

# THE ERIE ECHO

*"a voice for life"*

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## Pro-Life Dinner October 25

People for Life will host a Pro-Life Dinner on Friday, October 25, the first, we hope, of many more to come. The event will be held in the Crystal Ballroom at the Ambassador Banquet & Conference Center on upper Peach Street.

Reservations are due by October 18: \$50 for adults, \$45 for teens, and \$25 for kids 3-12. Register online at [tinyurl.com/PeopleforLifeDinner1](https://tinyurl.com/PeopleforLifeDinner1) or send your payment directly to People for Life along with each person's name and choice of entrée: chicken, pork, or vegan. The kid's meal will feature chicken tenders.

A cash bar will be available 5-6 p.m. The program will begin at 6 p.m. and conclude at approximately 8 p.m.

Our main speaker will be Alex Schadenberg, executive director and international chairperson of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, founded in 1998 and based in Ontario, Canada. He is an internationally recognized leader in the fight against assisted suicide and euthanasia, also known as MAiD or Medical Assistance in Dying. Euthanasia is now legal in Canada and much of Europe. Assisted suicide is

legal in 10 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. Everywhere this genie is let out of the bottle, it continues to spread its tentacles, endangering more and more vulnerable populations including even children and individuals struggling with depression.

Schadenberg is the coproducer of the powerful documentary movie "Fatal Flaws: Legalizing Assisted Suicide" and the author of the book *Exposing Vulnerable People to Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide*, published in 2014. He also produced the documentary "Euthanasia Deception," which examines 15 years of euthanasia in the Netherlands, and the film "Turning the Tide." Copies of Fatal Flaws will be available to purchase at the Pro-Life Dinner.

Schadenberg travels the world speaking about end-of-life issues, frequently in the United States. He was featured on *EWTN News Nightly* this past February where he discussed efforts in Canada to force Catholic hospitals and nursing homes to practice euthanasia. This past June, Schadenberg was a major speaker at the National Right to Life Conference in Alexandria, Virginia.

Follow Alex Schadenberg on Twitter,



**Alex Schadenberg**

Facebook, and [alexschadenberg.blogspot.com](https://alexschadenberg.blogspot.com).

Music for the evening will be provided by this year's High School Oratory Contest winner Michael Hoffman, a violinist, with other members of his talented family.

## PA March for Life Bus

People for Life's third annual Bus Trip to the PA March for Life was the best yet, despite some light showers throughout the day. The March took place at the state Capitol in Harrisburg on Monday, September 23, with marchers from across the Commonwealth circling the Capitol complex in a show of solidarity with unborn children, demanding legal protection for all vulnerable human lives.

This was the first time our bus was filled to capacity. We were honored to host 10 members of Gannon University's Students for Life and a group of similar size from Our Lady of Peace Parish, mostly members of the youth group. We were very thankful for each of our marchers and their selfless dedication to the pro-life cause.

Our group left Erie at 5:15 a.m. and arrived at the Capitol at 10:30 a.m. The March began at noon, following a one-hour rally that featured some great speakers, including Philadelphia-area resident Mark Houck.

Houck had been involved in a very minor altercation with an abortion facility escort while sidewalk counseling outside a Philadelphia killing center in October 2021. Charges against Houck were dismissed by local authorities. However, on September 23, 2022, the Biden-Harris Department of Justice dispatched a 25-person SWAT team to Houck's family home in the middle of the night to arrest him at gunpoint, in front of his family. He was charged with a violation of the federal Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. Houck was subsequently found NOT GUILTY by a unanimous jury. He is suing the FBI for \$4.35 million in damages stemming from the terrifying Gestapo-like assault.

Before heading for home, some of our marchers took time to explore the Capitol complex and visit the offices of their elected officials. People for Life VP Gretchen Lorei, Director Tim Broderick, and 2024 High School Oratory Contest winner Michael Hoffman visited the offices of: Governor

Shapiro, Senator Dan Laughlin, and representatives Jake Banta, Brad Roae, and Bob Merski.

Our next Bus Trip is less than four months away. To learn more about the Washington, DC March for Life Bus Trip, keep reading, below.

## DC March for Life 2025

We will host our 52nd annual Bus Trip to the Washington, DC March for Life this January. The March will take place on Friday, January 24, 2025. We hope you can join us. You will leave Erie on the eve of the March at 11 p.m. and arrive early the next morning at Falls Church, Virginia. From there we will catch the Metro for a quick ride into DC.

