

# Lifespan *news*

Volume 40 Number 1

Presenting the Pro-Life Message in Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

January 2011

## **RALLY FOR LIFE**

**Saturday, January 15, 2011**

**2:30 - 4:00 p.m.**

**Auburn Hills Christian Center  
2592 East Walton Blvd., Auburn Hills, Michigan**

*(Rally is indoors)*

**STOP PLANNED PARENTHOOD**

Focus of the Rally will be the  
Planned Parenthood Abortion Clinic  
Locating soon in Auburn Hills

**NO COMMUNITY NEEDS  
AN ABORTION CENTER IN ITS MIDST!**

**Come and Hear What Can Be Done!**



*For more information, call 248-478-8878, or website: [www.rtl-lifespan.org](http://www.rtl-lifespan.org)*

*Sponsored by Right to Life - LIFESPAN*



# News & Notes

## Michigan Union Opposes Removing Abortion Coverage From Employee Health Plan

Kent county officials voted to remove abortion coverage from the taxpayer-funded health care plan county employees receive, but a union is now saying it opposes the move and will try to stop it.

In September, the Kent County Commission voted 9-0 to remove abortion coverage from the county health insurance plans. The vote makes a formal request of County Administrator Daryl Delabbio to remove abortion coverage from the health insurance plans which cover Kent County employees.

The commission instructed Delabbio to contact the county's 13 labor unions to see if they will be willing to voluntarily drop the benefit. If they agree to do so, Delabbio is directed to negotiate the removal of the abortion coverage during the next county employee contract negotiation.

However, Human Resources Director Don Clack told the *Grand Rapids News* that he's not heard back from many of the unions but has received negative responses from the ones giving him input thus far.

"Even among some who accepted the concessions there were concerns that we reopened negotiations for budgetary reasons and this isn't about budgetary concerns," Clack said. "It's a little premature to say where we're going with this right now but some of the feedback is that they're not in support of us coming back to reopen their agreements whether it's on behalf of the board or not."

Tim Lewis, president of the 190-member Kent County Law Enforcement Association, told the newspaper his union rejected the proposal because it saw the move as politically motivated by commissioners seeking support from pro-life advocates. Lewis said the union will not back down on removing the abortion coverage.

The county's self-funded insurance plan is administered by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and it has paid \$5,601 for 13 abortions since 2004, according to the *News*.

The plan covers 82 percent of the more than 1,700 employees in the county, while the rest are covered under the fully insured Grand Valley Health Plan HMO, which does not pay for abortions.

Bob Synk, a Democrat from Grand Rapids who is a member of the commission, told the newspaper the commissioners will be patient in getting the abortion coverage ban removed.

"It's motivated by our values and that may be why we got elected because our values are similar to our constituents' and this is what they want," Synk said. "Perhaps we were being overly optimistic at the beginning that it could happen quickly. We'll just have to be patient."

*Steven Ertelt, LifeNews.com, October 26, 2010*

## Mass for the Unborn

A Mass for the Unborn and to End Abortion will be offered at Our Lady of Good Council Church, North Territorial Road, just west of Beck Road in Plymouth Twp., on Friday, January 21, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. The celebrant will be Rev. Lee Acervo. A rose ceremony will also take place.

## Life is a Gift Conference

Join Archbishop Allen Vigneron on Saturday, January 22, at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Mass 4:00 p.m.) Register online at: [aodonline.org/lifeisagift](http://aodonline.org/lifeisagift) or call: 313-237-4691. The purpose of this conference is to rediscover the true meaning of Life as a Gift from the moment of conception, to the moment of natural death.

## Baby Shower!

Lifespan is planning its 21st annual Baby Shower to benefit crisis pregnancy centers on **Sunday, March 13, 2011**. Continuing this tradition of caring for mothers and their babies, born and yet to be born, Lifespan will host approximately 50 baby showers simultaneously at different church locations throughout Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties. Showers are usually held from 2:00-3:30 p.m., but may also be held after church services or simply as a gift drop-off shower. If you or your church would like to co-host a baby shower, call us at 248-478-8878.



## Thank you, dear friend!

One of Lifespan's Oakland/Macomb office associates, Tanya Wrenn, worked her last day in our office at the end of December. Tanya has been a Lifespan Church Representative Liaison, making sure that all of you who represent us to your faith communities receive our information in a timely and useful manner. She will still be working for the cause of Life and hopefully will come by to see us frequently. Thank you, Tanya, for all your hard work and dedication to Lifespan and the cause of Life. We will miss you, and we will also miss our daily dose of Maxine cartoons which always seem to apply to our daily activities. Blessings to you!

## Travel with Lifespan

**Book your travel where it makes a difference!**

Visit the Right to Life - LIFESPAN travel site at: [www.ytbtravel.com/lifespan](http://www.ytbtravel.com/lifespan). You'll find the same airlines, hotels, rental cars and cruises as on other travel websites! You'll get great travel prices! Each time you book travel, a portion of the travel commissions will go to Lifespan!

