



Citizens Concerned for Human Life

# Blair County Life News

Volume 11 Number 1

Presenting the Pro-Life Message to Blair County, Pennsylvania

Winter 2019



## March with us in Washington, D. C. on Friday, January 18

The Blair County Chapter of Citizens Concerned for Human Life has arranged bus transportation from the Altoona area to the March for Life—departing from St. Therese Church parking lot (Altoona) at 7:00 a.m., stopping at St. Mary Church (Hollidaysburg) at 7:20 a.m. and lastly, Walmart (East Freedom) at 7:45 p.m. Cost: Adults \$15; Students \$10 ♦ Reserve a seat; call Pat at 946-0681, Roxanne at 695-8008 or Anne at 942-2723.



## 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.

### 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](http://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](mailto:lifelines@paprolife.org) or mailed to the **Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation; 4800 Jonestown Rd., Suite 102; Harrisburg, PA 17109**.



The Bedford County Chapter of  
Citizens Concerned for Human Life  
Invites you to its

## *15th Annual Pro-Life Dinner*

Dunnings Creek Church of the Brethren  
195 Church Rd., New Paris, PA 15554

**Friday, March 1, 2019**

**Dinner at 6:00 p.m. ~ Doors open at 5:00 p.m.**

**Come early to check out our door prizes!**

**Featured Speakers: Holly and Nate Fugate, Voice for Life**

**Voice for Life** is a husband-and-wife ministry team based out of the Western Pennsylvania United Methodist Church. Their mission is to equip pro-life people with a gracious, intelligent approach to defending the unborn through everyday conversations within their spheres of influence.

After leading an active pro-life club on the campus of Wheaton College, **Holly Fugate** went on to work for Justice For All, a leading pro-life training and outreach organization based in Wichita, Kansas. Under apologists including Steve Wagner and Timothy Braham, she studied pro-life rhetoric and worked as a training specialist at outreach events around the United States. Since becoming a mother, she devotes most of her energies to her own children, but is eager for opportunities to share her knowledge and experience for the sake of other mothers and children. Justice For All has endorsed the use of their material by Voice for Life.

**Nate Fugate** is a pastor in the United Methodist Church, Western Pennsylvania Conference, and currently serves as senior pastor at Pittsfield: Otterbien UMC. In college, Holly encouraged Nate to move beyond his static beliefs in the sanctity of unborn life and onto decisive action. In particular, he has used his public speaking and legal skills to protect the lives of the unborn. He was one of the individuals who helped draft and pass legislation within the United Methodist Church to disassociate with the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice as well as to strengthen the church's equal protection of mothers and their unborn children. In 2018, he also founded and chairs the Conference Human Life Task Force, which focuses on providing resources for women in crisis pregnancies as well as reducing the number of abortions in Western PA.

Holly and Nate live in Pittsfield, PA and have two little boys, Israel and Victor.



Sponsored by the Bedford County  
Chapter of Citizens Concerned  
for Human Life

**Adults \$20 ♦ Students \$10 ♦ 4 & under free**

**RSVP 814-276-3638 or 814-652-6755 by February 22**

**Checks should be made payable to: Bedford County CCHL**

**Mail checks to: Pam Lucas, 262 Zion Rd., Everett, PA 15537**

**Be a 2019 Sponsor of our "Save the Babies" Projects!**

**Platinum/\$250 ♦ Gold/\$100 ♦ Silver/\$50 ♦ Bronze/\$25**

Dinner flyer at [www.BedfordCountyProLife.org/dinner](http://www.BedfordCountyProLife.org/dinner)  
Sponsor form at [www.BedfordCountyProLife.org/projects](http://www.BedfordCountyProLife.org/projects)

# Centre County CCHL's Annual Auction & Garage Sale February 2nd - Doors Open 9 am

**Come Early to Eat & Check Out Our Items!**

**Gift Baskets Galore, antiques,  
PSU celebrity autographed footballs and  
memorabilia, original art, collectibles.  
Other items too numerous to mention!**



**Enjoy our Hot Dogs,  
Pulled Pork Sandwiches,  
and Homemade Desserts!**

## 50/50 Drawing

**State College Knights of Columbus Hall  
850 Stratford Drive (Off Waupelani Drive)**

**Sponsored by**



**Centre County Chapter**

**If you wish to make a donation  
or contribute an item to our Auction,  
email [cchlcentreco@comcast.net](mailto:cchlcentreco@comcast.net)  
or call 237-3213.  
For Garage Sale items,  
please call 466-1234.**

