

Lifespan *news*

Volume 39 Number 6

Presenting the Pro-Life Message in Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

August 2010

Right to Life - LIFESPAN

Legislative Breakfast

Saturday, September 25, 2010

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon ♦ Registration: 8:15 a.m.

Burton Manor

27777 Schoolcraft ♦ Livonia, Michigan

(south side of I-96 service drive, between Inkster and Middlebelt)

The Menace Hidden in the Health Care Reform Act

Dr. Charmaine Yoest is President & CEO of Americans United for Life (AUL), the first national pro-life organization in the nation, whose legal strategists have been involved in every pro-life case before the United States Supreme Court since *Roe v. Wade*.

AUL's leadership in pro-life law was recognized when Dr. Yoest was called to testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee during the July 2009 confirmation hearings for Supreme Court nominee Judge Sonia Sotomayor. Dr. Yoest has also provided Congressional testimony on other occasions before both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Dr. Yoest began her career in the White House during the Reagan Administration and recently served as a Senior Advisor to the 2008 Huckabee for President Campaign. She is also the co-author of *Mother in the Middle*, an examination of childcare policy, published by HarperCollins.

A regular political commentator, Dr. Yoest has appeared on all of the major networks and cable outlets. In print, Dr. Yoest is quoted regularly and has been published widely.

Previously, Dr. Yoest served as the Project Director of the Family, Gender and Tenure Project at the University of Virginia, a nationwide study funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. She was also a recipient of Mellon, Olin, Bradley and Kohler Fellowships. She also served as a Vice President at the Family Research Council, one of the largest pro-family public policy organizations in the country.

Dr. Yoest has a Ph.D. in Politics from the University of Virginia. She and her husband, Jack, live with their five children in the Washington, DC area.



Legislative update will include discussion of current legislation affecting Michigan citizens

For more details, call 248-478-8878 or 734-422-6230

Make checks payable and mail to: Right to Life - LIFESPAN, 29200 Vassar St., Suite 545, Livonia, MI 48152

Reservations are required by Wednesday, September 22 - see page 8 for registration information

News Notes

Michigan abortion statistics

The poor economic conditions in Michigan were supposed to elevate the number of abortions, but recently-released statistics from the Michigan Department of Community Health reveal otherwise. The number of abortions performed in Michigan decreased in 2009.

The report shows 22,357 abortions done in Michigan during 2009 compared to 25,970 Michigan abortions reported in 2008, a drop of 13.9 percent or 3,613 abortions.

Since 1987, there has been a 54.4 percent decrease in the number of abortions done in Michigan annually and they have decreased in four of the last six years.

The number of abortions performed in 2009 represents the lowest annual total of reported abortions in Michigan since abortion businesses were required to start reporting information in 1979.

—*LifeNews*, July 21, 2010

Obama nominee to head Medicare, Medicaid post favors British rationing

President Barack Obama has appointed another nominee for an influential government position who will upset pro-life advocates. But, this time, the nominee poses concerns not on abortion but on end-of-life issues like euthanasia and rationing of health care.

Obama selected Dr. Donald Berwick to become the director of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the office that oversees government health care programs.

Berwick is an outspoken admirer of the British National Health Service and its rationing arm, the National Institute for Clinical Effectiveness (NICE). Other critics have predicted since the earliest days of the Obama administration that NICE-style health care was coming.

That includes Wesley J. Smith, who has frequently condemned the approach.

During a 2008 speech to British physicians, Berwick said “I am romantic about the National Health Service. I love it,” and calling it “generous, hopeful, confident, joyous and just.”

Michael Tanner, a senior fellow at the Cato Institute, wrote more about the problems with Berwick in an opinion column at the *Daily Caller*.

Recalling that opponents of the government-run health care bill were blasted for bringing up “death panels,” Tanner writes: “But if President Obama wanted to keep a lid on that particular controversy, he just selected about the worst possible nominee.”

In his comments lauding the British health care system, Tanner says “Berwick was referring to a British health care system where 750,000 patients are awaiting admission to NHS hospitals.”

“The government’s official target for diagnostic testing was a wait of no more than 18 weeks by 2008. The reality doesn’t come close. The latest estimates suggest that for most specialties, only 30 to 50 percent of patients are treated within 18 weeks. For trauma and orthopedics patients, the figure is only 20 percent,” he writes.

“Overall, more than half of British patients wait more than 18 weeks for care. Every year, 50,000 surgeries are canceled because patients become too sick on the waiting list to proceed,” he continues.

“The one thing the NHS is good at is saving money. After all, it is far cheaper to let the sick die than to provide care,” Tanner adds.

NICE is at the forefront of the rationing in the British health care system.

