



# LONDON AREA RIGHT TO LIFE ASSOCIATION INC. **NEWSLETTER**

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A London Pro-Life Newsletter

May 2006 VOL. 40, NO. 2

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

*Please mark your calendar*

### May 11 - March for Life in Ottawa

- "Abortion is Killing Canada's Future"
- For bus call Cheryl Aspden 519-453-1489

### June 3 - Walkathon (See Page)

- 8:30 a.m. Mass and Prayer Service
- 9:15 a.m. Registration
- 9:45 a.m. 5 km Walk begins
- 11 a.m. BBQ & Entertainment

NOTE: LARLA major fundraiser

### July 15 to 28 - Show the Truth Tour

- 2 week pro-life mission to East Coast  
New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, PEI
- Rosemary Connell - 705-454-1109  
e-mail - rconnell@quicklinks.on.ca

### Last Thursday of Every Month - 4 to 5:30 p.m.

- Prayerful Pro-life Witness
- LHSC Westminster Campus at  
Wellington and Commissioners
- John Bulsza - 519-657-9009

**NOTE: Abortions take place at this hospital daily. Please make time to join in this prayerful witness for life.**

## AMAZING!! - 10,500 Students Receive Pro-life Message

*President's Message by Phil Arnsby*

**Thank you, thank you, thank you LARLA members** for supporting our school pro-life presentations. The number of students and staff reached from January to April is likely unprecedented in this country.

**Elementary Schools** - Grades 5/6 and 7/8 - 2300 students (presentations by volunteers)  
**Secondary Schools** - Grades 9-12 - 2000 students (presentations by Stephanie Gray)  
- 6000 students (presentations by Pam Stenzil)  
**Post Secondary Schools** - 200 students - March (Stephanie Gray)

### Pro-Abortion Students Disruptive at Stephanie Gray's UWO/King's Presentation

On Tuesday, March 21, we arrived at King's College with Stephanie Gray who is the Executive Director of the Canadian Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform. The King's College pro-life club had advertised the 7:00 p.m. event by placing posters across the UWO campus. As Stephanie set up her laptop computer, a rather formidable woman sat down in the front row next to the speaker's lectern. She looked like trouble to me. I went outside to pick up beverages and snacks from my van when I noticed a large number of noisy students were heading for the entrance of Kings. Once inside, they held "CHOICE" signs and some had duct tape over their mouths on which was written the word "CHOICE". I saw Stephanie talking to the security police and she told me later that the woman in the front row was an undercover police officer. If violence broke out the police would whisk her through an adjacent door to a waiting police car.

Stephanie Gray, who is only 26 years old, did a remarkable job of showing the humanity of the pre-born. She later said, "In my four years of giving presentations and debates at university campuses across North America, I have never encountered such a rude and disruptive audience. Abortion supporters 'talk' tolerance but these ones sure don't 'walk' it." Some of the pro-"choice" crowd stood with their backs to the speaker while others heckled, moaned and attempted to prevent the message from getting through to the 130 in attendance.

Stephanie showed how graphic pictures historically had been critical in changing society's views on things such as child labour, slavery, and drunk



*Grandpa's Sweetie*



*Volunteers are assembling the Newsletter for mailing.*



*Pro-abortion students stand with backs to Stephanie*

driving. She then displayed the graphic reality of abortion in this country.

At 9:00 p.m. the formal presentation and question period ended. My wife Elaine and I served cookies baked by the pro-life club to each student present as most of them and staff continued for the next hour to discuss the presentation. Stephanie had continuous dialogue with her audience. The pro-"choice" students were taken aback by our offer of cookies and refreshments, asking if we were sure we wanted them to have some.

I thank Kings pro-life club, Father Michael Bechard, the chaplain of Kings, and the campus security for their assistance in making this pro-life event possible. Also thanks to Nathanael Mooiy for manning the pro-life information table. The evening in my opinion was a resounding success.

I feel the good Lord guided the pro-abortion advocates to this event. After all we could never have convinced pro-abortion students and professors to come and witness three hours of pro-life information. The anger and defiance exhibited by the pro-"choice" group had somewhat mellowed by the time they finally left. Our kindness and Stephanie's composure showed the abortion supporters that pro-lifers are respectful even when abortion supporters treat them with hostility. Some actually thanked us as they were leaving. Praise God.



