

CITIZENS
CONCERNED



BLAIR COUNTY
CHAPTER

Citizens Concerned for Human Life

Blair County Life News

Volume 10 Number 4

Presenting the Pro-Life Message to Blair County, Pennsylvania

Fall 2018

LIFE CHAIN

Sunday, October 7th ♦ 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

17th St. and 9th Ave., Altoona
(at Station Mall Medical Center)



*Never give in. Never give in. Never, never, never, never. Never yield to force.
Never yield to the apparently overwhelming might of the enemy.*

~ Winston Churchill ~



♦ Stand with thousands of pro-lifers throughout the USA, in memory of over 60 million babies who have lost their lives to abortion since 1973. ♦ Bring your whole family! Rain or shine! ♦ Water, lawn chairs, umbrellas and strollers are welcome! ♦ Signs provided proclaim "Abortion Kills Children," "Adoption the Loving Option," "Jesus Forgives & Heals," "Lord, Forgive Us and Our Nation," "Abortion Hurts Women," "Life—The First Inalienable Right," "Pray to End Abortion." ♦ Pray for those in crisis situations and for our nation.

Sponsored by Blair County Citizens Concerned for Human Life

For more information, call 814-946-0681.

See page 10 for additional regional Life Chain locations.



2019 STUDENT ORATORY CONTESTS

REGIONAL ORATORY CONTEST

Written Copy Due: February 22, 2019

Regional Competition: March 3, 2019

The Citizens Concerned for Human Life Regional Oratory Contest is open to all 9th-12th grade students in **Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Clearfield, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Mifflin and Somerset Counties.**

Students must prepare a five to seven minute pro-life talk on abortion, infanticide, euthanasia or embryonic stem cell research. Speeches must be from a pro-life perspective and delivered as written, but need not be memorized. The student may use a podium and appropriate hand gestures but may not use props. A written copy of the speech must

be emailed by **February 22, 2019** to: **Janet Creighton, contact@webparish.com.** In the email, send the following: name, address, city, county, phone, email address, school, name of parent(s)/guardian. Then call Jan, **814-623-1314**, to let her know that you emailed your entry.

Awards

Varsity (Grades 11 & 12) - 1st Place \$200, 2nd \$125, 3rd \$75

Novice (Grades 9 & 10) - 1st Place \$150, 2nd \$100, 3rd \$50

All regional contestants may also be a contestant for the state competition. Being a contestant for the regional competition does not automatically enroll you in the state competition.

Pro-Life Dinner Invite—All regional contestants will be invited as our guests to the Bedford County Annual Pro-Life Dinner. The top two Varsity contestants will be invited to speak at the dinner.

PA STATE VIDEO/ORATORY CONTEST

PENNSYLVANIA PRO-LIFE FEDERATION

Submit video/written entry by April 15, 2019

Speak Up for Those Who Cannot Speak for Themselves!

The Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation contest is open to high school juniors and seniors; a Novice Contest will be held for high school freshmen and sophomores. Students must write and give an original 5-7 minute pro-life speech on abortion, infanticide, euthanasia or stem cell research. Students must video record the speech and submit the video and written speech to the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation by **April 15, 2019.** Cash prizes will be awarded. In addition, **the first-place winner of the Senior High Oratory Contest will receive an all-expense-paid trip for the National Oratory Contest** at the National Right to Life /Teens for Life Convention, in 2019. For complete contest rules: www.paprolife.org or call **717-541-0034.**

2019 STUDENT ESSAY CONTESTS

PENNSYLVANIA STATE ESSAY CONTEST

Written Copy Due: March 4, 2019

The 2019 Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation “Be a Voice for the Voiceless” Essay Contest is open to PA students in grades 7-12. Students must write a pro-life essay about abortion, infanticide, euthanasia or stem cell research. There is a 500-word limit for essays submitted by students in grades 7-9 and a 750-word limit for students in grades 10-12. Each essay must include a cover page with the student’s name, home address, home phone number, name of school (or the fact that the student is homeschooled) and grade. Winning essays will receive cash prizes. Deadline for entries is **March 4, 2019.** Essays can be e-mailed to lifelines@paprolife.org or mailed to the **Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation; 4800 Jonestown Rd., Suite 102; Harrisburg, PA 17109.**



Pro-Life Christmas Cards 2018

Celebrate the birth of Our Lord and the Giver of Life, and at the same time, help our fundraising efforts. Your purchase supports the pro-life work of the Blair County Chapter of Citizens Concerned for Human Life. To place an order or for more information, call **Pat or Marita 814-946-0681**.



