

Congrats to Pro-Life Winners in the 2022 Primary

Incumbent Representative Carol Miller handily won renomination in the newly redistricted Congressional District 1 with 66% of the vote on Tuesday, May 10, in the West Virginia Primary.



Carol Miller



Alex Mooney

Two Congressional incumbents, David McKinley and Alex Mooney squared off against each other in the new Congressional District 2. Both were endorsed, but Mooney came out on top by a margin of 54-36%. "Congressman McKinley was instrumental in the passing of numerous pieces of pro-life legislation over his years in office, both on the state and national fronts," said WVFL Political Liaison Karen Cross. "Many lives have been saved because of his steadfast commitment to the unborn. Well done, good and faithful servant."

Of the 18 Senate races in which the West Virginians for Life Political Action Committee (WVL-PAC) made endorsements, only two races were lost, but one of the two winners, Jason Barrett in S16, is pro-life.

In 97 House of Delegates races where the WVL-PAC made endorsements, there were 13 losses, and yet, ten of those 13 winning nominees are pro-life. WVFL thanks the following incumbents for their past pro-life support who will not be returning to the House in 2023: Roger Conley (H11), Shannon Kimes (H14), Johnnie Wamsley (H18), Chad Lovejoy (H27), Josh Booth (H28), Dianna Graves (H59), Danny Hamrick (H69), Guy Ward (H74), and Ruth Rowan (H89).

All in all, the rate of success of candidates endorsed by West Virginians for Life was 87%.

The following quote can be attributed to Wanda Franz, Ph.D., President of West Virginians for Life PAC: "WVL-PAC is pleased with the election results overall. The PAC works to support pro-life candidates from both parties. The overwhelming pro-life successes in this election are, in part, due to voters' desire to elect legislators at both the federal and state levels, who reflect their values regarding the dignity of each human life. West Virginians for Life looks forward to seeing increased support for pro-life candidates in the general election in November."

"The Constitution makes no reference to abortion, and no such right is implicitly protected by any constitutional provision."

By Carol Tobias, National Right to Life president

The above assertion appeared in a draft, leaked to the press, of the Supreme Court decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson*. If the final decision of the Supreme Court is similar to the draft, it will be a resounding victory for unborn children and their mothers.

What a time to be involved in the pro-life movement!

The draft from February may have had changes since then, and any justice can still change his or her vote. We shouldn't assume anything until the final decision is issued. Having said that, if the final decision is close to the draft, our many years of hard work will have come to joyous fruition.

Overturning *Roe v. Wade* does not make abortion illegal, but it does give us the ability to do more than we've been able to do in 50 years. It takes the decision regarding protections for unborn children out of the unelected courts and returns it to representatives elected by the people.

Supporters of abortion are, of course, up in arms about the potential outcome. The lies have already started—women whose lives are



endangered by an ectopic pregnancy won't be able to get medical help and will die; women will be jailed for getting an abortion; contraceptives are going to be banned; women will die from unsafe, illegal abortions, etc.

The lies will come fast and furious.

Not all states are going to pass laws to protect unborn children. Unfortunately, several will still be open for business, even expanding their laws to provide for abortions up to birth, for any reason.

The abortion methods that are available today will still be available. So if

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A publication of

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State Affiliate to the National Right
to Life Committee

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LIFE MATTERS

Newspaper

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From the President



Waiting for Final Document is a MUST

Dear Friends,

It is wonderful to be part of the pro-life movement right now, as there have been so many encouraging developments in the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court had taken up the case of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. This case comes from a Mississippi law that bans abortions if "the probable gestational age of the unborn human was determined to be more than 15 weeks." It was found unconstitutional under the Supreme Court's *Casey* decision that allows states to only prohibit abortions after viability, which is currently around 22 weeks.

The leak of the draft opinion, written in February by Justice Samuel Alito, is one of the greatest scandals to affect the nation's highest court. While we will have to wait for the final opinion to be distributed later in the summer, this draft reflects the opinion of West Virginians for Life that the original decisions in *Roe* and *Doe* were unconstitutional.

The Supreme Court clearly took up this case because the Justices are concerned with the problem that viability presents in the law. Viability is not a rational standard for determining when abortions can be prevented, because viability doesn't address the condition of the fetus or the pregnancy. Rather it is determined by the standards of practice in medicine as well as the circumstances of medical care in individual hospital settings.

Viability is a moving standard that can't be pinned down by legislation, which creates the current confusion in which laws are constantly going into the courts for adjudication. Further, this issue raises the question of when the legitimate state's interest in the welfare of the fetus must begin under the law.

In fact, the Court is being asked to determine when life begins in the womb such that it justifies drawing a legal line of state protection. Research and polling show that 99% of biologists accept the scientific evidence that life begins when the sperm penetrates the egg, creating the DNA of a new, unique human person. It is a sad testament to the coverage of this issue in the national media that only 38% of Americans believe this is when life begins.

The abortion culture has terribly distorted American's understanding of reality. Once life begins at fertilization, there is no realistic line that can be drawn to take a life. The Justices may be ready to remove themselves from this debate and return these discussions to the legislative arena where such issues can be settled by the people's representatives, as intended by the Constitution. The leaked draft decision indicates that this is the case, but we must wait for the final document to know for sure.

Wanda Franz, Ph.D.

Wanda Franz, Ph.D., President

"Constitution Makes No Reference to Abortion..."

(continued from page 1)

abortion is safe now, it will be safe even if illegal. If abortions will be unsafe when illegal, then they are unsafe now.

