

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.ProLifeLl.org

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2024 **April** Issue

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"Euthanasia is abortion's evil twin: One kills at the beginning of life, while the other kills at the end. Both are violations of God's laws." (Steven Mosher, Population Research Institute)

Creating Dialogue on Abortion

Steve Wagner, Executive Director of Justice For All, did a wonderful presentation at the 'Creating Dialogue on Abortion' workshop on March 9, 2024, sponsored by the Long Island Coalition for Life. Pro-lifers were given important insight into the dynamics of engaging abortion advocates as well as those who consider themselves pro-life but struggle with exceptions. True to its billing as an interactive workshop, this event wasn't just a sit-and-hear seminar. Throughout the day, the many attendees paired up, and using supplied scripts, role-played conversations as both the pro-lifer and the abortion advocate. Justice For All has many resources on its website (jfaweb.org), including online courses (e.g., "Love3" workshop) and the "Kids Lesson Plan" (for K-4). The LICL is grateful for Mr. Wagner's educational and entertaining program, so we can help change hearts and minds into embracing the culture of life. The LICL thanks those who took the time to attend, the volunteers who helped the

day run smoothly, and to our donors and others who support such events.

Photos: (L) Steve Wagner, Justice For All exec. dir., speaks to attendees at the 'Creating Dialogue on Abortion' event 3/9/2024, held by the LI Coalition for Life. (R) Attendees at the LI Coalition for Life's 'Creating Dialogue on Abortion' event (3/9/2024) hone their conversation skills through the guidance of the extensive workshop materials.



Long Island Pro-life Youth Club

A pro-life youth group has started on Long Island for pro-life high school and college age youth and young adults. The main goals of the Long Island Pro-life Youth Club are to strengthen the youths' pro-life foundational knowledge and speaking skills; and to encourage their pro-life activism (e.g., in school and with local pro-life events). The club is non-sectarian and not affiliated with any organization. The club is seeking participants! No experience necessary, just a good pro-life attitude. If you would like more information, please contact Celeste at FORTYDFLLI@gmail.com. Thank you.

March for Life NY in Albany

Monday, June 24 - Begin at Noon

Meet at Children's Memorial, Empire Plaza and March to NYS Capitol Steps State St. & Washington Ave., Albany Prolife Speakers

To register, volunteer & more info visit marchforlifeny.org or call 631-681-7275

40 Days for Life Spring Campaign Closing Date April 2

Check on websites for any closing prayers.
Hempstead: 40daysforlife.com/Hempstead
Massapequa: 40daysforlife.com/massapequa
email paul.arena29@yahoo.com

Patchogue: 40daysforlife.com/patchogue or call

631-219-3278

Smithtown: 40daysforlife.com/smithtown, email 40DFLsmithtown@gmail.com

You're Invited The Long Island Coalition for Life general meeting welcomes all interested in pro-life activity, education, legislation or volunteering. Our next General Meeting will be

April 22 at 7:30 PM at Joseph Barry Council K of C Hall, 45 Heitz Pl., Hicksville.

All are welcome - please join us! For further info, call LICL at 631-243-1435.

High School 2024 Scholarship Award

The LI Coalition for Life Educational Trust invites all high school juniors and seniors (including home schooled) in Nassau & Suffolk counties to take part in its 2024 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. **Deadline to apply is April 15th.** For more info and an application, please visit ProlifeED.org/Events.

NYS Constitution - Equality Amendment Bill

The Long Island Coalition for Life continues to educate you on the threat of the ballot proposal this November to amend the NYS Constitution. The so-called Equality Amendment (Bill S.108-A-Krueger/A.1283-Seawright) states that no person shall be denied the equal protection of the laws of this state or be subjected to any discrimination in their civil rights based on a list of protected classes. The current clause of the constitution includes only race, color, creed and religion. The proposed changes include adding "pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes, and reproductive healthcare and autonomy." It also adds "age" without any exclusion of minors.

