

# THE ERIE ECHO

*"voice for life"*

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## Time to Stop Dismemberment Abortion

Legislation that will end the brutal practice of Dismemberment Abortion and stop late-term abortions when the baby has reached 20 weeks gestation was introduced in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives on March 31. As we go to press, a similar bill is expected to be introduced in the state Senate.

The bill, H.B. 1948, was introduced by Kathy Rapp, the Republican co-chair of the bipartisan House and Senate Pro-Life Caucus. Rapp represents the 65th House District, which includes Warren County and parts of Crawford and Forest counties. These Erie-area state legislators are among the original cosponsors: Rep. Lee James (R-District 64), Rep. Ted Nesbit (R-District 8), Rep. Curt Sonney (R-District 4), Rep. Brad Roae (R-District 6), and Rep. Parke Wentling (R-District 17).

Dismemberment abortions, also called Dilation and Evacuation or D&E abortions, are done in the second trimester and are accomplished by tearing a baby limb by limb from the mother's womb.

Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy, in his dissent in the *Stenberg v. Carhart* (2000) abortion case, cited late-term abortionist LeRoy Carhart's own testimony about Dismemberment Abortion: "The fetus, in many cases, dies just as a human adult or child would: It bleeds to death as it is torn limb from limb. The fetus can be alive at the beginning of the dismemberment process and can survive for a time while its limbs are being torn off."

At least 6989 unborn babies were killed this way in Pennsylvania in just three years, according to the most recent annual reports from the PA Department of Health.

Laws against Dismemberment Abortion have already been enacted in three states: Kansas, Oklahoma, and West Virginia. As we go to press, both houses of the Mississippi legislature have overwhelmingly approved a dismemberment ban, which is expected to be signed by the state's pro-life governor.

West Virginia's current law was enacted in spite of a veto by the governor. His veto

was overridden by a 25-9 vote in the state Senate and a vote of 85-15 in the state House of Representatives.

Similar bills are under consideration in a number of other states, and on March 29 a bill to stop Dismemberment Abortion (H.R. 3515) was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by Congressman Chris Smith of New Jersey.

The Pennsylvania Dismemberment legislation is expected to move along rather quickly, so it is difficult to predict how far along it will be when you read this. But you should call your state representative and state senator regardless. Tell them that you want to see a stop to Dismemberment Abortion and ask what they have been doing to support the current legislation. A second, veto-override vote may well be necessary before all is said and done.

If you need the names of your legislators or contact information, please refer to [www.peopleforlife.life/legislators](http://www.peopleforlife.life/legislators) or call (814) 882-1333.

## Mother's Day and the Carnation Connection

Mother's Day was declared a national holiday in 1914 by President Woodrow Wilson. But the movement to set aside a special day to honor moms and motherhood began many years earlier with the efforts of Ann Maria Reeves Jarvis.

Born on September 30, 1832 in Culpeper, Virginia, Ann Jarvis moved with her family to the town of Philippi in what would eventually become the state of West Virginia. She became a noted social activist and community organizer of sorts during the Civil War. She formed "Mothers Day Work Clubs" that sought to provide assistance and education to families to improve health and reduce infant mortality. Her clubs also provided food and clothing for the soldiers, both the blue and the gray, and medical care when the military camps were ravaged by epidemics of typhoid fever, measles, and other deadly plagues. After the war, Ann's clubs planned a "Mother's Friendship Day"

for soldiers and their families from both sides of the conflict to help promote healing and reconciliation.

Ann Jarvis, herself the mother of 11 children, worked to honor and help mothers all her life. She was a popular speaker, and one of her lectures was titled "Great Mother of the Bible." Her daughter, Anna Marie Jarvis, recalled her mother concluding a Sunday school class in prayer with these words: "I hope that someone, sometime will found a memorial mothers day commemorating her [all mothers] for the matchless service she renders to humanity in every field of life. She is entitled to it." When Ann Maria Reeves Jarvis died in 1905, Anna, her daughter, dedicated herself to establishing an officially recognized Mother's Day, the special day for all mothers that her mother had hoped and prayed for.

The idea met a surprising amount of resistance from government officials, but

Anna was more than up to the challenge. She spent a considerable amount of time writing letters to government leaders and other influential people. She adopted the carnation as the symbol of the Mother's Day movement, and she handed out white carnations to increase Mother's Day awareness.

