

THE ERIE ECHO

"voice for life"

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November 2019

Speaker: Ryan Bomberger

Ryan Bomberger, a dynamic pro-life activist with a very powerful personal story, will be the special guest speaker this January 11 at the 42nd Annual Pro-Life Breakfast. The Erie area pro-life event of the year will be held once again at the Bayfront Convention Center.

Life has purpose is a theme that permeates Ryan's pro-life work. No life is meaningless. Every life has intrinsic value; no government, political party or individual can give us worth or take it away.

Ryan sees himself as proof that every life, all human beings, have a purpose, no matter the circumstances of their birth or how they were conceived. Ryan, you see, was conceived because his mother was the victim of a rape. Instead of abortion, his mom gave birth and placed Ryan for adoption six weeks later. Conceived by rape. Adopted and loved is how Ryan sums up his story.

Part of life's purpose is to be loved by

others. Ryan's birth mom, adoptive parents, and 12 siblings (most of them also adopted) surely fulfilled this purpose in Ryan's life.

Today, Ryan's purpose is manifest in his love for his wife Bethany and four children, two of whom are adopted, as well as in his national and international pro-life mission.

Ryan is using his considerable skills as a leader, an author, a speaker, and a graphic artist to hasten the day when the value of every life is recognized and every child is allowed to fulfill his or her purpose for existing. He is the cofounder and leader, with his wife Bethany, of the Radiance Foundation, an organization that specializes in creative ad campaigns, powerful multimedia presentations, fearless journalism, and compassionate community outreaches.

Ryan is widely respected, and his accomplishments are recognized by the most prominent pro-life organizations. He was

the main speaker at the March for Life Rose Dinner in 2014 and at the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation Celebrate Life Banquet in 2017. He has also appeared at the March for Life Rally in Washington, DC and the National Right to Life Convention.



Life Run 5K/10K

People for Life's sixth annual Life Run was held on October 12, once again at Burch Farms and Burch Farms Country Market on Sidehill Road in North East Township. We want to thank all of the 5K and 10K competitors and all of the Fun Walk participants for an interesting and exciting morning. Thanks as well to our volunteers, from child care providers to the road safety team!

Tim Burch and the Burch family were wonderful hosts as always. We really appreciate the use of their facilities and the run of their vineyards and apple orchards, and of course the free wine tasting they provide.

We were honored to have so many great sponsors. They will be recognized on our website for the next 12 months, but here are the top-level contributors: Hallman Auto Group, Knights of Columbus Council 4262 (North East), C3 Church, Frank C. Pregler, D.O., Family Honor Inc., John E. Baker, Certified Financial Planner, Kids Alive (ministry of C3 Church), Lafaro Insurance Agency, Lorei Portraits, and Luminary Distilling.

This year's roster included many serious athletes who turned in some very impressive times. In the 5K race, first place overall went

to Harry Balwick (35) of Erie with a time of 19:37.2 and second place went to Peter Caulfield (18) of Waterford with a time of 20:59.5. In the 10K, first place overall went to Pamela Wassell (55) of Erie with a time of 46:57.0 and second place went to Bridget Fetzner (45) of Erie with a nearly identical time of 46:57.6. We invite you to follow Life Run on Facebook, user ID LifeRunErie.

Proceeds from Life Run, of course, support the pro-life educational work of People for Life, Erie's voice for life since 1973.

Erie Gives Day

The People for Life Education Fund received strong support on Erie Gives Day this past August. The number of donors increased from 75 in 2018 to 90 this year. Donations totaled \$5429 this year compared to \$5390 in 2018 and \$3992 in 2017. Thank you to everyone!

Full-term abortion protested

Beto O'Rourke, a former congressman from Texas and currently a pro-abortion presidential candidate, campaigned in Erie on September 26, making a noontime appearance at Lavery Brewing Company on West 12th Street.

One month earlier, on August 26, O'Rourke had publicly proclaimed his support for unrestricted abortion throughout

the entire nine-month span of pregnancy.

About 40 people, including many longtime friends of People for Life, gathered on the sidewalk in front of Lavery Brewing to expose and denounce O'Rourke's shocking disregard for human rights and human lives. They held signs with positive pro-life messages and conducted themselves in exemplary fashion. Jet-24/Fox-66 and Erie News Now interviewed People for Life Executive Director Tim Broderick and gave our demonstration a considerable amount of broadcast and online coverage.