Here are comments from a few of the organizations trying to rally pro-life and pro-family citizens to stop passage of the amendment.

 $\sqrt{}$ "While there is no explicit reference to abortion, some of the amendment's ramifications and impacts include:... abortion will be officially codified in NY. Abortion rights will be woven into the fabric of our neighborhoods, communities, towns and cities. Perhaps, most poignantly, the "right" to kill unborn children will be sewn into the hearts and minds of future generations and government policies and practices." (Feminists Choosing Life of New York)

 $\sqrt{}$ "Including "reproductive healthcare and autonomy" in the litany of protected classes in Section 11 of the New York State Constitution is another unnecessary step in the state's quest to be the abortion capital of the country. The amendment is gratuitous, as abortion is already legal in New York with virtually no restrictions, and has, in fact, been declared a "fundamental right" by the Reproductive Health Act of 2019. Unfortunately, this bill solidifies the message that New York has been sending women for some time now: abortion is positive, empowering, and the key to success. This couldn't be further from the truth." (NYS Catholic Conference)

 $\sqrt{\text{"The State Constitution supersedes any current laws on the books....The New York State government could have more authority than parents in making medical decisions for their minor children." (The Coalition to Protect Kids New York)$

Help protect preborn children! Are you registered to vote? Please educate others about the dangers of this ballot proposal.

Life Pac, Inc. Knights for Life Inc.

Meetings on Tuesdays: April 23
May 28
June 25

All meetings are at 7:30 PM at the N. Massapequa Community Center, 214 N. Albany Ave., N. Massapequa. All are welcome! For info call Keith Wilson 516-633-1435 or email kwilson@optonline.net

WEEKLY PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Rosary for Life every Fri. at 3 PM on Zoom, sponsored by DRVC OHLFB. Meeting ID: 811 9648 1100 Passcode: 20EWp7; Call In #: 1 (646) 876-9923.
- Holy Hour for Life St. Joseph RCC, 59 Church St., Kings Park every Mon. at 7 PM. This is also live-streamed. For more info call 631-269-6635.
- Right to Life Rosary Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Chapel, 495 N. Ocean Ave., Patchogue every Thurs. at 6:30 PM. For info call 631-475-4739.



FEDERAL LEGISLATION

•On Feb. 7, the House passed **HR.485**, *Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act*, prohibiting all health care programs (Fed or State) that get Federal funds, from using prices based on "quality-adjusted life years" to set pay-out amounts.

(Discounting the value of a life based on age, disability, or terminal illness.) All three LI Reps. voted Yes. The bill is now in the Senate Finance Committee. Prior to the vote, House Democrats tried to attach the anti-life *Women's Health Protection Act* to this bill. They failed.

- FACE Act Repeal Act, HR.5577 has been in the House Judiciary Committee since it was introduced Sept. 19. Related Bill S.3017 is in the Senate Judiciary Committee.
- Two years ago, pro-lifers found five very late-term aborted babies among medical waste at the Washington DC Surgi-Center. .The "DC Five" wound up at the DC Medical Examiner's office. The pro-lifers who found the remains hoped they'd serve as evidence of infanticide or illegal partial-birth abortion. In early February, the Medical Examiner said "...DOJ has advised...that there is no reason to keep those babies anymore." A cremation was planned but called off after an outcry from pro-lifers.
- As we await SCOTUS' ruling on the safety, and ways to dispense, the abortion drug *mifepristone*, conflicting claims continue. Pro-abortionists call the drug effective and safe when dispensed without an inperson visit, with a serious complication rate under 1%. Three Charlotte Lozier Institute studies said 1 in 25 women who abort with *mifepristone* go to the ER, and 1 in 20 need surgery to stop bleeding.
- March 1: CVS and Walgreens announced they now have FDA certification and will soon begin selling abortion pills in NY, RI, MA, PA, CA and IL.
- February 6: Pro-life Rep. Chris Smith warns the proposed *World Health Organization Pandemic Treaty* is a huge threat to freedom. It would cede many US government powers to WHO during a "health emergency". Smith notes WHO considers abortion an "essential service," and a January 1 WHO Bulletin said it's "imperative" that nations "counteract conservative opposition" to abortion.