**It's easy! [www.ytbtravel.com/lifespan](http://www.ytbtravel.com/lifespan)**

# Lights for Life Remembrances

**IN MEMORY OF:** Marion Woodward, Stan and Bette Burbank, Chester and Theresa Cousino, given by Jerome and Sally Cousino; Margaret Gibbons, Therese Tomilo, given by Mary Tomilo; Thomas W. Hawver, given by Kimberly Kenson; Josephine Mullett, Michael Mullett, given by Donald C. Mullett; Marie Jones, Mary Reardon Duwel, given by Dick Duwel; Our Children Lost During Pregnancy, Mr. and Mrs. Geller, Mr. and Mrs. Angner, given by Stasia Angner; James V. Seewald, Sr., Mary Assunta Camiller, given by Joanne Camiller; Florence Duner, Matthew Fary, given by Frank and Joanne Fary; Ronald Ortopan, Susan Ortopan, given by Ellen Ortopan; Matilda Bettega, Jessie Sowers, given by John and Bev Bettega; Robert Prebola, given by Jane Brooks; Dolores Pipp, Grace Pipp, given by Robert Pipp; Roseanne Quillico, Doug David, given by Ray David; Matthew, Rachel, Luke, Dan given by Thomas Guy; Sylvia Debono, Manuel Debono, David Ritzler, Nancy Fisher, given by Connie Grady; Emma Banks, Billy Joe Banks, given by Debbie Polasky; Joseph Leal; David Sulkowski, Nancy Rucinski, given by Ron and Rule; Barbara Roberts, Ed Roberts, given by Curt and Ann Alff; Edward Schifter, Florence Schifter, given by Mr. and John and Mina Vigliotti, Edna Spietz, Julian Fagelman, Louis by Diane and Jerry Fagelman; Matthew J. Seger, Mary Ann given by Bohdan Melnyk; Ellery D. Signori, given by Loretta Nowacki; Sheryl Pawlak, given by Linda Snel-Milosch; Joseph Hamel, given by Jerome Hamel; Robert Joseph Raffin, given by Christina Milkowski; Mark Kidd, Mary Ellen and Caroline Moffitt, given by Aurelia Dianne N. Bachman; Jerome Wieber, Elizabeth Wieber, given by Jane Yount; Virginia and Herman Wagner, Jude Jochum, Jean Hall, Elaine Austin, given by Karen given by Loretta Gelhaus; Dorothy Wathen, given by Betty Rice, given by Dan and Katey Devine; Paul Albert Ingraham, given by Linda Seng; George Ed Romanski, given by Charlene, Cherie, Chris, given by Beverly Ann Thewes; Mike Watson, Judy Adkins; Norv Trombley, Bette Kelly, Bud and baby daughter, Christine Oster; given by Holscher, Ora and John Jones, Pennie and Jack Kay Robertson, given by Pat Holscher; Francis Kless, Natalie Vanover, given by Stella Konopka; Albert Kisner, given by Kayden, given by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Marilyn Schepansky; Lou Orłowski, given of Dr. Thomas A. Dooley K of C, given Christine Northrup, Joseph Horne, given



**IN HONOR OF:** Friends of Life, Della Cullins; Cascos Family, Clark Family, given by Tony and Stephen W. Bishop, M.D., Jeffrey and Staff at Sacred Heart Medical Justine F. Mullett, Florence Brown, given Stasia Angner; Friend of Life, Kathleen Faitel, Baby Faitel, given by George and St. Theodore Confraternity of Christian Partyka Family, Schmidt Family, given and Viola Motowski; Kurt Fagelman, Jerry Fagelman; Terski Grandkids, given Ilene and Tom Norwood; Friend of Life, Sally Kucway, given by Bohdan Melnyk; Colleen Virag; For All My Grandchildren, given by Dorothy McGrath; Rachel Milkowski, given by Christina Milkowski; Olivia, Hailey, Morgan, Miranda and Nick Gorsuch, Zack and Reilly Burchart, given by Karen and Ken Patrosso; F. Dan Tardiff, Rosemary Tardiff, given by Virginia Pease; Friend of Life, Sandra Weathers; Friend of Life, Marie Robinson; Friend of Life, Joseph Wathen; Gerald L. and Donna J. Decker, given by Paul and Susan Kowalski; Robert I. Mullen, given by Dolores Mullen; My Children and Grandchildren, given by Pat Holscher; Elijah, Nathan, Rayann, Cassidy, Matthew, Marc and Luke Masiarak, Mary Byars, Elizabeth Townsend, given by Laurie Masiarak; Vicki Petersmarck, Leonard Kisner, Laurie Masiarak, given by Elaine Kisner; Patricia Kelly, given by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Woodcox; Deanna Bartolone, David Horne, given by Margaret Horne.

## LIGHTS

## FOR LIFE



### Right to Life LIFESPAN

of Life, Weingartz Family; Friend of MacLachlan Family, Hansen Family, Chris Hansen; Vincent M. Kenson, P. Berger, M.D, Kelly L. Arenz, D.O. Centre, given by Kimberly Kenson; by Donald C. Mullett; Our Children, given by O'Reilly; Kateri Faitel, Clare Faitel, Benjamin Mary Cascos; Friend of Life, Joan Church; Women, given by Confraternity Members; by Paulette Schmidt; Friend of Life, Norbert Melissa Fair, Jessica Fair, given by Diane and by Jeanne Terski; Baby Ruthie, given by Charles Rivetto; Suzanne, given by E. Adams; Volunteers—the everyday heroes!! given by

## The Pro-Life Generation

*continued from back page*

### Analyzing the Pro-Life Shift

Steve Phelan, communications manager for Human Life International, has hope for the future of America and its growing supporters for life. Based in Front Royal, Va., HLI is currently working in 105 countries around the world.

