## THE ERIE ECHO

"voice for life"

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## The Post-Roe March for Life

The March for Life has taken place in Washington, DC on or near the January 22 anniversary of Roe v. Wade every year since 1974. This January will mark 50 years since that infamous Supreme Court ruling.

When Roe was overturned by the Dobbs decision this past June, many people wondered if the 2023 March for Life might be canceled. The immediate goal of the March, putting an end to Roe v. Wade, had been achieved. The prevailing wisdom was that abortion was no longer an issue at the federal level and was now exclusively a matter for state governments to deal with. There might be a final, celebratory March for Life to mark the 50th anniversary of Roe, but that would probably be the end of it.

Everyone soon realized, though, that more work to be done at the state level does not translate into less work to be done at the national level. The human rights battle of our time is going to continue not only in the state capitals but also in Washington, DC. President Biden made this clear as recently as October 18 when he said he wanted a federal slush fund to cover abortion-related expenses including lost wages, travel, and child care.

To paraphrase an announcement from the March for Life, there will be no retreating from the streets of Washington! The March for Life will continue, this January and into the future. What changes might be in store as the March adapts to the post-Roe landscape remain to be seen. One interesting adjustment

for 2023 is the destination of the March, which will change from the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court to the steps of the U.S. Capitol Building. With Roe a dead letter, the Congress will be the arena for more battles than ever before.

The March for Life has confirmed that the venerable tradition of marching in January will continue. This makes sense, because each new session of Congress opens in January. This is also when presidential inaugurations take place. Warmer weather might be nice, but winter weather in DC is not usually so bad. One year, while a winter storm was raging back home in Erie, we were marching on Constitution Avenue in our shirtsleeves.

## Help! Skyrocketing Bus Prices

People for Life March for Life Bus Trip is a tradition as long and venerable as the March for Life itself. Like the March, it will continue. But it is facing a new challenge.

For marchers from the Erie area, going to the March for Life requires a considerable investment in both time and money. The costs have been increasing over the years, but only gradually, from \$30 per seat and \$2.20 for Metro fare in 1998 to \$60 per seat and \$10.90 for Metro fare last year. That works out to an increase of about 4% per year.

But this year the charter bus industry has been hit hard by inflation. Prices have gone through the roof. We paid \$3,179 per bus in January 2022. This January, we will pay \$4279 per bus. That is a 35% increase in only one year. Instead of \$60 per seat, it will take \$80 per seat to break even. The rising cost of fuel and a shortage of drivers are blamed. Anderson Coach & Travel, our regular bus company, is still offering the best price of the three major motor coach companies in our area, and we are happy that we are able to stay with them.

We would like to accommodate even more marchers than usual for this historic, 50th Anniversary March, the first March for Life in a post-Roe America. But the sticker shock alone, plus the actual cost, will be working against us. We are hoping that some generous sponsor/underwriters will step forward and help reduce those seat prices. It will take \$1100 per bus just to defray this latest price increase. The cost of any unfilled seats comes directly out of People for Lifeøs pocket, so õunderwritersö probably best characterizes the kind of help we need.

We have cautiously reserved only a single bus. We usually reserve three or more. If we can quickly raise \$1,100, we can begin advertising seats at the same price as last January or just slightly higher. This will get the ball rolling. Two thousand dollars will give us the confidence to charter a second bus.

Please consider making this years Bus Trip one of your pro-life priorities with a donation earmarked for this effort. And please explain our situation to any potential donors that you might be able to approach.

We would also like to continue helping individuals one at a time with full and partial sponsorships, but we know that at \$80 per seat a lot of people will hesitate even to ask for help and then decide to just stay home.

We see the Bus Trip as more than merely another way to get to the March. It is a valuable solution for school and church groups. It gives the local TV stations something to report, generating very valuable publicity for the pro-life cause. Perhaps most importantly, our Bus Trip brings together a diverse group of people from all parts of the Erie-area, demonstrating that the pro-life community welcomes everyone and that the pro-life cause transcends categories such as church, school, age groups, demographics, and social status. Defending life is everyone business; that is the message.

There is no time to lose. We have to settle on a cost per seat and start advertising very soon. Your donation will help with a very pressing, practical problem.

