

Lifespan *news*

Volume 37 Number 4 Presenting the Pro-Life Message in Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

June 2008



Congratulations, Madeline Satwicz!

Mother of the Year 2008

In conjunction with our Mother's Day Dinner, we are honoring our Mother of the Year 2008, Madeline Satwicz, of Northville. Madeline was nominated by her daughter-in-law, Martha Satwicz. Printed below is the nomination letter which Martha wrote.

Iwould like to nominate my mother-in-law, Madeline Louise Satwicz, for the 2008 Right to Life – LIFESPAN Mother of the Year award.

Madeline Satwicz is no stranger to the Right to Life – LIFESPAN organization. Her years of work, prayer and concern for the right to life of others has been one of her unrelenting efforts since the beginning of Lifespan. Those efforts alone would be enough to qualify her for Mother of the Year, but I wish to focus on more personal reasons why I believe she should be Mother of the Year.

Madeline is the mother of five children. These are Mary Jo, David, Paul, Barbara and Jim. Jim is a foster child whom Madeline and her husband Tom took into their homes when he was three years old. Jim came from a home where he was neglected and because of that had many problems when he arrived at the Satwicz home. Many years ago, a neighbor of the Satwiczs remarked to me that one day Madeline came to her house and said that the doctors felt Jim should be institutionalized. Madeline was tearful and commented that she did not believe there was a child she couldn't help. How true that statement was. Along with Jim, who is now a happily married, productive member of society, Madeline fostered many children over the years. She also took on the care of a close friend's infant son for two years when that friend died shortly after the child, Peter, was born. From her own children, to all those she cared for in one way or another (and there are many stories to share), Madeline always did so with care and love that had the best interest of the child in mind—always as the purpose.

When she was raising her family, she often did not have a car, but when she was able to have a car, she took all of the neighborhood children to the library because she felt it was important that they read. Additionally, she started a Great Books Reading Club at the local school because she wanted to share her love of reading with the children in the school.

In 1998, our son, Brian, who was a senior in high school said his friends thought he had the coolest grandmother. This was because when she stayed at our home on weekends while we were away, she would come outside and throw snowballs at the kids while they were in the hot tub. To these seniors in high school who were being kept out of trouble by a grandmother to find her "cool," speaks volumes of Madeline and her ability to connect with children—to look out for them, keep them out of trouble and yet have fun with them.

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News Notes

NARAL Gives John McCain 96% Pro-Life Voting Record

NARAL Pro-Choice America president Nancy Keenan emailed her supporters early in February asking for money for a campaign to begin bashing John McCain for his pro-life voting record on abortion. She didn't waste any time in launching the attack as, later in the day, NARAL issued a press release blasting the possible Republican nominee. Keenan said she's worried that some people on the conservative side who disagree with McCain on other political issues will make it appear to some voters that he's not "extreme in his opposition" to abortion. "John McCain has a 25-year record of voting against women's freedom and privacy, and he has even gone so far as to call for the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*," Keenan said. McCain served in the U.S. House from 1983 to 1986 and in the U.S. Senate since 1987. During that time, Keenan said her organization has given him only a 4 percent pro-abortion voting record—including a rating of 0 from 2002 through 2007. According to NARAL, McCain has voted pro-life 123 times out of 128 votes, for a 96 percent pro-life voting record. Keenan said McCain has a "documented record of hostility toward" abortion and that, on pro-life issues, "McCain is neither a moderate nor a maverick."

—NARAL Pro-Choice America

Colorado Bill Would Allow Tax Checkoff for Adult Stem Cell Research Funds

A bill pending in the Colorado legislature would put forward a new idea on the issue of stem cell research. It lets state taxpayers have a chance on their taxes to check a box indicating they want some of their tax dollars to go towards adult stem cell research. Rep. Dianne Primavera, a Democrat, is behind the bill to send money to the Colorado Stem Cells Cure Fund to promote the saving of umbilical cord blood. The revenues, expected to be around \$100,000 in 2009, would promote an educational campaign to promote cord blood donation. The measure would promote an ethical form of stem cell research but pro-life groups likely will want to make sure the funds only go towards the use of adult stem cells. That's because they oppose embryonic stem cell research—which requires the destruction of human life for scientists to obtain the cells for further study.

—LifeNews.com, March 24, 2008

Pro-Abortion Law Firm Wants United Nations Committees to Make Countries Back Abortion

The Center for Reproductive Rights (CRR) just released a new and updated version of their "signature" document that uses the non-binding recommendations of UN committees to argue that sovereign nations must legalize abortion as part of their international legal obligations.

"Bringing Rights to Bear" claims that these recommendations reflect "the growing recognition among these UN bodies that reproductive rights are firmly grounded in international human rights treaties."

For years, CRR has been at the forefront of what some have called a "stealth strategy" to redefine longstanding human rights like the right to life, the right to privacy and the right to be free from discrimination and insert abortion rights into those broad provisions. An integral component of the CRR strategy is to get the UN committees that oversee nations' compliance with their treaty obligations to reinterpret the treaties to include abortion.

UN compliance committees contain a large percentage of personnel from pro-abortion groups and have become increasingly active in reinterpreting UN documents and pressuring governments to follow their interpretations.

"Bringing Rights to Bear" catalogues the successes of the CRR strategy and cites numerous examples of UN committees calling for legalized abortion and widespread access to contraception. The left-wing group Human Rights Watch notes that since 1995 there have been over 100 instances where the UN committees have pressed over 65 nations to legalize or increase access to abortion. Recently, though, some governments have begun to push back at the committees and stand up for their pro-life laws.

—Catholic Family & Human Rights Institute, March 28, 2008

Pentagon Uses Adult Stem-Cell Research

The Pentagon is investing a quarter-billion dollars into adult stem-cell research to help service members injured on the battlefield. "These young men and young women give a very important part of their lives," said Col. Bob Vandre of the Army's Medical Research and Material Command. "They give their bodies, essentially, and are wounded protecting our country."