And they truly are unsafe now.

Roughly half of all abortions are now done using the chemical abortion pill. The abortion industry, aided by the AMA, insists it is safe to send abortion pills into a woman's home, without requiring a physical exam. If she is experiencing an ectopic pregnancy and it isn't diagnosed, she very well could die. That disregard for women's health is highly callous and irresponsible on the part of the abortion syndicate.

The media have certainly been in overdrive to cover this (hopefully) historic decision. Every news outlet has done multiple stories about how this would impact supporters and opponents of abortion, the medical profession, and even the country's financial stability.

We at National Right to Life have been interviewed multiple times.

A reporter with the *New York Times* asked me if this was a case of a dog catching the car. I said No. If a dog chases a car and catches it, he doesn't know what to do with it. We do. NRLC and its affiliates are uniquely structured to deal with the new landscape. Our state affiliates and chapters know well the work that goes into electing pro-life candidates and passing pro-life laws, and doing their best to defeat pro-abortion laws.

If *Roe* is overturned, a state's law on abortion will be in the hands of elected officials, as it was prior to 1973. Expect the November elections to be more contentious than ever. Pro-lifers have to be more active than ever, defending and working for pro-life candidates.

Pro-abortion Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) is determined

to pass the so-called Women's Health Protection Act, a bill that would establish abortion for all nine months of pregnancy as a national law of the land. In fact, Schumer made the Senate vote twice on the bill—once on the original bill and again on a slightly modified version of the bill. But both would override almost every pro-life law in effect in the states.

Make sure your family and friends know where the candidates stand and get them out to vote. Congressional candidates endorsed by National Right to Life are listed at www.nrlvictoryfund.org/endorsements.

If the Court overturns *Roe*, we can't win this tremendous victory, then turn around and lose elections. The babies and their mothers need our undivided attention and steadfast determination to make sure baby-friendly candidates win.

We've worked hard to get this far. Let's not stop now!

Contact Your Members of U.S. Congress

Sen. Shelley Moore Capito - (202) 224-6472
172 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
email: www.capito.senate.gov/contact/share-your-opinion

Sen. Joe Manchin III - (202) 224-3954
306 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
email: senator@manchin.senate.gov

Rep. David McKinley (WV-1) - (202) 225-4172
1232 Longworth HOB, Washington, DC 20515
email through website: <https://mckinley.house.gov/contact/>

Rep. Alex Mooney (WV-2) - (202) 225-2711
2366 Rayburn HOB, Washington, DC 20515
email through website -
<https://mooney.house.gov/contact/>

Rep. Carol Miller (WV-3)
(202) 225-3452
1605 Longworth HOB, Washington, DC 20515
email through website -
<https://millerforms.house.gov/contact/>

Pro-Life Bills Take Effect in June

The Unborn Child with Down Syndrome Protection and Education Act was signed into law by Governor Jim Justice on March 21, 2022, on “World Down Syndrome Day.” It was a wonderful celebration of life with many legislators, who supported the bill, in attendance including bill sponsors Senator Patricia Rucker and Delegate Kayla Kessinger. In addition, Kurt and his daughter Chloe Kondrich, ambassadors for “Embrace Don’t Erase” Down syndrome, were pleased to be among the witnesses. In the words of “Dadvocate” Kurt, “This is the BEST day ever!”

The bill passed in the Senate on a bipartisan vote of 28 to 5 with 1 absence. It passed in the House of Delegates with 81 Yeas, 17 Nays and 2 Absent. The concurring vote in the Senate passed with five minutes left in the regular 60-day session. It took effect on June 10, 2022.

In the words of Dr. Wanda Franz, WVFL president, “The *Unborn Child with Down Syndrome Protection and Education Act* is very important here in West Virginia. Families whose children are diagnosed with Down syndrome or other disabilities face enormous pressure to abort. Most of these families succumb to this pressure. It is estimated that as many as 90% of these babies are aborted. We need to protect these families by outlawing abortions when the only reason is that the child has a disability. It should never have become medical practice in West Virginia to perform abortions on healthy women without a medical reason. What these mothers really need is information, education, and support to help them deal with their special children. Families raising children with Down syndrome are overwhelmingly



The whole group joyously held up copies of the bill.

positive about their experience. The new law provides for this education to be provided by the Department of Health and Human Services.

The Health Care Decisions Act Amendments also passed during the session and have been in effect since June 7, 2022.

The Health Care Decisions Act Amendments, will amend that part of the WV Code that provides “advance directives,” documents where you may express your wishes for health care when you are unable to express them yourself. The Living Will document will now be updated in a way that will protect persons with the serious disorder of consciousness formerly known as the vegetative state, but more recently renamed the “unresponsive wakefulness syndrome” (UWS). Persons in this condition have sleep and awake cycles, are

usually able to breathe on their own, appear to be unaware of their surroundings, and are fed by a feeding tube. Formerly deemed by many to be in a “hopeless” or “irreversible” condition, they are often warehoused in nursing homes, or, worse, the feeding tube is removed and they are dehydrated to death. Recent advances in medicine indicate that these patients, in fact, may regain some level of consciousness if given time and rehabilitation.

Along with these advances, other changes are proposed in the legislation, including adding language that explains terms more precisely so that people will have informed consent should they choose to sign the Living Will. Also, food and fluids that can be safely given to someone by spoon or straw are required to be offered as desired.



Gov. Justice with “Embrace Don’t Erase” advocate Chloe Kondrich and Delegate Kathie Hess Crouse.



An exuberant Dalton Ratchiff received a hug from the Governor.