“It acts as a comparative-effectiveness tool for NHS, comparing various treatments and determining whether the benefits the patient receives, such as prolonged life, are cost-efficient for the government,” Tanner explains. “NICE, however, is not simply a government agency that helps bureaucrats decide if one treatment is better than another. With the creation of NICE,

the U.K. government has effectively put a dollar amount to how much a citizen’s life is worth.”

Tanner points out that Berwick has already admitted health care rationing is coming.

“It’s not a question of whether we will ration care,” the Obama nominee said in a magazine interview for *Biotechnology Healthcare*, “It is whether we will ration with our eyes open.”

Tanner concludes: “Recent reports suggest that the recently passed health care bill will be far more expensive than originally projected. As it becomes apparent that ObamaCare is unsustainable, the calls for controlling its costs through rationing will grow louder. With Donald Berwick running the government’s health care efforts, those voices will have a ready ear.”

—*Steven Ertelt*, *LifeNews*, May 27, 2010

Follow up

During the 4th of July Congressional recess, the President appointed his Medicare/Medicaid nominee, David Berwick, to the position of Director of the Center for Medicare/Medicaid Services, the office that oversees government health care programs, in what is known as a “recess appointment.”

Such an appointment takes place when the president “gives” the position to his/her nominee without the usual Senate confirmation hearings for such a nominee. While such appointments are legal, they do circumvent any discussions as to the nominee’s qualification for his office.

Coincidentally, this appointment also avoids the possibility that his views on health care rationing and his admiration for the type of socialized medicine practiced in the United Kingdom will become widely known by the American public.

At a time when opposition to the recently passed health care legislation continues to mount, such a discussion was probably something the administration wanted to avoid.

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LIFE CHAIN

Sunday, October 3, 2010

Note time change! 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

This year is Lifespan's 21st annual participation in **National Life Chain Sunday**. Hundreds of thousands of participants across the United States silently stand in peaceful, prayerful witness to their commitment to love and protect the unborn and their mothers. LIFE CHAIN challenges the community to be aware and to care. Will YOU stand with us? Gather family, friends, neighbors, fellow church members to join LIFE CHAIN!

Signs will be provided with the following messages: **Abortion Kills Children, Adoption is the Loving Option, Abortion Hurts Women, Pray to End Abortion and Life, the First Inalienable Right.**

The following list of Life Chains is being updated daily with the registration of more locations. Call for updates or go to www.rtl-lifespan.org, Events, Life Chain, for current listing of locations.

LIFE CHAIN will include these routes

- ☆ Main St. and Five Points, downtown **Belleville**
- ☆ Woodward Ave., from 11-12 Mile Rds., **Berkley/Royal Oak**
- ☆ NW corner of Commerce and Union Lake Rds., **Commerce**
- ☆ Telegraph Rd., at Ford Rd., north to Hass St., **Dearborn Heights**
- ☆ Gratiot Ave., at Six Mile Rd., **Detroit**
- ☆ Halsted Rd., just north of 12 Mile Rd., **Farmington Hills**
- ☆ 9 Mile Rd. and Woodward Ave., **Ferndale**
- ☆ 14 Mile Rd., west of Utica Rd., **Fraser**
- ☆ M-59 at Milford Rd., **Highland**
- ☆ Farmington Rd., btwn. Lyndon and I-96, **Livonia**
- ☆ Middlebelt, Jamison (2 blks. s. of 5 Mile) to 6 Mile Rd., **Livonia**
- ☆ Ryan and 18 Mile Rds., **Sterling Heights**
- ☆ Pontiac Trail and Maple Rd., **Walled Lake**
- ☆ Ryan and 11 Mile Rds., **Warren**
- ☆ 26 Mile Rd., between Van Dyke and Mound Rds., **Washington**
- ☆ Intersection at Wayne and Warren Rds., **Westland**

Lifespan invites churches and organizations to host Chains on their own property in order to bring this event closer to all who wish to participate. Lifespan will provide the pre-printed signs, bulletin announcements, guidelines and anything else necessary to help you have your own LIFE CHAIN. If your church is interested in hosting LIFE CHAIN at your own location, please call 248-478-8878.



Some of Lifespan's CIDER Walkers in 2009

4th Annual **CIDER WALK** “Children In-utero Deserve Equal Rights”

Saturday, October 16, 2010
Two locations this year!

Paint Creek Trail, Rochester Municipal Park
Off Pine St., northwest of University & Main intersection
and

Lower Huron Metropark

17845 Savage Rd., Belleville; Fox Woods Pavilion

(\$5 per car park entrance fee will be refunded by Lifespan upon request)

Registration for both locations (date of Walk) begins at 12:30 p.m.

- ◆ Walk at 1 p.m. ◆ Cider and donuts to follow
- ◆ Pre-registration is preferred (www.rtl-lifespan.org, click on Events or call 248-478-8878)
 - ◆ Collect pledges from family, friends and co-workers
 - ◆ Turn in pledge form and donations at the Walk, if possible, or turn in by November 1 deadline

Participants can walk up to 4.2 miles along the beautiful trails!