Vandre launched the five-year initiative, which will use patients' stem cells to stop scarring, rebuild tendons and grow bones. Vandre said that's only the beginning. "I think regenerative medicine is going to change the world," he said. "I can see [it] increasing quality of lives, and becoming a huge technology that'll completely change the way we do medicine throughout the country."

Dr. David Prentice, senior fellow for life sciences at the Family Research Council, said adult stem-cell research has a proven track record, unlike embryonic research. "There's such an obsession in the U.S. with embryonic stem cells," he said. "About all embryonic stem cells have done is make tumors in rats."

—Family News in Focus, May 7, 2008



CIDER WALK

Lifespan is looking for someone to chair this year's Cider Walk. If you can help, call 248-478-8878.



Mother of the Year 2008

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Peter, the child whom she cared for as an infant until his father could care for him, has maintained contact over the years along with his sisters. His sister called and wanted to know about their mother as they became mothers themselves, and Madeline has lovingly shared stories about her friend with them. When Peter married, he sent Madeline a plane ticket so she could attend his wedding as his "mother," and he named his daughter Madeline and his son Thomas after Madeline's husband. I am sure if Peter were asked, he could not come up with a better candidate for Mother of the Year.

Over the years, a connection between Jim's birth siblings and Madeline was made. For many years, Madeline purchased Christmas gifts for them as well as their children. I can remember one year when she had these children's Christmas lists and I helped her shop. She was determined that the children receive what they had written on their lists. It took four huge boxes to place all the gifts in for mailing to these families. She wanted to make the children feel special because they were impoverished and needy. She did not want them to feel different and did this as if they were her own. She also spent time counseling their mothers who had lacked the guidance of a mother, like Madeline, as they tried to be good mothers.

Madeline has always been a part of my family's Christmas celebrations and traveled with us to Chicago for the every-other-year rotation. When Madeline became unable to travel for these events, my family now travels each year to Michigan because they cannot imagine Christmas without "Grandmom Satwicz" as they call her. They do not want to celebrate without her because to them she is their grandmother. My one niece who lives in Florida and does not often travel to Michigan sends flowers and gifts to her because she feels so close to her. The reason why they feel this close to their aunt's mother-in-law is because Madeline was always so attentive and interested in them over the years. She radiated love to them, and they cannot think of her as anything but as THEIR grandmother.

For the past five years, life has offered Madeline many challenges, one of which alone would bring down any individual. She has encountered one health challenge

after another, the deaths of many life-long friends, and most heartbreaking, the loss of her youngest daughter, Barbara. Through it all, she has faced each trial with a positive attitude and never with a "why me?" When she had to give up driving, she accepted that challenge with carefully calculating out that even the most expensive cab ride saved her money. Likewise, when she had to leave her apartment and move closer to us, she informed us that she could go to her new apartment with a negative attitude or go with a positive attitude and enjoy the activities and benefits it afforded. In the last year, she faced a very seri-



Madeline with her children and grandchildren

ous illness and recovery in a nursing home, but through it all, she has maintained her dignity and desire to face life in a positive manner.

I feel Madeline deserves to be Mother of the Year 2008 because through all the years I have known her she cares for her children before everything else. Her ability to face life's challenges positively has made it easy for her adult children to care for her. Many friends have parents who cause them worry and concern because they do not let their children help them. Madeline has shown how she cares for and loves all of her children, their spouses, her grandchildren and great-grandchildren by allowing us to care for her and accept repayment for all that she has done for them, the children she has fostered, the unborn she fought relentlessly for, and all the children who are better because they have encountered Madeline Satwicz. There is nothing a mother can do better for children than to raise them in love and caring and then accept their loving care as she ages. There is not a better role model for a mother at any time and period of a woman's life than Madeline Satwicz.

—Marti Satwicz

2008 Pro-Life Student Art Contest Winners

Three teens won savings bonds in Lifespan's 4th annual Student Art Contest. The theme of the contest was "Celebration of Life."

A first-place prize of a \$1000 savings bond has been won by **Carolyn Goetsch**, 17, of Shelby Twp., a junior, at Utica High School. Carolyn is the daughter of David and Kathryn Goetsch.

The second-place prize of a \$400 savings bond has been won by **SaraJane Kukawka**, 17, of St. Clair, a senior at Marysville High School. SaraJane's parents are Chuck and Theresa Kukawka.

The third-place winner of a \$200 bond has been won by **Megan Wolf**, 17, of Rochester Hills, a senior who is homeschooled. Megan's parents are Greg and Jean Wolf.

The savings bonds were awarded at the Mother's Day Dinner, in Troy, on May 6. Carolyn's first-place artwork has been reproduced on the cover of Lifespan's *Resource Book 2008*, and the three winning entries are reproduced on the following page.



Carolyn Goetsch
First-Place Art Contest Winner



SaraJane Kukawka
Second-Place Art Contest Winner



Megan Wolf
Third-Place Art Contest Winner



We want to thank the judges who had a difficult job choosing the winners from so many excellent entries:

***John Mazurkiewicz** became interested in art at an early age, drawing cartoon characters from the newspaper and comics. This evident talent evolved into drawing faces and eventually color portraits. His specialty medium is pastel and he secured a place in a juried art contest at the Brighton District Library in 2005 where 15 of his works were displayed. John has retired from Ford Motor Company after 38 years of service and can now devote more time to his hobby. His sister, Barb Schmid who is avidly active in the Right to Life movement suggested that he volunteer to judge the 2008 Lifespan art contest, and he happily accepted.*