Before you vote, be sure to know where candidates stand on ALL life issues.

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



NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATION

Medical Aid in Dying Act (MAID) – NYS bills S2445A/ and A995A: The purpose of the NYS "Medical Aid in

Dying" bills is "To provide that a mentally competent, terminally ill patient may request medication to be self-administered for the purpose of hastening the patient's death..." While the perception may be that those seeking assisted suicide (A/S) are elderly frail near-death patients, MAID applies to those 18 years and older.

The MAID bills are currently pending in the NYS Senate and Assembly Health Committees and pro-lifers want the bills to stay there and not reach the floors of the Senate and Assembly for a vote.

Some points to consider about assisted suicide (A/S):

- A/S dehumanizes and devalues the diseased and disabled.
- A/S destigmatizes the gravity of suicide and undermines the value of human life.
- Why 'physician' A/S? Does that make A/S more palatable to A/S advocates than, say, a caregiver buying lethal drugs off the street for their loved one to swallow?
- Some studies show that the total number of self-initiated deaths (euthanasia, A/S, and non-assisted suicide) rises significantly where euthanasia/assisted suicide is legally available.
- The MAID bills state that "The cause of death listed on a qualified individual's death certificate who dies after self-administering medication under this article will be the underlying terminal illness or condition." That is, let's not call it suicide and let's not be able to track what's going on with the law.
- Experience from states and countries that have legalized assisted suicide shows that some patients seeking A/S suffer from depression (should be treated) or consider themselves a burden to their family (a 'duty to die' mentality sets in), and/or have been steered toward A/S because it's cheaper for the health insurance provider than medical care.
- Don't be misled by claims of 'safeguards' in A/S laws. The only safeguard against assisted suicide is suicide prevention. **Assisted suicide is still suicide.**

For more information on MAID see the Health & Science page in the March 2024 Life News: https://prolifeli.org/images/lifenews/March 2024 Final.pdf

Please contact your state legislators today and ask them to vote against the MAID bills and any bill supporting assisted suicide. (See links at end of this page.) Particularly contact LI members of the Health Committees: Senators Jack Martins, Steven Rhoads, Kevin Thomas, and Assemblypersons: Jake Blumencranz, Jarett Gandolfo, John Mikulin, Michaelle Solages.

TAKE ACTION – For contact info on legislators at all levels go to: prolifeli.org/index.php/legislative **OR** usa.gov/elected-officials.

ABORTION PROCEDURES

Abortion has become so common place that even pro-lifers may lose sight that tiny people are being slaughtered by abortion. Here are descriptions of common abortion procedures (for information purposes only) taken from www.abortionprocedures.com. LMP = last menstrual period. Laminaria are seaweed sticks that absorb liquid and are used to dilate (widen) the cervix. More thorough descriptions and sources for the information are at that website.

Aspiration (Suction) / Dilation and curettage (D&C) Abortion - First Trimester

The abortionist dilates the mother's cervix then inserts a suction catheter (tube) into the uterus to vacuum the child from the womb. The suction machine has a force about 10 to 20 times the force of a household vacuum cleaner. The abortionist completes the procedure using a curette (sharp metal device) to scrape the lining of the uterus to remove any remains of the child.

Week 4-5 (LMP): the baby's organs start to develop and the heart begins to beat

Week 8 (LMP) - the preborn baby's hands and feet are developing

Week 9 (LMP) - the child can suck her thumb; heart completes dividing into four chambers

Week 10 (LMP) - vital organs have developed, tiny fingernails begin to form

Week 12 (LMP) - the child responds to touch; nerve cells are developing rapidly.