Sponsored by Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund



What's Up With the Youth?

Hello tweens, teens, college students, young adults, parents, pastors, youth coordinators and ministers, pro-life groups, teachers, principals and volunteers!

I want to share some very sad news with you so that you can remember the loved ones of these two young ladies in your prayers and also take a few minutes to reflect on how awesome, special and precious the gift of human life truly is! Miss Jenna Kast, born on February 24, 1999, died on July 4, 2010 after battling cancer. Her parents are Richard and Paula and her siblings are Brett and Nancy. Paula and Nancy came on Lifespan's "Movement in Motion" Youth Bus Trip this past January. They are members of St. Anastasia Parish in Troy. Miss Jennifer Kroll, age 20, died suddenly on July 17, 2010. Her parents are Gary and Laura and her siblings are John, Jake and Julia. Jennifer went on Lifespan's "Movement in Motion" Youth Bus Trip twice with the group from Our Lady of the Lakes while she was in high school. A friend of mine told me it was mentioned a couple of times during the eulogies how she enjoyed the trips to DC. She graduated from Our Lady of the Lakes High School in 2008. May the beautiful souls of Jenna and Jennifer rest in the total peace, love and joy of Heaven forever, where a special place has been prepared for them! They will never have to struggle or suffer again.

Please make notes on your calendar for these upcoming pro-life events and activities:

"MOVEMENT IN MOTION" YOUTH BUS TRIP TO WASHINGTON, DC FOR THE ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE...Registration for the trip begins September 7th and ends November 30th or sooner, depending on when the buses are full (call **248-816-1546** for more information). See flier below.

LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST...Saturday, September 25 at Burton Manor, Livonia, 9 a.m.-12 noon, students 21 and younger \$10.00, adults \$20.00, guest speaker: Dr. Charmaine Yoest, President and CEO of Americans United for Life. Information is on the front page of this newsletter, with registration form on page 8.

LIFE CHAIN...Sunday, October 3rd, stand up for life in this peaceful, prayerful way. See page 3.

CIDER WALK FUNDRAISER...Saturday, October 16th, at the Paint Creek Trail in Rochester as well as Lower Huron Metropark in Belleville; see page 3 for more information.

PRO-LIFE DAY OF SILENT SOLIDARITY...Tuesday, October 19th (go to www.silentday.org for more information on what this day is all about and how you can participate).

For your information, the Michigan-based youth organization, Impact73, also known as Pinckney Pro-Life, has an excellent, user-friendly website. Check it out by going to www.impact73.org. Take the LIFEsaver Challenge found in the Youth Zone tab!

Your friend for Life! Lynn Gura, Youth Programs, Right to Life - LIFESPAN

Attention: Jr. High, High School and College Students!

"MOVEMENT IN MOTION"

Youth Bus Trip to Washington, DC March for Life, January 2011

REGISTRATION: September 7th - November 30th (or sooner, depending on how quickly the buses fill up—the quicker you sign up, the better chance you'll have of getting on board!)

COST: For Red Eye Buses—\$110.00 per person; for Double Red Eye Buses—\$155.00 per person (which will include a dinner on Monday, a deluxe continental breakfast and buffet style lunch on Tuesday, and a scheduled group tour at the National Museum of Crime and Punishment in DC). **Note: A \$50.00 non-refundable deposit will be required to hold a seat on the bus of your choice.**

BASIC ITINERARY: Five buses will leave Sunday evening, January 23rd from Troy and Livonia, arrive in DC Monday morning, January 24th, attend the Youth Rally/Mass at the Verizon Center (everyone is welcome) and participate in the **March for Life**. Overnight stay for Buses 3 and 4 at the First Baptist Church of Alexandria (Virginia) and tours on Tuesday, January 25th (including participation in a Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Arlington National Cemetery, and touring the National Museum of Crime and Punishment and the National Museum of the American Indian, plus short stops at a few memorials in DC.) Arrive back home on Wednesday morning, January 26th.

Note: Buses 1, 2 and 5 are the "Red Eye" buses and they will arrive back home early Tuesday morning, January 25th. Buses 3 and 4 are the "Double Red Eye" buses and they will arrive back home early Wednesday morning, January 26th.

WHICH TRIP ARE YOU INTERESTED IN? THE "RED EYE" OR "DOUBLE RED EYE"?

Call Lynn, Bus Trip Coordinator, RTL- LIFESPAN Oakland/Macomb Chapter office, at **248-816-1546** or e-mail her at oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org. Be sure to put in the subject line of your e-mail message: **Movement in Motion**. She will send you the registration forms so you can sign up!

