

# Livingston County Life-Line

**Fall 2006**

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

**Office Hours**  
Tuesday - Thursday  
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
and by appointment

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November 7, 2006

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With the general election just weeks away, we all have choices to make and our decisions will impact the future of our country.

You have probably all heard the story about Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. When there was a job to be done, Everybody thought that Somebody would do it, but Nobody realized that Nobody would do it. So consequently, Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done in the first place. It's a story that aptly describes the human nature of us all.

We are racing down that slippery slope we were pushed onto when the Supreme Court decided that women had the right to kill their unborn children. After 1973, the authority to have a child or abort, was given to women only. Fathers lost all rights regarding the lives of their unborn children and the process to tear apart the family was put in place.

Thirty-three years later, the family is reaping what has been sown. If the life of a child in the womb is not to be protected, then no life is safe. It is not surprising that headlines today speak of the imminent demise of the traditional family and the values they have shared.

Right to Life of Michigan and its affiliates continue the fight to undo the damage and restore the "unalienable right to life" spoken of by our founding fathers. Right to Life of Michigan has been at the forefront of working to lower abortion rates and ultimately ending abortions in our state when *Roe V. Wade* is overturned.

Because of the legislation passed, abortion rates in Michigan have dropped nearly 50% since 1987. The teen abor-

tion rate is down 60% since 1990. In Michigan, a pregnant teen must have parental consent to have an abortion. Prior to having an abortion, women must be informed of the size of their child and the physical consequences of abortion. They must also be offered an

## Everybody for Life

By Nina Cedar

opportunity to see their unborn baby on an ultrasound screen. Our tax-dollars cannot be used to fund abortions or in support of embryonic stem cell research. Hospitals can't be forced to provide abortions. Nurses, pharmacists and doctors can not be forced to participate in abortions or dispense drugs that may cause one. A lot has been done to lower abortion rates in our state, but much work remains.

Today we find our country at a crossroads; the attacks on life issues continue to devastate lives. Some pro-abortion lawmakers want to protect the right of strangers to take minor children over state lines, in order to have an abortion, without their parent's knowledge. Sexual predators are able to hide behind the doors of the abortion mill, while rape, incest or underage sex goes unchecked and unreported. Planned Parenthood continues to receive our tax-dollars while fighting against the rights of parents, against abstinence funding and against every law that would hinder abortion. Our local Planned Parenthood hands out birth-control pills, tells underage callers how to get around parental consent laws, tests for STD's and prescribes the abortion pill for our young teens - all without our knowledge. Abortionists go on trial and walk away free after maiming or killing their patients. RU-486, the abortion pill, has killed young women but still remains legal. A young teen

*(Continued on page 2)*

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was beaten by her boyfriend with a bat in order to kill their unborn child and is free. The media erroneously reports of a breakthrough (see article below) for "ethically" harvesting embryonic stem-cells, but fails to mention that every embryo was killed—and the general public never reads a retraction or sees an apology. Women are forced to silently suffer physically, emotionally and spiritually after having an abortion while studies showing the harmful effects of abortion are ignored. The news media will continue to hide

*The election process in our great country demands that all citizens be active or suffer the consequences.*

the truth, unless we do more.

Our choices remain simple. The election process in our great country demands that all citizens be active or suffer the consequences. The direction that our culture and society is headed will be determined by those active in the political arena.

The influence that a prolife voter has on the polls is immeasurable. After the elections in 2004, we heard all about the impact of the values voter. Yet the voices of nearly 40 million evangelical Christians have not been heard because they are not even regis-

tered to vote. Many organizations and churches are taking part in the political process, as allowed by law, by registering citizens and informing voters.

As voters, we can't allow just Anybody to get into office. When Somebody votes against prolife legislation or actively promotes abortion rights, we must do all we can to remove them from office. The destruction of the family will continue, unless Everybody in the pro-life/pro-family community makes their voices heard. Until life-affirming laws are restored, Nobody will be protected from the destruction that the legalization of abortion has brought about.

## Senate Holds Hearing on Supposed Embryonic Stem Cell Research Alternative

**Washington, D C (LifeNews.com)** -- A Senate committee held a hearing on a new technique that a biotech firm claims is able to isolate embryonic stem cells without harming the human embryo. Senators rebuked the head of the Advanced Cell Technology team who made the claim, which was later modified as all of the human embryos died in the process.