You will gather with tens of thousands of fellow Americans on the National Mall for the March for Life Rally at noon. At approximately 1:30 p.m., you will begin the march to the Capitol Building and Supreme Court. At the end of the day, you will catch

continued on page 3

# Election 2024 Candidates of Local Interest

National Right to Life and the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation have evaluated the candidates on the ballot in northwestern Pennsylvania. The following assessments are based on their research. Additional commentary is presented below the assessments.

## President of the United States

Donald Trump (R) governed as the most pro-life president in American history. Kamala Harris (D) is the most radically pro-abortion presidential candidate in American history. She supports abortion throughout pregnancy. Regarding the VP candidates, J.D. Vance (R) is pro-life and Tim Walz (D) is pro-abortion.

## U.S. Senate

Incumbent Bob Casey (D) is pro-abortion. Dave McCormick (R) is pro-life.

## U.S. House of Representatives

### District 16

Incumbent Mike Kelly (R) is pro-life. Challenger Preston Nouri (D) is pro-abortion.

### District 15

Incumbent Glenn Thompson (R) is pro-life.

Challenger Zach Womer (D) is pro-abortion.

## PA Attorney General

Dave Sunday (R) leans pro-life. Eugene DePasquale (D) is pro-abortion.

## PA Auditor General

Incumbent Tim Defoor (R) is pro-life. Challenger Malcolm Kenyatta (D) is pro-abortion.

## PA Treasurer

Incumbent Stacy Garrity (R) is pro-life. Challenger Erin McClelland (D) is pro-abortion.

## PA Senate

### District 21

Incumbent Scott Hutchinson (R) is pro-life. He is unopposed.

### District 49

Incumbent Dan Laughlin (R) has a mixed voting record. Challenger Jim Wertz (D) is pro-abortion.

## PA House of Representatives

### District 1

Incumbent Pat Harkins (D) is pro-abortion.

He is unopposed.

## District 2

Incumbent Bob Merski (D) is pro-abortion. Challenger Matt Strupczewski (R) is pro-life.

## District 3

Incumbent Ryan Bizzarro (D) is pro-abortion. Challenger Micah Goring (R) is pro-life.

## District 4

Incumbent Jake Banta (R) leans pro-life. Challenger Joseph Cancilla (D) is pro-abortion.

## District 6

Incumbent Brad Roae (R) is pro-life. Challenger Michael Walker (D) is pro-abortion.

## District 7

Incumbent Parke Wentling (R) is pro-life. He is unopposed.

## District 64

Incumbent R. Lee James (R) is pro-life and has no major party opposition.

## District 65

Incumbent Kathy Rapp (R) is pro-life. Challenger Erin Willman's (D) position is unknown.

## Additional Comments on the Candidates

### U.S. Senate

Republican candidate for U.S. Senate Dave McCormick spoke with People for Life Executive Director Tim Broderick while he was running for governor in 2022 and expressed solid pro-life convictions.

Incumbent Bob Casey claimed a pro-life position in his early years as a U.S. senator. However, his website now states, "[Casey] thinks it was a mistake to overturn Roe v. Wade and strongly opposes Republican efforts to enact a national abortion ban. That's why he voted to advance the Women's Health Protection Act." The Women's Health Protection Act is more extreme than Roe v. Wade. For example: it would wipe out even our very modest pro-life abortion regulations, make it a "fundamental right" to transport minors across state lines for abortions, sanction abortion at any time in pregnancy, and force the taxpayers to pay for abortion.

### 15th U.S. House District

Glenn Thompson's district used to include the eastern half of Erie County and, like Mike Kelly, Thompson rarely, if ever, missed a Pro-Life Breakfast, where he spoke eloquently in defense of human life.

### 16th U.S. House District

Mike Kelly has a 100% pro-life voting record. He attends People for Life's Pro-Life Breakfast consistently. In January 2023, Mike Kelly became the first-ever member of Congress to attend and speak at the Erie March for Life. He also spoke at the 2024 Erie March in May of this year. He regularly hosts a reception after the Washington, DC March for Life in January. Thus, Mike Kelly is not only a dedicated defender of human lives,

but also a good friend of the northwestern Pennsylvania pro-life community.

