

Life Matters



State Affiliate to the National Right to Life Committee

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Pro-Life Senators, NRLC Derail “Abortion Express Train” in Senate!

A report from the National Right to Life Committee in mid-November reported that to the surprise of many, an attempt by Senate Democrat leaders to fast-track a funding bill laden with pro-abortion provisions ran into an immovable procedural wall — erected by a group of pro-life senators with the strong encouragement of National Right to Life.

Pro-abortion Senate Democrat Leader Harry Reid (D-Nv.) attempted to move to the Senate floor a so-called “mini-bus” — a measure combining three different appropriations bills. This combo bill contained seven different provisions objected to by National Right to Life.

Among other offensive provisions were sections that would have removed an existing ban on government funding of abortion in the District of Columbia, removed a longstanding ban on coverage of abortion in federal employees’ health plans, and earmarked \$40 million for the United Nations Population Fund.

In addition, the bill contained a provision authored by Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) that would have prevented any future president from curbing funding of pro-abortion organizations overseas. The last three Republican presidents have denied overseas family-planning funds to private organizations that perform or promote abortion (the so-called “Mexico City Policy”).

Senate rules do not allow appropriations bills to be combined in the way that Reid attempted, except by “unanimous consent,” meaning that each senator had the right to object and prevent the combination bill from advancing. Such “unanimous consent” has been achieved in the past, for other multi-bills that did not contain pro-abortion provisions. But on November 15, pro-life Senator David Vitter (R-La.) took to the Senate floor to deny Reid the “unanimous consent” that was required. Vitter was joined by other pro-life senators, including Jim DeMint (R-SC), Rand Paul (R-Ky.), and Mike Lee (R-Utah).

“National Right to Life commends Senators DeMint, Vitter, Paul, Lee, and their allies for courageously derailing the Abortion Express Train,” said NRLC Legislative Director Douglas Johnson.

Because of the successful strategy pursued by NRLC, specific amendments dealing with the various abortion-related issues — which had been promoted in alerts disseminated by some organizations during that time — were not needed. All such pro-life amendments would have faced tough odds in the current Senate.

Johnson warned, however, that there are likely to be further attempts by the Senate Democratic leadership to attach pro-abortion provisions to various funding bills for the rest of the year. “We’ll be keeping a hawk-like gaze on all of these appropriations bills,” Johnson said.

Pro-life Senator Jeff Kessler Elected Senate President

By Vicky Covert, WVFL Legislative Liaison and Karen Cross, WVFL Political Liaison

The WV Senate held the election for the permanent position of Senate President on Monday, November 14. Senator Jeff Kessler (D-Marshall County), who had served as Interim President, won the election 28 to 5 over Senate Minority Leader Mike Hall (R-Putnam County). In the caucus of the Senate Democrats, Kessler won 17 to 11 over Senator Brooks McCabe (D-Kanawha). West Virginians for Life opposed the election of pro-abortion Senator McCabe to the position of Senate President.

“If Senator McCabe had won, it would have been impossible to move our pro-life legislative agenda through the WV Senate,” said Wanda Franz, WVFL President. “His election would have stopped pro-life legislation from

passing for years to come.”

Senator Kessler’s election was seen as a win for pro-life legislative efforts, because Senator Kessler has been the lead sponsor for all of the pro-life legislation that has passed the Senate in the last decade.

Senator Kessler filled the seat vacated by Governor Earl Ray Tomblin upon his election as governor of the state of West Virginia. During Governor Tomblin’s service as Senate President, many important pro-life bills were passed, including the Partial-Birth



Governor Earl Ray Tomblin



Senate President Jeff Kessler flanked by West Virginians for Life Legislative Liaison Vicky Covert and WVFL lobbyist Cheryl DiPiero



Senate Minority Leader Mike Hall

Abortion Ban Act, Women’s Right to Know Act, and the Ultrasound Option law. The Past President of WVFL, Karen Cross, said: “We congratulate both of these pro-life public servants for their work to support life-saving pro-life legislation in West Virginia.”



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From the President

Dear Friend of Life,

West Virginians for Life has some exciting new educational initiatives. It has always been the goal of West Virginians for Life to reach West Virginians with our life-saving message. We often have to use real creativity to help others understand that the child in the womb is a living, developing human being.

West Virginians for Life is going to take a creative new approach. First of all, we intend to use the new information on fetal pain and combine that with some new technology to have a Tele-Townhall Meeting. This will be an educational opportunity for anyone with a telephone to participate in the meeting and hear the experts talk about pain in the unborn child and why we should work to pass our new Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. Those attending the call will have a chance to ask questions. If you want to be part of this excellent educational opportunity, e-mail your telephone number to the West Virginians for life office at wvforlife1@yahoo.com and ask that you be included in the call.

Our second creative new educational approach is the development of a new webpage about Planned Parenthood. It is called "Abortion Hurts Us All." You can access it at www.abortionhurtsusall.com. This webpage is designed to educate pro-lifers about the facts: that 1/4 of all abortions in the U.S. are performed by Planned Parenthood, that 98% of services by Planned Parenthood to pregnant women are abortions, that Planned Parenthood has one billion dollars in net assets, and abortions constitute 37% of its revenues, while "government

grants and contracts," that is, your tax dollars, provides them with an additional \$363.3 million each year. That is approximately \$1 million a day from our taxes to support the work of Planned Parenthood.

This year, Congress voted on cutting off government funding for Planned Parenthood. The bill passed in the House, but was defeated in the Senate. One senator who voted to continue funding Planned Parenthood was West Virginia Senator Joe Manchin. He had three opportunities to vote pro-life, and he voted for the pro-abortion position all three times. You can use the website to download information to distribute to others describing the senator's votes.

Senator Manchin has argued that the government money given to Planned Parenthood does not pay directly for doing abortions. However, that money frees up other funds for abortion performance and advocacy.