**[www.ProLifeCentreCounty.org](http://www.ProLifeCentreCounty.org)**



## DID YOU KNOW ...

- Since the U.S. Supreme Court decided *Roe v. Wade* in 1973, there have been more than **60 million abortions**.
- Medical textbooks teach that a totally unique, new human life **begins at the moment of fertilization**, with its own complete DNA.
- Many **post-abortive women** say that they would have chosen life for their baby if just one person had supported them.
- **Help is available to pregnant and new moms** at pregnancy centers throughout Pennsylvania. For pregnancy help, call 1-888-LIFE-AID or visit our website at [www.paprolife.org](http://www.paprolife.org) and click on the “Pregnant? Need Help?” button.
- Rachel’s Vineyard offers help and **healing to women who have had abortions**. Visit [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org) for information about counseling and retreats in Pennsylvania.
- **You can make a difference for life** in your community. Volunteer with your local chapter of the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation. Contact us at 717-541-0034.



### Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

4800 Jonestown Road, Suite 102, Harrisburg, PA 17109  
717-541-0034 • [www.paprolife.org](http://www.paprolife.org)

## Sanctity of Life Sunday

January 2019

Christianity teaches respect for every human life, which begins at the moment of fertilization. This January, explore ways you can help pregnant and new mothers in your community.

*“For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother’s womb.”*

– Psalm 139:13



## Pro-Life Year 2018 in Review

By Maria V. Gallagher, Legislative Director  
Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

2018 was a year of accomplishment for the pro-life movement in Pennsylvania—despite incredible odds.

Here are some of the highlights:

**Teens Reached**—The Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation achieved the magnificent milestone of reaching more than 600,000 teenagers through our innovative partnership with the website TeenBreaks.com. In a number of cases, TeenBreaks connected teens with local pregnancy resource centers which could meet their needs.

**Media Presence Expanded**—The Pennsylvania pro-life movement expanded its reach to Pennsylvania citizens through hundreds of online articles, radio commentaries, and podcasts.

**Pennsylvania abortions dropped to their lowest level on record.** While even one abortion is too many, we rejoice that abortions have reached a record low in the Keystone State.

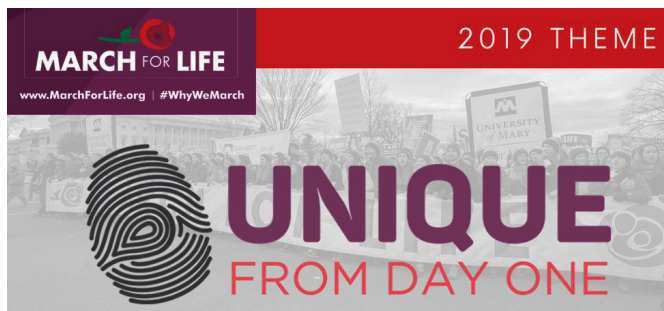
**Social Media Presence Blossomed**—We now post regular daily updates not only on the social media platforms Facebook and Twitter, but on Instagram and Pinterest as well. This has allowed us to reach a whole new audience with our life-affirming message.

**Down Syndrome Protection Act passed the Pennsylvania House of Representatives by an overwhelming bipartisan majority.** The bill would have banned abortion for the sole reason of a Down syndrome diagnosis. Unfortunately, the PA Senate never voted on the bill, but there is always hope for next year.

**Pro-Life majorities maintained.** Despite an especially challenging election year, Pennsylvania maintains pro-life majorities in the state House and state Senate.

With these achievements, there's no telling what we can accomplish in 2019!

—December 28, 2018



## What's in Store for 2019 on the Life Front?

By Maria V. Gallagher, Legislative Director  
Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

As 2018 draws to a close, the New Year remains a mystery in many ways. Still, 2019 can be a year of encouraging progress on the pro-life front. Here are some of the events and activities that are in store for the year ahead:

**The March for Life** is of great importance—this year and all years. The March steps out in Washington, D.C. on January 18th. Hundreds of thousands of dedicated individuals—many of them high school and college students—are expected to flood the streets of the nation's capital in a peaceful, prayerful show of solidarity for pregnant women, babies, and fathers.

