

**Spotlight:****Community Member Creates Legislation**

Judy Icenogle is on a mission. She is an inspiring role model, who walks the talk when it comes to identifying a problem, and seeking a way to do something about it. Judy has gone far beyond complaining about a problem among friends and family. She's done what most people don't even think to do. She connected with her local lawmaker – Senator Scott Cyrway of Winslow. Working with lawyers, they drafted a bill that will be heard before the legislature this session. LD 1225: An Act to Protect Fetal

pound daughter found herself pregnant with quadruplets doctors were concerned she couldn't carry all four to a successful delivery. They recommended a selective reduction procedure that would end the lives of two male fetus' to allegedly give the two girl fetus' a better chance of survival. Judy's daughter and husband refused, accepting the risk, knowing the their decision may result in the loss of one, two, three, or four babies, as well as the risk to the mother. Trusting in God, they were blessed with four children,

proceed with the pregnancy, none the less, many were blessed with perfectly healthy babies. But not all. Some gave birth to handicapped children, while other seemingly healthy pregnancies ended in stillbirth or miscarriage. "Doctors get it wrong sometimes and other times their concerns are borne out. Some women suffer the loss; other women face very difficult decisions that only they can make, resulting in babies being lost through abortion", explains Judy. No matter the situation, the loss is painful and long lasting.

Judy has heard stories of women recovering from the trauma of a hospitalized miscarriage. Returning home to recover – empty, they later fully process what happened. The loss catches up to them. They realize they would like to give their miscarried fetus a proper burial. When they call the hospital, it is then, they learn their baby's remains were whisked away to a laboratory, later combined with medical waste, they learn their baby's remains are in a landfill.

"The proposed legislation is neither Pro-Life, nor Pro-Choice", explains Judy, "It's Pro-baby". Current Maine law ensures the dignified disposal of most human remains, however, it does not fully protect fetal remains when the baby's death occurs in the earlier weeks and months of pregnancy due to stillbirth, miscarriage, or abortion. This legislation will rectify this.

Years of prayer groups led Judy to Precious Innocents – a non-profit foundation that values

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**We need your support to continue our Mission.**

**Please consider becoming a member of Maine Right to Life, sponsoring one of our publications, or a general contribution to further our life-saving efforts.**



**Pictured left to right:** Judy Icenogle, Sen. Scott Cyrway (R-Kennebec), Jan Raymond, and Aline Poulin (VP of Precious Innocents).

**Remains.**

As is often the case, action to bring about change came from a personal experience that just didn't feel right. It involved Judy's daughter. But it didn't stop there. Judy soon learned her daughter's experience was not unique. Many similar stories emerged. This was her call to action.

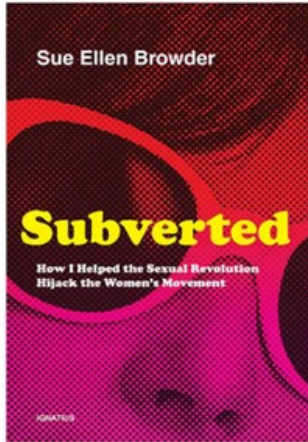
When Judy's petite 4ft, 9inch, 90

pound daughter found herself born at 30 weeks. Alive, well, and thriving today!

As with any witness, more stories follow. Judy and her family soon met women with similar stories, leading them to pray in front of an abortion clinic. They met more women, whom were told by their doctors, that the child they were carrying would be severely mentally or physically handicapped – deciding to

## The Man Behind the Myth That Abortion Is Empowerment

November 23, 2015



**"How wonderful that no one need wait a single moment to make the world a nicer place."**

**Anne Frank**

*By Maria Gallagher, Legislative Director, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation*

You may have heard of Larry the Cable Guy. But do you know about Larry the abortion guy?

In a recently released book entitled *Subverted*, writer Sue Ellen Browder tells her personal, emotionally riveting story of how she "helped the sexual revolution hijack the women's movement." Browder's personal biography — a writer for *Cosmo* magazine who eventually saw the light and abandoned the darkness of the culture of death — is fascinating. But here, I want to focus on the individual who might be described as the man behind the modern pro-abortion women's movement — Larry Lader.

According to Browder's detailed account, Larry was an atheistic magazine writer whose first foray into the world of book publishing was an account of the life of Planned Parenthood founder Margaret Sanger. Larry was one of the founders of the National

Association for the Repeal of Abortion Laws, now known as the abortion lobbying group NARAL.

Browder notes that it was due to Larry's influence that the woman who might be called the mother of the women's rights movement, Betty Friedan, inserted abortion into the National Organization for Women's political platform. This turn of events came about even though Betty originally opposed legal abortion. Friedan eventually came to call Lader, who died in 2006, the father of the abortion-rights movement.

