THE ERIE ECHO

"voice for life"

Vol. XLVII No. 2 Online Edition May 2019

A Mother's Day and Pro-Life Tradition

On Sunday, May 10, 1908, Anna Marie Jarvis sponsored a very special memorial service at the Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton, West Virginia to honor her mother, and all mothers. That event is recognized as the first official observance of Mother Day. She was prevented from attending in-person, so Anna Marie sent 500 white carnations for all those who would be there. The carnation had been her mother favorite flower.

The carnation was also held in high esteem by Anna Marie. She especially valued the white carnation for its symbolism, which she conveyed in these words: õIts whiteness is to symbolize the truth, purity, and broadcharity of mother love; its fragrance, her memory and her prayers. The carnation does not drop its petals, but hugs them to its heart as it dies, and so, too, mothers hug their children to their hearts, their mother love never dying. When I selected this flower, I was remembering my mother [own flower garden].ö

Anna Marie spent the rest of her life promoting Mother Day throughout the United States and in many other countries.

On May 15, 1972, the Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church was rededicated as the International Mother® Day Shrine.

Unable to keep up with the demand for white carnations in the 1920s, the floral industry promoted the practice of wearing a white carnation to honor a deceased mother and red carnation to honor a living mother.

Today, carnations are available in a seemingly endless variety of colors, adding still more beauty to the annual observance of momøs special day.

Mother's Day Carnation Project

People for Life will distribute carnations in a gorgeous array of colors throughout Erie and northwestern Pennsylvania this Mother Day. It become a tradition over the past 40-plus years! They will be available at scores of local churches, the Millcreek Mall Community Booth, and our central distribution

site at ROGøs Inc. on German Street between 18th and 19th. Several local businesses will also be offering our pro-life carnations as gifts to their patrons.

While adding an extra sparkle to Mother Day, our carnations will be raising the funds we need to keep our pro-life educational work going strong throughout the rest of the year.

You can help as a volunteer. Scores of volunteers will be needed during the entire Mother's Day weekend, from Friday morning through Sunday evening. Contact People for Life to learn more.

If you would like to introduce the Carnation Project at your church this Mothers Day, we would be happy to get you started. The usual approach is to make the carnations available to fellow worshipers after church for a donation of \$1 or more. Its easy. You donst have to be a salesperson; the beautiful carnations totally sell themselves.

Oratory Contest

People for Life® annual High School Oratory Contest was held on April 13 at the Blasco Memorial Erie County Library.

The first place winner is Thomas Caulfield, 15, a 9th grade home school student. The second place winner is also a home schooler, Valerie Larimer, 15, who is in the 10th grade.

Thomas spoke about Margaret Sanger, Planned Parenthood, and the efforts by that organization and similar organizations to impose abortion and weaken family values in the developing nations of Africa and in other parts of the world.

Thomas drew on what he learned from Obianuju Ekeocha, the special guest speaker at our annual Pro-Life Breakfast this past January: õAfrican society holds the family, and especially children in the womb and newborn babies, in very high esteem.... In her book *Target Africa*, Obianuju Ekeocha tells how every time a baby is born in her village there is a great celebration with dancing and

feasting. These people value the lives of children above all else. And they are being targeted by Planned Parenthood, a huge abortion provider, because of this.ö

Valerie examined and rebutted some of the typical arguments that are used to defend abortion and some of the common reasons for having an abortion. A big political driver for abortion has always been gender equality, the idea that a woman must be on an equal footing with a man in every possible way. Some people also argue that the unborn child is not a human being but only a part of the womans body, or that the childs dependency on the mother makes him or her less than fully human.

The reason for having an abortion that is given by women most frequently is that having a child would be too costly. Valerie chose to respond in the words of Mother Teresa, õIt is a poverty to decide that a child must die so that you may live as you wish.ö

Our judges were Kelly Cooney and Marielle Lafaro. Kelly is a member of the

People for Life board of directors, and Marielle, who has a teaching background, is the first vice president of People for Life.

Trump cuts Planned Parenthood funding

The Trump administration, on March 29, reduced Title 10 õfamily planningö grants to Planned Parenthood by \$44 million, from \$60 million to \$16 million. Meanwhile, a new rule announced by the administration on March 4 will completely bar facilities that carry out or refer for abortions from receiving Title 10 grants, beginning in early June. Planned Parenthood is suing, of course.