"This is something we see internationally," he says. "Once abortion and other elements of the culture of death really take root in a culture, there is always this advance in the culture of death. Then at a certain point people realize—and it's always from the bottom—what is going on and they try and reverse it."

He considers that part of the recent spike in pro-life support is a response to aggressively pro-abortion action by the Obama administration and Congress. "A lot of times when you see a spike it is united opposition to something," he explains.

Public opinion is reflected in the current political races. "There is a resurgence of Americans who want to take their country back," says Dianne Edmondson, executive director of the Republican National Coalition for Life. "And on the whole, the people who are concerned about the way our country is going are pro-life, and social and fiscal conservatives."

### Signs of Pro-Life Progress

According to Phelan, in addition to the May 2009 Gallup poll, proof that progress has been made in America in the pro-life movement is there if you know where to look. "You can see the growth of the March for Life. The marches have been huge the last couple of years," he says. "They had to start a march on the West Coast, and there are marches locally all over the country."

Nellie Gray, founder and president of March for Life, agrees that more people have been coming to Washington than ever before to participate in the annual January rally on the anniversary of *Roe*. "In '09 and '10, there is no doubt that we have had a large increase in people coming to the march," Gray says.

The crowd marches down Constitution Avenue and ends at the steps of the Supreme Court. No official numbers for the 2010 march were released, but estimates of attendees were more than 300,000.

"I recently spoke with a bus captain from New Jersey who has been bringing a busload of people to the march for the past six years from a parish," Gray says. "This year, one bus is not enough. He has to get another bus, and the neighboring parish is also coming." She said that more young people are coming to the march as well, and the message is spreading by word of mouth. "There are a large number of home-schooling families coming," Gray recounts. "There are also a lot of schools bringing kids. Kids are meeting other children at the march and making friends, and meeting people their own age."

The experience teaches young people the importance of standing up for life and builds the culture of life for the future.

### Technology Assists Mission

Sonograms, some now in 3-D and 4-D, are being used in crisis-pregnancy centers across the country to save the lives of hundreds of babies. A Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Initiative, launched in January 2009, has placed over 55 machines in 22 states.

"More than 90% of women decide to keep their baby after seeing the picture of the sonogram," says Peter Sonski, director of public relations for the Knights of Columbus.

"That technology is unquestionably helping and it's funny because it is just the truth. Our opponents in this fight are trying to get those banned."

Internet technology is also assisting by reaching thousands with pro-life information and images.

"Communications technology through organizations like Live Action, Students for Life and Catholic Vote are giving us terrific images that we know are changing hearts," Phelan explains. "Technology works to serve truth. It moves people in the right direction."

"We embrace technology. It's perfect for grassroots organizations," says Hawkins. "Young people are on the Internet. We can get the pro-life message out through Facebook." She said that Twitter, YouTube, webcasts, e-mails and images of babies in the womb all work toward revealing that an unborn baby is a person.

Promoting the dignity of the human person is the goal of the pro-life movement.

"Our goal is to end abortion, but also, we need to have a vision: to achieve a society that respects all human life, preborn, the elderly," Hawkins reflects.

"It's not just about overturning *Roe*," Phelan says. "That still leaves us in a legal tennis match. It is still about changing hearts and minds and stopping evil."

*Lisa Socarras writes from Annandale, Virginia  
Daily News, November 1, 2010*

### Abortion Totals Reach 53 Million

The U.S. is marking a tragic milestone. It's now estimated that 53 million abortions have occurred in this country since 1973, when abortion was legalized under *Roe v. Wade*.

However, there is some cause for optimism, given the fact that abortions have declined in recent decades. As National Right to Life has concluded, "After reaching a high of over 1.6 million in 1990, the number of abortions annually performed in the U.S. has dropped back to levels not seen since the late 1970s," NRLC says. National Right to Life's Education Director, Randy O'Bannon, noted, "Over the past twenty years, we have seen that pro-life efforts can make a difference, as the number of abortions performed in the U.S. has declined from 1.6 million to 1.2 million a year. We've still a long way to go, obviously, but we see that pro-life legislation, education and outreach can save, and has saved, hundreds of thousands of lives," O'Bannon added. "Our task is great, but our cause is just."

For more on this story, visit <http://www.lifenews.com/2010/11/26/nat-6891/>

# Oakland/Macomb Right to Life-LIFESPAN



Please join us on **Tuesday, January 18, 2011**  
from **5:00 pm to 8:00 pm** at the Madison Heights Big Boy  
Located at 30460 John R. Rd (just south of 13 Mile Rd).

The Madison Heights Big Boy will be donating 20%  
of all food purchases to the **Oakland and Macomb Right to  
Life-LIFESPAN** when you present this flyer to the cashier.