WVFL Program Director Cater Heller is embracing Chloe, who lobbied for the bill with her Dad, Kurt Kondrich.



Randy and Jeanie Humphrey expressed gratitude to Gov. Justice for signing the Unborn Child with Down Syndrome Protection and Education Act. Their son, Brandon, is in the center of the photo.



Baby Dog certainly was a big hit.



Governor Justice with the Kondrich Family of Pittsburgh - Kurt, Margie, and daughter Chloe

So-called “Women’s Health Protection Act” defeated again in the Senate

By Jennifer Popik, J.D. NRL Director of Federal Legislation

Late on Wednesday May 11, all Senate Republicans, **joined by one Democrat, Senator Joe Manchin**, defeated a motion to invoke cloture (end debate) on the motion to proceed to H.R. 4132, the Women’s Health Protection Act better described as the Abortion on Demand Until Birth Act. The vote was 49-51.

This extremist legislation, which needed 60 votes to advance, failed to even garner a majority of U.S. Senators. Nearly identical legislation was voted down by the Senate in March. It would invalidate even laws upheld by the Supreme Court in the time since *Roe*.

The vote came a little over a week after Justice Samuel Alito’s draft opinion calling for *Roe* and *Casey* to be overturned was leaked to the press. The Democrat-controlled U.S. Senate chose to again take a vote on a bill they claim will “codify” *Roe v. Wade*. The bill would go far beyond codifying *Roe*. While Democrats claimed to be pushing the Women’s Health Protection Act because of *Roe v. Wade*’s potential demise, this piece of legislation has been trotted out in various forms for decades.

On May 9th, 2022, Majority Leader Schumer delivered floor remarks after filing cloture to set up a vote on S. 4132. He said in part,

It will be one of the most important questions this chamber confronts in decades, because for the first time in fifty years, women in America face the real possibility of living in a world where the protections of Roe v. Wade are a thing of the past. It will set up a situation where our children, women children, female children have less rights than their grandparents, something that is so un-American, taking away rights, stepping backward on rights in such a dramatic way.

An earlier version of the legislation, known as the Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA) was pushed by pro-abortion forces beginning in the late 1980s, when they feared that the Supreme Court was preparing to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. When President Clinton, a FOCA supporter, took office in January 1993, Planned Parenthood predicted that the FOCA would be law within six months.

But the bill died after an education and lobbying campaign led by NRLC persuaded many pro-*Roe* lawmakers that the bill went beyond *Roe* and would strike down many state laws that had broad support.

The original FOCA faded from view after Republicans took control of the House of Representatives in the 1994 election. President Obama endorsed this radical legislation during his 2008 run for president, but was never successful in attracting all Democrats, nor Republican, support. It has been introduced in various forms over the years since.

During the fight over the earlier versions, proponents of the bill often tried to deny effects that they have already admitted with respect to the new bill. This included the invalidation of all restrictions on government funding of abortion.

However, now the embrace of running roughshod over even the most common-sense state abortion restriction is complete. 49 of 50 current Democrat Senators voted for the “Women’s Health Protection Act” and 218 Democrat House members voted for the measure.

S. 4132 would enshrine into law abortion-on-demand and would overturn existing pro-life laws and prevent new protective laws from being enacted at the state and federal levels. This bill seeks to strip away from elected lawmakers the ability to provide even the most minimal protections for unborn children, at any stage of their pre-natal development.

S. 4132 would invalidate nearly all existing state limitations on abortion and prohibit states from adopting new limitations in the future, including various types of laws specifically upheld as constitutionally permissible by the U.S. Supreme Court.

S. 4132 would invalidate most previously enacted federal limits on abortion, including federal conscience protection laws and most, if not all, limits on government funding of abortion.

Among the protective laws that the bill would nullify:

*Requirements to provide women seeking abortion with specific information on their unborn child and on alternatives to abortion;

*Laws providing reflection periods (waiting periods);

*Laws allowing medical professionals to opt-out of providing abortions;

*Laws limiting the performance of abortions to licensed physicians;

*Bans on elective abortion after 20 weeks when an unborn child is capable of feeling pain;

*Bans on the use of abortion as a method of sex selection. Anti-sex selection laws generally have broad public support in the states in which they are enacted, including support from substantial majorities of women.

While this vote fell far short of the 60 votes needed, it is only due to the fact that the filibuster remains intact. It is more critical now than ever to hold those voting for this radical legislation accountable at the ballot box this fall.

Should Democrats gain seats in the Senate, it is extremely likely that they would eliminate the filibuster and only require simple majority votes to pass sweeping legislation like the “Women’s Health Protection Act.”



Register, Vote, and Use Voter Guides at <https://pac.wvforlife.org/voter/>

The pro-life candidates endorsed by the WVL-PAC will be found on the West Virginians for Life website at pac.wvforlife.org/vote closer to the early voting dates for the 2022 General Election.

All you will need to do is plug in your street address and zip code to see who the endorsed pro-life candidates are in your house district.

IMPORTANT DATES

October 18, 2022 - voter registration deadline to vote in the November 8 General Election

Register to vote online at: <https://ovr.sos.wv.gov>

October 26 - November 5: Early Voting
November 8: General Election Day

Most Americans know that abortion has gone too far. Yet, some candidates support abortion for any reason.

Be sure to vote on Tuesday, November 8, and before you vote, find out where the candidates *really* stand on abortion and human life.
Vote as if life depends on it ... because it does.