The administration is redirecting the Title 10 money to health care providers that do not carry out abortions. An explicitly pro-life health care provider in California, Obria Group, has been granted \$1.7 million.

Since 2017, Trump has completely prevented federal funding, \$100 million per year under Obama, from going to Planned Parenthoods international wing.

Candidate Survey for the May 21, 2019 Primary Election

- 1. LEGAL PROTECTION If changes to the Roe v. Wade decision make it possible, would you approve or disapprove of a law prohibiting abortion except when necessary to prevent the death of the mother or prohibiting abortion with additional exceptions? (Please specify what additional exceptions, if any.)
- 2. LATE TERM ABORTIONS Should abortions be prohibited in all cases where the unborn child is mature enough to survive apart from his or her mother (approximately 22 weeks from conception)?
- 3. INFORMED CONSENT Do you approve of the provisions of the Pennsylvania Abortion Control Act that require abortion providers to offer basic information to a woman who is considering an abortion, including information about medical risks, alternatives to abortion, the probable gestational age of the unborn child, the availability of detailed information (provided by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania) about fetal development, and the possibility of medical assistance benefits if the woman decides to continue her pregnancy?
- 4. WAITING PERIODS Do you approve of the provision of the Pennsylvania Abortion Control Act that requires a 24 hour waiting period, after a woman who is considering abortion has consulted with a physician and been given the information noted in Question 3 above, to allow the woman time to carefully consider her decision, before an abortion is carried out?

Survey Table Kev

- D: Running on Democratic ballot
- R: Running on Republican ballot

DR: Running on both ballots

Pro-life or more strongly pro-life responses are in BOLD UPPER CASE.

Y or y: Yes

N or n: No

- d: Disapprove A: Approve
- e: Additional Exceptions
- nr: No response to current survey
- b: Blank; responded to the survey but did not answer the question
- ◆ See % Gandidate Comments+
- Did not respond this time, but did respond when running for office previously.

- 5. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT Do you approve of the provision of the Pennsylvania Abortion Control Act that requires the consent of at least one parent if the person seeking an abortion is less than 18 years old, unless a judge determines that extenuating circumstances are involved?
- 6. GOVERNMENT FUNDING Should government funds or tax credits be used to pay for elective abortions or used to fund insurance plans that cover elective abortions?
- 7. INFANTICIDE Should health care providers be permitted to deny medically indicated treatment to infants born alive during attempted abortions, even if such treatment would normally be provided under other circumstances?
- 8. ASSISTED SUICIDE Should physicians be allowed to prescribe drugs to be taken by a patient to deliberately end his or her life?
- 9. EMBRYO-DESTRUCTIVE RESEARCH Should government funds be used to pay for research that involves the killing of human embryos (e.g., embryonic stem cell research)?

Judge, 6th District Court of Common Pleas vote for not more than (2)	COIII	inde nei pregnancy:					_				
Judge, 6th District Court of Common Pleas vote for not more than (2)	Party	Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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D Freda Tepfer ◀		Erie County Cou	ncil [Distric	:t3 \	ote fo	r (1)				
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Erie County Council District 5	D	Freda Tepfer ◀	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
D Kyle Foust	No re	esponse: Mary Rennie (D)									
		Erie County Cou	ncil [Distric	:t5 \	ote fo	r (1)				
Price County Council District 7 vote for (1)	D	Kyle Foust ◀	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
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Price County Controller	R	Fred F. Wienecke	Α	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	N	N	У	N
D	No re	esponse: Rita Bishop (D), William D	river (D), Ja	son (Sibbs ((R), E	len S	chaue	rman	(R)
R Mary E. Schaaf		Erie County	Contr	oller	vote	for (1))				
Erie City Council vote for not more than (3)	D	Kyle Foust ◀	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
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R Timothy P. Kuzma	D		Α							N	
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Karen Seggi (DR), Theodore A. Szall (DR), Joe Welch (DR)