Help us spread the word about the trip to your family members, friends, pro-life group and youth group!

Sponsored by Right to Life - LIFESPAN 

When you are engaged in a battle against a great evil, it is necessary to know how your foe thinks

This article by Kathleen Gilbert of London, UK is pretty startling. I simply cannot, nor will ever be able to, understand the schizophrenic mind that can recognize the unborn baby as alive, human, valuable and then in the next breath say killing him or her is a necessary evil for a woman's freedom. If that is freedom, then I will pass thank you very much.

—Diane Trombley, co-editor, *Lifespan News*

Women 'Must Be Prepared to Kill' Unborn Children to Protect Autonomy

By Kathleen Gilbert, Times Writer

After contemplating the immense mysteries of human life and sacrificial love in comparison to a woman's "right to fertility control," a writer for the Times of London concludes that attempts by pro-aborths to dismiss the life of an unborn child are a "convenient lie" hiding the fact that, "Yes, abortion is killing."

"But," she concludes, "it's the lesser evil."

Columnist Antonia Senior in a June 30 column (available by subscription only) says that, despite the fact that the abortion debate hinges upon whether the unborn child is a unique life or not, women who wish to assert the cause of their freedom from male domination "must be prepared to kill for it."

Senior begins by linking the cause of abortion to that of religious martyrs.

"Cradle Tower at the Tower of London is an interactive display that asks visitors to vote on whether they would die for a cause," she says. "Standing where religious martyrs were held and tortured in Britain's turbulent reformation, I could think of one cause I would stake my life on: a woman's right to be educated, to have a life beyond the home and to be allowed by law and custom to order her own life as she chooses."

"And that includes complete control over her own fertility."

However, she admits that her "absolutist position" has been "under siege" since she gave birth to her own child.

She notes how "having a baby paints the world an entirely different hue" by revealing the underlying selfishness in what at first appears to be courageous self-affirmation.

Senior gives the example of Leo Tolstoy's adulterous heroine Anna Karenina in the book by the same title, writing: "If you read the book as a teenager, you back her choices with all the passion of youth. Love over convention, go Anna! Then you have children and realise that Anna abandons her son to shack up with a pretty soldier, and then her daughter when she jumps under a train. She becomes a selfish witch."

Senior then launches into discussing abortion, which she says "hinges on the notion of life," no matter what other arguments or tactics are employed. "Either a foetus is a life from conception, or it is not," she notes.

Senior then admits that: "What seems increasingly clear to me is that, in the absence of an objective definition, a foetus is a life by any subjective measure. My daughter was formed at conception, and all the barely understood alchemy that turned the happy accident of that particular sperm meeting that particular egg into my darling, personality-packed toddler took place at that moment. She is so unmistakably herself, her own person—forged in my womb, not by my mothering."

"Any other conclusion is a convenient lie that we on the pro-choice side of the debate tell ourselves to make us feel better about the action of taking a life."

"That little seahorse shape floating in a willing womb is a growing miracle of life. In a resentful womb it is not a life, but a foetus—and thus killable."

This fact, she says, leaves feminism with a "problem," to which she attributes the "groundswell" of young pro-life feminists.

But, she insists, "you cannot separate women's rights from their right to fertility control."

"The single biggest factor in women's liberation was our newly found ability to impose our will on our biology."

She concludes therefore that, "As ever, when an issue we thought was black and white becomes more nuanced, the answer lies in choosing the lesser evil"—in this case choosing "the expectation of a life unburdened by misogyny," which she suggests can only be achieved through abortion.

Hence, she says, "The nearly 200,000 aborted babies in the UK each year are the lesser evil, no matter how you define life, or death, for that matter. If you are willing to die for a cause, you must be prepared to kill for it, too."

—LifeSiteNews.com, July 6, 2010

detroit

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

Summer time

"Summer time, summer time sum, sum summer time!" Detroit wishes you the best of summertimes. Hopefully, you will be able to escape the city and vacation to some exotic island. If not, our wishes are that you can renew your spirit and your body during these hot summer months.

There is a war going on out there and we all need a little R & R to rejuvenate ourselves so that we can return home to the battlefield and continue to fight this war for the unborn.

Thank goodness we are a people of hope and we already know that the victory is ours! I am reminded of a quote from Congressman Henry Hyde:

"When the time comes as it surely will, when we face that terrible moment, the final judgment...and God will look at us and say not, 'Did you succeed?' but 'Did you try?'"

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
 Office Hours: By appointment
 Karen Patrosso, Director



Dear Friends,

The phone rang. It was a mom who was supposed to have picked up a supply of diapers hours ago.

Could I please wait one more hour for her to get there? It was getting so late and I was so tired, but, very reluctantly, I agreed.

