

Life News

Long Island's Pro-Life Newsletter

PO Box 223, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779 ● PO Box 247, Old Bethpage, NY 11804 ● 631-243-1435 ● www.ProLifeLI.org

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2020 **December** Issue

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"Never forget that whether we are addressing the killing of an innocent preborn child or the decriminalized act of imposing death on an elderly person, every human being's life is precious... Therefore, let us strive to always pursue justice for every innocent person; God will take care of the rest." Judy Brown, President, American Life League

2020 LICL and LICL Educational Trust Events - 2021 Dates! Thanks to the many who answer the call, the many who join LICL in presenting a constant, visible, pro-life message through Nassau and Suffolk Counties.



Due to COVD-19 restrictions, many of the LI Coalition for Life events had to be cancelled. Please help us continue the fight for our preborn babies through prayer, legislation and action!

A must see: "Informed: Life is Worth Living," a video by the Patients Rights Council will be shown at the LI Coalition for Life **Jan. 25** meeting at St. Regis K of C in Ronkonkoma. The video interviews real people from different walks of life who have dealt with Life and Death issues involving Self Dilemma, Family, Finances, Medical Practitioners, etc. This video can be of assistance for individuals and people involved with family members or friends. Please join us. Brief discussion will follow the video. More info in our Jan/Feb. 2021 Life News.

ATTENTION H.S. JUNIORS & SENIORS

High school juniors and seniors including home schoolers, you have the voice, the enthusiasm, the spirit and the opportunity to speak up for the voiceless and marginalized members of the human family; the pre-born, the frail elderly and the

Please consider participating in the annual **Oratory Contest** sponsored by the Long Island Coalition for Life Educational Trust to be held in the Spring of 2021. You will have the opportunity to express in a logical and organized way your respect for the life of every individual no matter how small or incapacitated. The first, second and third place winners will receive \$500, \$300 and \$200 respectively.

You may focus your 5-7 minute speech on one of the following topics: abortion, stem cell research/cloning, euthanasia, assisted suicide or health care rationing. The application with more details will be in the Jan./Feb. 2021 issue of *Life News* and will be on our website: prolifeli.org.

Life News - 2 - December 2020

Dear Defenders of Life,

There are many ways you can support the pro-life cause - by prayer, by peaceful witnessing at abortion mills, by writing letters to the editors, by political action and by financial support. As Chair of the Long Island Coalition for Life, I am asking for your financial support at this time. The LICL is a completely voluntary organization. Its Board of Directors and committee members receive no financial compensation. All of your contributions go directly for pro-life work.

Education is the first and foremost purpose of the LICL. We have provided pro-life speakers at Long Island high schools and colleges. We have pro-life displays at street fairs. We have a presence at abortion mills where we distribute business-size cards in English and Spanish that provide crisis pregnancy help phone numbers and websites. Our biggest expense is the publication of Life News, an essential educational tool.

This past summer, our Educational Trust sponsored pro-life fly over banners seen on Long Island beaches with the message "**Preborn Lives Matter**." Although only 13 percent of our population is African-American, the CDC says that 33 percent of abortions are of African-American preborn babies. That has resulted in over 20 million black preborn babies who have been killed since Roe v. Wade came down in 1973. The LICL has made efforts to reach marginalized individuals with our pro-life message who have been victimized by the abortion industry, especially Planned Parenthood.

The LICL has also sponsored lobby-bus trips to Albany to stop anti-life legislation such as abortion and assisted suicide bills. Sadly the Abortion on Demand Bill was passed in January 2019, but we are still fighting doctor-prescribed suicide bills, with the false, harmless sounding title, "Medical Aid in Dying."

The historian, Hannah Arendt, once described Nazism as "the banality of evil." By this, she meant that evil had been normalized in Nazi Germany. And of course, in our own country the evil of slavery had once been normalized. In the United States today, we average over 2,500 abortions a day, more than 60 million since the Supreme Court legalized abortion through all nine-months of pregnancy with its Roe v. Wade & Doe v. Bolton decisions in January 1973.

We in the pro-life movement are fighting against this normalization of the killing of pre-born babies through abortion and the killing of the elderly, the depressed, and disabled through doctor-prescribed suicide which will turn doctors into killers.

Please help us to continue our educational efforts to end this killing by contributing whatever you can afford so that together we can win this fight for all those who cannot defend themselves.

Thank you for your support and prayers.

Junge & Trast

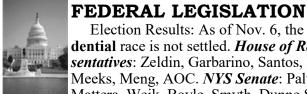
For His Innocents.