Furthermore, Planned Parenthood is perhaps the nation's biggest advocate for abortion in state and federal legislatures, using the courts to challenge pro-life laws, including right to know laws, parental involvement laws and partial-birth abortion bans. These are the very kinds of pro-life legislation that Senator Manchin has claimed to support in the past. We need to educate all pro-life West Virginians about Manchin's betrayal of pro-life principles.

Wanda Franz, Ph.D.

Wanda Franz, Ph.D., President



Join WVFL for a Tele-Townhall on January 10, 2012

by *Mary Anne Buchanan*

A townhall meeting over the phone, this 30-45 minute teleforum is a powerful communications tool that will allow any West Virginian who is interested to learn more about the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, the opportunity to do so simply by supplying West Virginians for Life with your name and phone number.

Then on the night of Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at 8:00 p.m., we will include you in the statewide phone call. All you need to do is answer the phone when it rings that night and if you choose to ask a question of our distinguished panelists, you may. Even if the tele-townhall ends before you've had a chance to ask your question live, you will still get an answer after the fact. And, if you don't want to ask a question, but just want to listen in, that's perfectly fine. This is your chance to be educated on the matter of fetal pain, the proposed bill and what you can do to help further it along in the West Virginia legislature.

Our panelists will include National Right to Life Director of State Legislation Mary Spaulding Balch, J.D. She is the person responsible for drafting the model



Unborn Baby at 20 weeks

legislation that has allowed for the bill to become law in five states while pending in others.

West Virginians for Life State President Wanda Franz, Ph.D. will also be among the panelists to address issues of fetal development.

In addition, a third panelist will be Dr. Steven Zielinski, M.D., J.D., a long-time pro-life activist whose involvement stretches back to the 1970s. Most recently he served as an advisor to NRLC on Nebraska's 2010 Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. In 1984, he co-authored, with Thomas Marzen and Dr. Vincent Collins, *Fetal Pain and Abortion; The Medical Evidence*. He is a board certified internal medicine physician.

There may also be a fourth panelist in that of a lead sponsor of the bill in the legislature. This has yet to be determined.

When new ways to convey knowledge to our pro-life base become available, WVFL likes to take advantage of them. This is one such opportunity. Please plan on joining with us in this townhall via phone lines on Tuesday, January 10, 2012, by emailing us your name and phone number at wvforlife1@yahoo.com or calling us at 304-594-9845.



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Obama Health Care, Abortion and the Threat of Rationing

by Wanda Franz, Ph.D.

On March 23, 2010, President Obama signed into law the anti-life, unpopular *Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act* (Obamacare), passed by the slimmest of margins. If this plan is not repealed before its most dangerous provisions come into effect, the result will be government-funding of abortion and the rationing denial of lifesaving medical treatment, and consequent premature and involuntary death, of an unknown but immense number of Americans. The pro-life movement must devote itself to educating the American people about these facts.

Obama's health care law is so hard to understand because many of the most dangerous parts of the bill aren't actually written. Instead, the law allows government agencies to implement provisions in the future. Health care managed by government bureaucrats.

Abortion Issues

There are two major abortion-related concerns in the health care law. The first is the proposed insurance program that would be run entirely by the federal government. It is also known as the public option and the law allows the government to fund abortions through this program. The second is the proposed new premium-subsidy program to help tens of millions of people buy health insurance. This program provides "affordability credits" to low-income individuals to make it possible for them to buy the health insurance, as required by the law. The law allows the government to use "affordability credits" to subsidize both public plans and private insurance plans that cover elective abortions.

Rationing

Under the new health care law, it is not just the unborn who are threatened by the cold hand of government. Now it is also we, the already living, who are in danger because the inevitable result of the new health care law will be the rationing of medical care. And rationed

care leads to involuntary euthanasia of the elderly and of those whose "quality of life" is considered too poor for modern medical care.

This will be done through the so-called "Independent Payment Advisory Board" that can advise on both government- and privately-funded medical care. The Secretary of Health and Human Services or other bureaucrats can impose so-called "quality and efficiency standards" on all health care providers if they want to participate even in nongovernmental insurance plans. Thus, the government will tell the health profession what diagnostic tests and medical care are approved according to these so-called "quality and efficiency" standards. These standards are specifically designed to force you to spend your funds only on health care below the rate of inflation.

Treatment that a doctor and patient in consultation deem needed or advisable to save the patient's life or preserve or improve the patient's health but which the government decides is too costly---even if the patient is willing and able to pay for it---will run afoul of the imposed standards. In effect, there will be one uniform national standard of care, established by Washington bureaucrats and set with a view to limiting what private citizens are allowed to spend on saving their own lives.

Here are just two of the negative effects the new Law is already having on senior citizens in America.

(1) The very popular "private fee-for-service plans," known as Medicare Advantage Plans have been cut. Such plans would not have been forced to ration treatment, as long as senior citizens chose to pay more for them.

(2) Dramatic cuts being made in the reimbursement rates for doctors is forcing many to stop accepting new Medicare patients. Already, the Mayo Clinic in Arizona has announced that it will stop treating many Medicare patients.

Exposing Manchin's Record

Senator Manchin has had three pro-life votes scored by the National Right to Life Committee and he is 0 of 3. Thus, the handbills appearing below. You may print them out from the website at www.wvforlife.org or just call the office at 304-594-9845. The Manchin betrayal ad which was printed in the May/June *Life Matters* has appeared in *The Dominion Post*, *Post Extra*, *Morgantown Times*, the *Charleston Gazette*, *Clarksburg Exponent*, *Martinsburg Journal* and the *Monroe Watchman*.

Pro-life West Virginians who voted for him, feel betrayed. If you would like to help West Virginians for Life hold him accountable, distribute these handbills everywhere. Perfectly sized to fit within a church bulletin, you would simply be sharing the senator's voting record. Help West Virginians for Life continue exposing that sorry record.



