

# Michigan Nurses For Life

1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G • Troy, Michigan 48084

December 2005

*"An educational group for prolife nurses"*

**SAVE THIS DATE!!**

## Michigan Nurses For Life 2006 SPRING CONFERENCE Saturday, April 8, 2006



**Guest Speaker: Wesley Smith**

Attorney, award winning author, international lecturer and public speaker

Mr. Smith appears frequently at political, university, medical, legal, disability rights, bioethics, religious, and community gatherings across the United States, Europe, Canada, South Africa, and Australia. He has appeared on more than 1,000 television or radio talk/interview programs, including such national programs as ABC Nightline, Good Morning America, Larry King Live and CNN Crossfire. In May 2004, Smith was named by the National Journal to be one of the top expert thinkers in bioengineering in the nation because of his work in bioethics. "A new standard is being imposed by bioethicists and courts when maintaining or extending life is no longer an end purpose of medicine even when that is what the patient wants." This is beginning to happen here in the US and will occur with increasing frequency as more and more hospitals impose futile care protocols on their sickest patients.

## 2006 Meetings

**January 10, 2006 at 7:00 pm**

**Topic: Health Insurance...**

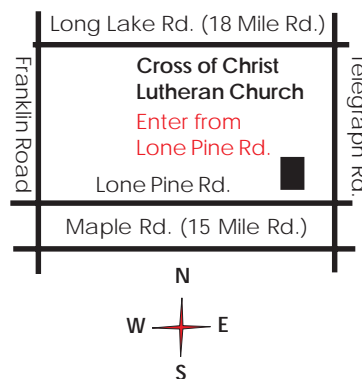
**Parent's Rights in Michigan: Is there a conflict?**

**Speaker:** Cynthia Dudek,  
Executive Director of the Parental Rights Coalition

### January Speaker

Cynthia Dudek, Vice President of Planning Resources Inc. will speak on "Health Insurance and Parent's Rights in Michigan: Is there a Conflict?" She is involved in underwriting, rating, research and legislation related to insurance issues, and has worked in the health insurance industry for over 30 years. Cynthia will speak on HIPPA and privacy rules related to parent and minor children and discuss Michigan law related to abortion, pregnancy, contraception, substance abuse and STDs. She will define the difference between the insurers and share appropriate questions for us to ask when seeking health insurance. Don't miss this informative, timely presentation.

### Location of MNFL Meetings:



**Michigan Nurses for Life** Meetings are held at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, Bloomfield Hills, on the northwest corner of Lone Pine and Telegraph.

**Meeting Fees:** General public admission free. MNFL member \$5; MNFL non-member \$10.

**2.0 CEUs** are offered at each meeting attended.

## The Inside Story...

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## Michigan Nurses



## For Life

### **Our Purpose:**

...To raise the consciousness of the nursing profession to protect all human life from conception until natural death

...To form an educated core of nurses who can speak for their profession by acting as a community resource for life issues

...To promote public education and awareness about life issues on both ends of the spectrum, from abortion to euthanasia

...To uphold and defend human life in all stages and conditions of development

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### **Michigan Nurses For Life**

Coventry Place - Suite G  
1637 W. Big Beaver Road  
Troy, Michigan 48084-3540

(248) 816-8489 - Office

(248) 816-9066 - Fax

Email: [info@mnfl.org](mailto:info@mnfl.org)

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### **Hours:**

Monday through Friday  
10 am - 3 pm

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### **Officers:**

Diane Trombley, President  
Mary Anne Barrett, Secretary  
Alice Maher, Treasurer

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### **Board Members:**

Martha Jacobs  
Margaret Joyce  
Barbara Lubinski  
Phyl Salle  
Linda Seng  
Phyllis Sullivan  
Mary Lou Temple

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### **Editor and Layout:**

Susan Beardsley

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## President's Perspective

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Dear Michigan Nurses For Life Member,

Merry Christmas! The board of MNFL wishes you a Christmas season filled with the warmth of family and friends and a New Year filled with happiness and health.

Many of you will remember that last year, in order to better plan our yearly budget, we determined that December would be "renewal month" for all members of Michigan Nurses for Life. Most of you responded favorably and quickly to this new procedure and knowing what our approximate budget would be, we were able to do some things that had been unable to do before. For example, we were able to place an ad in the Michigan Nurses Association publication and also have a table at the MNA state wide conference in Ypsilanti in October. So many nurses came up to our table and thanked us for being there. A number of them said that they did not know that a professional nursing organization for pro-life nurses existed. Your membership fee provided the money for the display table and the ad.

With your help, we were also able to engage Wesley Smith, Esq. as our speaker at the upcoming spring seminar on April 9, 2006. He will speak about the growing concern of "futile care". It seems we are going beyond advance directives and patient advocates as they relate to end of life decision making. The notion of futile care allows the physician or facility to refuse to treat, regardless of patient wishes, if the physician or facility determines that treatment will not result in "sufficient improvement". Mr. Smith is a widely sought author and lecturer on this topic and we are delighted that he will be able to address our attendees. We will be sending registration forms just after the first of the year and I strongly encourage you to come and bring a friend!

So, you see, your membership fee is being wisely used. With your help, and the wonderful assistance of the Educational Center for Life, we will continue to provide information and support to pro-life nurses. Without your help—well, I really don't want to even think of what would happen without the help of each of you.

