



Right To Life - Lifespan Inc.

SERVING SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN SINCE 1970

VOLUME 10 NUMBER 4

APRIL 1988

CHECK DATE!!

The Newsletter last month indicated the wrong date for the Detroit Chapter Auction. The date is April 21st. The place will be Shrine of the Little Flower Grade School in Royal Oak. Please see Calendar for more information.

MEETING DATE CHANGED

The General Membership Meeting of Right-to Life-Lifespan will be held Friday, May 6th at 7:00 p.m. at Madonna College. Please see the enclosed flyer for more information.

NATIONAL RTL CONVENTION

The National Right to Life Convention (NRLC '88) will be held July 21-23, 1988 in Arlington, Virginia. Everyone is welcome.

Persons interested in registration should call The Main Office at 261-2757 for more information.

ABORTION RIGHTS ACTIVIST GOT 'LIGHT SENTENCE'

WASHINGTON - An abortion rights activist who got a one-year suspended sentence for making false bomb threats to make the pro-life movement look bad got a "light" sentence, said a California pro-life leader. Susan Carpenter-McMillan, president of the Right to Life League of Southern California, made her comments in a telephone interview two weeks after Frank Mendiola, 30, was sentenced Feb. 10 after pleading guilty in Los Angeles Superior Court to three counts of telephoning false bomb threats. Mendiola, a frequent speaker for abortion rights groups in California and Washington, made the false threats to a newspaper, women's groups and police. (Continued at bottom of next column.)

FOR DETROIT CHAPTER NEWS, SEE PAGES 4 & 5.

REST IN PEACE

All the members of Right-to-Life-Lifespan wish to express their deepest sympathy to Jane Condron on the death of her husband Thomas F. Condron. Mr. Condron died April 8th after a long illness.

Jane Condron has been the hard-working Chairman of the Oakland Chapter of Right to Life and a member of the Board for many years.

Mr. Condron is also survived by his children Cathleen, Timothy and Sharon and grandchildren Ryan and Kristen.

Contributions to the Bishop Foley Dad's Club have been suggested.

CHRISTMAS CARD COMMITTEE OPENS CONTEST

The Christmas Card Committee is seeking suggestions for a verse to be printed in the cards for Christmas 1988. They have decided to sponsor a contest. The winner -- the person who sends in the most appropriate verse -- will receive a free box of Christmas cards. Please send your entries to The Main Office, 27578 Schoolcraft, Livonia, Michigan 48150.

Should the verse be quoted from another source please give the appropriate citations.

(Abortion Rights Activist continued)

Carpenter-McMillan said her group feels "sorry for" Mendiola "and sorry for what he did. I'm glad it was disclosed it was a pro-abortionist calling the clinics and blaming us," she said.

"It's frustrating to be accused of these things."

(Taken from The Michigan Catholic,
March 4, 1988)

THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE PRECINCT DELEGATE DEMOCRATIC OR REPUBLICAN

The majority of citizens are unaware of the power available to the Precinct Delegate. In fact, many precincts are not even represented by a delegate in either party. The reasons are not money or time or ability, but ignorance and apathy instead. How many times have you wanted to do something about politics that really mattered? Becoming a Precinct Delegate of either party might be the single most important thing a concerned person can do to act on his or her goals or convictions. By this simple, yet crucial act, you can have an impact in three areas:

1. Selection of candidates
2. Selection of party issues
3. Selection of party leadership

CANDIDATES. The Precinct Delegate forms the base on which the state Democratic and Republican parties function. State delegates choose their party's candidates for offices such as Lt. Governor, Att'y General, Sec'y of State, State School Board, State Supreme Court, etc. (In presidential election years, Republican Precinct Delegates begin the process of selecting the Republican nominees for President and Vice-President.)

ISSUES. State delegates vote to recommend how government should act on certain issues. National delegates construct their party's platform. The Precinct Delegate may influence all issues--education programs, taxes, budget priorities, and abortion.

