



# PARISH 'LIFE' NEWS

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## HOBBY LOBBY WINS



The Supreme Court released its decision in the cases of *Sebelius v. Hobby Lobby and Conestoga Wood v. Sebelius* about the ability of the government to force

businesses and business owners to violate their religious principles by mandating contraception and abortifacients.

The decision is a 5-4 win for Hobby Lobby and Conestoga Wood that says closely held corporations, like Hobby Lobby and Conestoga Wood, cannot be required to provide contraception coverage. The opinion should provide protection from the mandate to almost all but publicly held corporations. National Catholic Register 6/30/14

Read the whole decision here:

[http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/13pdf/13-354\\_olp1.pdf](http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/13pdf/13-354_olp1.pdf)

## Abortion Clinic "Buffer Zones" Declared Unconstitutional

The Supreme Court ruled **unanimously** in *McCullen v. Coakley* that Massachusetts's 35 foot "Buffer Zones" around abortion clinics, where pro-life groups and viewpoints are prohibited, are unconstitutional. The decision should invalidate most "buffer zones", such as those in Pittsburgh and Harrisburg. PA Family Institute 6/27/14

## Helping the Blind to See: Scientists Regrow Human Corneas From Adult Stem Cells

Scientists have developed a new technique to regrow human corneas. Using key tracer molecules, researchers have been able to hunt down elusive cells in the eye capable of regeneration and repair. They transplanted these regenerative stem cells into mice – creating fully functioning corneas. Writing in the journal *Nature*, they say this method may one day help restore the sight of victims of burns and chemical injuries. BBC 7/9/14

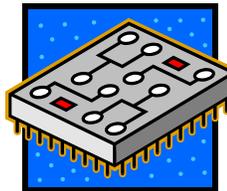
Hopefully this technique will translate into human patients and be able to repair or reconstruct corneas for those who need them. And no embryos need to be created or destroyed..

## New Jersey Governor Chris Christie Will Veto Bill to Legalize Assisted Suicide

New Jersey Governor Chris Christie stated during a press conference that he is opposed to the assisted suicide bill that is sponsored by Assemblyman John Burzichelli. The bill, also known as the New Jersey Death with Dignity Act, would give doctors the right to intentionally prescribe a lethal dose of a barbituate, for the purpose of suicide. The New Jersey assisted suicide bill is very similar to the Oregon assisted suicide Act.

The bill is dangerous. Once the lethal dose is prescribed, there is no requirement for medical oversight or psychological screening to eliminate the possibility that a patient is acting out of depression or dementia. The administration of the drugs is left to the patient or possibly a family member or friend, leaving the door wide open for abuse. The bill is opposed by members of both political parties, the medical community as a whole, and various disability rights groups. LifeNews.com 6/23/14

## Gates Financed Remote-Control Birth Control Chip



A Massachusetts-based start-up has developed a new implantable contraceptive that can be operated by remote control and can be used for up to 16 years.

The contraceptive is a computer chip that was built by MicroCHIPS with financial support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The chip is implanted under a woman's skin and releases a small dose of the hormone levonorgestrel on a daily basis until directed to stop.

The chip comes with a remote control that allows women to turn it off and on again with a push of a button. The fact that the unit can be deactivated without needing to visit a clinic, is more convenient for women and for doctors who can change doses remotely, says Dr. Robert Farra of MIT.

The device is being designed to prevent hacking, the BBC reports. Researchers are still working out how to encrypt the chips, "important in preventing hackers from seriously upsetting someone's life plans."

The technology could also be adapted to administer other medications as well.

<http://www.redorbit.com/news/health/1113186272/birth-control-microchip-070814/>

## Bill to curb “should have been aborted” lawsuits introduced

Legislation to curb lawsuits based on legal theories that certain children should have been aborted, titled “Every Child Is a Blessing Act,” was introduced by second-term prolife Congressman Steven Palazzo (R-Ms.), and assigned the number H.R. 4698.

The bill would eliminate civil lawsuits based on the legal theories usually referred to by the terms “wrongful birth” and “wrongful life,” when such claims arise under federal law, or in state courts if they involve “health care services affecting interstate or foreign commerce.” A “wrongful birth” claim rests on the assertion by a parent that a baby should have been aborted, due to some real or perceived deficiency – usually, a disability – and would have been aborted, had it not been for some act of commission or omission by the person who is being sued. A “wrongful life” claim is based on the same concept, but is filed in the name of the child rather than the parent. Such claims are not based on any allegation that a defendant actually caused the baby’s condition, but rather, that the defendant in some way failed to take actions that would have led to the abortion of the afflicted baby — for example, that a doctor failed to recommend a medical test that would have served no purpose other than to target an afflicted baby for abortion. “No child should ever have to hear they should have never been born,” Palazzo said in a written statement. “Wrongful birth cases are a waste of judicial resources and amount to nothing more than court-sanctioned child abuse.”

National Right to Life 6/21/14

## UK Govt. Says Testing Three-Parent Embryos Wrong in Animals, Okay in Humans

The United Kingdom’s authority on reproductive medicine, the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA), has called the creation of embryos with three genetic parents “not unsafe” in the attempt to move the procedure to the clinic. The HFEA recommends more testing be done, but they don’t recommend that testing be done in primates. That would be unethical.

But they do want to continue testing the procedure on human embryos. They need to see if a mixture of mitochondria from the donor woman and the woman with mitochondrial disease will cause a problem. Also they want to see if three-parent embryos have normal gene expression

Going forward with the three-parent technique, even if it seems like a good idea, will cement the “try it first and worry about the consequences later” methodology of reproductive medicine where children are the experiment. This will open the door to more invasive modifications to chromosomes; modifications that will affect not only the first child, but every generation after.

LifeNews.com 6/10/14



## PROJECT MUSTARD SEED

### GANNETT

Operations: **advertising/marketing** (Clipper, Jaxxon Promotions, Planet Discover, Ripple6, Spencer), **broadcasting** (cable/satellite: Captivate Network, television), **graphics/imaging/printing, internet** (products/services: Clipper, PointRoll, websites), **publishing** (catalogs/guides/specialty/trade, magazines, newspapers: *USA Today, USA Weekend*)

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Gannett has been on *The Boycott List* for a number of years now. We last wrote to them in June 2004. Let’s remind them that we have not forgotten their support of Planned Parenthood. Please see their website for a complete list of all of their publications

Tell them to  
stop funding  
Planned  
Parenthood

## Life Development Fact

By 16 weeks of life, a baby in the womb is the size of an avocado, weighing around 4 ounces and is about 4.5 inches long. He or she has begun to grow toenails.

## Pennsylvania News Briefs

The **Pennsylvania House** voted 172-24 to authorize schools to post “In God We Trust” and the Bill of Rights in their buildings.

PA House Education Committee voted in favor of **House Bill 1013**, which would improve the homeschool law by removing school superintendents from the evaluation of portfolios and requiring that homeschool diplomas issued by parents be recognized by the Commonwealth.

Office of Personnel Management has published **"Guidance Regarding the Employment of Transgender Individuals in the Workplace."** It speaks of "sex" as something a person has "assigned" to them only after their birth.

**Allegheny County** has announced plans to eliminate domestic partner benefits for employees, effective July 31. Same-sex couples who receive benefits have until that date to legally marry or lose their benefits.

**Cabela's in Hamburg, PA** has been sued by a former transgender employee because they insisted he use the unisex bathroom instead of the women’s bathroom.  
American Family Association of PA 6/23/14