

LICL e-blast – serving Nassau/Suffolk pro-life advocates. LICL e-blast is additional information to *Life News*.

May 2014

Dear Defenders of Life:

Attention Lobbyists: All who participated in pro-life lobby trips to Albany, or may wish to do so, are asked to please check your E-mail each day. On 5/6/2014 the N.Y.S. Senate Health Committee voted against forwarding the 2013 Reproductive Health Act to a full vote in the Senate. Thank you to all who lobbied in Albany, called Senate offices or signed petitions but....This is not the end of the story for 2014. Presently, LICL is watching the 10-Point Women's Equality Act announced by Governor Cuomo on 1/8/14. As you know one of the 10-points will expand the right to abortion through all nine months. If this bill, or any other stand alone legislation designed to expand abortion in N.Y.S. is to be voted on in the Senate, notice of a lobby trip may come suddenly. E-mail may be our only means to fill the bus. Anyone wishing to be added to the lobbyist notification E-mail list, (or to check if you are on) are urged to contact mariemawn@yahoo.com.

Check with family members. Is everyone registered to vote? Does anyone need an Absentee Ballot? To register or to apply for an Absentee Ballot use the form available at your Post Office. Mail or deliver the form at least 25 days prior to the election you want to vote in. Primary Day for all N.Y.S. Congressional races is Tues. June 24.

On Sunday, April 27, 2014 10:13 PM, Celeste B <<u>fortydflli@gmail.com</u>> wrote: Sunrise Mall (Massapequa) Sunday afternoon April 28th (2014)

I'm getting ready to say goodbye to some special little babies... embryos and fetuses, actually.

I don't know who these babies are; I don't even know their names. Nonetheless, I've taken a four and a half year journey with them.

In 2008 someone showed me an article about The Truth Booth (<u>http://www.truthbooth.org/</u>). A kiosk in a mall. A video continuously playing ultrasound images of unborn babies. The concept was simple – no overt pro-life prose-lytizing; just let the facts (life in the womb) speak for themselves.

AND SO THE JOURNEY BEGAN!

Westfield, owner of Sunrise Mall, gave us the green light!

The LICL Educational Trust did a fundraising campaign and we raised the \$10000 to put up the kiosk for 6 months, starting with the busy Christmas season 2009.

Then the real journey began!! Westfield told us we couldn't be in Sunrise Mall : (But we had signed the contract so they let us in their South Shore Mall (Bay Shore). OK :)

THE THRILL OF VICTORY – THE AGONY OF DEFEAT!

November 2009 -- what a site to see our kiosk up and running! Wonderful!

Within weeks we got word from mall management that a shopper complained vociferously about our presentation. She was going to have her friends sign a petition, boycott the mall. HA! I thought to myself... petition signing? Bring it on! Boycott? We can do that, too!

Well our in utero babies (Weeks 8 to Week 34) got moved off the central mall to a side aisle. Even though it was not very busy there, it was noticeable to at least one abortion advocate who kept turning off the TVs. (Unfortunately the power buttons were accessible to the public.) In an ongoing test of wills I tried every which way to cover the power buttons. In keeping with the holiday, I even hid the controls behind ribbon. No use.

Each weekend I would check the kiosk, put out literature and make sure the video was running. Mid week Kevin (Trustee) and Maryjane McQuade would do the same.

One day I arrived to find the power button on one TV stuck clear inside the TV panel. I guess our 'visitor' got a little rambunctious trying to stop the sonogram show. But.. the power got STUCK ON!! I can imagine that happening just in time for the vandal to look up and see Week 34 baby smiling :)

When we renewed the lease in 2010 we made sure our kiosk would be in the central mall section. And so it was. Week after week the babies gave lie to the notion that we were nothing more than jellyfish-like blobs of tissue until suddenly turning into a person at birth.

HAS IT REALLY BEEN THAT LONG?

And so for 232 weeks we persevered.

Sometimes it seemed every other week was an issue. The video would be off due to power surges, floods, lightening (really, I never knew malls got hit by lightening so much... hmmm) and by "pro-choice" people who weren't really pro-choice. There was negotiating with security and mall management over one thing or another, pamphlet holders stolen, and our attractive signs removed (just couldn't seem to please management).

I'd be lying if I said there weren't times I was ready to say enough is enough. But every time I turned the video back on, the babies were ready to do their in utero dance: to touch the heart of someone thinking of abortion or to start the journey of educating those who deny the humanity of unborn babies.

So many times when we checked the kiosk we'd see people there watching, talking, thinking. Once I saw a mother take a picture of her children in front of the kiosk. Another time a toddler ran up and pointed to the sonogram baby and yelled, "That's me!"

BABIES SAVED

And then there were the BABIES SAVED FROM ABORTION. We know of three mothers who chose life after looking at the LICL Educational Trust kiosk. How many more 'saves'? We can only imagine.

+ DVDs: \$35

- + Leases & insurance: \$77,000
- + Life of a child: Priceless

IT WAS A GOOD RUN!

In August 2013, the Truth Booth was moved to Sunrise Mall because the Westfield management said it wasn't compatible with their upgrading of South Shore Mall. And now our precious little ones have been deemed "too controversial" and the contract has been ended. The Truth Booth babies have outlasted 2 DVD players; now the 3rd DVD player has been shut off for the final time.

While I wrote this, among those who paused to look:

-- One couple watched the full 'performance';

-- A couple of young boys took a furtive glance and laughed;

-- A little girl watched and then brought her mother over to take a look.

I don't know these people. I don't know their names. But they've taken part in our journey and I hope they're better for it.

And so, to these special little Truth Booth babies, I say,

WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL FETUSES!

L'chaim, Celeste A Broyles, PhD Long Island Coalition for Life Educational Trust info@prolifeLI.org / http://www.prolifeli.org/ (fortydflli@gmail.com; twitter @dulcineadq)

View the Truth Booth video: <u>www.truthbooth.org/video.asp</u> (The video has been updated slightly since our 2009 version)

Thank you to all those who contributed to this project (& to my journey!) over the years. No donation is ever too small, but special thanks to two couples and a gentleman (postmortem, bequeath through his will) whose generous donations helped us keep the Truth Booth running for about 2 additional years. Also, special thanks to Kevin & Maryjane McQuade who, among other things, shared the relentless burden of monitoring the kiosk, and put up with my whiny cell phone calls from the mall :] Postmortem gratitude to Jerry Higgins who handled the fundraising to get the project off and running.