Along with Big Boy donating 20% of your checks proceeds,  
there will also be raffles including Big Boy pies  
throughout the night!!

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## 7th Annual

### ❖ *Student Art Contest* ❖

*High School Students, Grades 9 - 12*

*Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties*



***Theme: Celebration of Life!***

*Artwork to reflect pro-life issues involving family life,  
children, babies, the handicapped or the elderly*

**Prizes to be awarded**

For complete rules and eligibility requirements, go to "Events," at [www.rtl-lifespan.org](http://www.rtl-lifespan.org)  
248-478-8878

**All entries must be received by Friday, March 25**

*Sponsored by Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund*





## detroit

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Detroit, MI 48224-1906  
Phone 313-640-8534 • Fax (same as phone)  
Office Hours: MW 10-2; TThF Closed  
Mary Cascos, Office Manager

### New Year's Resolutions

Be it resolved that I will do my best to promote the pro-life cause in everything I do this year whether it will be:

- ★ by treating my family with love and with life-affirming examples.
- ★ by praying regularly for pro-life causes.
- ★ by participating in pro-life rallies and events.
- ★ by voting 100% pro-life.
- ★ by writing to editors on pro-life issues.
- ★ by writing to state and federal officials about pro-life legislation.
- ★ by becoming a church representative for Detroit LIFESPAN.
- ★ by volunteering for a crisis pregnancy center.
- ★ by inviting a friend to become a LIFESPAN member.
- ★ by putting a pro-life sticker on my car.

### Thank you, faithful church reps

To all of you who worked so hard to sell our Christmas cards and Entertainment Books and to all of you who bought them, we extend our heartfelt thanks. May the New Year bring all of you the best of health and happiness. God Bless.

### Top Companies Stop Backing Planned Parenthood Abortion Biz

A pro-life organization that monitors corporate donations to the Planned Parenthood abortion business says several top companies have stopped providing it with financial support.

Officials with Life Decisions International say that, over the last few months, more corporations have been dropped from its boycott list in a six-month time period than ever before.

"Generally speaking, between the publications of boycott lists, two or three corporations agree to stop funding Planned Parenthood," LDI president Douglas Scott explained. "The current list was released in July 2010. So, one would expect that two or three corporations on the July 2010 boycott list will not appear on the December 2010 edition."

### Rally for Life

LIFESPAN needs you, your family, your friends, your church and your organizations to come to our Rally for Life. We must send a powerful message to the people of metro Detroit that... "No! After 38 long years we are NOT discouraged. We will NOT give up our struggle until all our citizens are guaranteed the Right to Life which is stated in our Constitution." If you consider yourself pro-life, it is now time to act on your convictions and come out to the Rally. God will surely bless you for publicly proclaiming your pro-life convictions. See front page of this newsletter for more details.

### Thought of the day

"If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small. If you forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain; If you say, Behold, we knew it not; does not He that ponders the heart consider it? And shall not He render to every man according to his works?" (Prov. 24: 10-12)

How can we sit idly by while 1.2 million are aborted every year? Come and speak out against this injustice. Become an active member of LIFESPAN. Help bring about a world where "Justice and Peace shall kiss."

### Clean out your closets

Please remember to start going through your house to find those books that you have already read and would like to grace others with the experience. At the same time, you will be helping LIFESPAN in our ongoing fight to end abortion by donating them to our annual Used Book Sale which will be held in July. Call Mary at 313-640-8534 with questions and for more information.



"We cannot say for sure exactly why this is happening, but more corporations have been removed from the boycott list between the July 2010 and December 2010 lists than have ever been dropped in the past," he added.

The companies no longer financially supporting the abortion business, which does more than 25 percent of the abortions in the United States annually, include Enterprise car rentals, Forbes magazine, Ing financial services and one of the more ironic entries, Toys "R" Us.

Other companies dropped from the pro-life boycott list include Cisco Systems, Red Lion Hotels, Franchise Services, Rolex watch company, Kenneth Cole and Dr. Dennis Gross Skincare.

"This means that ten corporations have been dropped from the current list," Scott continued. "It also means that, so far, a total of at least 270 corporations have agreed to stop giving money to the abortion-committing giant! Simply remarkable."

Scott credited pro-life advocates with consistently contacting corporate headquarters and officers letting

*continued on page 11*

## oakland/macomb

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e-mail: oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org  
Office Hours: M, T, Th, F 8-4; W 9-3  
Irene Tharp, Director; Diane Trombley, Ofc. Mgr.  
Lynn Gura, Ofc. Staff

*What follows below are 12 things that might make 2011 a good year. Isn't it a strange coincidence that there are 12 months in a year?! Do one thing from the list below (not necessarily in order) each month and then, next year, let us know how 2011 worked for you!*

**H**EALTH - good health is a gift.  
Do all you can to get it and keep it.

**A**TTITUDE - a positive attitude  
lifts your spirits and lightens your step.

**P**ATIENCE - please, Lord, give me patience—  
and give it to me NOW.

**P**ERSISTENCE - the road may bumpy,  
so put on some sturdy shoes.

**Y**ES - how can you appreciate success  
if you don't say yes to a challenge?

**N**URTURE - caring for the needs of others  
draws greatness from yourself.

**E**XCITEMENT - each new day brings its own  
portion of excitement; look for it.

**W**ONDER - be willing to open your eyes and your  
heart to the wonder of each new life, each new  
experience and each new blessing.