PARTY LEADERSHIP. Precinct Delegates choose the party officers of their county and delegates to state conventions where the state party chairman, and district, state, and national committee members are elected. These leaders determine which candidates will receive money and assistance from the party, and which issues the party will address.

HOW TO GET STARTED. Begin by obtaining a nominating petition from your county clerk or district coordinator (listed below). Then obtain 20 signatures of registered voters in your precinct. (You and your spouse can sign it too.) Turn in your completed petition to your county clerk or district coordinator before the filing deadline of May 24. Your name will then appear on the ballot on August 2. If you are unopposed, as most delegates are, you need only 3 votes to be elected.

There are absolutely no legal obligations or expenses required of a Precinct Delegate. One may engage in as much or as little political activity as one desires. However, your vote at the County (or District) Convention (held about once a year in your area) would be needed in order for you to have the influence mentioned above.

You must be 18 years of age and a registered voter residing in the Precinct from which you are running.

CALL YOUR CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT COORDINATOR FOR INFORMATION AND HELP:

1st: Ron Seigle	868-1946 (eve) 869-0033 (days)	15th: John Barile	427-1056 *
2nd: Anne Lark	464-8821	Michael Wolfrom	427-7896
6th:		16th: Al Lemmo	561-0251
12th:		Lee Wenskey	388-6338 (eve) 721-5324 (days)
13th: Ron Seigle	(see 1st Dist.)	17th: Marc Sosnowski	538-8767
14th: Alice Zegarski	892-7398	18th:	

* If you reside in a Congressional District which does not have a prolife coordinator listed, contact John Barile for information.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION . . .

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP YOUNG FAMILIES

Adult volunteers are needed by the Parent-Infant Partners Program to get involved with young families and help reduce the tragic infant mortality rate in the City of Detroit.

Parent-Infant Partners is an organization created and sponsored by the Michigan Catholic Health System, a collaborative effort of the leadership of seven religious organizations involved in health care in southeast Michigan. Their goal is to reduce the high death rate of babies born in Detroit, where one of 50 infants dies before its first birthday.

Volunteers will receive 24 hours of training and then will be assigned a family to meet with at regular times in the family's home. They will provide education and support as early in the pregnancy as possible and through the baby's first year of life. They will also teach expectant mothers and their families how to care for themselves and their babies, how to interact and communicate with their newborns, and what to expect as the baby develops.

Says Sharon Wallace, RN, CNM, director of the partnership program, "The unacceptably high infant death rate in Detroit can often be attributed to poorly educated teenage mothers, who have no prenatal care and then give birth to low-weight babies who are less likely to survive. These young mothers often do not know how to take advantage of health care programs already available in the community and they often have no experience dealing with an infant."

"We hope, through our volunteer network, to help turn these sad death rate statistics around."

Interested men and women may contact the Parent-Infant Partner Program at 868-8420 to find out more about becoming a part of this effort.

(From The Michigan Chronicle, February, 1988).

To Our Members Who Are Catholic:

January 1985, Masses were started at St. Eugene's Parish called Respect For The Unborn. The purpose was to reverse the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision which made it legal to kill the unborn baby. A Mass is said each month and the Mass stipend is collected with a few or several involved. Since that time, eleven parishes have started these Masses.

This idea may be something members could consider instigating in their own parish. Please send a report of your parish's participation to Evelyn Wallwork at 19295 Beaverland, Detroit, Michigan 48219 or call her at 533-9527.

P. S. If Protestant, Jewish or other members would like to start a prayer service in their churches, we would love to hear from you too!

QUESTION: Who said: "The moral test of government is how it treats those who are in the dawn of life-the children; those who are in the twilight of life-the aged; and those who are in the shadows of life-the sick, the needy and the handicapped"?

- Martin Littlefield, St. Petersburg Beach, Fla.