Nativity with Wise Men

This selection illustrates the Holy Family and the visit of the Wise Men at the manger of the Infant Jesus. It features delicate glitter accents that enhance the beauty of the brilliant colors. White envelopes are included.

Actual size: 4^{7/8}" x 6^{3/4}" - \$7.00 per pkg. of 11

Verse:

*May Peace and Joy
be with you this Christmas
and throughout the New Year.*



Jesus, Messiah and King

This card portrays the Infant Jesus in the manger, surrounded by His Holy Name and Titles. The card is in brilliant colors with flat gold-foil and gold-ink accents. White envelopes are included.

Actual size: 4^{1/2}" x 6^{1/8}" - \$7.00 per pkg. of 11

Verse:

*May the love of the Infant Jesus
in Whom all Life begins
be yours this Christmas and always.*



*Additional cards
from previous years
are also available, on a
limited basis, such as
this Mother and Child
rendition.*

All cards made in the U.S.A. ©Barton Cotton, All Rights Reserved.

Citizens Concerned for Human Life, Blair County Chapter, 2715 Third St., Altoona, PA 16601; blair@centralpaprolife.org



WHERE DO THE CANDIDATES STAND ON LIFE?

★ PA GOVERNOR'S RACE ★



SCOTT WAGNER

SUPPORTS

Ban on Taxpayer Funding of Abortion Organizations

SUPPORTS

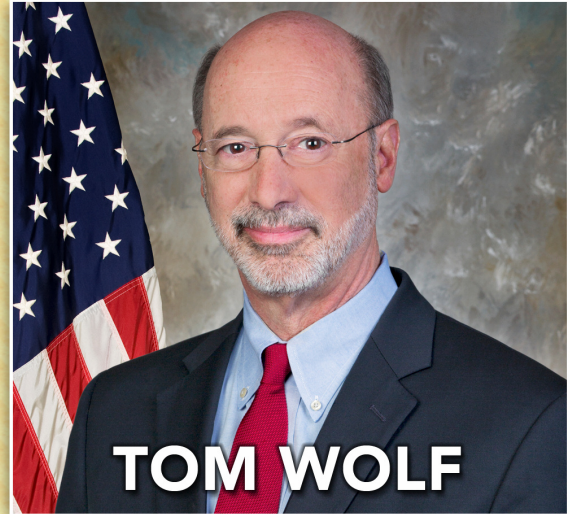
Ban on Brutal Dismemberment Abortions

SUPPORTS

Ban on Late-term Abortions

SUPPORTS

Legislation Protecting Preborn Children and their Mothers from Abortion



TOM WOLF

OPPOSES

Ban on Taxpayer Funding of Abortion Organizations

OPPOSES

Ban on Brutal Dismemberment Abortions

OPPOSES

Ban on Late-term Abortions

OPPOSES

Legislation Protecting Preborn Children and their Mothers from Abortion



There's always a reason to choose life.sm

4800 Jonestown Rd., Suite 102, Harrisburg, PA 17109 • 717-541-0034 • www.paproflife.org

Please copy and widely distribute this flyer.



WHERE DO THE CANDIDATES STAND ON LIFE?

★ PA U.S. SENATE RACE ★



LOU BARLETTA

SUPPORTS

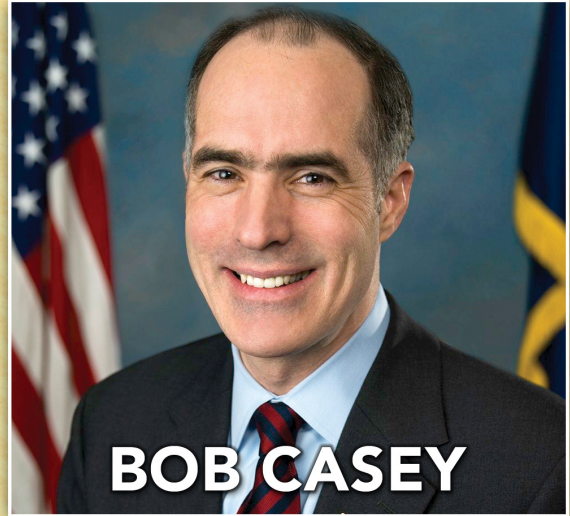
Ban on Taxpayer Funding of Abortion Organizations