**Judges will still be key.** President Donald Trump has promised to nominate judges to the federal bench who will uphold the Constitution and who will not be activists, such as those who claimed a false "right" to abortion in *Roe v. Wade* in 1973. In Pennsylvania, voters will have the opportunity to cast ballots for judges for the Supreme Court, the Superior Court and Commonwealth Court.

**Local chapters will bring the pro-life message to their communities.** Local chapters of National Right to Life and the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation will be proclaiming the sanctity of innocent human life at fairs, festivals and other events in their counties.

**Students will be engaged and energized through pro-life contests.** Both National Right to Life and the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation sponsor essay contests for students. In addition, high school students can take part in the National Right to Life Oratory Contest if they have won a statewide contest, such as the Pennsylvania Pro-Life oratory competition. (Editor's note: see page 2).

**Social Media will be buzzing with pro-life news and information.** You can find both National Right to Life and the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest. You can also become part of the regular online discussion by sharing spectacular pro-life videos and articles with your friends and followers.

Working together, we can make 2019 a year of growth and significant accomplishment for the pro-life movement—and save lives and change hearts in the process. Happy 2019!

# The Case Against CRISPR Babies

By Nicanor Austriaco, O.P.

A few days after Thanksgiving, a Chinese scientist named He Jiankui shocked the global community by announcing that he had created the world's first gene-edited, designer babies—twin girls named Lulu and Nana. The two “CRISPR babies” had been born a few weeks earlier to their HIV-positive father Mark and his wife, Grace. Many scientists expressed anger and frustration at the announcement. U.S. National Institutes of Health Director, Francis Collins, described Jiankui's work as a “profoundly unfortunate,” “ill-considered,” “unethical,” “scientific misadventure” that “flout[ed] international ethical norms.”

CRISPR is a cutting-edge, molecular editing tool that can be used to alter every gene in any organism, whether it is an elephant, an orchid, or a human infant. If you imagine the human genome—the genetic information found in most of our cells—as an encyclopedia of forty-six volumes with approximately six billion letters, CRISPR gives us the power to change the letter “A” on column two of page 1311 of the third volume of that encyclopedia to a “C.” In theory, we can now edit the genes of any child at will to create designer babies with specific characteristics and desirable traits.

Theory became reality when Jiankui used CRISPR to edit Lulu's and Nana's genomes. Using standard IVF procedures, he and his team fertilized their mother's eggs with their father's sperm and then injected CRISPR into the embryos as soon as they had formed. The research team attempted to edit the twins' CCR5 gene so that it would resemble a variant of the same gene, found among 10 percent of Europeans, that makes a person relatively immune to HIV-AIDS. After testing the embryos to determine if their CCR5 genes had been edited, Jiankui and his colleagues implanted them into Grace's womb, and she gave birth to the girls in November. Jiankui has argued that he undertook this experiment so that Lulu and Nana would be genetically vaccinated against the HIV virus that had infected their father.

The scientists and ethicists who are critical of Jiankui's work have three major concerns. First, and most worrisome to me: It is not clear if the Chinese team's CRISPR technology was even safe enough to use with human subjects. At this time, CRISPR is prone to off-target mistakes that alter the genome at random sites other than the intended target gene. Returning to the encyclopedia image, off-target mutations would involve changing a random “C” to a “G” on the wrong page of the wrong volume of the text—a mistake that could increase a patient's risk for cancer and other life-threatening diseases. Though Jiankui claimed that he and his team found no mistakes in either Lulu's or Nana's genomes, they were not able to check every single gene in each of their cells. They failed to adhere to the foundational ethical principle of medicine: *Primum non nocere*. First, do no harm.



Second, it is not clear that there was a medical need for this particular genetic intervention. Jiankui claimed he wanted to immunize the girls from their father's HIV. However, there are simpler, cheaper, and less controversial ways of reducing the risk of HIV transmission from father to daughter. Moreover, editing CCR5 reduces, but does not eliminate, the risk of HIV infection. The virus can use another molecular doorway called CXCR4 to enter human cells. In fact, changing the CCR5 gene actually makes a child more susceptible to infection from the West Nile and Japanese encephalitis viruses. Therefore, critics contend that Jiankui took advantage of a vulnerable couple struggling with the stigma of HIV-AIDS to undertake an experiment that had no clear benefit that would outweigh the inherent risks of every genetic intervention.