No response: Carrie Crow (DR), Linda L. King (DR) Saria Gould A Y Y Y Y N N D D D D Saria Gould A Y Y Y Y Y N N D D D D D D D D	Party	Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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DR	No response: Carrie Crow (DR), Linda L. King (DR)										
No response: Andrew Schulz General McLane School Director Region 3 vote for (1)		General McLane School Director Region 2 vote for not more than (2)									
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DR	No re	esponse: Andrew Schulz									
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R Richard Brown	DR	Timothy D. Wise	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
No response: Emma Ledbury Jones (DR), Melissa Ann Smith (DR), Sean Dunn (R), Joseph Meka (R)		Girard School Direc	tor v	ote fo	or not	more	than (5)			
Harborcreek School Director	R	Richard Brown ◀	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
No response: Diana Bool (DR), Terri L. Brink (DR), Bryan Fife (DR), Thomas D. Fortin (DR), Curt Smith (DR), John Timmers (DR) Iroquois School Director Vote for not more than (5)			t), Mel	issa A	Ann Sr	nith ([OR), S	Sean D	unn (R),	
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No response: Julie Abele (DR), Wade E. King (DR), Amber Miller (DR), Richard Ragen (DR), Jennifer Sheldon (DR) Millcreek School Director							DR),				
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DR	Millc	reek School Director 4 year term	vote f	or not	more	than	(5) 2	year	term	vote f	or (1)
DR	DR	Lou Aliota	Α	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	N	N	N	N
No response: Jason Dean (DR), J. Michael Lindner (DR), Janine McClintic (DR), Karen A. Morahan 2 year term only (DR), Shirley Oligeri Winschel (DR) North East School Director vote for not more than (5) No response: Sally Abata (DR), Paul F. Behnken (DR), Erin L. Janes (DR), Eric Riedel (DR), Alene Rohde (DR), Michael Rowe (DR), George R. Sucha (DR), Jim Wargo (DR), Northwestern School Director vote for not more than (5) DR Shelly Rea-Rice 4 A Y Y Y Y N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	DR	James Lindstrom 2 year, R only	Α	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	N	N	N	N
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	Millcreek Supervisor 6 year term vote for (1)										
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	No re	esponse: Daniel Ouellet (R)									

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Primary Election Survey Candidate Comments

Blain Blakeslee ◀ We did not receive a response to the current Survey, but the candidate responded to the 2011 Survey, õløm against all taking of life and against our tax dollars spent for it.ö

Richard Brown ◀ We did not receive a response to the current Survey, but the candidate responded with all pro-life answers to the 2015 Survey.

Ed Brzezinski ♦ õThank you for the opportunity.ö ♦ 4 õor moreö

Kyle Foust ◀ We did not receive a response to the current Survey, but the candidate participated in a debate on March 19, 2008 and said that as a male, abortion was none of his business and any attempt on his part to address the issue would be sexist and an effort to õdeny women their rights.ö

Shari Gould ◆8 õThat is a tough question. I cannot answer with yes or no.ö ◆9 õI believe in stem cell research from the afterbirth, not from aborted fetuses.ö

Fiore Leone ◆1 õI am and always have been a pro-life individual. If circumstances,

including death of mother or child, then we need to decide.ö

Felix R. Lohitai ◆2 õSave the mother if she can be saved.ö

Tim Miller ◆8 õTough callö

Tom Murabito ◆2 õChoice to mother if her life is at risk.ö ◆9 õUnsureö

Shelly Rea-Rice ■ Candidate® response did not arrive before the print edition was finished, so we noted here that she did respond with all pro-life answers to the 2015 Survey. Clayton E. Schulze ◆8 õ?ö ◆9 Indicated he was undecided.

Freda Tepfer ◀ We did not receive a response to the current Survey, but the candidate responded to the 2017 Survey, in part: õI have reviewed your candidate questionnaire. The wording of your questions is heavily biased. I could answer a questionnaire attempting to gather similar information if the questions were written in a less slanted and biased manner.ö

Pennsylvania Superior Court

Candidates for two seats on the Pennsylvania Superior Court will be on the ballot this year. Three Democrats and three Republicans are running for their party nomination in the primary election. All three of the Republican candidates, Megan McCarthy King, Christylee Peck, and Rebecca L. Warren are recommended by the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation PAC.