Mike Kelly's challenger, Preston Nouri promises on his campaign website, "I will stand up to extremists by opposing any effort to ban abortion at the Federal level to protect the privacy and freedoms of my constituents."

### PA Attorney General

Attorney General Candidate Eugene DePasquale is endorsed by Reproductive Freedom for All (aka, the National Abortion Rights Action League or NARAL Pro-Choice America.). He has been characterized as "radically pro-abortion" by at least one statewide pro-life leader.

### 49th State Senate District

Jim Wertz is endorsed by the pro-abortion Planned Parenthood Pennsylvania Advocates and Reproductive Freedom for All (NARAL).

### 3rd State House District

In his run for PA Treasurer in this year's Democratic primary, 3rd PA House District incumbent Ryan Bizzarro was endorsed by the pro-abortion Pennsylvania National Organization for Women and VotePro Choice.us. Bizzarro can be aptly described as stridently pro-abortion. He began his political career claiming to be pro-life. Before long, however, advancing "a woman's right to choose (to kill)" became a major obsession of his. He sponsored a bill to repeal Pennsylvania's prohibition of abortion coverage in qualified health plans offered through the health insurance exchange.

### 4th State House District

Although it is unclear how incumbent Jake Banta would vote on any given measure

to restrict abortion, it is clear that he recognizes abortion as a serious injustice and a tragedy: "Abortion should be available for medical reasons but otherwise discouraged. Women should fight for their unborn. Each of us are here and we should strive for every life to have the chance you and I received. Sadly, we have relegated it to a political divide. We are the only creature on Earth deleting our own. It is a cultural misstep. Many third-world countries I visited saw birth as a gift, even as they were living a very poor existence. Who is to say one life is more important than the next? I would find myself as a hypocrite if I decided the unborn should not get the chance I did at life. We need to change the mindset of our nation. Giving life a chance is the greatest thing we can do. Our country needs to see this."

### 5th State House District

Like Mike Kelly, mentioned above, Brad Roae has attended many Pro-Life Breakfasts. At the Pennsylvania March for Life this September, Roae could be seen all around the Capitol complex greeting and welcoming the pro-life marchers. He even invited a delegation from our organization to check out his private office space. Roae's challenger Michael Walker is regarded as pro-abortion by the PA Pro-Life Federation PAC. According to ChoiceTracker.org, Walker's campaign has stated: "It is essential to safeguard women's privacy and uphold medical standards. Mike Walker advocates for policies that ensure women can access necessary medical care without fear of privacy breaches."

**FROM PAGE 1  
DC March for Life 2025**

the Metro back to our bus and leave Falls Church by 5:15 p.m., returning to Erie by approximately 1:30 a.m. Saturday morning.

Don't let anyone tell you that defending the Right to Life is no longer a federal matter. The forces of death will never rest until government-funded abortion throughout pregnancy is uniformly imposed on all 50 states by federal mandate. The will of the people, no matter how unanimous in any state, or foreign nation for that matter, will ever deter the abortion cultists from trying to

force their ideology on the total population. We must remain engaged at all times and at all levels of government.

Make your reservation(s) now while seats are plentiful, or at least by December 24. Go online to [tinyurl.com/peopleforlife](http://tinyurl.com/peopleforlife) or send your check directly to People for Life. Please include a name for each reservation and, for any minors, their ages. A parental permission form is required for any minor who will not be accompanied by a parent. Follow our Bus Trip at [facebook.com/marchforlifebustrip](http://facebook.com/marchforlifebustrip).

**Follow us: Facebook.com/PeopleforLife**

**Call for Bus Sponsors**

Inflation has had a big impact on the cost of bus transportation, nearly doubling the amount we have to charge for March for Life bus seats, from \$52 in 2015 to \$90 for 2025.

However, the March for Life and, of course, the pro-life cause, are as important as ever or even more so.

Please help us continue our 51-year March for Life Bus Trip tradition by being a Bus Sponsor. A donation of \$90 will provide a seat for a deserving individual or allow two people, students for example, to get their seats for half-price. Smaller amounts also help.

