

# Livingston County Life-Line

**Winter 2005-2006**

**Right to Life**  
Livingston County, Inc.

**Office Hours**  
Tuesday - Thursday  
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
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The “point of no return” is defined in *The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition* as: the point in a course of action beyond which reversal is not possible.

We are all aware of the slippery slope that abortion on demand has brought about. Like any hill, the view changes, depending on where you are; at

the top barely moving, losing control half-way down or destroying everything you come into contact with at the bottom. It is often hard to imagine what the ride will be like, because you can't see where you are going. In the beginning, you can only guess and make predictions about what may happen as you move downhill. At the top, you may not even be aware of moving downward because the motion can be slow. In some cases, you can stop, walk back to where you started or even change your mind about that particular hill. Not much ground has been covered, and most of the movement has only been horizontal.

Once you have committed to a course, the changes take place quickly and are much closer together. There is a minimal amount of control and often unforeseen and even unimaginable consequences. At this point, it is still possible to stop and go back where you started, but only with great effort.

In 1973, we could not imagine the scope of attacks on the sanctity of human life that are commonplace in our society today. Like a sled running out of control, we are nearing the point of no return in a culture that worships the right to choose death rather than the right to life.

The changes that have come about be-

cause abortion was made legal are many. The FDA is pushing to make the (sometime abortifacient) morning after pill available without a prescription to young teens but refusing to investigate the heartbreaking maternal deaths of healthy young women due to the abortion pill RU-486. Judge Greer

is being honored by the ACLU for his part in authorizing

Terri Schiavo's death and another judge has ruled to remove the life support from a young victim of child abuse against the father's wishes. A Kansas state medical board has ruled that George Tiller (the Wichita late-term abortionist) was not responsible for the botched abortion death of a Kansas woman and, Dr. William Harrison believes his patients have been “born again”, when a problem pregnancy is ended. (See article on page 6). Dr. Hwang, after receiving international acclaim about his successful cloning and embryonic stem cell work, has admitted lying about his research. The results are all under suspicion because of his dishonesty and this unethical behavior is questioned while the ethics of cloning and using embryonic stem cells is ignored. The state of Missouri has decided that it is just too expensive to pay for life-sustaining feeding tubes putting patient's lives in jeopardy and another group of people are judged not worthy of life.

These are just some of the headlines taken from prolife news sources and other media. The time span for these articles is not over the last decade or even from the last few years, but come from just the past several weeks.

Not many years ago, the prolife community was accused of lying to sensa-

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Point of No Return

**By Nina Cedar**

(Continued from page 1)

tionalize the facts of abortion in order to change public opinion. Many, who hold that all human life is sacred, warned of the perils that abortion on demand would bring about.

Physician assisted suicide, partial-birth abortion, baby body parts for sale, infanticide, human embryos being destroyed for medical research, abortions based on sex-selection and human cloning were horrible procedures that existed only in the depraved imaginations of a few. In 1973, these things were unheard of and abortion was going to be

In 1973, we could not imagine the scope of attacks on the sanctity of human life that are commonplace in our society today.

extremely rare. Taking the life of the unborn was only a last resort in the tough cases of rape or for the poor woman suffering with severe health issues.

The headlines in today's news about life issues can be disheartening. We have only two choices. We can choose to close our eyes and minds to a culture seemingly out of control and hope we and our loved ones don't get hurt. Or, we persevere and continue the work that was started more than 33 years ago regardless of the obstacles.

Right to Life of Michigan's goals in 2006 are that our state be prepared for the eventual overturning of Roe v. Wade. Until that happens, we will work to build upon the successful track record

in our state of electing prolife legislators who in turn pass laws that further limit abortion. The election in 2006 will allow us to replace proabort Jennifer Granholm with a prolife governor and to defeat Debbie Stabenow and put a pro-life U.S. Senator in Washington D.C.

As one of 108 affiliates of Right to Life of Michigan, 2006 holds many opportunities. Your prayers, time and financial support are needed during the upcoming year.

The unborn and innocent deserve our voices and hands because they can not speak for themselves. We must continue to work together on all fronts in order to reverse the accelerating destruction of the sanctity of human life.

