Free the Refugees p. 10

Lifes pawy

Volume 26 Number 2

Serving Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

Feb./Mar. 1997

Mother's Day Dinner



Tuesday, May 6, 6:30 p.m. San Marino Club, Troy

with

Kaye Lani Rae Rafko

Miss America 1988

Miss America 1988, Kaye Lani Rae Rafko-Wilson will be the featured speaker at the 1997 Mother's Day Dinner. Mrs. Rafko-Wilson is an internationally-known inspirational speaker on critical health care issues. She holds the distinction of being the first registered nurse to become Miss America. Born in Trenton and raised in Monroe, Mrs. Rafko-Wilson graduated from the St. Vincent Medical Center School of Nursing in Toledo in 1985. She helped open Hospice of Monroe and is very involved in hospice promotion. Mrs. Rafko-Wilson and her husband, Charles, are the parents of two children. The Wilson family lives in Petersburg, 20 miles west of Monroe. See pages 6 and 7 for more dinner information.

Seeking 1997 Mother of the Year

In conjunction with our Mother's Day Dinner on May 6, 1997, we will be honoring a "Mother of the Year." We are looking for nominations from among our members or others for this seventh annual award. The nominee must be a resident of Wayne, Oakland or Macomb County and able to attend the award dinner on May 6. Nominations must be submitted in writing explaining why you feel this person qualifies for "Mother of the Year." Nominations must be received no later than noon on Wednesday, April 2. No nominations by, or for, Right to Life - Lifespan board members will be considered.

Our "Mother of the Year" will be an honored guest at the dinner on May 6. She will be awarded a plaque, a dozen long-stemmed roses and a \$100 gift certificate to J.C. Penney's. If your nominee is chosen, you will also receive a free ticket to the dinner.

continued on page 6

Baby showers



Continuing the tradition of caring for mothers and their babies, born and yet to be born, Lifespan is

planning its eighth annual Baby Shower for crisis pregnancy centers.

On Sunday, March 9, Lifespan will host over 30 baby showers simultaneously at different locations throughout the metro area.

See page 3 for locations and more information.

News Notes

Woman dies after abortion

According to articles in the December 19 and 20, 1996 [San Bernadino County CA] *Press-Enterprise:*

27-year-old Sharon Hamption died December 13, 1996 of internal bleeding the day after an abortion at A Lady's Choice Women's Medical Center in Moreno Valley, California. A state medical board investigation found that Hamption's uterus had been perforated during a second-trimester [20 weeks gestation] abortion performed by Bruce Steir, MD.

Steir is under investigation for alleged negligence in three other abortion injuries.

—Infonet, January 12, 1997

Change of heart

Dr. John Nwannunu estimates that he has performed hundreds of abortions over the past two years. Nwannunu says he will no longer do abortions at his three clinics in the Gary/East Chicago area. He attributed his change of heart to the coverage of Cardinal Joseph L. Bernardin's death.

-Michigan Catholic, November 29, 1996

Scientist breaks ban

A researcher affiliated with the National Institutes of Health used government equipment and personnel to perform genetic experiments on human embryos in violation of a federal ban on such research, federal officials revealed. The NIH severed its relationship with the researcher, Mark R. Hughes, after an internal investigation found he had used the equipment and federally paid postdoctoral students to perform experiments on human embryos at Suburban Hospital in Bethesda, MD.

-Infonet, January 10, 1997

MSU update

Michigan State University is trying to explain away its successful bid for a European patent on a euthanasia drug for veterinary use that explicitly includes possible use on humans.

The patent was granted in April, 1996. But in response to growing media attention, MSU now says it will not allow the drug to be used on humans even if eutha-

nasia is legalized. German chemical company Hoechst AG, which gave MSU a \$350,000 grant to develop the drug, also says it has no intention of licensing it for human use [N.Y. Newsday, Dec. 22]. Hoechst was once part of I.G. Farben, which made poison gas for the Nazi death camps [Wall Street Journal, Feb. 22, 1993, p. A6].

[See Nov./Dec. 1996 Lifespan News.]

—Life at Risk, December 1996

Vatican cancels UNICEF grant

The Vatican announced it could not offer its "symbolic contribution" to UNICEF this year because of concerns about their diverting funds from basic care of children to advocating legal abortion, use of abortifacient contraceptives, and, in some cases, allowing UNICEF workers to distribute contraceptives and counsel their use.

[For more information, see back page.]

—Choose Life, National Right to Life

Committee, Nov./Dec. 1996

Abortion rate

A total of 1,267,415 legal abortions were reported in 1994, down 4.7 percent from 1993 according to the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

There were 321 abortions for every 1,000 live births in 1994, the latest year for which figures were available. The number was lower than for any year since 1976.

Women who obtained legal abortions in 1994 were usually under 25, white and unmarried. About one-fifth of them were 19 or younger.

—Infonet, January 5, 1997

Gallup cleans up its act

A widely repeated claim by the Gallup organization that 75% of Americans support assisted suicide for the terminally ill has been rebutted by none other than Gallup itself.

A new Gallup poll of 1000 adults, commissioned by the National Hospice Organization, shows 50% support for legalizing physician-assisted suicide—with support higher among men, young adults

and the college-educated [Washington Post Health, Oct. 8]. This matches the results of an April poll by Washington Post and an October poll by Tarrance.