Last month, ACT published a paper in the journal Nature claiming to have used the single-cell biopsy technique called Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis (PGD) to obtain stem cells from 16 human embryos without killing them.

However, further examination shows all 16 of the days-old unborn children died in the process and Nature eventually changed its own press release twice that touted the study.

ACT also claimed to have removed just one cell from each human embryo in its press release, but the paper showed 4-7 cells were removed, killing the days-old unborn child.

Sen. Arlen Specter, a Pennsylvania Republican who is a leading backer of forcing taxpayers to fund embryonic stem cell research, scolded Robert

Lanza, the ACT vice president who led the research team.

Specter said Lanza's mischaracterization of his team's research hurt the cause of those who back the controversial research, which has yet to help any patients and have problems in animal treatments.

"You made our job a lot tougher," he said, according to a Reuters report. He called the reports of ACT's success "dramatic albeit false."

Specter said that lawmakers wanting to mandate federal funding for embryonic stem cell research would have to craft a new bill rather than trying again to pass the measure President Bush vetoed.

"We have to start again with a whole new bill and we will do it," he told reporters later, according to Reuters. He indicated he did not yet have enough votes to override the veto.

Lanza defended his work during the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services subcommittee hearing and the accuracy of his statements about it.

"This technique has been used throughout the world for years and years," Lanza responded. "Everything I said is absolutely correct and accurate."

"It is not fair. It is not right," Lanza said later about the questioning, according to Reuters. "I know for a fact that removing the cell does not impact the embryo."

Pro-life advocates said the ACT study did nothing to alleviate concerns about embryonic stem cell research.

Bioethics professor C. Ben Mitchell of Trinity International University says the claim is just "ethical smoke and mirrors" and says its study does not really show what it claims to show.

"There are huge unresolved ethical problems here," says Mitchell, in a statement LifeNews.com obtained.

He says PGD has ethical problems of its own and that the long-term effects of removing a cell or cells from an early embryo are unknown. He said it's likely that some of the unborn children do not survive the procedure -- and pointed out that ACT's paper indicated 16 human beings were destroyed in the process of developing the technique.

"Using healthy embryos in research that could harm them is not morally justifiable," Mitchell said. "Life threatening experiments should only be done by

(Continued on page 3)

## Life Chain

## Sunday, October 1, 2006

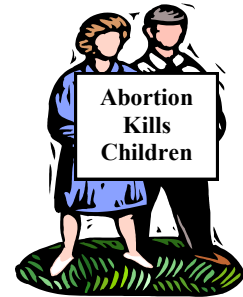
Not a picket...not a march...but a prayer chain!

The purpose of Life Chain is to join hearts in prayer with the Christians in our community and nation on Sunday, October 1, from 2:30 – 3:30 pm. All participants will be silently holding prolife signs. Our prayer is for God's divine mercy and intervention for our nation in order to end abortion. This is an opportunity to go into battle and do spiritual warfare for life issues and the future of our nation. For more information, please contact the office at 810-227-5788.



- **Brighton**-have a representative pick up signs for your church participants at the CVS parking lot, or contact affiliate office. See flyer for individual church locations along Grand River
- **Howell**-pick up your sign in front of the court house
- **Pinckney**-signs are available at M-36/Dexter-Pinckney Rd.
- **Fowlerville**-get your sign at Grand River/Grand Ave.

*“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”*  
*Chronicles 7:14*



## Vigil for Life

## Sunday, October 1, 2006

Right to Life Livingston County Inc. in conjunction with Life Summit presents the second annual Vigil for Life, Sunday, October 1, 2006 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm.

This event will take place at 200 E. Grand River, Howell. This is the historic courthouse amphitheater in downtown Howell.

We know that nearly 200 babies are aborted every hour across our country. To symbolize this statistic, we will hand out 200 small flags to the youth in attendance. Each flag will represent a life

lost during the one hour program.

This is a memorial for those lost to or hurt by abortion. The short program will offer speakers, music and prayer to peacefully and visibly examine the effect of abortion on society.

Groups and individuals are welcome to participate. If desired, bring a lawn chair or blanket.

