

CALENDAR of EVENTS

• 2008 •

- August 5** **Primary Election**
- August 12-17** **RTL booth at Armada Fair (see pg. 1 for summer fair schedule)**
- October 5** **Life Chain**
- October 6** **Deadline to register to vote in General election**
- October 21** **Annual RTL Regional Dinner**
- November 4** **General Election**

"I find it impossible to subscribe to a philosophy that believes that the destruction of human life is a legitimate solution to a problem that is mostly social, economic and psychological. Being a mother is one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. As a member of Feminists for Life, I want to share the joy of motherhood with other women."

– PATRICIA HEATON OF
"EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND"

Facts vs. Myths in the ESCR Debate

MYTH: Embryonic stem cells have the greatest potential to cure a variety of diseases.

FACT: There have been NO cures documented using embryonic stem cells. Adult stem cells, which do not involve killing a human being to obtain, have been successfully used to treat 73 diseases and illnesses.

MYTH: Embryonic stem cell research is banned in Michigan.

FACT: A law passed in 1978 states that you cannot kill a human embryo in Michigan for research. However the embryo can be harvested for its stem cells anywhere in the world and the embryonic stem cell brought to and used in Michigan.

MYTH: There are 400,000 human embryos available to be killed for embryonic stem cell research.

FACT: Of the approximately 400,000 human embryos frozen at in-vitro fertilization clinics across the country a survey found that 88.2% of these human embryos were being stored for future pregnancies. The 2.8% (about 11,000) slated for use in research can be used for embryo adoption so that they can still have a chance at life.

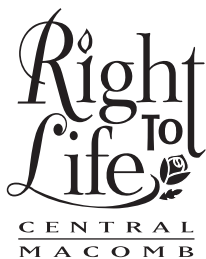
MYTH: Somatic cell nuclear transfer is not really human cloning.

FACT: Somatic cell nuclear transfer (SCNT) is the name for the scientific method researchers use to create clones. Some researchers hope to clone human embryos, remove the stem cells thus killing the embryos, and experiment on these cells.

MYTH: Embryonic stem cell research and human cloning will boost Michigan's economy.

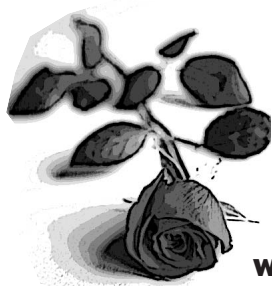
FACT: Other states which are supposedly leading the way in embryonic stem cell research are providing millions of state tax dollars. ESCR doesn't bring in the money, it asks taxpayers to pay the bill.

Information from "If They Say... You Say" by Right to Life of Michigan and www.stemcellresearchcures.com



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“Rally Time” for Right-To-Life Supporters

BY MARY RUPINSKI

Michigan is known for the grassroots strength of its pro-life movement. Other states have looked to us for strategies and as a model of how to battle anti-life legislation. This summer the rally call for grassroots support is ON! An acceptance of abortion has led to a decreased regard for all human life with child abuse and domestic violence escalating over recent years. Now the slide down the slippery slope continues with wanton destruction of human embryos under the guise of “scientific research” and empty promises of curing debilitating illnesses. **There are 3 main ways YOU can help fight these injustices this summer!**

1. Help defeat the impending ballot proposal to expand embryonic stem cell research (ESCR).

By the time you are reading this newsletter (mid- to late-July), Michigan will know for sure whether a proposal to amend Michigan’s constitution to allow for the killing of human embryos for research purposes will be on the November ballot. If it is (which seems likely) we must be ready to get the word out through our families, churches and communities to NOT support this proposal! If people are educated on how dangerous and unnecessary this proposal is, we can resoundingly defeat it as we did the one which tried to legalize assisted suicide a number of years ago. (See “myths of ESCR”, pg. 4.)



2. Get out the VOTE! Encourage everyone you know who is registered to vote, to vote pro-life! Voters guides will be available through RTL-MI. Generate your own personalized prolife ballot at www.rtl.org and encourage family and friends to do the same! A vote is a transfer of power, and a tool that can be used to keep someone out of office as much as to put someone in. We have a moral responsibility to exercise our right to vote, so that those who have died and those still fighting for our freedoms do not do so in vain.

We can also remind others “If you don’t vote, you have no right to complain!” To those who claim voting “pro-life” is looking at only “one issue”, one can



respond: though every loss of life is tragic, 4,000 lives have been lost **over the past 5 years** of the Iraq war, while 4,000 lives **per day** have been lost by abortion in the U.S.! Also, if we are killing off one-third of our future generations by abortion, the state of the economy, health care, and the environment are all moot points—there will be no one around for these other issues to impact! Volunteers will be needed to distribute voter’s guides, put up yard signs, make “get out the vote” phone calls to known pro-life supporters, and work at voting precincts giving out literature to those who want it.

3. Give a few hours of your time working the Right to Life booth at area fairs this summer. (See schedule below.) This involves merely being the smiling, friendly face by our RTL table. The table has literature and a few pro-life items to give out to those interested. You may have to answer some questions or direct people to our web-site. Educating others on the pro-life issues and showing, by our presence, that this is important to us and the future of our country, is a praise-worthy way of demonstrating your commitment to Right to Life. Please view the schedule below and give Susan Viviano a call (586-596-7430) regarding where and when you can help!