Boy, did I feel guilty when she finally arrived. With a toddler by her side, an infant in a carrier and a baseball cap on her head, she began apologizing that her chemo treatment had run late and her babysitter had quit. My heart broke for her.

Pro-life challenge

Please except my challenge to try a little harder. Many of you already do many things for the pro-LIFE movement, but there is always more that can be done.

The elections are coming up and "*all it takes for evil to succeed is for good people to do nothing.*" (Edmund Burke). Get out there and volunteer for a pro-life candidate and tell all your friends to do the same. This is a very scary time in our history with this new administration and those in power who are so pro-abortion. We cannot just sit there and do nothing. Our country and our children's future, and subsequent generations, are at stake. If now is not the time, **when???**

Pro-life actions

- ◆ Pray for the unborn and the end to abortion
- ◆ Pray for mothers in crisis to choose life
- ◆ Pray for and support those who are in front of abortion clinics and for pregnancy centers like Wee Care who are willing to give what assistance the mom needs to keep her child
- ◆ Pray for our country and our leaders
- ◆ Volunteer for pro-life candidates
- ◆ Vote pro-life
- ◆ Write to newspapers and politicians about pro-life issues
- ◆ Get your family and friends to become members of LIFESPAN
- ◆ Donate to LIFESPAN so we can continue in our efforts to educate the public on all LIFE issues

Needless to say, I filled her car with diapers, wipes, lotions and formula. I gave her your love and promised her our prayers. She was so grateful and so happy.

As she left, I whispered a prayer and thanked God that we were able to help her.

I depend so much on you, my dear friends, and on God to help Wee Care take care of His little ones. God bless you.

Love, Karen



Annual Baby Shower at St. Alan Church in Troy to benefit Wee Care

*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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Office Hours: M, T, Th, F 8-4; W 9-3
Irene Tharp, Director; Diane Trombley, Ofc. Mgr.
Lynn Gura, Tanya Wrenn Ofc. Staff

E-mail addresses

Why do we ask for your email addresses? Well, like it or not, more and more communication takes place over the internet than ever before. When was the last time you actually received a hand-written letter on pretty stationary written in someone's own hand with a pen!?! The internet does have the real benefit of getting an important message out in a most timely fashion. This is especially important for us because it allows you to know when something happens that impacts human life as quickly as possible so that you can take action. Another benefit is cost savings. Until someone figures out a way to tax or charge for the use of the internet, sending an email saves the office a great deal in postage. We all know that postage is going up—again—and using email helps us use our donated dollars as efficiently as possible. Our email site is secure—you will not get spam or be phished. If you have not already done so, email your email address to: oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org.

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.

We moved...

The Wayne West/Downriver Chapter of Lifespan moved to: 14600 Farmington Rd., Suite 108, Livonia, MI 48154 on August 3, 2009. We are on the east side of Farmington Road at Lyndon, between I-96 (Schoolcraft Rd.) and Five Mile. Our office is on the back side of the building. The phone number remains the same: 734-422-6230. If you are using envelopes with our old Schoolcraft address, please correct them as our mail will no longer be forwarded. The post office does not forward after one year.

E-mail addresses

Please refer to the Oakland/Macomb column above regarding e-mails. The same holds true for our Wayne West/Downriver Chapter. We should put our members on e-mail also.

Please send your e-mail address to wwdr@rtl-lifespan.org—do not use www, just ww, or we will not receive it. Your sending us your e-mail address is the most accurate and efficient way to do this.

Jingle, jingle, jingle

Are those Christmas bells we hear? Believe it or not, our LIFESPAN Christmas cards will be here very soon. This is a huge fundraiser for us, so wait to see our beautiful cards before going to the card store. Better yet, see if you can arrange to offer our cards at your faith community. There is no cost to your faith community and is a project that can be begun and completed in one weekend.

Entertainment Books

We still have a few of the 2010 Entertainment Books available. If you order, or purchase, a 2011 book now, you will receive a free 2010 book that is still good until November. Give us a call at the office, 248-816-1546, and reserve yours before they are all gone.

Davisburg Fair

A big thank you goes out to all who staffed our table at the Davisburg 4-H Fair. With the closure of the State Fair and the cancellation of the Troy Daze Fair, this was the only opportunity for our display table this year. All reports say that our presence was welcomed, our information well received and lots of folks said "Thanks for being here." We could not have done it without your smiling faces!

Service hours

If you facilitate a youth group that needs projects for service hours, give us a call—we always have something that needs doing!!

Legislative Breakfast

Can I interest you in attending the Legislative Breakfast with, none other than, Dr. Charmaine Yoest? She is President and CEO of Americans United for Life (AUL).

Have you become more and more confused about the Health Care Reform Act? Some statements are true and others are rumors. Who can you trust? This subject is one that Dr. Yoest can talk about fluently. Check out her credentials on the cover of this issue of *LIFESPAN News* and make the decision whether this time will be well spent.

