

# Lifespan *news*

Volume 41 Number 4

Presenting the Pro-Life Message in Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

June 2012



## From a New Father

My wife thinks it is strange  
that I keep going in to stare at the baby.

It is different for her.

She carried this child for nine months  
under her heart.

I felt a few of the kicks.

It is not the same, though,  
on the outside of the womb.

Fathers wait.

A strange sort of faith is nurtured.

A few days ago, I saw no one.

I had an expectation—a mental image  
of what the baby would be like.

My idea was at least as fuzzy  
as the ultrasound.

Now our child has arrived,  
and I cannot believe my eyes.

I have to look, again and again,  
to let this sink in.

Somebody new is definitely here.

Seeing is not believing.

This is too big for seeing.

—*Celebrate Fathers, Prayers and Reflections on Fatherhood, Liguori*

***Happy Father's Day to All Fathers,  
Grandfathers and Great-Grandfathers!***



## *In Loving Memory Elizabeth (Betty) Queen 1916 - 2012*

*Right to Life - LIFESPAN  
Mother of the Year 2009*

**L**ifespan has lost a great warrior and friend with the death of **Betty Queen**. After 96 years on this earth, she is now in the presence of God, still advocating for all the disenfranchised of our society, the preborn, handicapped and elderly who have no voice.

Betty truly was one of the founding pillars of our organization who became, for many years, the office manager of the first Detroit Chapter of Right to Life - LIFESPAN and secretary of our Detroit board.

She continued to sell Christmas cards and flowers at her church after she retired as office manager and even into her 80s she was present for our Rallies and Life Chains.

She was selected as Lifespan's Mother of the Year in 2009. What a joy it was for all of us in this organization to see Betty honored for her many years of service to the Right to Life movement. Betty was the "Queen" of Detroit for many years, but tirelessly labored, like a "servant," to change society and end the culture of death.

All this she accomplished while taking care of a family of five and being very active in her church.

She leaves behind 13 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren. What a legacy of life these young people have to look up to. Betty has now joined her beloved Archie who was with her for 60 years of marriage. That too was an inspiration and a great witness to us all.

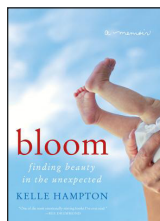
Betty was such a loving, compassionate mentor, friend and advocate. She will be greatly missed. May she soon see the fruits of her tireless labor.

## *Educational Center for Life*



### **NEW DVD THE HIGH COST OF FREE LOVE**

World-renowned abstinence educator, Pam Stenzel, combines her personal story and extensive pregnancy counseling experience into a hard-hitting look at the consequences of sexual activity outside of a monogamous, lifetime relationship. In a captivating and inspiring talk, Pam tackles the tough issues of sex with candor, insight and humor while challenging young people to embrace abstinence. (76 Minutes)



### **NEW BOOK BLOOM: FINDING BEAUTY IN THE UNEXPECTED—A MEMOIR**

Kelle Hampton writes with breathtaking honesty about her initial fears regarding baby Nella—born with Down syndrome. This story is a reminder that "perfect," when it comes to human beings, is such a relative (and irrelevant) term and that a mother's love for her child is a powerful, eternal, unshakeable force.

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# KROGER CUSTOMERS!



## HELP LIFESPAN THE EASY WAY!

### **Lifespan is enrolled in the Kroger Community Rewards Program!**

A percentage of the purchases of all those who register their Kroger Plus cards online will be rewarded back to Lifespan!

**In September 2011, Lifespan received \$351.86 from Kroger, and in April 2012, we received \$530.34 in Kroger Rewards!**

This is a great way to help fund our pro-life efforts; we encourage everyone to *register online for this program!*

Kroger requires re-enrollment in this program **EVERY APRIL**. So if you have enrolled in the past for Lifespan to receive Kroger rewards, you must re-enroll after April 1st, every year.

Even if you signed up for Kroger Community Rewards in January, February or March of this year—which will earn Lifespan funds as part of the May 2011 to May

2012 program—you **must** re-enroll after April 1, 2012 for Lifespan to continue earning rewards during the coming year, May 2012 to May 2013.

It's easy to enroll or re-enroll in Kroger Community Rewards. Visit [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com), click on "Michigan" and click on "Enroll" to register for the first time and "Re-enroll" to re-register. All participants must have a valid online account at Kroger.com and must sign up online to participate.

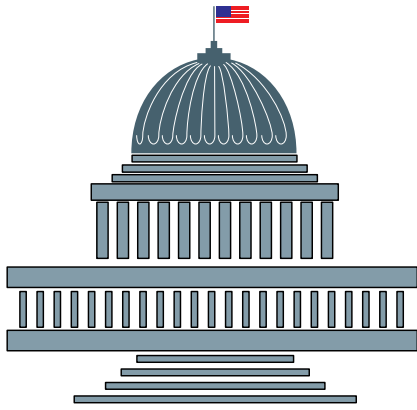
To register for the first time, go online to: [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) and be sure to have your Kroger Plus card handy to register your card. (If you do not yet have a Kroger Plus card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger.) Click on "Enroll." Sign up for a Kroger Rewards Account by entering your email address and creating a password. Enter your zip code for the Kroger store nearest you. Enter your Kroger Plus Card number. Confirm your info and agree to terms and conditions. You will then get a message to check your email inbox and click on the link within the body of the email to activate your account.

