

THE ERIE ECHO

"voice for life"

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www.peopleforlife.org

January 2010

Feminist leader to speak out against abortion

Serrin M. Foster, President of Feminists for Life of America, will present "The Feminist Case *Against* Abortion" on January 16, 2010 at 9 am at People for Life's 32nd Annual Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast. She will address 200 years of pro-life feminism and explain how the modern women's movement came to support abortion. Serrin's speech has been included in the anthology *Women's Rights*, published in 2001 by Greenhaven Press as one in a series entitled "Great Speeches in History."

Serrin has led Feminists for Life of America since 1994. Under her leadership, Feminists for Life has successfully backed benefits for poor and pregnant women through the State Child Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). She worked in coalition with other women's organizations to defeat the mandatory "family cap" and other punitive child exclusion provisions in welfare reform. She helped prevent poverty

and coerced abortions due to threats to withhold child support by working for the passage of the *Enhanced Child Support Act*.

In 1997 Serrin moderated the first Pregnancy Resource Forum in the country at Georgetown University. Feminists for Life has distributed pregnancy resource kits to colleges across the country and is leading the discussion on developing practical resources for pregnant and parenting students. Feminists for Life's Pregnancy Resource Forums have helped redirect contentious debates toward woman-centered solutions and inspired model legislation in Michigan.

Feminists for Life recently helped introduce groundbreaking legislation—*The Elizabeth Cady Stanton Pregnant and Parenting Student Services Act*—that will introduce new pro-woman solutions on campus.

Serrin served on the National Taskforce Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, which worked to pass the *Violence Against Women Act*. She 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."

Serrin, the creator of the *Women Deserve Better® than Abortion* campaign, argues that widespread abortion is an indication that society has failed to meet the needs and protect the interests of women, particularly those who are pregnant or raising small children.

Serrin has appeared on C-SPAN, CNN International, FOX News and ABC World News Tonight as an outspoken opponent of pregnancy discrimination. She is dedicated to developing on-campus resources and support for underserved pregnant and parenting students.

January 9, 2010 Erie March for Life

People for Life invites you to walk with us in the Erie March for Life on Saturday, January 9, 2010. Help us remind the Erie area that every human life is valuable and every single human being is important. You will be glad you did.

The Erie March for Life takes place every year to call for an end to *Roe v. Wade*, the Supreme Court decision that, on January 22, 1973, legalized abortion-on-demand throughout pregnancy in all 50 states.

The March will begin at 11 am, so plan to arrive at the Gazebo in Perry Square by 10:45. From Perry Square, marchers will head west on W. 6th St, then south on Sassafra, east on W. 10th St., and north on State St. back to Perry Square for a brief, interfaith Memorial Service, which will conclude by 12:30 pm at the very latest.

The March will pass by several significant landmarks, including the Erie County Courthouse, the Federal Courthouse, and Erie City Hall.

Signs with positive messages will be available to carry – or you may bring your own.

Assisting at the Memorial Service will be Rev. Steve Schreiber, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry for the Erie Catholic Diocese, and Rev. Blair Blakeslee, Assistant Pastor for Youth at the Corry Alliance Church. We will remember all those who have suffered harm because of *Roe v. Wade*: the over-54-million aborted babies, the mothers, the fathers, even the

Caution: WINTER WEATHER

Marchers should come prepared for winter weather conditions with warm clothing and warm, non-slip boots. The City of Erie does a good job clearing streets and sidewalks for us, but some snow and ice is to be expected.

people in the abortion industry, and our nation as a whole.

For those who might have difficulty going the distance on foot, a motorcade will follow the marchers. It will form on the south side of Perry Square along South Park Row. Parade marshals will be on-hand to guide vehicles into position beginning at 10:30 am. Red ribbons will be attached to the vehicles to identify them as part of the motorcade. Four-way flashers should be turned on upon arrival at Perry Square to get the parade marshals' attention.

Please join us for this important event and bring along families, friends, student organizations, and church youth groups. This is an important once-a-year opportunity for all of us to speak out on behalf of all those vulnerable unborn children who cannot speak up for themselves.

**For E-Mail Updates from People for Life
send a subscribe request to:**

office@peopleforlife.org

March for Life Bus Trip 2010

This January People for Life will continue a yearly tradition, begun in 1974, of sending Erie-area residents to the March for Life in Washington, DC. The March takes place each year on or near the anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* decision. In 2010 the big day will be Friday, January 22.