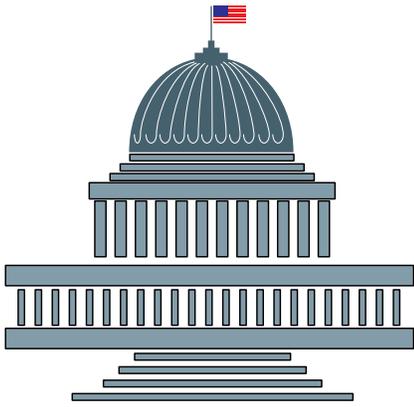
A featured Michigan legislator will answer your questions about "What's happening to our country today—and especially in Michigan."

Participants: If money is an issue, call 734-422-6230 and let us know, and we'll see that you get a ticket.

CIDER Walk

Lower Huron Metropark is located in the southwest part of Wayne County near New Boston. It is open all year and has many fun things to do for people of all ages. There are many picnic areas with playgrounds as well as a water park (in season). There is also a skateboard park and a pond with paddle boats and fishing. The Bike-Hike trail which runs along the Huron River is surrounded by many beautiful trees. In the fall, the trees will be in full color for our enjoyment.

We hope to see you and your family at the Cider Walk. If you can help us prior to Cider Walk or during the Walk, we would like to hear from you. Please call 734-422-6230. See page 3 for more information.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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/
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/
Email: senator@levin.senate.gov
Email: 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/
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
Email: 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/
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/
Dear Representative (last name):

Michigan Bill Requires Abortion Centers Show Women Better Ultrasound Images

States across the country are passing laws requiring abortion centers to show women an ultrasound of their unborn child prior to doing an abortion. In Michigan, where ultrasound laws are already in place, legislators are looking to strengthen them by ensuring the ultrasound is of the highest quality possible.

The notion is that if women deserve a chance to see their baby before having an abortion, they deserve to see a high-quality image—not a low-quality one abortion centers might use to discount the ultrasound and persuade women to have an abortion.

Republican Sen. Wayne Kuipers is the sponsor of the bill and he tells the *Associated Press* he introduced the bill because some abortion centers intentionally use older ultrasound machines designed to produce poorer images.

“The physician or person assisting the physician shall ensure that the most technologically advanced ultrasound equipment available at that location is used for the ultrasound examination, for viewing an active ultrasound image and for creating the physical picture of the ultrasound image,” the legislation reads.

The bill, Senate Bill 1283, received a hearing this week before the Michigan state Senate Judiciary Committee.

—*LifeNews.com* June 19, 2010

continued next page

Protect Life Act Proposed to Restrict Abortion Funding in Health Care Law

Pro-life members of Congress have introduced a bill which would apply strict safeguards against federal funding of abortion to the new health care law.

Rep. Joe Pitts (R/PA) filed the bill, H.R. 5111, the Protect Life Act. Several Democrats have signed as co-sponsors of the bill, including Reps. Travis Childers (D/MO), Lincoln Davis (D/TN), Tim Holden (D/PA), Dan Lipinski (D/IL), Jim Marshall (D/GA), Mike McIntyre (D/NC), and Gene Taylor (D/MS). However, none of the Democrats who voted for the health care legislation have agreed to co-sponsor H.R. 5111.

The Protect Life Act amends the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to insert permanent statutory language to prevent federal funding for abortion or abortion coverage through community health centers, plans administered by the Office of Public Management or other programs authorized or appropriated by the new health care law.

The new bill also would protect conscience rights of health care workers by codifying the Hyde-Weldon provision, which currently must be reapproved each year. In addition, the bill ensures that private insurance companies are not required to cover abortion.

Yes! I will attend Lifespan's Breakfast, Saturday, Sept. 25!

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Rep. Tiahrt (R/KS), a co-sponsor of H.R. 5111, remarked about the health care reform law which Congress passed in March, "Obamacare is the most pro-abortion piece of legislation ever passed by Congress. This is in stark contrast to the belief held by a majority of Americans who oppose federally-funded abortions--and it should be amended immediately to reflect the will of the American people."

"Obama's fig-leaf executive order does nothing to change current law," Tiahrt pointed out. "So we must take swift action to reverse this reckless decision by Democrats to devalue human life."

Rep. Pitts expressed a desire for bipartisan support of the bill: "I'm proud to have strong support from both sides of the aisle. I never want protecting life to be a partisan issue."

—Taken from *Choose Life, A Pro-life Religious Outreach Newspaper*, a publication of the National Right to Life Committee, May/June 2010 issue. Entire issue can be found at NRLC.org, click on Outreach tab.

