

THE ERIE ECHO

"voice for life"

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ABORTION IS NOT HEALTH CARE

Pro-abortion President Barack Obama and the pro-abortion democratic leaders who control both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate are pushing hard to enact health care legislation that will pour massive amounts of public money into the abortion industry and greatly increase the number of unborn children killed by abortion throughout the United States. Both Obama and the democratic leadership have publicly and repeatedly claimed, sometimes vehemently, that their health care reform proposals will not pay for abortions. But pro-life America has not been duped and is responding with a unified rallying cry: Abortion is NOT Health Care!

Some critics will charge that the above opening sentence sounds like nothing but pro-republican, anti-democratic, "right-wing" propaganda. We say it sounds like nothing but an all-out assault on the lives of the youngest and most vulnerable of all Americans, still in their mothers' wombs!

Our only purpose – as always – is to oppose the government-sanctioned, deliberate killing that has cost over 54 million aborted lives since 1973. We think that for *anyone* to be distracted by things so relatively trivial as partisanship and ideology is foolish and wrong – dead wrong.

Obama, in a nationwide telephone conference with his religious supporters on August 16, said that it is a "fabrication" and "untrue" to say that health care legislation backed by the White House will result in "government funding of abortions," and that those – such as People for Life of Erie, PA – who say otherwise "are bearing false witness." Highly respected FactCheck.org, a project of the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania, examined the controversy and determined that it was indeed Obama who was fabricating, not his pro-life opponents.

Even sources such as the Associated Press, *Time* magazine, the *New York Times*, and the *Wall Street Journal* have published reports recognizing that federal funds will

pay for abortions unless the current proposals are substantially changed.

U.S. REP. KATHY DAHLKEMPER Pro-life congressional Democrats, including Kathy Dahlkemper, our very own 3rd District representative, have signed two letters that express our pro-life concerns very clearly. The letters show that our objections are not at all based on political partisanship or narrow ideology.

LETTERS TO SPEAKER PELOSI The first letter is addressed to the pro-abortion Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), dated June 25, and signed by Dahlkemper and 19 other pro-life Democrats. It lays out the general pro-life objections against using government money to pay for abortions:

"Plans to mandate coverage for abortions, either directly or indirectly is [sic] unacceptable.... We believe that a government-defined or subsidized health insurance plan should not be used to fund abortion.... Furthermore, funding restrictions save lives by reducing the number of abortions."

The second letter is addressed to Nancy Pelosi and the pro-abortion House Rules Committee Chairwoman Louise Slaughter (D-NY), dated September 28, and signed by Dahlkemper, 24 other pro-life Democrats, and 158 pro-life Republicans. The letter was jointly written by the liberal pro-life Congressman Bart Stupak (D-MI) and the conservative pro-life Congressman Joe Pitts (R-PA). It pertains to the House health care reform bill (H.R. 3200), but virtually all the objections raised can also be applied to the two Senate bills (S.1679 and the "Baucus" bill, currently unnumbered).

Chairwoman Slaughter's committee determines, among other things, what kinds of amendments, if any, may be offered when a bill reaches the House floor. She had previously let it be known that she intended to allow NO pro-life amendments to H.R. 3200. Amendments to prevent the bill from paying for abortion had already been

considered by three different House committees. In each case the amendment was rejected by the committee Democrats on a near-party-line vote.

Attempts were also made to similarly amend the two Senate bills, but these were rejected by the Senate Democrats on near-party-line votes.

The September 28th letter notes that H.R. 3200 "radically departs from the current federal government policy of not paying for elective abortion or subsidizing plans that cover abortion" and that one version "actually explicitly authorizes the federal government.... to directly fund elective abortions, with federal (public) funds drawn on a federal Treasury account..."

The September 28th letter closes by asserting that the longstanding federal prohibitions on abortion funding were put in

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These legislators need to hear from you IMMEDIATELY. Make sure they know where you stand. Call them and say: I STRONGLY URGE YOU TO OPPOSE ANY HEALTH CARE BILL UNLESS ABORTION IS EXPLICITLY EXCLUDED. ABORTION IS NOT HEALTH CARE!

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Candidates' Additional Comments

Jack Anderson ♦1. My wife has been an RN for 45 years and works in maternity and has never seen ANY need for an abortion. ♦4. Should be 72 hours.

Tim Butler ♦6. Only if necessary for serious health-of-the-mother reasons.

Ronald Cleaver ♦1. Rape. ♦6. If funding is requested, review case. ♦8. With hesitation.

Wesley Karl ♦1. Except in cases of rape or incest, in addition to risk of the mother ♦4. I think it should be at least 48 hours.

♦7. As a Christian I am against all forms of murder. However, as a person I feel people that are terminally ill have the right to decide to end their suffering. It is a deep personal decision between an individual, their family and God.

Mike Kerner ♦1. There may be other extraordinary exceptions that do not come to mind, but the only ones I can think of at this time are incidents of rape and incest, especially of a child. ♦7 However,

physicians should be given civil and criminal protection where pain management treatment of terminally ill patients (within certain limits) may ultimately result in the patient's death, so that such relief is not withheld from those patients by physicians who may be overly conservative to avoid the appearance of impropriety.