George E. Frost LICL Chairman

P.S. Please use the enclosed postage-paid envelope and the coupon on page 7 to volunteer and/or send your year-end donation. We want to keep Long Island moving in the pro-life direction. Gift subscriptions to Life News are another way you can spread the pro-life message. Just check off the gift subscription box in the page 7 coupon and return with your \$18.00 subscription donation. Photocopy the coupon if you are making several or go to our website ProLifeLI.org. Thank you!

You're Invited! The Long Island Coalition for Life general meeting welcomes all interested in pro-life activity, education, legislation or volunteering. We will have a short meeting on Mon., Dec. 21 at 7:30 PM for the purpose of the election of officers. We will have light refreshments to celebrate the Christmas season after the meeting. Meeting will be at the Joseph Barry K of C Hall, 45 Heitz Place, Hicksville. All are welcome - please join us! For info, LICL at 631-243-1435. Masks and social distancing guidelines will be followed!

Federal Legislation continued....



Election Results: As of Nov. 6, the Presidential race is not settled. House of Representatives: Zeldin, Garbarino, Santos, Rice, Meeks, Meng, AOC. NYS Senate: Palumbo, Mattera, Weik, Boyle, Smyth, Dunne, Sr.,

Kaplan, Brooks, Kaminsky. NYS Assembly: Thiele, Jr., Giglio, DeStefano, Ross, D. Smith, Ramos, Gandolfo, Fitzpatrick, Durso, Silvestri, Jean-Pierre, Brown, Lavine, McDonough, Montesano, Srivastava, Mikulin, Darling, Ra, Miller, Canzoneri- Fitzpatrick, Solages. (Absentee ballots and/or possible recounts may change these results.)

The death of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg (RBG) gave rise to such tributes that one writer spoke of the 'canonization of RBG', while fearful feminists stocked up on IUDs, lest her successor ban the item. RBG's successor, Justice Amy Coney Barrett (ACB), is on the high court already. She has been hailed as a new model of feminism. RGB had no doubt that women couldn't be equal to men unless legal abortion allowed a woman to 'walk away' from an unwanted pregnancy (the way a man can). According to E. Bachiochi, ACB lives a new feminism, where equality means women and men share the responsibilities children bring, in a mutually agreeable way (not walking away). Abby Johnson says she laments the times she, or others at PP, told women 'if you have the kid, not the abortion', you'll never finish school or reach your full potential. At her Senate hearings, ACB was asked if Roe & Casey were "super precedent." Citing legal scholars, ACB said it's not judges, but the people (i.e.: politics) who decide that. When a Supreme Court case is so widely accepted that no serious effort is being made to undo it, that case is 'super precedent'. Neither Roe nor Casey fit that definition. {See: politico.com 9/27 & bizpacreview.com 10/14}

The Supreme Court now has a clear majority of originalists. Since the 1950s, the Court had been dominated by justices who adapt the Constitution's meaning to fit leftist policy. The Court this term will hear a challenge to ObamaCare, and three religious liberty cases regarding adoption agency limits, the RFRA act, and campus 'free-speech zones.'

The US Senate failed to advance S.3072, which requires a woman to pick up abortion pills 'in person'. A similar Executive Order is on hold, and SCOTUS refused to give the Order a quick review. The President also issued a 'Born Alive' Executive Order. It does allow some doctor discretion.

49 House members asked Attorney General Barr to investigate if Planned Parenthood broke the Partial Birth Abortion ban (based on covert videotapes).

The Washington Post reported PP now receives over \$70M more in Federal funding than when Trump took office due to Medicaid increases. Lifenews.com (Aug. 5) lists seven ways the Administration has cut PP

Federal Legislation continued in next column...

funds, including *Title X* cuts, but some changes were nixed by the Courts. (Biden has promised to restore taxpayer funding to PP on Inauguration Day.)

Did medication used to treat the President's COVID infection contain "cells from an aborted baby?" The "antibody cocktail" was refined and tested using HEK 293T cells, which came originally from kidney tissue obtained in a 1973 abortion. Regeneron Inc. says the cells have been continually regrown in culture, and genetically changed, thus are no longer considered 'fetal tissue'. The headline in *Lifenews.com* agrees with Regeneron. The Children of God for Life website calls HEK 293T cells "aborted fetal cells".

The acting head of the US Agency for International Development announced an increased effort to ensure that no US foreign aid funds are used, in any way, for abortions.

NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATION

It is possible for the NYS Legislature to be called back into a late-year Special

Session - usually for budget matters. However, other bills can be brought up. The following bills are currently in committee. Once the new session starts in January, bills will receive new numbers.