H.H.S. Approves Pennsylvania Plan to Use Federal Funds to Subsidize Coverage of Nearly All Abortions in New "High-Risk Pool" Program

The Obama Administration will give Pennsylvania \$160 million to set up a new "high-risk" insurance program under a provision of the federal health care legislation enacted in March—and has quietly approved a plan submitted by an appointee of Governor Edward Rendell (D) under which the new program will cover any abortion that is legal in Pennsylvania.

The high-risk pool program is one of the new programs created by the sweeping health care legislation (the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act) that President Obama signed into law on March 23. The law authorizes \$5 billion in federal funds for the program, which will cover as many as 400,000 people when it is implemented nationwide.

"The Obama Administration will give Pennsylvania \$160 mil-

lion in federal tax funds, which we've discovered will pay for insurance plans that cover any legal abortion," said Douglas Johnson, legislative director for the National Right to Life Committee (NRLC), the federation of right-to-life organizations in all 50 states. **"This is just the first proof of the phoniness of President Obama's assurances that federal funds would not subsidize abortion—but it will not be the last."**

An earlier version of the health care legislation, passed by the House of Representatives in November 2009, contained a provision (the Stupak-Pitts Amendment) that would have prevented federal funds from subsidizing abortion or insurance coverage of abortion in any of the programs created by the bill, including the high-risk pool program. But President Obama opposed that pro-life provision, and it was not included in the bill later approved by both houses and signed into law. An executive order signed by the President on March 24, 2010 did not contain effective barriers to federal funding of abortion and did not even mention the high-risk pool program.

"President Obama successfully opposed including language in the bill to prevent federal subsidies for abortions, and now the Administration is quietly advancing its abortion-expanding agenda through administrative decisions such as this, which they hope will escape broad public attention," Johnson said.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has emphasized that the high-risk pool program is a federal program and that the states will not incur any cost. On May 11, 2010, in a letter to Democratic and Republican congressional leaders on implementation of the new law, DHHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius wrote that "states may choose whether and how they participate in the program, which is funded entirely by the federal government."

Details of the high-risk pool plans for most states are not yet available. But on June 28, Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner Joel Ario (a member of the appointed cabinet of Governor Edward Rendell, a Democrat) issued a press release announcing that the federal Department of Health and Human Services had approved his agency's proposal for implementing the new program in Pennsylvania. "The state will receive \$160 million to set up the program, which will provide coverage to as many as 5,600 people between now and 2014," according to the release. "The plan's benefit package will include preventive care, physician services, diagnostic testing, hospitalization, mental health services, prescription medications and much more, with subsidized premiums of \$283 a month."

Examination of the detailed Pennsylvania plan, reveals that the "much more" will include insurance coverage of any legal abortion.

The section on abortion asserts that "elective abortions are not covered." However, that statement proves to be a red herring, because the operative language does not define "elective." Rather, the proposal specifies that the coverage "includes only abortions and contraceptives that satisfy the requirements of" several specific statutes, the most pertinent of which is 18 Pa. C.S. § 3204, which says that an abortion is legal in Pennsylvania (consistent with *Roe v. Wade*) if a single physician believes that it is "necessary" based on "all factors (physical, emotional, psychological, familial and the woman's age) relevant to the well-being of the woman." Indeed, the cited statute provides only a single circumstance in which an abortion prior to 24 weeks is NOT permitted under the Pennsylvania statute: "No abortion which is sought solely because of the sex of the unborn child shall be deemed a necessary abortion."

As a result, **"Under the Rendell-Sebelius plan, federal funds will subsidize coverage of abortion per-**

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From the President's Desk

Dear Friends,

I pray that this reading finds you all enjoying the summer, getting the rest and relaxation needed to maintain your health of mind and body. We all need a break from the depressing and serious problems we encounter in today's society. We need to be always on guard that the serious issues we deal with don't make us so cynical and despondent that we become paralyzed in our action. Even so, no matter what time of year it is, we should stay focused. We must focus like a laser beam on our goal, "promoting respect for human life from conception until natural death."

Summertime at our Lifespan offices finds fewer projects for our volunteers, but the administrative activities remain the same. We are busy planning for the future and there is much to do. This is where you come in. There are plenty of things to do in the pro-life movement. Lifespan is open to everyone who is willing to help promote respect for life. There is something for everyone's interest. Think of the gifts God has given you and share them with us. Call your local chapter; volunteer; sign up a new family for membership; make a phone call to a legislator or write a letter to the editor of a newspaper.

Enjoy your summer, but remember that abortion facilities never go on vacation—the killing goes on 365 days a year, 24 hours a day—approximately one and a quarter million abortions take place every year. We must never cease working and praying to stop it.

Diane Fagelman, President, Right to Life - LIFESPAN



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HHS Approves Pennsylvania Plan

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formed for any reason, except sex selection," said NRLC's Johnson. "The Pennsylvania proposal conspicuously lacks language that would prevent funding of abortions performed as a method of birth control or for any other reason, except sex selection—and the Obama Administration has now approved this."