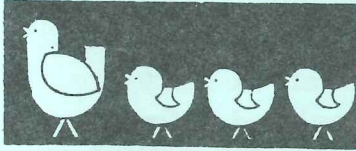
ANSWER: The author of that statement was the late Hubert Horatio Humphrey (1911-78), Democratic Senator from Minnesota and Vice President of the U. S. from 1965 to 1969, in the administration of President Lyndon Johnson.

DETROIT CHAPTER NEWS

Detroit
5930 Woodward
Detroit, MI 48202-3516
(313)874-0432

Educational Center For Life
909 Woodward Avenue
Pontiac, MI 48053-3015
(313)338-1910

Pregnancy Services
Birthright 532-3030
Eastland Problem
Pregnancy 372-1058
Pregnancy Aid 882-1000



WE DON'T WANT TO LOSE ANYBODY

Recently, four hundred sixty of our Detroit Chapter members received reminders that their memberships are due for renewal. To date, approximately thirty people have sent us their dues for the coming year, indicating that they wish to continue supporting the work of the Detroit Chapter of Right to Life - Lifespan. As Newsletter readers know, membership dues provide the basic income of our Chapter. With them, we pay the rent and phone bill for our office on Woodward. More important, we use income from members' dues to keep our library of educational materials as up-to-date as possible. Throughout the year, schools and groups benefit and learn about prolife issues through the films, tapes, pamphlets, and books that we are able to provide. Our chapter is committed to being a strong prolife voice in Detroit. Please help us to not only continue to exist in Detroit but to grow and be heard by all of its residents. If your membership is about to expire, please renew. Invite a friend or relative to become a member. Give your mom a membership for Mothers' Day. To make it easy for you we are including a membership form in this month's Newsletter. Simply cut it out, complete the information and send it with your check to the Detroit Chapter Office at 5930 Woodward, Detroit, MI 48202. Thank you for staying with us!

DETROIT CHAPTER RIGHT TO LIFE - LIFESPAN MEMBERSHIP FORM

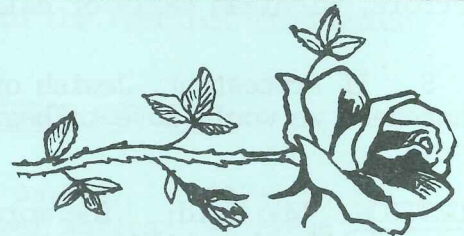
Name _____ Renewal _____
New _____
Address _____
City _____ ZIP _____ Phone _____

Regular membership - \$12.00 per year
Students & Senior Citizens - \$5.00 per year

Please send to: Detroit Chapter Right to Life - Lifespan, Inc.
5930 Woodward Avenue
Detroit, MI 48202

A ROSE FOR MOM ON MOTHERS' DAY

Our annual Mothers' Day Flower Sale will be held at various Detroit area locations on Mothers' Day weekend, May 7-8. Volunteers will be outside several churches with roses that will be exchanged for donations from worshippers who are leaving church and heading for dinners and visits with their moms. Each rose will be wrapped in florists' paper and decorated with a ribbon and a tag bearing the "precious feet" symbol with the words "Thanks, Mom!" Won't you consider suggesting to your church, class, club or other group that this would be a wonderful project that would honor their mothers and help our Detroit Chapter at the same time? We will supply flowers, ribbon, tags and paper at no cost to you. Let us know as soon as possible how many flowers your group would like. Help us make this an extra-special prolife Mothers' Day!



RIGHT TO LIFE - LIFESPAN, INC.

11th Annual General Meeting

Friday, May 6, 1988 7:00 p.m.

Presents

KAY JAMES

President, Black Americans for Life

Public Relations Director, National Right to Life Committee

Topic: **MEDICAID ABORTION IS NOT THE SOLUTION TO PREGNANCY AMONG THE POOR**



KAY C. JAMES has been an active volunteer in the prolife movement since 1978. She was one of the founders of a Crisis Pregnancy Center which seeks to offer women alternatives to abortion. Mrs. James joined NRLC (National Right to Life Committee) as public relations director in 1985. She has appeared on numerous local and national television programs including the TODAY SHOW and the OPRAH WINFREY SHOW. Mrs. James is one of the founders of Black Americans for Life and is its current president.