-Life at Risk, November 1996

Planned Parenthood

Douglas R. Scott, president of the Planned Parenthood (PP) watchdog organization Life Decisions International (LDI), criticized an advertisement by PP of Minnesota/South Dakota which "says it all with regard to the organization's attitude toward childbirth." The text of the ad is as follows:

BABIES ARE LOUD, SMELLY AND EXPENSIVE— UNLESS YOU WANT ONE

Babies can be 'loud, smelly and expensive,' even if you want them," but babies are also beautiful, loving, cuddly and innocent." Scott suggests that it is the Planned Parenthood philosophy that has led to what he calls the "devaluation of children in American society."

—Infonet, December 14, 1996

Calendar of Events

Feb. 27.......General Meeting, p. 9
March 8...Assisted Suicide Seminar, p. 6
March 9.......Baby Shower, p. 3
March 18, 19......Molly Kelly, p. 11
April 2.....1997 Mother of the Year
Nomination Deadline, p. 1
April 7.....Dinner Reservation
Discount Deadline, p. 7
April 7....Resource Book Ad Deadline, p. 7
May 6........Mother's Day Dinner, p. 7
May 10...Nurses for Life Seminar

Lifespan News

Feb./Mar. 1997 Vol. 26, No. 2 Published eight times a year, irregularly President & Editor - Ann R. Sands Layout/Design - Marge Bradley **Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit** is a non-profit organization, and is funded entirely by membership dues, private donations and fundraisers. Donations are not tax-deductible.

MAIN OFFICE 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127 Livonia, MI 48152-3736 (313) 533-9090





Right to Life - Lifespan

continuing the tradition of caring for mothers and their babies (born and yet to be born)

invites you to its eighth annual

BABY SHOWER

To Benefit Local Pregnancy Help Centers

Sunday, March 9, 1997

GIFT SUGGESTIONS

Sleepers, T-shirts, Socks
Receiving blankets, Crib sheets
Cloth diapers/disposable diapers
(newborn & medium)
Plastic pants, Baby wipes
Wash cloths/towels
Teething rings/rattles, Bottles, Bibs
Personal hygiene items for baby
Cribs, Porta-cribs
Bassinets, Strollers, Swings
Car Seats, High Chairs
Maternity items for Moms

Cash donations

Baby showers will be held at the following locations. Bring new or used (but usable) baby or maternity items.

From 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

St. Hugo of the Hills Grade School Fr. Esper Room (corner of Hickory Grove & Opdyke)

Bloomfield Hills

Resurrection Church 48755 Warren Rd., Canton

Word of Faith Fellowship 3871 Heritage Parkway, **Dearborn**

Assumption Grotto Church

Shrine Lounge 13770 Gratiot, **Detroit**

St. Paul Lutheran Church

8th Grade Classroom 20805 Middlebelt Rd., **Farmington Hills**

Home of David and Diane Stamp 1073 Penniman, Plymouth

St. Valentine Church

Rectory Meeting Room 25881 Dow, **Redford** (off Beech Daly, s. of Five Mile Rd.)

Shrine of the Little Flower

Coughlin Building
12 Mile and Woodward Ave., Royal Oak

St. Rene Goupil Church 35955 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights

St. Josaphat Parish Center 26440 Ryan Rd., Warren (one block south of I-696)

After Church Services (Gift Drop-off)

Five Points Community Church 3411 E. Walton Blvd., AuburnHills

Berkley Christian Church 2260 Greenfield, Berkley

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church 32340 Pierce St., Birmingham

St. Regis Church

Fr. Shields Room 3695 Lincoln Dr., **Birmingham**

Church of the Divine Child 1055 N. Silvery Lane, Dearborn

St. Anselm Church

Meeting Room 17650 W. Outer Drive, **Dearborn Heights**

Christ the King Church

Koelzer Hall 16805 Pierson, **Detroit**

St. John Romanian Byzantine Church Eight Mile and Woodward, Detroit

Eight wine and woodward, Detro

St. Scholastica Church 17320 Rosemont, Detroit

Our Lady of Sorrows Church Church Basement 23615 Power Rd., Farmington

St. James Church

241 Pearson, **Ferndale** (off Woodward, btwn. 8 & 9 Mile Rds.)

St. Dunstan Church

Activity Building 1646 Belton, **Garden City**

St. Joseph Church

715 N. Lapeer Rd., Lake Orion

St. Genevieve Church

29015 Jamison, Livonia

Our Lady of Refuge Church

Social Hall

3663 Erie Drive, Orchard Lake

Full Gospel Church

291 E. Spring, Plymouth

Ball Road Tabernacle

7007 Ball Road, Romulus

Highland Park Baptist Church

28600 Lahser Rd., **Southfield** (s. of 12 Mile Rd.)

St. Thomas More Church

4580 Adams Rd., Troy

Faith Baptist Church

3411 Airport Rd., Waterford

Our Lady of the Lakes Church

5481 Dixie Highway, Waterford

St. Perpetua Church

134 Airport Rd., Waterford







Legislative Update



Plan Paves Way for Euthanasia

Addresses

President

President Bill Clinton The White House Washington, DC 20500

Opinion Line: (202) 456-1111, M-F, 9-5

Fax Number: (202) 456-2461 e-mail: President@whitehouse.gov

Dear Mr. President:

U.S. Senators

The Honorable (Spencer Abraham, Carl Levin) United States Senate Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-3121 1 (800) 962-3524

Dear Senator (last name):

U.S. Representatives

The Honorable (first and last name) House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 (202) 224-3121 1 (800) 962-3524

Dear Congressman or Congresswoman (last name):

Governor

The Honorable John Engler Office of the Governor P.O. Box 30013 Lansing, MI 48909 (517) 373-3400 e-mail: migov@aol.com

Dear Governor Engler:

Michigan State Senator or Representative

The Honorable (full name) State Capitol Lansing, MI 48913 (517) 373-1837

Dear Senator (last name): or Dear Representative (last name): By Burke Balch, J.D.

Medical Ethics Department National Right to Life Committee

With his reelection, President Clinton's administration has made clear its intent to move rapidly on Medicare. His plan is to limit what participants would be allowed to spend on health care and health insurance, and at the same time ration treatment deemed "medically inappropriate," i.e., not able to "enhance or save the quality of life," in order to meet the cost squeeze. Over time, this plan would force those affected into managed care plans, eliminating access to traditional fee-for-service insurance in which the doctor and patient together are free to decide on treatment.

What is at stake must not be underestimated. Half of America's annual national expenditures on health care go for the treatment of those over 65—those who are in the Medicare program. Imposing rationing on America's senior citizens (as well as on the people with disabilities under 65 who are also covered by Medicare) will mean that all those currently on Medicare and all those who live to Medicare age are threatened with the potential denial of lifesaving treatment under Clinton's Medicare Rationing Plan.

Other plans in Congress allow those covered by Medicare to supplement their government subsidy when this is inadequate, in order to obtain unrationed care. One of these options includes Medical Savings Accounts, in which tax-free savings can be backed up with comprehensive "catastrophic" insurance coverage.

Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala has set out a two-step approach: to get a ten-year medicare restructuring plan first, possibly in February 1997, then to have a permanent restructuring done by a bipartisan commission and voted on in 1998. Ironically, to

date, Clinton has been successful in convincing many Americans that he is working to protect Medicare against a Republican Congress bent on unconscionable cuts. Many Republicans may be tempted to "cut their losses" by essentially going along with the Clinton proposals.

Only an immediate and sustained outcry by grassroots Americans can now save us from the involuntary euthanasia that is rationing.

Immediately contact your senators and representative to tell them:

- It is unacceptable, as Clinton proposes, to forbid people from adding their own funds to government payments to keep up with medical inflation and obtain unrationed health insurance.
- It is essential to allow the alternative of unmanaged fee-for-service insurance in Medicare Plus—an option Clinton would deny.

—Choose Life, National Right to Life Committee, Nov./Dec. 1996

Family Planning Vote in Congress

A vote on international family planning (abortion promotion and funding) is expected on February 28, 1997. The time is now to begin contacting your representatives and senators. You can call Congress for free at 1-800-962-3524.

Reportedly, Rep. Christopher Smith (R-NJ) will offer legislation that releases additional population control funds only if there is a ban on the funding of overseas organizations that perform abortions (Mexico City policy) or that campaign to repeal foreign nations' pro-life laws. Please encourage your representatives to support this legislation.

—Infonet, January 16, 1997

Dr. Death

Kevorkian should remember: First do no harm

By Michael Fumento

e's the sickest American cult figure since Charles Manson, with two major differences. First, he's killed almost eight times as many people. Second, he's still walking around, free to kill again.

And kill he will. Some call him an angel of mercy, but he's better known as "Dr. Death."

As I write this, Dr. Jack Kevorkian has put down/put to sleep/euthanized Person No. 40, though lately he's been killing faster than I can type. None of the people appears to have been imminently close to death.

One had Lou Gehrig's disease, the illness Steven Hawking had for decades when he wrote the best-selling book "A Brief History of Time" and became world-famous. Two had multiple sclerosis, the disease actress Annette Funicello had when she starred in her film autobiography, and still has.

Another, 42-year-old Judith Curren, was a nurse and mother of two young children. She was overweight and depressed, and believed she suffered from a vague—though sometimes real—malady called chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS). None of these conditions is terminal, and her belief she had CFS may have been a manifestation of depression.

Severe depression often is accompanied by a desire to commit suicide. But this is a highly treatable condition, and in any case a severely depressed person no more has the capacity to "elect" to die than a 5-year-old girl can "elect" to engage in sex.

No matter, for Dr. Death continues to be treated as a gallant crusader. Yet Kevorkian no more kills in the name of any higher cause, including doctorassisted suicide, than a lion rips out an antelope's throat in the name of balancing the ecosystem.

The lion is driven by instinct, Kevorkian by something we used to call evil. The man is a ghoul who likes to watch people die.

A much-ignored 1993 Newsweek article documented that in the 1950s, while studying to be a pathologist, Kevorkian made regular visits to terminally ill patients and peered deeply into their eyes. He wanted to watch the sparkle of life disappear.

"There was no practical application," he admitted later. "I was curious, that's all."