As you might imagine, getting 40 people together on short notice in the middle of a work and school day takes a good deal of effort. In this case, we used e-mail and automated phone calls to notify hundreds of Erie area individuals and families.

If you would like to be notified of gatherings like this in the future, please let us know. We will be happy to put you on our e-mail and robocall call lists and will do our best to keep you informed. The number of e-mails and calls will be kept to a minimum. Be proactive by closely monitoring your e-mail and voice mail whenever you hear about any public event that might call for a public expression of solidarity with the unborn and other vulnerable human beings.

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Candidate Information for the November 5, 2019 Election

1. LEGAL PROTECTION If changes to the Roe v. Wade decision make it possible, would you approve or disapprove of a law prohibiting abortion except when necessary to prevent the death of the mother or prohibiting abortion with additional exceptions? (Please specify what additional 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 (approximately 22 weeks from conception)?

3. INFORMED CONSENT Do you approve of the provisions of the Pennsylvania Abortion Control Act that require abortion providers to offer basic information to a woman who is considering an abortion, including information about medical risks, alternatives to abortion, the probable gestational age of the 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?

4. WAITING PERIODS Do you approve of the provision of the Pennsylvania Abortion Control Act that requires a 24 hour waiting period, after a woman who is considering abortion has consulted with a physician and been given the information noted in Question 3 above, to allow the woman time to carefully consider her decision, before an abortion is carried out?

5. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT Do you approve of the provision of the Pennsylvania Abortion Control Act that requires the

consent of at least one parent if the person seeking an abortion is less than 18 years old, unless a judge determines that extenuating circumstances are involved?

6. GOVERNMENT FUNDING Should government funds or tax credits be used to pay for elective abortions or used to fund insurance plans that cover elective abortions?

7. INFANTICIDE Should health care providers be permitted to deny medically indicated treatment to infants born alive during attempted abortions, even if such treatment would normally be provided under other circumstances?

8. ASSISTED SUICIDE Should physicians be allowed to prescribe drugs to be taken by a patient to deliberately end his or her life?

9. EMBRYO-DESTRUCTIVE RESEARCH Should government funds be used to pay for research that involves the killing of human embryos (e.g., embryonic stem cell research)?

Survey Table Key

D: Democrat **R:** Republican **DR:** Cross-filed

Pro-life or more strongly pro-life responses are in BOLD UPPER CASE.

Y or y: Yes N or n: No

A: Approve **d:** Disapprove

nr: No response to current survey

b: Blank; responded to the survey but did not answer the question

♦ See %Candidate Comments+

◀ Did not respond this time, but some information is provided in %Comments+section.

CHECK THE ONLINE EDITION FOR LAST MINUTE ELECTION UPDATES.
www.PeopleforLife.life/newsletter

Party	Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Judge for 6th District Court of Common Pleas Vote for not more than (2)										
R	Ed Smith	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
No response: Erin Connelly (D), Dave Ridge (D/R)										
Erie County Council District 1 Vote for (1)										
D	Kim Clear	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
R	Robert J. Yates	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	b	N
Erie County Council District 3 Vote for (1)										
D/R	Mary Rennie	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
Erie County Council District 5 Vote for (1)										
No response: Kyle Foust (D) ◀, Brian Shank (R)										
Erie County Council District 7 Vote for (1)										
No response: Rita Bishop (D), Ellen Schauerman (R)										
Erie County Controller Vote for (1)										
D	Kyle Foust ◀	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
R	Mary E. Schaaf	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
Erie City Council Vote for not more than (3)										
D	Ed Brzezinski ♦	b	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
R	Shawn Lyons ♦	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
No response: Michael Keys (D), Melvin Witherspoon (D)										
Erie School Director Vote for not more than (5)										
R	Holly Bowers	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
R	Timothy P. Kuzma	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
No response: Gwendolyn Cooley (D), John C. Harkins (D), Sumner Nichols (D), Lori A. Pickens (D), Rosemary C. Sheridan (D/R), Jennifer Dennehy (R), John Steiner (R)										