***Maria Michalik** teaches seventh-grade science and sixth-grade pre-algebra at Notre Dame Prep and Marist Academy in Pontiac where she also heads the design of the middle school yearbook. Maria enjoys reading Peter Kreeft, eating Arby's and playing badminton, none of which she does very often. One of her favorite saints is Thomas More, of whom Matthew Kelly wrote, "In the midst of abundance, he hadn't allowed himself to get carried away, and now, in the midst of poverty, he was not disconcerted."*

***Jenni Nelson** is a graduate from Wayne State University and holds a bachelor of Fine Arts in Electronic Art and Multimedia. At 19, as a freshman in college, she experienced a crisis pregnancy. Her daughter, Liberty, has been a gift and blessing in her life and has inspired the passion she has for fighting the culture of death with love, the truth and perseverance through activism and the arts.*

A Child's Life — by Carolyn Goettsch

First Place

While sitting in the abortion clinic waiting room, a pregnant girl imagines the life her baby might have. My message is to convey the importance of young mothers knowing what a family somewhere will miss if she gets an abortion. I feel family and love are connected, which I show in my artwork.



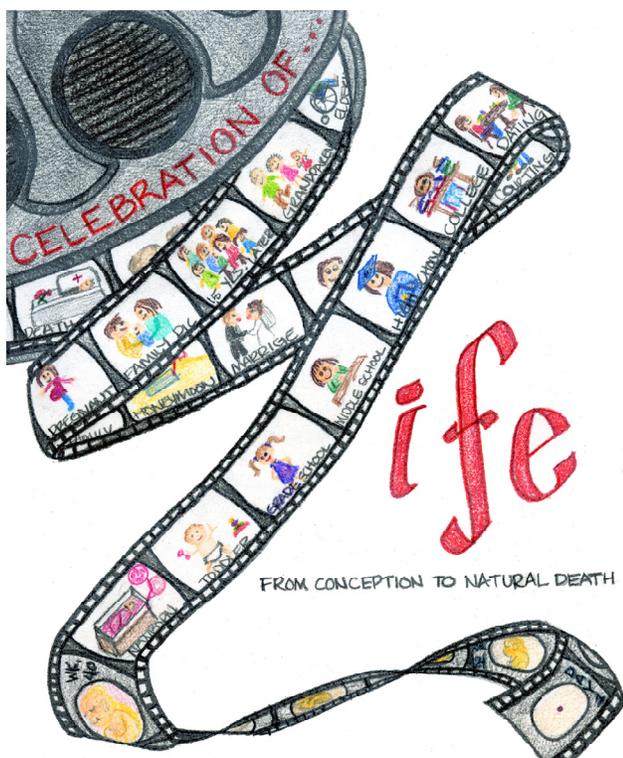
My Belly — by SaraJane Kukawka

Second Place

“Before you were conceived
We wanted you;
Before you were born
We loved you;
Before you were a minute old
We would have died for you;
This is the miracle of LIFE!

—Maureen Hawkins

There would be far less suffering if all life would begin in love and be enveloped in love.



A Glimpse of “Reel” Life — by Megan Wolf

Third Place

The pro-life message I am expressing is that life in all stages deserves to be celebrated. I imparted this message through my work by drawing snapshots of life at various stages, beginning at conception and ending with death. This message is important to me and my work because there is not one stage of life that is more important than another, and if we do not respect life from its very beginning to its very end, we will never be able to end wars, stop violence or, ultimately, change the world.

What's Up with the Youth!?

Hello my young pro-life friends, youth group leaders and coordinators, pastors, parents of youth and youth volunteers!

I am happy to report that the 2nd annual "Born to be a Lady" Teen Fashion Show and Salad Luncheon went very well! We sold out again for the second year in a row! Thirty six young ladies from the Detroit metro area modeled the clothing. The models' ages ranged from 10-19 and categories included casual, dressy, prom/semi-formal, and swimsuits. The models had fun, the clothing was all very stylish and modest, the salad luncheon was delicious and the guest speaker, Lisa Rice, was awesome! I now have 30 more young ladies interested in modeling in the future and 20 more young ladies signed up to receive our monthly Youth Mailing! Here are some comments from guests and models when asked, "What did you like about the show?"

The message about modest dress passed on in a positive way... outfits were fun, bright, beautiful and modest! —Guest

The examples of outfits and names of stores where I can shop. —Guest

I was amazed at the women being together and having a good time and acting like young ladies. This is the crowd I prayed for (for my daughter). —Guest (a father who is both parents to his daughter and who would like to have his daughter model in the show next time!)

I liked how they were able to get nice, decent clothes which are getting harder and harder to find! —Guest (who wants to be a model next time!)

I thought the show went great! It was really nice last year, but this year was awesome! The place, the food, the program and the girls looked really fashionable! —Guest

You get to dress in cool, modest, nice clothing...I felt good about myself! —Model, age 12

Seeing new looks...seeing how to turn popular clothing into modest clothing! —Model, age 15

The next fashion show will be on Sunday, March 29, 2009 at Ss. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Catholic Church in Sterling Heights. Look for more information in *Lifespan News* and on our website towards the end of 2008, call me at **248-816-1546** or e-mail me at **oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org** with your mailing address, and I'll send you the flier and registration form when it becomes available!

For the young ladies and adult women who get this mailing, I have an updated list on modest clothing websites and guidelines to use when shopping. If you would like either or both of these lists, please call me/e-mail me with your mailing address and specify which list you want. IF YOU'RE A GUY GETTING THIS MAILING, will you please pass this information along to your sister(s), cousin(s), friend(s), aunt(s), etc.? Thanks a lot!

The 5th annual Pro-Life Teen Game Show "WHEEL OF LIFE" will be on Saturday, August 16th at the Auburn Hills Christian Center. See the next page of this newsletter for more information! I hope to hear from many of you young people to sign up for the event!

Lynn Gura, Youth Projects Coordinator

Right to Life - LIFESPAN, Oakland/Macomb

PLEASE NOTE: I'll be looking for young volunteers/families to help out with our educational tables at the 4-H Fair in July, State Fair in August and Troy Daze Festival in September. Please call or e-mail me if you would like more information!