Print out your handbills from www.wvforlife.org or call the State WVFL Office at 304-594-9845. People will NOT know if you don't share Senator Manchin's 0% voting record.

13th Annual Rose Dinner a Success

by Patricia Johnson and Mary Anne Buchanan

The 13th annual Rose Dinner was held Thursday, November 17 at Lakeview Golf Resort and Spa in Morgantown. West Virginians for Life President Dr. Wanda Franz focused on the need to educate the public regarding the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act in order to protect babies in the womb when they feel pain. The BIG announcements involved 1) the upcoming Tele-Townhall conference on January 10 complete with a telephone Q & A, which will educate on the legislation by virtue of a panel of experts and 2) the unveiling of the new Planned Parenthood webpage www.abortionhurtsusall.com designed not only to educate on the dangers of PP, but also to expose Senator Manchin's record regarding continued funding of Planned Parenthood.

Wood County Chapter Leader and Board Member Patty Cooper did her impersonation of Planned Parenthood founder Margaret Sanger. Entertaining in her red flapper dress complete with cigarette holder and drink props, her words chilled attendees as we were reminded of Sanger's ties to the eugenics movement, forced sterilizations and ultimately abortions.

This made for an easy transition into keynote speaker Angela Franks, Ph.D.'s topic *Margaret Sanger's Anti-Life Philosophy*. Franks spoke of the need to educate the public about the truth of Planned Parenthood versus their disingenuous image in society. She stressed the "choice" falsely promoted by PP today...Sanger did not promote "choice" in sterilization/birth control. Franks said, "It isn't social/

civil structures and inequality that oppress women...but the notion promoted by Planned Parenthood and Sanger that the God-given gift of female fertility oppresses women leading to the "necessity" of abortion.

Franks regaled the crowd about Sanger's three-part ideology of control: birth control, eugenic control and population control. Attendees were reminded that PP has infiltrated schools and communities, that they promote inaccuracies regarding sexuality and STDs and of PP's non-reporting of statutory rape...up to 60% of all underage girls become pregnant by older males.

What is needed is to educate about Planned Parenthood's real intent in their advocacy, their beginnings/connection to Sanger's eugenics promotion/involvement and their non-reporting of child sex abuse. The crowd was encouraged to go after cutting off funding to Planned Parenthood.

Roughly 110 attendees enjoyed the classical guitar playing of Dan Cunningham as well as "The Lord's Prayer" as sung by Pastor Shirley Robinson and went home following wonderful fellowship, delicious food and food for thought. See pictures on page 7.



Angela Franks, Ph.D.

Petitions regarding the "Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act" are available in the WVFL Office and online at www.wvforlife.org.

“180” Movie Sweeping the Country

Reprinted from
WorldNetDaily

What subject is there on which 25 high-school class members, after a single discussion, could be unanimous?

Besides the idea that parents owe them money for the weekend, of course.

How about abortion?

That's exactly what one viewer of evangelist Ray Comfort's "180" movie is reporting.

The video is a stunning, 33-minute revelation revealing, first, many people simply are unaware of the diabolical evil imposed on the world by Adolf Hitler, and, second, they are largely unaware of the facts about abortion and its tremendous toll on life in the U.S.

Comfort said the movie, which has sold tens of thousands and been viewed well over a million times online (that would be more than 57 years of viewing time in just the last few weeks), prompted an email from one

student in the eastern part of the United States.

"I'm a senior at a public high school in West Virginia. This past week in our civics class we were writing essays about laws that we wish would change in America. After seeing this video I chose to do mine on abortion, and how I wished it would be illegal," the teen wrote.

"After I had finished reading my essay, a discussion arose in class (obviously) about how they thought abortion should be a choice, especially if the child is unhealthy or was caused because of rape ... Because of '180' I was able to turn around the entire class opinion about abortion and by the end of the class 25 of the 25 students and my teacher as well had all raised their hand agreeing that abortion should be illegal."

How is that possible? With the facts and a focus on the truth, Comfort reports.

For example, he cited a recent AP report that two

abortion clinic workers in Philadelphia pleaded guilty to third-degree murder where seven babies apparently were born alive, then killed with scissors.

"These people are accused of 'performing illegal late-term abortions and killing babies born alive by severing their spinal cords with scissors' when the workers 'had no relevant training or license,'" he said. "So in essence, their crime wasn't murder. It was that they weren't trained to kill unborn babies."

"The law says that abortions should be safe and legal, and without proper training on how to kill a child, the law is broken. That was their 'crime.'"

He said the billion dollar abortion industry in America has been "a powerful and taunting Goliath, but we now have a stone in our sling with '180,' and we are going to see an end to this horror in our nation."

As the evidence of the video's impact, it sometimes takes only minutes – or even seconds – for those who are given the truth about abortion to change from being adamantly pro-choice to recognizing the value of life.

It was only a few days ago an army of 1,000 volunteers gave away 200,000 copies of the award-winning movie "180" at 100 top universities around the country.

It shows Comfort's conversations with people who are pro-abortion. But they end up reversing their

course, or doing a "180."

"People can't get enough of this because it's changing minds about the hot-button issue of abortion," said Comfort, the author, evangelist and the filmmaker who produced the movie.

The testimonies from people across the country who have watched "180" are sometimes are heart-wrenching:

- "Today I watched the movie



for the second time, and the gravity of what I did 14 years ago brought me to sobs."

- "I was at an abortion clinic on the sidewalk (with my laptop), had two young ladies stop and watch the trailer that is in the special features. Then afterwards they watched the '180' DVD all the way through. One was four month's pregnant, the other was three. They were both going there for an abortion; they were both in tears, hugged my neck and decided to give their babies life and choose adoption instead. I cried too. Praise God for 180."

- "I confess, I have committed 7 murders! GOD forgive me, I will never NEVER AGAIN trivialize abortion. NEVER again will I agree with the lie."

- "I've had multiple abortions, and I've heard abortion compared to the Holocaust before. But, I've never understood why..."