#### **PA March for Life**

People for Life sat out the first PA March for Life in September 2021, but after hearing many good reports about the event, we decided we needed to get involved this year.

Our chartered bus left Erie in the early

morning darkness of Monday, September 19, from Gabe

on upper Peach St. We were back home by 8:30 that evening.

Thirty-five people signed up to go to Harrisburg with us, including a group from Corry. After cancellations due to illness and schedule changes, 28 people made the trip.

We were glad that, at least, the bus was half-filled, but we will try to do a lot better next year. The fight for life in Harrisburg will only intensify, on the abortion front but also in regard to euthanasia and assisted suicide.

We arrived at the state Capitol complex in continued on page 2

## FROM PAGE 1 PA March for Life

Harrisburg at 10:30 a.m. We disembarked just around the corner from the Capitol steps, where the pre-March rally was already getting underway.

There were some very powerful speakers, including Kathy Barnette, one of the candidates for U.S. Senate in the Republican primary election earlier this year, and Ann McElhinney, coauthor of *Gosnell* and the Special Guest Speaker at the People for Life Pro-Life Breakfast in January 2018.

Addressing 6,000 people just outside the Capitol Building, Annos Irish temper flared as she criticized former Governor Tom Ridge

and the PA Department of Health for their culpability in the Gosnell affair, just like she did at the Pro-Life Breakfast.

Enjoying the rally from the top of the Capitol steps, People for Life Executive Director Tim Broderick, VP Gretchen Lorei, and Board Secretary Shauna Jackson were honored to spend some time chatting with pro-life state Rep. Kathy Rapp of Warren, pro-life state Rep. Brad Roae of Meadville, and pro-life Congressman Glenn Thompson, who had dropped in for the March on his way to Washington, DC.

Then it was time to march. We circled the entire Capitol complex. The DC March for Life is longer, but it is safe to say that everyone was satisfied that they had gotten

their moneys worth of exercise, even those of us who came all the way from Erie.

There was ample time after the event for our people to get inside the Capitol and check-in with their legislators. In contrast to the DC March, entering the state Capitol and legislative office buildings was quick and easy. It took just a few minutes to pass through the metal detectors.

Pro-abortion signs and slogans on some legislatorsø office doors were an eye-opener.

Veteran Pennsylvania lawmakers said later that this was the largest gathering they had ever seen at the state Capitol. A proabortion rally, planned well in advance as a response to the PA March for Life, was held the next day. Fewer than 80 people showed up.

## FROM PAGE 6 General Election

The challenger in the race for state Senate in the 50th District, Rianna Czech (D), is proabortion. In a candidate forum on October 14 in Hermitage, Czech said, õI do not believe a government entity should decide what we as a population do with our bodies.ö On May 26, she tweeted, õSupport Senate Candidate [sic] like myself who will fight for your body, I need your help to stop this injustice [SB956] from happening.ö She was referring to the pending amendment that would keep the Pennsylvania constitution abortion-neutral, maintaining the prohibition on third-trimester abortions and taxpayer funding of abortion.

#### State House Candidates

The remainder of this report pertains to candidates for the Pennsylvania state House of Representatives.

In District 1, incumbent state Rep. Pat Harkins (D) is pro-abortion. He faces no Republican opposition. Harkins summed up his position in a recent *Erie Times-News* interview. õUltimately, I believe this is an issue that should be between a woman and her physician.ö

In District 2, incumbent state Rep. Bob Merski (D) is pro-abortion. Challenger Mike Pace (R) describes himself as õpro-life.ö A statement by Pace, published in the October 14 Erie Times-News, included the following words: õThe Supreme Court recently decided that abortion is a state issue not a federal issue. There will be no perfect solution, but Pennsylvania@s current law is not extreme in either direction and I will support it. I respect the sanctity of life and will bring that viewpoint to Harrisburg.ö Unfortunately, Pennsylvaniags current law is quite extreme, allowing abortion on demand during the entire first six months, the time when about 98% of all abortions are carried out. People for Life reached out to Pace via email and Facebook Messenger requesting additional information but did not get a reply.