Polish Festival at Freedom Hill – July 11-13

Italian Festival at Freedom Hill – July 18-20

Irish Festival – August 8-10

Armada Fair – August 12 -17

Richmond “Good Old Days” Festival – Sept 5-7

St. Raymond’s Festival at Freedom Hill – Sept 19-21



www.rtlcentralmacomb.org

Right to Life Central Macomb is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, all-volunteer organization that works within the law to help protect the unborn, the handicapped and the elderly through education, legislative action and community assistance.

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COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

Adoption Assistance:

Bethany Christian Services
248-414-4080
30685 Barrington Ave., Ste. 140
Madison Hts., MI 48071

Catholic Services of Macomb
586-416-2300
15945 Canal Rd.
Clinton Twp., MI 48038

Crisis Pregnancy Centers:

Abigayle Ministries (Sheltering Home)
586-323-1411
12313 Nineteen Mi. Rd.
Sterling Hts., MI 48313

Birthright of Macomb
586-254-5930
45464 Van Dyke
Utica, MI 48317

Compassion Pregnancy Center
586-783-2229
37540 Gratiot Ave.
Clinton Twp., MI 48036

Project Hope
586-416-2300
1-888-4-BABYDUE
15945 Canal Rd.
Clinton Twp., MI 48038

Right to Life of Michigan
Crisis Hot-Line
1-800-57-WOMAN (1-800-579-6626)

Educational Assistance:

RLM Macomb County
Resource Center
586-774-6050
27417 Harper
St. Clair Shores, MI 48081

Michigan Right to Life
616-532-2300
www.rtl.org
Field Representative, Chris Zielinski
czielinski@rtl.org

Post-Abortion Assistance:

Project Rachel
(Archdiocese of Detroit)
1-888-722-4355

LEGISLATIVE LOBBYING

Federal:

President George W. Bush
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20500
202-456-1414
president@whitehouse.gov

Senator Carl Levin
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Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510
313-228-6020
senator2@levin.senate.gov

Senator Debbie Stabenow
133 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510
313-961-4330
senator@stabenow.senate.gov

Congresswoman
Candice Miller (Dist. 10)
508 Cannon House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-2106
cmiller@mail.house.gov

Congressman Sander Levin (Dist. 12)
2300 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
586-498-7122
slevin@mail.house.gov

State:

Governor Jennifer Granholm
P.O.Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909
517-373-3400
www.michigan.gov

For other elected state officials:

www.rtl.org

RLM Resource Center
586-774-6050



IMPORTANT VOTING INFORMATION

Michigan's Primary Election is Tues. August 5, 2008, and deadline to register: July 7.

The General Election is Tues. November 6, 2008 and deadline to register: October 6.

Deadlines for applications for absentee ballots are: Aug. 2 for primary and Nov. 1 for general. The new voter identification requirement is in effect but those without photo i.d. can still vote by completing a form that will be at all polling places.

To download a voter registration application or absentee voter ballot application go to:

www.macombcountymi.gov/clerksoffice/electiondept.htm

Legislative News

BY SUSAN VIVIANO



STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

S.B. 776. Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act: Passed the Senate in January and now has passed the house. The vote finally taken on 5/27/08 was 74-32, with 2 pro-life legislators absent. An override majority in the House is 74 votes. House leaders then tabled the second bill in the PBA package; the technical sentencing guidelines bill, and continue to do so at present. The Governor quietly vetoed the bill on Friday, June 13th. Now we await a possibility of overriding the Governor in the House and Senate.

Northland Family Planning, et al. v. Cox (Live Birth Definition Act Challenge) The Supreme Court did not accept this case, so this challenge is over.

H.B. 4616,7,8 - Embryonic Stem Cell Research. Thanks to you voting for pro-life legislators and your calls against these bills, our pro-life legislators are doing a great job in preventing this legislation. That is why there is an attempt to get a constitutional amendment on the ballot this fall.

H.B. 6194. Pro-life Tax Check-Off: Rep. John Pastor introduced on 6/4/08; bill would allow Michigan income tax filers to check a box on their tax form directing money to be donated to either of two pro-life funds that have been previously established by pro-life legislation, but never funded. One fund would provide grants to colleges and universities to set up on-campus abortion alternative offices to help students in crisis. The other fund would provide for

matching grants that pregnancy centers could use to purchase ultrasound machines. The bill was referred to the House Tax Policy Committee. No action on the bill is expected in the foreseeable future.

H.B. 6045. Hispanic Abortion Reporting: Rep. John Espinoza introduced on 5/7/08 to make an amendment to our state abortion reporting law. After a previous pro-life amendment was enacted in 2003, the annual abortion report published by the state health department began including information on the race of the women having abortions. The forthcoming race data showed us that an abortion crisis is occurring in the Black community. No data was forthcoming, however, regarding Hispanic women because Hispanic origin is considered an "ethnicity," not a race. The bill has been reported to the House Judiciary Committee. Action on the bill is uncertain.

Native American Health Program: Pro-abortion House members are looking to strip the Vitter amendment added to Senate legislation that prohibits abortion from being part of the Native American Health Program. Pro-life forces in the House are holding firm.

S.B. 1162. Choose Life License Plates: Sen. Garcia introduced on March 4, 2008 and referred to the Committee on Transportation.

For further pro-life state legislation, go to www.rtl.org or for federal legislation <http://www.capwiz.com/nrlc/home/>

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION (Right To Life Central Macomb and Right to Life of Michigan)

Your contribution brings you the Right to Life Central Macomb membership newsletter, Right to Life of Michigan News and other educational materials. Gifts and payments to Right to Life Central Macomb are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

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