With over 63 million abortions since 1973, around 2,400 daily, abortion has killed more unborn children than those combined who died in the:

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| • Revolutionary War | • Korean War | • Persian Gulf War |
| • Civil War | • Vietnam War | • War on Terrorism |
| • World Wars I & II | | |

2/3rd of Americans want ‘voters and their elected representatives’ to ‘decide the laws governing abortion,’ new poll says



By Dave Andrusko, National Right to Life News Today Editor

A bevy of good news for pro-lifers. Let’s get right to it.

The Trafalgar group has done some truly excellent work. *FiveThirtyEight* gives it an A-.

The Trafalgar group poll, released today, shows a strong pro-life result: 38% responded that abortion should be illegal except in the case of the life of the mother, or rape, incest, or just life of mother. Another 19.7% says abortion should be legal in the first trimester but only “until a fetal heartbeat can be detected,” which is around six weeks. That’s a total of 56.7%!

Only 11.6% believe abortion should be legal up until the moment of birth.

Meanwhile, Rasmussen surveyed 1,200 registered voters from May 5-7, asking “respondents for their thoughts on the contentious issue of abortion.”

Ryan Foley reports “The Rasmussen poll revealed that 65% of Americans want ‘voters and their elected representatives’ to ‘decide the laws governing abortion,’ which they would have the opportunity to do in the absence of *Roe*.”

Note the poll was taken after “Politico published a leaked draft majority opinion in the case of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health*, where a majority of Supreme Court justices seemed inclined to uphold Mississippi’s 15-week abortion ban while declaring that *Roe* ‘must be overruled.’”

Switching to politics, a story this morning begins

House Democrats may be in worse political peril than they’ve let on publicly.

During a Thursday luncheon last week with DCCC Chair Sean Patrick Maloney, Frontline Democrats – the party’s most endangered lawmakers – were told that, in battleground districts, the generic Republican is beating the generic Democrat, 47-39, according to lawmakers, multiple party officials and the DCCC.

This is a stunning margin and highlights the incredibly perilous position Democrats find themselves in.

But the outlook may be even more grim for Democrats. “The DCCC poll results may still underestimate the problem,” says Hotair’s Ed Morrissey. “First, the most recent Monmouth poll puts the GOP up seven points overall, not just in battleground districts. RCP’s generic-ballot aggregate average has Dems down 3.5 points, and that has looked stable for months now.”

The second question, Morrissey wrote, “is whether the DCCC has accurately defined the universe of ‘frontline House Democrats.’ Given these numbers, the number of at-risk seats has to have expanded, especially as Joe Biden’s numbers remain mired near his floor and inflation rages all around. Perhaps the DCCC has accounted for this already, but I’d bet that they’re at least in some form of denial as to just how bad their situation actually is.”

Oh, by the way, President Biden’s average approval number is 42%, with some polls finding him in the 30s.

WVFL hosting first-ever Teens for Life “Leadership for Life” Weekend

HUTTONSVILLE, WV - On August 26th-28th, West Virginians for Life will host the first-ever WV Teens for Life “Leadership for Life” Weekend in Huttonsville, West Virginia.

The program will be led by WVFL board member Delegate Riley Keaton and his fiancée, former WVFL office assistant Sadie Shields. “Our passion for protecting life from womb to tomb brought Riley and I together. I can’t wait to share the beauty and purpose of the pro-life movement with young people,” Shields said.

Keaton, who also serves as director of summer camping ministry for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, focused on leadership skills mingled with traditional summer camping activities. “First of all, we’re going to have an awesome time - our swimming pool, canoeing, archery, high ropes adventure programs will all be in full-swing for the WVFL Leadership for Life Weekend,” Keaton said. He continued, “Our real focus is on the pro-life movement. What are the best strategies for changing hearts on abortion? How can we be pro-life every day? How can we contribute our leadership to build the culture of life from womb to tomb? It’s going to be an incredible experience for any young person.”

Register at wvforlife.org/events/leadership-for-life-weekend/ to pay the \$25 registration fee and reserve your spot today.

West Virginia
TeensLife
for

Leadership for Life Weekend

What is it?

At Leadership for Life Weekend, teens experience a unique combination of traditional **fun-in-the-sun** summer camping activities and leadership training to **save lives** in the pro-life movement.

- Swimming pool
- Rock climbing
- Canoeing
- Hiking
- Arts & Crafts
- Archery
- And so much more...



Delegate Riley Keaton and Asst. Director Sadie Shields will organize, plan, and deliver the best strategies for **changing hearts on abortion** and **building the culture of life** we so desperately need.

Who: West Virginia youth ages 14-17

Where: 225 Catholic Conference Center, Huttonsville 26273 - a 1,400 acre adventure property owned by the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

When: August 26th-28th. Arrive Friday from 4p to 6p, depart Sunday from 9a to 10a.

Register and pay the \$25 fee at
wvforlife.org/event/leadership-for-life-weekend/



ROSE DINNER IN PICTURES

March 31, 2022



L to R: Fr. Phillip Szabo, Dr. Wanda Franz, Laura Wiggs, Kyle Wiggs, Jim Wood, and Bishop Mark Brennan



Bishop Mark Brennan of the Wheeling-Charleston Diocese gave the invocation.



Keynote Speaker to around 150 attendees was Jim Wood, the lead investigator in the abortionist Kermit Gosnell case. Gosnell is serving three life sentences.