None of the Democratic candidates returned their Federation PAC questionnaire. One of them, Amanda Green-Hawkins, is identified on her website as a Trustee of the Women Law Project. That organization describes itself as õa leading voice in the fight for equal access to reproductive healthcare and abortion.ö

Medical Suicide

Even some of the candidates who responded to our questionnaire, most of whom take prolife positions on most of the survey questions, are ambivalent aboutóor even in favor ofó assisted suicide. This should be a wakeup call for all defenders of the unalienable the right to life. Assisted suicide is only an intermediate, thinly-veiled form of euthanasia. The ethical and practical problems involved are real and momentous, but apparently not well-understood by many people.

Memoríals

Given by

Dale Andes
Lois Benoit
Joseph Chmielewski
Lois Borowy
Duane & Marcie Kerstetter
Ed Hammer
Ray & Peg Fitzgerald
Carol Doyle
Matthew & Christy Blackburn
Dorothy Kaliszewski

In Memory of

Virgil Andes, Father
Chris Benoit
Ken Berlin
Mark Borowy
Mark Borowy
Lee Boyes
Charlotte Doehrel
Tom Doyle
Nancy & Joe Ferraro
Matt Kaliszewski

Given by

Allen Erickson Ed Hammer Marla Pellegrino Sue & Jerry Verga Joseph Chmielewski

Given by

Allison Graham Amy Roach Loren & Christine Yadeski

In Memory of

Cornelius Legters Patricia Anthony Lewis Jeanne Pellegrino, Mother Jesse Verga Carolyn Washe

In Honor of

Ray & Peg Fitzgerald Ray Fitzgerald's 90th Birthday Jim & Rose Ann Yadeski

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1. MEMBERSHIP DONATION	New 🗌	Renewal 🗌	DUES: Ir	ndividual \$10 □	Family	\$20 □	Senior Citizen \$5 □
Stu	dent \$5 □	Group \$25 □] Patro	n \$50 □ I	Benefactor S	\$100 🗆	
2. MEMORIAL DONATION AMOUNT In Memory of or In Honor of							
3 ADDITIONAL DONATION AN							ŀ
C. ADDITIONAL DONATION AN	IOUNT	Please ear	mark for			4. TOTAL	ENCLOSED
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PEOPLE FOR LIFE www.PeopleforLife.life

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Mailing Address P.O. Box 1126 Erie, PA 16512 — Office Location — 1625 W. 26th St.; Erie, PA Open 10:00 to 5:00 weekdays Call for evening and Saturday hours **ERIE PA 16512**

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Election of Officers

The annual election meeting of People for Life will be held at our office, 1625 W. 26th St., Erie, Pennsylvania on Monday, May 20, 2019 beginning at 6:30 p.m. Members whose dues are paid one month in advance of the meeting will be eligible to vote. The nominees are: Carol Struchen for treasurer, Shauna Jackson for secretary, Marielle Lafaro for first vice-president, Gretchen Lorei for second vice-president, and Dale Klobusnik for third vice-president. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor with the permission of the nominee, who must be a current member of People for Life.

Membership Renewal

Is your People for Life membership expired or coming due for renewal? If you are not sure, we can check for you. Not everyone who receives the *Erie Echo* newsletter is a member. New members automatically receive the *Erie Echo*, but newsletter subscriptions are not automatically discontinued when the regular 12-month memberships expire.

Life Run 2019

People for Life sixth annual Life Run will take place on Saturday, October 12, 2019 at the picturesque Burch Farms, located between Harborcreek and North East. As usual, Life Run will feature professionally timed 5K and 10K races plus a Fun Walk.

There will be door prizes, free wine tasting (18 and over), free child care, and convenient parking, not to mention the special ambiance of harvest season in the North East wine region.

Registration is \$15 for ages 7-15 and \$25 for ages over 15. Register now or at least by September 30 to be sure of getting a free t-shirt.

We would be honored to count your business or other organization as a Race Sponsor.

Sponsors are displayed on the

race t-shirts and, with permission, online at www.PeopleforLife.life. Sponsorship levels are \$200, \$100, and \$50.