Party	Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Fort LeBoeuf School Director Vote for not more than (5)										
R	Jeremy Markham	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
No response: Kim Edinger (D), Robert S. Oberlander (D/R), Michael Rose (D/R), Karen Seggi (D/R), Joe Welch (D/R)										
Millcreek School Director 4 yr. term Vote for not more than (5)										
D/R	Tom Murabito	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	b♦
R	James Lindstrom	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
No response: Jason Dean (D/R), J. Michael Lindner (D), Janine McClintic (D/R), Shirley Oligieri Wunschel (D/R)										
North East School Director Vote for not more than (5)										
No response: Erin L. Janes (D), Alene Rohde (D), Sally Abata (D/R), George R. Sucha (D/R), Jim Wargo (D/R), Paul F. Behnken (R), Eric Riedel (R)										
Harborcreek Supervisor 6 year term Vote for (1)										
D	Lynda Meyer	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
R	Steve Oler	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
Millcreek Supervisor 6 year term Vote for (1)										
D	John H. Groh	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
R	Daniel Ouellet	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N

Earlier this year we surveyed a considerable number of candidates whose races have already been decided by the primary election. Accordingly, candidates for school director in the following districts are omitted: Cory Area, Fairview, General McLane, Girard, Harborcreek, Iroquois, Millcreek (2-year term), Northwestern, Union City, and Wattsburg. The candidates for Fairview Township Supervisor and Cory City Council are also omitted.

Candidate Comments

Ed Brzezinski ♦ Thank you for the opportunity. ♦ 4 ör moreö

Kyle Foust ◀ We did not receive a response to the current Survey, but the candidate participated in a debate on March 19, 2008 and said that as a male, abortion was none of his business and any attempt on his part to address the issue would be sexist and an effort to ödeny women their rights.ö

Shawn Lyons ♦ öI firmly believe that everyone should be responsible to take the proper measures to prevent unplanned pregnancies.... Every female should consider the many other options other than abortion, including adoption.ö ♦ 1 The

candidate cited exceptions for: rape, incest, and danger to life. öI can only imagine how difficult it would be for a female to continue living her daily life after being raped let alone having to carry their rapistö child to full term. I would hope that she would have the strength to deliver the child and consider adoption.... If there is a medical condition/concern that may cause the death of the mother or the unborn child then abortion should be a possibility to consider.ö

Tom Murabito ♦ 2 öChoice to mother if her life is at risk.ö ♦ 9 öUnsureö

See also "Judicial Retention Elections" on page 3.

Pennsylvania Superior Court

Voters will fill two openings on the Pennsylvania Superior this November. The two Democratic candidates Amanda Green-Hawkins and Daniel D. McCaffery take a pro-abortion position. Both are endorsed by the Planned Parenthood Pennsylvania PAC. Green-Hawkins was until recently a trustee of the Womenö Law Project. That organization describes itself as öa leading voice in the fight for equal access to reproductive healthcare and abortion.ö

The Republican candidates, Megan McCarthy King and Christylee Peck are recommended by the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation PAC.

A Sacred Gift from God

öAmericans will also never tire of defending innocent life.... Like many nations here today, we in America believe that every child, born and unborn, is a sacred gift from God.ö
ó President Donald J. Trump, Speech to the U.N. General Assembly, September 24, 2019

Judicial Retention Elections

Pennsylvania's statewide appellate court judges are elected for 10-year terms. At the end of a judge's term a öyesö or önoö retention vote is taken. If retention is approved by the voters, the judge may serve another 10-year term.

This year, two Commonwealth Court and two Superior Court judges will be on the ballot for retention. Of the four, Kevin Brobson, Patricia McCullough, and Judith öJudyö Olson are recommended for retention by the PA Pro-Life Federation PAC.

Three Erie County judges are also up for

a retention vote. One of the three, Judge Daniel Brabender, completed a candidate questionnaire when he successfully ran in 2009 for his current position. We were pleased that his responses did reflect our pro-life values and priorities.

Educational Outreach

The 2019 pro-life educational booth season came to a close recently with the North East Wine Festival. We were a part of nine major community festivals and fairs this year, plus the WCTL Women's Conference and the 1:38 Women's Conference earlier in the spring.