Rodney M. Person ♦1. The need to abort to save the mother's life is very rare. ♦2. There is a procedure available... It's called c-section. ♦4. In fact 72 hours would be better. ♦5. The extenuating circumstances should be spelled out and restricted with little leeway. ♦8 It's junk science.

Gerald D. Price, Jr. ♦1. Also allow abortion in case of rape or incest. ♦4. Mandatory 48 hours unless a terminal medical condition exists. ♦5. Must notify BOTH parents, unless some legal reason exists to dictate otherwise. ♦7. Allowed only in a case of painful illness, terminal

illness.

Joseph E. Sinnot ♦1. If *Roe v. Wade* was repealed, this would become an issue that would be entertained by the state legislatures. I doubt that any legislation on this issue would be simplified to this level. Therefore, it would depend on the substance of the language of the law and cannot be answered as a simple "yes" or "no." ♦2. I am not familiar with the circumstances surrounding late-term abortions. Therefore, I do not know what "all cases" would encompass. Therefore, I don't feel that I could answer this without further research and information. ♦6. Except in certain medically necessary circumstances ♦8. If this is referring to stem cell research, I think there is some positive benefits to this testing.

Albert "Bert" Taylor ♦4. 48 hours or more

Randy S. Whiteman ♦1. In rare instances of crimes of rape, incest.

Statewide Judicial Candidates

The Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation Political Action Committee (PAC) has issued a list of recommended candidates for statewide judicial offices.

For PA Supreme Court (1 opening), the PAC recommends republican Joan Orie Melvin.

For PA Superior Court (4 openings), the PAC recommends republicans Judy Olson, Sallie Mundy, and Temp Smith.

For PA Commonwealth Court (2 openings) the PAC recommends republicans Patricia McCullough and Kevin Brobson.

The PAC also recommends Kate Ford Elliott for retention on the PA Superior Court and Dan Pellegrini for retention on the PA Commonwealth Court.

Erie County Races

COUNTY EXECUTIVE As indicated in the results of People for Life's candidate survey on page 3, we did not receive a response from Barry Grossman, a candidate for Erie County executive. We sent him a simple questionnaire in March and another in October.

We can report, however, that a former president of People for Life, Peg Mitchell, remembers debating abortion with Grossman on a local talk-radio station in the 1980s. Grossman strongly backed legal abortion, using all the standard "pro-choice" clichés and misrepresentations. On another occasion, during a slide presentation on abortion at Mercyhurst College, Grossman, then an associate professor of political science at Mercyhurst, spoke out from the audience, voicing strong support for abortion.

COUNTY COUNCIL 6TH DISTRICT On October 16, the *Erie Times-News* reported that Erie County Republican Chairman Brad Moore had released a statement announcing support for a write-in campaign to reelect County Councilman Dave Mitchell.

Mitchell did not run in the primary.

Announcing the highly unusual move by the Erie County Republican Party, Moore "called on Republicans in the 6th County Council District to support current County Councilman Dave Mitchell in his write-in bid to retain his seat and announced the Erie County Republican Party will be supporting Mitchell over the other three candidates in the race, including the nominee on the Republican ticket, Ebert Beeman."

According to the statement, after Moore and a member of the party's Executive Board met with Beeman and determined some of his political views, the party decided to support Mitchell.

Moore said: "The Erie County Republican Party cannot in good conscience support Mr. Beeman even though he won the Republican nomination. We approached Councilman Mitchell about launching a write-in effort and all parties agreed that a large write-in campaign would be conducted. The county party is now enthusiastically helping Mitchell line up the support he needs to win in November."

People for Life received completed candidate survey questionnaires from Mitchell during three previous election campaigns: in 2000 when he ran for State Representative, and in 2001 and 2005 when he ran for County Council. In each instance, Mitchell's responses were consistently pro-life.

Health Care Rationing

There are many reasons to be concerned that the current health care reform process could lead to a decline in the quantity and quality of the health care that is generally available to Americans. One concern is that politicians are usually better at taking on big projects than they are at raising the money to pay for them (e.g., Social Security).

One of the most conspicuous reasons for concern at the moment can be found in the so-called Baucus bill that is making its way through the U.S. Senate. Under the Baucus bill the 10% of Medicare physicians whose patients run up the highest medical bills will be denied 5% of their total Medicare reimbursements for the entire year. Year after year for *at least* five years, 10% of these doctors will be penalized. This will result in what National Right to Life is calling "a death spiral."

NRLC Medical Ethics Director Burke Balch, J.D. explains: "It is noteworthy that this feature operates independently of any considerations of quality, efficiency, or waste – if you authorize enough treatment for your patients, however necessary and appropriate it may be, you are in danger of being one of the 1 in 10 doctors who will be penalized each year. Moreover, it creates a moving target – by definition, there will **ALWAYS** be a top 10%, no matter how far down the total amount of money spent on Medicare is driven." NRLC Executive Director David O'Steen, Ph.D. likens this process to a game of musical chairs, "in which there is always one chair less than the number of players – so no matter how fast the contestants run, someone will always be the loser when the music stops."