Dilation and evacuation (D&E) Abortion - Second Trimester (13-24 weeks LMP)

For a D&E abortion, the abortionist dilates the mother's cervix 24 to 48 hours before the procedure. The abortionist inserts a large suction catheter into the uterus to empty the amniotic fluid. Then, the abortionist uses a grasping instrument to tear off the baby's limbs, pull out organs and other body parts, and finally crush the baby's head. A curette is used to scrape the uterus of any remaining parts of the baby. The abortion staff collect all the baby's parts to check if all pieces have been removed.

Week 13 (LMP) - the preborn baby's fingerprints are visible, baby is about three inches.

Week 16 (LMP) - the baby's heart is pumping roughly 25 quarts of blood every day.

Week 20 (LMP) - the child's nervous system is developed enough to feel pain.

Week 24 (LMP) - the baby is roughly a foot long; the brain is developing rapidly. At this age, almost all babies can survive outside the mother if given proper support.

Induction Abortion - Third Trimester (25 weeks LMP)

At 25 weeks, a baby is almost fully-developed and is considered viable, meaning he or she could survive outside the womb. For this reason, the abortionist will usually first kill the baby in utero, then induce the mother's labor to deliver her baby stillborn.

This procedure takes 3-4 days. The abortionist first injects digoxin or potassium chloride through the mother's abdomen or vagina, targeting the baby's heart, torso, or head, causing cardiac arrest that kills the baby. Laminaria are inserted to open the cervix and the mother is given drugs to induce labor. It may take 2-4 days for her cervix to dilate enough and for the labor-inducing drugs to cause the contractions to expel her dead baby.

Week 25 (LMP) - baby is about 13½ inches long.

Week 27 (LMP) - baby weighs almost two pounds, is sleeping and waking in regular cycles. The mother may feel the baby hiccup.

Week 31 (LMP) – the baby kicks and does somersaults

Abortion Pills - First Trimester Chemical Abortion

A chemical (or 'medical') abortion is a non-surgical abortion in which the mother takes drugs to end the life of the baby. These drugs are approved by the FDA for use up to ten weeks LMP.

The mother takes mifepristone (RU-486) pills at the abortionist's office. This drug blocks the hormone progesterone needed for the pregnancy, so the uterus lining breaks down, cutting nourishment to the baby, who then dies in the womb. Twenty-four to 48 hours later, the mother takes misoprostol (Cytotec) by mouth or vaginally, which causes contractions and bleeding and the dead baby is expelled.

If a mother changes her mind after taking RU-486, she might still be able to save her baby within a very short time frame. See abortionpillreversal.com.

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 540 Fulton Ave (Rt 24), Hempstead """ Suffolk County - Location	Day/Time (W) Sa 8 AM-Noon (W) Th 10:30-Noon (W) Sa 10 AM-Noon (W) Fr 11 AM - Noon Day/Time	Contact Phone 917-544-0121 516-270-3845 516-270-3845 516-359-1298 Contact Phone (631)	IMPORTANT: Peaceful assembly on public property near an abortion site is a lawful First Amendment right.
70 Maple Ave, Smithtown	(W) Mo. 10 AM prayers w/Fr. Joe We, Fr. & Sa 7:30-10:30 AM		
42 First Ave, Brentwood 877 E. Main St, Riverhead 450 Waverly Ave, Patchogue	(W) Sa 9:40-10:15 AM (W) We 2-4 PM (M) 2nd We & Sa 10 AM-noon	665-3630 323-8001 615-1735	Con Contraction
Des I'C Commelling Continue	1 4		

Pro-Life Counseling Centers nearest to abortion sites:

Women First Pregnancy Options: (Four locations): Massapequa 516-798-9100, 35 East Willow St, at East 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), Smithtown 631-656-0441, 91 Maple Ave., open Mo.-Fr. 8 AM-4 PM closed Saturdays.