SUPPORTED

Nomination of Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court

SUPPORTS

Repeal of Anti-Life Obamacare Health Care Plan



BOB CASEY

OPPOSES

Ban on Taxpayer Funding of Abortion Organizations

OPPOSED

Nomination of Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court

OPPOSES

Repeal of Anti-Life Obamacare Health Care Plan



There's always a reason to choose life.™



Opening in theaters nationwide on October 12

Rating: PG-13

AMC CLASSIC Westmoreland 15, Route 30, Westmoreland Mall Annex, Greensburg, PA

It is hoped that a screening will also be in Altoona in the near future.

Go to: gosnellmovie.com to find theaters closer than Greensburg in the next few weeks.

Greensburg is one of the first 100 (out of 750) theaters initially scheduled.

Synopsis of the movie

Based on the true story of Dr. Kermit Gosnell, the movie takes audiences behind the scenes of the investigation and trial of the man who has been dubbed the "Biggest Serial Killer in America."

Detective James "Woody" Wood (Dean Cain) and his partner Det. Stark (Alfonzo Rachel) work an informant network to discover which doctor has been selling prescription drugs illegally. But they are not the only ones who've been watching these sales as the FBI and DEA converge on an informant as Woody and Stark take her into custody. She soon gives up the doctor, Kermit Gosnell (Earl Billings).

The FBI, DEA and local Philadelphia police do a joint raid on Dr. Gosnell's clinic. And while they find evidence for the drug sales, what they find next no one expected. During their search of the common areas, they find baby bodies stored in orange juice containers and bags in the lunchroom refrigerator. These discoveries raise questions on what Dr. Gosnell is doing in this clinic.

Assistant District Attorney Lexi McGuire (Sarah Jane Morris) returns to work following maternity leave and is thrust into the middle of the Gosnell case as it moves from a drug bust into a potential murder case. But taking on this case is a major risk for Lexi as she has ambitions within the Governor's office and losing this case may end her career politically.

As the team seeks to build their case for murder, there are several major questions the team must tackle around the Pennsylvania abortion laws. While it's clear to Woody and Lexi the laws have been broken, the difficult political ramifications of putting an abortion doctor on trial also come clearly into focus. Lexi will also be facing off against the sharp defense lawyer Michael Cohan (Nick Searcy).

As they head into trial, it's unclear how a jury will react to the information as the question of viability of the children found within the clinic will come into play along with ways to interpret the abortion laws. The team, led by District Attorney Dan Molinari (Michael Beach), expects intense media scrutiny at the start of the trial. But upon their arrival at the courthouse, it's clear the media has a biased interest in not covering this story except for one "citizen journalist," Molly Mullaney (Cyrina Fiallo).

As the trial moves forward, Cohan makes a believable defense of Dr. Gosnell performing necessary but risky medical services. And while he may have not have run the cleanest or safest clinic, these were mistakes and don't add up to murder. Woody knows one of the clinic workers has photos of some of the babies who were found in the raid but needs her to take the stand. But will she?

10 Facts About Gosnell:

1. Dr. Kermit Gosnell was convicted in May of 2013 on three counts of murder for the death of three infant children

and involuntary manslaughter of Karnamaya Mongar. In a thirty-year killing spree, he is thought to have killed hundreds, perhaps thousands. *ABC News* described him as “America’s most prolific serial killer.” He is currently serving life in prison with no possibility for parole.

2. The film is based on the *New York Times* bestselling book *Gosnell: The Untold Story of America’s Most Prolific Serial Killer* written by Ann McElhinney and Phelim McAleer. The book attracted controversy after the *New York Times* initially refused to list it as a bestseller despite it being the number 3 bestseller on Amazon and *Publishers Weekly*.

3. The film’s producers, Ann McElhinney and Phelim McAleer (a husband and wife journalist team), interviewed Gosnell in prison for research for the book and film. During the interview and subsequent phone calls, Gosnell has maintained his innocence. During the prison interview, Gosnell also frequently touched McElhinney’s leg, sang a French love song to her and discussed menstruation. He is in turn charming, manipulative, arrogant and a compulsive liar.