Finally, critics are concerned that the work of rogue scientists like Jiankui could undermine and delegitimize CRISPR. There are numerous laboratories and biotech companies around the world exploring how CRISPR might ameliorate and even cure many genetic diseases. Just a few days ago, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved an application from Editas Medicine in Cambridge, Massachusetts, to begin human clinical trials that use CRISPR to treat Leber Congenital Amaurosis type 10 (LCA10), an inherited disease that leads to vision loss and blindness. The worry is that this high-profile Chinese scandal and others like it could hold back genuine scientific progress like this exciting clinical trial. As Francis Collins put it, “should such epic scientific misadventures proceed, a technology with enormous promise for prevention and treatment of disease will be overshadowed by justifiable public outrage, fear, and disgust.”

These are legitimate ethical concerns. But in my view, they do not address the central moral question raised by CRISPR and other gene editing technologies: Putting aside the moral concerns raised by IVF, which are many, what are the ethical parameters for tinkering with the lifeblood of our children and grandchildren? Should we

*continued on page 10*

## Seven Adoption Songs to Reflect on Your Adoption Journey



There are many ways to express adoption pride and your adoption journey. For some people, songs about adoption are the perfect way to connect to their personal adoption experience, whether as a birth parent, adoptive parent or adoptee.

Many times, songs about family, love and children can also be adoption songs. Like all music, songs about adoption can be interpreted in many ways, and adoption songs that particularly speak to you may not even be specifically about adoption, at all. What's important is finding songs for adoption that express exactly what you're feeling, as no two adoption journeys are alike. Here, we've compiled a list of a few adoption songs, whether written specifically about adoption or interpreted that way, to listen to:

### 1. "When Love Takes You In," by Steven Curtis Chapman

With lyrics like, "And somewhere while you're sleeping / Someone else is dreaming too / Counting down the days until / They hold you close and say I love you," it's easy to see why this is often interpreted as an adoption song. In fact, Curtis Chapman and his wife adopted three girls from China, which many believe inspired this song.

### 2. "Naleigh Moon," by Josh Kelley

This song is actually named after an adopted child—Naleigh Moon, adopted by the singer and his wife, Katherine Heigl, from South Korea. As he sings, "Halfway around my little world / You had no idea that you were my girl / You found my arms not a moment too soon / I couldn't see past me 'til I saw you."

### 3. "Amos Story," by Aaron Ivey

Ivey and his wife have adopted three children, two of them from Haiti. He wrote this song while waiting for the international adoption process to be completed so they could finally bring their son Amos home: "I hope you know / There is somebody searching / For the way to get you here / I will get you here."

### 4. "So Far to Find You," by Casting Crowns

Similarly, this adoption song is also about an international adoption—specifically, a daughter adopted from China. The songwriter says, "The lyrics speak toward Meeka Hope (his daughter), but the parallels of God reaching out to bring us home to him are evident throughout the song." As he writes: "We were waiting and praying / And longing to bring you home / And then we saw your face / In a moment you were wrapped up in our hearts / We took a step of faith / And now here we are."

### 5. "Orphan," by John Waller

A more spiritual adoption song, Waller said he felt the Lord calling him to adopt a child. He and his wife would go on to adopt three children from Ukraine, and he wrote this song for his daughter: "Now she's here, from halfway around the world / Cause Jesus hears the orphan / He is moving Heaven and Earth / All for one little girl."

### 6. "Everything to Me," by Mark Schultz

For a different perspective, check out this song about adoption written by an adoptee. In it, he sings to his birth mother: "You gave life to me / A brand new world to see / Like playing baseball in the yard with dad at night / Mom reading Goodnight Moon / And praying in my room."

### 7. "Orphan Lullaby," by Lindsey Teefy

The singer/songwriter wrote this song about adoption for her son, whom she adopted from Ethiopia. She sings: "You are so lovely child / My heart, my dreams, my hopes / Are all for you."

*To see videos and hear songs, go to [Americanadoptions.com](http://Americanadoptions.com).*





# Understanding Adoption



## Adoption Q & A—CHILD-TO-PARENT

When your child learns that a friend or classmate was adopted, chances are, he'll have questions. Here are responses to questions kids ask about adoption.

**Q: Why doesn't Billy look like his mom?**

**A:** Billy's family is an adoptive family. He was born in Guatemala to a family who looks like him, but who couldn't take care of a baby when he was born.