The event will take place, rain or shine. For further information contact Pregnancy Helpline at 810-494-5433 or our affiliate office at 810-227-5788.

Sunday, October 1, will give us a couple of opportunities to be a public voice for the unborn. We can pray together during Life Chain and be a visible reminder of the devastating effect abortion has had on our community during the second annual Vigil for Life.

*Life Summit is a consortium of Life organizations working in Livingston County. Together we will communicate our individual activities and missions, so we can work along side one another, each fulfilling their unique purpose in the Life movement.*

## Supposed Embryonic Stem Cell Research Alternative Cont'd

*(Continued from page 2)*

consent or, in the case of children, with parents' consent and only where the experiment might benefit the child. These embryos had nothing to gain by being used like laboratory rats.”

Mitchell also came to the same conclusion as Richard Doerflinger of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, who objected to the ACT claim in part be-

cause the one cell taken from the human embryo can become a unique human being.

Dr. David Prentice, a former Indiana State University biology professor now affiliated with the Family Research Council, agrees. Prentice notes that the President's Council on Bioethics has already considered this technique and has unanimously rejected it.

**by Steven Ertelt**  
*LifeNews.com Editor*  
*September 6, 2006*

*This article was reprinted from Lifeneews.com and used with permission. For free daily/weekly pro-life news, email them at news@LifeNews.com.*

What a wonderful summer it has been! I hope all of our readers have taken some time to relax, visit with family and friends and stop and smell the roses (and the rain) in the past few months.

With vacations over and the kids back in school, please consider giving some of your time to help "GOTV" (get out the vote). We need at least 80 proliferers to volunteer to make 100 calls to identified prolife voters in Livingston County reminding them to go to the polls on election day or apply for and mail in absentee ballots! We need 80 proliferers to volunteer to spend 2 hours working the polls on election day - November 7, 2006. passing out RLM-PAC voter cards.

We also encourage as many of you as possible to attend our 16th Annual Focus on Life Dinner on Tuesday, October 24 at Crystal Gardens. This year, Am-

bassador Alan Keyes is returning to Livingston County as our featured speaker. In addition, we are delighted to

have Chuck Gaidica from Channel 4 as our emcee. You

will have a wonderful evening - we promise! This event is presented in conjunction with the Right to Life of Michigan Educational Fund.

The media and researchers continue to distort the truths regarding stem cells. They blur the differences between adult stem cell and embryonic stem cell research. When promoting embryonic stem cell research they fail to inform readers that there have been no successes in this research. Not one successful treatment of any disease or disability, only dead embryos! Currently, adult stem cell research is being used to treat over 70 diseases and disabilities.

RU 486 - the abortion pill, continues to not only destroy unborn children but

their mothers as well. Plan B - which is being touted as a safety net to prevent unwanted pregnancies - introduces a dangerously high dosage of birth control hormone into a woman's body that threatens her reproductive health.

Be sure to mark your calendars for October 1. We need your participation for Life Chain and Vigil for Life on Respect Life Sunday.

To all readers of our newsletters - Right to Life of Michigan has a fantastic website ([www.rtl.org](http://www.rtl.org)) with the latest and best information on current life issues. I also invite each of you to take a little time and visit our office - Tuesday thru Thursday - 10 am to 2 pm and avail yourselves of the information we have on hand.

God bless,  
Penny Sobonya  
Board Chair

## Responsible Citizenship Demands Participation Nina Cedar

Right to Life of Michigan Political Action Committee (RLM-PAC) along with nearly 110 affiliates and nine Students for Life groups, located throughout the state, will work toward electing local, statewide and national prolife candidates.

Abraham Lincoln said "No law can give me the right to do what is wrong." The media, many politicians, and even some churches draw a line attempting to separate personal beliefs from public behavior. If we continue to lock moral issues behind church doors we bear responsibility for the wrong that we see. If we hide behind those same doors, and remove ourselves from the political process that is the right of every U.S. citizen, we are not just inferior citizens, but Christians who are choosing to allow wrong to take place.

In a representative democracy we are the voice of our government. Not only do we have the right, it is our duty to do all we can in the struggle to right

wrongs. We are blessed with the tools necessary to institute change without bloodshed, violence or dictatorship. As responsible citizens, we determine the success or failure of our government.