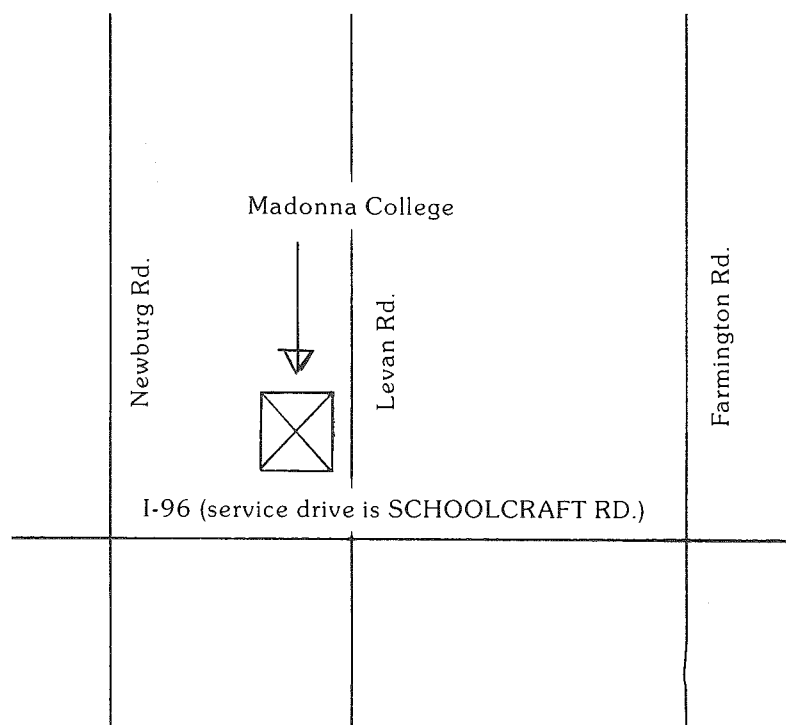
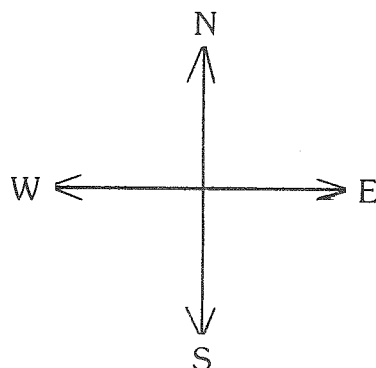
Mrs. James will address a topic of utmost importance to Michigan citizens this year — Medicaid Abortion. With the Michigan prolife movement facing a referendum vote this November to overturn a legislative ban on tax funding of abortions, it is vital that everyone take this opportunity to receive information on the subject.

MADONNA COLLEGE SCIENCE LECTURE HALL

I-96 (Schoolcraft Rd.) and Levan
Livonia, Michigan

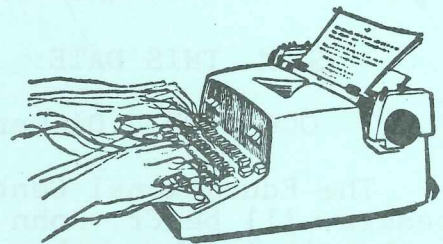
ADMISSION FREE

REFRESHMENTS



DETROIT CHAPTER MEMBER CHALLENGES NEW YORK TIMES REVIEW

Janice DeMaggio, Detroit Chapter member, sent the following letter to the "New York Times Book Review," in response to a review of a book comparing attitudes toward abortion and divorce in America and Europe. We congratulate her for taking the time to speak out and wish to share her eloquent letter with our members.



New York Times Book Review
Times Square
New York, NY 10036

In regards to Paul Robinson's February 14 review titled "America the Extreme:" Please do me the favor of not facilely dismissing anti-abortionists as woman-haters. Accusing all prolife people of hating women is akin to dismissing feminists as men-haters. My reasons for opposing abortion transcend gender.

