

Livingston County Life-Line

Summer 2007

Right to Life
Livingston County, Inc.
P.O. Box 934
Brighton 48116

Summer hours
Tuesday-Thursday
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
and by appointment

rtlcl@sbcglobal.net



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During May I had the pleasure of meeting with RLM affiliate presidents and local affiliate members throughout the state at regional meetings. My travels took me from the south east corner of Michigan to the Upper Peninsula. The purpose of the regional meetings was to update leaders and members on key plans for 2007 and 2008 which include focus upon our 5 goals of education, organizational development, legislation, political action and financial, all of which mesh together in our mission of protecting innocent life.

While at each regional meeting there was discussion on the ever important topic of the 2008 presidential race, the key item at each meeting was facing the challenge of embryonic stem cell research.

All participants agreed that we must block those who advocate the killing of the tiniest member of the human family, the human embryo. Whether the killing of early human life is by the abortionist or by the scientist in a university lab, the killing still ends a unique human life.

The public debate over embryonic stem cell research versus adult stem cell research will be a challenge for those of us who remain determined not to allow the killing of some to cure others. We will be vilified by those who wish to harvest and kill for fame or fortune.

Presently, there are bills introduced in both the Michigan House and the Michigan Senate that will drastically alter Michigan's protection of these tiny individuals. In the coming months we will notify all of our members of the

need to contact their legislators to defeat these killing bills. Now is the time to become educated on the authentic prolife position regarding stem cell research by visiting www.stemcellresearchcure.com.

Making A Difference In The World

Barb Listing

Years ago as we battled the attempts to legalize abortion, we warned of the slippery slope. We were told that the slippery slope argument is only a scare tactic. Well, we've experienced that slide down the slope: abortion for any reason, abortion methods like partial birth abortion, legalization of assisted suicide, killing of the imperfect newborn, buying and selling of fetal body parts and now attempts to clone and then kill human beings for research.

Throughout 2007 and 2008 we will be called upon again to put a stop to that descending slope by protecting Michigan's laws against human cloning and the killing of human embryos for their stem cells

In Philip Yancey's new book, *Prayer*, he uses "A Franciscan Benediction" which has the following lines: "And may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in the world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done..."

I know that proliferers will face this new challenge of protecting our smallest brothers and sisters despite the mighty forces aligned against us.

Precious Baby Contest

@ Fowlerville Family Fair 2007 - July 14-21

Sponsored by: Right to Life-Livingston County, Inc.



The babies with the most votes win!

Vote often as you like:
25¢ each or 5 for \$1

Great Prizes!

Entrants must be 2 years or younger
Winners notified by phone by July 31

Need not be present to win

Baby's Name _____ Sex _____ Age _____

Parent's Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian _____

Rules: Photo should be 5 x 7 or smaller, only one baby allowed per photo please. By entering this contest, I, a parent or guardian, give my permission for this photo to be used in a fundraiser for Right to Life-Livingston County, Inc. at their booth at Livingston County's Fowlerville Fair 2007. I also agree that Right to Life-Livingston County, Inc. may use the photo: for a press release announcing the winner, and/or in subsequent newsletters-Precious Baby Contest flyers. Affiliate is not responsible for loss or damage to photo. For questions, please call 810-227-5788 or email rtlcc@sbcglobal.net. Send completed entry form along with photo to:

*Entries must
be received
by noon
July 21, 2007*

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

Can't attend the fair?

Purchase votes now, send check
with entry form OR please bill my:
MasterCard/Visa/Discover

Card number _____ Exp. date _____

Signature _____ 3 digit code _____

Name as it appears on card _____

Number of votes _____ Total donation amount _____

Celebrating Mothers and Fathers

The Mother's Day carnations and Father's Day coins were a beautiful way to brighten the hearts of many on these special days. The embossed chocolate coins for Father's Day are a big hit. The gold-foil wrapped coins (milk chocolate or dark chocolate/mint with "Dad" on one side and a key on the other) were a sweet reminder signifying Dad as the key to the family. Be sure to thank Country Lane Flower Shops, in Brighton or Howell, for their support in supplying gorgeous long-stemmed carnations at a discounted price.

Grace & Restoration Fellowship once again allowed us to use their church kitchen, basement and parking lot for preparation and distribution of the carnations. The convenience of using the same location as a pick up point is greatly appreciated and helps to simplify the project.