Runners, walkers, and sponsors may register online at www.peopleforlife.life/runinfo or download a mail-in form. You may also request a form by phone or e-mail or register over the phone with a credit card.

Down Syndrome Bill

Dignity for people with Down syndrome and their families is once again on the minds of Pennsylvania state legislators. House Bill 321, sponsored by Rep. Kate Klunk and 86 cosponsors would disallow abortions carried out for the express purpose of eliminating someone with Down syndrome. A similar bill was overwhelmingly approved by the state House last year, but the state Senate failed to act before the end of the legislative session.

Northwestern Pennsylvania state representatives Tedd Nesbit (R), Kathy Rapp (R), Brad Roae (R), and Parke Wentling (R) are among the cosponsors. Please thank them.

If you have a different state representative, please tell him or her to cosponsor and support H.B. 321, the Down

syndrome protection bill. Senator Scott Martin (R-Lancaster) is going to sponsor the same legislation in the state Senate, so it is not too early to encourage your state senator to get onboard, also.

Planned Parenthood calls it õyet another unconstitutional attempt to ban safe, legal abortion in Pennsylvania,ö but we call it a modest affirmation that discrimination on the basis of physical or mental disability should not be tolerated in 21st century America. Make no mistake; the discrimination we speak of is nothing less than lethal.

Syndicated columnist George Will has called it õgenocide,ö a systematic attempt to eliminate an entire class of people. That is exactly the goal of many prominent geneticists and medical professionals, even the goal of entire governments. They are advocating the complete eradication of Down syndrome, by eradicating unborn children with the condition. Iceland recently bragged that it has practically eliminated Down syndrome. In Denmark the eradication rate is 98%.

We occasionally hear from or about people who have felt they were being pushed by medical professionals into going along

> with an abortion after a Down syndrome diagnosis. Changing cultural attitudes (e.g., human beings seen as things rather than persons) are also bringing pressure to bear on Down syndrome parents.

2019 Pro-Life Calendar 2020

May 14	Last day to apply for an absentee ballot
May 17	Last day absentee ballots will be accepted at the Court House
May 12	Mother Day / Mother Day Carnation Project
May 20	Election of Officers Mtg., 6:30 p.m 1625 W. 26th St., Erie
May 21	Pennsylvania Primary Election - Polls are open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
5/29 - 6/1	Educational Booth - Erie Wild Rib Cook Off & Music Festival
June 13-15	Educational Booth - Lake City Fire Company Carnival
June 16	Fatheros Day / Fatheros Day Carnation Project

July 5-6 National Right to Life Convention - Charleston, South Carolina
July 9-13 Educational Booth - North East Firemenc Cherry Festival

July 19-21 Educational Booth - Waterford Heritage Days
Aug. 1-3 Educational Booth - Dan Rice Days, Girard

Aug. 13 Frie Gives Days, Please support Beeple for Life

Aug. 13 <u>Erie Gives Day</u> - Please support People for Life Education Fund

Aug. 26-31 Educational Booth - Erie County Fair, Wattsburg
Sept. 2-7 Educational Booth - Waterford Community Fair
Sept. 10-14 Educational Booth - Albion Area Fair

Sept. 27-29 Educational Booth - Wine Country Harvest Festival, North East Oct. 12 6th Annual Life Run 5K. 10K. and Fun Walk - Burch Farms

Oct. 12 Oct. 15 PA Pro-Life Federation Banquet - Speakers: Diamond & Silk

Oct. 21 General Meeting, 6:30 p.m. - 1625 W. 26th St., Erie

Nov. 5 General Election

Jan. 11 Annual Pro-Life Breakfast

Jan. 18 Erie March for Life

Jan. 16 Ene March for Life

Jan. 24 March for Life - Washington, DC (buses leave Jan. 23, 11 p.m.)

Extremism²

The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, H.R. 962, is pending in the U.S. House of Representatives. It has the full support of N.W. Pennsylvania pro-life Congressmen Mike Kelly and Glenn Thompson. House Democrats have blocked more than 30 attempts by Republicans to bring the bill up for consideration. So far, 196 Republicans (all but one) and 3 Democrats have signed a petition to force action on the bill. Only 19 more signatures are needed.