The argument for banning abortion is the same argument as that for the laws against suicide. In suicide, one might argue that a person has a right to privacy and a right to control his or her own destiny. And yet society forbids suicide because our collective experience is that unless life is declared valuable and worth protecting, the very reason for any regulation of human behavior is rendered moot. We know from experience that most suicidal people eventually will find affirmation and reasons for living; also, and very selfishly perhaps, we do not want to be denied the presence of that unique individual who is contemplating suicide. Society is based on the assumption that every individual has a contribution to make.

In the matter of abortion, some would deny the humanity of the fetus, as if its genes and chromosomes were not evidence of a budding human being. Biologically, the "human-ness" of the unborn baby cannot be disputed. The "personhood" can be, and is.

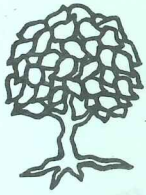
But as our medical technology advances and babies survive at an earlier and earlier age outside of the womb, the line of reasonable doubt recedes as to when "personhood" begins. Is a baby a person (entitled to the legal protection of society) only when she or he is outside the uterus rather than inside?

Our challenge is to affirm life, not to deny it. I see in America a growing tendency to accept a disregard for the concerns of the infirm, the poor, the aged, the mentally troubled, the homeless, the abused. Abortion was promoted as a panacea to suffering, but as you look past the comfortable middle class, do you really see any lessening of suffering in our society? As just one instance, are there really any fewer children abused now that supposedly every child is a "wanted" child?

Abortion is just one facet of a prevailing mentality that places convenience over an admittedly very, very hard struggle to affirm all aspects of life, regardless of external subjective judgements as to its "quality" at one particular moment. This is an issue for all of us, female and male.

Sincerely,

Janice DeMaggio



EDUCATIONAL CENTER FOR LIFE PROGRESS REPORT

JOHN POWELL, S.J. WILL SPEAK HERE

SAVE THIS DATE: October 21, 1988

OCCASION: Dinner with Fr. John Powell, S.J.

The Educational Center For Life is sponsoring a dinner and our guest speaker will be Fr. John Powell, S. J. from Loyola University in Chicago. Fr. Powell is the author of many books including Abortion: The Silent Holocaust, Why Am I Afraid To Tell You Who I Am and Unconditional Love. He has also appeared in the videos Reverence For Life and Does Anyone Care?, which are available from the Educational Center.

Please watch for the reservation flyer that will be in future newsletters or call the Educational Center for more information.

DATE: OCTOBER 21, 1988

TIME 7:00 P.M.

PLACE: MERCY CENTER
11 Mile and Middlebelt
Farmington Hills

"DONATE YOUR APPETITES"

Within the past month we have received 7,586! Bill Knapp Community Support Coupon points for a total of 19,908! toward our new copy machine. Our goal of approx. 76,000 points needs to be reached by March 31, 1989.

A very big THANK YOU! to these people for this past month's coupon points: Konopka, Pernak, Kacher, Smith, Yambrach, Gheesling, Kleinbrook, O'Connell, Aiton, Ervin, Bettega, Thomas, Spas, Cutright, Educational Center for Life, Mitchell, Fessler, Rougeau, Wilhelm, Uphaus, Lovend, Will, Happ, Miller, Lohrengel, Grix, Cunningham, Lally, Purcell, Mast, Bell, Norvell, Martin, LaJoie, Kokorzycki, Trudeau, Libengood, Burkett, Wargo, LaBerge, Kwiatkowski, Weaver, Troha, Durkin, Sulak, Hager, Szabo, Southfield Chiropractic Clinic, Kolbe, Gonzales and others whose names we do not have. If we missed anyone, we thank you too!

When you present your check to the cashier at Bill Knapp's ask for a Community Support Coupon. The cashier will indicate on the coupon how many points are awarded. Points are awarded based on this formula: 1 pt. equals \$1.00 computed on the total amount received by the cashier for meals, bakery items, take-out orders or purchased gift certificates.