Later, he advocated surgical experimentation on the bodies—and particularly the brains—of live death row prisoners. Later still, he expanded his idea to encompass other persons, including "comatose, mentally incompetent or otherwise completely uncommunicative individuals..."

Earlier this year, thinking he was making a salient point, Kevorkian invoked Jesus Christ's death, saying: "Do you think it's dignified to hang from wood with nails through your hands and feet?...Had Christ died in my van...it would have been far more dignified."

It's not just that a van would look bizarre hanging above the altar in my church building. When Christ sacrificed his life, he knew he was setting himself up for crucifixion—the most painful and undignified mode of execution.

Again, Kevorkian shows he lacks any understanding of humanity. And it speaks volumes about the pro-euthanasia movement that it pretends this man is a crusader for a larger cause, rather than a grown-up version of the boy who pulls wings off flies.

Not that even euthanasia supporters aren't a bit queasy after this latest round of killings. Some warn that if we don't watch it, we'll slide down the "slippery slope." As if we haven't already?

Kevorkian is a one-man slippery slope. He keeps loosening the definition of who "deserves" to die. Originally, he saw the need to pretend that his clients/ patients/victims were in great pain and on death's doorstep. But after the latest killings, he admitted: "It had nothing to do with lethality. It's quality of life."

The evolution was utterly predictable. The camel puts his nose into the tent to see if he can get away with it. If so, he keeps moving in until he's fully inside, hump and hooves.

Those on both sides of the euthanasia debate in the United States are aware of the history of legal euthanasia in the Netherlands. It began with a doctor responding to the wishes of her terminally ill mother, who was in much pain.

Within a few decades, it encompassed killing infants born with nonfatal diseases—Down's syndrome and spina bifida. Patients in persistent vegetative states, often incorrectly referred to as "comatose," are also now legally killable in Holland.

According to a Dutch government survey, doctors there kill some 20,000 patients a year, most without the patients' consent. The difference is that the Dutch took decades to get to that point, while Kevorkian is trying to bring the whole camel into the tent within a matter of years. Damned if he isn't getting away with it.

We need to ask ourselves—right now—if we want to follow Dr. Death down the Dutch path, or if we're going to treat human life as sacred and tell our doctors they are to follow the Hippocratic oath they took and "first do no harm."

Executioners kill. Doctors are supposed to heal. "Dr. Death" is a contradiction in terms.

Michael Fumento is a science correspondent for Reason magazine and a former attorney for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

—Detroit Free Press, September 9, 1996 Reprinted with permission

Editor's note: Since this article was written, Kevorkian has killed five more people, for a confirmed total, since 1990, of 45.

COME HEAR AND MEET Lt. Donald Leach



Lt. Donald Leach has been a member of the Ann Arbor Police Department for 16 years. He is currently assigned as the Lieutenant in charge of night patrol operations. Prior to returning to patrol operations, he commanded the Ann Arbor 911 Police Communications Unit for eight years. He is the past President of the Michigan Chapter of the Associated Public Safety Communications Officials which represents 911 dispatch operations throughout the state. He earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Mercy College of Detroit and a Master of Public Administration Degree from Wayne State University.

SPEAKER: LT. DONALD LEACH Ann Arbor Police Department

Topic: The Truth About Rape and Incest

Livonia Civic Center Library Auditorium Five Mile Rd., east of Farmington Rd. Thursday, February 27, 1997 7:30 p.m. No admission Charge



Hosted By: Right to Life - Lifespan 27578 Schoolcraft, Livonia

For further information call 422-6230

Mother of the Year

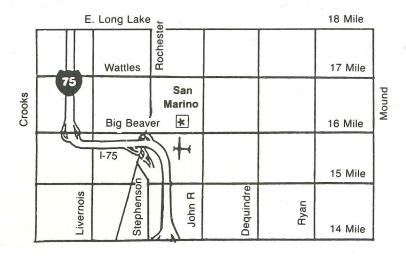
continued from page 1

If the "Mother of the Year" is nominated by two or more individuals, the first one received will be eligible for the free ticket.

Our 1996 "Mother of the Year" was Mary O'Brien Callaghan, of Beverly Hills. She was nominated by her son-in-law, Patrick Lynch. Mrs. Callaghan is the mother of 18 children.

In nominating the 1997 Mother of the Year, please include your name, address and phone number and also the address and phone number of your nominee. Mail or deliver your nomination for "Mother of the Year" to Right to Life Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia 48152 for receipt no later than noon on Wednesday, April 2. For more information, call (313) 533-9090.

Mother's Day Dinner - New Location San Marino Club 1685 E. Big Beaver, Troy



The Educational Center for Life invites you to a public forum discussion on the issue of Assisted Suicide/Euthanasia

MAKING END OF LIFE DECISIONS— WHAT ARE THE CHOICES

Saturday, March 8, 1997 9:00 a.m. until noon

St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Auditorium 900 Woodward Ave., Pontiac

Speakers from Hospice, medical/legal professions, patient advocates and counselors in pain management will be panelists and include:

Margaret Kobernik, Patient Advocate; Richard Thompson, former Oakland County Prosecutor; Laura Hirschfeld, Professor of Law; Richard Myers, Professor of Law;

Betty Smith, R.N. Clinic Supervisor at Cranbrook Hospice; Tom Kostrzewa, Chaplain, Cranbrook Hospice; John Finn, M.D., Medical Director, Hospice, S.E. Michigan

Registration for the conference is \$5.00. Please send check to Educational Center for Life, 1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G, Troy, MI 48084. For further information, call (810) 816-8489.

Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit

INVITES YOU TO ITS

Mother's Day Dinner Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Doors open - 6:30 p.m. • Dinner - 7:00 p.m.

Kaye Lani Rae Rafko, Miss America 1988 Guest Speaker

San Marino Club 1685 East Big Beaver Rd., Troy



1685 East	Big Beaver Rd., Troy			£ i			
Dinner Reservations: \$30 per \$35 per Number of dinner reservations (Please list names of all those for w Seat with	r person/\$300 per table of Amount enclosed hom reservations are made	10 (one check only, pl Ad on a separate sheet of p	lease) received after l lvance reservations r paper.)	April 7 equired by May 1.			
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	Full page (7.5 x 10) \$175	1/4 page (3.75 x 5) \$60 1/8 pag (3.75 x 2)	2.5)				
	Back cover (inside) \$250	\$35					
	Back cover (outside) \$350	Half page (7.5 x 5 \$100	5)				
	"						
Please attach copy-ready advert All advertisers will receive a copy of for submission is April 7, 1997. R IMPORTANT: A complimentary for the Resource Book. The ad sell by Right to Life - Lifespan.	f book. Lifespan reserves the emittance must accompany dinner ticket will be given	e right to refuse any ad y contract. n to any individual fo	vertisement it deems user every \$200 worth of	insuitable. Deadline f new ads obtained			
Signature		Da	ate	3 " "			
Business Name (if applicable)							
Address		City	na	Zip			
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Yes, I want to help, but cannot attend. Please accept my donation of \$							

Make checks payable, and mail to: Right to Life - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia MI 48152 For further information, call (313) 533-9090 (Dinners, personal ads and donations are not tax-deductible)

detroit



Chapter

Office hours

MW 10-2; TThF Closed Carol Smith, Chairman Mary Cascos, Ofc. Mgr.

A cold but successful Rally

We keep asking ourselves WHY we continue to hold the Rally for Life at Kennedy Square outside and in the cold.

We do it because we won't let this infamous decision of *Roe v. Wade* pass without our public outcry.

As long as the media continues to cover our Rally, we will continue to brave the cold and keep this deplorable decision in the public eye.

Special thanks to all of you who braved the cold and helped make the 24th Rally for Life a success.

Thanks to Bernie Skibinski for our sound system, Madeline Satwicz and George Cascos for hanging the banners and to Tony Hansen and the Cascos family for shoveling snow from the square. A big thanks to Ed Smith, our famous master of ceremonies, Marge Bradley for the terrific programs, Ann Sands for her unwavering leadership and Carol Smith for her countless hours in organizing this event.

Our speakers this year were exceptional. Richard Thompson was inspirational, and our three essay winners gave us hope for the future.

Music was provided once again by Richard and James Hovey and Sherry Fox. God bless you all for your witness to Life. We pray we don't have to Rally for the 25th.

Regina Teens for Life

The Detroit Chapter, and a generous donation from a private source, helped to sponsor four girls from Regina High School's Teens for Life and chaperone Mary Cascos to journey to Washington, D.C. to be a part of the 24th March for Life.

It's so important that we involve our young people in this struggle for it is THEIR generation that is being devastated and they will be our future leaders in our ongoing labor to protect all life.

Look for a student report in our next Lifespan News.

Detroit Chapter 5930 Woodward Ave. Detroit, MI 48202-3516 (313) 874-0432

Office hours

MTTh 9-5; WF 9-2:45 Diane Fagelman, Chairman Diane Trombley, Ofc. Mgr. Mary Small, Secretary Clare Schneider, Nwsltr. Coor.

Reflections

The week of January 17 was indeed a busy one for pro-lifers. As the chairperson of the Oakland/Macomb Chapter, I was indeed gratified to see the support of the many concerned and loving people toward those innocent who cannot speak for themselves.

The week began with Bishop Vigneron's strong, positive Saturday morning spiritual program. My sincere thanks to him for his time and effort on behalf of human life. His uplifting message was for all pro-life people, including all religious denominations—it was a message of hope, conviction and purpose. It was an affirmation of our principals and an uplifting message for the weary—it has been a long struggle. The weekend saw many other spiritual leaders speak out for human life with prayer services throughout the country.

Sunday was the annual Rally for Life at Kennedy Square in Detroit. I attended the auto show before the Rally. It was packed with thousands of people. There was also that same day an implosion of a hotel in the New Center area where a large number of people came to witness the destruction.

As I stood out in the cold with the same dedicated pro-lifers I've stood with for the last 24 years, it became clear how much society has seemed to accept the killing. So many people in the downtown area—but so few at Kennedy Square. We were vocal, but the cold seemed to take its toll, many having to leave early. The bright side of the day was the young people who read

their essays on life. How wonderful—it gives us great hope that this necessary work will continue as these young people become adults.

The week progressed to the eve of January 22, when luminaries burned brightly in memory of all those who have died and all those who have been hurt and touched by abortion.