To re-enroll, go to: [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com), click on "Michigan" then click on "Re-enroll." Log onto your account and use your email address and password to sign in. Click on "Edit Community Rewards Program" and input Lifespan's NPO number **83138**, click "Search," then select "Right to Life-Lifespan Ed Fund," and save selection.



**REMEMBER, purchases will not count for Lifespan until after you register your card online as described above.**

If you need more information, see "frequently asked questions" on the Kroger website or call Lifespan at **734-524-0162**.



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

## Obamacare “Secrecy Clause” Demands Payment for Abortions

By Alan Sears

When Congress passed ObamaCare in March 2010, then Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Cal.) admitted she didn’t know what was in the bill, but promised constituents and fellow politicians, “We’ll find out what’s in it once we pass it.” Talk about a harbinger of things to come.

And in the two years since the bill’s passage the American people have not only found out what’s in it, they’ve discovered that part of the legislation purposely hides the fact that ObamaCare covers abortions. (This although politicians supporting ObamaCare repeatedly told the American people that abortion would not be covered.)

When looking through the pages of the healthcare overhaul, specifically Sec. 1310(b)(3), on page 781, one finds the “Secrecy Clause.” This clause outlines how ObamaCare both demands that insurance companies pay for abortion and that they co-operate with the White House by keeping this coverage secret.

What this means is that although some of the ObamaCare-compliant insurance plans cover elective abortion while others do not, the insurance companies are not allowed to communicate in advance which plans do in fact cover abortion.

This information is guarded and may never be known to individuals signing up for the insurance policies their employers offer, unless those specific individuals take time to read the fine print.

And here’s the kicker—even if an employee discovers that the insurance he or she has signed up for covers abortions and therefore contains an extra fee for abortion, the employee has no option under ObamaCare rules but to take the

healthcare or, dare they opt out, to pay an exorbitant fee for bypassing the healthcare plan offered through the employer.

In other words, it’s abortion or else under President Obama’s plan.

This is yet another assault on rights of conscience which we’ve seen emerging again and again from ObamaCare. Clearly, it appears that the position President Obama is holding to here is that abortion will not only be defended but promoted at all costs. Employees will have access to free, elective abortions whenever they want them, and employers will be forced to pay the premiums for the insurance that covers them.

In all of this, the idyllic “choice” for which so many on the left have contended for so long is the very thing they are now denying to employers and employees alike.

Life itself is under fire here, and conscience and freedom along with it.

*Alan Sears, a former federal prosecutor in the Reagan Administration, is president and CEO of the Alliance Defense Fund.*

—LifeNews.com, April 30, 2012



### Contact Information

#### President

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500  
Opinion Line: 202-456-1111, M-F, 9-5  
Fax Number: 202-456-2461  
Web contact: [www.whitehouse.gov/contact/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/)  
Dear Mr. President:

#### U.S. Senators

The Honorable (Carl Levin, Debbie Stabenow)  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
202-224-3121  
Website/Email: [www.levin.senate.gov/](http://www.levin.senate.gov/)  
Website/Email: [www.stabenow.senate.gov/](http://www.stabenow.senate.gov/)

Dear Senator (last name):

#### U.S. Representatives

The Honorable (first and last name)  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-224-3121  
Website/Email: [www.house.gov/](http://www.house.gov/)  
Dear Congressman/Congresswoman (last name):

#### Governor

The Honorable Rick Snyder  
P.O. Box 30013, Lansing, MI 48909  
517-373-3400  
Opinion Line: 517-335-7858  
Website: [www.michigan.gov/snyder](http://www.michigan.gov/snyder)  
Email: [Rick.Snyder@michigan.gov](mailto:Rick.Snyder@michigan.gov)  
Dear Governor Snyder:

#### Michigan State Senator

The Honorable (full name)  
P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909  
517-373-1837  
Web contact: [www.senate.mi.gov/](http://www.senate.mi.gov/)  
Dear Senator (last name):

#### Michigan State Representative

The Honorable (full name)  
P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909  
517-373-1837  
Web contact: [www.house.mi.gov/](http://www.house.mi.gov/)  
Dear Representative (last name):

## Pearls of Wisdom

### 'Futile care' duty to die may be coming to a hospital near you

By Wesley J. Smith

When a Canadian man named Hassan Rasouli suffered complications after brain surgery, his doctors wanted to pull the plug. But his Muslim family said no. It was against Hassan's values, and moreover, they believed he showed signs of improvement. In any event, they wanted him to be able to continue to fight for life.