*Seated L to R: Karen Cross, Mike Oliverio, Sadie Shields, Delegate Riley Keaton, and Missy Ciccarello
Standing L to R: Mike Devault, Mike and Mary Anne Buchanan*



*Seated L to R: Jeff and Jennifer Freeman
Standing L to R: Pastor Wayne Wilson, Sonya Wilson, Linda Day, and Stephanie Solomon*



*Seated L to R: Lisa Meyers, Justin Vankirk, and Carter Heller
Standing L to R: Gary Smith and Debbie Christopher*



*Seated L to R: Grant Franjione, Kurt and Chloe Kondrich
Standing L to R: Dianne Franjione, Mrs. Grant Franjione (LaVonne), Debbie Warner, and Delegate Kayla Kessinger*



*Seated L to R: Mirta Martin, Auditor McCuskey, Zach Perry, and Jonathan and Ileana Board
Standing L to R: John Martin, Meredith Ward, and Delegate Ben Queen*



National Right to Life Political Director Karen Cross told us how amazing it is to think, with the many pro-life laws passed already right here in WV, the countless lives we've saved!



West Virginians for Life President Wanda Franz, Ph.D.



*Seated L to R: Carolyn Yost, Delegate Laura Kimble, Victoria Phillips, and Cristin Dusenbury
Standing L to R: Brian Yost, Jeff Kimble, Pastor Tammy Phillips, and Rhett Dusenbury*



*Seated L to R: Chris and Kelly Byrnes, Bill and Shirley Bowie
Standing L to R: Rachel Spencer, Luke Burnett, Carson and Kaleigh Bowie*



*Seated L to R: Suzanne Kenney, Beverly and Steve Riffon, Debbie Riffon
Standing L to R: Tom and Tracy Riffon, and Lisa Edwards*



*Seated L to R: Margaret Deely, Harold Seger, Jill and Henry Ware
Standing L to R: Mike and Kathy Deely, and Delegate Kathie Hess Crouse*



L to R: Pete and Louise Deal (far left), Irene and Bob Carubia (standing), Mary and Matt Goldinger, and Mike and Mary Tillman



*Seated L to R: Mary Paul, Dante Lista, Jacob Zimmerman, David and Lisa Terris
Standing L to R: Shawn Tuttle, John Lojewski, and William Kurt*



Jim Wood told us of many significant players in the Gosnell case, this woman being one of them.



*Seated L to R: Rhonda and Tim Fout
Standing L to R: Helene LaFata, Geno Chiarelli, Mariah Boyce, Alicia Martin, Jack Rogers with wife Susan*



*Seated L to R: Delegate Guy Ward, Cleve Forge, Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Northrop, and Johnny Woods
Standing L to R: Mr. and Mrs. George Wallace*



Delegate Riley Keaton, Mike Oliverio, Delegate Ben Queen, and Meredith Ward were deep in discussion following the dinner.



Chloe Kondrich (18 years) got accolades for lobbying for the Unborn Child with Down Syndrome Protection and Education Act. "Dadvocate" Kurt is standing behind her. She received a standing ovation.



*Seated L to R: Gail and Denny Westover, Cheryl Carr and Robert Brown
Standing L to R: Faith Meyer, Judi Varner Meyer, and Steven Harrison*



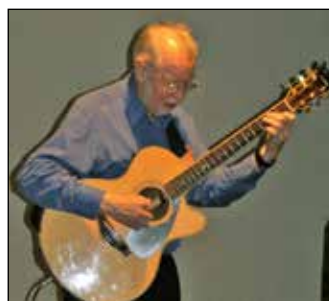
Pastor Doug Joseph, also the State Treasurer and Board member, gave the financial appeal.



Darius Avinger, Emily Carraciolo and Cole Kleppner



Kanawha County Chapter Leader and Board member Missy Ciccarello received a standing ovation after her remarks regarding God's Battlefield.



The always fantastic Dan Cunningham played classical guitar for the social hour and for most of the dinner portion of the program.



*Seated L to R: Darlene and John Jenks with Sharon and Jon McClain
Standing L to R: LaDonna and Pastor Doug Joseph, and Will Reilly.*



Ladies from Deeper Still of Mountaineer Country are Traci Ketchem, Cricket Coffman, and Tammy Meza. Also seated at that same table are Monica Jakielo and Margie Pence from Monroe County.



*Seated L to R: Kelly Allen, Jeff Burnett, Fred Guidi, and Edward Baker with wife Kim
Standing L to R: Pastor Mike Allen and Kim Burnett.*



Seated at the Wheeling-Charleston Diocese table were (left to right), Madelyn and Frank Romeo, Dr. Tom Hogan, Adam Mercer and Jacqueline Costello, Dr. Arpy Hogan, Hugh and Sandra Costello.

WVU students seated at the Dr. Mike Hogan sponsored table were James Cooper, Darius Avinger, Cole Kleppner, Emily Caracciolo, Maria Lacaria, and James Simoneaux.



Pastor Wayde Wilson of Trinity Assembly of God in Fairmont gave the benediction.

Pro-Life Profile

By Patricia Johnson

Carter Heller recently moved to Morgantown, WV and is originally native to Maysville, KY. This is where she spent her childhood surrounded by her siblings and cousins playing in creeks and learning how to garden alongside her granddad.

Carter graduated from St. Patrick High School in 2017. In high school, she started a pro-life group in hopes of making her Catholic high school actively pro-life and not just passive. She went on to earn her Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy at Berea College, in Berea, KY. At Berea College, she started another pro-life group whose purpose was to educate her student body about the horrors of abortion and to offer resources for parenting and pregnant students. She hosted speakers, threw baby showers for her peers, and organized tabling events to generate productive conversations about abortion.