26th ANNUAL "BOWLING FOR LIFE"

SPONSORED BY

RIGHT TO LIFE - LIFESPAN



Friday, August 8, 2008

with starting times

between 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

PRIZES!!!

WOODLAND LANES 33775 Plymouth Road, Livonia

BOWL 3 GAMES FREE!

See page 9 for more information and/or call 734-422-6230



5th Annual Pro-Life Teen Game Show
"WHEEL OF LIFE"

Motto: Take the wheel, stay the course! Choose Life!

August 16, 2008

Auburn Hills Christian Center

Sponsored by Right to Life - LIFESPAN and Educational Center for Life

Come join us for Wheel of Fortune-style fun!

Location: 2592 East Walton Boulevard, Auburn Hills
(between Opdyke and Squirrel, east side of I-75, south side of Walton)

Entrance Fee: Contestants - \$12.00, Guests - \$6.00
Children 5 years old and under are free. (The maximum charge per family is \$45.00.)

Entrance fee includes:

Pop and Lemonade **Pizza** **Snacks and Dessert**

Deadline for Registration: July 12th

Age Requirement: 12-19 years old

(Contestants will participate according to age group—12/13 year olds, 14/15 year olds, 16/17 year olds and 18/19 year olds)

Information Packet: Game Show Rules, Schedule, Map,
Study Materials (ex. Crossword Puzzles, Word Match Games)
(The packet will be sent out to all Contestants after July 12th)

Categories: *Biology; Corporations, Groups, Organizations; History, Laws, Events; Literature;
Names or Places; Quotes and Phrases*
(all answers will be related to a variety of Pro-Life issues)

Extras: Pro-Life t-shirts to all Contestants! Gift certificates to all Game winners!
(A 4-Life Bingo Game will be played during each Wheel of Life game. Small prizes will be awarded to the winners.)

Have questions? Want to sign up? Contact Lynn
Phone: 248-816-1546 E-Mail: oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org



detroit

P. O. Box 24774
 Detroit, MI 48224-1906
 Phone 313-640-8534 • Fax (same as phone)
 Office Hours: MW 10-2; TThF Closed
 Mary Cascos, Office Manager

Bouquets of thanks

Our annual Mother's Day Rose Sale was a great success. We wish to extend our sincere thanks and profound gratitude to all our Detroit church representatives and their helpers. You gave up your precious time on Mother's Day on behalf of future mothers who will hear our message of life and decide to give birth to their child. For all those who bought a flower, your continued support will help us keep the office open so that we can continue to educate a city that desperately needs to hear the truth about abortion. Thanks and God Bless.

Father's Day reflection

Let us pray for our own fathers and thank them for playing ball with us or singing songs to us because they supported their wives and helped give us life. Let us pray for all fathers who will never get a chance to play ball with their sons or sing songs to their daughters because of abortion.

wee care

A Program of Right to Life - LIFESPAN
 Educational Fund
 29200 Vassar St., Ste. 545
 Livonia, MI 48152-2193
 Phone 248-478-8884 • Fax 248-478-8854
 Karen Patrosso, Director



Thank you to everyone for all that you are doing to help our moms and their precious babies. I haven't had time to count, but I believe that we are providing many more packages this year than at any time since Wee Care began—I know the calls for help have increased dramatically. So many lives you are touching—you'll never know what a difference your love and compassion have meant to some very desperate moms.

Just in one day last week, we put together layettes for two teenagers—both 17-years-old, 8-1/2 months pregnant, still in school

Garage sales

Summer is a time for garage sales. Are you up to your neck in clutter after spring cleaning? Why not get rid of your junk and turn it into someone else's treasure and at the same time help save lives by donating your proceeds to LIFESPAN. Also, remember to think of the little ones while you are out there garage saling. Pick up a few gently used baby items and donate them to your local pregnancy help center. God will bless you for your efforts.

Mother of the Year!

Wow, what can I say about Madeline Satwic? For one thing she is one of us, a Detroiter. She has been my friend since I took over the Detroit Office, and she has been my inspiration, my confidant and my heroine in the pro-life movement.

I don't know how many letters to the editor she has asked me to type during the last 20 years. Her many published articles have touched millions of people, and I'm sure they have changed the hearts of countless pro-abortion supporters. She would always have Christmas cards or silk flowers in the trunk of her car, and she would sell them for Lifespan to all the many churches she belonged to.

Madeline has had some challenges to overcome during the last few years, but that doesn't stop her from proclaiming the pro-life message to everyone she meets. And, as she told us at the Mother's Day Dinner, "All you have to do is always wear those little gold feet, and you will have the opportunity to spread the pro-life message to everyone you meet."

Madeline, congratulations, you deserve the best! I love you.

and terrified about what lies ahead. Luckily, they have a very caring school counselor who is helping them and giving them the guidance that their parents failed to do. She said they were like excited children when they opened their Wee Care packages. The sad part is—they are still children—about to give birth and have children of their own.

We also put together a huge layette for a young mom with a toddler and twin infants. She isn't able to work and is very sick. Her husband left her—left Michigan—when he found out that she had cancer. She is to undergo a very difficult surgery—please keep her and all our moms in your prayers.

On that same day, a number of layettes were put together for our newest group of moms—those who have never needed or received aid in their lives. Most of these moms have loving husbands and older children. What their families do not have are jobs. For many years they struggled, but always paid their bills and provided for their children—and then Michigan's economy hit. Embarrassed, stressed, frustrated—the calls began to come

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All material and monetary donations to Wee Care are tax-deductible. Checks must be made payable to Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund.