*John and Rita Van Gelderen take the early shift at Cherry Hill Mall on April 9 waiting for customers to arrive. Many seniors were concerned about the possibility of legalizing euthanasia in this country.*



*Students in Grade 8 of St. Anne's Catholic Elementary School examine information after the Pro-life presentation. This was one of over 100 presentations for grades 5/6 and 7/8 this year.*



*Bobby Schindler - Terri Schiavo's brother spoke at the recent Alliance for Life Conference in Ancaster, Ontario. He told of the starvation death of Terri and the affect on his family. The family speaks out in their book "A Life That Matters". It may change every assumption you may have about Terri's too brief life and prolonged, agonizing death. For a copy call Euthanasia Prevention 439-3348. Cost \$35.00.*

## Office Report

- Margarida Andre

Spring is here, what a wonderful time of the year! A time for renewal, physically and spiritually.

The office has been going through this kind of renewal as well. With events such as Stephanie Gray coming to town, and the powerful speaking of Pam Stenzel, and their impact on many young people, perhaps even thousands, we have been very busy, but very glad we were part of it.

**Now we look forward to the Walkathon. I hope that many of our members can attend it. It is after all, our most important fundraiser and witness to the city of London, that all human life indeed is worthy of our protection and sacrifice.**

A couple of weeks ago, I met a young man who is deaf who would like to volunteer with his friend who has Down Syndrome. When I asked them why they wanted to volunteer, they told me that they were so grateful to be alive specially realizing that many unborn children with disabilities are aborted everyday. They wanted to volunteer for an organization that not only supported unborn children, but supported them, as well. I am truly blessed to work for an organization that impacts so many lives.

We can't do it without your help. We are still in need of volunteers for the office. We need to keep the office open to help many more people who cross our path. Please prayerfully consider us. Your financial help will also do a great deal so we can continue to be a beacon of light in this darkened world.

I pray that we can all have some inner renewal this season and let's pause just for a moment and smell the roses... Thank God for spring!

# WALK FOR LIFE

*Please bring your family and walk, run, or skate*

in the

London Area Right to Life Annual 5 km.

*Rain  
or  
Shine*

# WALKATHON

## Saturday, June 3, 2006

- 8:30 a.m. Mass - St. Mary's Church
- 8:30 a.m. Prayer Service - St. Mary's School
- **9:15 a.m. Registration - School**
- **9:45 a.m. Walk Starts**
- 11:00 a.m. BBQ and Entertainment



### Start and Finish at St. Mary's School

347 Lyle Street (Corner of Lyle and York) London

*Enjoy a 5 km. walk and at the same time witness for life  
with your family and friends.*

For Additional Pledge Forms Call - LONDON AREA RIGHT TO LIFE - 659-3334

This is a view of our new Website - have a look at [www.right2life.ca](http://www.right2life.ca)



*London Area  
Right to Life Association*

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Pregnant?  
Need help?

Educational Resources

Educational resources are available for students and teachers.

Events

May 6  
**LARLA Annual Dinner/Silent Auction**

May 11  
**National March for Life in Ottawa**

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Project Rachel

Find comfort, hope, understanding, and healing in the painful aftermath of abortion.

News

Saturday, May 6, 2006  
**Annual Dinner & Silent Auction**  
Guest Speaker:  
Jean Echlin, RN, MScN  
Topic: "As Canadians, Do We Comfort or Do We Kill?"  
Jean Echlin is a nurse consultant for palliative care. She was awarded the prestigious 2005 Dorothy Ley Award of Excellence in Palliative Care by the Ontario Palliative Care Association. Jean has been at the bedside of more than one thousand dying individuals and can assure you that persons who receive good hospice/palliative care want to live as long as possible! More information...

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LifeSite News

www.lifesitenews.com

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Website design created by Bill McCarvell of Syntaxis On-Line Inc.