On the third anniversary of her mother's death, May 10, 1908, Anna held a memorial service at the Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton, West Virginia to honor her mother and all mothers. The event is considered the first official observance of Mother's Day. Although she was unable to attend in person, Anna sent 500 white carnations for all who did attend. The carnation had been her mother's favorite flower. Later that day, 15,000 people attended another service, also organized by Anna, at the Wanamaker Store Auditorium in Philadelphia.

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# Pennsylvania Primary Election Candidates

## President of the United States

Ted Cruz (R) has maintained a 100% pro-life voting record since joining the U.S. Senate in 2013. Cruz is supported by the National Right to Life PAC.

John Kasich (R) had a strong pro-life voting record as a U.S. Congressman. As governor of Ohio, Kasich has signed 16 pro-life bills into law.

Donald Trump (R) does not have a legislative or administrative record on human life issues. He has explained his change from pro-choice to pro-life by saying that a couple he knows considered abortion but continued the pregnancy, and the child today is a total superstar, a great, great child. As of press time, Trump has been unclear about the extent to which he thinks unborn children should be protected by law beyond limiting, with exceptions, abortion after 20 weeks; not paying for abortion with federal funds; and not funding organizations that provide abortions. He recently heightened pro-life concerns on CBS's "Face the Nation" when he said, "The laws [on abortion] are set. And I think we have to leave it that way."

Hillary Clinton (D) maintained a 0% pro-life voting record as a U.S. Senator, voting against the pro-life position every time she had an opportunity. In 2003, Clinton voted against the *Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act* and voted to endorse *Roe v. Wade*, which allows abortion for any reason or no reason through the sixth month and allows abortion for virtually any reason from the seventh through the ninth month. When the *Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act* was passed by the U.S. House last year, Clinton issued a statement against the bill and referred to it as part of a dangerous trend. Clinton is the 2009 recipient of Planned Parenthood's Margaret Sanger Award.

Bernie Sanders (D) has a solid pro-abortion voting record, voting against the pro-life position more than 100 times as a federal legislator. He voted against the *Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act* and voted multiple times against the *Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act*. Sanders also voted to continue federal funding of Planned Parenthood, even after undercover videos showed Planned Parenthood officials haggling over reimbursements for the bodies and body parts of unborn children and exposed other disturbing practices.

Please note that although other candidates may appear on the ballot, the ones listed here are the only ones who have not discontinued or suspended their campaigns as of press time.

## United States Senator

Incumbent U.S. Senator Pat Toomey (R) has a 100% pro-life voting record after serving three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, from 1999 to 2005, and serving as a U.S. Senator since 2011. Accordingly, the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation PAC gives Sen. Toomey a pro-life rating.

The Federation PAC describes Democratic candidates John Fetterman, Kathleen McGinty, and Joe Sestak as pro-abortion. The position of a fourth Democrat, Joseph Vadvarka, is unknown. Kathleen McGinty is the favorite of Emily's List, a pro-abortion political action committee that is dedicated to recruiting, training, and funding female candidates who are 100% pro-abortion. Emily's List announced on March 9 that it would spend one million dollars before the April 26 primary election in support of McGinty. Defeating Sen. Toomey this fall is one of the pro-abortion PAC's top priorities.

## Pennsylvania Attorney General

The Federation PAC reports that Republicans Joe Peters and John Rafferty are pro-life. Among the Democratic candidates, John Morganelli is pro-life while Josh Shapiro and Stephan Zappala are pro-abortion according to the Federation PAC. John Rafferty has served in the Pennsylvania state Senate since 2003 and has a 100% pro-life voting record.

## Pennsylvania Auditor General

The Federation PAC has determined that John Brown, the Republican challenger for state Auditor General, is pro-life while incumbent Eugene DePasquale is pro-abortion.

## Pennsylvania Treasurer

In the race for State Treasurer, the Federation PAC has determined that Republican Otto Voit is pro-life and Democrat Joe Torsella is pro-abortion.

## Erie-Area Members of Congress

Erie-area U.S. Representatives Mike Kelly (R-3rd District) and Glenn Thompson (R-5th District) both have excellent pro-life voting records. They are running unopposed in the primary election. Both Congressmen regularly attend People for Life's annual Pro-Life Breakfast, held every January.