The March for Life has grown from a relatively modest 20,000 marchers in 1974 to a record-setting 300,000-plus last January. People for Life's Bus Trip also continues to grow. Last year our marchers numbered 220 and filled four buses, setting a new record.

We have reserved four buses once again for 2010. There is still plenty of room, but the seats are filling up. Reservations should be made as soon as possible.

If you would like to make the trip, the cost is still only \$40 a seat. You will also need a minimum of \$3.30 to ride the Metro and a few dollars for food. It is a good idea to bring along plenty of snacks and drinks. Individuals on tight budgets, including students, are encouraged to inquire about financial sponsorships.

We will leave St. George Church (5145 Peach St.) on Thursday evening, January 21 at 11 pm. There will be a stop at the I-79 Edinboro Exit to pick up marchers from that area, including a group of students from Edinboro University. Our buses will park at RFK Stadium in Washington, DC at approximately 7:30 Friday morning. Our

marchers will then have a few hours of independent sightseeing.

Many people choose to visit points of pro-life interest such as the March for Life Convention headquarters, National Right to Life headquarters, the U.S. Holocaust Museum, and the National Basilica (a favorite destination for tens of thousands of Roman Catholic marchers) on the campus of the Catholic University of America.

The official March for Life program begins at noon with a Rally on the National Mall at 7th Street, about halfway between the U.S. Capitol and the Washington Monument. At approximately 1:30 pm the marchers will begin to pour into Constitution Avenue for the mile-long walk to the Supreme Court. The last marchers will not reach that destination until 4 pm or later.

After the March many people visit their members of Congress. Meetings with Rep. Kathy Dahlkemper, Sen. Bob Casey, and Sen. Arlen Specter have been requested. Information about these meetings will be posted on peopleforlife.org as it becomes available.

The return trip to Erie begins at 5 pm. We will make a quick stop for dinner at the Prime Outlets food court just off the Interstate at Hagerstown, MD. Our buses will return to Erie at approximately 1:30 am Saturday morning.

We really hope you will consider joining us. You are encouraged to bring your family

and friends, but do not hesitate to come by yourself. And don't worry if you are unfamiliar with Washington, DC. We will have plenty of experienced marchers who will be happy to have you as part of their group.

If you are pro-life but have never experienced the March for Life, you should give it a try. Anyone who has been there will tell you that it is a truly uplifting experience and one you will always remember.

Be a Bus Trip Sponsor

Please consider being a March for Life Bus Trip sponsor. Your donation could help a college student on a tight budget or a mom and dad with kids, who will be making a sacrifice just to cover the cost of meals.

Your \$40 donation will completely cover the cost of one seat or allow two people to travel for half price. In some cases even a partial sponsorship of \$10 or \$20 could make the difference between someone marching in DC or having to stay home.

Membership

Start off the new year by joining People for Life or renewing your membership. Your membership dues will help sustain our organization and help make Erie and the surrounding area a better place to live, especially for unborn children!

32nd Annual Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast

People for Life's 32nd Annual Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast will be held on Saturday, January 16 at the Ambassador Banquet & Conference Center, 7792 Peach St., Erie. The doors open at 8 am and the program begins at 9 am. Come early and browse our information and merchandise displays.

Our main speaker will be Serrin Foster, the president of Feminists for Life of America. Even if you are unfamiliar with Feminists for Life, you have probably seen or heard their official mottos: "Pro-Woman, Pro-Child, Pro-Life" and "Women deserve better[®] than abortion." Chances are even better that you have heard of their honorary chairwoman, Patricia Heaton of the TV-comedy *Everybody Loves Raymond*.

Several religious leaders will participate in the program: Rev. James Dumont, Pastor of Erie Christian Fellowship; Rev. Curtis Henderson, Pastor of One In Christ International Church and Sr. Maria O'Connor, who is active in the Catholic Refugee Ministry. Bishop Donald Trautman of the Erie Catholic Diocese is also expected to attend.

This year's music will be provided by the talented Caulfield Family: Michael & Stephanie and their children, Maria, 20; Joseph, 18; Catherine 16; Stephen, 14; Theresa, 12; Timothy 10; Peter, 8; Thomas, 6; and Clare, 4.

Tickets are \$12.50 (\$6.50 for ages 3-12) and should be purchased by January 11. There is no cost for children under 3 years.