S.1383/A.3130 Unborn Victims of Violence Act – Currently if a pregnant woman is violently attacked in NYS and her child dies in utero, no charges can be brought for the death of the child. 38 states, including California, allow for double homicide charges, but not NYS. This bill would change that.

S.5332/A.7816 The Born-Alive Abortion Survivor's Act would restore protections for babies who are bornalive during a late-term abortion. These protections were repealed with the enactment of the 2019 abortion law (RHA).

S.3947/A.2694 Physician Assisted Suicide – This bill allows doctors to write lethal prescriptions for patients who are diagnosed as terminal and wish to take their own

S.5089/A.4831 Public University Emergency Contraception Education Act – This bill addresses 'emergency contraception' pills, such as Plan B. They are intended to be used within 72 hours of sexual activity. Although called 'contraception' they can work by preventing implantation, meaning they can cause an early-stage abor-

A.8743 – This bill would require all SUNY and CUNY campuses to stock and provide abortion pills in health centers on campus.

> To discuss Federal Legislation, e-mail Charles Feldman at cdefeldman@optonline.net. To discuss State Legislation, e-mail Jim Miller at jimmiller9@aol.com.

HEALTH & SCIENCE



Conscious Human Brains in a Petri Dish?

Wesley J. Smith reported at National Review (10/29/20), "As society roils with COVID and the election, the biotechnological revolution rushes forward with scientists bound by few enforceable ethical boundaries. As a consequence, we have already seen babies born who were genetically engineered, the march toward three- (or more) parent embryos, and increasingly radical proposals for creating novel family forms. Now, the prospect of growing *human brain* "organoids" from stem cells in a dish *that could become conscious*. Brain electrical activity has already been observed in the experiments. And now, some scientists are contemplating the next step."

A Nature.com article (10/27/20) entitled "Can lab-grown brains become conscious?" reported on the work of researcher Alysson Muotri at the University of California, San Diego: "In [Muotri's] laboratory, hundreds of miniature human brains, the size of sesame seeds, float in Petri dishes, sparking with electrical activity. These tiny structures, known as brain organoids, are grown from human stem cells and have become a familiar fixture in many labs that study the properties of the brain. Muotri...has found some unusual ways to deploy his. He has connected organoids to walking robots, modified their genomes with Neanderthal genes, launched them into orbit...and used them as models to develop more human-like artificial-intelligence systems. Like many scientists, Muotri has temporarily pivoted to studying COVID-19, using brain organoids to test how drugs perform against the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus...In August 2019, Muotri's group published a paper in Cell Stem Cell reporting the creation of human brain organoids that produced coordinated waves of activity, resembling those seen in premature babies. The waves continued for months before the team shut the experiment down. This type of brain-wide, coordinated electrical activity is one of the properties of a conscious brain. The team's finding led ethicists and scientists to raise a host of moral and philosophical questions about whether organoids should be allowed to reach this level of advanced development, whether 'conscious' organoids might be entitled to special treatment and rights not afforded to other clumps of cells and the possibility that consciousness could be created from scratch...Other experiments, such as efforts to add human neurons to mouse brains, are raising questions, with some scientists and ethicists arguing that these experiments should not be allowed. The studies have set the stage for a debate between those who want to avoid the creation of consciousness and those who see complex organoids as a means to studying devastating human diseases. Muotri and many other neuroscientists think that human brain organoids could be the key to understanding uniquely human conditions such as autism and schizophrenia, which are impossible to study in detail in mouse models. To achieve this goal, Muotri says he and others might need to deliberately create consciousness.

"Researchers are now calling for a set of guidelines, similar to those used in animal research, to guide the humane use of brain organoids and other experiments that could achieve consciousness. In June, the US National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine began a study with the aim of outlining the potential legal and ethical issues associated with brain organoids and human-animal chimaeras. The concerns over lab-grown brains have also highlighted a blind spot: neuroscientists have no agreed way to define and measure consciousness. Without a working definition, ethicists worry that it will be impossible to stop an experiment before it crosses a line."