After Berea College, she started pursuing her Master of Theology in Bioethics at Holy Apostles College and Seminary in an online setting. Leaning in an online environment allowed Carter to continue to follow God and His will for her life, to move to Morgantown. Her long-term boyfriend, who she met and graduated with at Berea College, is from Burnsville, WV. He started pursuing a PhD program in Mechanical Engineering at WVU in August of 2021. Carter saw WVFL's job posting for a Program Director, and going out on a whim, applied for the position that Mary Anne Buchanan will be retiring from. The rest is history.

When Carter is not working or studying, she enjoys gardening, playing card and board games, reading, and playing with her new kitten, Bo. She is very grateful for the warm weather so she can explore West Virginia's natural beauty on the weekends. She enjoys going back home to spend time with her family, especially her nephew Henry. She cannot wait to meet his siblings, Madeline and Eleanor, who will be born in late June. She currently attends St. John University Parish in Morgantown.

With medical advancements coming every day to confirm the personhood of the unborn child, she is a firm believer that her generation will be the one to see a post-Roe America. Her hope is that there would be better education as to the resources available for pregnant women and their families.

She is very grateful for everyone she has met at WVFL events and she hopes to continue to be a good representative of the organization.



Carter Heller
WVFL Program Director

WVFL Treasurer's Article Best of Times, Worst of Times

Charles Dickens' famous quote comes to mind: "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair."

We live in wonderful times regarding technology, infrastructure, and general knowledge. Doctors do major surgeries without major incisions, and even operate on babies who have not yet been born. Yet wickedness abounds, and we are in dark times foretold in Scripture, when people call good, evil, and call evil, good.

Even as our movement's nearly 50-year effort to see the evil, twin rulings of *Roe v Wade* and *Doe v Bolton* vacated by our nation's highest court (which were egregiously wrongly decided), multiple state legislatures are actually entertaining bills that would not only codify abortion without limits throughout all nine months of pregnancy, but even authorize killing babies *after they have been born—up to 28 days after! Pure evil!*

As I stated before, being truly pro-life means being proactive. Get involved. Show up at county chapter meetings. Start a chapter if there is not one. Donate time, talent, and treasure. Utilize your gifting to help with the most pressing priority of our time. Only by being passionate can we bring about real change!

Join us: wvforlife.org/membership

Better yet, step up to **Rose Society Membership** while you're there!

Already a member? Give here: wvforlife.org/donate

With Determination,
Pastor Doug Joseph
WVFL Treasurer



WVFL Treasurer
Pastor Doug Joseph

West Virginia Teens For Life

Dear Teens for Life,

Hi everyone! Summer is here and pro-life issues are everywhere.

Soon we will hear the official verdict from the Supreme Court. Regardless of what happens, being pro-life is the best way to be! There are victories happening everywhere, not just in West Virginia, such as in the state of Oklahoma. We call on everyone to do your part to contribute.

If you are available this summer, consider volunteering for the West Virginians for Life Golf FORE Life tournament at the Preston Country Club in Kingwood, WV. The date is July 9, 2022. A great way to have fun and support life!

Remember what is important...Choose Life!

For Life,
Margaret Deely



WV Teens for Life President
Margaret Deely

2022 Calendar of Events

June 11 (Sat.)	Board meeting , Clarksburg
June 24-25 (Fri.-Sat.)	National Right to Life Convention Atlanta, GA. Visit nrlconvention.com for all the details.
July 9 (Sat.)	10th Annual Golf FORE Life Tournament , Preston Country Club
August 20 (Sat.)	Board meeting , Clarksburg
August 26-28 (Fri.-Sun.)	Leadership for Life Weekend Retreat for high schoolers (see page 5), Huttonsville Catholic Conference Center
October 1 (Sat.)	State Pro-Life Convention , TAG in Fairmont
November 8 (Tues.)	General Election
June 11 (Sat.)	Board meeting , Clarksburg

More election timeline information can be found on page 4.

Thank You, Rose Dinner Sponsors

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Dr. Michael and Martha Hogan

Doug and Dana Leech

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YES! You can count on me to help save unborn children from abortion. Enclosed is my **Basic membership** contribution of \$35 () or a **GOLD membership** contribution of \$50 (). One statewide pro-life t-shirt at no additional cost is an optional gift to those who pay the **GOLD membership**. Adult sizes are: S-M-L-XL-2XL-3XL. Indicate size here: _____

YES! You can count on me to help save unborn children from abortion with this donation. \$ _____

I wish to support the work of the Political Action Committee* with a contribution of:

() \$10 () \$25 () \$50 () \$100 () \$500 () \$1,000 () \$ _____

I wish to support the educational work of WVFL with an additional tax-deductible contribution of:

() \$10 () \$25 () \$50 () \$100 () \$500 () \$1,000 () \$ _____

I wish to join the Rose Society with a monthly pledge of:

() \$10 () \$25 () \$50 () \$100 () \$500 () \$1,000 () \$ _____

(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 committee.)

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____ Occupation/Employer* _____

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, WV 25305. Registration does not imply endorsement."

*A maximum donation of \$5,000 per Primary or General Election from an individual to the WVFL State PAC or \$5,000 per person per year to the WVFL Federal PAC is allowable. Please include occupation and employer when donating to the PAC. 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 or not a WVFL member.

