

Volume 7 Issue 5

May 2004

Dear Friends of Life:

I write to update all of you regarding Dubuque County Right to Life's Building Project, the status of the building fund, and the future.

Let me first thank you for the prayers and support you have showered on Dubuque County Right to Life, Inc. When this project started, we could not have imagined the outpouring we received. To date, we have been blessed with \$188,590 in cash and pledges. It is an exciting time at Dubuque County Right to Life, Inc.

However, we have hit a temporary bump in the road. Because of environmental concerns, we have opted out of purchasing the building at 1870 Asbury Road. When we originally secured an option to buy the property, we knew that there would be environmental issues, inasmuch as the premises were formerly occupied by a dry-cleaning business and a gas station. Early testing indicated that we should move forward with the project because the overall environmental concerns were thought to be ones that could be addressed efficiently on a cost effective basis, and on a certain set timetable.

Environmental tests which could not be performed until recently, however, have indicated that the preliminary results were not indicative of the depth of the problem. The present owner is going to have to bring the property up to current environmental standards, but no timetable can be set, the expected cleanup measures are uncertain, and the cost in dollars and business interruption is unknown. In view of all of the above, the Board of Directors of Dubuque County Right to Life voted, with the support of the Building Committee (chaired by Steve Hardie) and its leaders (Sister Catherine Dunn, Eldon Herrig and Arnie Honkamp) to opt out of our Purchase Agreement regarding 1870 Asbury Road.

All of the original reasons to obtain a building that will promote our educational efforts on a permanent basis remain. We need a site that is high traffic, accommodating to our expanding volunteer and speaker base, and one that will facilitate far into the future getting the Respect Life message to area youth, schools, church and community groups.

Efforts have been underway since the vote of the Board of Directors to find an alternative site. We are again in need of your prayers and support at this time, and we vow to be good stewards of the confidence you have in us as reflected by your financial support. All of the reasons to push forward with the Building Project continue, and we ask that you remain committed to the project. We are confident a new site can be found soon, and that a timetable for purchase, remodeling and construction will quickly emerge.

On behalf of all of the members of Dubuque County Right to Life, Inc., the Unborn, and women in crisis pregnancies, we thank you for your sup-

COMING EVENTS

- **April 27th is Pro-Life T-shirt day.** Please wear a pro-life t-shirt to show your support for the pre-born babies. You have a right to wear one, but NOT if you are required to be in uniform!
- PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING which will be a prayer service in conjunction with the National Day of Prayer on **THURSDAY, May 6th AT NOON** in Washington Park at the Gazebo. NOTE CHANGE OF TIME AND PLACE!!!!
- Our June meeting will be on the first **Thursday, the 3rd at 6:30 P.M.** In The CATHEDRAL CENTER behind St. Raphael's Cathedral at 231 Bluff Street. We will have a guest speaker in to teach us more about SIDEWALK COUNSELING. She is bringing handouts and we need to guesstimate how many are coming. **Please call (563-556-5960)** to sign up (but don't be afraid to just show up if you forget!).

Our **visits to the abortion mill** in May will be on Tuesday, **May 18th** and on Saturday, **May 22**. Tuesday's visit will be to Planned Parenthood in Bettendorf, leaving from the Resurrection parking lot after 7:00 A.M. Mass. The group will be lead by Bill McDonough (563-582-4436). On Saturday, the group will leave from St. Columbkille's parking lot (in front of the church) at 7:00 A. M. Please call the office (563-556-5960) if you plan to go.

If you missed the **HAT SHOW**, you can view it on TV -Cablevision Channel 15 at 7 P.M. on Tue. Wed. & Th.. from May 11—27th. This is in addition to, & at different times than our regularly scheduled program. Be sure to tune in and enjoy the show in the comfort of your own home. Our other shows are Mon.@ 10 A.M. , Fri. @ 3 P.M. & Sat.@ 1 P.M.

BOYCOTT UPDATE: WHEN CONSIDERING CHARITABLE DONATIONS, PLEASE CONSIDER PRO-LIFE ORGANIZATIONS. IN ADDITION TO OUR EFFORTS AT DOING BUSINESS WITH ONLY PRO-LIFE BUSINESSES, WE MUST NOT INDIRECTLY SUPPORT ABORTION BY CONTRIBUTING TO ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING EMBRYO AND/OR FETAL TISSUE RESEARCH. ANYONE SUPPORTING THIS TYPE OF RESEARCH IS SUPPORTING THE KILLING OF HUMAN BABIES, AT VARIOUS STAGES OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT. Occasionally I get questions about what to say to people soliciting for these organizations. We all know they "do so much good" and people are shocked to hear that one is not interested in contributing to them. This is a golden opportunity to educate others. Many of our loved ones have been afflicted with, or even died from, these diseases. We want to do something so others don't have to suffer as they did/do. But we must always keep in mind, **THE END DOES NOT JUSTIFY THE MEANS.** Please call us for information before making donations. We have done the research and can let you know about most organizations. For example, The Muscular Dystrophy Association called last week to arrest me for a "Jail & Bail" event in June. Before agreeing, I looked them up in my files and found that they "support meritorious research using human tissue at all stages of development" and they "will support embryonic stem cell research in accordance with established government guidelines." I declined, told the caller why, and asked her to pass on what I said. I will also write them to let them know that if they change their policy, I would be interested in supporting them. An alternative organization, The Muscular Dystrophy Family Foundation does no research and is not affiliated with the MDA. They provide adaptive equipment and emotional support to afflicted individuals and their families. Their address is: 2330 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46208-5730. (1-800-544-1213)

MEMBERSHIP FORM: Please mail to DCRTL, 1205 Cleveland Avenue, Dubuque, Iowa 52003

_____ \$300 Lifesaver	_____ \$50 Supporter	_____ Other
_____ \$250 Defender	_____ \$25 Family	
_____ \$100 Patron	_____ \$15 Individual	_____ \$5 Student

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ PHONE: _____

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
 Dubuque County Right To Life
 1205 Cleveland
 Dubuque, Iowa 52003