## EIGHT YEAR OLD SAVES HIS BABY SISTER

***This is an amazing story from Aid to Women - a pregnancy support centre in Toronto that is next to a baby killing centre.***

A Catholic elementary school teacher rushed into the principal's office one day last spring and told him that one of her boys was very upset and creating a disturbance in class. When she spoke with the boy he told her, "Mom's gonna abort my baby sister!" The principal had an Aid to Women brochure on his desk from a fund raiser, so he called us and asked for help. A few days later he called again and said the mom was in his office and could we come down right away? ... It turned out that Tara, a single mom, had made a promise that she would not have another baby until she was married.

She had a huge fight with her boyfriend and her mom, a big support in her life, was in the hospital with depression. We talked, encouraged her Christian convictions and yes, a cute little Susanna was born a few weeks ago.

How did an eight year old know about abortion? Did he find out "by accident" or did a faithful person in his life give him an age appropriate explanation? Did he see the visual truth of abortion somewhere? Thank God he knew and that he was "upset enough to plead for his little sister's life. Maybe children pleading for children's lives will stop the slaughter.

Rosemary Connell, **Show the Truth.**

## Pam Stenzel - Tells It Like It Is - WOW!

Last month Pam Stenzel arrived in London and started a whirlwind speaking tour of the Catholic Secondary Schools in London and area (access to the public school system is not possible for us at this time). We are thankful to the Catholic School Board and the Diocesan Family Life and Youth Ministry for being partners in this worthwhile endeavour.

Witnessing Pam's presentations are nothing short of amazing. The message is so powerful, her stage presence and voice so 'in your face,' but done with compassion and humour, that the students were completely captivated. Pam's popularity (500,000 students per year) as a chastity/sex speaker is understood once you have witnessed her in action.

Pam told the 6,000 students at the schools that after working in crisis pregnancy centres for 9 years trying to help girls deal with their problems she realized that thousands of young people were making decisions about sex having no idea about the consequences of their actions.

**Many of her young clients in the crisis pregnancy centres would say they didn't know about all the sexually transmitted diseases (STD) and why didn't someone tell them? Pam told our students they would never be able to tell a counsellor, physician, or future husband or wife, "I didn't know - nobody told me." Pam said that she was going to tell them and what they did after that was up to them.**

The students were told there are at least 30 STD's today with one third of them absolutely incurable because they are viral as opposed to bacterial. The students were informed that they have a four times greater chance of getting an STD than they ever have of getting pregnant and that a girl on the birth control pill has a ten times greater chance of contracting an STD than one who is not on the pill.

Pam warned the girls they were more likely to be permanently damaged because of 26 of the diseases affect women only. She detailed some of the terrible affects of certain STD's - and emphasized that the most contagious and fast spreading diseases was HPV (human papilloma virus - commonly known as genital warts) and that the deadliest strains of HPV are symptom free. She indicated it is estimated that 50% of high school age students who are sexually active now have an average of 2.3 STD's and that of 57% of that group now have HPV. Pam warned the students that HPV is spread through contact in the genital area - it didn't take sex - all they have to do is have contact anywhere in the genital area and they will have this disease for life and will give it to everyone they have genital contact with.

She is furious with those who recommend condoms because condoms do nothing to prevent HPV which can lead to infertility and is the leading cause of cervical cancer in women. Pam told her audience to never tell any of their friends they were virgins or are 'safe' if they have had oral sex because all 30 diseases can spread through oral sex. Young men from the US. who go for testing for HPV at their own cost will know only after 5 years whether they are free of the disease. In Canada it is not possible to get the test done.

Pam pleaded with those who had been sexually active to turn to God, be sorry, ask for forgiveness and turn their lives around. She told the virgins in the audience how awesome that was and encouraged them to do whatever was necessary to save themselves unblemished for marriage.