## Pennsylvania Legislators, Erie Area

As of press time, the Federation PAC has endorsed the following Erie-area legislative candidates in the Republican primary: Greg Lucas (3rd District), Rep. Curt Sonney (4th District), Rep. Brad Roae (6th District), and Rep. Parke Wentling (17th district). In addition, Patrick Fuller, a Republican candidate for the 2nd House District, takes a solid pro-life position. Fuller frequently participates in People for Life functions.

In the Democratic primary, Rep. Patrick Harkins (1st District) and Rep. Ryan Bizzarro (3rd District) are also considered pro-life.

# The March for Life 'Big Adventure'

Even with summer approaching, we are still thinking about this year's January pro-life activities, the Erie March for Life, the 38th Annual Pro-Life Breakfast, and the 43rd Annual March for Life Bus Trip (especially the bus trip!). All three were blessed with success: good attendance, good media coverage, and *good weather*.

Now, that statement might raise a few eyebrows. Nearly everyone, it seems, heard the news reports about our "big adventure" during the March for Life Bus Trip: getting stranded for 24 hours in the middle of the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

Yes, it was snowing as our three buses made their way home from Washington, but the wind was calm, visibility was good, and we were making steady progress. Then, miles ahead, two tractor-trailer rigs, we later learned, lost control on the approach to the

Allegheny Mountain Tunnel and came to rest blocking the westbound lanes. Traffic came to a standstill on the steepest grade of the entire Turnpike, and our buses became part of a seven to ten mile traffic jam. There were no collisions, not even a tense moment. We simply rolled to a gentle stop around 9 p.m. Friday evening. We never moved again until about 9 p.m. Saturday evening!

But what about that massive snow storm? Throughout the morning and early afternoon on Friday, the day of the March, there was no snow or wind at all. The March was actually blessed with good weather! It took place without a hitch. A light snow was falling by mid-afternoon, something far from unusual for a day in January at the March for Life.

Nearly everyone who needed to leave DC was probably long-gone by the time Winter Storm Jonas arrived in full force late that

night, dumping three feet of snow or more on the entire area.

Just to be on the safe side, we left DC at 4 p.m., an hour earlier than usual. Some of the heavier snow from Storm Jonas did overtake us eventually, but only because a routine accident in just a few of inches of snow held us back. Some buses from northwestern Pennsylvania got through the Allegheny Tunnel before the accident and made it home nearly on-schedule.

The ominous predictions about Storm Jonas did dissuade some of our Erie-area marchers. (Hopefully some of them will be able to join us next year.) Nevertheless, about 150 people made the trip.

Despite the major inconvenience, to say the least, of an extra 24 hours on a bus, our

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marchers dealt with the situation amazingly well, with great patience and a beautiful spirit of comradery. Our thanks and admiration go out to everyone who made the trip! We are also grateful to the bus drivers from Anderson Coach & Travel, whose professionalism and genuine concern for their passengers was exemplary, and very reassuring to all of us.

The drivers kept the buses toasty warm, and each bus had plenty of AC outlets so everyone could keep their cell phones charged and stay connected with the outside world through Facebook and Twitter.

The weather during the day on Saturday was mild enough for people to get off the buses and stretch their legs. In fact, the younger people had a blast, out playing in the new-fallen snow.

We finally arrived back in Erie at about 3:30 a.m., Sunday morning. In the following

days, we heard people say that the experience was actually a very positive one, even an inspiration or a spiritual highpoint in some cases. It was definitely something that will be long remembered.

For People for Life as an organization, the silver lining was the news coverage. Neither the March for Life nor the Bus Trip ever received the amount of local news media attention that it received this year. Even the national news organizations, which usually ignore the March for Life entirely, picked up on the Turnpike story, owing to the fact that several dozen other March for Life buses were stranded along with ours. We shared our Big Adventure with marchers from as far away as Kansas, Nebraska, and South Dakota.

National Right to Life News covered the story, of course, and published a number of first-hand accounts of the Turnpike

experience from various pro-life groups, including an article by People for Life Director Tim Broderick.

### Election of Officers

The annual election meeting of People for Life will be held at our office at 1625 W. 26th St., Erie, Pennsylvania on Monday, May 16, 2016 beginning at 6:45 p.m. Members whose dues are paid one month in advance of the meeting will be eligible to vote. The nominees are: Tim Broderick for president, Carol Struchen for treasurer, Mark Borowy for secretary, Marielle Lafaro for first vice-president, Gretchen Lorei for second vice-president, and Dale Klobusnik for third vice-president. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor with the permission of the nominee, who must be a current member of People for Life.