But that didn't end matters. The doctors claimed that continuing treatment was "futile" because he would never get better. Moreover, they announced they intended to stop all treatment except for comfort care—regardless of the family's desires or their patient's personal values—an example of what is known in bioethics as "Futile Care Theory" or "medical futility."

The case ended up in court. Justifying their desired imposition on the family, the doctors testified in a written affidavit: "It is as certain as anything ever is in medicine that he will never recover any degree of consciousness." Wrong.

Hassan later woke up (<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/opinions/opinion/in-the-rasouli-case-an-opportunity-to-clarify-patients-rights-and-doctors-power/article2419588/>) and became reactive to the point that he can now give a "thumbs up" when asked how he is doing.

Despite this, the doctors are still conducting tests to determine whether they remain committed to stopping his treatment. Further, they have asked the Canadian Supreme Court to grant physicians the general legal right to refuse wanted life-extending treatment. If they prevail, it will mean that extending life will cease to be considered medically "beneficial"—even when that is what the patient and/or family wants.

Some might snort derisively and think, "Well, that's Canada with single-payer health care. That's what happens in socialized systems."

Not so fast. Futile Care Theory has been pushed quietly by bioethicists in this country for years. Indeed, many, if not most, hospitals have promulgated some form of internal futile care protocol. Not only that, but many states—most notably Texas—legally grant hospitals the statutory right to refuse wanted life-sustaining treatment.

This is how the Texas law, seen as a model by many futilitarians, works: Under the Texas Health and Safety Code, if the physician disagrees with a patient's decision to receive treatment, he or she can take it to the hospital bioethics committee. A hearing is convened at which all interested parties explain why they want or don't want treatment to continue.

If the committee decides to refuse treatment, it is determinative. Even if the family finds another doctor willing to provide the treatment, it can't be done in that hospital. At that point, the patient/family has a mere ten days to find another hospital willing to take the patient, after which, according to the statute, "the physician and health care facility are not obligated to provide life-sustaining treatment."

In practical terms, that's a death sentence. The economics of medicine have changed from the old fee-for-service days. Today, extended care in ICUs is usually a money loser for hospitals, meaning that families find it almost impossible to find a facility willing to accept the transfer of expensive patients whose care has been declared to be "futile." There are even reported cases of desperate families looking out of state for a facility willing to provide treatment for a loved one about to be pushed out of the lifeboat by a Texas hospital.

How do bioethicists and doctors justify such an astonishing imposition? Futile Care Theory goes something like this: When a patient reaches a certain stage of illness, age or injury, any further treatment

other than comfort care is branded "futile" or "inappropriate," and withheld or withdrawn, either because doctors deem it burdensome on the patient or too expensive. That the patient may want the treatment because of deeply held values, a desire to live longer or on the unlikely hope of medical improvement is not decisive. Doctors and hospitals have the right to refuse service. So much for patient autonomy.

Worse, these interventions are withdrawn precisely because they work and extend the patient's life when the doctors disagree with that outcome. Thus, it is really the patient who is being declared futile rather than the treatment.

At this point, several important points need to be made about futile care:

1. Futility is not a medical determination; it is a value judgment. Treatment is refused based on "quality of life" judgmentalism and/or "cost-benefit" analysis.

2. Futility makes patient autonomy a one-way street. For years, we have been told that patients should state in writing what they want or don't want in the event they become incapacitated. Futile Care Theory makes refusing treatment binding for patients who want to die, but allows doctors/bioethicists the final say over the care of patients who expressed a desire to live.

3. Futility strips from patients and families the power to make medicine's most important health care decisions and give it to strangers: That's precisely what is happening in the Rasouli case.

4. Futile Care Theory is only the first step toward a coming duty to die. Think of Futile Care Theory as ad hoc health care rationing. Once Obamacare is up and running, centralized boards will create cost-benefit bureaucratic boards that could systemize Futile Care Theory into mandatory refusals or outright health care rationing based on patients' quality of life. Indeed,

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# Lifespan Chapter News

Oakland/Macomb  
Wayne County/Downriver

## Thank You!

Our dinner this year was so much fun! We truly celebrated Life with joy and laughter. Our goal for this year was to acknowledge the serious nature of our struggle to protect Life, but also to recognize that Life should be celebrated. We took time to laugh with each other and sometimes at ourselves.

So many people are involved in bringing this event together that trying to thank each one individually would surely result in leaving someone out. So—we will say “thank you” to everyone who had a hand in this event and hope that you found it so enjoyable that you will be willing to do it again next year!

## Resource Book

If you have never glanced through our Resource Book (given to each diner at the annual dinner), now would be a good time to do it. This professionally-produced book contains articles, voting records, history, position statements—a wealth of pro-life information all in one place.

Pro-life businesses have also taken ads in this book, and we encourage all of you to see who the pro-life businessmen and women are in your area and use their

## Church Reps Seminar

On May 20 our church reps spent the day learning how to “make abortion unthinkable” through the *Art of Pro-life Persuasion* curriculum series, led by our own Denny Kass.