As Browder tells it, Larry was on a drive to Bucks County, Pennsylvania, with Dr. Bernard Nathanson (an abortionist who converted into a pro-life champion later in life) in 1967 when Larry stated, "If we're going to move abortion out of the books and into the streets, we're going to have to recruit the feminists."

At a NARAL strategy meeting, Larry told Dr. Nathanson, "We've got to keep the women out in front. You know what I

mean...and some blacks. Black women especially."

Larry ultimately wrote *Abortion*, which was subtitled, "The first authoritative and documented report on the laws and practices government abortion in the U.S. and around the world, and how — for the sake of women everywhere — they can and must be reformed." Still, as Browder writes, Larry's book "was laced with poisonous half truth, limited truth, and truth out of context."

And yet, Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun cited Larry's abortion book eight times in writing the tragic decision *Roe v. Wade* and its companion case, *Doe v. Bolton*, which brought us abortion on demand for any reason during all nine months of pregnancy.

It is impossible to solve a problem unless we know its origins. Please read *Subverted* to learn how abortion became the law of the land. History can be difficult to handle, but we owe it to the 58 million and counting abortion victims who have become Larry's legacy — and to the mothers who are still grieving their children's deaths. *Editor's note. This appeared at [paprolife.us](http://paprolife.us) and is reprinted with permission.*

## Out and About in the Community



2020 Life Chain event  
Ellsworth, ME



Independent group of community members  
observing the 48th Memorial of Roe v. Wade  
at our Capitol in Augusta.



Ellsworth chapter Right to Life members  
making masks for our Patron mailing.

## Maine Knights Purchase Ultrasound Machines for Pregnancy Centers in Brunswick and Rockland

March 8, 2021  
BRUNSWICK---Pregnancy centers in Brunswick and Rockland now have new, state-of-the-art ultrasound machines thanks to the generosity of Knights of Columbus Sekenger Council 1947 in Brunswick.

The Knights raised \$37,000 towards the purchase of 4-D ultrasound machines for two Care Net of Mid-Coast Maine pro-life pregnancy centers. That amount was then matched by the national Knights of Columbus through its ultrasound initiative, which meant the entire \$74,953 cost of the machines was covered. The Brunswick Knights' contribution included a significant donation from the widow of a Knight.

"Sekenger Council 1947 is proud to be able to support Care Net of Mid-Coast Maine with its mission to help women choose life by giving them the opportunity to view their unborn children on ultrasound machines," said Jim Badger of the council.

"Having an ultrasound available so both moms and dads can view their little one's earliest stages of development can make all the difference to an abortion-vulnerable woman and her partner who feels disconnected to the pregnancy," wrote Mary Rose Pray, executive director of Care Net, in a thank you letter to the Knights.

The new ultrasound equipment was needed because the Brunswick center's machine

was outdated, and the Rockland center did not have one at all, meaning expectant mothers had to be referred to Brunswick, more than 50 miles away. Even before the Rockland machine arrived this week, the center already had appointments lined up with expectant mothers.

In addition to free ultrasounds, Care Net also offers pregnancy tests and parenting support. "Our goal is to walk alongside the women, letting them know they are not alone, so they will have the courage to choose life for their unborn babies," wrote Pray. "We show the love of Jesus to those who visit our Center by serving them with joy."

Badger said Sekenger Council's support for Care Net will continue beyond providing the ultrasound machines. He said the council

recently opened an endowment with the Catholic Foundation of Maine for the purpose of supporting pro-life work.

Contributions may be made to the endowment by contacting the Foundation at (207) 321-7820 or [info@catholicfoundationmaine.org](mailto:info@catholicfoundationmaine.org). Donations of all amounts are welcome.



## Peaceful, prayerful 40 Days for Life campaign in Augusta completes it's 12th year with rally on March 28<sup>th</sup>

Augusta, Maine – "As 40 peaceful days of prayer, fasting, vigil and outreach draw to a conclusion, we will meet in front of Maine Family Planning on March 28<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM to rejoice in the victories that God has accomplished," said Janet LeBlanc, who is directing the 40 Days for Life campaign in Augusta.

Every year we have the challenge of filling 480 hours of prayer in front of Maine Family Planning. This year the global pandemic created challenges

with recruiting new volunteers. Many of our elderly volunteers choose to stay home this year. Over the past year many events were canceled. Many people were thrilled our prayer vigil was still happening. We filled 478 hours with people praying in front of the abortion facility. The majority of these hours there was two or more people praying.

"We want to conclude this effort by sharing stories about what 40 Days for Life has meant for Central Maine and to offer thanksgiving for this opportunity

to point out the harm abortion has done – and continues to do – to Central Maine," said LeBlanc. "We pray that these 40 days will help mark the beginning of the end of abortion in our community."