Wesley J. Smith commented, "Once the nausea abates, isn't that a prospect we should grapple with on an international basis (with alacrity) to determine what, if any, regulations and legalities should be constructed around research with human brain cells? ...scientists are already introducing human neurons into mouse brains. What if these mice develop human-type awareness? Unfortunately, our leaders are failing us. As far as I know, even though biotechnology is the most powerful and potentially life-altering force since the splitting of the atom, [most world leaders have] never addressed the question. "The scientists" wring their hands but tend to oppose legally binding regulations. So, we are stuck with mostly voluntary guidelines and modest funding restrictions. That's woefully insufficient. As we have seen, guidelines are meaningless unless they can be enforced with substantial penalties for their violation. But we don't even know yet what to consider unethical. The excuse for such research to careen ahead is always the fight against disease. But that is not where these studies would end, not by a long shot. Some researchers are appalled by the current trends. Others, such as Muotri, are indifferent."

The Nature article concluded, "...Muotri sees little difference between working on a human organoid or a lab mouse. "We work with animal models that are conscious and there are no problems. We need to move forward and if it turns out they become conscious, to be honest I don't see it as a big deal."" Smith reflected, "That crass attitude illustrates the huge peril biotech could pose to human decency. As the great moral philosopher Leon Kass once wrote, "shallow are the souls that have forgotten how to shudder.""

Key: (M) = MONTHLY (W) = WEEKLY

PRO-LIFE PRAYERFUL PRESENCE. Scheduled times at local abortion provider/referral sites are listed below. To volunteer, speak with the contact person before going to a site. **Never witness alone**. **Your presence**, **if even for 30 min. a month**, **is important**. **Note:** Vigils & Witnesses are **NOT** sponsored by the LICL and are provided for informational purposes.

Nassau County - Location	Day/Time	Contact Phone	<u>IMPORTANT</u> :
540 Fulton Ave (Rt 24), Hempstead	(W) Sa 8 AM-Noon	917-544-0121	Peaceful assembly on
" "	(M) 1st. Sa 10 AM Liturgy/Clergy	917-544-0121	public property near an
" "	(W) Th 10:30-Noon	516-270-3845	abortion site is a lawful
" "	(W) Fr 11 AM - Noon	516-359-1298	First Amendment right.
Suffolk County - Location	<u>Day/Time</u>	Contact Phone (631)	~
498 Rt. 111, Smithtown	(W) Sa 6-9 AM	751-7894	-a -a(1)
70 Maple Ave, Smithtown	(W) We & Sa 7:30-10:30 AM	979-8541	() ()
42 First Ave, Brentwood	(W) We 10-10:30 AM	667-2532	
" "	(W) Sa 9:40-10:15 AM	665-3630	
540 E. Main St, Riverhead	(W) We 2-4 PM	722-3111	
450 Waverly Ave, Patchogue	(M) 2nd Sa 10:30-11:30 AM	472-4314	
595 Hampton Rd. S. Hampton OB/GYN	(W) Fr 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	807-6001	

Pro-Life Counseling Centers nearest to abortion sites:

Women First Pregnancy Options: (Three locations): Massapequa 516-798-9100, 35 East Willow St, at E end of Sunrise Mall behind White Castle, (bilingual) open Mo-Fr, 10 AM-4 PM, Sa 9 AM-Noon (by appt. only); Hempstead 516-408-6300, 474 Fulton Av (Rt 24) (bilingual) open Mo-Fr 10 AM-4:30 PM & Sa 9AM-1PM; Deer Park 631-243-0066, 1767 Deer Park Ave, (bilingual) open Mo 10 AM-8 PM, Tu-Fr 10 AM-4 PM. (Closed Sa)

Local Pro-Life Viewing – All programs weekly on Altice (formally CableV) Ch 20 (except where noted):

Life Issues - hosted by LICL - Thurs., 5 PM

Life Talk - Mark Crutcher's Life Dynamics - Mon. 8 PM, Ch. 20; youtube.com/channel/UCX13pg11nqITyzlVGjJzAdQ. EWTN CableV Ch 135, Verizon Ch 285: Defending Life hosted by Priests for Life: Sun. 11 PM; Pro-Life Weekly: Thurs. 10 PM Long Island Teen Freedom "Sexual Risk Avoidance Education" - Life Center of L.I. - Fri. 1 AM, Ch. 20

AFA of NY Programs on **YouTube.com**; then in Search bar: **AFA New York**; then click on **AFA NY**; then select **VIDEOS**

Listen to pro-life radio on the Internet: blogtalkradio.com/march4lifeny-radio

New Resource: Many of you know Rich Hinshaw. He was the Director of the Office of Family Ministry for the DRVC, Editor of the *L.I. Catholic* and writes for the Catholic League Newsletter, the *Catalyst*, Rick now has a blog. His latest post: Abortion victims, born and unborn! https://rickhinshawreadingthesigns.wordpress.com/2020/10/29/vote-to-save-pregnancy-care-centers-in-ny/

Student-Sponsored Baby Shower

A baby shower for mothers at Mommas House was held by the Maureen Nolan/K of C Scholarship students. The award is given to qualifying 8th grade graduates from St. Thomas the Apostle (W. Hempstead) parish who attend a Catholic High School. Students collect donations from family, friends, and neighbors as part of their pro-life efforts.