The day was spent being instructed on how to restore meaning to the word “abortion” by properly using visual aids; simplifying the abortion issue by focusing on the one question that clarifies the debate; using scientific evidence to offer a sound, reasonable, persuasive argument; and exposing the four common flaws of pro-abortion rhetoric.

The seminar was highly interactive and included a variety of large and small group activities, discussion opportunities, Q & A sessions, and the practicing of effective persuasive dialogue with one another. Our participants found the seminar to be extremely beneficial and motivating.

Wayne County/Downriver’s goal is to train additional instructors so that we can join Denny in getting this important information out. If you are interested in being trained, or would like to have this presentation at your church, please contact our office. We would love to educate Women’s and Men’s Ministries, Gospel of Life/Pro-life groups, Teen Clubs, etc. in this critical area.

Sharon Neal, Church Representatives Coordinator

services. It feels really good to know that your doctor, plumber, vet, hairdresser etc., respect life just as you do.

## Email addresses

This is not meant to sound like a broken record, but we really need your email address. Postage costs continue to rise, new rules are being placed on bulk mail (that’s how you get your newsletter), and with the upcoming election, there will be critical, time-sensitive information that you will want to have.

The best way to see that you get it is via email. Our server is safe, you will not get an inbox full of junk or spam and you can opt out at any time. Please email us your email address at [oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org](mailto:oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org)—that way we know the address is correct and we will get you on our email list. We promise to use it as sparingly as possible—you won’t hear from us every other day asking for money. Of course, if you would like to send us money every other day, please, feel free!!!

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1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G, Troy, MI 48084-3540

Phone: 248-816-1546 • Fax: 248-816-9066

e-mail: [oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org](mailto:oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org)

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9-3

Irene Tharp, Director • Diane Trombley, Ofc. Mgr.

Lynn Gura, Ofc. Staff & Youth Director

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## Father’s Day

LIFESPAN representatives and church reps will be offering pens imprinted “Thanks Dad, for Life” and “Happy Father’s Day.” Also available for a donation will be Morley’s candy bars labeled “Life is Sweet,” “Thanks Dad, for Life” and “Happy Father’s Day.” These are mementoes with a special message which children can give to their dads on their special day. Please look for these representatives at your church on Father’s Day and support this good cause.

## Happy Father’s Day

Fathers suffer from abortions of their children. While the pro-abortion movement ignores the rights of fathers, the pro-life movement acknowledges their pain and offers healing, forgiveness and a strong affirmation of the value of fatherhood. For information and help for fathers who are suffering from the loss of a child from abortion, contact *Life Issues Institute*, 1821 W. Galbraith Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45239; 513-729-3600; e-mail [info@lifeissues.org](mailto:info@lifeissues.org).

LIFESPAN wishes all fathers, grandfathers and great-grandfathers a blessed and Happy Father’s Day!

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14600 Farmington Rd., Ste. 108, Livonia, MI 48154-5431

Phone 734-422-6230 • Fax 734-422-8116

e-mail: [wcdr@rtl-lifespan.org](mailto:wcdr@rtl-lifespan.org)

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 10-4; Friday Closed

Patricia Holscher, Director • Laurie Masiarak, Ofc. Mgr.

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## Wee Care

IT'S A GIRL! Do you remember all the prayers I asked for last month for the young girl who was to have an abortion and then changed her mind? Well, we still need you to continue praying, but they certainly are working! "Jane" is due to have her baby in August—a very healthy baby girl! She is so excited, and we are too! As soon as she received her ultrasound picture, she rushed over to our office to give us one. (We proudly have copies of "our" baby on both of our desks and on exhausting days it reminds us what Lifespan is all about!)

She has changed from a frightened, lonely, destitute young lady to one filled with hope and love. She has fallen in love with her daughter, has a home instead of a homeless shelter, is preparing a nursery for her precious baby, is making plans to go back to school when she is able, and stops by whenever she can to give us a hug and tell us she loves us!

With all of this joy in her life, there is a heartbreaking situation at her home. She lives with two other young girls. One has an adorable 8-month-old son, who we are trying to provide for. The other mom had had an abortion before she met "Jane." Her baby would be the same age as "Jane's." When she went to the abortion clinic, it



"Jane's" Baby Girl

wasn't until AFTER the abortion that they told her, "oops, their mistake, the baby was a lot further along than they thought." She had been five months pregnant. It is extremely difficult for her to see "Jane's" tummy getting larger, to know that the baby is kicking and hiccupping and to watch "Jane" with all the adorable tiny clothes. We will certainly try to get her some counseling to help her deal with her heartwrenching emotions. Our hearts break for her. There is never one victim in abortion—always two.

So, once again, I request prayers. Prayers for both our moms. I also thank you. If it weren't for you and your continuing support, Wee Care would not have been here to answer the phone the day that "Jane" called. God bless you!

Love, Karen

PS: I will continue to keep you updated on "our" baby's progress!