**Q: What happened to Billy's real mother?**

**A:** Do you mean the woman who gave birth to him? She is his birthmother. Sometimes a person can have a baby without being ready to be a parent.

**Q: Why isn't he with her?**

**A:** She may have been too young to raise a child, or needed to work and didn't have anyone to take care of him. So she found a family who wanted a baby. Billy's mommy and daddy will be his parents forever.

**Q: Do you think Billy's real mother misses him?**

**A:** I think his birthmother probably does.

**Q: Is Sara Billy's real sister?**

**A:** Yes, they are brother and sister because they are part of the same family.

**Q: Emily told me she was adopted. What is adoption?**

**A:** Adoption is when a family that isn't able to take care of a child finds a family who will take care of her forever and ever. Emily's parents love her as much as we love you.

**Q: Am I going to be adopted?**

**A:** No, because I (or Daddy and I) was ready to be a parent when I had you. I will be your mother forever.

**Q: Will Emily ever meet her real mother?**

**A:** Do you mean her birthmother? That's a hard question to answer because I don't know. Sometimes adopted children meet their birthparents and sometimes they don't.

**Q: Why did Emily's parents adopt her?**

**A:** Because they wanted to have a family, and adopting a child is one way to do it.

**Q: What did Emily do that was so bad that her real parent(s) didn't keep her?**

**A:** I think you are talking about Emily's birthparent(s). Adoption is no one's fault. It is a decision made by grownups when they don't feel able or ready to be parents.

## Five Myths & Realities About Adoption

**1. MYTH:** Birthparents can show up at any time to "reclaim" their child.

**REALITY:** Once an adoption is finalized, it is permanent, and the adoptive parents are legally recognized as the child's parents.

**2. MYTH:** Birthparents are irresponsible and don't care about their children.

**REALITY:** Birthparents want the best for their children. They make adoption plans because they know they aren't able to take care of a child.

**3. MYTH:** It costs a lot to get a child.

**REALITY:** While most adoptions involve fees, the fees are for services rendered. They are never in payment for a child.

**4. MYTH:** Adoptive parents don't love their children as much as parents in families formed through biology.

**REALITY:** The love is the same, regardless of how a family is formed.

**5. MYTH:** Adoption is second-best.

**REALITY:** Adoption may sometimes be a second choice, but it is never second-best.



—adoptionnetwork.com

## More Upcoming Pro-Life Events

**The Bedford County Chapter** will sponsor bus transportation to the **March for Life**, on January 18, departing the Walmart parking lot (between Bedford and Everett at 9 a.m.; please arrive by 8:45 a.m. Adults \$20; Students \$10. Call 814-652-6755 to reserve a seat and for more information. See page 3 of this newsletter for details on Bedford CCHL's **Annual Pro-Life Dinner and Silent Auction**. For information on Bedford County's **Save the Babies & the Moms Project**, go to: [www.BedfordCountyProLife.org/](http://www.BedfordCountyProLife.org/) projects.

**The Centre County Chapter of CCHL** will hold its **Annual Auction and Indoor Garage Sale** on February 2nd. See page 4 for details.

**The 32nd Annual Respect Life March in Tyrone** will be **Sunday, January 13, at 12:00 p.m.**, beginning with a prayer service at **St. Matthew Church** in Tyrone and then a walk of 1.25 miles to Oak Grove Cemetery to the grave of Baby Agnes Doe, for another prayer service. A hot luncheon will be served in the parish hall after the March; people are encouraged to bring a sign. If unable to walk, feel free to drive at the end of the procession. This event is sponsored by Knights of Columbus St. Gregory Council #1218. For information, call **Peter Kreckel at 814-935-5436** or email: [pharmcanoe@aol.com](mailto:pharmcanoe@aol.com).

**The 33rd Annual Precious Life Banquet** will be held on **Friday, March 22, at the Jaffa Shrine, in Altoona, from 6:00-9:00 p.m.** The guest speaker will be **Ambassador Alan Keyes** at the Banquet and also at the **Breakfast on Saturday, March 23, at the Holiday Inn**. For more information and tickets to the Banquet and /or Breakfast, call **814-944-2669**.

## Blair County CCHL Thanks YOU!

A special thank you to all those who helped with our Christmas card sales this past season and great thanks also to all those who purchased our pro-life cards. Your support of this fundraising effort is much appreciated. Our existence as a pro-life organization in this community is dependent on your support. Thank you!