We will be offering an extensive selection of pro-life literature and promotional materials, including People for Life's new line of multicolor, pro-life wristbands, before and after the program.

Two popular books about pro-life feminism will be available at special prices that not even Amazon.com can beat. *Pro-Life Feminism: Different Voices* is a collection of pro-life feminist writings with many contributions from members of Feminists for Life. *Pro-Life Feminism: Yesterday and Today* begins with essays by prominent 19th century feminists and follows up with essays by modern pro-life feminists. Serrin says she will be happy to autograph the books after the program.

Free babysitting with entertaining

activities for children of all ages will be available during the speaking portion of the program. Parents are encouraged to take advantage of this service so they are better able to devote their full attention to the speakers while the kids are also enjoying themselves.

Three easy ways to make BREAKFAST AND BUS TRIP RESERVATIONS

- 1. MAIL YOUR CHECK**
People for Life
P.O. Box 1126 / Erie, PA 16512
- 2. USE YOUR CREDIT CARD**
People for Life accepts all major credit cards. Click the "Donate" button on peopleforlife.org or call with your card number to make reservations by phone.
- 3. VISIT ONE OF OUR OFFICES**
Downtown...1611 Peach St., Suite 321
Open 9 to 5, Monday through Friday
Main Office...1625 W. 26th St.
Call for hours.

Call (814) 882-1333 or go on-line for more information about our January Activities.

www.peopleforlife.org

March for Life Mini-Rally

Recognizing that the Obama White House has virtually become the command and control center for the pro-abortion movement, March for Life organizers have arranged to hold, for the first time ever, a "mini-rally" on the eve of the March for Life. It will take place in Lafayette Park, just across Pennsylvania Avenue from the executive mansion. The organizers are preparing for 3,000 people and encouraging everyone to bring flashlights. The rally will be held after dark from 6 pm to 8 pm.

Silent No More

Immediately following the March for Life, women from the Silent No More Awareness Campaign will speak publicly from the steps of the Supreme Court about their own abortions and the deep regrets they later experienced. Silent No More describes itself as "an effort to make the public aware of the devastation abortion brings to women, men, and their families." Begun just a few years ago in Sewickley, PA, the organization is now active across the United States and in six other countries.

Breakfast Sponsors

People for Life is looking for pro-life professionals, businesses, and organizations that would like to help sponsor the 2010 Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast. Our sponsors will be listed in the breakfast program. Sponsorships are available at levels of \$10, \$25, \$50, \$75, and \$100 (Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum, and Diamond). An additional listing on People for Life's website is included. Please contact People for Life to request sponsorship forms.

March for Life: The Movie

Finally! A movie has been made that captures the drama and excitement of the Washington, DC March for Life. Called *Thine Eyes* (from Psalm 139:16), this 48-minute video was filmed last January at the biggest March for Life in history. If you have never been to "the March," you need to watch this movie and discover all that you've been missing.

If you have been there before, you'll be happy that the whole world can finally see what the popular news media have been

deliberately hiding for years: peaceful, life-loving Americans from all religious, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds marching by the *hundreds of thousands* to protect the greatest thing going: LIFE itself.

The movie features many teens and young adults, making it perfect for schools, church youth groups, and student organizations. It also features women from Silent No More, an organization for women who regret their abortions. The entire film is narrated by actress Jennifer O'Neill, who tells of her own abortion experience.

If you love the March for Life and want to encourage more people to participate, you need to share this video. Contact People for Life to borrow one of our DVD copies.

American Women's Services

The AWS abortion facility in Erie remains dormant. They are still set up in the Professional Building, however, so People for Life remains vigilant. We were happy to hear, recently, that the AWS abortion mill in Fredericksburg, MD has been closed since Thanksgiving. . . . Good!

Memorials

<i>Given by</i>	<i>In Memory of</i>	<i>Given by</i>	<i>In Honor of</i>
Mary Pat Ringhand	Tom Blumish	Mike and Karen Giannamore	The clergy of St. Joseph Church / Bread of Life Community: Father Larry Richards, Father Gerald Wright, and Deacon Andrew Froberg
Ray & Peggy Fitzgerald	Jake Sonnenberg		Miss Marielle Lafaro who is a Blessing to the students at Saint George School
Mary Pat Ringhand	Genieve Taccone		
Gratia Wittmann	Richard Wittman		

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

NAME _____ DATE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____ PHONE _____ FAX _____

AFFILIATED WITH _____ LINE OF WORK _____
Church, Business, Civic Organization, etc.