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**A Program of Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund**  
32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305  
Phone: 734-524-0165 • Fax: 734-524-0166

*New Address  
& Phone!*

email: [weecare@rtl-lifespan.org](mailto:weecare@rtl-lifespan.org)  
Office Hours: By appointment  
Karen Patrosso, Director

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*All material and monetary donations to Wee Care are tax-deductible. Checks must be made payable to Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund.*

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## Youth Update

*Hello teens, college students, parents of teens, Youth Group Leaders in schools, parishes and churches, pastors, deacons, priests, teachers, principals and all volunteers who work with young people!*

There is a whole lot going on in the pro-life movement! For daily or weekly updates, you can go to [www.lifenews.com](http://www.lifenews.com), [www.lifesitenews.com](http://www.lifesitenews.com) and [www.nrlc.org](http://www.nrlc.org). These are great sources!

First, the plans for the 2013 "Movement in Motion" Youth Bus Trip to DC for the 40th annual March for Life are well underway. Six buses have been assigned and prices will be \$123.00 for a Red Eye and \$167.00-\$172.00 (depending on whether you are being picked up in Troy/Livonia or New Baltimore) for the Extended Trip which includes some meals and an overnight stay on Friday, January 25th at the First Baptist Church of Alexandria. Itineraries will be planned during the summer and registration for the trip will be September 5th-October 15th! At the end of the school year it is a good time to

remind you of the trip so you can start saving your money to go (summer jobs will be very helpful in this area)! Mark your calendar with the registration dates!

Secondly, if you are looking for some volunteer work to do this summer, please call me at 248-816-1546. I would be happy to give you some computer work, phone calls, mailings, etc. to do. I can keep you busy for at least 4 hours in a day! Or, call the Livonia offices if they are closer to you: 734-524-0162 (Main Office, speak to Eileen); 734-524-0165 (Wee Care, outreach center for mothers and their babies, speak to Karen) or 734-422-6230 (Wayne County/Downriver office, speak to Pat). And, we will be looking for volunteers to help at our annual Used Book Sale fundraiser again this summer in July. If you are interested in that opportunity, call 313-885-8238 (Mary).

The "Born to be a Lady" Modest Fashion Show, sponsored by the Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund and the Educational Center for Life was a great

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## Michael J. Fox looking past embryonic stem cells in search for cure for Parkinson's

By Dave Andrusko

In a most revealing interview with ABC's Diane Sawyer, actor Michael J. Fox conceded that it is likely that sources other than embryonic stem cells will provide a cure for Parkinson's, the disease from which he suffers. He did so, even though Sawyer kept trying to find a way to elicit from him a response that embryonic stem cell research was merely in a temporary "cul-de-sac" and even though he has been among the most vocal proponents of embryonic stem cell research.

Fox sat down with ABC World News anchor Diane Sawyer for the Yahoo! News and ABC News "Newsmakers" series to talk about the work of The Michael J. Fox Foundation. He was joined by Deborah W. Brooks, co-founder and executive vice president of the Foundation.

Sawyer tells Fox that her colleagues at Yahoo are "getting a lot of questions about stem cell research and whether this is the promise, this is the future." (By stem cell research, she means embryonic stem cell research, which he understands.) Fox immediately hedges and qualifies.

"Stem cells are an avenue of research that we've pursued and continue to pursue but it's part of a broad portfolio of things that we look at," he says. "There have been some issues with stem cells, some problems along the way," added Fox.

He then takes a slightly different direction.

"It's not so much that [embryonic stem cell research has] diminished in its prospects for breakthroughs as much as it's the other avenues of research have grown and multiplied and become as much or more promising. So, an answer may come from stem cell research, but it's more than likely to come from another area," he said.

Undeterred, Sawyer chimes that "There may be a Secret and we're just not there; we haven't found the Secret yet." Fox shifts gears again, telling Sawyer that he has no regrets for what he had done—that his concern all along had been "research freedom"—that is, "not shutting down avenues of research because of ideological reasons that were countered by the majority's opinion of whether it was worthwhile doing."

To which Sawyer adds, "So the whole thing is to be "able to ask the questions and not have anything" foreclosed.

But, of course, the objections to embryonic stem cell were not "ideological," but ethical, pragmatic and scientific. Moreover, that public opinion supported embryonic stem cell research (ESCR) reflected one thing and one thing only: the relentless media campaign to hype ESCR in the absence of any proven results, and the determination to ignore all the alternatives which had track records of helping people all over the world.

And, to her credit Brooks tells Sawyer that there is "good news"—there are "ideas and therapeutic approaches" that are "closer to fruition" from which "patients will see benefits from in a potential shorter timeframe." Brooks is not

allowed to finish her sentence before Sawyer is back trying to resurrect ESCR.

Brooks patiently walks her through the myriad of complexities (that we have talked about in this space) which ALWAYS made it highly improbable embryonic stem cells would remedy any medical issue, let alone one as complicated as Parkinson's. Her emphasis was on other therapies.

Although not discussed on ABC, the "gold standard" of alternatives is adult stem cells and stem cells from cord blood left in an umbilical cord after it is detached from the newborn.