*Memorials & Tributes*

<i>Given by</i>	<i>In Memory of</i>	<i>Given by</i>	<i>In Memory of</i>
Maureen Berarducci	Eleanor Agnello	Thomas E. Kalkhof	Mary Fran & Christine Claire Kalkhof
Judge Daniel J. Brabender Jr.	Eleanor Agnello	Fr. Gregory P. Passauer	Msgr. Richard Mayer
Mike Siggia	Eleanor Agnello	Phillip & Leora Anderson	Michelle McElhenny
The Baldwin Family	Eleanor Agnello	Linda S. May	Michelle McElhenny
Angeliki Agrafiotis	Thomas Agrafiotis	John, Leo & Maria	Michelle McElhenny
Judith Hyde	All the babies whose lives were taken	Kathleen A. Levis	Betty I. Pratt
Cathy Truden	Tara Jean Bisbee	Lori Krasnesky	Joseph F. Wagner
Lous Borowy	Mark Borowy	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Widomski	Stanley Widomski
Bill & Diane Stumpf	Mark Borowy	Mary Knorr	Dorothy Zewe
Judge Daniel J. Brabender Jr.	Jane & Doug Brabender, Sr.	<i>Given by</i>	<i>In Honor of</i>
Dennis Deiner	George & Genevieve Deiner	McGovern Family	Tim Broderick
Patricia & Leonard Popovich	John J. Dobrowolski Family	Mary Alice DiTulio	Brinley Kaliszewski
Mr. John K. Fitzgerald	Ray & Peg Fitzgerald	Amanda Lasky	My Daughters
Amy Roach	Ray & Peg Fitzgerald	St. Gregory Wonder Workers	Saint Gregory Parishioners
Lee & Mary Simmons	Ray & Peg Fitzgerald	Patricia Puline	Virginia Torrelli
S. Mary Helen Forney SSI	Arthur J. & Mary Ann Forney	Kathleen Wayman	Rosemary Wayman
Dill & Diane Stumpf	Robert Haibach	Matt McElhenny	Roseann & Jim Yadeski
Dave Wayman	Jean Hammer		
Jim & Cathy Hudacky	Tony Hudacky		

**JOIN PEOPLE FOR LIFE OR DONATE**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Best Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile? Yes  | No  Other Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile? Yes  | No  Do not text

AFFILIATED WITH (church, club, organization, business, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_ WORK/PROFESSION \_\_\_\_\_

1. DONATION: \$1,000  \$500  \$250  \$100  \$50  \$25  \$10  Other Amount \_\_\_\_\_

2. MEMBERSHIP DUES (one year): Individual \$10  Family \$20  Senior Citizen /Student \$5  New  Renewal

3. TRIBUTE DONATION AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_ In Memory of  or In Honor of

4. TOTAL ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

*Donations may also be made using the DONATE button on [www.peopleforlife.org](http://www.peopleforlife.org) or by calling-in your credit card information.*

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

<input type="checkbox"/> Educational Booths	<input type="checkbox"/> Liaison to Another Organization	<input type="checkbox"/> March for Life Bus Trip Help
<input type="checkbox"/> Phone Calling	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Demonstrations	<input type="checkbox"/> Erie March for Life Help
<input type="checkbox"/> Office Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Pro-Life Breakfast Help	<input type="checkbox"/> Call me when you need a hand.
<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Mailing	<input type="checkbox"/> Life Run Help	<input type="checkbox"/> Special skill? Tell us!

Please make your check payable to:  
**PEOPLE FOR LIFE, INC.**  
P.O. Box 1126  
Erie, PA 16512

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The official registration and financial information of People for Life, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999.  
Registration does not imply endorsement.

**PEOPLE FOR LIFE**  
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[www.facebook.com/PeopleforLife](http://www.facebook.com/PeopleforLife)

**Mailing Address**  
P.O. Box 1126  
Erie, PA 16512

**— Office Location —**  
1625 W. 26th St.; Erie, PA  
Usually open 10 to 5 weekdays.  
Call for evening and Saturday hours.

## Abortion Pill Protests

This past March, the big pharmacy chains CVS and Walgreens announced they were beginning to dispense mifepristone, commonly known as the “Abortion Pill.” Pennsylvania was one of the five states chosen by Walgreens to be targeted initially. A few months later, CVS also began selling the lethal drug in Pennsylvania. No other pharmacies are known to be handling mifepristone. It should be noted, however, that CVS also operates all of the pharmacies located in Target stores.

In response, People for Life is conducting informational pickets on the public sidewalks adjacent to local CVS and Walgreens stores. Our numbers have been fairly modest, from eight to 26 volunteers. Our first demonstration was held at the 38th & Peach Walgreens on April 20. There have been six altogether: four at Walgreens and two at CVS locations. Please let us know if you would like to be notified about future demonstrations.