In District 3, incumbent state Rep. Ryan Bizzarro (D) is pro-abortion. Challenger Joe Kujawa (R) is pro-life and endorsed by PPLF. Kujawa is a pastor as well as a small businessman. He and his wife are members of People for Life. Kujawaøs congregations have also been supportive of our organization.

State House District 4 is an open seat due to the retirement of pro-life state Rep. Curt Sonney (R). The Democratic candidate, Chelsea Oliver, is pro-abortion and endorsed by Planned Parenthood. Oliver we website states: õNow, lawmakers are pushing to ban abortion completely éven in the case of rape, incest, and risk to the life of the mother. This extremism needs to be stopped. It we time we codify reproductive freedoms in the Pennsylvania constitution.ö

Republican candidate Jake Banta is not an easy one to figure out. õI choose life and I choose choice,ö was one of his comments in an online discussion. To some people he might sound like a person who is cleverly trying to play both sides of the issue. A more sympathetic reading is that he sounds like a person whose heart tells him that abortion is evil but whose head has been filled with proabortion lies and propaganda.

Here is a little potpourri of his remarks about abortion: õBans do not work. We need to educate women on why [motherhood] is the greatest thing only they can do and build programs to help them.ö / õI cannot force a woman in her medical decision when it comes to her body.ö / õA womanøs body is hers. You need to stop telling them that they dongt have a right to it.ö / õTo me overturning [Roe v. Wade] will only lead to underground death surgery or botched abortions etc.ö/ õIMHO, you need to appeal to the masses showing baby parts being sold.ö / õWe need to change the mindset of women and your mission will be complete. This is done through media.ö Banta sees compassion and education rather than laws as the most effective way to influence women, but perhaps he has not given enough thought to what is needed (laws) to restrain coldblooded, rogue doctors and unscrupulous organizations like Planned Parenthood.

In District 6, incumbent state Rep. Brad Roae (R) has a 100% pro-life voting record and is endorsed by PPLF. He is a frequent guest at the Pro-Life Breakfast. Challenger Nerissa Galt (D) is pro-abortion and endorsed by Planned Parenthood. In August, she emceed a õreproductive rights rallyö in Meadvilles Diamond Park. On October 8, she spoke at the womens abortion march in Erie (along with former Congresswoman Kathy Dahlkemper, we might add).

In District 7, incumbent Parke Wentling (R) has a 100% pro-life voting record and is endorsed by the PPLF. He frequently attends the Pro-Life Breakfast. Challenger Timothy McGonigle (D) submitted mostly pro-life responses to our questionnaire. But he stipulated exceptions in cases of rape and incest as well as owhen the mother life is compromised due to the pregnancy.ö

In District 65, incumbent Kathy Rapp (R), is unopposed. She is the majority Co-Chair of the House Pro-Life Caucus and the Chair of the House Health Committee. She has a 100% pro-life voting record and has sponsored many important pro-life bills. She is endorsed by PPLF.

#### Goodbye to Roe Rally

People for Life hosted a rally in Perry Square last June, just days after the Supreme Court issued the Dobbs decision overturning Roe v. Wade. We wanted to act as soon as possible after the ruling was issued, while the community and especially the news media were still paying attention. Approximately 100 people attended. This was an excellent turnout for 6 p.m. on a Tuesday and on short notice.

The attendees were completely peaceful and dignified, just as you would expect. The only outside interference came from a few motorists who drove by shouting out their windows. Those in attendance were advised to temper their enthusiasm with the realization continued on page 3

## FROM PAGE 2 Goodbye Roe

that the overturn of Roe v. Wade is merely a new beginning, the opening of a door to a whole new set of political, legislative, and educational challenges. Advances in the public policy arena, in order to be sustainable, must be matched with progress in winning hearts and minds. Excessive celebration or gloating over our victory would not be helpful in this regard.

Time flew by quickly during the hourlong rally as a series of speakers addressed the crowd from the pavilion in West Perry Square. Rev. Kevin Nelson, the pastor of Abundant Life Church, opened and closed with a prayer and some inspiring remarks. Melanie Brewer spoke first, on behalf of prolife Congressman Mike Kelly. Then came Sarah White, President of Gannon Students for Life; Dr Jeffrey McGovern; Attorney Joe Caulfield; and finally Shauna Jackson, People for Lifeøs Board Secretary and the Susan B. Anthony List Field Director for N.W. PA.

