the crime of abortion. In attacking human life in its very first stages, it is also an aggression against society itself. Politicians and legislators, therefore, as servants of the common good, are duty bound to defend the fundamental right to life, the fruit of God's love. ö **Pope Benedict XVI**

H ðIt is impossible to further the common good without acknowledging and defending the right to life.ö ó **Pope John Paul II**

H [A]s the U.S. Bishops' recent document *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship* makes clear, not every issue is of equal moral gravity. The inalienable right to life of every innocent human person outweighs other concerns where Catholics may use prudential judgment, such as how best to meet the needs of the poor or to increase access to health care for all. ö **The Catholic Bishops of New York State** (2008)

H Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person ó among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life. ö **Catechism of the Catholic Church**

H ðAmong all the crimes which can be committed against life, procured abortion has characteristics making it particularly serious and deplorable. The Second Vatican Council defines abortion, together with infanticide, as an unspeakable crime.ö ó **Pope John Paul II**

### Mary Beliveau

Mary Beliveau recently retired from her long-held position as legislative and PAC director for the Pennsylvania Pro-Life

Federation, passing the baton to our new director, Charlene Bashore.

Mary could always be counted on for accurate information, sound advice, and a kind word of encouragement or inspiration.

Mary is held in high esteem by pro-life state legislators, both republicans and democrats. She was a major player in the fight to enact the *PA Abortion Control Act*, a law which reduced abortions in

Pennsylvania and cleared the way for similar legislation in dozens of other states.

Mary continues to fight for life as a volunteer consultant for PA Pro-Life Federation.

All the best to you, Mary. Thank you!

**FROM PAGE 1**

**Palin speaks out**

at its best, once stood for. We need the clarity and conviction of leaders like the late Governor Bob Casey.

He represented a humanity that speaks to all of us ó no matter what our party, our background, our faith, or our gender. And no matter your position on this sensitive subject, I hope that spirit will guide you on Election Day. I ask you to vote for McCain-Palin on the November fourth, and help us to bring this country together in the rational discussion of compassion and life.

**Gov. Palin invited to speak in Erie**

When People for Life realized that Alaska Governor Sarah Palin was an extraordinary individual and someone who demonstrates a great reverence for human life both publicly and privately, we decided to see if she would speak at our Annual Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast. No, this was not after she was chosen by John McCain to be his vice-presidential running mate. We extended our invitation on May 23, three months before John McCain extended his!

We were busy checking air fares and patiently waiting for a decision from Juneau when Gov. Palin received the better offer. We won't hold it against her!

**Annual Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast**

People for Life's 31st Annual Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast will be held at a new location this year: The Ambassador Banquet and Conference Center at Peach and I-90. The event will take place on January 17, 2008 beginning at 9:00 AM.

We are very pleased to announce that Mr. Ramesh Ponnuru, Senior Editor of *National Review* magazine, will be our main speaker. Mr. Ponnuru frequently writes about human life issues and is perhaps best known for his highly-acclaimed book about abortion and euthanasia, *The Party of Death*, published in 2006. His articles have appeared in a number of other publications including *Weekly Standard*, *Policy Review*, *The New Republic* and *First Things*.

To make reservations, send \$12.00 per person or \$7.50 per child (ages 3-10) to People for Life. Children younger than 3 are free.

Watch for more news about the Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast in December and early January.

**March for Life Bus Trip**

Make plans now to join People for Life for our annual Bus Trip to the Washington, DC March for Life this January. Come by yourself, bring the family, or bring a group from your school or church. Everyone is welcome.

We are hoping to fill at least three buses this year.

Seats are \$40 each. Additional buses may not be available so send your payment early, before all the seats are taken.

Students and families with limited means are encouraged to inquire about financial aid.

If you would like to help one or more marchers with transportation costs, please mark your donation as Bus Sponsorship and mail it to People for Life.

The entire bus trip takes about 26 hours. Our buses will leave Erie at 11:00 PM on January 21 and return about 1:00 AM on January 23. We will be in Washington from about 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM. The official March for Life program begins at noon, and the March itself is usually finished by 4:00 PM.