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, Tanya Wrenn Ofc. Staff

Membership message

As you all know, membership is the lifeblood of any organization. Membership in LIFESPAN is renewable every year and, theoretically, if your membership expires you should stop receiving *LIFESPAN News*, but we don't want anyone to miss out on important pro-life news so we generally keep on sending the newsletter even after your membership expires.

However, economic times being what they are, we really need for everyone to renew their membership. We must continue our efforts to restore dignity and protection to all human life, but we cannot do it without your help. Please look at the label on the back page of this newsletter. If the date shown there is greater than one year ago from today's date, you need to renew. We have included a membership envelope for your convenience and hope that you will help us by renewing today.

wayne west/downriver

27592 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150-2203
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.

26th Annual "Bowling for Life" Bowl 3 games FREE...

Don't get left out of the fun. Mark your calendars now for a "night out with family and friends." Lifespan's 26th Annual "Bowling for Life" FUNdraiser will be on Friday evening, August 8 at Woodland Lanes in Livonia. Starting times are between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m.

Bumper Bowl has been added where parents can bowl with their kids. Children are eligible for Grand Prizes and door prizes.

This is always a fun-filled evening with other pro-lifers, and you don't have to be a good bowler to win exciting prizes. Sponsors can pledge by pin or a set amount of money per game. Example: \$1.50 per game pledged... bowler bowls 3 games...amount due \$4.50 OR...\$.01 per pin pledged...bowler scores 450...amount due \$4.50.

By collecting pledges, you can bowl 3 GAMES FREE and WIN U.S. SAVINGS BONDS.

GRAND PRIZES in bonds for the most pledged money collected are: 1st prize...\$200; 2nd prize...\$100; 3rd prize...\$75 and 4th prize...\$50.

Entertainment excitement

As in past years, we have a supply of 2008 Entertainment Books available with the purchase of a 2009 book. The 2008 books are here now, and the 2009 books will be here in early August. This promotion allows you to get 6 months free with the 2008 book. Many of you received a postcard from the office encouraging you to order your 2009 book now and get the 2008 book free. If you did not receive your postcard, call the office, 248-816-1546, and make pickup arrangements today.

Dinner thank you!

The number of people who helped to make our Mother's Day Dinner a success is very large. To identify each by name would practically assure that someone's name would be forgotten. To avoid that, the Oakland/Macomb Chapter would like to thank every single person who helped with the Dinner, from the candy maker to the youth helpers, from the hostesses to the auction volunteers, from A-Z, and especially to our guests!

Book Sale thank you!

A very big thank you to Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Rochester Hills for hosting Lifespan's Used Book Sale! Thank you, Mary Cascos, for coordinating this event and to all the many people who helped work the sale, donated books and/or shopped and bought books!

ADDITIONAL PRIZES in bonds are: High game scores (with handicaps) for men, women and children...\$100 in each category. High series scores (with handicaps) for men, women and children...\$100 in each category.

To be eligible for any of the above prizes, at least \$50 in pledge money must be turned into our office no later than Monday, August 25, 2008. As an added incentive, gold electroplated pro-life jewelry will be awarded to anyone turning in at least \$50 in pledges.

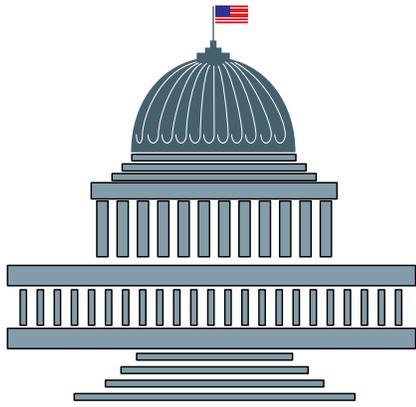
All bowlers will receive a gift certificate donated by area merchants. Please call Lifespan at the number to the left for pledge sheets or further information.

2009 Entertainment Book presale

Order and pay for a 2009 Entertainment Book now for only \$20, and receive a FREE 2008 Book which can be used until Nov. 1, 2008. Four \$5.00 coupons for Meijer's are in the new book, so if you use these, you will have your initial investment back! Sounds like a pretty good deal (i.e. if you like Meijer's).

Bake Sale

St. Mary Church in Wayne had their annual bake sale for Lifespan. Parishioners and Lifespan bakers stacked the tables with their favorite recipes which were snapped up by hungry buyers. Our thanks to Diane Soules, our church rep. for organizing this event. We applaud Fr. Jack Baker, pastor, for his total support. Thank you to all who contributed to the success of this bake sale—the grand total was \$1605.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Contact Information

President

President George W. Bush
The White House
Washington, DC 20500
Opinion Line 202-456-1111, M-F, 9-5
Fax Number: 202-456-2461
e-mail: comment@whitehouse.gov
Dear Mr. President:

U.S. Senators

The Honorable (Carl Levin, Debbie Stabenow)
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-3121
www.senate.gov/
Dear Senator (last name):

U.S. Representatives

The Honorable (first and last name)
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
202-224-3121
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
e-mail: migov@aol.com
Dear Governor Granholm:

Michigan State Senator

The Honorable (full name)
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909
517-373-1837
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
www.house.mi.gov/
Dear Representative (last name):

Legal Definition of Birth and Partial-Birth Abortion

On May 1, 2008, SB 776 (Sen. Cameron Brown R-16), SB 1049 (Sen. John Pappageorge R-13), HB 4613 (Rep. Brian Palmer R-36) and HB 5664 (Rep. Brian Palmer R-36) were all discharged from the Committee on Judiciary to the floor of the Michigan House. A vote is pending.

All of these measures have to do with the issue of the legal definition of birth and partial birth abortion in Michigan. SB 776 is a replication of the federal ban on partial-birth abortion and is an answer to the 6th U.S. Court of Appeal's ruling that the original partial-birth abortion measure passed by the Michigan legislature in 2004 was unconstitutional. That court objected to some of the language in the original measure, and SB 776 addresses that objection by conforming its language to that used by the United States Supreme Court in *Gonzales v. Carhart* on April 18, 2007. A favorable vote is expected and the measure will then go to the governor. There is no indication at this time how the governor will act.