- "After watching it the first time, I was not pleased with the movie at all. I had anticipated the premier of this documentary for months and after watching it you make me feel bad about

myself. But after praying, I realized that you were right and I was wrong and that I had to repent to God as soon as possible."

- "I worked at an abortion clinic, God forgive me, and I didn't see one 'egg' or 'pile of tissue.' My job was to assist the Dr. during the abortion and then clean up the mess after. The doctor just did his thing and left the room. ... I quit."

- "By far the most in your face, tell-it-like-it-is video ever!"

- "This movie moved me to tears."

- "I have always been opposed to abortion, although I will admit I was a little soft on the incest/rape situation. Never more will I be. I wept uncontrollably when the number of babies killed was shown."

Actor Kirk Cameron called the project "a powerful piece of media that leaves a lasting mark on your heart and mind."

Comfort, who is Jewish, had been working on

research for his next book, "Hitler, God and the Bible," coming in February from WorldNetDaily Books.

He was surprised to discover there are many who simply don't recognize Hitler and cannot say just exactly what it is he did. Those conversations led then to a discussion of abortion.

Cameron's endorsement of the "180" project was joined by Mark Hall, lead singer of "Casting Crowns," who said the movie "totally rocked my world."

Comfort said one church placed an order for 16,000 copies. And, even though the initial order for "180" was 200,000 copies, supplies are short already and new orders for hundreds of thousands of additional copies of the DVD are set.

"Keep in mind that this isn't a one-minute humorous clip that doesn't bite into your day. This is a commitment of 33 minutes of intense film," he said.

**More Ways to Stay
on top of the
pro-life movement:**

Facebook - *West Virginians for Life*

Facebook - *WV Votes Pro-Life*

Twitter - *twitter.com/wv4life*

YouTube - *youtube/WVforLife*



**In Loving Memory of Elouise Mae Swanson
by Dr. Rick and Linda Day**

May 12, 1927 - September 23, 2011

Ban on Human Embryo Patents Culminates 8-Year NRLC Effort

A ban on the issuing of U.S. patents on human embryos was enacted into law September 16 – the culmination of an eight-year effort in which National Right to Life played a key role.

The pro-life policy was enacted as part of a bill called the “America Invents Act” (H.R. 1249). The bill, which runs 58 pages in its final form, makes numerous changes to the laws that govern the granting of patents in the United States, which is a function of the U.S. Patents and Trademarks Office (USPTO), part of the Department of Commerce.

A patent is a government-conferred property right that gives an inventor exclusive rights to manufacture or use his invention for a defined period, usually 20 years. The patent holder can license others to employ his patent for a fee, called a royalty.

Early in the year, when it became clear that Congress was likely to take up a sweeping revision of the patent laws, NRLC insisted on inclusion of language to codify (make permanent) a previously enacted temporary prohibition on any patents being issued on human embryos.

Subsequently, the NRLC-backed language was added to the bill, with the support of House Judiciary Committee Chairman Lamar Smith (R-Tx.), House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio), House Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-Va.), Congressman Chris Smith (R-NJ), and other key lawmakers. Both the House and Senate subsequently approved the broader bill without separate votes on the NRLC-backed provision. President Obama signed the bill into law.

The key language, as it appears in Section 33 of the enacted measure, reads as follows: “Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, no patent may issue on a claim directed to or encompassing a human organism.”

A similar prohibition was originally proposed by former Congressman Dave Weldon (R-Fl.) in 2003, with the strong support of NRLC, as an amendment to the annual appropriations bill that funds the USPTO. The House adopted

the Weldon provision on July 22, 2003. There followed a four-month struggle, in which the powerful Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) lobbied strenuously against enactment of the ban.

NRLC fought hard for the Weldon language, arguing that it was one necessary bulwark against the plans of some biotechnology organizations to create an industry based on the creation and manipulation of human embryos. NRLC and other backers of the Weldon language cited statements

ban was enacted as part of a broad government funding bill in early 2004.

Because the Weldon provision was attached to a one-year appropriations bill, it has been necessary to renew it for each subsequent fiscal year. While NRLC and other pro-life forces have been successful in fending off attempts to weaken or repeal the annual bans, the long-term goal – now realized – was to codify the ban into permanent law.

Commenting on enactment of the permanent ban, NRLC’s

Douglas Johnson said, “This law recognizes that human life is not a commodity, and that a member of the human family can never be regarded as a mere invention, or as ‘intellectual property.’”

Richard Doerflinger, associate director of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, commented, “Unethical researchers and biotechnology companies are willing not only to create and destroy embryonic human beings for research purposes, but even to patent these fellow humans so they can license, market, buy, and sell them

as mere commodities. By prohibiting patents on human organisms, Congress has helped prevent such gross abuses and has taken some of the profit motive out of the drive for human cloning.”

The substantive scope of the Weldon language was explained by then-USPTO Director James Rogan in a letter dated November 20, 2003, as follows: “The USPTO understands the Weldon Amendment to provide unequivocal congressional backing for the long-standing USPTO policy of refusing to grant any patent containing a claim that encompasses any member of the species *Homo sapiens* at any stage of development. . . . including a human embryo or human fetus. . . . [which] applies regardless of the manner and mechanism used to bring a human organism into existence (e.g., somatic cell nuclear transfer, in vitro fertilization, parthenogenesis).”



House Judiciary
Committee Chairman
Lamar Smith



Pro-life Speaker of the House
John Boehner



House Majority Leader
Eric Cantor

by some researchers that they wanted to patent and market human embryos with certain genetic profiles as “models” for studying certain diseases.

Further, in a letter to key members of Congress dated September 11, 2003, then-BIO President Carl B. Feldbaum objected to the Weldon language on grounds that it “would preclude the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) from granting patents on an organism of human species at any stage of development produced by any method [or] a living organism made by human cloning . . .” In a memo, BIO argued that a “genetically modified embryo” should be patentable, since it reflected “human intervention.”