CANDIDATE SURVEY - Contested Races

Municipal Election - November 3 , 2009

Survey Questions

1. LEGAL PROTECTION FOR THE UNBORN...

If changes to *Roe v. Wade* make it possible, would you favor the enactment of a law prohibiting abortion, or prohibiting abortion with exceptions? (Please specify what exceptions, if any.)

2. LATE TERM ABORTIONS...

Should abortions be prohibited in all cases where the unborn child is mature enough to survive apart from his or her mother?

3. INFORMED CONSENT...

Should abortion providers be required to offer basic information to a woman who is considering an abortion, such as information about the medical risks, alternatives to abortion, the probable gestational age of her unborn child, the availability of detailed information (provided by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania) about fetal development and the possibility of medical assistance benefits if the woman decides to continue her pregnancy? (These things are currently required under Pennsylvania law.)

Key to Survey Table

D - Democrat

R - Republican

DR - Cross filed

Y - Yes N - No

nr - No response to survey

b - Blank; returned survey but did not answer the specific question.

◆ - See additional comment, page 2
Pro-life or more strongly pro-life responses are in UPPER CASE.

4. TIME FOR DELIBERATION... After initially consulting with a physician, should a woman who wants an abortion be given 24 hours to carefully consider her decision before an abortion is carried out? (This is currently required under Pennsylvania law.)

5. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT... If a woman seeking an abortion is less than 18 years old, should the consent of at least one parent be required unless a judge determines that extenuating circumstances are involved? (This is currently required under Pennsylvania law.)

6. GOVERNMENT FUNDING...

Should public funds be used to pay for abortions?

7. ASSISTED SUICIDE... Should physician-assisted suicide be prohibited?

8. EMBRYO DESTRUCTIVE RESEARCH... Should public money be used to fund research that requires the destruction of human embryos?

— SEE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON PAGE 2 —

Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Erie County Executive (vote for 1) — Also see page 2								
Barry Grossman (D)	nr							
Mike Kerner (R)	Y◆	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y◆	N
Erie County Clerk of Records (vote for not more than 1)								
Patrick L. Fetzner (D)	nr							
Randy S. Whiteman (R)	Y◆	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Erie County Council 4th District (vote for not more than 1)								
Ronald Cleaver (D)	Y◆	Y	Y	Y	Y	b◆	Y	N◆
Dan Desrochers (R)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Erie County Council 6th District (vote for 1) — Also see page 2								
Ebert G. Beeman (R)	b	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	n	N
Steven Porter (Independent)	nr							
Gerald D. Price, Jr. (D)	Y◆	Y	Y	Y◆	Y◆	N	n◆	N
Albert "Bert" Taylor (Green)	Y	Y	Y	Y◆	Y	N	Y	N
Erie City Mayor (vote for not more than 1)								
Jack Anderson (R)	Y◆	Y	Y	Y◆	Y	N	Y	N
Joseph E. Sinnott (D)	b◆	b◆	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	y◆
Erie City Council (vote for not more than 4)								
Tim Butler (R)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N◆	Y	N
Curtis Jones Jr. (D)	nr							
Joe Schember (D)	nr							
James N. "Jim" Thompson (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Jim Winarski (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Corry Area School District (vote for not more than 4)								
John D. Gray (R)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Elizabeth I. Lees (D)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Delbert Liller, II (R)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Rodney M. Person (D)	Y◆	Y◆	Y	Y◆	Y◆	N	Y	N◆
Donald R. Pollard (D)	nr							
Steven Redrup (R)	nr							
Deborah Wood (DR)	nr							
Fairview School District 4-year term (vote for not more than 4)								
Meghan Duda Corbin (R)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Ed Grode (DR)	nr							

Fairview School District 4-year term (continued)								
Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Alan Natalie (DR)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Frances R. New (D)	nr							
Laura R. Symes (DR)	nr							
Girard School District 2-year term (vote for not more than 1)								
John Hughes (R)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Wesley Karl (D)	Y◆	Y	Y	Y◆	Y	N	Y◆	N
Harbor Creek School District 2-year term (vote for not more than 1)								
Thomas D. Fortin (D)	nr							
Derek Holmes (R)	nr							
Iroquois School District (vote for not more than 4)								
Steven M. Cabaday (DR)	nr							
Michael Finotti (D)	nr							
Marjorie McLean (DR)	nr							
Brian P. Rogala (DR)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Bill Wittenberg (R)	nr							
Millcreek School District (vote for not more than 4)								
John M. DiPlacido (DR)	nr							
Mike Kobylka (R)	nr							
Terry M. Scutella (DR)	nr							
Karen M. Rang (D)	nr							
Jane Ann Rastatter (DR)	nr							
North East School District (vote for not more than 4)								
Jane M. Blystone (DR)	nr							
Kerry J. Corbin (R)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Maryann Frontino (D)	nr							
Nicholas C. Mobilia (DR)	nr							
David Rodgers (DR)	nr							
Northwestern School District (vote for not more than 4)								
Dolores K. Anderson (D)	nr							
Glen R. Black (DR)	nr							
Lynn K. Corder (DR)	nr							
James D. Mitchell (DR)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Sam Ring (R)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N

Community Outreach

People for Life recently finished another exciting community-outreach season with a booth at the Pumpkin Festival held in Conneaut Lake Park, October 9-11. Our season began last May with a booth at the Erie Wild Rib Cook Off and Music Festival.