Medical Society takes 'neutral' position

After five years of supporting embryonic stem cell research, the Michigan State Medical Society changed its policy to a neutral position on the controversial issue that may appear on the November ballot.

The doctors' neutral stance was among three potential health-related election issues that did not get endorsed or opposed by the state's largest medical group at its annual delegates meeting.

—Kim Kozlowski, *Detroit News*, May 4, 2008

UNNECESSARY EMBRYONIC STEM CELL PETITION

Proponents of embryonic stem cell research have embarked on a petition drive for a ballot proposal that would amend the constitution of the State of Michigan. They claim that a special type of research is needed to find

cures for terrible diseases. However, a careful reading of the proposal reveals some serious consequences not fully explained by the petition circulators.

First, embryonic stem cell research is currently taking place in Michigan, being funded by federal tax dollars. Current law in Michigan does not prevent such research but prevents researchers from actually destroying the human embryo to obtain the stem cells. In other words, Michigan researchers must get the stem cells from somewhere other than Michigan. That does not make such research ethical, but it is disingenuous to say that it can't be done under current law.

The larger issue is that a human embryo must be killed in order to obtain the stem cells and, to date, NO TREATMENTS OR CURES HAVE RESULTED FROM SUCH RESEARCH. Embryonic stem cells have been rejected by their hosts and have a tendency to form tumors in the animals that have been used in such experiments. On the other hand, adult stem cells (stem cells derived from any tissue that is not embryonic including placental tissue and umbilical cord blood) do not form such tumors, are rarely rejected and have resulted in almost 100 treatments being applied today. Even some of our armed forces personnel who have sustained orthopedic injuries that have not responded to other treatments have been treated with adult stem cells with surprising success.

A new technique for obtaining embryonic stem cell like cells, called iPS cells, has been developed. These cells seem to have the same properties and abilities that stem cells derived from destroying human embryos have, but no lives are lost in producing them.

In short, we don't need to change the law; we don't need to amend the State constitution. We simply need to apply the benefits of iPS and adult stem cells to serious health issues and cure our loved ones without making unborn human life a commodity. *Don't be fooled — don't sign the petition.*

STUDENT PRO-LIFE VIDEO CONTEST

Deadline: Friday, September 5, 2008



Prizes:

1st place \$500 Savings Bond 2nd place \$200 Savings Bond 3rd place \$100 Savings Bond

Rules:

1. Any student in grades 9-12, in public, private or homeschool, who resides in Wayne, Oakland, or Macomb County and/or is a member of Right to Life - LIFESPAN (RTL-LIFESPAN), regardless of residency, is eligible for the contest, *except for students in the immediate family of a board member of RTL- LIFESPAN.*
2. The theme of the Student Pro-life Video Contest is open to any pro-life issue.
3. Entrants are required to submit a written explanation of their videos, in no more than 50 words, answering the following three questions:
 - *What pro-life message are you expressing?*
 - *How did you impart this message through your video?*
 - *Why is this message important to you?*

Each entry must include, on a separate sheet of paper, NEATLY PRINTED, the title of the video, the student's name, address, phone number, age and grade, name of school, names of any participants in the video, and the names of his/her parents or guardian.

4. Entrants may submit more than one entry. Each entry must be the student's own original concept, design, and execution and **may not violate any U.S. copyright laws.**
5. Each video submitted should be between 5-10 minutes long and may be submitted on either DVD or VHS tape.
6. The winning entries **become the property of RTL-LIFESPAN** and will not be returned. Each student who enters the contest assigns copyright for the entry to RTL-LIFESPAN.
7. Video entries shall be considered by impartial judges selected with experience and knowledge of audio/visual arts.
8. Entries will be judged on originality of concept, presentation, composition, how they relate to pro-life issues, adherence to contest guidelines, and design technique.
9. Judges reserve the right to award no prize winner if no entry is deemed meritorious of the prize. Decisions of the judges will be final.
10. All entries **MUST BE RECEIVED by Friday, September 5, 2008** and mailed or delivered to: Student Pro-Life Video Contest 2008, Right to Life - LIFESPAN, 29200 Vassar, Ste. 545, Livonia, MI, 48152.

Winners will be notified by phone. The top three prizes will be featured on YouTube. The first-prize entry is also eligible for reproduction on the RTL-LIFESPAN MySpace page. The winners will also be featured in an issue of LIFESPAN News. For more information, call Chris at 734-306-6028 or Lynn at 248-816-1546.

Pearls of Wisdom

Editor's Note: This letter illustrates the importance of supporting women in crisis. Supporting pro-life education in your area will advance the cause of LIFE.

*By Chaunue Saelens
As written to Serrin Foster,
President of Feminists for Life*

Dear Serrin,

I left my Feminists for Life internship this summer fired up about helping pregnant students on my campus. I had no idea that in a few short weeks I would be one of them.

Four weeks into my senior year, I took a pregnancy test, sure that the result would be negative, that I was just easing my mind. I looked down to find two bright blue lines staring back at me. Frantic and disbelieving, I immediately took another test. Positive again.

In that instant, staring down at the two tiny lines that represented the most dramatic change in my life, I understood how women facing unplanned pregnancies can turn to abortion. In that moment of panic and fear, it does not feel like a new life, but rather the end of life as you know it. A million questions race through your mind—what will people think, what will I do, how can this be happening? You just wish it wasn't happening, wish you could rewind time, wish it would go away.

It's easy to understand women in crisis wishing that the baby isn't real, so they can make it go away.

The next day, still in denial and in a very fragile emotional state, I went to the campus health service for confirmation.

A nurse practitioner called me into her office and gave me the results of my test. There was no doubt about it, I was pregnant.