West Virginians for Life • 25 Canyon Road, Morgantown, WV 26508

(304) 594-9845 • info@wvforlife.org • www.wvforlife.org

10th Annual GOLF FORE LIFE TOURNAMENT

Saturday, July 9th

Registration & Lunch at Noon
Putting Contest 1:00 pm • Tee Time 1:30 pm
Preston Country Club, Kingwood, WV

*There are several ways to participate in the Golf FORE Life Tournament, including playing in the tournament, sponsoring a hole, donating tournament prizes or gifts, or doing all of the above! Please complete this form and send back to us.
Please contact us with any questions.*

Company Name: _____
(as you would like it to appear on signage if sponsoring a hole)

*Name: _____

*Address: _____

*City: _____ *State: _____ *Zip: _____ *Phone: _____

*Email: _____

** = Required, if available*

☐ **Individual Golfer** - Quantity: # _____ \$70 each (Golf registration includes box lunch, beverages, box dinner and one gift bag.)

☐ **Team Registration** - \$280 each (Golf registration includes box lunch, beverages, box dinner and one gift bag per team player.)

☐ **Platinum Sponsorship** - \$2,000 each (includes 1 foursome, box lunch and dinner for 4, a plaque, name on Banner and T-box)

☐ **Gold Sponsorship** - \$1,500 each (includes 1 foursome, box lunch and dinner for 4, name on Banner and T-box)

☐ **Silver Sponsorship** - \$1,000 each (includes 1 foursome and name on Banner)

☐ **Hole Sponsorship** - \$200 each (includes a sign on a hole - does not include golf registration)

Proper golf attire required - No sleeveless shirts or jeans permitted - Soft spikes mandatory

My foursome includes: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

If using check, please make payable to WVFL Ed Trust Fund. Mail, with this form, to WVFL, 25 Canyon Road, Morgantown, WV 26508. If by credit card, please complete the following:

☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ DISCOVER ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS

Credit Card #: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Exp. Date: ____/____/____ CVV: ____

Donations for tournament prize items and players' gifts are also needed - contact us for more details.

*All proceeds benefit the WVFL Educational Trust Fund, a 501(c)(3) organization.
1-304-594-9845*

Amounts are tax deductible less goods and services received.

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.

PLEASE COPY AND DISTRIBUTE

Registration forms are downloadable at www.wvforlife.org/events

Kanawha/Putnam



LifeSiteNews visited the God's Battlefield site in late April to do a story. Many supporters turned out for the story and filming. Visit lifesitenews.com and search for "Miracle in West Virginia."



Chapter Leader Missy Ciccarello being interviewed



Signage present at the LifeSiteNews filming is frequently seen on God's Property.

Monongalia County Walk-for-Life



Whole group photographed at the outdoor pavilion at St. Mary's in Star City



Turning around at the WVU Coliseum to head back to pavilion on the 3.4 mile course



House candidates Geno Chiarelli, Drew Talbott, and Scott Nale were flanked by Chapter President Wanda Franz and Chapter Vice President Mary Anne Buchanan.



WVFL Pres. Wanda Franz spoke.



Music was provided by Scott Harper, Chapter Secretary Dana Leech, and Willie Owens.

Monroe



Margery Pence and Monica Jakielo took a 40 Days for Life shift at the abortion clinic.



Chapter Leader Martha Hunter welcomed all to their annual Walk.



Pro-life Senator Mike Honaker spoke at the May 7 Walk-for-Life.

Ohio County Walk-for-Life



Pro-life Senate candidate Pastor Vince Deeds



Special music was provided by Pastor Joey Morgan and son Joe from Chosen Road.

Nicholas



The golf tournament is named for the former Jim Gilbert. L to R: Vince Carelli (Jim's adopted son from Chattanooga), Brenda (Jim's widow), Ron Rush (a cousin of Jim's) and his wife Teresa from Wetzel County, Ron Carelli (Jim's adopted son also from Chattanooga), and Ernie Fox, a very close friend of Jim's

Raleigh



Chapter Leader Hilda Shorter (at left in red) and Lorrie Legursky (bottom left) felt blessed to be at the LifeSiteNews filming in late April.





Greenbrier County:

The month of May has introduced the chapter to their first prayer vigil as we witnessed a large, and boisterous, pro-abortion rally in Lewisburg. They expect to see more violent expressions as the Supreme Court renders its decision this summer. Chapter meetings have included awareness of the different roll Birthright Pregnancy center will take if abortion is sent back to the states to decide. Meeting attendees also continue to receive education in talking points and words of confrontation at the meetings. Scott Klusendorf (Prolifetraining.com) is a good source for this.

Preparation is being made to have a presence at Alderson 4th of July activities.

A guest at their May meeting was James Stansell. James offers up-to-date information on state legislative bills when you join his email list, stansellwv@protonmail.com. A quote from the *Epoch Times* reads "Pro-lifers proved that in a democracy, average people acting together in a determined cause can change the world." May this encourage all of you.

Harrison County:

The Director of Life Choice, Jessyca Hayes, attended the April chapter meeting. She explained changes taking place there. The name, which will be published to prospective young women clients, will be Choices Women's Center. They are moving to a larger space one block away in Clarksburg, at 117 S. 4th Street. A discussion was held about the role pregnancy centers will play if *Roe v. Wade* is overturned.

Mary Tillman had attended a day-long seminar on May 6th, given by the WV Network of Ethics Committees, regarding certain "ethical scenarios" and how they might be handled in health care settings.

Kanawha/Putnam County:

In late April, LifeSiteNews.com sent a reporter to cover the "God's Battlefield" story. See pictures at left. Read the story at lifesitenews.com/news/pro-life-park-underway-across-from-west-virginia-abortion-mill/ and search for the YouTube video "Miracle in West Virginia."