People for Life Executive Director Tim Broderick served as emcee.

Very importantly, both Erie TV news departments covered the rally. People for Life VP Gretchen Lorei and Students for Life President Sarah White did interviews.

We did not apply for an official special events permit from the City of Erie, but the City representative we spoke with prior to the rally kindly recognized and affirmed our constitutional freedoms of speech and assembly.

The Police Department was advised of our plans. Having the police on standby is always a comfort. It was more comforting than usual in the midst of the heightened tensions that followed the Dobbs decision.

#### Life Run 2022

People for Life annual Life Run 5K/10K & Fun Walk was held on Saturday morning, October 8. The event was based once again at Slade Park in Harborcreek Township.

Registrations increased considerable this year. There were 110 runners and walkers, compared to 60 last year. Twenty-five of those were 10K (6.2 mile) runners, compared to only two last year. We look forward to even more dramatic growth for this fun event next year and into the future.

In the 10K race, the overall top male finishers were Hunter Ksenich of North East with a time of 41:24.1, Paul Rohler of Erie with a time of 45:23.1, and John Clark of Cranesville with a time of 46:08.9. The overall top female finishers were Olivia Zeigler of Albion with a time of 47:04, April Schreiber of Wattsburg with a time of 48:21.8, and Holly King of Albion with a time of 51:42.7.

In the 5K, the overall top male finishers were James Clark of Cranesville with a time of 20:57.0, Joshua Dunsworth of Erie with a time of 22:18.5, and Peter Caulfield of

Waterford with a time of 22:23.7. The overall top female finishers were Cara Bako of Erie with a time of 22:28.6, Analiese Shoaf of West Springfield with a time of 24:24.7, and Adrienne Shoaf of West Springfield with a time of 26:41.7. (Female list first, next time!)

Special thanks go out to: Harborcreek
Township for permission to use of the Slade
Park facilities, Erie County Councilman
Brian Shank for his complimentary DJ
services, Maya Brothers Construction for
loaning 50 brand new orange traffic cones,
Cathedral Prep for sending a team of
volunteers, local winemaker Bill Gross for
donating a case of tasty door prizes, Jim Lang
for his timing services, Burch Farms Country
Market for complimentary wine tasting, Race
Director Karli Van Der Volgen, Emcee Paul
Lorei, and the Life Run planning committee.

Our Life Run Sponsor/Advertisers deserve everyones admiration and support. Our top-level sponsors were: Beer & Pop Discount Warehouse; Big Foot Pest Control; Brighter 2 Morrows Counseling; Cathedral Preparatory School; Frank C. Pregler, DO; Hallman Auto Group; Heritage Chiropractic Inc; Joseph McCormick Construction Co.; Kingdom Financial Foundation; Knights of Columbus Council 4262; Lafaro Insurance Agency; Lorei Portraits; and Lucky Dog Stay and Play.

Please support our sponsors! See more of them at <a href="https://www.peopleforlife.org">www.peopleforlife.org</a>.

#### First one since the demise of Roe v. Wade!

## **45th Annual Pro-Life Breakfast**

On January 14, 2023, the Erie pro-life community will gather at the Erie Bayfront Convention Center for People for Life 45th Annual Pro-Life Breakfastô the first ever Pro-Life Breakfast in a post-Roe world!

A super-special guest speaker, Patricia Sandoval, has been invited to join us, and you are invited, too.

The Breakfast will mark an historic milestone. It will be 50 years since the Roe v. Wade decision of January 22, 1973 usheredin a half-century of deathóbut also 50 years of pro-life determination and tireless hard work.

The details are familiar. Doors open at 8 a.m. The program begins at 9 a.m. and concludes by 11:30 a.m. Complimentary child care will be available.

Online reservations will be available soon, but it is not too early to make reservations through the mail. Send \$22 per seat with your name, address, and phone number to People for Life; P.O. Box 1126; Erie, PA 16512. You can also stop at People for Life, 1625 W. 26th St.

We place a *reserved* sign on the table for groups of eight or more. Maybe you can gather a group to come with you. Each table will seat up to 10 people.