## Memorials

<i>Given by</i>	<i>In Memory of</i>	<i>Given by</i>	<i>In Memory of</i>
Gretchen & Paul Lorei Scott Peskorski David & Mary Louise Capan Josephine E. McCallion David Wayman Kathy Wayman Gary & Barbara Kolarik Ray & Peggy Fitzgerald	Elizabeth (Agnes) Ahrens William Buseck William Buseck Nicholas Filby Federick L. Graf Federick L. Graf Bill Hannigan Bill Heintz	Bob & Eleanor Lindenberger Thelma Manendo Mary Nagy Randy & Nancy Pertl Allen Erickson Savnik Family Ray & Peg Fitzgerald David & Kathy Wayman	Deceased Brothers & Sisters Louis Manendo William Nagy "Uncle" Milt Pertl Teri Rhodes Steve Savnik Louise Truchanowicz Jane Wayman-Waite

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 valued and protected. The Erie Echo is published in Erie, PA by People for Life Inc., Tim Broderick, Editor.

## JOIN PEOPLE FOR LIFE OR MAKE A DONATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
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Church, Business, Civic Organization, etc.

1. MEMBERSHIP DONATION    New     Renewal     DUES:    Individual \$10     Family \$20     Senior Citizen \$5   
                                  Student \$5     Group \$25     Patron \$50     Benefactor \$100

2. MEMORIAL DONATION AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_ In Memory Of  or In Honor Of  \_\_\_\_\_

3. GENERAL DONATION AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_ Specify if for a certain purpose: \_\_\_\_\_ 4. TOTAL ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

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

- VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**
- \_\_\_ Educational Booths
  - \_\_\_ Phone Calling
  - \_\_\_ Office Attendant
  - \_\_\_ Newsletter Mailing
  - \_\_\_ Literature Distribution
  - \_\_\_ Public Demonstrations
  - \_\_\_ Pro-Life Breakfast Worker
  - \_\_\_ March For Life Bus Trip Worker
  - \_\_\_ Mother's Day Carnation Project
  - \_\_\_ Erie March for Life 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

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**PEOPLE FOR LIFE**  
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**— Office Location —**  
 1625 W. 26th St.; Erie, PA  
 Open 9:30 to 3:30 weekdays  
 Call for evening and Saturday hours

## FROM PAGE 1 First Mother's Day

The Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church was rededicated on May 15, 1972 as the International Mother's Day Shrine.

Anna valued the carnation, especially the white carnation, for its symbolism, which she explained in these words:

*Its whiteness is to symbolize the truth, purity and broad-  
charity of mother love; its  
fragrance, her memory and her  
prayers. The carnation does not  
drop its petals, but hugs them to  
its heart as it dies, and so, too,  
mothers hug their children to  
their hearts, their mother love  
never dying. When I selected  
this flower, I was remembering  
my mother's bed of white pinks [a evergreen  
perennial with small, fragrant blooms].*

In 1912 Anna Marie Jarvis incorporated the Mother's Day International Association to encourage national and international recognition of the day. By 1914, when President Wilson made Mother's Day, the second Sunday in May, a national observance, the holiday had already spread to all U.S. states and a number of foreign countries, including Canada, Mexico, China, Japan, and countries in South America and Africa.

Unable to keep up with the demand for white Mother's Day carnations, the floral industry during the 1920s promoted the practice of wearing a white carnation to honor a deceased mother or a red (or other-colored) carnation to honor a living mother. This grew into a tradition that many people still observe today.