## First Annual Vigil for Life

Right to Life Livingston County Inc. in conjunction with Life Summit presented the First Annual Vigil for Life on Sunday, October 2, 2005 at the historic courthouse in downtown Howell.

We know that every fourth baby dies from choice. To symbolize this statistic, 3 candles were handed out for every 1 cross. Everyone attending the vigil was asked to hold either a candle representing life or a cross representing the death of babies who die from abortion.

The vigil was a visible reminder of the devastating effect abortion has had on our community. Individuals from many prolife organizations worked together to make this event a success. Nearly 300 people attended and a lot of them were teens and families.

There were also several testimonies, both from local people and representatives from Silent No More. They shared the very real heartache of the abortions in their lives and the healing they have been blessed to experience.

Sunday, October 2, gave us the opportunity to pray together during Life Chain and to be a visible reminder of the devastating effect abortion has had on our community during the First Annual Vigil for Life.

Our thanks to those who participated as supporters for the unborn on this beautiful fall day. Life Chain and Vigil for Life allowed us to once again remind the community that abortion is never a good choice.

## Did you know?

**If Roe v. Wade were overturned, Michigan is 1 of only 7 states in which abortion would immediately be illegal.**

**When Roe. V. Wade is overturned-existing laws will make abortion illegal in our state**

## Pregnancy Helpline

- **Free & Confidential Services & Information**
- **Free Pregnancy Testing**
- **Free Abortion Information & Counseling**
  - **Free Ultrasound**
- **Free Post-abortion assistance**
- **Free Material assistance for pregnancy and early childcare**

**7743 W. Grand River Suite 101,  
Brighton, MI 48114**

**24 hr hotline  
810-494-5433**

**If you or someone  
you know are  
facing pregnancy alone....  
help is only  
a phone call away.**

**Call today**

## Adult Stem Cell Research Discovery Could Change Entire Embryonic Debate

**Louisville, KY (LifeNews.com)** -- Scientists at the University of Louisville say they have made a discovery of a certain kind of adult stem cell they say could drastically change the debate about embryonic stem cell research.

The researchers have reportedly found stem cells from adult mice to change into brain, nerve, heart muscle and pancreatic cells. The ability to take on the characteristics of other cells is the primary selling point for using embryonic stem cells, which can only be obtained by destroying unborn children in their earliest days.

The discovery could greatly expand the dozens of therapies and treatments already available from adult stem cells and the researcher say it could end the entire stem cell research debate.

"We have found a counterpart for embryonic stem cells in adult bone marrow. This could negate the ethical con-

cerns," said Mariusz Ratajczak, leader of the research team and director of the stem cell biology program at the university's James Graham Brown Cancer Center.

Ratajczak told the Louisville Courier-Journal newspaper that the next step is replicating the experiment with similar cells from humans.

He calls the new cells VSEL cells or "very small embryonic like" stem cells.

His team announced the findings at the annual meeting of the American Society of Hematology in Atlanta. His team will present a paper today showing how the embryonic-like adult stem cells repaired damaged heart tissue in mice having strokes.

"It's huge," Ryan Recca, one of the researchers, told the Courier-Journal. "It's an amazing discovery."

If the VSEL stem cells in human act like the special ones they found in mice and other scientists can duplicate the process, the discovery goes from "very important" to "incredibly important," Dr. Stephen Emerson, chief of hematology/oncology at the University of Pennsylvania, where Ratajczak once worked, told the Louisville paper.

The research team says the VSEL cells also help overcome the problem embryonic stem cells have of patient's immune systems rejecting the cells. A patient's own VSEL cells could be used instead.

*Written and reprinted with permission from:*

*Steven Ertelt  
LifeNews.com Editor  
December 13, 2005*

## Princeton Bioethicist says only "Know-Nothing Religious Fundamentalists" will Value Human Life by 2040

PRINCETON, December 2, 2005

(LifeSiteNews.com) - Infamous advocate of infanticide and the man often credited as the founder of the modern radical animal rights movement, Dr. Peter Singer, was featured in the National Post this week predicting that the traditional ethics of western civilization would shortly be abolished. Singer's comments appeared first in the September/October edition of the journal Foreign Policy as a speculation on what cherished social institutions would still exist in 35 years.