We participated in two events for the first time: the Found Festival, a Christian music festival at the Spartansburg Fairgrounds in July; and a National Night Out event in Erie hosted by the One In Christ International Church in August. In both cases, we were spontaneously invited by a church leader who had seen one of our outreach booths at another event.

Our booths also shared the pro-life message at Corry Fest; Waterford Heritage Days; Dan Rice Days; Celebrate Erie; the Wattsburg, Waterford, and Albion Fairs; and the North East Wine Country Harvest Festival.

Unborn baby models are the main attraction at every outreach booth. They seem to fascinate everyone, including little children, teenagers, and, of course, expectant moms, dads, and grandparents. The booths always feature a variety of pro-life promotional items and literature. Probably the most popular items this year were the soft-



Visitors at Celebrate Erie



Booth at the Conneaut Lake Pumpkin Festival

FROM PAGE 1

Health Care

place because “the U.S. government should not be in the business of promoting abortion as health care. Real health care is about saving and nurturing life, not about taking life.” Precisely!

By September 30, seven other House Democrats had sent similar letters to Pelosi, making a total of 32 Democrats who had gone on record calling for an abortion-free health care bill.

THE HYDE AMENDMENT All summer long, backers of the proposed health care plans dismissed our abortion-funding concerns by arguing that the *Hyde amendment* would prevent public money from being used to pay for abortions. The *Hyde amendment* is a measure that has been attached to an annual appropriations bill in order to prevent Medicaid from providing free abortions. It is a temporary measure that must be reintroduced and voted on every year. However, as the letter explains, “H.R. 3200 bypasses the annual appropriations bills. This means the *Hyde amendment* will not apply to the public option or to the premium subsidy program created by H.R. 3200.”

CULTURE OF DECEPTION As recently as October 7, White House spokesper-

son Robert Gibbs was still trying to use the *Hyde amendment* to mislead the public. A reporter asked Gibbs about the letter the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops sent to all U.S. Senators on September 30. This letter also notes that there is nothing in any of the health care bills “barring the use of federal dollars to pay for abortion.” The reporter asked, “Is that statement wrong?” Gibbs replied, “Well, I don’t want to get me in trouble at church, but I would mention there’s a law that precludes the use of federal funds for abortion that isn’t going to be changed in these health care bills.” When the reporter pressed him on the subject, Gibbs persisted with the deception saying, “Again, there’s a fairly well documented federal law that prevents it.”

Gibbs was reflecting a culture of deception that has been proliferating since the health care debate began.

On September 9, Obama stood before a joint session of Congress and told the American people that “under our plan, no federal dollars will be used to fund abortions.” It would seem that “our plan” was neither the House plan nor the Senate plan, both of which the White House had been pushing all summer. It is certainly not the plan that Obama promised in a speech to Planned Parenthood, the nation’s largest

rubber 3-month-unborn-baby models, the *Abortion is NOT Health Care* bumper stickers, and our own special line of pro-life wristbands. We offer a big selection of literature on a numerous human life topics.

This year, nearly everyone who visited our booths received a copy of *Health Care & Abortion*, a brochure of our own design. It asks everyone to call Congresswoman Kathy Dahlkemper and our two U.S. Senators to tell them not to vote for any health care legislation that does not explicitly prohibit the use of public money to pay for elective abortions. (Have YOU called yet?)

Our outreach volunteers spent a total of 42 days staffing the booths at this season’s 12 events. We would like to extend a big thank you to each of them, with a special mention for all the teens and young adults who helped, many for the first time: Angela, Ashley, Cassidy-Kate, Darcy, Dorothy, Elizabeth, Erika, Hannah, Jessica, Joe C., Joe J., John, Kaitlin, Kayla, Krista, Laura, Lindsey, Liz, Michael, Rebekah, and Shawn. A very special thank-you also goes to Mark Lichtenberger, who helped with nearly every set-up and tear-down and used his personal vehicle to haul our materials back and forth across Erie County and beyond.

abortion provider, when he said: “[I]n my mind, reproductive care [*the* universally-recognized euphemism for abortion on demand] is essential care. It is basic care, and so it is at the center and at the heart of the plan that I propose.”

THE CAPPS AMENDMENT On August 24 Speaker Pelosi issued a “Daily Myth Buster” in which she alluded to the *Capps amendment* stating, “the bill clearly spells out that no federal funds can be used to pay for abortions.”