There are also so-called induced pluripotent stem cells. iPSCs are created when genes are added to normal (typically skin) cells to convert them to stem cells that behave very similarly to embryonic stem cells.

In addition there is "direct conversion." Here a few tissue-specific genes are added to a cell to target the conversion of that cell directly into another tissue type, rather than go through the intermediary step of turning first into a pluripotent stem cell.

—National Right to Life News Today, May 19, 2012

### 'Futile Care'—Duty to Die

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rationing has repeatedly been endorsed by notable publications such as *The New England Journal of Medicine* and *The New York Times*.

Please understand, I am not saying that it would never be right to withdraw wanted treatment. Any one of us can conjure a scenario in which imposing increasingly painful and extreme interventions could cross the line into abuse. But these disputes should not be adjudicated behind closed doors in star chamber-like proceedings run by bioethicists who do not share the values of patients and their families, and who work in institutions with a financial stake in the outcomes. Rather, they belong in a court of law, with the right to press access, cross examination, a public record and appeal.

Moreover, if doctors want a patient to die sooner rather than later, they should bear the strong burden of proof in order to prevail. After all, the point of Futile Care Theory is to impose a form of the death penalty. When in doubt, every benefit of doubt belongs to wanted life.

—The Dailey Caller, May 11, 2012



Dr. Mehmet Oz explains to Michael J. Fox and Oprah Winfrey in 2009 that as a result of induced pluripotent stem cells, there will be a big impact in the lives of people with Parkinson's disease.



## From the President's Desk

Dear Friends,

It was a "Celebration of Life" event. Our annual Dinner was wonderful and uplifting. I thank all of you who came to support us and those who sent in donations. This event helps to pay expenses incurred running our Wee Care and educational programs. We could not do this work without YOU!

Our Annual Dinner has been held the same week for 20 years—that is, the week before Mother's Day. Mark your calendars for that week next year. The Celebration of Life theme will continue next year. I have had great feedback from those who attended. It was just what we wanted to bring you—an evening of celebrating our successes and deeds with humor, laughter, good food and camaraderie. Our comedian, David Dean, was just what we needed for an evening of joy and laughter. As I looked over the audience, I reflected upon how good God has been to us; sending all you wonderful pro-life angels to work and support LIFESPAN. He sends us many challenges, but He also gives us time to reflect and renew our commitment to Life. Our audience ranged in age from 15-years-old to 96-years-old. That, in and of itself, tells you that the pro-life movement is alive and well. The young people who attended, volunteered to work and to sing. Someday they will be LIFESPAN leaders, and this is all very positive.

If you think about it, those who promote abortion are really killing off their futures, while pro-lifers promote life and babies thus replacing their numbers. Make no mistake, even if we should get a "Human Life Amendment" to the United States Constitution, we will still need to be vigilant. I believe we will always need a pro-life movement—LIFESPAN is here to cultivate and nurture our future pro-life leaders. Politicians come and go, legislation changes, but a good foundation for the future will last forever. As long as we get support, we will continue our work and implement programs that will change hearts and minds.

As we fought the Anti-life Movement in 1970, it became clear that that movement started long before ours. The pro-aborts had already infiltrated our political system, our schools, the media and our churches. We have been playing catch-up.

Forty-two years later, I'm seeing a turn around—I see pro-lifers speaking out, politically, in our schools, within the media and within our churches. The next generation of pro-lifers have become adults—they are taking their philosophy of Life into their communities, churches and schools. Because of this we are getting stronger.

So stay positive, stay joyful, do not get discouraged—there are many good things happening because of very good, hard-working people like you. I am confident that together we will bring back a respect for human life in this great country. Remember the words of the great statesman, Winston Churchill; "Never give up, never give up, never never give up."

*Diane*

*Diane Fagelman, President*

## I killed two of my children

*continued from back page*

tion for so many years. I failed to shout from the highest building all the ugly truths for every ear to hear. I tried to help a friend once who was considering abortion, but there was only so much I could say without giving away my own horrible, awful secret. In the end, withholding that information was not enough to convict her otherwise and she had an abortion. I failed her with my silence.

I refuse to be a coward anymore. In these times, no one can afford to be a coward. The price of our silence is paid in the blood of millions of innocent aborted babies. This is a deplorable evil and it must end now.

Women, post-abortive American women, will be the ones who will make the greatest strides against abortion and change the nation's heart. Now, in this election year, is the time to stand up and honestly share, in heartrending and uncensored detail, what happens to women when they have an abortion and how they are forever changed, in hopes that no one will suffer the same pain. I've been silent for far too long.

Please forgive my silence and I apologize for the scandal these words may cause. Please know that what ever deplorable opinion you hold of me pales in comparison to the opinions I have had of myself.