4. The investigation and raid by the FBI, DEA and local police on Dr. Gosnell’s clinic in February of 2010, was originally for the illegal sale of prescription drugs. Following the raid and the discovery of his “House of Horrors,” the investigation expanded to include murder.

5. The investigation revealed a state government that covered up deaths in order to protect abortion. The hands-off approach and coverup was started by a Republican administration and continued by Democrats.

6. Producer and Journalist, Phelim McAleer, stumbled across the Gosnell trial on a day off while he was in Philadelphia promoting another film. McAleer who is a veteran crime reporter attended the trial for several days and said it was the most dramatic and shocking evidence he had ever heard but what was most shocking was the empty press benches behind him. Eventually, the mainstream media was shamed into covering the story by a massive social media campaign.

7. The film was shot in Oklahoma City and Guthrie, Oklahoma over 21 days.

8. Former District Attorney Christine Wechsler, who worked the investigation and prepared the case against Dr. Gosnell, was a consultant and on set to help with some of the background information. She has a cameo in the film and can be seen as a background extra in the Grand Jury scene.

9. Detective James Woods was part of the original investigation team and is widely credited for being the detective responsible for realizing what was going on behind the closed doors of the abortion clinic. He served as a consultant to the writing of the film and was on set during production giving notes for authenticity. He also has a cameo in the film. Detective Woods’ character is played by Dean Cain in the film.

10. The film broke crowdfunding records by raising \$2.3 million from almost 30,000 supporters. At the time, it was Indiegogo’s most successful movie campaign and the most successful non-celebrity movie on any crowdfunding platform.

Testimonials

David Daleiden, The Center for Medical Progress: GOSNELL is the “best movie about abortion ever made.”

Marjorie Dannenfelser, Susan B. Anthony List:

“Everyone needs to see the Gosnell movie, particularly young people. I can’t recommend this movie more strongly. The Gosnell movie faces viewers with the brutality and inhumanity of abortion and it achieves this in a movie that looks as good as any Hollywood film. This movie will change hearts and minds about abortion. It needs to be available widely.”

Kristan Hawkins, Students for Life of America:

“After watching the Gosnell movie, I’m angry, I’m sad, and I’m more motivated than ever to end abortion. Every American should watch GOSNELL. If pro-choice, they need to watch it and be able to defend their beliefs. If pro-life, they need to watch it and ask themselves why they aren’t active in ending this atrocity. This movie should be screened on every college campus in our nation.”

—gosnellmovie.com



I can remember going over and looking at the baby when we were done with the surgery and the baby was still alive. You could see the chest was moving and the heart was beating, and the baby would try to take a little breath, and it really hurt inside, and it began to educate me as to what abortion really was. ~ Dr. David Brewer ~

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2018 • RADISSON HOTEL HARRISBURG

Celebrate Life!

Banquet

FEATURING

Ann McElhinney

*New York Times Best-selling Author,
Film Director, Journalist & Co-Producer
of "The Gosnell Movie"*

Ann McElhinney is a New York Times best-selling author, journalist, film producer, and director. Along with her husband Phelim McAleer, Ann wrote the *New York Times* best seller *Gosnell—the Untold Story of America's Worst Serial Killer*, the horrific story of Philadelphia abortionist Kermit Gosnell. The book debuted at number three on Amazon Best Seller, and sold out in three days after publication. Ann and Phelim then partnered with Magdalena Segieda to produce the *Gosnell* movie, based on the book and on Grand Jury testimony during Gosnell's trial. The movie is expected out this fall. Ann was a featured speaker at the 2017 National Right to Life Convention in Milwaukee and has made it her life mission to expose the truth about Kermit Gosnell's "house of horrors."

Individual Banquet Tickets: \$50 each

Table Sponsorships are available and encouraged.

Call 717-541-0034 or go online at
www.paprolife.org

for more information and to register today.

Check-in begins at 5 p.m. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.,
and the banquet begins at 6 p.m.



PENNSYLVANIA
PRO-LIFE
FEDERATION

There's always a reason to choose life.™

TO BENEFIT THE LIFESAVING WORK OF THE PA PRO-LIFE FEDERATION EDUCATION FUND

RADISSON HOTEL HARRISBURG • 1150 CAMP HILL BYPASS, CAMP HILL, PA • 717-763-7117

2018 Annual Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast

Citizens Concerned for Human Life of Cambria/Somerset



Mary Forr became the Director of Life Issues for the Archdiocese of Washington where she provides educational, public policy, and catechetical materials surrounding life issues. Mary organizes the rally and Mass for 20,000 youth before the March for Life in Washington each year.