Local Pro-Life Viewing/Listening:

Check EWTN Opt. Ch 135, Verizon Ch 285 for pro-life programming

Live Stream: 7 PM Mondays marchforlifeny.org/events/march-for-life-ny-livestream

Pro-Life and Pro-Family blog: rickhinshaw.com

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

In Memoriam: Theresa Ross, Christine Hodyno & Lucille Buffalino

DEADLINE NOTICE:

May & early June events to be considered for publication in the May 2024 issue of *Life News*MUST BE RECEIVED BY

April 5 Send to: Life News, LICL, PO Box 223,
Ronkonkoma, NY 11779
or email: LICoalition4Life@outlook.com.

GUIDELINES for PRO-LIFE PRESENCE at PRO-LIFE EVENTS and ABORTIONIST'S SITE

All public pro-life witnessing *MUST BE PEACEFUL*. This is legal nonviolent direct action. Public pro-life outreach is a statement on behalf of all of the victims of abortion.

Your participation in a public pro-life awareness event or your presence at an abortion facility or abortionist's office is an important affirmation of LIFE, exercise of your Constitutional right to free speech and assembly, and a witness against the tragedy of abortion. You are the face of the unborn.

Babies are dying at the hands of abortionists and their staff. Treat the site appropriately. Eating, loud talking and laughter are out of place.

- Stay on sidewalks (public property). Do not go on the facility's property or parking lot.
- Do not impede cars to/from driveways or pedestrians to doors or along sidewalks.
- Stay with a partner. Carry a camera and cell phone.
- Hold signs so they can be read by vehicle and/or pedestrian traffic. Don't wave signs in front of traffic. Hold signs tightly; larger ones should have handles or string to loop over the neck.
- Carry a pro-life pamphlet/card with pro-life assistance contact info.
- Praying, singing, and Scripture reading should be done without disturbing other pro-lifers who aren't joining your group.
- Do Not Shout at patients, workers, residents, those driving by, police, etc. Keep an arm's length away from them and step away from potential confrontations. Calling out to abortion-bound parents should be limited and done prudently; even though you're saying something positive, the stressed client may only "hear" negative screaming at her.
- Do not shadow (follow along closely) pedestrians.
- Respond to hecklers gently or not at all. Leave them with a positive life-affirming comment

Your prolife witness is seen by those contemplating abortion, those who know or will know someone with an untimely pregnancy, and those hurt by a past abortion decision. Your presence is critical in keeping the plight of the unborn on the public conscience and saving lives.

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Mpiccolo@lifecenterli.org

HELP NUMBERS NASSAU &

SUFFOLK COUNTIES L.I. COALITION FOR LIFE: Info on pro-life activity, speakers, legis-

lation 631-243-1435; ProLifeLI.org

MOTHER AND HER CHILD

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MOMMAS House: Jericho, Glen Cove, Levittown &

Hempstead......516-781-8637 **Mother of Good Counsel Home:** Roosevelt......516-223-1013

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Life News

of Long Island

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

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April 2024

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National Pro-Life T-Shirt Day Wednesday, April 3, 2024

This meaningful day was created to raise awareness about the pro-life movement and promote the protection of unborn babies. It first started in 2005 and has since become a powerful way for individuals to express their beliefs and support for this cause. Wearing a pro-life t-shirt is not only a statement, but also a conversation starter that can spark important discussions and educate others on the value of life. So let's join together in spreading positivity and advocating for the most vulnerable among us — the unborn.

Good Friday Silent Vigil on Behalf of Preborn Children

March 29, 2024 10:30 AM to NOON
Nassau University Medical Center, 2201 Hempstead
Tpke., East Meadow. Face the Truth event for the
protection of life in the womb. Please join the LI
Coalition for Life and be a visible reminder to the
public that abortion is not healthcare. Signs will be
provided (east end of hospital) or bring your own (no
political signs). Please stand 5-10 feet apart for better
messaging to the public. Info 631-243-1435; or email
info@prolifeLI.org.

Summer programs:

College students: National Right to Life Academy, Alexandria, VA, nrlc.org/academy; 202-626-8809 Ages 14+: New York State Right to Life Camp Esther, admin@nysrighttolife.org; 518-434-1493

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