Ever-Expanding Culture of Death: Bioethicist Wesley Smith stated recently, "Once a society accepts the noxious notion that killing is an acceptable answer to human suffering, the definition of 'suffering' never stops expanding." Fr. Shenan J. Boquet of Human Life International wrote, "Smith was writing specifically about euthanasia. But the same logic underlies the whole culture of death. The culture of death is a ravenous beast. There is never enough death to sate its appetite." Fr. Boquet noted that abortion advocates always start with the 'hard cases' (rape, incest and threat to the mother's life) "to address the horrific suffering of the victimized women. Inevitably, the instant the door is open a crack, pro-abortion activists break through it with a battering ram. Law creates culture. And pro-abortion law inevitably creates a culture of coercion. The exact same thing is true in the case of euthanasia." Fr. Boquet refers to euthanasia and assisted suicide as "the poisoned fruit of abortion." (hli.org, 10/26/20)

The Life Center of L.I. has a new name:

Women First Pregnancy Options
Same phone number, same

addresses, enhanced services.



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Vita Mazza

Did you know?

According to Planned Parenthood's 2019 Annual Report:

- 345,672 abortions were committed by PP in 2019 40% of the abortions in the U.S.
- 96.1% of pregnant women who seek help at PP get an abortion
- 1.2% of pregnant women who seek help at PP get adoption referrals
- 2.7% of pregnant women who seek help at PP get prenatal care of any kind

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DEADLINE NOTICE:

Jan, Feb. & early March 2021 events to be considered for publication in the Jan/Feb. 2021 issue of

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<u>Membership</u>

We need your opinion, thoughts and ideas! Would your prolife organization like to become a member group? If so, contact us for an application and details. Call 631-243-1435 or email us from our website: prolifeli.org. One delegate from a member group can vote on issues brought up at the General Meeting.

(Note: A subscription to the newsletter does not constitute membership.)

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Life News

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For his prayerful presence at Planned Parenthood in Smithtown from 1993-2015 Johanna Cervellino

Life News

of Long Island

To protect innocent human life from fertilization to natural death through education, legislative action, prayer and peaceful presence.

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Annual March for Life, Washington DC - Friday, January 29, 2021

Congratulations to Justice Amy Coney Barrett on her appointment to the U.S. Supreme Court!

31st Annual National Night of **Praver for Life**

Tues., Dec. 8 - 9 PM to Wed., Dec. 9 - 1 AM To register your Church or find nearest

location contact Miriam 631-252-8258 or Mary 717-533-4846; e-mail: evecampfield@hotmail.com. Website: Nationalnightofprayerforlife.org

Face the Truth Abortion Kills 1

Roe v Wade Memorial Face the Truth

Sun., Jan. 17, 2021 1:30-3 PM In front of NUMC, 2201 Hempstead Tpke, (Rt. 24) East Meadow, NY Sponsor: LICL 631-243-1435 Email: info@prolifeLI.org Pro-lifers are asked to join the vigil on behalf of the hundreds of unborn children tragically aborted at NUMC.

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Conscious Human Brains in a Petri Dish?

Hibernians Bus to the March for Life

The Ancient Order of Hibernians is organizing buses in both Suffolk and Nassau to the Fri., Jan. 29, 2021 MARCH FOR LIFE. Buses will leave Nassau County from Massapequa & Suffolk County bus leaves AOH Div. 9 Hall, Mt. Sinai with stops at LIE Ex. 63, Patchogue Park & Ride & LIE, Ex. 49, Melville Park & Ride. At the time of this printing, times have not been established. Donations are welcome to offset the cost. All are welcome to spend the ride time with the Hibernians and friends as room allows. For more information email Jack at AOH11@Live.com.

HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The LI Coalition for Life Educational Trust invites all high school seniors (including home schooled) in Nassau & Suffolk counties to take part in its 2021 High School Scholarship Award. Applicants are to participate in and engage their peers in respect for human life activities. Students will be evaluated on their level of involvement, creative advocacy and dedication in supporting respect for human life. Applications are available at www.ProlifeED.org and www.ProlifeLI.org or call 631-575-1482 to request a copy of the application.