



# Muskegon County Right to Life News

July, 2006

## Muskegon Dinner Planned

The Muskegon Right to Life Annual Dinner will be on Thursday, October 19, 2006, at "Above and Beyond".



Barbara Listing, President of Michigan Right to Life, will be our speaker.

Please mark you calendars and plan to join us!

For more information or to reserve a table, please contact Muskegon Right to Life at 231 733-6300.

## Banking on Cord Blood

Some of Michigan's prolife legislators have unveiled a legislative package which hopes to create a network of umbilical cord blood banks throughout Michigan.

The blood leftover in umbilical cords is rich in stem cells. The retrieval of these cells is life-affirming because no human beings have to be killed in the process.

These cord blood banks would help ensure that patients suffering from a variety of blood ailments would have the opportunity to receive a transplant of stem cells from umbilical cord blood.

The bills would require Michigan to promote the cord blood banks, provide \$5 million in funding and allow tax credits for donations to the nonprofit banks.

## Vote to Protect Life on August 8th

On August 8, the people of Michigan have the opportunity to save lives!

**The Right to Life of Michigan Political Action Committee (PAC), established as the political action arm of the Right to Life of Michigan (RLM), endorses candidates who would be the best and most effective voice for the unborn. Their endorsements are non-partisan and based solely on RLM-PAC bylaws and criteria.**

**Every prolife vote for the RLM-PAC endorsed candidates August 8 is important because many races are won or lost in the primary election. Many of the November elections are really decided in the Primary.**

**Your vote on August 8 can mean the difference between the passage or defeat of important prolife legislation.**



## Abortions Up, Profits Up for Planned Parenthood

While the nation's abortion rate is declining, Planned Parenthood performed 255,015 abortions in 2004, an **increase of 29%** since the year 2000.

According to its most recent annual report, they referred only 1,414 women for adoption. This means that for every **one** woman Planned Parenthood refers to an adoption agency, **180** women have abortions.

Their report also indicates the **non-profit** Planned Parenthood took in a **profit of \$63 million** for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005.

**If you or someone you know is facing an untimely pregnancy, please call 1800 57WOMAN for free assistance.**



**"PRESIDENT'S PLACE"**

You may have seen the article in the Muskegon Chronicle about "Michigan Citizens for Life" and their petition drive, which is not supported by Right to Life of Michigan. Here's a little more information on this subject.

"Michigan Citizens for Life" is a newly formed committee that is sponsoring a petition drive to place an amendment to the Michigan Constitution declaring human life to begin at conception on the 2006 November election ballot.

After careful review of the proposed amendment and legal situation, the Board of Directors of Right to Life of Michigan has concluded they will not support this petition drive and amendment.

This amendment will have no impact on stopping abortions so long as Roe v. Wade stands. In addition, Michigan already has a law banning abortion, but it is being blocked by Roe. The law is positioned to go back into effect as soon as Roe is reversed. The Michigan Citizens for Life amendment will do no more to stop abortion than the law currently on the books will do.

It is very important that we focus our limited resources. This "focus" is what has made our Right to Life efforts in Michigan so successful!

If you'd like to read more about this, detailed facts supporting their stand are available on their web site, [www.rtl.org](http://www.rtl.org).

Please be sure to vote on August 8<sup>th</sup>! (see related article on page 1) The June/July 2006 "Right to Life of Michigan News" contains the "Prolife Voter's Guide". If you need a copy, please contact our office at 231 733-6300. Your vote will send the message to our elected officials that protecting the sanctity of human life is an important issue!

Pat Vendal  
President, Muskegon County Right to Life

**ABORTIONS DOWN IN MICHIGAN!**

According to recently released statistics from the Michigan Department of Community Health, the number of abortions performed in Michigan decreased in 2005 compared to 2004.

- 25,209 abortions were performed in Michigan during 2005 compared to 26,269 in 2004, a decrease of 4 %.

This represents a dramatic 48.7% decrease since 1987!

This is the second year in a row that abortions in Michigan have dropped. It's the lowest annual total of reported abortions in Michigan since abortion providers were required to report information in 1979.