When she started talking to me about telling my parents, I broke down.

I sat in the chair, crying hysterically while the nurse examined her chart. After a minute or two, she stood up and said, "I have other patients to see, you can stay here if you want."

She left me crying and alone to see the only other patient in the center, a young man with a sore throat.

My struggles continued after my visit to health services. I gathered all the information I could find about student insurance. Not one plan covered pregnancy. In fact, all of them specifically stated that they would not cover pregnancy.

Though the university used to have daycare on campus, I learned the president got rid of it a few years ago. Housing was another disappointment; once again, the university used to have family housing, but dissolved those dorms for the better-paying first-year students.

I have to tell you, as president of my college pro-life group and an active advocate for women, it was frightening to see the complete lack of resources and support available for pregnant and parenting students at my school.

I understood how women in such a vulnerable situation could feel they have no choices.

In addition to physical and material resources for myself and my child, I needed emotional support.

My boyfriend was scared and uncertain, like me, but supportive. He could offer no words of wisdom, but took my hand and told me that it would be ok. He offered his love and stood by my side.

I was absolutely terrified to tell my parents. Every day that passed without telling them was even more horrible because I so desperately needed their support too.

When I finally worked up the nerve to tell my parents, their reaction was unbelievable. They offered me nothing but love and support, and they were even happy and excited for me! Word quickly spread in my close-knit family and, incredibly, every single family member was supportive, offering to help in any way they could and reassuring me that it was right to celebrate this new life.

I am now happily engaged, planning a beautiful Christmas wedding and eagerly awaiting my next doctor's appointment, when my fiancée and I will hear our baby's heartbeat for the first time.

While I have received so much support and love from all of my family and friends, it has still been a struggle adjusting to my new life. There is no easy way to get through an unplanned pregnancy, but with the support I have received, I am managing, and every day brings me more happiness and excitement. As FFL's honorary chair, Patricia Heaton says, "Women who are experiencing an unplanned pregnancy also deserve unplanned joy."

I am so fortunate to have received love and support. Sadly, this is not the case for many women who face situations like mine.

While Feminists for Life continues to work to equip college campuses with the resources pregnant and parenting students need to succeed, I know FFL is also working to change minds and challenge the status quo so women can receive the personal support they need.

More than ever, I realize the vital importance of FFL's work. I not only believe in Feminists for Life's mission, I am living it.

I am grateful that FFL is changing the way people think about pregnancy, particularly in higher ed.

It is possible for women to continue with their educations, with their career goals, with their dreams. FFL refuses to choose. So do I.

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A Good Time Was Had By All!

Mother's Day Dinner 2008



*Teresa Tomeo, Emcee
Radio Host, WDEO*



*Nicky and Frank Turner
Amazing Grace Ministries*



*Our littlest attendee, Sarah Wolf
Sarah is the 8th daughter
of Greg and Jean Wolf*



Student Art Contest winners recognized



Mother of the Year, Madeline Satwicz, and her family

We want to thank the judges who had a difficult task of selecting our Mother of the Year 2008 from among all the worthy nominations we received.

***Ellen Salter, Mother of the Year 2007**, has been married to her husband Mike for 15 years. They have four beautiful children ranging from 14 years to 5 years old. Their youngest child is on life-support, unable to move, eat or breathe on her own. As a couple, they have become pro-life speakers on the dignity of every human being especially the unborn and handicapped. They also speak on the journey to the heart of Christ through the joy of family suffering. To find out more about this family you may visit their pro-life, family website at babymeghan.org.*

***Diane Hassenrik**, is the mother of eight children (three birth children, four step-children and one adopted child), 22 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. She has a wonderful husband, Gus, to whom she's been married for almost 43 years. They've been blessed with a wonderful family and good health for which they thank our blessed Lord and Savior every day.*

***Sue McIntyre** is the proud mother of three fine children and grandmother of one. She resides in Sterling Heights and is active in her community and in her parish, St. Mary's, Detroit. In her spare time, she enjoys gardening, reading and sailing.*

***Albertina Simone** is a chartered accountant and retired executive and board member of Allied Domeca Spirits and Wine USA, Inc. Born in France to Italian parents, she has also lived in Italy, Canada, New York and Connecticut and now resides in Michigan. She is currently preparing her home for a new baby she is soon to adopt, just in time for Mother's Day.*

Pearls of Wisdom

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Serrin, I wanted to share my story because I believe that there is a better way for women. There is a better way for me.

How reassuring it would have been for the campus nurse practitioner to talk to me, discuss my options, offer me support and encouragement and connect me to community resources.

Instead, she left me alone and in tears.

I can't imagine how a woman unsure about abortion, uninformed about her resources, lacking support from those she counted on the most, feels she has a choice—what hope is there for a good outcome?

Thank you for helping mothers like me. I'm deeply grateful to the many people who support this important work. I'll keep you and everyone at FFL posted with photos and updates.

*For women, Chaunie Saelens
Former Feminists for Life Intern
President of campus Students for Life*

Chaunie Saelens was the winner of the 2007 National Nurses for Life scholarship. She was married in December 2007 and continues her nursing studies at Grand Valley State University School of Nursing.

Wee Care

continued from page 8

in to Wee Care. They told first of the joy of knowing that they were to have a new baby in their family and then the devastation when they were told they no longer had a job. The pattern was pretty much the same—for those nine months of what should have been such a happy time—buying cute baby supplies—dreaming of all the fun that lay ahead—the time instead was filled with worry and trying to keep their other children fed and clothed and not lose their homes to foreclosure. We can't provide jobs—but, THANKS TO YOU, we can provide a beautiful layette for their precious child. It is a small thing in the face of all their problems—but it does make a difference, and perhaps it is the first time that they feel a sense of hope that things will get better.