**Comparison Flyers**

Beginning in July, People for Life volunteers made special efforts to publicize the presidential candidates' stands on abortion by distributing candidate comparison flyers similar to the one included with this newsletter. The flyers were distributed on the sidewalks near Waterford Heritage Days, outside Erie Veterans Stadium before the annual Save an Eye Football Game, outside Jerry Uht Park before two SeaWolves games, at a number of locations in downtown Erie during Celebrate Erie, and near several Erie churches as people were leaving one Sunday morning. We expect to have at least 14,000 of the flyers distributed by Election Day.

People for Life will be happy to provide multiple copies of the comparison flyer to individuals, churches, and other organizations that can use them.

**13 Community Events!**

People for Life's 2008 community outreach season was the busiest ever! We participated in 13 events, four of them for the very first time: Erie Wild Rib Cook Off and Music Festival, Lake City Fire Company Carnival, Cory Fest, North East Firemen's Cherry Festival, Waterford Community Heritage Days, Dan Rice Days (Girard), Celebrate Erie, Wattsburg Erie County Fair, Waterford Community Fair, Albion Area Fair, Health and Wellness Expo at All Seasons Market Place, North East Wine Country Harvest Festival, and Conneaut Lake Fall Pumpkin Fest.

One of our new events was Waterford Heritage Days. Only arts and crafts vendors are permitted to set up in the Waterford



Inspecting the baby models at the Erie Wild Rib Cook Off and Music Festival, May 31, 2008

town square as official participants, but People for Life was able to participate unofficially, thanks to the generosity of Dr. Luke Pavkov. The Doctor allowed us to put our tent right in the front yard of his chiropractic office, just across the street from the main Heritage Days event.

Our trademark 'Love Life' balloons and stickers were given away at almost every event. We also distributed thousands of National Right to Life's McCain / Obama comparison flyers and our own *Did You Know?* abortion-facts brochures.

To our excellent staff of educational-outreach workers: Thank you! Without your dedication and hard work, 13 events in one season would not have been possible.

**AWS Demonstrations Suspended**

The weekly Saturday afternoon demonstrations outside the American Women's Services abortion facility at 1611 Peach Street have been suspended. The last demonstration took place on Saturday, May 17 of this year.

AWS has not done any abortions in Erie since February 2007 when their abortionist decided to move out of the area. Keep in mind, however, that only the abortionist moved away; the abortion facility, although dormant, is still in place.

People for Life supported public demonstrations outside the abortion facility, sometimes as many as three or four a week, beginning in October 1999.

There was a demonstration every Saturday ó rain, shine, or blizzard for 8 1/2 years ó even when the abortion facility was temporarily closed. The only exceptions were a few occasions when the annual Erie March & Motorcade for Life took place during the regularly scheduled Saturday demonstration time. Demonstrations also

continued on page 6

# Chuck Mitchell

Chuck Mitchell, a founding member and former president of People for Life, passed away on June 24, 2008.

In his early years Chuck and his wife Peg were active members of the Christian Family Movement, an organization dedicated to promoting family values within the Erie community.

When the neighboring state of New York legalized abortion in 1970, Chuck and Peg responded by starting People for Life, an organization dedicated to ensuring protection for unborn babies through education, legislation, and political awareness.

In 1973, shortly after *Roe v. Wade* legalized abortion in all 50 states, Chuck and Peg began publishing People for Life's

official newsletter, the *Erie Echo*. The newsletter has been in continuous publication ever since.

To provide the funds necessary to operate the new organization and the newsletter, Chuck and Peg began People for Life's Annual Mother's Day Carnation Project. The Carnation Project continues to be an important source of funds for pro-life educational activities in the Erie region.

In the late 1970s, while Chuck was president, People for Life learned that a local doctor was doing abortions in Erie. The organization exposed the doctor by conducting demonstrations in front of his office.

The doctor retaliated by taking People for Life to court. This happened at a time when abortion facility demonstrations were

something new and the rights of pro-life demonstrators had not been firmly established.

Chuck persevered nevertheless, and thanks to his unwavering courage and determination, the judge ruled in favor of People for Life. The doctor subsequently closed up shop and moved out of town.