Patricia Sandoval is very popular and will surely attract a sizeable attendance. A table of 10 is already reserved for a lady who lives in Virginia!

Patricia is an international pro-life speaker in high demand. She travels the world sharing the story of her three abortions, work behind the hidden doors of Planned Parenthood, and nearly three years of living on the street as a homeless drug addict.

Her story tells of much trauma and hardship, but it is ultimately a story of transformation, hope, and post abortion healing.

Patricia currently hosts a weekly television program, *Pro-Life Report*, on EWTN Español. Her biography, the highly acclaimed book *Transfigured*, has been translated into several languages. She is featured in a new pro-life documentary called, *The Matter of Life*.

Please help us publicize the Pro-Life Breakfast and tell people about Patricia Sandoval. Watch for information on peopleforlife.org and <u>facebook.com/</u> <u>prolifebreakfast</u> that you will be able to share online and offline. There will also be posters to download or take from our W. 26th St. HQ.



Patricia Sandoval
Photo credit: HazteOir.org

Patricia will be an excellent speaker for young people to hear. Now is the time to alert schools and church youth groups.

Patricia® family is originally from Mexico, and she is fluent in Spanish. This might be a good opportunity to introduce more people of Mexican heritage and other members of the Erie Hispanic community to the People for Life pro-life community.

#### **Chatting with Sonya**

People for Life Executive Director Tim Broderick and Karli Van Der Volgen, one of our newer board members, participated in panel discussions on two episodes of *Chatting with Sonya & Friends*. WICU-TV aired the prerecorded shows on two Sunday mornings in July and several times over the following weekdays. The first show was recorded just days after the Dobbs decision was handed down.

Tim and Karli quickly realized that they were not chatting with like-minded people. Sonya and her three friends were all firmly in the pro-abortion camp. Our side was outnumbered four to one; the two guests were only allowed to engage with the panel one at a time. The panel members were, nevertheless, cordial, and they listened respectfully.

Tim and Karli returned three weeks later to record the second episode. Perhaps the panel had more fully considered the implications of the Dobbs decision by then, because the gloves were off.

Sonya and her friends zeroed in like a laser beam on the very unfortunate case of a 10-year old Ohio girl who was impregnated by a 27 year old man. The story broke just three days after the Dobbs decision and became a very high profile news story. The girl, six-weeks pregnant, was transported to Indiana for an abortion. The panel members were armed with notes, newspaper citations and, it seemed, a coordinated attack strategy.

Both People for Life representatives held firm to the core pro-life principle that all human beings, born and pre-born, are equally valuable and must not be killed in any attempt to improve a difficult situation short of a grave medical risk.

Tim and Karli were challenged with stories from the *New York Times*, and other such unreliable disseminators of pro-abortion propaganda, about doctors refusing to provide legitimate medical care to pregnant women in emergency situations due to fears of prosecution under pro-life state laws. The two did their best to clarify that intentional killing is entirely different than accepting the loss of a life as an unintended and unavoidable side-effect of actions meant to avoid the death of another person. This distinction is, of course, recognized by all states with pro-life laws on the books.

As usually happens, the pre-born child was being ignored by the pro-abortion side, and at times even denigrated. The relativistic mindset that everyone should be free to determine for themselves if something is right or wrong was also in play. If you want to believe the fetus a big deal, well fine. That is your choice. But if you want to believe the fetus doesnot count, you, too, should have your, you know, choice.

Tim could not resist pointing to American slavery as an example of human beings

devaluing, dehumanizing, and marginalizing an entire class of other human beings.

Prior to 1865, lots of nice, sincere people honestly believed that slavery was a benefit to all concerned. They were so blind as to think that Blacks were not really human in the same sense as whites. It was their honest opinion, and they demanded their right to ochoose. But sincerely-held opinions did not make slavery right. It was an objective evil. The choice to enslave had to be denied by the force of law.

The analogy was not well-received by the rest of the panel, all of whom happened to be Black. It was pretty icy in the studio from that point forward. We have not heard from Sonya since that evening. Tim and Karli would, however, be pleased to record a third episode if they are ever invited to do so.