Of the hundreds of interesting people we had the privilege of talking with, a lovely young woman from Texas was among the most inspirational. She visited our booth at the Albion Fair and told us that she works in a pregnancy support center and loves it. She took the job, she said, after coming to terms with her own abortion and finding forgiveness for what had happened.

We witnessed an unprecedented amount of pro-life indignation this year, aroused by the extreme, pro-abortion legislation recently enacted by certain states such as New York. Also high on people's minds were the repugnant attitudes being displayed by public officials as they celebrated third-trimester abortions, and the governor of Virginia's callous talk about setting babies aside to die after birth. There was also no lack of outrage over the pro-abortion extremism of the Democratic presidential candidates. A lot of people seemed to be paying close attention to public affairs this summer and fall, as well they should.

Down Syndrome Bill

Thank you, everyone, for contacting your state legislators regarding HB 123, the Down Syndrome Protection bill. As we go to press, the legislation is still awaiting action in the Pennsylvania state Senate.

Memorials

<i>Given by</i>	<i>In Memory of</i>	<i>Given by</i>	<i>In Memory of</i>
Rita & Edward Goebel Nancy & Gerald Simmons Sandy & Gary Vonhoven Lois Benoit Marilyn Bartlett Joseph Chmielewski Lore Jean Blair Lore Jean Blair Linda Etter Francis Q. Buseck Joseph & Robert Duska Rose Mary Weber Gratia Wittmann Rick & Janet York Susan Barton Helen L. Guth	Judge Fred Anthony Judge Fred Anthony Judge Fred Anthony Chris Benoit Angeline C. Berarducci Ken Berlin James & Elizabeth Blair Sr. Kathleen Blair SSJ Mark Borowy Elaine Buseck Elaine Buseck Elaine Buseck Elaine Buseck Elaine Buseck Richard & Nina Grumblatt Ralph Guth	Barb Lorei-Horn Allen Erickson Shirley A. Ferrick Ray & Peg Fitzgerald Thelma Manendo Ray & Peg Fitzgerald Mary & James A. Vogt Marla J. Pellegrino Marian E. Adelman Marian E. Adelman Ray & Peg Fitzgerald Eileen Bowen Sue & Jerry Verga Joseph Chmielewski Ray & Peg Fitzgerald Gratia Wittmann	Charlie Horn Cornelius Legters Yvonne Locke Lil Lotina Louis Manendo Rose Mares Catherine Ann Murphy Jeanne Pellegrino, Mother Daniel Prather Mary Ann Prather William Reed Donald & Dolores Smith Jesse Verga Carolyn Washe Karen Williams Richard Wittmann

JOIN PEOPLE FOR LIFE OR DONATE

NAME _____ DATE _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 E-MAIL _____ PHONE _____ MOBILE _____ *Do not text*
 AFFILIATED WITH _____ PROFESSION _____

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. ADDITIONAL DONATION AMOUNT _____ Please earmark for _____ 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
 - ___ Liaison to Another Organization
 - ___ Public Demonstrations
 - ___ Pro-Life Breakfast Worker
 - ___ Life Run 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

*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.*

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Open 10:00 to 5:00 weekdays
Call for evening and Saturday hours

Membership Renewal

Is your People for Life membership expired or coming due for renewal? If you are not sure, we can check for you. Not everyone who receives the *Erie Echo* newsletter is a member. New members automatically receive the *Erie Echo*, but newsletter subscriptions are not automatically discontinued when the regular 12-month memberships expire.

March for Life 2020

Advance planning can be a very good thing. For instance, with the bus companies running out of March for Life buses sooner every year, People for Life chartered our three buses way back in July, while buses were still available.

Now it's your turn. Make plans now to be a part of People for Life's 47th annual Bus Trip to the Washington, DC March for Life. Early reservations are a very good thing, because it helps us ensure that we have the right number of buses. People for Life even contributes \$5 toward the cost of every bus seat reserved by December 20, 2019.

Last year, with early sign-ups lagging behind previous years, we were regretfully obliged to cancel one of our buses. Then the two remaining buses filled up, and a flood of last-minute requests had us wishing we had not relinquished bus number three.

