

LIFE TIME

Life for everyone

DUBUQUE
COUNTY
RIGHT TO LIFE
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Monday - Friday

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Colleen Pasnik

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

“We’re not your mother’s Girl Scout troop.”

- Marty Evans, Executive Director GSUSA (past)

In response to Kathy Cloninger’s (CEO of the Girl Scouts of America) comment on NBC News—“We have relationships. . .with Planned Parenthood (PP) organizations across the country, to bring information-based sex education programs to girls.”

STOPP International has just completed an investigation of the Girl Scout councils’ connections with PP. Cloninger was interviewed about the cookie boycott in Waco, TX. Because DCRTL has received several calls questioning all this, I called Sue Wheaton, Executive Director of the Little Cloud Council. I explained why I was calling and asked about their relationship to PP. She said they had none; that there aren’t even any PP’s nearby; that our community wouldn’t approve. I questioned why she hadn’t responded to the STOPP survey and she replied they don’t need to; that they won’t “be bullied into doing so.” I suggested that by not responding, people will think they have something to hide. She repeated her comment about not being bullied. I next asked about their use of the ‘baby-think-it-over’ dolls. Did she know that PP was in favor of their use? Was she aware that they don’t teach girls not to become pregnant (chastity) but rather to think babies are a burden? She suggested that we (pro-life groups) should embrace the dolls. She stated that on average the girls see themselves starting a family 2-3 years later on the post-test than they had before caring for the “babies.” [My point exactly. They learn parenthood can be burdensome. What will they do if they find themselves pregnant before that 2-3 years is up?]

I next brought up the negative information being circulated about the scouts. I didn’t specify what I read or heard; she knew exactly what I was talking about. [F.Y.I.—e.g. I read that God may be substituted in pledge, moral relativism throughout the Handbook, promotion of homosexuality, lesbian leaders, badges containing exercises relating to situations like ending a pregnancy and organizing an event to make people aware of gender bias.] She cautioned me not to believe everything I read. I then asked about the badges the girls are earning. She replied, “I’m not aware of every badge. That’s not my job.” I thanked her for the information and hung up; a bit frustrated because I felt like had received canned answers. And, I felt like there may be something to hide –why was it so important not to answer the survey? Why didn’t she want to talk about the badges? [A quick look through a couple handbooks revealed subtle PP influence –call 563-556-5960 for details.]

I caution parents and supporters of the Girl Scouts to be vigilant in these matters. Even if the local Council is not partnering with PP, the materials they obtain from the national organization might. Know what your troop is doing. Know the badges they are working on. Critically analyze all materials & activities, especially if the girls are away and joined up with other groups. And if the Girl Scouts can’t get back to traditional values and teaching real character, perhaps its time to look for an alternative organization. [e.g. American Heritage Girls—www.ahgonline.org or write AHG, Inc., Box 242, West Chester, OH 45071.]



PRO-LIFE LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS:

The addresses and phone numbers for your members of Congress are:

U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: 1-202-224-3121
Capitol Switchboard toll free number: 1-888-723-5246

House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: 1-202-225-3121

CONTACT THE FOOD & DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA):-
5600 Fischers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857-0001
1-888-463-6332

E-mail addresses for **Representatives** can be found at <http://clerkweb.house.gov> (and then go to "Write your Representative"). Phone numbers are listed above. Rep. Jim **Nussle**, 303 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, 202-225-2911. Fax: 202-225-9129. E-mail: nussleia@mail.house.gov. Dubuque office: 563-557-7740, Waterloo office: 319-235-1109, Mason City office: 515-423-0303, and the Manchester office: 563-927-5141 or 800-927-5212.

E-mail addresses for **Senators** can be found at <http://www.senate.gov>. You can **reach any senator** by calling the Capitol switchboard at 202-224-3121. Senator Charles E. **Grassley** (R), 135 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. E-mail: chuck_grassley@grassley.senate.gov Phone: 202-224-3744 in Washington; 319-232-6657 in Waterloo; or 319-363-6832 in Cedar Rapids.

Senator Tom **Harkin** (D), 731 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510. E-mail: tom_harkin@harkin.senate.gov Phone: 202-224-3254 in Washington; 319-365-4505 in Cedar Rapids; or 563-582-2130 in Dubuque.

To contact your IOWA Congressmen:

Call the State House to reach your Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Secretary of Ag., Auditor, and Attorney General @ 515-281-5211. To reach your State Senators, call 515-281-3371. To reach your State Representatives, call 515-281-3221. The toll free number to the Iowa Capitol Building is 800-375-7097.

To write: The Honorable _____, Office of the Governor or Senate Chamber or House Chamber, State Capitol Building, Des Moines, IA 50319. Begin letters with Dear Governor _____ or Dear Senator _____, or Dear Representative _____.