## Mother's Day Carnations

Carnations in a dazzling array of colors will be available all Mother's Day weekend at our booth in the Millcreek Mall; our central distribution point at Rog's Inc, on German St. between 18th & 19th; and at many area churches. Donations of \$1 per carnation or \$5

## 2016 PRO-LIFE CALENDAR 2017

<b>April 20</b>	General Meeting with a talk by Dr. Frank Pregler - Blasco Library
<b>April 22</b>	Last day for County Board of Elections to receive absentee ballots
<b>April 26</b>	Pennsylvania Presidential Primary Election
<b>May 5-8</b>	Mother's Day and Mother's Day Carnation Project - Volunteer!
<b>May 16</b>	Annual Election Meeting - 1625 W. 26th St., Erie, PA, 6:45 p.m.
<b>June 1-4</b>	Educational Booth - Erie Wild Rib Cook Off & Music Festival
<b>June 16-18</b>	Educational Booth - Lake City Fire Company Carnival
<b>June 19</b>	Father's Day / Father's Day Carnation Project
<b>July 7-9</b>	National Right to Life Convention - Herndon, Virginia
<b>July 8-9</b>	Educational Booth - French Creek Festival, Union City, PA
<b>July 19-23</b>	Educational Booth - Cherry Festival, North East, PA
<b>Aug. 4-6</b>	Educational Booth - Dan Rice Days, Girard
<b>**Aug. 9**</b>	Erie Gives Day - Support the People for Life Education Fundq thx!
<b>Aug. 18-20</b>	Educational Booth - Celebrate Erie
<b>Aug. 29-9/3</b>	Educational Booth - Erie County Fair, Wattsburg
<b>Sept. 5-10</b>	Educational Booth - Waterford Community Fair
<b>Sept. 13-17</b>	Educational Booth - Albion Area Fair
<b>Oct. 8</b>	Third Annual Life Run 5K and Walk - North East, PA
<b>Oct. 11</b>	Last day to register in Pennsylvania for the Presidential Election
<b>Oct. 17</b>	General Meeting, 6:45 p.m. - 1625 W. 26th St.
<b>Nov. 8</b>	2016 Presidential Election
<b>Jan. 14</b>	Pro-Life Breakfast - Speakers: Ruth Graham & Windsor Bauders

for each half-dozen will help support our pro-life educational work.

**Volunteers Needed** Lots of volunteers will be needed for a variety of assignments from May 5 through May 9, including corsage makers, delivery drivers, people to staff our booth at the Millcreek Mall, and literally dozens of volunteers to process the carnations at our distribution center. Call, text (814) 882-1333, e-mail, or send a Facebook message as soon as possible to volunteer or get more information.

## Next Life Run 5K

Planning is underway for our 3rd Annual Life Run 5K. If you like to run or walk, please join us at beautiful Burch Farms in North East on October 8, the second Saturday of October. Get more information and updates at [www.facebook.com/LifeRunErie](http://www.facebook.com/LifeRunErie). Sign up online or download a registration form at [www.peopleforlife.life/runinfo](http://www.peopleforlife.life/runinfo). Forms are also available on request.

Runners and walkers have the option of raising extra funds for our pro-life educational programs by recruiting their own sponsors. Forms for this purpose can also be downloaded using the website link above.

If you have a business and would like to be a sponsor, please let us know or go straight to the online registration form: [www.conta.cc/1RgMHXv](http://www.conta.cc/1RgMHXv) (case-sensitive.) We would love to display your business or organization on our souvenir race t-shirts as a token of our appreciation.

## Vote Pro-Life Materials

This is a big year for the pro-life cause. Our nation will vote for a new president, 435 U.S. Representatives and 34 U.S. Senators. Pennsylvania voters will choose one U.S. Senator, 18 U.S. Representatives, 203 state Representatives, 25 state Senators, and candidates for

several important statewide offices. In many cases, the contrast between the candidates this fall will be dramatic.

In this and every election, the most important issue is protection for all human lives: All lives matter. But sometimes people need to be reminded, as we all know.

You can help by using People for Life's "Vote Pro-Life" yard signs, bumper stickers, static clings, and/or white vinyl cutouts. The yard signs, made of weatherproof vinyl, are only \$6.50; vinyl cutouts are \$3; stickers and clings are \$1. We even have "Vote Pro-Life" and "Single Issue Voter" lapel pins in several attractive styles. Stop by People for Life anytime and see our complete selection, or look us up at your favorite outdoor community events this summer.

## PRO-LIFE BREAKFAST NEWS

It's very early to be talking about our plans for next January, but we can't wait to tell you: Ruth Graham, the third child of Evangelist Billy Graham, and her daughter Windsor Bauders will be the main speakers at the 39th Annual Pro-Life Breakfast on January 14, 2017! Their personal stories are compelling, shocking perhaps, and definitely inspiring. Let's just say, they've walked the pro-life walk in more ways that you would ever imagine.