Singer, a strict utilitarian and the man the New York Times called the "greatest living philosopher," says, "By 2040, it may be that only a rump of hard-core,

know-nothing religious fundamentalists will defend the view that every human life, from conception to death, is sacrosanct."

The title, "The Sanctity of Life," can only be meant as ironic coming from a man who has made his fame advocating abortion through all nine months of pregnancy, infanticide up to thirty days after birth and euthanasia for the elderly and infirm.

Singer's predictions, shocking as they may appear, are well on the way to fruition, however. With the advance of utilitarian philosophy at both ends of human life, first with abortion, then with cloning, IVF, and growing rates of infanticide, and then with the acceptance of

euthanasia, Singer has merely given an approving nod to what is verifiably happening all over the world.

He predicts bluntly, "During the next 35 years, the traditional view of the sanctity of human life will collapse under pressure from scientific, technological, and demographic developments."

What Singer refuses to acknowledge is that there is no unavoidable necessity for this collapse. In fact most of it is being forced on nations by activist judges, undemocratic government and other organization actions and ruthless elites, who have constantly distorted facts to suit their agendas.

*(Continued on page 6)*

For me, it's the most wonderful time of the year! I love Christmas. Seems I always have. The celebration of the birth of Jesus

Christ, our Savior makes me

## FROM THE BOARD....

hopeful that the best is yet to come. It's an affirmation of our heavenly Father's love for us and all his people.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if Christmas could be like that for everyone. We can make it happen. Our concern for the less fortunate, the forgotten and lonely as well as those people who just have a hard time during this time of the year can make a real difference.

We can all make a difference in the lives of those around us. Just take a few minutes to make a phone call, send a personal message or even a quick visit to brighten the day of someone suffering alone. This is one way we can share God's love and let people know that

they are important and that this world, without them, just wouldn't be the same.

All of us probably know someone who has been touched

by abortion. Statistics show that 1 in 4 women in our country has personally experienced an abortion. When you consider the boyfriends or husbands who encouraged or supported the decision to abort their child, you double those affected. Add parents who will not be grandparents, missing siblings, cousins and friends, and the list grows and grows. The tragedy of abortion can be putting a cloud over many families at this time of the year.

During the Christmas Season and the New Year, try to make a difference in the lives of those people who may be suffering in some way.

The board and volunteers of Right to

Life - Livingston County, Inc. recently enjoyed an afternoon of sharing and celebrating peace on earth and good will. We are so blessed to be a part of such a loving and caring group of wonderful people. We hope you and yours will have opportunities during this sacred season to do the same.

From all of us at Right to Life - Livingston County, Inc., we wish everyone a holy and happy Christmas and a healthy and safe New Year.

God bless and thank each and everyone of you for your love and concern not only for the unborn but the men, women and families of abortion who need our love, compassion and encouragement throughout the year.

God bless,

Penny Sobonya  
Board Chair



## Sanctity of Human Life Sunday-Memorial Service

January 22, 2006 marks the 33rd anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* the Supreme Court decision which has legalized the death of over 44 million innocent lives since 1973. More than 4 million children have been denied life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness because they weren't part of their parents' "choice."

The prolife people of Michigan will remember the 33rd anniversary of *Roe vs. Wade* through activities such as memorial services, prayer vigils, educational rallies, marches, and signature ads. We will grieve for the immense loss that we have experienced due to the Supreme Court ruling which legalized abortion through all nine months of pregnancy.

Right to Life-Livingston County, Inc. together with Cornerstone Evangelical Presbyterian Church invites you to a Memorial Service. We hope you will

join with us in remembering the unborn children across our land that have been denied life. The service will take place on Sunday, January 22, 2006, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm at Cornerstone Evangelical Presbyterian Church. The church is located at 9455 Hilton Rd., in Brighton. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the service.

The title of the sermon is "Healing for the Broken-The Gospel and the Living Victims of Abortion".

Some of us live with the grief, guilt and shame of our own abortions. Some of us may have been a factor in the decision to abort as we counseled friends or family members about an unplanned pregnancy. Most of us live with the consequences of those suffering after an abortion.