MEMBERSHIP New Renewal Dues (1 year): 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

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

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.
 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.

Pro-Abortion Health Care

As this newsletter goes to press, the only two democratic U.S. senators who have identified themselves as “pro-life”— Sen. Bob Casey, Jr. (D-PA) and Sen. Ben Nelson (D-NE) — have caved, both announcing support for a pro-abortion health care bill and effectively announcing support not merely for legal abortion but for government-paid legal abortion. The bill is expected to be approved by the Senate within the next few days.

Casey and Nelson had initially supported an amendment that would have prevented the federal government from funding abortion. That effort now seems to have been nothing but than a dog-and-pony show.

Rep. Kathy Dahlkemper (D-PA3) is to be applauded for supporting an amendment that did remove abortion funding from the House health care bill. If the democratic congressional leadership has its way, however, that House amendment will be brushed aside by the time final votes are taken after the House and Senate bills are combined. At that point Dahlkemper will have to decide whether she wants to be pro-life – or another Bob Casey, Jr.

The battle may continue for a little while longer, so keep on telling your members of Congress, especially Kathy Dahlkemper, that “Abortion is NOT health care.”

Oratory Contest Expanded

The 2010 Regional High School Oratory Contest, sponsored by People for Life, is being expanded to include two levels of competition: one for grades 9-10 and another for grades 11-12. In past years the contest was only open to grades 11-12. All high school students living in Erie, Crawford, Venango, and Mercer Counties are eligible. The contest will be held in Erie on April 17 at People for Life’s main office, 1625 W. 26th St.

Contestants will prepare and deliver an original five-to-seven-minute pro-life talk about abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, or embryo-

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www.peopleforlife.org

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Twitter: **gopeopleforlife**

MAILING ADDRESS
P.O. Box 1126 • Erie, PA 16512

MAIN OFFICE LOCATION
1625 West 26th St. • Erie, PA
— **REGULAR HOURS** —
Thursday 10 AM to 1 PM
Hours extended January 4-15
Call for specific times.

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

destructive stem cell research.

The winner from each level will be awarded \$100. The winner and first runner up from the 11-12 grade level will also have an opportunity to compete in the statewide contest to be held in Harrisburg on April 25. People for Life will help with the travel expenses.

The winner of the statewide contest will be eligible to compete in the National Right to Life High School Oratory Contest, which will be held in conjunction with the NRL Convention, June 24-26 in Pittsburgh, PA.

Interested students (and teachers) should contact People for Life for more information and a copy of the official contest rules.

2010 PRO-LIFE DATE BOOK 2010

Jan. 9	Erie March & Motorcade for Life - 11:00 AM, from Perry Square
Jan. 16	32nd Annual Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast with Serrin Foster - 9:00 AM
Jan. 18	Erie Martin Luther King March - March with People for Life at noon.
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, Main Office, 1625 W. 26th St.
March 15	People for Life Meeting - 6:45 PM, Main Office, 1625 W. 26th St.
April 17	Northwest Regional High School Oratory Contest - Erie, PA
April 19	People for Life Meeting - 6:45 PM, Main Office, 1625 W. 26th St.
April 25	State High School Oratory Contest - Harrisburg, PA
May 9	Mother's Day / Annual Mother's Day Carnation Project
June 2-5	Outreach Booth: Erie Wild Rib Cook Off and Music Festival
June 24-26	National Right to Life Convention - Hyatt Regency, Pittsburgh, PA

Education

People for Life offers age-appropriate educational presentations about abortion for schools, churches, and other organizations. Representatives are also available to talk with your group about the March for Life or any of our January Activities.

Members of Congress

Representing N.W. Pennsylvania

REP. KATHY DAHLKEMPER

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Student Essay Contest

The PA Pro-Life Federation is sponsoring an essay contest that is open to students in grades 7-12. Students are to write an essay reflecting a pro-life viewpoint on abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, or embryonic stem

cell research. The word limit is 500 for grades 7-9 and 750 for grades 10-12. The deadline for entries is March 1, 2010. Essays, complete with the writer’s name, address, phone number, grade, and name of school, can be e-mailed to lifelines@paprolife.org or mailed to the PA Pro-Life Federation; 4800 Jonestown Rd., Suite 102; Harrisburg, PA 17109.