The September 28 letter, flatly contradicting Pelosi’s claim, says: “The simple fact is that under the *Capps* language, the U.S. Treasury will be permitted to issue checks to abortion clinics to reimburse for abortion on demand for the first time in decades.... The bill also explicitly provides for government subsidies to pay the premiums for private insurance policies that include elective abortion. This, too, is a drastic break from longstanding federal policy.”

Health Care Bumper Stickers

People for Life has given away nearly 1,000 red and white bumper stickers that say, “*Abortion is NOT Health Care*.” The stickers are free and available at both of our offices. Send \$1.00 to cover the costs, and we will put yours in the mail.

March for Life Bus Trip

Washington, DC needs to hear from pro-life America like never before, and the upcoming March for Life on January 22, 2010 will be a perfect opportunity for us to deliver a resounding message. The 2010 March for Life will take place on a Friday. This means that instead of getting up the following morning for school or work after a big day in Washington, many marchers will be able to spend Saturday resting and catching up on their sleep.

Last January, 220 Erie-area residents filled four motor coaches chartered by People for Life. One bus was completely dedicated to college students. Another was filled with 7th and 8th grade students and their chaperones. We would like to have an even bigger bus trip this January, but we will need lots of help from the Erie-area pro-life community.

The entire trip only 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.

Everyone is invited to be part of our bus trip. Church and student groups are always welcome. Do not hesitate to come all by yourself. We can team you up with other marchers who know their way around.

The cost remains the same as last January: \$40 per seat. People for Life will continue our usual practice of arranging sponsorships for people on tight budgets who would otherwise be unable to participate.

The 2009 March for Life, with 300,000 marchers, was the biggest ever. Buses were in extremely short supply by early January.

Buses will probably be even harder to find this January, so it might not be possible to accommodate last-minute requests for seats by chartering additional buses. To make sure you get your seat(s)

make your reservations right away. Send \$40 per seat to People for Life. Please provide a name, address, and phone number for each seat you reserve. Early reservations will help us determine how many buses to charter before it is too late.

People for Life has organized a March for Life Bus Trip every year since the very first March for Life on January 22, 1974.

Needed: Bus Trip Sponsors

Due to continuing economic difficulties, a larger-than-usual number of deserving students and families will be in need of some financial help in order to attend the March for Life this year. The \$40 cost of a bus seat can be a significant obstacle for a student or family on a tight budget.

Please consider helping someone with a strong desire to "march for life" by being a March for Life sponsor. In some cases even a partial sponsorship of \$10 or \$20 could make the difference between marching in DC or having to stay home. ☺

2010 Pro-Life Breakfast: Leader of Feminists for Life to Speak



Serrin Foster

People for Life's 32nd Annual Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast will take place on January 16, 2010. Like last year, the breakfast will be held at the Ambassador Banquet and Conference Center, 7792 Peach St., Erie.

We are very pleased to announce that our main speaker will be Serrin Foster, the president of Feminists for Life of America. Foster's award-winning speech, "The Feminist Case Against Abortion" shatters old, stereotypical ideas about who is pro-life as well as what it means to be a feminist.

In 2003, Foster testified before the U.S. House Judiciary Committee in support of the *Unborn Victims of Violence Act*, also

known as "Laci and Conner's Law." She served on the National Taskforce Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, which worked to pass the *Violence Against Women Act*.

Foster has led Feminists for Life since 1994. Under her leadership Feminists for Life successfully advocated benefits for poor and pregnant women through the State Child Health Insurance Program and defeated the mandatory "family cap" and other punitive child exclusion provisions in welfare reform. Feminists for Life also worked to prevent poverty and coerced abortions due to threats to withhold child support through passage of the *Enhanced Child Support Act of 1995*.

Feminists for Life has been leading a revolution on college campuses across the country. They educate students who have

the highest risk of abortion about the rich pro-life feminist heritage and redirect the debate toward woman-centered solutions.

The Breakfast will also feature a very special musical group: the singing Caulfield Family: Michael & Stephanie Caulfield and their talented children, Maria, 20; Joseph, 18; Catherine 16; Stephen, 14; Theresa, 12; Timothy 10; Peter, 8; Thomas, 6; and Clare, 4.

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

Reservations are \$12.50 for adults, \$6.50 for children ages 3-12, and free for children under 3. Make reservations by January 11. Send your name, address, and phone number along with your payment to People for Life. Early reservations are very helpful and appreciated.

Erie March & Motorcade for Life

The 2010 Erie March & Motorcade for Life will take place on Saturday, January 9, 2010. Marchers should gather at the Gazebo in Perry Square by 10:45 am. The March & Motorcade will begin at 11:00 am and conclude by 12:30 pm with a brief Memorial Service in Perry Square.

For those who are unable to walk, a motorcade will follow the marchers.

The March & Motorcade is held each year near the anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* decision to remember the children destroyed by abortion – now over 54 million. It also calls attention to the grave harm that has

come to women, families, and the fabric of our society since abortion was made legal on January 22, 1973.