So sign up today if you can, or as soon as possible. Early bird seats are still only \$50. Online registration is available using our secure Constant Contact web form: www.conta.cc/2qfcnyW (case sensitive). Payments can also be mailed to our office with a name, address, age, and phone number for each person.

Long range planning can be difficult, with uncertain work schedules, children's sports schedules, and so forth. It is understandable that advance planning is not for everyone. One rather unnecessary reason for delay, however, is uncertainty about the weather. Although it could happen, the Bus Trip has never been cancelled because of the weather over the last 46 years, and the conditions in DC have

never been so poor that the March itself has had to be called off.

Erie March for Life

The 2020 Erie March for Life will be held on Saturday, January 18, just six days before the March in Washington, DC. Our local March take place in downtown Erie, starting from Perry Square at 11 a.m. and concluding by 12:30 p.m. with a program at the Perry Square Pavilion. The Erie and DC Marches mark the January 22, 1973 Roe v. Wade decision, which struck down protection for unborn children in all 50 states.

You can support this event in a big way by bringing a group, large or small, from your school, church, or other organization to march with you. Now is the time to get organized!

MFL Sponsorships

The reason we charter buses to the March for Life every January is simple: to help others, as many as possible, make the biggest possible public statement on behalf of unborn babies and the unalienable right to life. It begins with local media coverage even before we leave Erie and continues as we join with hundreds of thousands of fellow Americans on the National Mall and the streets of our nation's capital.

Our goal is to make the trip as affordable as possible by pricing seats at \$55, just enough to allow us to pay the bus company. Nevertheless, \$55 is still too much in some situations. If cost is a problem for you, we still need you to help us be as effective as possible. Please ask about a sponsorship.

2019 PRO-LIFE CALENDAR 2020

Nov. 5	General Election
Dec. 20	Last day for March for Life Bus Trip early bird subsidy
Jan. 11	Annual Pro-Life Breakfast - Bayfront Convention Center, 9 a.m.
Jan. 18	Erie March for Life - Downtown Erie, 11 a.m.
Jan. 23	March for Life buses leave Erie, 11 p.m. (March is on the 24th.)
Jan. 25	March for Life buses return, approximately 1:30 a.m.
March 2	Last day for statewide PPLF Student Essay contest entries
Mar. 29	Last day to register to vote in the PA primary election
April 10	Last day for statewide PPLF High School Oratory Contest entries
April 18	People for Life High School Oratory Contest
April 20	Last day to submit People for Life Student Essay Contest entries
April 28	Pennsylvania presidential primary election
May 10	Mother's Day / Mother's Day Carnation Project

January 2020

www.PeopleforLife.life/january2020
www.facebook.com/PeopleforLife

Pro-Life Breakfast

Saturday, January 11, 2020, 9 a.m.

Erie Bayfront Convention Center

Special Guest Speaker: Ryan Bomberger
www.facebook.com/ProLifeBreakfast

Erie March for Life

Saturday, January 18, 2020, 11 a.m.

Begins and Concludes at Perry Square

March for Life Bus Trip

Leave Erie January 23, 2020 at 11 p.m.

Return about 1:30 a.m., January 25

\$55 per seat (\$50 until December 20)

www.facebook.com/MarchforLifeBusTrip

We are able to make this offer thanks to a lot of help from local sponsors, some of whom faithfully help in this way every year. If you would like to be a sponsor, your \$55 donation will completely cover the cost of a seat for one person or make it possible for two people to get seats at half-price. Any amount is greatly appreciated and will help make the March for Life affordable for a student or other deserving person. Thank you in advance!

Vote Pro-Life Signs

Sturdy "Vote Pro-Life" yard signs are available from People for Life for a suggested donation of \$6. They are red, white and blue, double-sided, and printed on thick, corrugated plastic stock. Steel wire legs are included.

FROM PAGE 1

Abortion protested

With so many politicians becoming increasingly extreme in their anti-life views, we will probably be busier than ever in the months ahead. If a demonstration has been arranged but last-minute changes become necessary, updates will be posted at this private address: www.peopleforlife.life/rally. (Try it now, just for fun!)

Pro-Life Breakfast Tickets

www.peopleforlife.life/january2020