The prolife movement relies wholly on the goodwill, generosity and perseverance of the prolife community. This grass-roots effort, to reach thousands of voters in our state, is a heroic endeavor on behalf of the unborn. Now is the time to lift a hand in a way that will guarantee the voices of the innocent and vulnerable, born and unborn, be heard.

Livingston County has over 40 polling sites, eight thousand identified prolife voters and over 100 churches. Our goal is to have volunteers reaching everyone we can with the RLM-PAC prolife voters guide, either in person or by phone. Due to their successful use in 2004, we will have prolife signs to simplify the process for those working at the polls. This allows volunteers, who are new or maybe uncomfortable with approaching

strangers, to hand out guides to voters who are drawn by the prolife sign.

The law that allows us to kill our unborn children is wrong. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "Morality cannot be legislated, but behavior can be regulated. Judicial decrees may not change the heart, but they can restrain the heartless." Please make the only choice possible and join us and thousands in our state as we work with our hearts and hands and voices. No experience is necessary, just a willing heart. Call the affiliate office at 810-227-5788 or email [rtlcc@sbeglobal.net](mailto:rtlcc@sbeglobal.net).

Science and technology confirms the wonder of creation and disputes those who insist that only by destroying the unborn will mankind solve its problems. Prolife candidates acknowledge that solutions have been and continue to be found that respect all human life from conception to natural death. Help us to stop the heartless advocates of death by working to elect prolife candidates.

## Where do the Candidates for Governor stand on Abortion?

	<u>Jennifer Granholm</u>	<u>Dick DeVos</u>
• Should the gruesome procedure of partial-birth abortion be banned?	No	Yes
• Are you against tax dollars being used to pay for abortion?	No	Yes
• Should women be given information about the risks of abortion and fetal development at least 24 hours before having an abortion?	No	Yes
• Should minors be required to receive a parent's consent before having an abortion?	No	Yes
• Should <i>Roe vs. Wade</i> , the decision that has led to the deaths of more than 45 million unborn children, be overturned?	No	Yes

**Dick DeVos has been a long-time prolife supporter and has a solid history of fighting for the rights of the unborn. His commitment to the most helpless members of our human family is unwavering, and his election as governor will signal a total reversal of the pro-abortion policies and decisions of the current Granholm administration.**

## How the U.S. Senate Candidates Vote on Life Issues

### Mike Bouchard

- **Partial Birth Abortion**-While in the Michigan Senate, Mike Bouchard voted "Yes" to ban the gruesome procedure.
- **On Tax Dollars for Abortion**-Mike Bouchard voted to stop Michigan's tax dollars from being used to pay for the abortions of state employees. He also voted to stop abortion providers from billing Medicaid for services relating to an abortion.
- **On Prenatal Protection**-Mike Bouchard voted in favor of Michigan Prenatal Protection Act during his time in the Michigan Senate.
- **On Human Cloning**-Mike Bouchard co-sponsored legislation in the Michigan Senate which banned human cloning in Michigan.
- **On Assisted Suicide**-In the Michigan Senate, Mike Bouchard helped pass Michigan's ban on assisted suicide which took effect in 1998.
- **Voting Records**-During his time in the Michigan House and Senate, Mike Bouchard had a 100% prolife voting record with Right to Life of Michigan.

### Debbie Stabenow

- **Partial-Birth Abortion**-Has voted at least 6 times against a ban on partial-birth abortion.
- **On Tax Dollars for Abortion**-Debbie Stabenow has voted for tax dollars to pay for abortions at least 8 times and voted at least 9 times for tax dollars to support organizations which provide and promote abortions overseas.
- **On Prenatal Protection**-Debbie Stabenow voted against the Unborn Victims of Violence Act, also known as "Laci and Conner's Law".
- **On Human Cloning**-Debbie Stabenow is currently co-sponsoring deceptive legislation which would explicitly legalize human cloning for research purposes. The bill, which intentionally legalizes human cloning, is entitled "Human Cloning Ban Act of 2005" even though it only bans attempts to bring a human clone to birth.
- **On Assisted Suicide**-Debbie Stabenow voted against the pain Relief Promotion Act of 1999 which would have banned the use of federally controlled substances for use in assisted suicide.
- **Voting Records**-during her years in the Michigan House and Senate, and the U.S. House and Senate, she has a 0% prolife voting record.