Please make definite plans to attend this important expression of pro-life priorities.

Last January all four local TV stations responded to our press releases and covered the March & Motorcade. Unfortunately, our marchers were fewer than they might have been, far fewer, in fact, than the 220 people who took our bus trip to the Washington, DC March for Life two weeks later.

All area news outlets will be notified again this January, and with your help we

can do a lot better this time. In addition to attending the March & Motorcade with your family, why not bring a group from your church or school? Being pro-life is not so much about the opinions we hold as about the priorities we practice.

Please make January 9, 2010 a day to act on *your* priorities. Lead by example and help us remind our community that protecting the weak and defenseless should always be a top priority for everyone.

Watch for more information about the Erie March & Motorcade for Life in late December and early January.

Mom chose life, credits our volunteer

People for Life board member Mary Maya has spent many worthwhile hours working at our community outreach booths over the past nine years, but her most rewarding experience happened just last month at the Albion Fair. Mary and her friend Marilyn Bartlett were covering the Thursday-evening shift when a friendly young woman who was looking over our display mentioned to Mary that she looked familiar.

After a little back and forth conversation, the young woman said to Mary, "You're the lady who talked to me out of an abortion." At that point, the two ladies remembered how they had met several years ago in our Alternative Choices for Women (ACW) office. The American Women's Services (AWS) abortion facility, just across the hall from our office, was doing abortions that day and the young woman – her name is Jaclyn – was there for her abortion appointment.

Jaclyn walked into to our office thinking it was the abortion facility! Mary was able to strike up a conversation, and they continued talking for about 45 minutes.

"If you had not talked with me that day," Jaclyn firmly assured Mary, "my son would not be here." Jaclyn nodded towards a handsome 5-year-old at her side. He was still studying the fetal models on the table in front of them.

Jaclyn, who was only 18 at the time, said the hardest thing was telling her parents about her pregnancy. Little did she know that she and her parents would soon be telling everyone that the little boy was, "the best thing that every happened to us." Just the day before, Jaclyn told Mary, her

father had turned and, looking at the little boy in the back seat of the car, said, "What would we ever do without him?"

Jaclyn, currently in college, calls her son "the love of my life."

On every single occasion when AWS did abortions in Erie, from September 2003 until February 2007 (when the abortion facility went dormant), faithful volunteers such as Mary kept our office open in the hope of reaching out to abortion-bound women like Jaclyn. This meant staying open many nights until 10 pm or later.

Mary knew that Jaclyn was not going to keep her abortion appointment that day. But what would Jaclyn do tomorrow, or next week? Mary could only hope and pray.

Had Mary not been on-duty at the Albion Fair when Jaclyn dropped by, she would probably have never known.

We have talked with many, many abortion-minded women at our ACW office and redirected some them to pro-life pregnancy counseling centers, like the Women's Care Center of Erie County. Although the pregnancy centers' confidentiality rules prevent us from finding out for sure, we believe that many of them chose life. However, most of the women we have influenced were still in the decision-making process and had not yet scheduled their abortions. Jaclyn – and her unborn baby – were only an hour or two away from the end of the road. That is why her case is so special.

Despite many positive encounters with abortion-minded women, only in three or four cases have we been absolutely certain that the woman did not get an abortion at a later date. Mary's chance meeting with Jaclyn gives us a reason to hope that our efforts have been more fruitful than we will ever know.

joined the other HELP Committee Democrats in approving the bill – without the pro-life limitations – on a straight party-line vote, 13-10.

Casey then posted a statement on his website under the heading, "Casey Applauds Committee Passage of Health Care Reform."

At a public forum on September 2 Casey stated, "Nothing in this bill speaks to abortion." True, the bill did not mention the word "abortion" but it would certainly promote and pay for abortions.

Later, when asked about Casey's statement, a spokesperson made matters worse by saying, "*The Affordable Health Choices Act*, as reported out by the HELP Committee, does not explicitly authorize federal funding of abortion nor does it mandate abortion coverage in insurance plans."

In fact, the bill would do precisely both of these things, and that is presumably why



Jaclyn & Trenton

In her own words

I enjoy spending time with my little man Trenton Joseph.... he is the love of my life! Camping, going on our little nature walks, SINGING, listening to music, I LOVE music, dancing, hanging out with friends are some of the things I enjoy to do. I want to travel very badly.... but I can't right now so I will wait. They say good things come to those who wait. I'm a pretty free spirit.... I am a pretty fun person to hangout with. My friends always seem to be laughing at me.... that could be a good thing or a bad thing, but I'm just gonna go with it's a good thing. Life came and went pretty fast for me over the last couple years. Trenton is four years old now.... I love him more than anything in the world, but he is definitely quite the handful. My girlfriends mean the world to me it's been a crazy couple of years and I'm glad that we are all still there for each other.

Sen. Casey on Health Care

On July 13 a pro-life Democrat of local interest, Sen. Bob Casey, voted in favor of four separate pro-life amendments to the health care reform bill being considered by the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee. Casey is one of only two Democrats in the U.S. Senate who claim a pro-life position.