NRLC Legislative Director Douglas Johnson said at the time, “The BIO memo and letter fully demonstrated the need for the Weldon Amendment. BIO’s theory of patent law would allow patents to protect what President Bush has called ‘human embryo farms.’”

NRLC and its allies ultimately prevailed, and the Weldon

2012 Pro-Life Essay Contest

By Jacki Ragan, NRLC Development Director

Each year, National Right to Life sponsors a Pro-Life Essay Contest. Minnesota state Senator Michelle Fischbach oversees and directs the contest, and encourages young people to get involved and submit an essay. The essay should address the question “What effect has abortion had on your generation?”

This is an excellent way to educate young people to the true meaning of abortion and how many lives are lost each year. With more than 3,300 abortions a day, many of their peers are not in their classrooms today because of abortion.

What follows is a brief “how-to” so that you know how to submit your essay properly.

To begin with there is a Senior Essay Contest for grades

10 – 12 and a Junior Essay Contest for grades 7 – 9. Essays will be read and judged on originality, content, and accuracy. The announcement of winners will be made as soon as possible, but judging time depends on the numbers of entries received.

The essay should be double spaced with pages numbered, between 300 to 500 words in length. The font must be no smaller than 12 pt.

Essays must be submitted between December 19, 2011, and January 23, 2012, and postmarked no later than January 23, 2012.

Use a cover sheet that includes: full name, full address, phone number, grade level, student date of birth, parent’s name and word count. All sources used must be cited.

Please do not include any artwork, pictures, or plastic covers. All essays must be mailed to Michelle Fischbach, 416 Burr St., Paynesville, MN 56362.

First place winners will receive \$200, Second place winners will receive \$150, and Third place winners will receive \$100. Prizes are awarded for both the Junior and Senior contests.

The two first place essays will appear in the National Right to Life Committee Yearbook, National Right to Life News, and online in National Right to Life News Today.

If you need additional information on the National Right to Life 2012 Pro-Life Essay Contest, visit www.nrlc.org and click on the Special Events tab. NRLC looks forward to reading YOUR child’s essay!

State Convention - October 15, 2012



Convention Keynote Speaker Kristan Hawkins, Students for Life of America Executive Director



Senate Finance Chairman Roman Prezioso addressed the crowd with wife Debbie looking on.



1st Congressional District Director Richie Parsons spoke on behalf of Congressman McKinley.



Ohio County Chapter Leader Rev. Thomas Rentfrow gave the Invocation.



Legislative Liaison Vicky Covert, former Senator Mike Oliverio and WVFL President Dr. Wanda Franz



"Making Pro-Life Kids" was Pastor James Sabin's presentation title.



Harrison County brought the most members to the convention.



NRL Academy Alum Lacey Dent did "When They Say...You Say."



Brandi and son Jameson Loop with mother/grandmother Karen Cross, NRL Political Director



Yoko Wallace examining Silent Auction items



Posing are Audio/Visual genius and sound man Cliff Mack along with CD recording crew Sherry and Rev. Kay Lowther. Thanks to all three for smooth sailing throughout. Kay and Sherry have been recording the state convention presentations for many, many years and always with a smile.



Crystal Jenkins, with Labor of Love Ministries in Morgantown, sang "The Healing Has Begun" after the Post-Abortion Syndrome presentation.



Cabell County Chapter Leader/Board Member George Wallace asked for the offering and prayed passionately.

13th Annual Rose Dinner - November 17, 2011



Seated: Dr. Miklos Auber and Dr. Tom Hogan
Standing: Dianne Auber with daughters Stephanie and Rebekah



WVFL Program Director Mary Anne Buchanan and Linda Day



Seated: Cathy Merovich and Drs. Wanda and Gunter Franz
Standing: Matthew Brumley, Jacob King and Dr. Angela Franks



Patty Cooper portrayed the infamous Margaret Sanger.



The Morgantown St. John's Newman Club plus WVTeens for Life President Christina Deal, WVFL President Dr. Wanda Franz, Dr. Angela Franks and baby Maximilian



Richard and Linda Oldack (the Harrison County Chapter Leader/Board Member) with Bill Maloney, former candidate for Governor



Pastor Shirley Robinson sang the Lord's Prayer beautifully.



WVFL Political Liaison Karen Cross with Delegate Gary Howell of Mineral County and Delegate Anthony Barill of Monongalia



Seated: Mike Walker, Charissa and Richie Parsons
Standing: Beth Walker, Pam Krushansky, Linda Wooldridge and Susan Hammond



Seated: Frank and Madelyn Romeo, Margaret and Dr. David Puderbaugh
Standing: Preston County Assessor Terri Funk and Senator Dave Sypolt



Morgan County Chapter Leader
Jim Fritz

Pro-Life Profile

Born and bred in Minnesota nearly 80 years ago, Jim Fritz was one of 6 children whose father died when he was 11 years old. At 18, he joined the US Marine Corps as a means of taking advantage of the GI Bill to get an education. Jim saw combat in Korea, got married, entered civilian life and began a family of three boys. He also began his education in an electronics trade school while working at night. After graduation, he began his career in electronics, generally working for a contractor to the federal Government. Jim has had a very interesting career working in AK, MN, TX, NM, LA, MD and Washington, D.C. for several agencies, including the Army, Air Force, NASA, FAA, USDA, IRS, and others. While working he obtained degrees in electronics, a Bachelor's in Physics and a Master's in Information Management Systems. Jim was married in the Catholic

Church, but did not become Catholic until several years later when he was baptized on Christmas Eve by a priest in a small chapel of an Eskimo village in Point Barrow, AK. Jim is the proud grandfather of 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Jim has never been anything but pro-life, but did not become involved until he came across a group of people praying and offering counseling outside an abortuary in Montgomery County, MD nearly 20 years ago. He began going on Saturdays just to pray, then joined the demonstrations. The abortuary mill closed within a year, and he went to another abortuary in D.C. and began sidewalk counseling. Jim trained for this with Monsignor O'Brian, who was quite successful in the New York area. Fortunately, that abortuary also soon closed. He then began going to two other abortuaries in MD.