#### That wasn't our ad

We were dismayed to find a full-page advertisement on the back of the October 9, 2022 *Erie Times-News* õLivingö section that carried the disclaimer, õPaid for by People for Life.ö Such disclaimers are mandatory on political (electioneering) advertisements. But we did not pay for that ad and knew nothing about it.

We were incorporated as People for Life, Inc. in 1975 and have been active in the Erie area ever since that time. So, we would certainly not think that anyone could misuse our name like that, unwittingly.

The ad urged people to vote for Dr. Oz and Doug Mastriano. This would be a big nono for People for Life because of our IRS non-profit status.

We were most uncomfortable with how the ad appealed to the general public to vote pro-life using Biblical and theological arguments almost exclusively. To be clear, our concern was not with the validity of the arguments, but rather with the way the message might be perceived by todayøs average American voter.

We are very aware that our pro-abortion opponents never miss an opportunity to characterize opposition to abortion as a religious crusade. Why? The obvious reason is that they think it helps them keep abortion legal. The way they tell it, the pro-life cause amounts to one group of zealots trying to force its particular religious beliefs on the entire population. They even coined a new term for it recently, õChristian Nationalism.ö

We immediately registered a complaint with the *Erie Times-News*. To our relief, the newspaper said they would be happy to give us a full page in the paper to set the record straight. We did run such an ad of our own in the Sunday, October 23 edition.

We used the ad to better-introduce, or reintroduce, ourselves to the Erie community and to explain how everyone can know that abortion is wrong by reason alone, as follows.

õGood laws are not based on, and do

not impose, a religious belief or the precepts of a religious text. Laws must be based on objective facts, sound reasoning, and the kinds of truths that Thomas Jefferson described as -self-evident.ø

õWe hold as an *objective fact* that each of us began our existence as a genetically complete and unique member of the human species at conception.

õWe know that no one has a right to take our own life. No proof is necessary. There are many rights that we value dearly. But no right is more important than our right not to be killed. This, too, is self-evident.

õIt is also self-evident that human rights do not depend on size or self-sufficiency. The helplessness of a newborn or toddler, far from diminishing his or her right to life, only intensifies the obligation we feel to care and protect.

õThese, friends, are reasons why all governments have a duty to protect and defend every human life, regardless of age, ability, or place of residence. Commonsense reasons like these, not religious sentiments, are the proper basis for just laws.ö

Our best information so far indicates that the original ad was placed by a well-meaning pro-life individual who was sincerely trying to help the pro-life cause.

#### **Post-Roe Pro-Life Booths**

People for Life spent a total of 33 days being pro-life ambassadors at nine community events this summer and fall.

Our first event after the release of the Dobbs decision was the North East Firemenøs Cherry Festival. No one was expecting any major trouble, but the possibility of some turbulence was not ruled out. A number of people made a point to stop at our tent just to see how we were doing and ask if there had been any problems. The event organizers were concerned for us as well.

There did seem to be just a little more negativity than usual, as evidenced by some people demeanor and facial expressions. But the only memorable incident occurred when a gentleman began shouting from a distance and then approached the booth complaining that the two people staffing the booth had better not try to stop his two daughters from, shall we say, having his grandkids destroyed. Our response was very deliberately muted, of course. The man continued on his way.

The rest of the educational outreach season was very normal, just the occasional middle finger or wagging head. Hey, if everyone was thrilled to see us, our mission would be accomplished and we could just stay home or go fishing.

#### Fetterman Protests

Erie activists came out on behalf of the prolife cause at two appearances by U.S. Senate candidate John Fetterman, on 8/12 at the Bayfront and 10/6 at the UE 506 Union Hall.

## **Billboard Project**

As our nation heads into the midterm elections, voters are pointing to abortion as one of their top four concerns. This emphasis on abortion was not anticipated when we decided earlier this year to invest in a series of Vote Pro-Life billboards. Then came the Dobbs decision. Pro-abortion voters were energized immediately. Pro-life voters were encouraged by the ruling, but the proabortion backlash was discouraging. It is been appalling to see so many corporations consumed by pro-abortion hysteria, vowing to do whatever it takes to make sure their employees keep doing away with their own offspring. Even the U.S. military is deploying resources to ensure that pro-life state laws will not dry up the rivers of blood.