The March for Life in Washington, D.C. culminated the activities which keep the flame of hope alive and our statement to the world that we are still here and here to stay! We will not stop fighting for the right to life for all people. Killing of the unborn baby or killing of the sick and old will not be tolerated. My deep, deep heartfelt thanks to all of you for your participation and continued support of the prolife movement.

Oakland/Macomb Chapter Coventry Place 1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G Troy, MI 48084-3540 (810) 816-1546

Jakland/macomk

News

M-Th 10-4; F Closed Patricia Holscher, Chairman Linda Kournoian, Ofc. Mgr. west/downrive

General meeting

Office hours

"The truth about Rape and Incest" will be the topic that guest speaker, Lt. Don Leach of the Ann Arbor Police Dept., will address at our next general meeting. He mans an emergency 911 line, and he will share his experience and knowledge with us.

The Truth **About Rape and Incest** Lt. Don Leach Ann Arbor Police Dept. Thursday, February 27 7:30 p.m. Livonia Civic Center **Library Auditorium** Five Mile Road (east of Farmington Rd.) No admission charge

Acknowledging baby deaths

To everyone who participated in our '97 candle luminary project, thank you. You witnessed to the fact that 35,000,000 babies have died from abortion since Roe v. *Wade.* These public acts take courage and often bring cruel criticism from neighbors and passersby. This office dispersed over 3300 luminaries—YOUR testimony was priceless!

Bake sale

Our thanks to Nancy Stanford, Mary Kiesling, Mary Ann Clos and their husbands, from St. Mary's Church in Wayne, and all the other wonderful bakers and

anxious buyers who made the annual bake sale for Lifespan such a tremendous success. The \$1171 will be used for pro-life educational projects and activities. Our sincerest thanks go to Fr. Ray Bucon, pastor, for his unfaltering support of Lifespan's educational projects. He and his parishioners continue to be "a voice for the unborn."

March for Life

At the 24th Annual March for Life in Washington, D.C., we gathered for Life, in truth and prayer, to stop the deliberate slaughter in America of even one innocent born or preborn human being. And it was a sight to behold—thousands of people, young and old. To be a part of such a massive group of believers in the sanctity and right to life was a tremendous feeling. To be surrounded by signs bearing thought-provoking prolife messages was an awesome sight. The chant, Life-Yes! Abortion-No! Roe v. Wade has got to go! was heard over and over. And it was invigorating to see so many high school and college students with so much enthusiasm and energy, thus ensuring the pro-life battle will continue to be waged until the truth prevails.

This March was the "shot in the arm" I needed. As you all know, it can be lonely out there in the pro-life ranks! Now, when those frustrating, energydraining feelings begin, I'll relive the camaraderie, peacefulness and enthusiasm of this tremendous pro-life March of January 22, 1997. Wish you could have been there!

> -Rosemarie Denton Church Representative Our Lady of Victory Church, Northville

PS: Madonna University sent a bus to the March in Washington with 40+ students and other Lifespan members.

Wayne West/Downriver Chapter 27578 Schoolcraft Livonia, MI 48150-2203 (313) 422-6230

From the President's Desk

Dear Friends,

Several times a week, scared girls call our office to ask how much an abortion costs. They think they are calling an abortion clinic. Without giving too much away, we usually give the girls the phone number of the crisis pregnancy center nearest them and pray for the best.

We also receive frantic calls from pregnant girls or their mothers and grandmothers, looking for help or exploring their options. We give them advice and referrals. We tell them about Wee Care. We offer positive alternatives and hope.

Recently, we got a plea for help from a sister of a pregnant girl. She was only 16 years old and 26 weeks pregnant. Her "boyfriend" was 35. He was not interested in marrying her or in the responsibility of fatherhood. He had convinced her to have an abortion to "save" their relationship. She had a fake ID which said she was 22 years of age, so she didn't have to get her mother's permission. The abortion was scheduled for the next afternoon.

We didn't have much time to err on the side of caution so we jumped in with both feet. Because of space limitations, let me just say that through the combined effort of a lawyer on our advisory board and several stalwart pro-lifers, we successfully intervened. A baby was saved. A family reconciled.

We wish all of our calls had such happy endings.



Calls on behalf of Chinese refugees needed

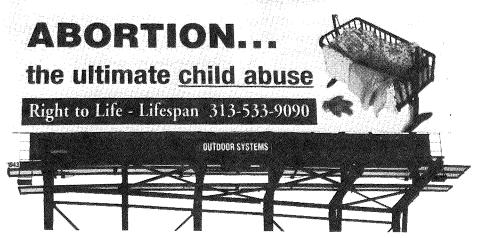
Over three months ago, a new law took effect which grants asylum to victims of forced abortion and sterilization (HR 3610). Only two Chinese refugee men have been released under this new law. Apparently, the two releases were just "tokens," and the Clinton Administration and the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) are resisting efforts to free the remaining refugees.

These Chinese refugees have been in prison in the United States for over 3-1/2 years. None of them have ever been accused of any criminal activity. Most of their asylum claims were found to be credible claims dealing with forced abortion and forced sterilization. Documented human rights abuse in China leads us to believe that these Chinese refugees face persecution if returned to China.