Special thanks to Denise DeRocher who, although no longer on our board, coordinated this event. Doing mailings, phone work, and organizing the pick-up and other details requires many hours. Denise and Joan Sebastian, an office volunteer, spent countless hours on the phone contacting over 100 local churches.

Thank you for making the processing and pick-up of almost 6000 carnations go smoothly. The enthusiasm and cheerfulness of the returning student volunteers helps to make the day a fun one for all involved.

There were several new churches participating this year. If your church was without carnations or coins, call our office and we can make arrangements for next year. We do have a limited amount of embossed chocolate coin samples in the office. Thank you for helping us to continue to educate, motivate, and encourage community support on behalf of the defenseless unborn.

Brighton Church of Christ
Brighton Church of the Nazarene
Brighton Wesleyan Church
Conway Free Methodist Church
Cornerstone Evangelical Presbyterian Fellowship Bible Church
First Baptist Church of Brighton
First Baptist Church of Fowlerville
First Baptist Church of Howell
Fowlerville Church of the Nazarene
Grace & Restoration Fellowship
Heart of the Shepherd Lutheran

Heritage Hills Free Methodist
Hidden Springs Church
Howell Church of Christ
Lakeland Trails Baptist Church
New Covenant Christian Fowlerville
Oak Grove United Methodist
Old St. Pats Catholic Church
Pleasant Valley Baptist
South Hill Baptist Milford
St. Agnes Catholic Church
St. Augustine Catholic Church
St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church
St. Mary Catholic Church
The Father's House
Tri-Lakes Baptist
Trinity Lutheran
United Brethren in Christ Church of Fowlerville



Stem Cell Research - Truth v. Lies

Nina Cedar

Embryonic stem cells continue to be at the forefront of media hype, misinformation, and misplaced medical miracles. You will frequently read of patients being treated successfully with stem cells. The unstated reality is that all healing processes using stem cells, have been achieved only when adult stem cells are used.

The push is on to create funding for embryonic stem cell research (ESCR). Private backing is almost nonexistent as the research has failed to produce results. Investors don't fund failure, but politicians will, so it is not surprising that legislators want our tax dollars for ESCR.

Adult stem cells are harvested, cultivated

and used in the successful treatment of an ever-increasing list of seventy illnesses. Adult stem cells can be found in skin, fat, nasal cells, bone marrow, menstrual blood, umbilical cord blood and in the placenta. There is no ethical concern when retrieving these cells because no one needs to be killed in order

to use them. There is also no rejection by the recipient because patients are treated with their own cells.

In order to discern the truth about embryonic stem cells, you must do more than just read the almost daily offering of fiction. If you believe what you read in mainstream media, then you will quickly be convinced that the only thing standing between cures for many devastating diseases, using embryonic stem cells, is your tax dollars. This is pure fantasy.

Embryonic stem cells, inherently capable of becoming every type of cell, will become every type of cell when allowed to grow from embryo to fetus and ultimately a newborn. Saying that the em-

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Help Wanted

Office volunteers needed for data entry, filing and phone work. No experience necessary (typing skills are helpful) and training will be provided. If you are prolife, can spare a few hours and would like to do more, we need you!

Almost every day, we are bombarded with the reasons why we need to use embryonic stem cells in the search for cures.

Dishonest reporting allows the reader to think that there have been many achievements with embryonic stem cells. The fact is that every single successful stem cell treatment has been with adult stem cells. We are also led to believe that a lack of money is the only thing preventing cures with embryonic stem cells, therefore our tax-dollars are needed.

Mark Blocher will be the keynote speaker for our 17th Annual Focus on Life Dinner. His timely message will examine why we must protect the tiniest of humans-embryos. Tickets are on sale now, be sure to make your reservations.

We are here to provide our readers with current information on life issues as they affect our county, our state and our country. This newsletter may be the only prolife resource for many in the community. If you have questions about abortion, infanticide, assisted suicide or related life issues, I encourage you to contact the office in Brighton.

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bryo is just a small group of cells, lacking viability is only a partial truth. The fact is that our level of development and whether or not we are dependent upon others is not how we determine if someone is human.

Our U.S. Senators are confused too. Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL), said on the Senate floor on July 29, 2005: "If in fact it is a human life — it is not, by the way..." This statement shows either wishful thinking, extreme ignorance or is an outright lie. Through scientific knowledge, we know that a human embryo will only ever be a human; we don't measure humanness by size.

It is also a fact that cures for cancers, Parkinson's, diabetes, Alzheimer's, stroke and spinal cord injury victims are a worthy goal.