Headed by chapter member Sandy

Cooper, the 40 Days for Life campaign finished up on April 10, but they have not stopped being a presence at the parcel of land across from the only abortion clinic in the state. It was once called God's Battlefield, but now redeemed as God's Property. Plans are moving along to beautify and use it for community outreach.

Lewis County:

Chapter Leader Judith Barrett turned out with other pro-life supporters for the LifeSiteNews story at God's Property in late April.

Monongalia County:

Mon County Chapter had a successful Mother's Day Walk for Life on Saturday, May 7, 2022, in spite of the cold wind. Over 30 walkers attended with many West Virginia University students representing Mountaineers for Life. The walk is approximately 3.4 miles along main streets in Morgantown followed by a Rally with lunch and prizes awarded to walkers who raised the most money.

Wanda Franz, Mon County Chapter president, wrote a Letter to the Editor of the *Dominion-Post* correcting errors regarding potential reversal of *Roe v. Wade*. Mon County Chapter will be a hole sponsor at the 10th Annual Golf FORE Life Tournament on Saturday, July 9, at Preston Country Club.

The Precious Baby Photo Contest will take place via the WV For Life - Monongalia County Chapter Facebook page through June 25. Baby pictures (sonogram - age 24 months as of June 30, 2022) can be submitted by email to info@wvforlife.org or by mail (a 4" x 6" photo) to: PB Photo Contest, P.O. Box 1479, Morgantown, WV, 26507-1479 by June 30. Votes are \$.25 each placed by mail. Precious Baby photos and a running tally of the votes can be found in the Photo Album on the Mon County Facebook page. The winner will ride in a car at the County Fair Parade in Morgantown, and all contestants are invited to walk with us.

Monroe County:

The Monroe County Chapter's Walk-for-Life on Saturday, May 7 had good participation, Speakers included Chapter Leader Martha Hunter, Senator Mike Honaker, and senate candidate Pastor Vince Deeds. Special music was provided by Pastor

Joey Morgan and son Joe from Chosen Road. The chapter continues its monthly "Heartbeats" feature in *The Monroe Watchman* newspaper.

Morgan County:

Although the chapter is in need of a new leader, it is known for its effective sidewalk counseling in front of the abortuary in Hagerstown, Maryland, and that still continues. If you would like to lead the chapter, help is available from the state office. Call WVFL at 304-594-9845.

Nicholas County:

The 6th Annual Jim Gilbert Memorial Golf Tournament was held on Saturday, May 21, at the Nicholas Memorial Golf Course in Summersville. On a beautiful spring day, ten teams played the nine-hole course competing in a scrambles format for prize money and field events. The tournament began with a shotgun start at 9:00 and ended with a smoked pulled pork luncheon and awards ceremony at 2:30.

The first-place team was a repeat winner from last year's tournament. Tony Giles, Rock Moyer, Larry Powers, and Kathy Thompson recorded a score of 17 under par. In second place with a score of 13 under par was the team of Stan Adkins, Dawson Brown, Esther Joo, and Jeremy Summers. The team of Butch Fox, Andrew Hughes, Mike Smith, and Mike Underwood took third place scoring 9 under par.

They had 12 hole sponsors, and many of the local businesses gave gift certificates that were handed out as door prizes. Not only is this tournament the primary fund-raising event for the chapter, but it also serves as a family reunion for Jim and Brenda's relatives.

Ohio County:

The Ohio County Chapter of WVFL (OCC-WVFL) had huge participation at its annual Walk-for-Life on Saturday, April 30. Walkers started at Wheeling Park and ended with a program and luncheon at St. Michael's Catholic Church.

For those looking to get involved with

OCC-WVFL, the chapter meets on the first Monday of every month at 6:30pm. You can call or text Pastor Tom Rentfrow at (304)-639-0410 for more details.

Raleigh County:

Chapter Leader Hilda Shorter and other members of the chapter were pleased to be among the supporters at the LifeSiteNews filming in Charleston in late April.

Randolph County:

Contact Chapter Leader Estep at elkinsfwc@gmail.com or call 304-614-7118 to get involved with the chapter.

Upshur County:

June 18 is the date for the Walk-for-Life in Upshur County. For more information about the event, contact Chapter Leader Maureen Hull at 304-472-3434.

If you are interested in joining the Upshur County Right to Life group, they meet the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at Wayside Baptist Church on the Brushy Fork Road.

WV Teens for Life:

President Margaret Deely invites teens to contact her at deelyma@aol.com.

WVU Mountaineers for Life:

Members of WVU Mountaineers for Life enjoyed participating in the Mon County Walk-for-Life on May 7. See below and front cover.



West
Virginians for Life

10th Annual
**GOLF FORE
LIFE**
TOURNAMENT

There are several ways to participate in the Golf FORE Life! Tournament, from playing in the tournament, sponsoring a hole, donating tournament prizes or gifts, or doing all of the above!

Learn more and register your team (page 9)
or register online. ASAP!

West
Virginians for Life

25 Canyon Road
Morgantown, WV 26508

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Summer 2022

Life



Matters

Vol. 44, Number 2

Monongalia County
Walk-for-Life on Saturday,
May 7, drew college student
participation. Pictured are Fr.
Brian Crenwelge,
Mon County Chapter Leader
Wanda Franz, and several
students in addition to House
of Delegates candidate Scott
Nale (far right).

High School
LEADERSHIP FOR
LIFE Weekend
Retreat is 8/26-8/28.
Details on page 5.



West
Virginians for Life