"Though this rally may conclude our 40 Days for Life campaign, it only marks a beginning of renewed commitment to ending abortion in our community. We look forward to seeing what God has in store next for Central Maine," said LeBlanc. 40 Days for Life is a peaceful,

highly-focused, non-denominational initiative that focuses on 40 days of prayer and fasting, peaceful vigil at abortion facilities, and grassroots educational outreach. The 40-day time frame is drawn from examples throughout Biblical history.

For information about 40 Days for Life in Augusta, visit: [www.40daysforlife.com/augusta-maine](http://www.40daysforlife.com/augusta-maine)

For assistance or for more information, please contact Janet LeBlanc at [royalwhiterose@yahoo.com](mailto:royalwhiterose@yahoo.com) or 207-680-8900.



Winter 2020: 40 Days for Life participants at Maine Family Planning in Augusta.

## Upcoming Events

**"Celebrate LIFE! Walk"**  
July 2021

**Annual Convention**  
October 2021

**Hands Around the Capitol**  
January 2022

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E-mail: [MRLC@MaineRightToLife.com](mailto:MRLC@MaineRightToLife.com)  
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human life at all stages and seeks to provide proper burial for fetal remains. Becoming friends with the founder, Aline Poulin, Icenogle was asked to serve on the board. The organization offers free cremation for miscarried babies born before the 20<sup>th</sup> week of gestation. Mothers are given the choice of retaining their baby's ashes or having them buried in a plot of land, open for mother's to visit, if they desire. Now, Precious Innocence is expanding its mission to cover babies lost to abortion. "Regardless of how a baby's life ends, that baby should have a dignified burial, and never be disposed of as human medical waste, as is happening now", says Judy.

Together, Poulin and Icenogle enlisted the services of an attorney in Augusta, who was equally passionate with their intent. "Senator Cyrway generously agreed to sponsor the legislation. If 'An Act to Provide Dignity for Fetal Remains' is passed into law, women who suffer regret or depression over the loss of their baby, will at least know where their little one is buried. It may help ease their sorrow and bring a sense of finality. That is what we hope to accomplish with this bill."

~ Judy Icenogle.

## Local Chapters – they're making a comeback!

After a long year of Covid-19 restrictions and isolation, and amid a landscape of political theatre where free speech and freedom were compromised, and censorship ensued – if ever there was a need to celebrate the joy of life through people with shared interest – it is now! Camaraderie is a good thing! Let's get together!

Maine Right To Life would like to bring back local chapters. If you and a bunch of friends would like to form a group centered around Pro-Life activity – as you see fit: perhaps a Pro-Life book club, a legislative letter writing brigade, organize a walk, set up a Pro-Life table at a fair, or church – you name the activity, and we are here to support you. Two board members have stepped up to champion the comeback. However your heart is moved, you will see from our two members very different styles, there are many approaches to witness and promote a culture that support life. Please join us!

Board members – Trish Morin and Linda Hardy have graciously volunteered to be the local chapter coordinators to help you get started. Our new resource directory is a rich resource to educate you on all Pro-Life issues.

Trish has served Maine Right to Life in Augusta as our lobbyist for 5 years under the LePage administration. *"What goes on in Augusta needs to be closely watched by every Pro-life citizen in Maine. Laws are being passed that include many constraints on the family. Parental guidance is being dismantled in many ways. Our legislators are elected by you. They need to hear what you want for the state. The legislature will listen to you. Here, at Maine Right To Life, we would like to organize and prepare people to become the voice for the unborn, the family unit, and the often misled teens of Maine. I welcome the opportunity to train our members to be a strong voice for Life and offer my help to assist our members in writing testimony and coaching members to appear before a committee in Augusta. It may sound daunting at first – but I promise, It is very simple, empowering and a great civic duty. Thanks for your consideration."*

~ Trish Morin

Linda began her local chapter work with her friend, fellow MRTL board member, Kathy Birdsall, at her kitchen table in the early 80's. *"We started our chapter with a few brochures and a heart for saving the babies. Our first members were our closest friends, we slowly collected information and materials through little fundraisers, from food, candy and pie sales to yard sales and much later on, auctions."*

*"We tried every avenue we could think of to share our information. We spoke to church groups and incorporated our fetal models with every public display and presentation."*

*"Our membership never was very big, but with the few members and their children, we still managed to make a showing. Some of my fondest memories include the activities with our kids, Christmas Parade floats and even a Pro-life protest when VP candidate Geraldine Ferraro visited Bangor, Maine. It's amazing how big a crowd you can present when positioned in the front row!"*

*"I remember being terribly nervous about standing behind our information table, fearful that someone would ask me a question I couldn't answer, until someone told me to just present the truth and God will be the one to convict them. I also felt better knowing that if I didn't have an answer, I could always get back to the person if they were willing to give me their information."*

*"I'm excited to reinvigorate a grassroots chapter development. There is nothing like face to face conversation and I believe people, especially now, will be receptive."*  
~ Linda Hardy