Jim became involved with National Right to Life when visiting West Virginia and seeing a Life Chain in Hancock, MD. He stopped, picked up a sign and met a couple from Berkeley Springs who invited him to join them afterwards at the local ice cream store. They convinced Jim to become involved in West Virginians for Life. Eventually, he picked up the leadership of the Morgan County chapter when the current leader needed to pass the reins on to a younger person. Jim planned to retire to WV, so it fit in with his plans.

Jim feels the Morgan County chapter is pretty well "maxed-out" as to what they can do. They have sidewalk counseling at the Hagerstown abortuary mill three days a week, where they have saved about 50 children a year from abortion. They hold a yearly

Respect Life Dinner with a good speaker and a good turnout. They have a Life Chain, a full-sized billboard on Rte. 522, a float at the Apple Butter Festival Parade, a booth at the festival and at the Morgan County Fair, a great website, a "Beautiful Baby Contest" every two years, and four newsletters per year. They also produce many pro-life spots and programs airing on a local Christian Radio Station.

Jim would like to boost the number of pro-life articles in the newspapers. He also feels the need to strengthen the numbers of their active members. Jim is planning a "Pastor's Breakfast" to try to expand the group to more churches, and is also pushing the *Spiritual Adoption Program* in pro-life churches.

Jim feels it has been good to see an increase in the percentage of people becoming more pro-life, but feels this is still their biggest challenge. He feels they need an overwhelming majority to overcome the pro-abortion rulings on the national level. Jim thinks some of the States have been doing a good job initiating laws to restrict abortion, these laws being the results of our gains in percentage of pro-lifers and activism on the part of groups like WVFL. He feels we must counter those who are pro-abortion in two ways: 1) Educate the public as we are currently doing, and 2) Change our politicians and our laws. Jim feels pretty satisfied with WVFL and is happy to be a Board Member to provide some input. He would like to see more counties become members of WVFL and says he will try to work on this in the future. He feels there are some serious gaps in our area coverage, not only in WV but other states.

Jim shared the following quote (motto) from St. John Capistrano: "Initiative, Organization, Activity." Jim shared that these three words characterized the life of St. John who was not one to sit around, ever. His deep, Christian optimism drove him to battle problems at all levels with the confidence engendered by a deep faith. We thank Jim Fritz for sharing that same, deep Christian faith and optimism in his defense of God's precious gift of human life! And we congratulate Jim on being the recipient of the 2011 "Angel of the Year" award, which was recently presented to him at the annual WVFL Convention (see photo at left).

WV Teens for Life

Dear WV Pro-life Teens,

This year has gotten off to a busy start, and it's going to be a busy year for the pro-life movement as well. Now, more than ever, we must protect the most innocent and vulnerable in our society. Teens for life must educate our peers on the fact that unborn babies should all have the right to be born.

WVFL will work to pass the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, which would prohibit abortions after 20 weeks when unborn babies feel pain. Calling and visiting your representatives in Charleston to ask for their support of this bill is vital.

I hope to see many young people representing West Virginia at the Annual March for Life in Washington D.C on January 23rd. The Pro-life Day at the Legislature is also a critical way to show support for our pro-life bills. Please save the date for the Rally on Valentine's Day, February 14th.

Finally, I will be graduating high school in May, and I would like to talk with anyone who feels called to this volunteer work. The job consists of hosting events in your area, attending the state events, and networking with other teens. There is a lot of room for expansion, so please consider this opportunity. If you are interested in leading the pro-life teens of our state, please e-mail me at christinad93@yahoo.com.



The youth were well represented at the dinner. Posing for the camera were Sarah Lanciotti, West Virginia Teens for Life President Christina Deal, Tiffany Staggs, Christen Saab and her father Jaycen Saab.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 10, 2012 (Tuesday) - Tele-Townhall Meeting at 8:00 p.m.

January 22, 2012 (Sunday) - Sanctity of Human Life Sunday (SOHLS)

January 23, 2012 (Monday) - March for Life, Washington, D.C.

February 14, 2012 (Tuesday) - Annual Pro-Life Rally and Day at the
Legislature

March 10, 2012 (Saturday) - March Board Meeting

Merry Christmas and as always, For Life,
Christina Deal, WVTFL President

New Board Members to Lead West Virginians for Life

By Wanda Franz, Ph.D., President

We are proud to welcome the newly-elected board members to serve West Virginians for Life. Two individuals were elected by the chapters from each of our seven regions. The Board meets four times a year to decide on board policy and contribute to the running of the Corporation. Following are the board members representing the chapters in each region:

Region 1 – Northern Panhandle Region

Marla Mercer – Brooke County Chapter
Rev. Thomas Rentfrow – Ohio County Chapter

Region 2 – Ohio Valley Region

Patty Cooper – Wood County Chapter
Wayne Sanders – Mason County Chapter

Region 3 – Kanawha Valley Region

George Wallace – Cabell County Chapter
Open

Region 4 - Southern Region

Hilda Shorter – Raleigh County Chapter
Bonnie Ayers – Summers County Chapter

Region 5 – North Central Region

Linda Oldack – Harrison County Chapter
Charles V. Northrop – Doddridge County Chapter

Region 6 – Mountain Region

Bill Floyd – Barbour County Chapter
Judy Fuller – Pocahontas County Chapter

Region 7 – Eastern Panhandle Region

Jim Fritz – Morgan County Chapter
Lacey Dent – Tucker County Chapter

We also elected two at-large members to the Board during the annual convention in October. These two board members are: Louise Deal of Monongalia County and Mary Tillman of Harrison County.

Congratulations to all the newly-elected members of the board.