Featuring:

*Mary
Forr*

Saturday, October 27, 2018

9:00 AM

**Immaculate Conception Church
Grove Hall**

New Germany PA

The public is welcome!

A donation of \$10 per ticket is requested.

For reservations and ticket information,

call 814-472-8584.

Benefits the life-saving work of

Citizens Concerned for Human Life of Cambria/Somerset

P.O. Box 1588 | Johnstown, PA 15907 | 814-472-8584 |

www.prolifecambriasomerset.org

Regional Chapters of Citizens Concerned for Human Life

contact **Kathy Wenger, 839-4806**. **Bedford CCHL** will also have a pro-life table at **Fall Foliage**, October 6-7 and 13-14, on the corner of Penn and Richard Sts., in front of St. Thomas Catholic Church. Parking for the festival is available at Old Bedford Village (Bus US Route 220) and the Bedford County Fairgrounds (Bus US Route 30). Buses run between these two parking areas and downtown.

The Cambria-Somerset County Chapter's Life Chain will be held on October 7, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., in Carrolltown, starting at St. Benedict Church, Route 219. Afterwards, there will be a **Baby Shower** in the church hall to benefit Gabriel Project; bring baby needs to donate, such as diapers, wipes, sleepers, onesies, socks, receiving blankets, bottles, bibs, pacifiers, etc. **Cambria-Somerset CCHL's Annual Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast** will be held on October 27, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., at the Immaculate Conception Church Hall in New Germany. Guest speaker will be Mary Forr. Suggested donation for breakfast and speaker is \$10. Please call to register in advance, **472-8584**. See flier on page 9.

The Centre County Chapter of CCHL will hold its **Life Chain** on October 7th, from 2:00-3:00 p.m., at 900 West College Ave., State College. For more information, contact **Susan Rogacs, 238-9590**.

The light refuses to be extinguished

continued from back page

We are now gradually making inroads into the public's consciousness (and conscience) about the truth that unborn babies can and do experience pain—and about the horrific nature of dismemberment abortions.

For me, looking ahead to all the challenges of this year and beyond, the panicky reaction of the Abortion Industry and the relentless introduction of pro-life legislation is very reassuring.

Moreover, the fundamental decency that is an essential component of the American character still lives. People were—and continue to be—moved by the atrocity that is abortion. After over 45 years of darkness, the light refuses to be extinguished.

It would, of course, be much too simplistic to suggest that by merely telling stories of virtue, Americans could be persuaded to chuck the evasive platitudes that pass for pro-death argumentation. Yet never forget that truth-telling—what we do at *NRL News Today* and *NRL News*—does have an impact. Sometimes it is subtle, sometimes overt, but pro-lifers have kept the flame burning by never allowing the moral dimension of the fight for life to be obscured.

To return to where we began, there are stories that people read and there are “stories” that are modeled in the conduct of daily life. We could not possibly prevail if we only “talked the talk.” But, thanks to you, we have also “walked the walk.”

No matter what the *New York Times* says (or fails to say), you do care about both mother and unborn child. No matter what the *Washington Post* prints (or fails to print), our “values” are not “outdated” or “anachronistic.” No matter what the major networks air (and don't air), we are not motivated by “fear of the future” but embrace a future where legal protection is enjoyed by all.

Compassion, love, devotion, mercy, a fearless championing of the weak and the powerless—these are not

The Bedford County Chapter will sponsor its annual **Life Chain** on October 7, from 2:30-3:30 p.m., along Old Route 220 (N. Richard St.), between Bedford Elementary School and St. Thomas Church. Register and get your sign between 2:00 and 2:30 p.m. at the school parking lot or at the Fall Foliage pro-life table in Bedford. (Signs will be available “downtown” for those who are already planning to attend the festival and wish to also participate in Life Chain.) For more information, contact

mere “values” that come and go, but virtues, qualities of character which stand forever. Virtues are the sterner stuff out of which we create our moral imagination.