Thank you for your support!  
Together we are making a difference.



**MICHIGAN #1**

A prolife legal defense firm called "Americans United for Life" recently released an extensive state-by-state review and analysis of state laws dealing with prolife issues.

The report, entitled "Defending Life 2006", examined legislation dealing with abortion, end of life issues, bioethics and the conscience rights of health care workers. After analyzing the laws in all 50 states, "Defending Life 2006" ranked Michigan the #1 Best State for Life.

The hard work of Michigan prolife citizens and lawmakers has paid off as we are leading the nation in defending the lives of the most vulnerable.

***In Loving Memory Margaret "Tootie" Stewart*** (Mothers Day) by Jon and Chris Stewart.

***In Loving Memory Mary Murphy*** by Marcie Hagstrom and Victor & Patricia Miller

- Donations:** Sarah Aebig  
 Ms. Norma Collins  
 Shannon and Lisa Enders  
 Gene and Laurel Hendricks  
 Robert and LuRena Hodgins  
 \*Johanna Kuhn  
 Mike and Deb McLaughlin  
 \*Betty Pompstra  
 \*Paul and Marilyn Voss  
 Brad and Judy Wilson  
 Fran Zarimba

\*Denotes monthly contributions

Donations made to Michigan Right to Life Education Fund are tax deductible. This fund is used to produce and run the pro-life commercials that you see on TV. Donations made to our local affiliate are not tax deductible, but are needed to keep our office running. Perhaps you'd like to remember a loved one's birthday, or the birth of a child or a grandchild.

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**Cloning at Harvard**

Researchers at Harvard University have announced they will go forward with plans to attempt to clone a human being in order to study the embryonic stem cells of a cloned human embryo.

Researchers in South Korea were recently shown to be frauds after they falsely claimed to have created cloned human embryos. The nation of South Korea spent more than \$40 million on failed human cloning experiments.

Right to Life of Michigan strongly advocates for the passage of tightly written legislation at the national and state levels that will permanently ban all human cloning including research on embryos.

If human cloning proceeds, our minds can conjure up many scenarios of abuse of human cloning as our narcissistic society creates human beings not in God's own image, but in our own.



**ARE YOU A MEMBER?** Please mail the completed form on the back of this newsletter to join Muskegon County Right to Life, or to renew your annual membership.



*Muskegon County Right to Life  
 In Loving Memory or Honor of...*

**Enclosed in my gift of:**

- |                                |                                      |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$75  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

**Donation Made in Memory of:**

**Donation Made in Honor of:**

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birthday        | <input type="checkbox"/> New Arrival  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mother's Day    | <input type="checkbox"/> Father's Day |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Speedy Recovery | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____  |

**Please notify:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Our name is:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make your checks payable to:**

**Muskegon County Right to Life  
 423 West Norton, Suite 111  
 Muskegon, MI 49444**

**This contribution is not tax deductible.**



The 2006 "Life Saver Drive" will take place in September and October. Donations are collected at several area churches.

If you'd like to participate, please call our office at 733-6300. Fifteen to twenty minutes of your time is all that's needed after your church service to collect donations and pass out life savers.

Thank you for your support!



**Take my hand, not my life.**

Visit our web site at: [www.muskegonrtl.org](http://www.muskegonrtl.org)



**Muskegon County Right to Life**  
 423 W. Norton, Suite 111  
 Muskegon, MI 49444  
 231 733-6300

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**Yes! I want to help save lives.**  
**Please enroll me as a member of *Muskegon County Right to Life***  
**and *Right to Life of Michigan*.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Options:**

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 Senior or Student | <input type="checkbox"/> New Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Family           | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Bronze           |                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Silver           |                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 Gold             |                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Platinum        |                                     |

**As a member, you will receive the Muskegon County and the State *Right to Life* newsletters, and you are invited to use the educational materials at the Muskegon County Right to Life office. Please make your checks payable to:**

***Muskegon County Right to Life***  
**423 West Norton, Suite 111**  
**Muskegon, MI 49444**

**Your contributions to Muskegon County *Right to Life* are not tax deductible.**