List YOUR Name in the Ad for Life

This year’s Ad for Life in the *Charleston Daily Mail* will appear on Monday, February 13, 2012, the day before the annual “Pro-Life Rally and Day at the Legislature” at the Capitol in Charleston. The 2012 theme is identical to 2011. It’s *Have a Heart for the Babies*. Your contribution will not only help in financing this large expensive ad, but it will also include printing your name so that you can make a public statement. The ad will address the need to pass the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. If you would like to donate, but do NOT want your name printed, please indicate that on the coupon below.

Please list my name as a sponsor of the “Ad for Life” in the *Daily Mail*.
Enclosed is my donation toward the February 13 advertisement.

\$10.00 \$15.00 \$20.00 \$50.00 \$100.00 \$ _____

Name (Print) _____ Phone _____

(If you **do not** wish to have your name listed in the ad, please indicate so on this coupon.)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Donations should be made payable to:

West Virginians for Life, Inc., 25 Canyon Rd., Morgantown, 26508

Contributions to West Virginians for Life are not tax deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes. West Virginia residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305. Registration does not imply endorsement.



25 Canyon Road - Morgantown, WV 26508 (304) 594-9845
wvforlife@labs.net - www.wvforlife.org

YES! You can count on me to help save unborn children from abortion. Enclosed is my membership contribution of \$35 (includes membership in WVFL and NRLC).

\$10 voluntary contribution to West Virginians for Life PAC added to \$35 membership = \$45 to aid in the election of pro-life candidates. (*Disregard if not a WVFL member*).

I wish to support the educational work of WVFL with an additional contribution of:
 \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$500 \$1,000 \$ _____

I wish to join the Rose Society with a monthly pledge of: (*Rose Society members receive a monthly update from the President and do not receive other fundraising mailings or calls other than fundraising for the political action committees.*)
 \$10 \$15 \$20 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$ _____

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

Because in addition to educating, we are involved in trying to change the law, contributions to West Virginians for Life, Inc. are not deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes. “West Virginia residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, West Virginia 25305. Registration does not imply endorsement.” Corporate and church contributions to West Virginians for Life PAC are prohibited by law. Contributions to West Virginians for Life PAC are voluntary. Please disregard if you are a public employee.

39th Annual March for Life is 1-23-2012



Keyser teens at 2011 March for Life

- Chartered Bus leaves Morgantown Mall (Sears) at 4:30 a.m. to return approximately 11:00 p.m.
- Cost is \$10 per person or \$25 for a family of three or more
- Congressional Meeting at 10:30 a.m.
- Reservations mandatory, call 304-216-6573
- If other charters are going, please inform the WVFL Office at 304-594-9845.

Across the Mighty State

Cabell County: In September George Wallace spoke to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at Cabell Midland High School on the importance of knowing your candidates before you vote for them. October was busy as the chapter participated in the Life Chain, the three-day Pumpkin Festival and the State Pro-Life Convention. Chapter Leader George Wallace also traveled to Wood County to pray and hold a sign with Patty Cooper in the 40 Days for Life prayer vigil.

Doddridge County: The chapter participated in the July West Union Festival parade with a float and had a booth at the Festival. Pro-life balloons were given out during the parade as well as at the booth. Pro-life items as well as water were highlights at the booth. The chapter recently purchased a new baby crib (4 in 1) for a family in the area who had a need. It was greatly appreciated by the family. Doddridge County Chapter hopes to have a Pro-Life poster contest for the teens in the area in the near future. The winner of this contest will have their poster made into a billboard that they hope to display along route 50 in the Salem and West Union area.



Cabell County's George Wallace and friend Leigh volunteering at the annual Pumpkin Festival

Hampshire County: The chapter sponsored the 15th Annual Life Chain in Romney followed by a luncheon. They hope to cover the old billboard along Rte. 50 in Pleasantdale with a new message on vinyl material with grommets. It will be a less expensive approach and allow use of the old billboard as backing for the new. If you can help put up the new billboard, call Tony at 304-496-7135. Pro-life ads go in the weekly paper as often as possible. To contribute to that effort, contact Joe at 304-496-9358.

Kanawha: The Kanawha County Chapter saw their Life Chain go from Kanawha City, across the 35th Street Bridge, down Kanawha Boulevard, across the Patrick Street Bridge and down Rte. 60 into St. Albans. They also participated in the Clendenin Fair.

Mason County: Mason County Right to Life had a successful fair week. Pro-life literature was free for the taking and fetal models were available for people to pick up and handle. Only eleven pictures were entered in the Pretty Baby Photo Contest, but it raised around \$400. Noah Spires, son of Jamey and Aimee Spires of Leon, WV, won the contest. Brantlee Grate was first runner up. Members were kept busy baking goodies to sell as they sold out so quickly.



Kanawha County Chapter at the Clendenin Fair

On September 24, the Christian Motorcycle Association (CMA) held a fundraiser for Mason County Right to Life. Wayne Sanders was the Master of Ceremonies. The Rally was held at Krodel Park in Pt. Pleasant and was joined by bicycle riders lead by Marqkita Sexton. The bicycle participants started the 4 1/2 mile ride at Pt. Pleasant High School. MCRL sold hotdogs, hamburgers,

bar-be-que, chips, pop and desserts. The CMA members gave their testimonies of how God changed them. The singers were Beth Rollins and ForeverBlessed consisting of Michelle Gibbs and Lisa & Randy Searls. Regina Barito of Charleston addressed the gathering to tell the people about The Gabriel Project. Everyone enjoyed the worship service. The MCRL members hope this will become an annual fundraiser.

Monongalia County: Chapter Leader Mary Anne

Buchanan spoke to the middle schoolers at Covenant Christian School and also to the Spruce Street UMC women both in Morgantown in November. The chapter is sponsoring a chartered bus to Washington, D.C. on January 23. It's \$10 per person or \$25 for a family of three or more. The chartered bus will leave from Sears at the Morgantown Mall at 4:30 a.m. Seats will go fast, so call 304-216-6573 to reserve yours now. The chapter will again sponsor a signature ad in *The Dominion Post* in January. This ad will focus on the pain of the unborn.