This richer, deeper, broader vision enables us to incorporate for ourselves “how people can act when they're at their best,” to quote again from *Books That Build Character*. The outgrowth is a kind of highly developed peripheral vision which enables pro-lifers to “see” suffering and injustice where others—staring straight ahead—see nothing.

But I believe that as more Americans read the “story” of your selfless devotion, they will (like Crystal) “put into practice the good example” set by you. I do not believe it is a stretch to conclude that, because of your unwavering faithfulness, we are closer to the day when Americans fully awake from their slumber and emphatically say to abortionists, “You may not do that!”

Let me conclude with a thought that came out of a conversation I had years and years ago with pro-life Congressman Chris Smith—my personal hero. Ever humble, Chris remarked to me that there are those of us whose work on behalf of the little ones has garnered us more praise and recognition than we deserve, which is 100% true.

But one day we will receive our eternal rewards. And at the very front of the line, Chris said, will be all of you—those millions of unsung grassroots pro-lifers whose decades of devotion have gone largely unnoticed.

If Chris is right, and I am utterly convinced that he is, then Someone of unsurpassed importance has been watching all along. He knows what you are doing on behalf of His little ones.

And that, my pro-life brothers and sisters, is the ultimate recognition.

—*National Right to Life News Today, September 12, 2018*



Abortion is legal because babies can't vote.

~ Joseph Bonkowski ~

From the President's Desk

"Fearfully, Wonderfully Made"



© Life Issues Institute

*Sixteen weeks
from conception*

The priest, debating on the right words to spur on his early morning congregation, suddenly recalled the stanza in Psalm 139 (the Responsorial Psalm for September 13), "I give you thanks that I am fearfully, wonderfully made..."

Those words stuck with me all day and into the evening. What a statement of thanksgiving, love and gratefulness. What an opportunity for reflection

on the gift God has given to us. What a blessing each of us has been given.

Could any one of us have knit our bodies together as God did in our mother's womb? Could any one of us have caused our hearts to beat, eyes to see or minds to think?

We have been given this gift to do some good for our Creator, to help complete His plan for our lives and the lives of others.

Can we stand idly by while the lives of others being knit in their mothers' wombs are being torn apart? Are those lives not also "fearfully and wonderfully made?"

Let us renew our efforts to support the sanctity of life from conception to natural death, in that all of God's works are wonderful.

Please join us at the Life Chain to show an appreciation for all lives that are fearfully and wonderfully made, especially those being knit in their mother's womb.

Sincerely,

—R. Thomas Forr, Jr., President
Blair County Chapter, Citizens Concerned for Human Life

Donations have been made— In Thanksgiving for Donation From: "I Be Friend"

Given by: Anonymous Donor

Donations may be made in memory of loved ones who have died or to honor someone special, and near and dear to you, for a particular occasion, or just because...


Blair County *Life News* will publish your name as well as the names of those you are honoring and/or remembering. Send donations to **Blair Co. CCHL, 2715 Third St., Altoona, PA 16601**. Thank you!

Crisis Numbers

If you, or someone you know, is experiencing a crisis pregnancy, help is available. Contact: **Precious Life, Inc., 1716 12th Ave., Altoona; 814-944-2669** or **Every Life Matters (ELM), 221 Hospital Dr., Ste. 5, Tyrone; 814-650-7899** or **Real Alternatives, Inc., 1-888-LIFE-AID; www.realalternatives.org**.

For post-abortion counseling, contact **Project Rachel, 814-884-8000; www.ProjectRachel@dioceseaj.org** or **Rachel's Vineyard, 877 HOPE 4 ME (877-467-3463); www.rachelsvineyard.org/**

Family Life, Diocese of Altoona/Johnstown, offers pastoral guidance, call **814-886-5551**; email: **familylife@dioceseaj.org**.



Blair County Life News
Blair County Chapter
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Secretary/Editor: Marge Bradley
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Citizens Concerned for Human Life, Inc. is a non-profit, non-partisan, non-denominational organization dedicated to educating and upholding the truth about abortion, infanticide, euthanasia and embryonic stem cell research. CCHL is composed of chapters made up of persons of all ages, sexes, races and cultural backgrounds. CCHL, Inc. is an affiliate of the PA Pro-Life Federation and the National Right to Life Committee. Donations are not tax-deductible.
2715 Third St., Altoona, PA 16601; phone: 814-946-0681
email: blair@centralpaprolife.org
website: www.blaircountyprolife.com

Blair County Chapter, Citizens Concerned for Human Life, Inc.