A week of sun and heat means we have entered into the summer season. Due to vacations, busy volunteers and other family functions, the office hours will be somewhat variable. We plan to be open Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday from 9-1, but suggest you call first if you are stopping by.

One of the most enjoyable events of a Livingston County summer is the Fowlerville Fair. Right to Life-Livingston County has a booth at the fair each year. We also sponsor a Precious Baby Contest. Children two years of age or younger are eligible to enter. Check this newsletter for contest information. Fair dates are Saturday, July 14, through Saturday, July 21. Plan a family day at the fair and don't forget to stop by our booth to visit and pick up free prolife information and balloons for the kids.

We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer.
God bless,

Penny Sobonya
Board Chair

Pregnancy Help Clinic

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

- **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



Stem Cell Research

Most of us have friends or loved ones that have suffered and the truth is that we would gladly pay almost any amount in the hope for a cure.

The only real question that remains is, should any group of humans be allowed to kill another group of humans for any reason?

The media paints an ugly picture of those who are against using embryonic stem cells for research and possible cures. The prolife community is considered extreme. Their determination to preserve respect for innocent human life is considered extreme and out of touch with the mainstream. Nothing is further from the truth.

Real extremism is exposed when you talk about the facts. Adult stem cells have cured or treated thousands without any moral dilemma. The prolife community wants to see diseases cured, but not at the expense of other humans.

Pretending that human embryos are not human beings is more than bad fiction; it is unethical and unscientific.

*Please let us know if you would like to be removed from our newsletter list.
Call the office at
810-227-5788 or
email rtlcc@sbcglobal.net*

Legislative Update

State Legislation

Ban Aborted Tissue Research & Trafficking: House Bills 4334-35 were introduced by Reps. Caul and Moolenaar in March and referred to the House Health Policy Committee. These bills would prohibit the use of any aborted baby's organs, tissues or cells to be used in scientific research, and prohibit the sale or other compensation for the transferring or trafficking of aborted babies.

Cloning & Embryonic Stem Cell Research: Sen. Gretchen Whitmer has reintroduced legislation to repeal our prolife laws that prohibit destructive research on human embryos and prohibit the creation of embryos by cloning. At present, there appears little likelihood the bill will be taken up by prolife Committee chair, Sen. Tom George. Rep. Andy Meisner introduced his revised version of the embryonic stem cell research and cloning bill, House Bill 4616. Mark Meadows introduced the companion bills H.B. 4617 and 4618, which we do not oppose since they increase the penalty for cloning and list the sentencing guidelines.

Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act: H.B. 4613 would make it a felony to knowingly perform a partial birth abortion for research purposes. This bill is to coincide with the U.S. Supreme Court

ruling which upheld the Partial Birth Abortion Ban, *Gonzales v. Carhart* on April 18, 2007. It is especially important to establish state statute outlawing PBA since the Legal Birth Definition Act (LBDA), which would effectively ban PBA in Michigan, was once again ruled unconstitutional by the 6th Circuit Court on June 4, 2007. Even if the LBDA is again appealed by the Attorney General's office to the Supreme Court, it could take years to be heard. No action is anticipated on H.B. 4613 until after Labor Day.

Coercive Abortion Prevention Act: (CAPA) will create special penalties against persons who attempt to coerce a woman to have an abortion and will require abortionists to screen for coercion and domestic violence before a woman can consent to an abortion

Citizen Accountability Act: Rep. Kevin Green introduced H.B. 4651 on 4-24-07. This bill, the first in the country, would allow a citizen who has knowledge of a woman being treated with an abortion complication to file a report with the Department of Community Health in accordance with Public Act 208 of 1999. This bill is a means of enforcing the original Act, by holding the health care providers, doctors, abortion personnel and the department ac-

countable to accurately reporting these complications.

Federal Legislation

Embryonic Stem Cell Research: On April 11, 2007, the Senate voted on S 5, to overturn the President's policy limiting federal funding of embryonic stem cell research to those cell lines created before August 2001. The vote was 63-34, 4 votes short of an override majority. The bill differed from the House passed bill and the differences will be worked out. Regardless of the final version sent to President Bush, he has vowed to veto the measure as he did last year.

Court Challenges

Gonzales v. Carhart (formerly Carhart v. Ashcroft): On April 18, 2007, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the federal Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act by a 5-4 vote. Importantly, the Court recognized the government's interest in protecting unborn children, and the necessity of keeping a bright line between abortion and infanticide. The Court also referenced post-abortion effects and the need for women to know the truth about partial birth abortion before ever making that choice. The law will be enforceable 25 days after the ruling, May 13, 2007.