Please DONATE YOUR APPETITE! to Right to Life - Lifespan, c/o Bill Knapp's! and send the Community Support Coupons to us at 27578 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

March 29, 1988

Letters to the Editor
The Michigan Catholic
2701 Chicago Blvd.
Detroit, MI 48206

Dear Editor:

Many members of the MICHIGAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (MEA) are opposed to legal abortion. Some of these teachers are members of state or local prolife groups. Unfortunately, the MEA "supports the right to women to have freedom of choice to make their own decisions regarding their reproductive choice" (Section E, Article 4, MEA resolution). In other words, the MEA is pro-abortion.

Recently, our organization applied for a classified ad in the MEA publication, the Voice, in an attempt to inform MEA members of the existence of a national prolife teachers' group called TEACHERS SAVING CHILDREN. Our ad was refused with the curt explanation "that our policies do not permit us to accept your ad because it relates to a political issue."

While the Voice has every right to decide the content of its paper, their hypocrisy is evident. In 1987 the MEA donated \$30,000 to the Committee for the Protection of Michigan Lives, now called the People's Campaign for Choice. This is the wholly political group trying to rescind the Michigan Legislature's ban on tax-funded abortion. Nothing in our ad indicated the involvement of the MEA in the Medicaid abortion referendum. It simply suggested that prolife teachers join TEACHERS SAVING CHILDREN.

Many teachers appear to be unaware that their union is involved in this non-educational issue. It is also obvious that the MEA prefers to keep them in the dark. That is why the Voice refused our ad, not because it was political. After all, the MEA is very much involved in politics.

It is certainly tragic that the largest teachers' union in Michigan not only supports the pre-birth destruction of part of its next generation of students, but also attempts to prevent its members from receiving information which could reverse the situation.

Sincerely,

Alice Radwick, President
Right to Life - Lifespan, Inc.

Also sent to Editors, Detroit Free Press and Detroit News

CALENDAR UPDATE

- April 21 Auction to Benefit Pregnancy Shelters - Date Correction. (not April 25th as printed last month), Shrine of the Little Flower Grade School, Royal Oak. 7:30 p.m. Call 532-2271 or 272-3596.
- April 21 School Based Clinic Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Wayne Community Center. Betty Lewis, prolife speaker.
- April 29 Fiesta Night, 4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. to benefit Taylor Crisis Pregnancy Center & Downriver Lifespan. St. Cyril Church, Taylor.
- May 6 Right to Life-Lifespan, Inc. Annual General Membership Meeting. Madonna College, I-96 and Levan Rd., Livonia.
7:00 p.m. Speaker, Kay James, Black Americans for Life.
- May 7-8 Mothers' Day flower sale to benefit Lifespan Chapters, to be held at various area churches.
- June 11 Taylor CPAC benefit concert, 7:30 p.m., Trenton Assembly of God, 239 Cherry, Trenton. Contact Pat Franklin 374-0520.
- July 21-23 National Right to Life Convention, Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia.

RIGHT TO LIFE - LIFESPAN, INC.

MAIN OFFICE
27578 Schoolcraft
Livonia, MI 48150
(313) 261-2757

PREGNANCY SERVICES
Toll Free - National Hot Line
1-800-238-4269

NEWSLETTER STAFF
Publisher Alice Radwick
Co-Editors Rosemary Ledwidge
 Suzanne E. Witucki
Typist Pat DeAgostino

Right To Life - Lifespan, Inc. is a voluntary organization and is funded entirely by membership dues, private donations and fundraising. You can live on after death by helping those whose lives are threatened by abortion, euthanasia or infanticide. A bequest in your will to Right To Life - Lifespan, Inc. or a donation in memory of a loved one, will be used to save the lives of many through our efforts. Donations are not tax-deductible.

Right To Life - Lifespan, Inc.

Detroit Chapter
5930 Woodward Avenue
Detroit, MI 48202-3516



If you are moving, please
notify us of your new address.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

URGENT DATED MATERIAL