Monroe: An afghan hand-crocheted by Monica Jakielo was silently auctioned off at the Annual Harvest Festival for the chapter. The booth volunteers at the event handed out literature and sold edible goodies. They also had a float in the Farmer's Day Parade and were present with a pro-life booth there also.



Noah Spires - Winner of the Mason County Baby Contest

Morgan County



Above: Annual Morgan County Pro-Life Dinner on September 17
Right: Young girls adoring the fetal models at the Apple Butter Festival
Below: The chapter's winning entry in the Apple Butter Festival



Morgan County: The Morgan County Chapter held their eleventh annual RESPECT LIFE DINNER on September 17th and roughly 150 attended. The key speaker was Angela Carroll. Angela, a mother of four, is a very active sidewalk counselor at the Hagerstown, Maryland Abortion Center. She and her fellow counselors have saved 228 babies from abortion during the last five years by offering alternatives and help. Funds collected from the dinner will be used for a pro-life billboard on Route 522, the chapter's quarterly newsletter, plus pro-life materials for booths at the Morgan County Fair and the Apple Butter Festival. Out of many, the float the chapter entered in the Apple Butter Festival won for "Best Float". Over 300 balloons were given out free to children at their booth. The booth received about \$325 from the sale of t-shirts, bumper stickers, pins, and donations. A good selection

Across the Mighty State

of pro-life literature was available for free. A general comment was that people are much more pro-life now than previous years. Many people talked about the internet movie "180" and how it changes people's attitudes toward being pro-life. The chapter's website is www.wdtf-lp.com.

Pocahontas County:

The chapter held a baby bottle fundraiser and made its presence known at the annual Derby Days and Pioneers Days Festivals.



Doddridge County Chapter donated a beautiful crib to a local mother in need.

Summers: Chapter Leader Bonnie Summers spoke about the stages of fetal development and the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act on Respect Life Sunday in October at Word of Faith Assembly in Daniels, WV. The fetal models were displayed and enjoyed by all ages. Children were given Pro-Life helium balloons with Children are a gift from God and Children color our World Wonderful written on them. One small child when entering the room and seeing the colorful balloons asked, "Are we having a party?" Bonnie answered, "Yes, we are celebrating Life today." His next response was, "Cool!" The chapter was also represented at the West Virginians for Life State Convention held at Fairmont. Anyone interested in participating in their local chapter activities or needing information, may call Bonnie at 304-466-1370 or e-mail at bonniejeanayers@yahoo.com.

Tucker: A chapter reorganization meeting took place at St. John's UMC in Parsons on November 29 with WVFL President Dr. Wanda Franz and Program Director Mary Anne Buchanan on hand. To get involved with the chapter, call the new Chapter Leader Lacey Dent at 304-478-1144.

Upshur: Upshur County Right to Life held a raffle recently to help pay for their billboards. At the September meeting a drawing was held for the three baskets of prizes and gift certificates.

First place winner was Liz Hamner who won around \$1000 in prizes and gift certificates. Second place winner was Hope Spears who won around \$800 in prizes and gift certificates. Third place winner was Denise Ervin who won around \$600 in prizes and gift certificates. Local businesses were very generous in their donations for their raffle.

Wayne: The chapter participated in Life Chain the first Sunday in October. They were interviewed by channel 8 and channel 3. They invite you to their monthly meetings at the Good Samaritan Center, Chestnut St., Kenova the first Tuesday of every month at 6:00 p.m. Call 304-453-4429 for date and time. The chapter voted to send A New Beginning CPC funds to support their Christmas project. Finding liaisons from area churches is still an ongoing project.



Upshur County's Bonita Nantz holding Denise Ervin's winning basket along with Jill Andrew, Hope Spears, Caleb, Liz and Corey Hamner

Wood: Chapter Leader Patty Cooper headed up the 40 Days for Life prayer vigil from late September through November 6. Those who joined her were blessed. Patty portrayed the infamous Margaret Sanger at the 13th Annual Rose Dinner in Morgantown in November. She has agreed to be the chartered bus captain on January 23 for the trip leaving Sears at Morgantown Mall at 4:30 a.m. for the annual March for Life in D.C.

WVFL: The Teens had a great time along with the Catholic Homeschoolers group raising \$200 at their Annual Car Wash for Life to raise money for Labor of Love Ministries maternity home and Choices for Life pregnancy care center in Morgantown, WV on September 17. To get involved with the teens group, call President Christina Deal at 304-599-3902 or email her at christina93@yahoo.com.



A group of Mon County pro-lifers prayed and held signs in late October with Wood County Chapter Leader Patty Cooper (next to last) for 40 Days for Life.



The Monroe County Chapter held a silent auction at this booth and raised funds from the highest bidder on a crocheted afghan.

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
West Virginians for Life, Inc.


West Virginians for Life, Inc.
25 Canyon Road
Morgantown, WV 26508

Change Service Requested



Please join us on Tuesday, February 14, 2012 in the lower rotunda of the state capitol in Charleston at Noon.

- Highlights - Meet with your legislators (10 a.m. - 12 p.m.)
- Rally at Noon
 - Prayer Processional following rally
 - Remember to wear last year's red shirt. (Only making a limited number this year for new attendees)

For additional information:
304-594-9845 or wvforlife.org

The day will be filled with fellowship, music, exciting speakers, and a special prayer walk through the Capitol on behalf of the unborn.

Life Matters

West Virginians for Life, Inc. 

December 2011

Unborn Babies Feel Pain



Unborn Baby at 20 Weeks

Join in on a statewide telephone conference call with the experts to learn more about the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act and what you can do to further its passage in the state legislature.

Join us for a

Tele-Townhall meeting
on January 10, 2012 at 8:00 p.m.