One of the amendments, sponsored by Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT), would have disallowed federal funding for abortion. The other amendments would have protected state abortion regulations, protected the conscience rights of health care providers, and prevented the government from forcing health care plans to provide abortions. All four amendments were defeated on 12-11 party-line votes. Casey was the only Democrat to cross party lines and vote for the amendments.

Nevertheless, on July 15 Sen. Casey

Sen. Casey voted for the pro-life amendments in the first place – before he voted to approve the bill after the amendments were rejected.

Notre Dame Scandal

People for Life Director Tim Broderick traveled to Notre Dame for the protests on May 17 when the university gave President Obama an honorary doctor of law degree. He spent the day with People for Life member and N.D. alumnus Dr. Chuck Jackson, who drove out to South Bend the day before.

During the protests, Broderick had a chance to speak with Ambassador Alan Keyes and Chicago pro-life activist Joseph M. Scheidler. Later, Broderick and Jackson had front-row seats at a closing event hosted by the protest organizers. Speakers included Fr. John Corapi and Randall Terry, the founder of Operation Rescue.

See pictures at www.peopleforlife.org.

Pro-Life Weekend at St. George Church

St. George Church will host a Priests for Life Pro-Life Weekend with Fr. Denis G. Wilde, November 14 and 15. Fr. Wilde will preach at all Masses: Saturday at 5:30 pm and Sunday at 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, and 12:00 pm. A light dinner will be served on Saturday at 6:30, after the 5:30 Mass, and at 7:30 Fr. Wilde will speak and present a piano concert. Both dinner and concert are free and open to the public. Everyone is invited.

Fr. Wilde has traveled to over 600 venues in 46 states delivering the pro-life message and supporting "both clergy and laity in their local pro-life efforts."

Fr. Wilde is a member of the Augustinian Province of St. Thomas of Villanova. He was an associate professor of music at Villanova University from 1977 to

1998 before he joined Priests for Life. Fr. Wilde holds a Ph.D. in music from Catholic University of America and is a professional pianist and choral director. He has appeared as a guest conductor on five continents.

Fr. Wilde was actively involved in pro-life efforts even before the *Roe v. Wade* decision. During the "operation rescue" era of the 1980s he developed strong ties with pro-life people of other faiths, says Fr. Wilde, "from the expression of common faith in God as the Author of Life."

Priests for Life, headed by the popular Fr. Frank Pavone, describes itself as "a movement of priests seeking to help the rest of the Church to use her full strength against the most devastating attacks on human life in our day."

St. George Church is located in Erie at 5145 Peach St, not far from the Millcreek Mall. For more information call Barb Lorei at (814) 836-8161.

For the latest information about all of the upcoming *Roe v. Wade* anniversary activities this January please monitor...

www.peopleforlife.org
and People for Life's
E-Mail Updates

To receive our occasional E-Mail Updates, send your subscribe request to:
office@peopleforlife.org

www.NRLC.org

The National Right to Life website is your best source for accurate, up-to-the-minute news about the Obama Abortion Agenda. Also recommended: *Today's News and Views* – daily pro-life news and commentary by *NRL News* Editor Dave Andrusko. Subscribe at www.nrlc.org.

Memorials

Given by

Jean & Ed Hammer
Jean & Ed Hammer
Jean & Ed Hammer
Stan & Shirley Widomski
Joe Di Corpo
Jean & Ed Hammer
Jean & Ed Hammer
Mary Pat Ringhand
Jean & Ed Hammer
Ed & Michelle Williams
Jean & Ed Hammer

In Memory of

Dr. Robert Allen
Henry "Hank" Compernolle
Gary Cooper
Gary Cooper
Deceased Family Members
Florence Elmer
Veronica Nigbor
Veronica Nigbor
Mildred "Millie" Onachila
June S. Peters-Robertshaw
David Schmidt

Given by

Jean & Ed Hammer
Jean & Ed Hammer
Mary Pat Ringhand
Ed & Michelle Williams
Jean & Ed Hammer

In Memory of

Evelyn Shields
Msgr. James Sperry
Msgr. James Sperry
Msgr. James Sperry
John Michael Yurkewicz

Given by

Cynthia Manna
John & Loretta Verga
Mary Yurkovic

In Honor of

Brad Jones
Frank & Mary Minnick
Jim & Rose Ann Yadeski

People for Life is a volunteer-based, non-profit, non-sectarian, citizen's 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 in Erie, PA by People for Life, Inc., Tim Broderick, editor.

PEOPLE FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

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CITY _____	STATE _____ ZIP _____
E-MAIL _____	PHONE _____ FAX _____
AFFILIATED WITH _____	OCCUPATION _____

Church, Business, Civic Organization, etc.