*—LifeSiteNews.com, May 22, 2012*

## USED BOOK SALE!

**Thursday, Friday, Saturday**

**July 12, 13 and 14—10 - 8 p.m.**

**Sunday**

**July 15—10 - 3 p.m.**



**St. Mary Church  
Fellowship Center  
730 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak**

*Three Book Donation Drop-off Locations  
(call first to arrange drop-off)*

◆ *Near Cadieux and Mack, Detroit—313-885-8238*

◆ *Near I-75 and W. Big Beaver Rd., Troy  
(Lifespan Oakland/Macomb office)—248-816-1546*

◆ *19207 Merriman Rd., Livonia—734-422-6230*

*Visit and "like" Lifespan's Facebook page!  
[facebook.com/LIFESPAN.officialpage](https://www.facebook.com/LIFESPAN.officialpage)*



## WANTED

- ◆ Volunteer CPA to help with Lifespan's books
- ◆ Volunteer willing to hold garage / yard sale to benefit Lifespan

**Call 734-524-0162**



Anna Granch, left, wearing a dress from Windsor; Grace Rybicki, Catherine Tenuta and Nora Anderson, enjoying the opportunity to model modest fashions in our recent Born to Be a Lady Fashion Show!

success! You can go to YouTube, type “rtlifespan” in the search box and see a promotional video clip from the event. Thanks to all the young ladies on the Planning Committee, who modeled, and who volunteered their time and energy the day of the event! We are working on putting together a 2014 Event Planning Committee. We will be making some exciting changes to the event, drawing in young ladies and young men. Announcements will be made in early 2013 as to what we are planning!

Did you see *October Baby* at the movie theatre? This film is based on the true story of abortion survivor, Gianna Jessen. I saw it with my husband the first Saturday it was in the theatre. Wow! What a truly amazing and well done film (plan to purchase the DVD when it becomes available)! I really enjoyed the music (plan to get the music CD) and the real life characters with all their imperfections showing, but their ability to love, work through their difficulties, and forgive and seek forgiveness far surpassed those imperfections (I especially liked Hannah and Jason, the lead characters). I also really enjoyed how the movie made me laugh, cry, hope and understand more about abortion’s impact on those who survive the procedure and those who regret the decision. The bonus from the movie was the true story of Shari Rigby’s abortion and the healing and forgiveness she experienced while playing her role as the birthmother of Hannah. It touched my heart deeply. I encourage you to see the movie if you haven’t already. Go to the *October Baby* website to learn more.

## DID YOU KNOW???

- ◆ Tim Tebow wrote a book, *Through My Eyes*, published by HarperCollins, recounting his mother’s decision to put aside her doctor’s advice to have an abortion to save her life and instead gave birth to her son, whose NFL football jersey became the best-selling jersey of any player even before he took his first snap as a quarterback for the Broncos.

— Steven Ertelt, *LifeNews.com*, June 7, 2011

- ◆ The Denver Nuggets star, JaVale McGee, was almost an abortion victim. On a Saturday morning in the spring of 1987, his mother, Pamela, sat on the shore at Dockweiler State Beach in Los Angeles, 72 hours from a scheduled abortion. She was a single, 24-year-old professional basketball player, and she could not take maternity leave. Even if she could, she couldn’t imagine hauling an infant to Italy and parking the stroller next to the bench. But as she looked out over the Pacific, she began to reconsider. She prayed and prayed and felt like God was telling her “this is your gift.” The next day she went to Faithful Central Bible Church in Inglewood and the pastor delivered a sermon about not aborting one’s blessings. She called the clinic to cancel and on January 19, 1988, gave birth to a boy with physical abilities that would border on the supernatural.

— Steven Ertelt, *LifeNews.com*, April 18, 2012

- ◆ Miss Delaware, Maria Cahill, who is a pro-life advocate, was told by the Miss America pageant to not share her pro-life views. She is a prime example of someone who recognizes that beauty is not only seen in a beauty contest but in the wonderful and awesome development of human life before birth and she is willing to stand up to the powers that be to proclaim that truth! Check out the *LifeNews.com* article titled “Miss America Contestant Told Not to Mention Pro-Life Views.”

— Steven Ertelt, *April 25, 2012*

- ◆ Heroic Media, an international, faith-based non-profit organization which uses the power of the media to connect women facing unexpected pregnancies with life-affirming resources and build a culture of Life, is behind a new commercial titled “Ultimatum.” Check it out on YouTube! The commercial will air nationwide over 60 times during May and June on the Black Entertainment Television (BET) network and is designed to reach African-Americans with abortion alternatives.

Let’s continue working together in sharing the light of truth to all we meet that life is a precious gift from the moment of conception till natural death!