Broken hearts, destroyed relationships

and shattered families are some of the emotional results of abortion.

The Christmas season is a time to reflect on those that are missing from our families and friends. This year, the Memorial Service will go beyond remembering the unborn in our county.

Pastor Tim Brown will offer healing and hope through prayer to the victims of abortion. If you or someone you know are hurting because of abortion, please plan on attending this interdenominational service.



## Legislative Update

### State Legislation

**Abortion-free Insurance:** Rep. Scott Hummel introduced **House Bills 4246-47** on 2-9-05. The bills establish that health insurance coverage for elective abortions not be a "built-in" benefit, but rather must be a coverage added by an optional rider paid for by the purchaser. The bills were referred to the House Insurance Committee. No change.

**Ban Aborted Tissue Research & Trafficking:** Sen. Cameron Brown has reintroduced legislation to prohibit medical/scientific research using tissue from aborted babies (**H.B. 4675**). **H.B.4676** will prohibit the sale or trafficking of fetal tissue for financial consideration. **S.B. 9** was introduced on 1-12-05 and referred to the Senate Health Policy Committee. The House bills were introduced on 4-26-05. No change.

**Live Ultrasound Requirement:** Rep. Dave Robertson introduced **H.B. 4446** on 3-3-05 that requires abortionists to offer all women considering an abortion the option of seeing a live ultrasound image of her baby as part of the 24-hours Informed Consent law. After negotiations, an agreement was reached with Governor Granholm (through her legislative staff) to support this bill. By a unanimous vote, every proabortion member of the Senate voted along with prolife legislators to approve the bill 36-0! The bill also contains a first-in-the-nation provision requiring that the state of Michigan's website for our Informed Consent (waiting period) contain a list of locations where a woman can obtain a free ultrasound. Presently that includes only prolife pregnancy resource centers. Thus, women going to the state's website in search of abortion will have information on getting a free ultrasound from a prolife center. The amended bill must be approved by the House.

**Adulterous Spouse-Guardian:** Rep. Joel Sheltroun introduced **H.B. 4752** on 5-10-05 to place a presumption in law that a spouse who is acting as a legal

guardian for an incapacitated spouse and who is engaged in an openly adulterous relationship shall be considered to have a legal conflict of interest. That conflict will prohibit the spouse from being able to authorize withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment. No change.

**Health Care Conscientious Objector:** **H.B. 4741** protecting healthcare workers who do not want to participate in life-ending medical actions or research was introduced by Rep. Brian Palmer on 5-5-05. Rep. John Gleason introduced **H.B. 4775** to protect religious health care facilities from having to perform objectionable procedures. Rep. Scott Hummel introduced **H.B. 4246-47** to protect employers or insurers from having to provide insurance coverage for objectionable procedures. No change.

**Wrongful Death Revision:** **H.B. 4777** will revise our 1998 law that allows a family to sue an individual whose criminal action caused the death of an unborn child. Several recent court cases have been dismissed after the trial judges interpretation of the law was that the child must be "viable" at the time of death. This bill will clarify that those interpretations are wrong, and that families do have the right to bring suit regardless of the age of the unborn. This legislation was unanimously approved by the House on 10-25-05. The full Senate is expected to approve the bill soon. The Governor is expected to sign it.

### Court Challenges

**Legal Birth Definition Act:** Federal district judge Denise Hood issued a decision on 9-12-05 striking down the legal Birth Definition Act. Judge Hood sided completely with the proabortion challengers and entirely dismissed the Attorney General's arguments. Our prolife Attorney General, Mike Cox almost immediately approved an appeal notice to be filed. Right to Life of Michigan along with STTOP (Standing

Together to Oppose Partial birth abortion) are preparing to appeal this decision.

**Carhart et. Al. v. Ashcroft:** Three challenges were brought against the federal Partial Birth Abortion Ban last year. The law was ruled unconstitutional in all three federal courts. Appeals are now pending in the cases. The Bush Administration is strongly defending the law through the Justice Department. No change.

### Federal Legislation

**Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act (CIANA)/Child Custody Protection Act:** Legislation from previous sessions preventing adults from taking minors across state lines for abortions in order to skirt parental consent/notice laws has been reformulated as CIANA (**HR 748**). No change.

**Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act: HR 356, S 51-**This bill requires abortionists to inform women considering an abortion after 20 weeks of pregnancy that the unborn child is capable of feeling pain, and to offer women the option of providing anesthesia to the unborn child prior to the abortion. A subcommittee held an informational hearing on the Pain Awareness Act with testimony from experts on the reality of fetal development. No future hearing or votes on the bill have been announced. No change.

**Embryonic Stem Cell Research:** Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist has reached an agreement with Senator Arlen Specter and others promoting the reversal of the Bush funding restriction on ESCR to hold a vote in January 2006. President Bush has vowed to veto any bill which reverses his policy.

**Judicial Nominations:** Hearings on the nomination Samuel Alito to replace Justice Sandra Day O'Connor will begin on 1-9-06.

## Inside Look at Abortion Practitioner Provides Eye-Opening Report

By David Sanders  
December 5, 2005

*LifeNews.com Note: David Sanders is a columnist for the Arkansas News Bureau based in Little Rock.*

For many Americans abortion is a choice, a concept, a constitutional right, an issue relegated to political campaigns or a simple medical procedure, which is ultimately, something they'd prefer not to think about.

This week the Los Angeles Times' provided its readers an enormous service.

Dr. William Harrison, Fayetteville's self-proclaimed abortionist, opened his doors to Stephanie Simon, a Times staff writer, providing her an all-access pass to the realities that exist within an abortion clinic's walls.

"I am destroying life," Harrison told Simon. It was a brash statement rooted in honesty, but it's also a point that many in the pro-choice community aren't willing to concede. They believe that cells, tissue or, at best, the potential for life are housed in the womb.

It's ironic that many on the left, who lecture on about the need for science's preeminence when foundations of life on Earth are taught in America's classrooms, cast aside science as it relates to basic questions about life's beginning in the womb. They claim that questions about when life begins are better answered by philosophy or religion.

Not Harrison. The 70-year-old doctor knows exactly what he does.

He has been in the business since 1973, when Roe vs. Wade legalized abortion on demand. He estimates having performed "at least" 20,000 abortions.

He described what he does in paradoxical terms. While admitting to being a life-taker, Harrison also claimed to be a life-giver: Harrison calls his patients "born again." Simon quoted him as saying: "When you end what the woman considers a disastrous pregnancy, she has literally been given her life back."

Simon moved from the interview with Harrison to his "operating table," where an 18-year-old who was 13 weeks pregnant, laid with her feet in stirrups and her arms strapped down.

The nurse injected her with drugs before the abortion, including a sedative that would "wipe out her memory of everything that happens during the 20 minutes she's in the operating room. It's so effective that patients who return for a follow-up exam often don't recognize Harrison."

Simon detailed the image from the ultrasound, taken prior to the abortion where "the curve of a head, the bend of an elbow, the ball of a fist" could be seen. Harrison warned the young woman of cramping she would feel and a "sucking sound" she would hear while he worked to get "everything out."

Two minutes and it was all over. Simon saw tears in the patient's eyes, a blank post-op ultrasound -- another life ended -- and a confused young woman, who was barely an adult.

There were those who arrived at the clinic undecided about abortion. Simon observed Harrison's nurse showing those women a couple of statistics about the number of women who have abortions and then asking them, "You think there's room in hell for all those women?"

There were many other women who arrived seeking to end the lives inside them, some for very specific reasons.

A high school volleyball player who was three months pregnant said "she doesn't want to give up her body for nine months" and a 23-year-old real estate agent said, "I don't think my dress would have fit with a baby in there." She was busy planning her upcoming wedding.

A 32-year-old college student sought her fourth abortion because she kept "forgetting to take her birth control pills." A single mother of three would rather end the life of the little boy in her womb than give the child up for adoption because she "couldn't bear to give away a child and have to wonder every day if he were loved."

What a choice.

## “Know-Nothing Religious Fundamentalists”

*(Continued from page 3)*

Technology has been developing since the emergence of organized human culture. In all that time, however, it is not until our own epoch that the suicidal anti-human philosophy has been so broadly accepted. In no other time before the modern age, has it been seriously proposed that the development of technol-

ogy must necessarily supersede the inherent value of human life.