Erie remained abortion-free until September 2003, when American Women's Service began doing abortions at 1611 Peach St. Once again, people took to the sidewalks, many recalling Chuck's earlier example and how his efforts succeeded. And once again abortions stopped, at least temporarily, when, once again, the doctor left our area.

Thank you Chuck Mitchell (and Peg) for leading the way!

## Memorials

### Given by

- Mrs. Margaret Dearborn
- Rev. John Detisch
- Jean & Ed Hammer
- Jean & Ed Hammer
- Edward & Patricia LaCastro
- Ray & Peggy Fitzgerald
- Ed Hammer
- Ann & Mike Bednar
- Ed Hammer
- Jean Hammer
- Mary Hart Pattison
- Mary Pat Ringhand
- Suzanne Scheuer-Leone
- Jim & Rose Ann Yadeski
- Ann DiMarco

### In Memory of

- Carman Dearborn
- Arthur & Jeanette Detisch
- Evelyn Franz
- Eleanor Heitzenrater
- Mr. Anthony LaCastro
- George Machuga
- Bill McKinley
- Chuck Mitchell
- Josephine Nawrocki

### Given by

- George & Carol Struchen
- Jean & Ed Hammer
- Jean & Ed Hammer
- R.J. & Celestine Sullivan
- Dave Wayman
- Dave Wayman
- Ray & Peggy Fitzgerald
- Ray & Peggy Fitzgerald
- Jean & Ed Hammer
- Henry Zaremba

### In Memory of

- Jane Rautine
- Anthony Sivillo
- Hank Starr
- Anthony Szklinski, Jr.
- Michael Wayman, Brother
- Rosemary Wayman, Mother
- Leo Whitford
- Betty Wolf
- Leokadia Lee+Zaremba
- Leokadia Lee+Zaremba, Wife

### Given by

- Legion of Mary
- Mary Yurkovic
- Thomas & Christine Yadeski

### In Honor of

- Dr. Frank Pregler Family
- Rose Ann Yadeski, Mother
- Rose Ann Yadeski, Mother

People for Life is a volunteer-based, non-profit, non-sectarian, citizen organization committed to affirming the intrinsic value of human life. We are dedicated to advancing true justice by working for the protection of all innocent human lives, whatever the age, race, sex, physical condition, economic status, or place of residence (including the womb). We encourage local involvement through

education and by fostering political awareness. We advocate loving alternatives to the primitive and violent solutions of abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia. Working together, we are determined to achieve a society in which all human lives are considered sacred. *The Erie Echo* is published bimonthly in Erie, PA by People for Life, Inc., Tim Broderick, editor.

## PEOPLE FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

AFFILIATED WITH \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

Church, Business, Civic Organization, etc.

MEMBERSHIP DONATION    New     Renewal     DUES:    Individual \$10     Family \$20     Senior Citizen \$5

Student \$5     Group \$25     Patron \$50     Benefactor \$100     Other Amount \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL DONATION \_\_\_\_\_ Specify if for a special purpose: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMORIAL DONATION \_\_\_\_\_ In Memory Of     In Honor Of  \_\_\_\_\_

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Fair Booths
- Phone Calling
- Office Attendant
- Newsletter Mailing
- Sidewalk Counseling
- Literature Distribution
- Public Demonstrations
- Pro-Life Breakfast Worker
- March For Life Bus Trip Worker
- Mother's Day Carnation Project
- Erie March & Motorcade Worker
- Call when you need an extra hand.q

Please make your check payable to:  
PEOPLE FOR LIFE, INC.  
P.O. Box 1126  
Erie, PA 16512

Contributions or gifts to People for Life, Inc. are not tax deductible.  
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**FROM PAGE 4**  
**Demonstrations Suspended**

took place every single time that abortions were done.

People for Life thanks every one of the well over 1000 different people who attended one or more of the demonstrations since October 1999. Special recognition is due those most-faithful souls who gathered to publicly say NO to killing babies one or more times every week, determined to persevere as long as necessary, and not knowing when or if the demonstrations would ever come to an end. Thank you!