**Y**EARN - desire the best from yourself and work  
to share it with others.

**E**NTERTAIN - lighten up! Make funny faces with  
your children and share jokes with your spouse.  
Be as lighthearted as possible during times of  
stress. It takes fewer muscles to smile than to frown.

**A**CCOMPLISHMENT - take the time to recognize  
and enjoy a finished task before moving on to some-  
thing else. This is your reward for hard work.

**R**ELAX - this may be the most difficult thing of all.  
There is always something else to do, somewhere  
else to go. Make time to withdraw, shut out the  
noise around you and listen for the quiet voice of  
the Lord who will fill your heart with His love and  
your soul with His blessings.

**WHAT A WONDERFUL YEAR IT CAN BE!**

## wayne west/downriver

14600 Farmington Rd., Ste. 108, Livonia, MI 48154-5431  
Phone 734-422-6230 • Fax 734-422-8116  
e-mail: wwdr@rtl-lifespan.org  
Office Hours: M-Th 10-4; F Closed  
Patricia Holscher, Director; Laurie Masiarak, Ofc. Mgr.

Have you made all your New Year's resolutions? If not, would you consider being more active in pro-life activities? Following are a few suggestions where you can help:

**Buy** a 2011 Entertainment Book; lots of 50% off coupons—at a reduced price of \$25 and receive a free \$25 coupon to restaurant.com.

**Attend** LIFESPAN's Rally for Life in January. WE NEED YOU! See front cover.

**Go** on the reserved Youth buses to Washington, D.C. for the March for Life. Some other churches and schools are also reserving buses. Call us for phone numbers. If you've never gone, it's a MUST!

**Help** in the Wee Care office, organize gifts for babies from individuals, as well as, churches and organizations' Giving Trees. WHAT FUN!

**Urge** students to attend Youth Concerts/Outreach programs designed with them in mind.

**Encourage** teens to enter the Pro-Life Art Contest. The winning entry may appear on the cover of LIFESPAN's annual Resource Book. See page 5.

**Reserve** the 2000 Cross Display for your church grounds; each of the 2000 crosses represents two babies who die by abortion every day.

**Renew** your membership in LIFESPAN, and sign up one new member; our lobbying efforts could double; think of the clout we'd have in passing pro-life legislation.

**Offer** to bake; we always need the extra income from bake sales. LIFESPAN bakers bake for hosting churches. What a sweet way to channel money to LIFESPAN!

**Work** at educational booths. You'll always be with an experienced pro-lifer. New faces are always welcome.

**Volunteer** to work in the office with mailings and computer work; many hands make light work.

**Become** a church representative; be a liaison between LIFESPAN and your church; a meeting to exchange ideas coming soon.

**Arrange** for a baby shower at your church for the crisis pregnancy centers. LIFESPAN hosts approximately 50 showers annually on the second Sunday in March.

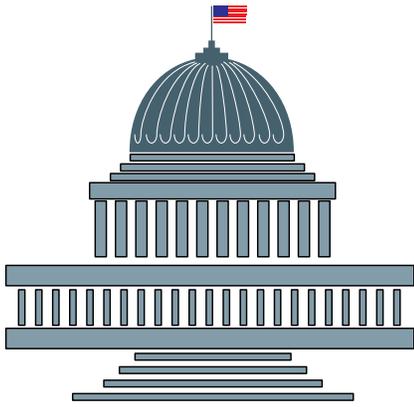
**Attend** the Mother's Day Dinner; enjoy the evening out; become motivated.

**Take** out a business or personal ad in our Annual Resource Book; see page 9.

**Have** Breakfast with your legislators and talk to them about your pro-life concerns. This event usually occurs in September or October.

**Request** a speaker for any event; hear the experts tell the pro-life story.

*Call to find your "special place" to help end abortion.*  
May your New Year be filled with God's grace!



## Contact Information

### **President**

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500  
Opinion Line: 202-456-1111, M-F, 9-5  
Fax Number: 202-456-2461  
Web contact: [www.whitehouse.gov/contact/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/)  
Dear Mr. President:

### **U.S. Senators**

The Honorable (Carl Levin, Debbie Stabenow)  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
202-224-3121  
Website: [www.senate.gov/](http://www.senate.gov/)  
Email: [senator@levin.senate.gov](mailto:senator@levin.senate.gov)  
Email: [senator@stabenow.senate.gov](mailto:senator@stabenow.senate.gov)  
Dear Senator (last name):

### **U.S. Representatives**

The Honorable (first and last name)  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-224-3121  
Web contact: [www.house.gov/](http://www.house.gov/)  
Dear Congressman/Congresswoman (last name):

### **Governor**

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm  
P.O. Box 30013, Lansing, MI 48909  
517-373-3400  
Opinion Line: 517-335-7858  
Website: [www.michigan.gov/gov](http://www.michigan.gov/gov)  
Email: [migov@aol.com](mailto:migov@aol.com)  
Dear Governor Granholm:

### **Michigan State Senator**

The Honorable (full name)  
P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909  
517-373-1837  
Web contact: [www.senate.mi.gov/](http://www.senate.mi.gov/)  
Dear Senator (last name):

### **Michigan State Representative**

The Honorable (full name)  
P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909  
517-373-1837  
Web contact: [www.house.mi.gov/](http://www.house.mi.gov/)  
Dear Representative (last name):

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

## Senate Opposes Bill Making Military Hospitals Abortion Centers

The Senate turned back a second attempt by pro-abortion Democrats to stop a Republican filibuster against a Defense Department funding measure that would also allow abortions at military base hospitals.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid couldn't find enough votes for cloture to stop debate and cast a vote on the legislation, but brought the measure up for a vote anyway.