Blair County CCHL believes that human life has value in all stages of development from conception until natural death, and is committed to speaking on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves — the unborn, the aged, the incapacitated. Won't you please help in our struggle to preserve respect for human life? A contribution brings you our quarterly newsletter.

_____ Annual Membership \$10.00 _____ In Memory of: _____
 _____ Student/Senior Member \$ 5.00 _____ In Honor of: _____
 Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Please complete this form and return with your donation to: **Blair County Chapter, CCHL, 2715 Third St., Altoona PA 16601**. For more information, call **814-946-0681**. Sorry, donations are not tax-deductible.



BLAIR COUNTY CHAPTER
CITIZENS CONCERNED FOR HUMAN LIFE, INC.
2715 Third St.
Altoona, PA 16601

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After over 45 years of darkness, the light refuses to be extinguished

By Dave Andrusko

The presumed stripping of personhood from embryos has other frightening and horrifying dimensions for pro-life people. It is probably safe to say that in our society (as in most), the relationship between mother and child is assumed to be the most intimate, most sacred, and most self-sacrificing relationship of all. To people who assume that the embryo is a child, the logic is clear: if even this most sacred, least 'worldly,' least 'useful' relationship can be disrupted, no relationship is safe. As one mother said, "If a baby can't be safe in his mother's womb, where can he be safe?"

—Kristin Luker, "Abortion & The Politics of Motherhood"

I have reached the point where I have so many books in my office, I need to clean house and donate them to my local library. As I lovingly went through the mounds of books, I ran across *Books That Build Character: A Guide to Teaching Your Child Moral Values Through Stories*. I read it a long time ago, but what William Kilpatrick and Gregory and Suzanne Wolfe teach in their remarkable book is just as significant today as it was when I first read through it. In a word the lessons it teaches are timeless.

In the early pages, the authors tell a story of four-year-old Crystal, who, when her two-year-old sister began to cry, quickly assessed the situation.

"She wants her Dogger," Crystal declared, referring to a missing stuffed bear. Unprompted, Crystal offered one of her own stuffed bears as a substitute.

"Dogger," it turns out, is a story about "a boy who loses his worn stuffed dog, and his older sister, Bella, who trades a large and beautiful stuffed bear to get Dogger back for him." The authors of *Books That Build Character* then offer what I believed correctly anticipated would be the underlying moral of their book: "Crystal, who had heard the story only the night before, was putting into practice the good example set by Bella."

The evils that we confront, abortion and euthanasia/physician-assisted suicide, are intertwined like the two

strands of DNA. They have colonized the imaginations of all-too-many Americans. The encouraging news is that this almost nonchalant acceptance of these attacks on vulnerable human beings can be found in the mental file cabinets of fewer and fewer Americans.

Why? Because the cabinets are not locked. Indeed, the drawers are open and the contents, yellow with age, are crumbling.

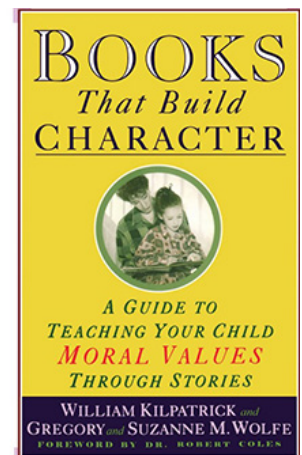
Ask yourself this. Why, 18 years into the 21st century, is the pro-life movement still growing, becoming better organized, and closer than ever to carrying the day? Why are pollsters time and time again finding increasing resistance to unabridged, unbridled, and unchecked abortion on demand?

Why is the Abortion Establishment stumbling—unsure of its footing but determined to bury their uncertainty by treating abortion even more cavalierly? (Against all odds, the election of a pro-life President might explain a lot.)

I would not pretend to have the answer. For starters, there is no one answer, of course.

However, I would hazard to guess that had the body politic been hooked up to an EKG, the machine would have shown that our hearts missed a beat when, way back when, we first learned about the insanity known as partial-birth abortions.

Prepackaged answers about "choice" and "rights" and "blobs of tissue" couldn't hold a candle to the unvarnished truth: that it requires verbal gymnastics of Orwellian proportions to disguise the truth that partial-birth abortion is akin to infanticide.



continued on page 10