### CRISPR Babies

*continued from page 7*

even be allowed to change the genes of future generations of persons? As I have explained in more detail elsewhere, I think a reasonable case can be made to justify therapeutic interventions that alter the genomes of individuals, both young and old, born and unborn, as long as the genetic surgery is safe and therapeutically beneficial. If it is a great good to heal a child from a genetic disease, then it should also be a great good to prevent him from getting sick in the first place.

However, once the CRISPR technology is deemed safe and effective, it will be difficult for our postmodern and pluralistic society to establish limits for the genetic engineering of our children. I do not believe our commonweal will have the moral courage to tell Manhattan parents, who are willing to pay hundreds of thousands of dollars so that their four-year-old toddlers can attend luxury pre-schools, that they will not be allowed to spend a meager few thousand dollars to endow those same children with desirable genetic traits thought to be personally and socially advantageous. The advent of designer babies is upon us. *Nicanor Austriaco, O.P., is a professor of biology and of theology at Providence College.*

—*First Things, December 12, 2018*



*We find delight in the beauty and happiness of children that makes the heart too big for the body.*

~ *Ralph Waldo Emerson* ~



### EVERY LIFE MATTERS

**Pregnancy Help Center, Tyrone** needs donors, volunteers/client advocates in order to keep doing God's work. They are also still in need of pregnant women (1st and 2nd trimester) who are

willing to be ultrasound models so that their nurses can maintain their excellent skills. Contact Carol at **814-650-7899**.

### 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**  
**Citizens Concerned for Human Life, Inc.**

Winter 2019; Vol. 11, No. 1

President & Publisher: R. Thomas Forr, Jr.

Secretary/Editor: Marge Bradley

Legislative/Political Education Director: Beth Britz

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](mailto:blair@centralpaprolife.org)

website: [www.blaircountyprolife.com](http://www.blaircountyprolife.com)

## From the President's Desk

### Out of the Clear Blue Sky

Several weeks before Christmas, C.C.H.L. received a Christmas card from a young lady in a neighboring state thanking us for supporting the Pro-Life movement.

She explained that approximately twenty-five years ago she was involved in an open adoption.

Obviously, she was grateful for what we stand for and maybe she sent the same card to other Pro-Life organizations. Perhaps our organization or a like-minded group helped her decide to put her baby up for adoption as opposed to choosing an option that wouldn't have been good for the baby or her.

Today she can see the fruit of her choice as good.

What influenced her decision to opt for adoption, we may never know. Perhaps it was a friend or family member who gave her encouragement in a difficult situation. Perhaps she saw someone wearing the precious feet or saw a pro-life bumper sticker or an advertisement on television.

All I know is that she was thankful that she made the decision for life.

As we prepare for the March for Life, let us be positive about what we stand for and let us encourage others to stand up and March for Life.

Sincerely,

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



***I chose adoption  
for my baby  
not because I didn't want her,  
but because I love her.***

—Sandra, birth mother, adoptionnetwork.com

### Donations have been made—

#### In Honor of:

***Our Blessed Mother***

Requested by: Alan and Kim Curtis

***Sylvia Hatch***

Requested by: Patricia Hatch

***The Thomas and Patricia Byrne Family***

Requested by: Blair County CCHL

#### In Memory of:

***Carrie (Kibler) Detwiler***

Requested by: Rita and Gerald Kibler

***James J. Hatch***

Requested by: Patricia Hatch

***SSgt James M. Seidel***

Requested by: James and Helen Seidel

***Mr. and Mrs. Clair Boslet***

Requested by: Richard and Cheryl Willaims

***Kilcoyne Ancestors***

Requested by: Jim and Steph Kilcoyne

***Infant Christine Oster***

***Thomas H. Oster***

***Stella Konopka***

Requested by: Marge Bradley

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!

### 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

\_\_\_\_\_ Student/Senior Member      \$ 5.00

\_\_\_\_\_ In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 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

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Altoona, PA  
Permit No. 150

**61 million**  
**children have been killed**  
**by legal abortion since 1973**

**† = 1 Million**



**Children killed by  
abortion since 1973**

There will be approximately 2,300  
killed in the USA today from abortion.  
No flags lowered.  
No presidents crying.  
No media hyperventilating.  
Normal day.  
~ Matt Drudge ~



**Americans killed  
in all wars since 1775**