We hope the billboards are providing an extra measure of inspiration for local pro-life residents, a sign that despite all the hype and hysteria generated by the Dobbs decision (and the news media) life, not abortion-killing, is the wave of the future.

Our first billboard went up in June, just days before the Dobbs decision. The number



of billboard locations has increased each month. As the November election approaches, there are *Vote Pro-Life* billboards at five locations around the Erie area, from Rt. 20 in Harborcreek to West 12th St. & Peninsula Dr. to Pine Ave. & East Grandview Blvd. The original plan was for a total of 10 month-long

locations. The number was increased to 12 after we received a \$1,000 donation to help pay for õthose powerful billboards.ö Several smaller billboard donations came in, too.

Pictures of the billboards at some of the various locations can be found at <a href="mailto:facebook.com/peopleforlife">facebook.com/peopleforlife</a>.

#### Memorials

# Given by In Memory of Marilyn Bartlett Angeline Berarducci Daniel J. Brabender Jane & Dan Brabender, Sr. Thelma Manendo Frank Burick John & Shirley Maxumczyk Frank Burick Larry & Char Neizmik Frank Burick

Larry & Char Neizmik Mary Lou & John Sima Matthew Chimenti Julianna M. Cicero

Anita Smith

na Frank Burick i Pauline Chimenti Pauline Chimenti Cynthia Manna

## Given by Joseph McCormick Construction Co.

Barbara Duchini

Given by

Marla J. Pellegrino

### In Memory of

John J. McCormick, Jr. Jackie Yohman, Rodger P. Eck, Nancy Pat Eck, Katherine Betty Eck.

#### In Honor of

Mothers and all women especially grandmothers, aunts, Godmothers, stepmothers, and teachers

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Best Phone	<del></del>			•
AFFILIATED WITH (e.g., church, organization	n, business)		WORK/PROFESSION _	
1. DONATION: \$1,000 □ \$5	500 🗆 \$250 🗆 \$100 🗆	\$50 □ \$25 □ \$10 □	Other Amount	
2. MEMBERSHIP DUES (one year	ar): Individual \$10 🔲	Family \$20  Senior Citi	zen /Student \$5 🗌	New ☐ Renewal ☐
3. TRIBUTE DONATION AMOUNT In Memory of  or In Honor of				
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Please make your check payable to:  PEOPLE FOR LIFE, INC. P.O. Box 1126 Erie, PA 16512		gistration and financial information of Department of State by calling to		ne obtained from the Pennsylvania

**PEOPLE FOR LIFE** www.PeopleforLife.life

phone (814) 882-1333 phone / fax (814) 459-1333 office@peopleforlife.org www.facebook.com/PeopleforLife

Mailing Address P.O. Box 1126 Erie, PA 16512 — Office Location — 1625 W. 26th St.; Erie, PA Open 10:00 to 5:00 weekdays Call for evening and Saturday hours **ERIE PA 16512** 

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## **General Election Candidate Report**

The following information is intended to assist you in preparing to vote on November 8 (or sooner). Because of People for Lifeøs non-profit status, we cannot provide a nice, neat list of who to vote for. But hopefully this report will help you better understand all of the candidates: their pro-life strengths and weaknesses; which ones can use extra pro-life reinforcement; and which ones appear to be a lost cause. õPro-lifeö and õpro-abortionö evaluations are based on questionnaires, public statements, and where applicable, voting records. Only candidates on ballots in northwestern PA are discussed.

#### Governor and Lt. Governor

Democratic candidate for governor Josh Shapiro is pro-abortion. He is endorsed by Planned Parenthood and the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL). Shapiro has stated: õI will stand firm in protecting a womanøs right to choose.ö õThroughout my career, I have always fought to protect the right to choose, and as governor, I will veto any attempt to further infringe upon Pennsylvaniansøreproductive rights.ö Shapiroøs running mate, candidate for lieutenant governor Austin Davis, is proabortion: õAs lieutenant governor, I will proudly stand beside Josh Shapiro as he vetoes legislation that would further restrict Pennsylvaniansøfundamental freedoms. Letøs

be clear: black maternal mortality is a crisis in Pennsylvania and further restricting a womenøs right to choose will only put more black women in danger.ö