So, once again, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for all that you do that makes a difference in so many lives. Please continue to pray for our families, and may they be able to experience all the joy that their newborn's arrival should bring. God bless you all—you make miracles happen daily at Wee Care! —Karen Patrosso, Director, Wee Care

Educational Center for Life

We now have the DVD of the pro-life movie *Bella*. If you'd like to borrow this powerful and moving story, call the office at 248-816-8489. *Bella* opened here in theaters last fall.

1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G, Troy, MI 48084-3540
Phone 248-816-8489 • Fax 248-816-9066

A Requiem of Hope

It was a small, white casket, no larger than 3 feet by 2 feet. It was brought in by the woman who found the precious babies in a dumpster behind the killing mill of Dr. Hodari.

St. Gerald Church was full that sad morning. Before the solemn funeral Mass, a spontaneous rosary of LIFE was offered up. The mysteries were dedicated to the innocent, aborted children, for the conversion of those moms and dads who thought the gift of life wasn't worth a second thought and for the doctor and his staff who treated them as medical waste and threw them into the dumpster. The mysteries were also prayed for all those who continue to work in the pro-life movement, especially those soldiers who are willing to put their own physical and emotional lives on the line to rescue these precious babies by standing in front of abortion mills and sometimes even climbing into dumpsters to rescue those sacred bodies.

It was so healing to be surrounded by those so dedicated and so full of life who have struggled so very long to end abortion. When they announced that 23 babies were in that small, white casket, you could hear an audible gasp, for we all knew that there have been many, many more babies who ended up in the garbage all across Michigan, all across the country, all across the world.

Yet it was a healing Mass for me. It was beautifully celebrated by Bishop John M. Quinn. The songs were full of sorrow and pain, but also full of joy and hope. There was no white pall draped over the casket as in a regular funeral Mass for there was no official baptism for these innocents which the pall represents. I feel that all aborted babies are not baptized in water, but perhaps in their own mother's blood for they are all truly innocent victims of this violent crime of abortion.

There are now 23 souls up in heaven, along with the almost 50 million babies who were disposed of since abortion became legal. Can you imagine the joy in heaven and on earth when all our struggles are ended and God and His Body on earth finally put an end to abortion. This Hope is assured. This Hope keeps us going. This Hope is not wishful thinking—it is a Promise from our God of LIFE.

—Mary Cascos, Office Manager
Lifespan, Detroit

Calendar of Events

June 14-15 Father's Day Pen/Candy Tribute
June 15 Happy Father's Day!
August 8 Bowling for Life, p. 6
August 16 Teen Game Show, p. 7
August 22-September 1 Michigan State Fair
August 25 Deadline, Bowling for Life Pledges
September 5 Deadline, Student Video Contest, p. 11
September 20 Legislative Breakfast
October 5 Life Chain, p. 15

SAVE THE DATE! Mark your calendar for Lifespan's Legislative Breakfast—September 20—more details to come in the July issue of Lifespan News.

Donations have been made—
In celebration of the 90th birthday of:
Eleanor Morris
 Given by: Charlotte Komara

In loving memory of:
Dorothy Cencer
Lifespan's Mother of the Year 2003
 Given by: Patricia Schutzler
 Jim Schelhaas
 Ed and Verda Bonello
 Eileen Cilli
 Mr. and Mrs. Tom Anrhein and Family
 Chris and Cher Patersen
 Nell and Earle Winnie
 Ann and Bob Millan
 Lifespan Friends

Frank Barcewicz
 Given by: Allen Kerkes

Elizabeth A. Chupailo
 Given by: Frank and Vivian Hutira

John Sherry
 Given by: Members of Michigan Video/Movie Makers

Jerry Trumpka
 Given by: Cindy and Allen Dorton
 Mimi Blanchard and Family
 Mike and Fran Amato
 Paul and Elaine Ettinger
 Lifespan Friends

Donations may be made in memory of loved ones who have died; a memorial card will be sent by Lifespan in your name to the family of the deceased. Donations may also be made to honor someone special, and near and dear to you, for a particular occasion, or just because...

You can live on after death by helping those whose lives are threatened by abortion, euthanasia or infanticide. A bequest in your will to Right to Life - LIFESPAN will be used to save the lives of many through our efforts. Send donations to your local Lifespan office.

HELP WANTED!
 Office Manager, Part-Time
 Lifespan's Main Office, Livonia
 Word and InDesign proficient, preferred
 Must have good English grammar skills
 Fax resume to 248-478-8854



LIFE CHAIN
Sunday, October 5, 2008
2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

In addition to select designated Lifespan locations, churches and organizations are invited to host Life Chains at their own locations. If you are interested in hosting a Life Chain on Sunday, October 5, please call us.

Watch for a mailing and/or more information in Lifespan's next newsletter, or call us at 248-478-8878.

Lifespan News

June 2008; Vol. 37, No. 4
 Published eight times a year
 President & Publisher: Diane Fagelman
 Co-editors: Marge Bradley, Diane Trombley
 Layout/Design: Marge Bradley
 Contributors & Printing: Patricia & Robert Holscher, Diane Trombley
 Right to Life - LIFESPAN is a non-profit organization, and is funded entirely by membership dues, private donations and fundraisers.
 Donations are not tax-deductible.

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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 _____
 Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

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.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

My Daddy's Hand

Daddy,

Take my hand in yours and you will plainly see,

How very much I need you now to love and care for me.

As my little hand grows, I will need you even more,

Everything I do in life, I have never done before.

Teach me to be kind and loving, sharing and forgiving.

Show me through your acts of love the pure joy of living.

The years will pass by quickly and one day I will be grown,

I will pass what you have taught me onto children of my own.

Hold me always in your thoughts and remember when we are apart,

The special love between a child and a daddy's heart.



GOD BLESS OUR FATHERS!

Right to Life - LIFESPAN
Oakland/Macomb Chapter
Coventry Place
1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G
Troy, MI 48084-3540



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