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Student	\$5 <input type="checkbox"/>	Group \$25 <input type="checkbox"/>	Patron \$50 <input type="checkbox"/>	Benefactor \$100 <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Amount _____	

GENERAL DONATION _____	Specify if for a special purpose: _____
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MEMORIAL DONATION _____	In Memory Of <input type="checkbox"/> In Honor Of <input type="checkbox"/>
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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.'
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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.
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Free Presentations

People for Life offers free educational presentations about abortion for schools, churches, and other organizations.

Since May, we have given our *Overview of Abortion* presentation at The Federated Church, Mercyhurst High School, Beloved Disciple Church in Grove City, and Mercyhurst College. On November 30 we will do a presentation at Grove City College at the invitation of the campus Newman Club.

The presentations are normally about an hour long, but we gladly adjust to whatever amount of time is available. We usually cover fetal development, *Roe v. Wade*, common abortion methods, physical and emotional risks, reasons for abortion, statistics, public opinion, pro-life legislation, abortion in Erie, and pro-life responses to abortion, including the role of women who oppose abortion because of their own painful post-abortion experiences.

Contact People for Life for more information and to discuss your particular needs.

Follow us on Twitter

You can now follow People for Life on Twitter and receive cell-phone text messages and/or e-mails to alert you about important pro-life news of special concern to people in the Erie region.

Sign up to follow us at www.twitter.com/gopeopleforlife. Don't have a Twitter account? It only takes a couple of minutes to establish one, and it's totally free.

We will not be sending a high volume of messages, just a tweet now and then to get out the word when something big is happening in our area.

Twitter messages are limited to 140 characters. For complete updates on pro-life news of special interest to the Erie area, be sure to subscribe to People for Life's *E-Mail Updates*. Send your subscribe request to office@peopleforlife.org

People for Life

www.peopleforlife.org

An affiliate of the PA Pro-Life Federation

(814) 882-1333 ★ (814) 459-1333

office@peopleforlife.org

Twitter: gopeopleforlife

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 1126 • Erie, PA 16512

MAIN OFFICE LOCATION

1625 West 26th St. • Erie, PA

— REGULAR HOURS —

Wednesday 11 AM to 2 PM

Thursday 10 AM to 1 PM

Other times by arrangement

DOWNTOWN OFFICE LOCATION

Alternative Choices for Women

1611 Peach St., Suite 321 • Erie, PA

(814) 464-0266

Open Monday through Friday - 9 AM to 5 PM

Christmas Party Invitation

People for Life's annual Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 6 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at the St. Joseph Church Community Center, 139 W. 24th St. Call Stan or Shirley at (814) 452-3395 for reservations by December 2.

All members and friends of People for Life are hereby cordially invited.

If possible, bring a dish to share and a toy or item of children's clothing for distribution to needy families through the Multi-Cultural Health Evaluation Delivery System, a local charitable organization.

If you can help with the preparations,

2009 PRO-LIFE DATE BOOK 2010

Oct. 29	10 years since the first demonstration outside Erie AWS abortion facility
Oct. 30	Last day for Boards of Elections to receive absentee ballots
Oct. 30	Crawford County Citizens for Life Annual Dinner - Blooming Valley, PA
Nov. 3	Election Day
Nov. 16	People for Life Meeting - 6:45 PM, 1625 W. 26th St.
Dec. 6	Christmas Party - 1:30 to 4:30, St. Joseph Church 139 W. 24th St., Erie
Jan. 9	Erie March & Motorcade for Life
Jan. 16	32nd Annual Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast with Serrin Foster
Jan. 21	March for Life buses leave Erie - 11:00 PM
Jan. 22	March for Life, Washington, DC
Feb. 15	People for Life Meeting - 6:45 PM, 1625 W. 26th St.
March 15	People for Life Meeting - 6:45 PM, 1625 W. 26th St.
June 24-26	National Right to Life Convention - Hyatt Regency, Pittsburgh, PA

serving, or cleanup, let us know when you call in your reservation.

Student Oratory Contest

High school juniors and seniors are invited to compete in the National Right to Life High School Oratory Contest.

Contestants will prepare and deliver a five-to-seven-minute pro-life talk on abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, or embryo-destructive stem cell research.

Students from northwestern Pennsylvania (Erie, Crawford, Venango, and Mercer Counties) will compete in the regional contest conducted by People for Life in Erie on April 17, 2010. The winner and first runner up will then have the option of competing in the state contest to be held by the PA Pro-Life Federation in Harrisburg. The winner of the state contest will be eligible to compete in the national contest to be held in conjunction with the National Right to Life Convention, June 24-26 in Pittsburgh, PA.

Interested students (and teachers) should contact People for Life for more complete information.

Abortion and Breast Cancer

October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This year yet another study confirming the abortion / breast cancer link was reported. The study, conducted in Istanbul, Turkey by researchers at Istanbul Medical Faculty and the Magee-Women's Hospital in Istanbul, found that abortion increased the risk of breast cancer by 66%.

10 Year Anniversary

The first of 100s of sidewalk demonstrations to protest plans to open Erie's first abortion facility took place 10 years ago at the 1611 Peach St. Professional Building, on Friday, October 29, 1999. More than 50 people participated. The next day, 159 people picketed both sides of the building.