Republican candidate for governor Doug Mastriano is pro-life and endorsed by the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation Political Action Committee (PPLF). In response to the Dobbs decision, Mastriano declared, õRoe v. Wade is rightly relegated to the ash heap of history. As the abortion debate returns to the states, Pennsylvania must be prepared to lead the nation in being a voice for the voiceless.ö Mastrianoß running mate, candidate for lieutenant governor Carrie DelRosso, is pro-life:

õAs the next PA lieutenant governor I look forward to the day I preside over a state Senate that steps forward with legislation toí restore the sanctity of life for all Pennsylvanians.ö

#### **U.S. Senate**

Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate John Fetterman is pro-abortion and endorsed by Planned Parenthood and NARAL. According to Fetterman, õThe right to an abortion is non-negotiableí when Iøm your next U.S. senator, I will vote to eliminate the filibuster and protect the right to an abortion.ö

Republican candidate for U.S. Senate Dr. Mehmet Oz is pro-life and endorsed by PPLF. Per Dr. Oz, olf life starts at conception, why do you care what stage our heart starts beating at? Itøs, you know, itøs still murder, if you were to terminate a child whether their heartøs beating or not.ö (May 10, 2022)

#### Congress (U.S. House)

Incumbent 16th District Congressman Mike Kelly (R), practically everyone would agree, is passionately pro-life. He has a 100% pro-life voting record and is endorsed by PPLF. Since he was first elected to Congress in 2010, Kelly has never missed our Pro-Life Breakfast, a long winter drive from his home in Butler. He has been a featured speaker at the Washington, DC March for

Life. In July of this year, Congressman Kelly met with People for Life® entire board of directors to discuss pro-life topics over lunch at The Brewerie at Union Station.

Mike Kellyøs challenger in the 16th District Dan Pastore (D) takes a pro-abortion position and is endorsed by NARAL. Pastore has stated, õI do believe in a womanøs right to choose, and the issue should be decided between a woman and her health care providers.ö In June, Pastore posted a meme that mocked Kellyøs respect for human lives before birth in a rather personal way: õYou want to force births in a world where women canøt feed their babies. Make it make sense.ö

Incumbent 15th District Congressman Glenn õGTö Thompson (R) has a 100% prolife voting record and is endorsed by PPLF He is no less passionately pro-life than his colleague Mike Kelly and has also been a frequent guest at the Pro-Life Breakfast.

Thompson® challenger in the 15th District Michael Molesevich (D) is proabortion. According to his website, the candidate takes umbrage at the thought of pre-born children enjoying some degree of legal protection: õMike supports the right of a woman to make her own decisions on health care. He is outraged by the recent Supreme Court decision denying women control of their own bodies and their Constitutional

right. Mike supports efforts to guarantee women the right to reproductive privacy in a post-Roe world, and supports the following actions: Codify Roe v. Wade into federal law...ö

#### 2022 Pro-Life Calendar 2023

Last day to request a PA mail-in or absentee ballot

Nov. 8	ELECTION DAY
Jan. 14	Pro-Life Breakfast - Bayfront Convention Center
Jan 19	Buses depart for the Washington, DC March for Life
Jan. 20	50th Anniversary March for Life
Jan. 21	March for Life buses return to Erie
Jan 28	Erie March for Life - Based at Perry Square, Erie
March 1	PA Pro-Life Federation Essay Contest Entries Due
March 20	General Meeting, 6:30 p.m 1625 W. 26th St., Erie
April 9	Easter
April 15	People for Life High School Oratory Contest - Erie
April 15	PA Pro-Life Federation Speech Contest Entries Du

April 24 People for Life Essay Contest Entries Due

May 14 Mothers Day

Nov. 1

June 18 Fathers Day

#### **State Senate**

The only state Senate race in our area this year is in the 50th District, south of Erie County. In that race, incumbent Sen. Michele Brooks (R) has a 100% pro-life voting record and is endorsed by PPLF. She is a frequent sponsor of pro-life legislation. Brooks has spoken at the Pro-Life Breakfast and was the keynote speaker at the Erie March for Life a few years ago.

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