Ironically, as the implementation of Singer's philosophical imperatives of drastic population reduction, mass euthanasia programmes, abortion and infanticide advance, the logical outcome will be that only those "know-nothing

religious fundamentalists" he excoriates will survive the anti-human pogroms.

Read the full article: <http://www.utilitarian.net/singer/by/200509--.htm>

Used with permission:  
LifeSiteNews.com, Friday, December 2,

## Free ultrasound-see your baby in action



Pregnancy Helpline has a new ultrasound through Focus on the Family's Option Ultrasound program. God has met their financial needs in an exciting way as they stepped out in faith for this life-saving but expensive purchase.

The new equipment has been installed and four nurses have been certified through training. In order to retain their certification, the ultrasound technicians need to perform many ultrasounds during the coming year.

If you are pregnant (up to 24 weeks) and willing to help these ladies in this ongoing process call Pregnancy Helpline at 810-

494-5433 to schedule your appointment. You will receive a free ultrasound and a picture of your baby.

Crisis pregnancy centers report that nearly 90% of abortion minded pregnant women who have an ultrasound decide to continue with their pregnancies. If you are pregnant, you can see your baby in action and help the technicians with their continuing education. Ultrasound is a powerful tool that works to save lives, call today!

**Please let us know if you prefer to be removed from our mailing list. Contact our office at 810-227-5788 or email [rtllc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rtllc@sbcglobal.net)**

## Life Summit

Life Summit is a consortium of life organizations working in Livingston County. Together we communicate our individual activities and missions, so we can work alongside one another, each fulfilling their unique purpose in the life movement. All prolife groups are invited to participate. The meetings are held at Pregnancy Helpline-for more information call 810-494-5433. We are excited to be a part of Life Summit, and look forward to expanding local public awareness of life issues.

## Life-Line Project/Membership/Donation Form

November 28, 2005 marked the 26th anniversary of the prolife movement in Livingston County. We are proud to be partnering with the local community on behalf of the unborn. The abortion rate in our state and for teens has decreased, saving lives. Education about abortion, infanticide, euthanasia and assisted suicide works to change the minds and hearts of many about life issues. In addition to education, the election of prolife candidates has enabled our legislature to pass laws protecting the innocent unborn and elderly frail. This is possible because of your efforts, prayers and financial support. We need you!

**\$15 New/Renewal    \$5 Sr. Citizen    \$5 Students**

Name		Address		
City	State	Zip	email address	Phone

*For your convenience, we also accept charge cards, above address information required for charging*

Please bill my MasterCard/Visa/Discover (circle one) \_\_\_\_\_

Card number	Expiration date
Signature	Security code (last 3 digits on sign pad)

Make checks out to: **Right to Life**  
 Livingston County Inc  
 P. O. Box 934  
 Brighton, MI 48116-0934

Dollar amount



**Right to Life**  
**Livingston County, Inc.**  
 P.O. Box 934  
 Brighton, MI 48116-0934

Non-Profit  
 U.S. Postage  
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 Brighton, MI  
 48116  
 Permit No. 069



**Join us for hope and healing**  
**Memorial Service**  
 Sunday-January 22, 2006  
 Cornerstone EPC - 7 p.m.

***In Loving Memory and Honor of***

*You may honor a deceased loved one by making a memorial contribution to Right to Life-Livingston County. This memorial gift is a fitting way to remember a lifetime of love for the unborn. Your contribution can also be made to commemorate birthdays, new arrivals, graduations, Mother's Day, Father's Day or any other special occasion. An acknowledgment card will be sent to the family or person you designate. The contribution amount will be kept confidential.*

Enclosed is my (our) gift of  
 \$100  \$50  \$25  \$10  Other

Made in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Made in honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Occasion \_\_\_\_\_

Please notify:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Address-City-State-Zip

My (our) name is \_\_\_\_\_

I would like a notice of this gift in the next newsletter-  yes  no

*Any donation entitles you to one-year free membership.*

**"It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded not by religionists but by Christians, not on religion but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We shall not fight alone. God presides over the destinies of nations."**

**Patrick Henry**