On January 21, eleven congressmen met to discuss the plight of these Chinese refugees. The congressmen will be sending letters to President Clinton, once again requesting him to release these political prisoners now.

In conjunction with these letters, it would be very beneficial if the White House receives a flood of phone calls regarding the refugees.

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Our billboard is now at its second location, east I-94 and Masonic (13-1/2 Mile Rd.) on the south side of the freeway facing west. Located in Macomb County, it is situated on the main route to Macomb Shopping Center. Our message is scheduled to move the last weekend in March to south I-75 and I-96 for two months.

We would like to thank those who have recently adopted the billboard with a gift of \$100 or more: Julia Sporka, Dr. Malcolm E. Williamson, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Thibault, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kuhr, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Raftery, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Milosch, Anne Stouffer, Dr. and Mrs. Richard Lomas, Elizabeth Rill, Daniel Vecchioni, Kathryn Garrett, Margaret Parr, Paul Krutty, Richard Keena, Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Vincent Rengers, Donald Grimes, St. Philomena Parish, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Shervish, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Heinlen, Mr. and Mrs. William Crowley, Jr., Robert Lietz, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Thewes, John Kruse, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ebaugh, Gerald Cormier and Madeleine Miehls, Victor Tomlan, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Czarnecki, Detroit Chapter of Lifespan, Downriver New Covenant Christian Church, Mr. and Mrs. William Seng, Phillip O'Brien and Mildred Purcell.

If you have not already done so, will you please fill out the form below and send it with your donation to: Right to Life - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Road, Suite 127, Livonia, MI 48152. For additional information, call (313) 533-9090. Sorry, donations are not tax-deductible.

Enclosed is my/our donation to	Lifespan's Billboard Campaig	
"Adopt for a Day" (\$100)	_ "Adopt for a Week" (\$700)	Other
Name(s)	Phon	e
Address		

UNICEF

continued from back page

and interest groups backing the conference.

Still, UNICEF claims it has no position on abortion; rather the organization is saving the world by immunizing children, distributing food and vitamins, and ending iodine deficiency. Insofar as this is true, bully for them—

yet, for my charitable purposes, their effectiveness must be measured against private organizations doing the same work.

Experience teaches us to be wary of any child-rights organization that gets its money from governments' taxing power. Often, the real agenda has more to do with promoting wealth redistribution schemes, socialistic policies and leftist cultural education than actually improving the lives of children.

Reading UNICEF material, you could get the impression that "discrimination" against women is a greater menace to the Third World than the lack of free economies and stable political institutions.

For instance, at the UN's Beijing conference on women in 1995, UNICEF made a bigger splash denouncing the lack of free child care in the West than in condemning China's own brutal methods of rationing births.

UNICEF depends on its celebrity status to illicit support from governments and private foundations. The managers of the Sheraton Hotel may be unaware. But they should not presume to raise money from patrons for any charity, without their explicit consent.

I told the clerk I had no intention of engaging in this sort of involuntary philanthropy; I wanted my pound back. She thus erased it from my bill.

Now it's up to the Sheraton Hotel to cease and desist and offer money back to anyone else who was similarly bilked.

Fr. Robert A. Sirico is president of Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty in Grand Rapids.

—The Detroit News, September 15, 1996 Reprinted with permission

See related article on page 2, "Vatican cancels grant." Further pro-life information on UNICEF is available through the Population Research Institute, 5119A Leesburg Pike, Suite 295, Falls Church, VA 22041. Phone (540) 622-5240.

Donations have been made In loving memory of:

Carol ZwolinskiGiven by: Betty Queen

Joan M. Stone Given by: Marilyn Erfourth

Joseph P. Mikolajczak, Jr. Given by: Chris Reynolds and family

Luella Dickinson

Given by: Chris Reynolds and family

Stella Laboda

Given by: Lifespan-Oakland/Macomb

Marie Tritle

Given by: Lifespan-Oakland/Macomb

Lona Ingraham

Given by: Lifespan Inc. Board

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 of Metro Detroit will be used to save the lives of many through our efforts.

Donations may be sent to your local Lifespan office. Sorry, they are not taxdeductible.

Bill Knapp's coupons

Our participation in the Bill Knapp Community Support coupon project continues. We have accumulated sufficient points (over 42,000) for a fax machine for the Detroit Chapter.

Many thanks to the following coupon donors of the past two months: Dell'Eva, Wilhelm, Lucas, St. Raphael Parish, Kwiatkowski, Fogoros, Renaud, Gibbons, Pender, Barylski, Masterson, Trombley, Noonan, Miller, Albert, Rytel, Gnaster, St. Maurice Church, Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, Yarnevich, Church, Fabian, Sterbenz, St. Theodore Church, St. Michael Church, St. Perpetua Church, Hoffman, Kubik, DeSousa, Sinclair, Sr. Phyllis, Bradley, Riley, Yanik, St. Hedwig Church, Poma, Lesiak, Bergmooser, McLaughlin, Modes, Kaza, Wood, Schwalm, Griffith, Cousino, Sporka, Cascos, Moots, Martel, Schorn, Jenuwine, St. Thomas Aquinas Church, St. Sabina Queenship of Mary Guild, Little Sisters of the Poor, Purcell, Bosco, Bowker, Bettega, Sisson, Sentowski, O'Connell.