His first attempt in September to get 60 votes for cloture failed as Republicans filibustered the measure in part because of the Burris amendment that would overturn a longstanding ban on abortions at taxpayer-funded military hospitals both domestically and abroad.

The second effort (December 9) failed on a 57-40 vote with all Democrats voting for cloture to move ahead with the bill and the abortions, except for Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, who compiled a pro-life voting record as the state's governor.

Republicans again voted no, with pro-abortion Republicans staying with the remainder of their party except Sen. Susan Collins of Maine.

Without passage of the Defense Department funding bill by the end of this session, the increase in the number of pro-life and Republican votes in the Senate after January makes it all but certain that abortion activists will not be able to overturn the military hospital abortion ban.

Douglas Johnson, the legislative director of the National Right to Life Committee, told *LifeNews.com* that his group remains opposed to the bill because of the Burris amendment.

"NRLC is opposed to invoking cloture on the motion to proceed, and reserves the right to score the roll call on that motion, because the bill contains the Burris Amendment, which would repeal the longstanding ban on the use of military medical facilities for elective abortions," he said.

The Susan B. Anthony List and Americans United for Life have also actively urged senators to oppose the bill because of the Burris amendment.

SBA List President Marjorie Dannenfelser responded to the vote saying Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid ignored the vote in last month's elections: "Today, the Senate's pro-abortion leadership ignored the will of the American people and tried to advance a bill that would allow taxpayer-subsidized abortion on over 400 U.S. military bases, both at home and abroad.

On November 2, voters sent Congress clear marching orders to end taxpayer funding of abortion. But the Defense Authorization Bill containing the Burris Amendment would turn over 400 domestic and international military bases into abortion clinics, using personnel and equipment subsidized by taxpayers.

Medical facilities are meant to preserve life, not destroy it. Military physicians understand this better than anyone which is why they refused to participate when the practice was permitted during the Clinton Administration, forcing the Administration to recruit civilian abortionists."

Americans United for Life Action president Charmaine Yoest also responded: "We applaud the outstanding leaders in the Senate who led the fight to win today's key vote rejecting taxpayer-funded abortion in the military. They stood on principle and scored again a major victory for our service members and their families. We know that more than 70 percent of Americans oppose taxpayer funding of abortion, and this vote reflected the moral and fiscal values of Americans."

In the last vote on cloture, Democrats voted almost unanimously, 56-43, to allow debate on the bill and Democratic Sen. Ben Nelson of Nebraska, who maintains he is pro-life, joined them. Republicans unanimously voted in opposition to ending the filibuster,

*continued on page 10*



# Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund

# RESOURCE BOOK 2011

## Advertising Contract

This book will contain pro-life informational material that will be used throughout the year. Your ad represents support for Lifespan's educational efforts. Fill out the form below and send it to us with your remittance included. **Deadline for submission is Thursday, March 31, 2011.**

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*Because of the difficulty of working with various formats, we prefer to receive pdf files, at 300 dpi, all fonts embedded, sent by e-mail to [mkobradley@verizon.net](mailto:mkobradley@verizon.net), indicating "Lifespan Resource Book Ad" in the subject line. In the case of electronic submissions, please send contract and check by post to the address below. You may also send a hard copy, camera-ready ad. If you are not able to submit camera-ready art work, we will help you with your ad; call us. Payment must accompany ad and contract. Advertisers will be sent a copy of the Resource Book upon request only. Lifespan reserves the right to refuse any advertisement it deems unsuitable.*

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**For further information, call 248-478-8878 or e-mail: [mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org](mailto:mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org)**

*Contributions to Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund are deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Income Tax purposes.*

## Military Hospitals

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including pro-abortion members who wanted the chance to offer amendments to the bill.

Current law in effect since 1996 prohibits the performance of abortion by Department of Defense medical personnel or at DOD medical facilities. A separate provision prohibits the use of DOD funds for abortion except to save the life of the mother.

Abortion advocates have tried for years to force military base hospitals to do abortions on female service members.

In 2006, the House rejected by a vote of 237-191, an amendment similar to the Burriss amendment. The Burriss amendment is more expansive than a 2006 effort because it allows abortion on both domestic and overseas military base hospitals.

Sen Roger Wicker led the fight in the committee against the amendment and planned an amendment of his own on the Senate floor to strike the language. However, pro-life groups urged a filibuster against the bill because pro-abortion Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid would not allow Wicker's amendment to be considered.