**This is the first year we have been able to afford to bring speakers to our secondary school students. It is an audience that must be targeted. Please continue your support. Our Walkathon is your opportunity to help. We ask you to walk and/or obtain pledges to allow this work to continue.**



*Pam energetically transmits her message to the John Paul II Secondary students in London*



*After each presentation students dialogue with Pam. Pam advised all students with questions to e-mail her and that she would personally answer their questions within two weeks.*



*Ann Clarke poses with Pam Stenzel. Ann did the lion's share of organizing the talks at the secondary schools and all contacts with Pam's organization. Thank you Ann.*

## Stephanie Gray - Making Abortion Unthinkable



*Stephanie teaches 1,200 students at St. Michael's Secondary School in Stratford*



*Stephanie gave a simplified pro-life talk to grade 5-7 students at St. Joseph's Elementary School in Stratford. The innocence and intelligence of these kids was inspiring. She told them they were smarter than a lot of university students she encountered.*



*Stephanie speaks to students after her presentation at UWO/King's Campus. Police stand in background.*



*Following the presentation Stephanie poses with Fr. Mike Bechard at King's College*

When we found out Stephanie Gray from Calgary was arriving in Hamilton for a pro-life debate at McMaster University, we invited her to London. My wife, Elaine, and I picked her up at the London airport on Sunday, March 19 at 5:00 p.m. and after supper proceeded to her first presentation at St. Peter's Seminary. The students, staff, and other pro-life guests were captivated by her talk about the reality of abortion, her visual power point presentation as well as her logical and persuasive arguments to defend the pro-life view.

On Monday, Stephanie made similar presentations at St. Michael Secondary School in Stratford (1,200 students), and St. Anne's Secondary School in Clinton, Ontario (780 students). Between those assemblies she managed an age appropriate presentation at St. Joseph Elementary School in Stratford. The students had just returned from their March break and amazingly were attentive during the presentations. The students completed questionnaires regarding their views on what they had experienced and many asked excellent questions and received appropriate answers from Stephanie.

On Tuesday, a voluntary group of students at John Paul II Secondary School were receptive and in the afternoon, Stephanie made a presentation at the Diocese Family, Life and Youth Ministry Office.

### A sampling of student survey responses:

- *Before: "Undecided."  
After: "Abortion is bad no matter the circumstances."  
- 15 year old male*
- *"Before the presentation there was a part of me that thought abortion was okay in some cases but now after seeing pictures and hearing stories I'm completely against it."  
- 16 year old female*
- *Before: "My position was that it is a pro-choice decision and it is all right if people need to do it because they hadn't intended on getting pregnant"  
After: "Yes, now I know you can't possibly kill a living life because it is like killing someone. Pictures and videos: they were powerful."  
- 15 year old female*

*Stephanie Gray's Newsletter is available at 403-668-0485.*

At 45, mom of two Pam Donahue had all but given up on her dream of having another child. "It's a miracle!" she beamed when she discovered she was expecting. Yet even she didn't realize what a miracle it really was...

## *The surprise who saved her mommy's life!*



On a fuzzy black-and-white screen, a winking dot appeared, like a single star illuminating the night. Already, Pam Donahue could feel this tiny new life taking hold in her body. Already, it had captured her heart.

I just can't believe it! the Needham, Massachusetts, mom gushed. Another baby after all.

At 45, Pam figured she would never again have a miracle growing inside her. But even she never imagined the magnitude of miracles this child would bring...

Way back when Pam designed the blueprint of her life, it didn't necessarily include children. It wasn't that she didn't like kids; she adored being a

### **This can't be happening! Pam reeled in shock**

swimming coach. But she also liked being able to go for a run or catch a movie on a moment's notice. So even after she married Larry, Pam didn't see herself being a mom to anyone but Jake, their Yorkie.

All that changed around Pam's 40th birthday, when she happily discovered she was pregnant. The minute she held Matthew in her arms, her every doubt about being a mom vanished.

Seeing the world through my little one's eyes has taught me more about love than I've ever known, Pam marvelled. And three years to the day Matthew was born, Pam and Larry welcomed little Michael.

Just once more, Pam sighed as she rocked Michael, I'd like to feel those fluttering kicks inside me.

"I know it's crazy," Pam admitted, "but let's have another."

Larry's jaw dropped. "Honey, the baby's only two weeks old!"

"I know," Pam replied. "But I'm in my 40s..."

But each new moon brought hope, then sorrow. "Guess it isn't meant to be," Pam sighed.

Then one month, Pam missed her period. Making an appointment with her gynaecologist, she figured it was probably early menopause. But instead, the doctor announced: "You're pregnant!"