President Bush Vetoes Embryonic Stem Cell Research Funding Bill

by Steven Ertelt
LifeNews.com Editor
June 20, 2007

For the second time, President Bush has vetoed a bill that would force Americans to pay for research that involves the destruction of human life. Because days-old unborn children are killed for their cells for science, the president said the bill crosses a moral line that he can't support.

"If this legislation became law, it would compel American taxpayers -- for the first time in our history -- to support the deliberate destruction of human embryos," the White House said in a statement highlighting the veto.

"The president has made it clear to Congress and the American people that he will not allow the nation to cross this moral line," the statement added.

Instead of signing the bill, President

Bush issued an executive order to press for more research into ways of obtaining embryonic stem cells without harming human life.

The White House defended the president's policy saying he was the first president to make federal funds available for stem cell research, including money for studies involving older embryonic stem cells where no more destruction would take place.

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17th Annual
Focus On Life Dinner



Featuring guest speaker

Mark Blocher

Tuesday, October 23, 2007
6:30-9:30

Crystal Gardens
5768 E. Grand River
Howell, MI

Dr. Blocher is an Associate Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies at Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids. He also serves as Captain of the Michigan State Police Chaplains corps. He has published numerous magazine, newspaper and journal articles on bioethics. He served on a citizens' advisory committee for the Ethics, Legal and Social Implications Division of the Human Genome Project for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Come hear why embryonic stem cell research (ESCR) and cloning must be banned from our land. Dr. Blocher is an excellent speaker who brings clarity to the bioethics behind the science of human cloning and ESCR. The push is on for our tax-dollars to fund embryonic stem cell research. Learn why embryos must have our protection too!

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual reservations \$50 per person <input type="checkbox"/> Personal table of 10 for \$450 - <i>save \$10 per couple!</i> <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	
Name-Address				Please bill by MasterCard/Visa/Discover	
				card number	
City	State	Zip	Phone	Name as it appears on card	
				exp. date	
Email				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.	
Dinner reservations are not tax-deductible				For additional information call 810-227-5788 or e-mail rtlcc@sbcglobal.net	
				Ticket purchase includes one year affiliate membership	



Together we can make a difference!

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Since 2001, President Bush has made \$130 million dollars available for research on stem cell lines derived from embryos that had already been destroyed.

The president has also provided more than \$3 billion in federal funding for research on all forms of stem cells, including those from adult and other non-embryonic sources.

Now that Bush has vetoed the bill, the Senate will have the first chance to override it.

It approved the bill in April on a 63-34 with three Democrats who support the measure absent at the time. The 66 vote total was one short of the two-thirds needed to override the veto but, since that time, pro-life Sen. Craig Thomas of Wyoming passed away.

Unless his seat is filled by the time the Senate votes on the override, only 66 votes are needed to overturn Bush's veto and make the bill law.

If the Senate vote is successful, the House will follow suit on attempting to override the veto, but backers of embryonic stem cell research don't have enough votes.

The House voted 247-176 in support of S. 5 on June 7, which was more than 30 votes short of two-thirds.

Pro-life groups oppose embryonic stem cell research because of the destruction of human life involved and point to the use of adult stem cells as a more effective and ethical alternative. It has helped treat patients with dozens of diseases while embryonic cells have never been tried in humans because of several problems.

President Bush also called on the House to approve a bill the Senate passed that would provide public money for alternative forms of embryonic stem cell research that don't involve the destruction of human life.

Fowlerville Fair Booth Volunteers

The Fowlerville Family Fair is just days away and runs July 14-21. In order to increase attendance, the fair has been moved back one week in July-to miss 4th of July activities. If you would like to volunteer at our booth, there is still time to sign up.

Shifts are 11-2, 2-5, 5-8 and 8-10. Entry passes are provided.

No experience is necessary, but you must be prolife! Working at the booth is so rewarding that most people return every year when schedules allow. Please call 810-227-5788 today.

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 _____ Phone _____

Email _____

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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Mark Your Calendars

- Precious Baby Contest,
July 14-21
- Focus on Life Dinner
with Mark Blocher
Tuesday, Oct. 23, 2007

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 a one-year membership.

***"I will give no deadly
medicine to any one
if asked, nor suggest
any such counsel;
and in like manner
I will not give to
a woman a pessary
to produce abortion".***

**Hippocratic Oath
400 B.C.**