Please continue to save these coupons for our next project. When you present your check to the cashier at any Bill Knapp's Restaurant, ask for a Community Support Coupon. Send the coupons to Right to Life - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia 48152. Thanks!

Chinese refugees

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Calls should be directed to Eric Schwartz (202) 456-9141. You can also send faxes to Mr. Schwartz at (202) 456-9140.

Additional phone numbers which may be useful:

(202) 456-1414 White House switchboard
(202) 456-1111 White House comment line
(202) 514-2001 Attorney General Janet Reno
(202) 514-4330 Immigration & Naturalization Service

—Infonet, January 25, 1997



Every day is Valentine's Day at Wee Care! Just as Valentine's Day is the

Wee Care

day for expressing your love for those you care about, each day at Wee Care, your love for our precious babies is demonstrated by the beautiful layettes that they are given.

Some of the families that you have helped just this past week were: a mother who, with her infant and toddler, had just left a homeless shelter and was trying to make it on her own; a teen mother who, along with her baby, had been thrown out of her parents' home and not allowed to return and retrieve her tiny son's clothes; a new mom whose husband was laid off and whose baby decided to arrive two months ahead of schedule; and a young girl who, when told by both her boyfriend and her parents to have an abortion, chose life for her tiny son, and then abandoned by everyone, turned to Wee Care.

Every story is different—but every baby is so very precious! Thank you for all you do for our little ones!

-Karen Patrosso, Director Wee Care (313) 533-2727

A Program of Right to Life - Lifespan

PS: There is an urgent need for clean, gently-used clothing, sizes newborn to 9 months. Monetary donations are also gratefully accepted. Make your check payable to Right to Life - Lifespan and mail to 28200 Seven Mile Rd., #127, Livonia, MI 48152. Mark the check or envelope "Wee Care." Sorry, donations are not tax-deductible.

Molly Kelly coming!

Renowned chastity speaker, Molly Kelly, is coming to town March 18 and 19. Call (810) 816-8489 for information.

Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit 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 Student/Senior Member	\$ 15.00 \$ 7.00	Monthly pledge Other	\$ \$				
Name	Phone						
Address	CityZip						
Please detach at the dotted line and return		Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile R e not tax-deductible.	d., #127, Livonia, MI 481.	52-3736.			

Don't Become an Accidental Contributor

By Fr. Robert A. Sirico

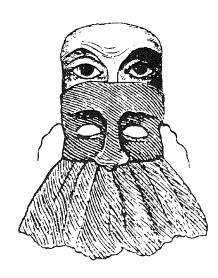
hecking out of the Sheraton Skyline Hotel near Heathrow Airport in London, I noticed an extra pound had been added to my bill. The notation next to it said "Contribution." This was fishy enough; a contribution given without full knowledge? To what, I asked? The clerk replied: the United Nation's Children's Fund, UNICEF.

Objection. Paying a hotel bill is an economic exchange that is supposed to reflect services used, plus taxes and mandatory fees. If a business wants to do charitable work, it should be done through general profits (ideally with the permission of stockholders) or by specifically requesting each customer to help out and relying on the power of persuasion.

This wasn't persuasion. It was a surreptitious hustle. Customers rarely examine bills with enough care to notice a one pound charge. Even fewer will take the time to inquire or niggle about its destination.

This is an unacceptable procedure, no matter how beneficent the charity may be. But UNICEF is a particularly poor choice because it is already supported by governments' extracting funds involuntarily from taxpayers.

And many of us might not choose to support this particular charity. Only a year ago, Human Life International issued an urgent plea that people reconsider all contributions to UNICEF. "Since 1966," writes its president, Fr. Matthew Habiger, "UNICEF has formally linked itself to organizations who work to prevent conception and promote abortion."



True? After all, UNICEF says it "has never provided support for abortion and it continues to be the long-standing UNICEF policy not to support abortion as a method of family planning." Don't be relieved just yet. It also says abortion is "a matter best decided by people themselves in accordance with their needs, values and preferences."

The slight of hand should be clear to anyone familiar with the language of the pro-choice movement. Abortion is a matter for the conscience, so a strict law against abortion would interfere with people's freedom to choose. Thus UNICEF discourages nations from enacting laws restricting abortion.

But the line between opposing laws against abortion and promoting it is thin indeed. As Fr. Habiger suggests, UNICEF has developed a close, working relationship with the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)—the global member organization for the most aggressive abortion promoters and providers—while maintaining plausible deniability.

The IPPF cherishes its "Category I consultative status" at the United Nations and says it "works closely" with agencies "which share its concerns for reproductive health in general," including UNICEF. It appears that IPPF is more candid about its friends than its friends are about themselves. Thus UNICEF is dissembling for political reasons when it claims not to "support abortion," but regards "responsible planning of family size" and "birth spacing" as an "essential" part of its "services."

Anyone who followed the UN's international conference on women, children and population growth knows that abortion is a central issue. Early draft statements contain language that can be construed as backing government programs restricting family size. Only after the Vatican and the pro-life community intervene is such language removed, and then only over the objections of the organizers

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Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit Wayne West/Downriver Chapter 27578 Schoolcraft Road Livonia, MI 48150-2203

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