Now we hope and pray that abortion facility demonstrations are never needed in Erie again. But if or when they are, we know the Erie pro-life community will be there, ready to answer the call.

**Episcopo Bequest**

People for Life received a generous donation from the estate of Dr. Frank and Mrs. Mary Jane Episcopo. Dr. Frank passed away on October 30, 2007. Mary Jane passed away on January 29, 2006. Both were steadfast friends of the pro-life cause and active members of People for Life. They are deeply missed, and their generosity is greatly appreciated.

**Education**

People for Life's most recent *Overview of Abortion* presentations were given at the Federated Church, East Springfield (7th-10th grade religious education students); Mercyhurst College (Human Sexuality and Gender Development class); and St. John the Evangelist Church, Girard (Religious education students, 5th-6th grade and 7th-10th grade). We would be happy to do a free presentation for your school, church, or other organization. For more information contact People for Life.

**PEOPLE FOR LIFE**  
[www.peopleforlife.org](http://www.peopleforlife.org)

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**MAIN OFFICE**  
 1625 West 26th St. • Erie, PA  
 — **REGULAR HOURS** —  
 Wednesday 11 AM to 2 PM  
 Thursday 10 AM to 1 PM  
 Other times by appointment.  
*Schedule subject to change*

**DOWNTOWN OFFICE**  
*Alternative Choices for Women*  
 1611 Peach St., Suite 321 • Erie, PA  
**(814) 464-0266**  
 Open Monday through Friday - 9 AM to 5 PM

**NRL PAC Website**

For a wealth of information about the presidential candidates' positions and records on abortion and other crucial human life issues visit [www.StopObama.org](http://www.StopObama.org) and [www.McCainProLife.org](http://www.McCainProLife.org). The sites are provided by the National Right to Life Political Action Committee.

**Outreach Workshop**

People for Life members helped Crawford County Citizens for Life get ready for their outreach booth at the Crawford County Fair this past August by conducting two workshops for those who would be staffing the booth. We discussed a number of

techniques for attracting visitors, how to talk to them about human development using fetal models, and how to raise the subject of abortion without making them feel uncomfortable.

**Billboards**

A recent poll conducted by the Marist College Institute for Public Opinion shows that 84% of Americans want more restrictions on abortion and 60% want abortion prohibited except in cases of rape or incest and to prevent the death of the mother. These findings are very consistent with results obtained by other polling organizations.

Yet when it comes to voting, too many of these people show little or no regard for the lives of unborn children. They say they care, but they get their priorities mixed up: They base their votes on the price of gasoline, the stock market, or something about a candidate's personality or personal appearance. Even worse, many do not even bother to vote.

As a gentle reminder to the thousands of people in the Erie area who already know that abortion is murder but choose to look the other way on Election Day, People for Life designed a billboard that says: "Don't support abortion with your vote. Vote Pro-Life!"

There are currently nine of the billboards on display in the Erie metropolitan area and one in Corry, PA.

People for Life initially put up five billboards. Within a matter of days five individuals came forward, each willing to sponsor an additional billboard for a total of ten.

The message on the billboards is being reinforced by a large number of local residents who are using "Vote Pro-Life" bumper stickers and yard signs obtained from People for Life. Nearly 175 yard signs and hundreds of bumper stickers have been distributed since midsummer.

**2008 PRO-LIFE DATE BOOK 2009**

<b>Oct. 28</b>	Last day to apply for a civilian absentee ballot
<b>Oct. 31</b>	Last day for Boards of Elections to receive absentee ballots
<b>Nov. 4</b>	Election Day
<b>Nov. 17</b>	People for Life Meeting - 7:30 PM, 1625 W. 26th St.
<b>Jan. 10</b>	Erie March & Motorcade for Life
<b>Jan. 17</b>	Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast - 9:00 AM, Ambassador Conference Ctr.
<b>Jan. 21</b>	March for Life buses leave Erie - 11:00 PM
<b>Jan. 22</b>	March for Life - Washington, DC
<b>Feb. 16</b>	People for Life Meeting - 7:30 PM, 1625 W. 26th St.
<b>Mar. 16</b>	People for Life Meeting - 7:30 PM, 1625 W. 26th St.