Mifepristone was developed for a single purpose, to kill babies by blocking the hormone progesterone, which is needed to keep nourishment flowing from the mother to the baby. Without nourishment, the baby dies and begins to detach from the uterus. Then, a second, more common drug called misoprostol is taken to cause the mother’s body to (hopefully) expel the lifeless remains of her child. This two-drug regimen is approved by the FDA for abortion killing through the first 10 weeks of pregnancy. In Pennsylvania, the pharmacy must receive a prescription from a physician. However, efforts are underway to allow any kind of “health care professional,” a nurse’s assistant or a dental hygienist for example, to write the death warrant.

CVS and Walgreens have made it clear they will not divulge which locations are dispensing mifepristone. In other words, no individual pharmacy will admit that it is a distribution point. And it is unlikely that most of the employees

will know what their particular store is doing.

## Pro-Life Breakfast 2025

People for Life’s 47th Annual Pro-Life Breakfast will be held at the Bayfront Convention Center on Saturday, January 18, 2025. And we have a very special guest speaker for you! She is 21-year-old Kaylee Stockton: high school shooting survivor at 16, mom at 18, pro-life activist with Students for Life of America, and nursing student. Kaylee is from Santa Clarita, California. She attends Grand Canyon University in Arizona.

When Kaylee became pregnant during her first year at college, she thought, “My life is over.” Just 18 and a recent high school graduate, she had no job and “no clue how I could raise a child.” But, says Kaylee, “I had no doubt that I wanted to parent.” Her biggest challenge was “everyone telling me to get an abortion.”

Make your reservations online at [tinyurl.com/ProLifeBreakfast2025](https://tinyurl.com/ProLifeBreakfast2025) or by sending your payment directly to People for Life with a name for each reservation. Do it now, while it is on your mind, before the busy holiday season is upon us. Standard reservations are \$28. Reservations for ages 3 to 12 are \$22. Kids under 3 are welcome to attend at no cost.

“This culture of death that we’ve created surrounding abortion has not only led people to want to kill their children—to kill their children!—but has also pushed parents who

want to keep their children into killing their children.” —Kaylee Stockton



## Pro-Life Billboards

Have you seen any of our pro-life billboards in recent months? We hope so and hope that you like them. We chose a message that reflects love and concern for both the unborn child and his or her mother: “Women deserve loving options, not abortion.” We added, “Support pro-life policies” as a gentle reminder of everyone’s responsibility to vote pro-life with the goal of restoring, to the fullest extent possible, societal protection for every vulnerable human life.

We began displaying the billboards back in July, three locations at a time for one month in each location. The campaign includes 12 billboards. By the end of October, our message will have covered the

Erie area from Fairview to Harborcreek. The billboards are being paid for by donations to the People for Life Education Fund.

Each billboard location costs \$825. If additional donations earmarked for the billboards are received, we will be happy to extend the campaign into November and the winter months.

## Educational Outreach

To all our pro-life booth volunteers and all those who stopped by to say hello this season, thank you! As usual, we were very well received, at the Rib Fest in downtown Erie and all around the county, as well.

## 2024 PRO-LIFE CALENDAR 2025

Oct. 12	Life Run 5K/10K & Fun Walk, 9 a.m. – Harborcreek Twp.
Oct. 12	PPLF Celebrate Life Banquet – Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA
Oct. 21	Last day to register before the Presidential Election
Oct. 25	First Annual Pro-Life Dinner
Oct. 29	Last day for mail-in ballot requests to be received
Nov. 5	Presidential Election
Jan. 18	Pro-Life Breakfast, 9 a.m. – Bayfront Convention Center
Jan. 23	DC March for Life Bus Trip leaves Erie at 11 p.m.
Jan. 24	March for Life – Washington, DC
Jan. 25	DC March for Life Bus Trip returns to Erie about 1:30 a.m.
April 12	High School Oratory Contest
April 21	General Meeting, 6:30 p.m. – People for Life H.Q.
April 23	Pennsylvania Primary Election
April 28	Student Essay Contest Entries Due
May 3	Erie March for Life – Perry Square, Erie
May 19	General Meeting, 6:30 p.m. – People for Life H.Q.