And now, as the technician swirled the ultrasound wand over Pam's belly, she and an equally blissful Larry marvelled at the image on the screen: their baby.

"Looks like you're ... 8 1/2 weeks along," the technician determined. Then she grew quiet.

"What's wrong?" Pam gasped.

"I see something..." she replied, leaving the room.

Suddenly, white coats crowded around. "Mrs. Donahue," one doctor said, "we found an aortic aneurysm in your stomach..."

An aneurysm - a weakened part of a blood vessel that was ballooning and could burst at any time - had killed Pam's grandfather. This can't be happening! Pam reeled in shock as she was transferred to Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston.

There, Pam was evaluated by obstetrician Louise Wilkins-Haug, M.D., and Chief Medical Officer Anthony Whittemore, MD.

"Your aneurysm is large, about the size of a grapefruit," Dr. Whittemore determined. "Despite its size, we never would have discovered it if you hadn't been pregnant and had this ultrasound. And the aneurysm surely would have burst..."

"I would have died!" Pam gasped.

"But now that we have found it, we can do surgery," he added. Yet the delicate procedure would require clamping off blood flow from the aorta for as long as 30 minutes. For a half-hour, Pam's growing embryo would be deprived of blood flow - which could result in spontaneous miscarriage.

Pam's whole body went cold, thinking of the aneurysm that

was threatening her life - and now her unborn child's life.

Pam had always believed God had a perfect plan for everyone. There must be some reason this baby had come into their lives at this particular moment ...

"I love you to the moon and stars and back," Pam told her children before surgery. First, surgeons made an incision from her breastbone to hip. Next, they clamped her aorta to stop the flow of blood to the vessel, then drained the aneurysm, inserting a small tube to serve as a bypass.

And the next day, Larry, Pam and a flock of medical professionals held their collective breath as Dr. Wilkins-Haug performed an ultrasound.

Amazingly, in the enter of the monitor, the doctor pointed out what appeared to be a jumping bean.

"There's your baby, alive and well," the doctor said, her eyes glistening with stunned tears. "The fact that you came through this tricky surgery so well is astonishing. But for your baby to survive ... well, it's nothing short of a miracle!"

Thank you God! Pam rejoiced. Thank You for sending me this brand-new gift of life to save mine!

Finally, on May 8, 2003, at 37 weeks, Pam was induced. As six-pound, four-ounce Hayley Elizabeth was placed on her breast, Pam looked deep into her sapphire eyes and knew she was gazing upon an angel in the truest sense of the word.

"I've never seen a case like yours before," Dr. Whittemore said. "Thank you for letting me be part of your miracle!"

**Pam had always believed God had a perfect plan**

"Thank you," Larry replied. "Now what would you say about being this little one's godfather?"

"I'd be honoured," Dr. Whittemore accepted.

But they weren't the only guys in love with Hayley. Matthew announced to his kindergarten class, "My baby sister saved my mom's life." And at home, three-year-old Michael continually insists, "Mama, it's my turn to hold the baby!"

Yet even when life is pure chaos, Pam never forgets her double miracle. I always knew God had something big in store for you, little one, she thinks, snuggling six-month-old Hayley close. You're the surprise who saved Mommy's life!

**My Dear Baby Girl**

My heart is filled with so, many things that I want to tell you but I know you are much too young to understand these things now. I am writing this letter to you and hope that when you are old enough, your parents will give this letter to you.

I want you to know first that you were conceived out of love, and from the moment I knew that I was carrying you, there was never a time when you were not loved. It is because of this love for you that I know I want the very best for you.

I want to many things for you. I want you to have a mother and a father who love you and think you are the most precious gift of all. I want you to live in a home surrounded by love. I want you to have the same feelings of security and protection that I have always felt growing up. While I know that my family and I can give you love and a home, I know this is not everything you will need in life. You are special and you deserve so much.

I went to see you in the nursery after you were born, and as I stood watching you, I thanked God for you, so perfect in every way. I knew that there were two people just waiting for a miracle to take home and love. I love you very much, and I hope you have a wonderful life.

Love, *Kathleen*

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