*Your friend for Life!*

Lynn Gura, Youth Director

Right to Life – LIFESPAN Educational Fund

**Donations have been made—  
As a Mother's Day Tribute in Memory of:  
Margaret Spas**

Given by: Her daughter, Emilie Spas

**In Honor of the 80th Birthday of:  
Mrs. Connie Quoziante**  
Given by: Dorian Borovsky

**In Loving Memory of:  
Anthony Cameron**  
Given by: Dorian Borovsky

**Mary Lou Fogarty**  
Given by: Diane Trombley


**Mary Catherine Reaume**  
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**Horst Schmid**  
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Ron and Betty Socia  
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Wayne County / Downriver Chapter Board & Friends

**Betty Queen**

Given by: George and Mary Cascos  
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Mike and Annette Schefke  
Ed and Carol Smith  
Teresa and Tony DiMaria  
Marie Byrne  
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Dean and Rose DiVirgilio  
Joann, Nancy and Linda Coman  
Barbara Fitzgerald  
Patricia Holscher  
Laurie Masiarak  
Andrea and Charles Baier  
Marge and Doug Bradley  
Diane Fagelman  
Wayne County / Downriver Chapter Board & Friends

Donations may be made in memory of loved ones who have died; a memorial card will be sent by Lifespan in your name to the family of the deceased. Donations may also be made to honor someone special, and near and dear to you, for a particular occasion, or just because... 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 will be used to save the lives of many through our efforts. Send donations to your local Lifespan office.

<p><b>Lifespan News</b> June 2012; Vol. 41, No. 4 President &amp; Publisher: Diane Fagelman Co-editors: Marge Bradley, Diane Trombley Layout/Design: Marge Bradley Contributors &amp; Printing: Patricia Holscher, Diane Trombley Right to Life - LIFESPAN is a non-profit organization, and is funded entirely by membership dues, private donations and fundraisers. Donations are not tax-deductible. <b>MAIN OFFICE</b> 32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305 Phone: 734-524-0162; Fax: 734-524-0166 email: <a href="mailto:mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org">mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org</a> website: <a href="http://www.rtl-lifespan.org">www.rtl-lifespan.org</a></p>	
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**NEW ADDRESS & PHONE!**

**Right to Life - LIFESPAN Membership Form**

Right to Life - LIFESPAN believes that human life has value in all stages of development from conception until natural death, and is committed to speaking on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves — the unborn, the aged, the incapacitated. Won't you please help in our struggle to preserve respect for human life? A contribution brings you the monthly newsletter as well as educational materials and special mailings.

\_\_\_\_\_ Annual Membership      \$ 25.00      \_\_\_\_\_ Other  
\_\_\_\_\_ Student/Senior Member      \$ 15.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form and return with your donation to: **Right to Life - LIFESPAN, 32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305.** For more information, call 248-478-8878. Sorry, donations are not tax-deductible.

**Right to Life - LIFESPAN**  
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## I killed two of my children: fifteen years later and silent no more

By *Katrina Fernandez*

**T**he bumper sticker read, "Having an abortion does not make you un-pregnant, it makes you the mother of a dead baby." The word "mother" struck me because "mother" is such a powerful word. It conjures many meanings, and when a woman becomes one she is fundamentally changed. "Mother" as a verb means to nurture, care for and protect. "Mother" as a noun means a female person who is pregnant with or gives birth to a child; or a female person whose egg unites with sperm, resulting in the conception of a child. By this definition if you've ever been pregnant you are a Mother. Even if you've had an abortion you are still a Mother...a grieving Mother.

*"A voice was heard in Ramah, sobbing and loud lamentation; Rachel weeping for her children, and she would not be consoled, since they were no more." —Matthew 2:18*

There is no consolation to be had for the mother that loses a child. She will grieve in her heart for the rest of her life. Abortion, however, not only robs a child of its life and a mother of its child, it also robs the mother of her grieving. She is not allowed to grieve because she cannot publicly claim the title Mother.

Abortion advocates will never admit a post-abortion woman is a Mother because to admit that would acknowledge the fact that there was once a child. Not a clump of cells, but a very real living child. When girls begin menstruating they are not called mothers to a clump of cells, yet so many people really believe an abortion is just like having a heavy period or passing a large menstrual clot. This was how it was described to me when I found myself in their clinic fifteen years ago.

Two years later when I returned to have a second abortion the lie had not changed.

For fifteen long years I've lived with the pain, shame and guilt associated with my past. In that time I've experienced denial, anger and depression. It wasn't until my conversion to Catholicism that I finally sought the reconciliation my soul needed. Once I received the grace of forgiveness, I was charged with the next most important task of my life...to tell as many women as I can how horrible, evil and despicable abortion is.

However, it has taken me another six years to find my courage. In order to honestly talk about the truth, I needed to admit to my past, and in this one area, my words failed me.

Today, I write this past so that I may finally own up to what it is I have done and make the necessary reparations for my crimes so that others will know just how fundamentally soul-destroying abortion is.

I am choosing this day to find my voice.

Here is the truth I spent so many years denying and keeping from the public—I killed two of my children, robbed my parents of grandchildren, and murdered my son's siblings.

These abortions directly caused a medical condition known as incompetent cervix which resulted in the premature birth of another son who died after a week-long struggle in the NICU in 2001.

The suffering I've endured and caused others is immeasurable and the guilt almost drove me suicidal. I am a coward in every way.

I was a coward in my youth, unable to take responsibility for my sexual actions and I am a coward today because I've failed to honestly speak out against abor-

*continued on page 9*