The Senate Armed Services Committee voted 15-12 for the amendment with all Republicans and Nelson voting against it and all other Democrats voting for it.

Christian Medical Association Vice President Gene Rudd, MD, who received the Gorgas Award for distinguished service in the American military, previously told LifeNews.com that allowing abortions on military bases is inappropriate.

"If enacted, requiring military physicians to perform abortions threatens military readiness. Morale will suffer among those already serving. Morale is a key component of military effectiveness," he said. "Furthermore, just as we have seen a marked decrease in young doctors entering OB/Gyn training for fear of being forced to do abortion, this requirement will discourage young doctors from joining the military."

The issue of abortions done at military base medical centers has been around for two decades. When ex-President Clinton allowed abortions in military facilities from 1993 to 1996, all military physicians (as well as many nurses and supporting personnel) refused to perform or assist in elective abortions. In response, the Clinton administration attempted to hire civilians to do abortions.

—Steven Ertelt, *LifeNews.com* Editor, December 9, 2010

## We Stand Corrected

After we went to print with the November/December issue of *Lifespan News*, we learned that the amount The Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation donated to Planned Parenthood was not \$7.5 million in 2009 as reported, but rather that 20 of Komen's 122 affiliates have made donations to Planned Parenthood and, in 2009, those contributions totaled \$731,303. Komen affiliates have contributed about \$3.3 million to the abortion business from 2004-2009.

## From the President's Desk

Dear Friends of Life,

I want to thank all of you who responded to our "Lights for Life" campaign. Our tree lighting ceremony was joyful and surely got all of us who were there in the Christmas spirit. It was also very uplifting when the light switch was flipped and 500 bulbs lit up, honoring loved ones present in our lives today and remembering those who passed from our sight but are always in our hearts. All of these people have influenced us in so many ways—making us the people we are today. May God bless each and everyone who brought so much light into our world with their love, especially their love of Life.

The same week we were enjoying our Christmas tree, a newspaper article came out about Planned Parenthood opening a clinic in Auburn Hills. The call went out for all of us who live in the area to attend an Auburn Hills Council meeting. About 200 people showed up and peacefully and respectfully expressed their concerns about the largest provider of abortion putting a clinic in their peaceful, family-oriented community.

As this newsletter goes to press, we are still in the process of trying to find a way to keep this mega-death chamber from opening. One thing we are planning is to have our January Rally for Life in the Auburn Hills area. **You will find up-to-date information about the Rally, its date, time and location on our website, [www.rtl-lifespan.org](http://www.rtl-lifespan.org).** It is important that you come to this Rally, especially if you live near the area of Opdyke and University Drive, very close to I-75. (I'm sorry we don't have more details for this newsletter, but the Rally time and place was changed when the news of this clinic came out.)

Those of you who read my articles know that I encourage you to join our membership and financially support the pro-life efforts of "LIFESPAN" and other local pro-life groups, like Educational Center for Life, Michigan Nurses for Life and other local organizations who work diligently to protect human life.

While researching some of Planned Parenthood's websites, an article was found about Obama's 2010 budget. PP received 10 million dollars more than in 2009. PP received 371 million dollars with an additional 178 million going to sex education programs in the schools. Obama also cut all funds to abstinence programs in our schools. This is how and why new PP mega clinics are opening. They have our tax money to promote their progressive agenda.

We must always be on guard because those who want to be able to kill their offspring and our future citizens will do whatever they have to do to keep abortion mills open and financially solvent.

What pro-aborts don't understand is the resolve of the people who make up the pro-life movement. Money comes and goes, but the heart, soul and effort of the individual remains forever. We are here to stay and we will never, never give up.

Diane Fagelman, President, Right to Life - LIFESPAN

## Pro-Lifers Targeted in FBI Pro-Abortion Training Forum

In reading the following article, remember: taking a human life is ALWAYS wrong!

In August of 2010, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Department of Justice (DOJ) partnered with Planned Parenthood, the National Abortion Federation and the Feminist Majority Foundation in presenting a training seminar declaring as "violent" the free speech activities of pro-life Americans.

Participants were provided with an 84-page document entitled, "Resource Guide: Violence Against Reproductive Health Care Providers."

The document referred to statistics prepared by the National Abortion Federation dating back to 1977. In some cases offenders were identified, tried and convicted. Other cases remain "open." A list of the websites of a number of "anti-abortion" organizations include: Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN), Priests for Life, Concerned Women for America and Life Decisions International.

What is interesting about this wholesale lumping of all pro-life activity is the treatment of peaceful free-speech actions such as praying, singing hymns and speaking or handing out literature to women entering abortion facilities as "violence" subject to investigation and prosecution.

It is also interesting to note that there is that no mention made of the murder of the pro-life activist in Owasso, the abortion practitioner who brandished a gun at 40 Days for Life participants outside an abortion clinic in Tennessee or the manager of an abortion facility in Wisconsin who pleaded guilty to purchasing an egg timer, putting it in the trash can outside her own facility and then calling in a bomb threat to the local police.

Yes, abortion is a violent act against the unborn child, but it should NEVER justify violence against the abortion provider or anyone with an opposing point of view or become a reason to break the law.