—National Right to Life Committee, July 13, 2010

UPDATE: In spite of the Executive Order, signed by the president, the administration was about to fund abortions offered in high-risk insurance plans in at least three states. Having been called to account by pro-life groups, the administration backed down, and, on July 29th, issued a new regulation prohibiting tax-funded coverage. HOWEVER, White House Office of Health Reform Director Nancy-Ann DeParle stated, "The program's restriction on abortion coverage is not a precedent for other programs or policies..." Douglas Johnson, of the National Right to Life Committee concludes, "...there is no language in the new health care law, and no language in the executive order, that effectively prevents federal subsidies for abortion on demand."

Follow up

continued from page 2

Even though many complained about the appropriateness of the President's recess appointment of David Berwick to the directorship of the Center of Medicare and Medicaid Services, U.S. Senate and House leaders are refusing to schedule a hearing on Berwick's appointment. Unnamed reporters feel that to do so would re-open discussion on the recently passed controversial Health Care Reform measure, something many members of Congress up for reelection in November would rather avoid.

Rep. Dave Camp, a pro-life Michigan lawmaker "Apparently...we have to hand the reins at CMS over to Dr. Berwick first so we can later find out what direction he will take Medicare and Medicaid," he said. The House Ways and Means committee is refusing to conduct the proper and necessary oversight required by the Committee," Camp said.

Edited from Lifenews.com, July 28, 2010

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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
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Donations have been made—

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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...

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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.

40 Days for Life Campaign

The fall 40 Days for Life Campaign will take place from September 22nd - October 31st at various sites across Michigan. The exact locations can be found at www.40daysforlife.com. Each site will conduct either a 24/7 or a 12/7 prayer vigil in front of a local abortion facility for 40 days. Locations and times will be available from each individual site.

At this time, we are expecting there will be five locations in SE Michigan, including Ann Arbor, Clarkston, Dearborn, Southfield and Sterling Heights. Sites are still being registered and a complete list will be out soon.

On Sunday, September 19th, 3-5 p.m. at St. Thecla Church in Clinton Twp., there will be a Kick-Off Rally for the Sterling Heights and Southfield 40 Days for Life sites.

—Mike Stack, Campaign Coordinator, 248-321-2105
www.40daysforlife.com/southfield
www.vigilcalendar.com/southfield

Turn Your Vacations into Donations!

Right to Life - LIFESPAN has its own travel website at: www.ytbtravel.com/lifespan

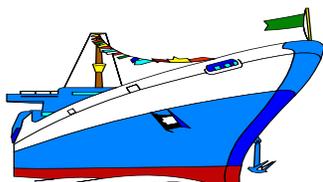
Our travel website is powered by the same websites you normally use to book travel—Travelocity.com, Hotels.com and Cheaptickets.com—giving you the same great features and low prices!

How Does This Work?

Every time you use a travel website, the travel companies pay commissions for your reservation. Now, when you book travel on our website, Right to Life - LIFESPAN will get a portion of the travel commission. You'll experience competitive travel prices and significantly help fund Lifespan. Please note that Right to Life - LIFESPAN is not involved with your travel arrangements. When you book travel through www.ytbtravel.com/lifespan, you are dealing directly with the vendors just like you would on sites like Travelocity.com.



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SPECIAL INVITATION TO LIFESPAN MEMBERS

Current Trends in End of Life Health Care

St. Joseph Mercy Hospital - Oakland, Pontiac, MI
Saturday, September 18, 2010 from 8:00 AM – 12:45 PM



Care and Treatment Decisions for Patients at the End of Life

Keynote Speaker:
Fr. Tad Pacholczyk, PhD

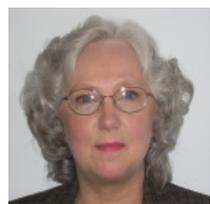
Fr. Tad holds degrees in Philosophy, Biochemistry, Molecular Cell Biology and Chemistry, and a PhD in Neuroscience from Yale. He is Director of Education for the National Catholic Bioethics Center.



Transforming Despair into Joy in a Sudden Death Event

Speaker:
Mary Mitsch, RN, MSA, PhDc

Mary lectures extensively on this topic. She holds a PhDc in Medical Anthropology and Master of Science in Nursing; Nursing Education/Maternity Nursing and is Associate Professor College of Nursing and Health at Madonna University.



Health Care Reform: Hope & Change or Truth & Consequences

Speaker: Cynthia M. Dudek,
VP, Planning Resources, Inc.

With 25 years in medical insurance, Cynthia shares her insights on a variety of topics including Insurance Reform and Health Care Right of Conscience with MI State Legislators, medical organizations, law students and coalitions.

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