Thank you for your help and support,

Love Life!

Diane E. Trombley, RN, BSN

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### A special note to all MNFL members:

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Please consider joining the National Association of Pro-Life Nurses. NAPA is a professional organization dedicated to protecting the moral rights of nurses allowing them to nurture and care for all, including the unborn, newborn, disabled, mentally and/or physically challenged, the aged and the dying. NAPA publishes a quarterly newsletter and maintains a legal defense fund.

You may contact them at [www.nursesforlife.org](http://www.nursesforlife.org)

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# The Right of Parental Consent

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Dear Colleagues,

*The following is from a fund raising letter sent to Diane Trombly from Americans United for Life, a pro-life law firm based in Chicago. AUL has done incredibly important work for the Pro-life effort over the years and we are sharing this with you so you will have a better understanding of the case before the Supreme Court. The upcoming hearings on Judge Alito will not impact this decision, as it has already been heard. The only new Justice on the court is Chief Justice Roberts. Sandra Day O'Connor did hear the case—she has announced her retirement, but has not yet retired.*

In November, perhaps the most important abortion case since the Casey decision of 1992 was heard by the Supreme Court. New Hampshire's parental notification law is being challenged by Planned Parenthood of Northern New England, one of the Northeast's largest and wealthiest abortion providers (*Ayotte v Planned Parenthood*).

This case does not just affect New Hampshire. Through this case, the Supreme Court will likely expand or restrict which common-sense abortion laws can be passed across America. Many people don't understand why common-sense laws such as "parental consent" are even an issue.

On January 22, 1973, *Roe v Wade* made abortion a constitutionally protected right for the first 3 months of pregnancy. They also said that states could

regulate abortion during the last 6 months of pregnancy. On the same day, the court ruled in *Doe v Bolton* which required any limit on abortion to have an exception for a woman's health. They then defined health so broadly that almost anything could amount to a health exception.

Since *Roe* and *Doe* there have been 3 significant court decisions. 1) *Harris v McRae* which resulted in taxpayers being protected from paying for abortions with their federal Medicaid tax dollars. 2) *Planned Parenthood v Casey* which opened the door for states to pass common-sense laws like informed consent and parental notice as long as they did not constitute an "undue burden" on a woman's access to abortion. 3) *Stenberg v Carhart* which refused to uphold a ban on partial birth abortion unless such a ban contained a "health" exception, using the same broad definition of health as found in *Doe v Bolton*.

In the New Hampshire case, Planned Parenthood is asking the court to strike down the state's parental notice statute because it does not contain this same "health" exception. If the court finds for New Hampshire, instead of Planned Parenthood, and stops requiring the health exception loophole, states could then pass laws that would drastically reduce abortions. Since the Casey decision in 1992, states have passed more than 450 prolife laws. The Supreme Court's decision in the New Hampshire case could uphold or destroy all these protections.

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Remember a special prolife nurse  
with this wonderful, lasting Christmas gift!

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at 248.816.8489

**Memorial  
Donation**

A memorial donation  
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of Joseph L. Leal

by Linda Seng

# Michigan Nurses For Life

Coventry Place, Suite G  
1637 W. Big Beaver Rd.  
Troy, Michigan 48084



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For more information about Michigan Nurses For Life  
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Email: [info@mnfl.org](mailto:info@mnfl.org) or visit us on the web at: [www.mnfl.org](http://www.mnfl.org)

## REMINDER: December is MNFL Membership Renewal Month!

If you would like to add or delete a name from our mailing list,  
please contact Michigan Nurses For Life at (248) 816-8489. Thanks!

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## 2006 Pro-life Events

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### SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2006

**Rally For Life - Sponsored by Right to Life - Lifespan**  
Join us at Madonna University, Livonia, from 2:00-3:00 pm at the corner of Schoolcraft and Levan.

The rally is held the Sunday before January 22<sup>nd</sup> and memorializes the Roe v. Wade decision, which since 1973 has legalized the killing of more than 46 million unborn children. **It is an outdoor event, so please dress warmly!**

### JANUARY 21-24, 2006

#### **National March For Life - Washington DC**

Join a *Movement in Motion* aboard the LIFESPAN Bus to Washington, D.C.! Any questions for the bus trip, please call Lynn at **248-816-1546**.

Or take a one day trip to Washington DC! Lifespan has arranged for a block of seats on Spirit Airlines, for January 23, 2006.

If you would like to reserve a seat for the one day air trip to Washington for the March for Life, please call **248-478-8878**. Seats are limited!

### TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2006

#### **Annual Mother's Day Dinner and Silent Auction Sponsored by Lifespan/Educational Center For Life**

San Marino Club – 1685 E. Big Beaver Rd., Troy  
Silent Auction 5:45 pm – Dinner 7:15 pm

**Guest Speaker:** Sandy Rios, Concerned Women for America, the nation's largest public policy women's organization. Sandy is a respected voice on Capital Hill and at the White House. She has appeared on many major broadcast media, including ABC, NBC, CNN and FOX News. You won't want to miss this dynamic speaker.



**For dinner reservations call: 248-816-1546.**

**To donate items for Silent Auction call: 248-816-8489**  
**Auctions donations are tax deductible.**