For more information, see: "Obama Admin Targets Pro-Lifers in FBI Training Forum With Pro-Abortion Orgs," <http://www.lifenews.com/nat6740.html> and "Resource Guide: Violence Against Reproductive Health Care Providers," <http://www.lifenews.com/2010fbitraining.pdf>

—Diane Trombley

Right to Life - LIFESPAN, Media Relations Director

## Top Companies Stop Funding PP

*continued from page 7*

them know of their refusal to patronize their businesses until they end their financial relationships with Planned Parenthood.

Some of the new companies on the boycott list the pro-life group released over the summer included AOL and Darden Restaurants, a conglomerate that oversees popular restaurants like Bahama Breeze, The Capital Grille, LongHorn Steakhouse, Olive Garden, Red Lobster, and Season 52. Another restaurateur, Ignite Restaurants, made the list, and it includes Brickhouse Tavern+Tap and Joe's Crab Shack.

Hilton Worldwide made the boycott list and it manages hotels ranging from Doubletree, Embassy Suites, Hampton Inns / Suites, Hilton Garden Inn, Hilton Hotels, and Home-wood Suites. Kohl's department stores, Mrs. Fields cookies, and Staples office supply stores were also added.

LDI estimates that the boycott has cost Planned Parenthood more than \$40 million since the Corporate Funding Project (CFP) began nearly 18 years ago.

Some of the companies that made a return appearance on the boycott list included The Gap clothing stores and Freddie Mac, the troubled government-sponsored mortgage firm. AlphaGraphics, Wells Fargo (including Wachovia), Nike, Time Warner, Bank of America, Walt Disney, Johnson & Johnson, Lost Arrow (Patagonia, etc.), Chevron, and Nationwide Insurance are among the other companies included in the boycott list again.

For more information, go to: [www.fightpp.org](http://www.fightpp.org)

—LifeNews.com, December 10, 2010

### Lifespan News

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## Right to Life - LIFESPAN Membership Form

Right to Life - LIFESPAN believes that human life has value in all stages of development from conception until natural death, and is committed to speaking on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves — the unborn, the aged, the incapacitated. Won't you please help in our struggle to preserve respect for human life? A contribution brings you the monthly newsletter as well as educational materials and special mailings.

\_\_\_\_\_ Annual Membership \$ 25.00      \_\_\_\_\_ Angel in the Waters Special Membership      \_\_\_\_\_ Other  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Student/Senior Member \$ 15.00      \$40 or more; (call a Lifespan office for details)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
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Please complete this form and return with your donation to: **Right to Life - LIFESPAN, 29200 Vassar St., Suite 545, Livonia, MI 48152-2193.** For more information, call 248-478-8878. Sorry, donations are not tax-deductible.

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**YOUNG PEOPLE FOR LIFE**

*March for Life participants make their way up Constitution Avenue to the Supreme Court building in Washington, D.C. Held since 1974, the next March for Life will be January 24, 2011. For more information, go to [www.marchforlife.org](http://www.marchforlife.org)*

*Media* (Doubleday, 2010), agrees that the tide is turning toward a more pro-life society in America.

"Young people are increasingly pro-life," he writes. "Fifty-six percent of the general population believes abortion is morally wrong, an opinion that resonates in strong majorities across age demographics."

A January Knights of Columbus/Marist poll showed that 58% of all 18- to 29-year-olds said that abortion is morally wrong, along with Generation X—the generation now 30-44 years old—of whom 60% believe abortion is morally wrong. These results are a positive increase from the baby boomers, ages 45-64, of whom 51% believe abortion is morally wrong. In a follow-up poll the next month, 66% of Catholic Millennials said that abortion is morally wrong and 63% believe that euthanasia is as well.

This shift is echoed in a May 2009 "Annual Values and Beliefs" survey by Gallup, which asked, "With respect to the abortion issue, would you consider yourself to be pro-choice or pro-life?" For the first time since the survey has been conducted, 51% of Americans called themselves pro-life and 42% called themselves "pro-choice." In 2008, 44% called themselves pro-life, and 50% were "pro-choice."

"The polls have made pro-life mainstream," said Hawkins. SFLA chapters on college campuses have grown from 181 in 2006 to more than 570 today, in 43 states. Its annual convention last year was attended by 1,150 pro-life students from 150 universities and was called the largest pro-life youth conference in the world.

## Generation Y: The Pro-Life Generation

**Pro-life is becoming mainstream.  
Are we at a tipping point?**

*By Lisa Socarras*

America's pro-life future is looking brighter, thanks to Generation Y, the Millennials, those 60 million people born between the late '70s and the late '90s.

"Our generation is the pro-life generation," said Kristan Hawkins, executive director of Students for Life of America (SFLA) in Arlington, Va., adding that she hopes that her generation is the one that will overturn *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 Supreme Court decision that struck down anti-abortion state laws in the United States.

Opinion polls show a shift in the views of this generation from earlier generations, as well as that our country has become more pro-life than "pro-choice."

Carl Anderson, supreme knight of the Knights of Columbus, in his new book, *Beyond a House Divided: The Moral Consensus Ignored by Washington, Wall Street, and the*

*continued on page 4*