16th Annual  
**Focus On Life Dinner**

Featuring guest speaker



**Alan Keyes**

And emcee from Channel 4

**Chuck Gaidica**

Tuesday, October 24, 2006

6:30-9:30

**Crystal Gardens**

**5768 E. Grand River-Howell, MI**

Dr. Alan Keyes has been a Right to Life-Livingston County Inc. speaker on several occasions and always inspires his audience with his enthusiastic and principled confrontation of the "culture of death". Compelling and inspirational reasons are provided to clearly explain why abortion must be banned from our land. Alan Keyes' unequivocal pro-life message has forced government leadership to address America's moral crisis. Please make your reservations early. Dr. Keyes' events are always well attended and his background as a pro-life champion is well known. His challenging message will renew, refresh and revive your commitment to defending the sanctity of human life. You will also be blessed and uplifted with the music provided by the local youth group *The Cats & the Fiddler*.

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual reservations \$45 per person <input type="checkbox"/> Personal table of 10 for \$400 - save \$10 per couple! <input type="checkbox"/> I cannot attend but wish to help the prolife movement with the enclosed gift of \$ _____				For your convenience we also accept charge cards _____ Please bill by MasterCard/Visa/Discover      card number	
Name-Address _____				Name as it appears on card _____ exp. date	
City _____	State _____	Zip _____	Phone _____	Signature _____ last 3 digits on sign pad	
Make checks payable to: Right to Life-Livingston County, Inc. P.O. Box 934, Brighton, MI 48116-0934				Registration begins at 6 p.m. For additional information call 810-227-5788 or e-mail <a href="mailto:rtilc@sbcglobal.net">rtilc@sbcglobal.net</a>	
Dinner reservations are not tax-deductible				Ticket purchase includes one year affiliate membership	

*Together we can make a difference!*

## Right to Life of Michigan PAC Endorsements

Right to Life of Michigan has made endorsements for the November 7, 2006 General Election.

For Governor, Dick DeVos has received the RLM-PAC endorsement, see page 5 for more information on his views on life issues. The incumbents and previously endorsed Attorney General Mike Cox, and Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land, have both been endorsed again.

For U.S. Senate, Mike Bouchard has received the endorsement. Mike Rogers, the incumbent has been endorsed for U.S. Congress.

Valde Garcia, the previously endorsed incumbent, has been endorsed for the state Senate in our district.

In the Michigan House, Chris Ward is the endorsed candidate for the 66th district and Joe Hune is endorsed for the

47th district. Both candidates are incumbents and previously endorsed.

The Livingston County Board of Commissioners also has several endorsements. In district 1- Maggie Jones, district 3-David Domas, district 6-Steven Williams and in district 7-William Rogers have all received endorsements and are previously endorsed incumbents.

In the 44th Circuit court Judge Stanley Latreille, the previously endorsed incumbent has been endorsed again.

In the 53rd District court, incumbent race, Jay Drick has been endorsed. In the non-incumbent seat, Bill McCririe has received the RLM-PAC endorsement.

In the Livingston Probate race, Robert Parker has been endorsed.

The RLM-PAC has yet to finalize details for all candidates seeking their endorsement and expects to do so by the end of September. For more up to date information on statewide and local endorsements visit [www.rtl.org](http://www.rtl.org). then.

After the first week in October, you can also print your own personal voting ballot to take to the polls. This new option was extremely useful to voters in the recent primary.

Are you looking for ways to be a bigger voice for the unborn? You can also use the personal ballot site for your friends, families, neighbors and co-workers. Just follow the directions and send the personalized ballot, with RLM-PAC endorsed candidates, to everyone you know. This is a simple way to help inform the people you know and can have a statewide impact on all life issues.

### Life-Line Project/Membership/Donation Form

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



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**Alan Keyes**  
**Oct. 24**  
**Tickets still**  
**available!**

***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.*

**Their Future Is  
 In Your Hands!**

Abortion kills babies because good people don't vote.  
 Many pro-lifers aren't registered to vote. Are You?

**Go to:** <http://www.michigan.gov/sos> **Click on:** Driver's License/Change-of-Address, Voter Registration **Deadline Oct. 10**