To FAX: House - 515-281-6108; Senate 515-281-5868

To E-mail: firstname_lastname@legis.state.ia.us Please note: an underscore character must be typed between the first and last name. When e-mailing your legislator, please let them know where you live in their district. There are various e-mail addresses for legislators.

- THE FDA has rejected the sale of **non-prescription Morning After Pill** (MAP), sometimes called "Emergency Contraception." However, they left the door open, so to speak, telling Barr Laboratories what information they would need to reconsider. Conservatives lauded the decision, "The FDA is siding with our teens and their health." The San Jose mercury News reports, "it puts our teens at greater risk—and denies adult women a safe form of contraception." [The MAP is taken after intercourse and causes an abortion if conception has occurred or if not, dangerous chemicals are pumped into the body for no reason at all. It has very serious side effects and often produces ectopic pregnancies which go unidentified. Symptoms go unrecognized since side effects are similar—cramping, pain, nausea and vomiting.] You may want to call and let them know how you feel about their decision. Here's what the Feminist Majority is saying about the ruling: "Outrageously, after more than one million of us Marched for Women's Lives in Washington, DC, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) late Thursday decided to reject over-the-counter status for emergency contraception. [We must now make our voices heard once again](#) expressing our anger that the FDA has allowed right-wing politics to trump women's health."
- The federal **Unborn Victims of Violence Act** (Laci & Connor's Law) has been passed by both the House and Senate and signed into law by President Bush. However, just today (5/14/04) in Iowa, Governor Vilsack vetoed the state's version of the bill. The Unborn Victims of Violence Act provides that, under federal law, anyone who causes death or injury to a child in the womb will be charged with a separate offense, in addition to any charges relating to the mother.
- A Florida judge has ruled unconstitutional a state the law allowed Gov. Jeb Bush to intervene in the case of **Terri Schiavo**, a disabled woman whose estranged husband had ordered her feeding tube removed. The state filed an appeal immediately after the ruling was announced. Judge Douglas Baird ruled the law infringes on Schiavo's right to privacy. Meanwhile, an attorney has filed a petition for relief on behalf of Terri's parents. At this writing, Terri remains in isolation from her family.
- The **Partial Birth Abortion Ban** act trials were big news for only a day. Not much has been reported since the trial began the week of March 29th. Outcome pending. . . .
- No news on **Motion 60**, the attempt by Silent No More to overturn Roe vs. Wade, either.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE FAIR! CALL COLLEEN AT OUR OFFICE (556-5960) IF YOU ARE AVAILABLE TO WORK A SHIFT AT OUR BOOTH. This year's annual Dubuque County Fair runs from Tuesday July 27th through Sunday August 1. Our presence at the fair creates more community awareness of our organization and all we do. The materials we distribute educate many people we don't reach in our normal daily operation. Have fun while helping us spread the pro-life message to thousands of people in the tri-state area.

Memorials to DCRTL:

Thanks to all who have given a gift of life:

In memory of the following: for **Marjean Gansen** from Bill & Doris McDermott; for **Reginald Jones & Tom Demler** from Mona Thomas; for **Jane Swensen** from Jim Swensen; for **Colleen Elliott** from David & Esther Thome

In honor of: **Rita Luksetich's** birthday from Richard & Kathleen Burdick and for **Dr. Roger Klauer's** 80th birthday from Betty & Paul Frommelt.

Whenever a gift is given in memory or in honor of a loved one, an acknowledgement card is sent to the person or family you designate. With gifts of \$250 or greater, their name is

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER AT THE ABORTION MILLS:

Meet Bill McDonough (563-582-4436) after 7:00 A.M. Mass in the Resurrection Church parking lot on Tuesday, **June 15th** or meet @ 7:00 A.M. in St. Columbkille's parking lot that faces the church on Saturday, **June 19th.** For more information, call our office @ 563-556-5960.

PLEASE CALL TO LET US KNOW YOU WILL BE JOINING THE GROUP.

SIDEWALK COUNSELING SESSIONS:

On Thursday, June 3rd we will be bringing in a trainer from the Pro-Life Action League to help us in our efforts to become more involved in sidewalk counseling at the abortion mills. Debra Braun will be here to enlighten us on ways to be effective when encouraging girls/women to choose life. PLEASE SIGN UP IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN COMING. (Call DCRTL @556-5960.) You will not be obligated to attend or commit to sidewalk counsel. You are welcome whether your motive is to become a sidewalk counselor or to increase your knowledge or if you just want to come to cure your curiosity. This session will take place during our regular monthly meeting. PLEASE NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT **WE WILL BEGIN AT 6:30** because the 'class' takes 2 hours.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED TO SCHEDULE OUR VIDEO/CABLE ACCESS PROGRAMS

If you enjoy video technology and have some spare time, please call us @ 563-556-5960!

We will train you, so don't shy away just because you've never done it before!



Our cable access shows can be seen on cablevision Channel 16! Watch for our **upcoming programs**, scheduled for Monday @ 10:00 A.M., Friday @ 3:00 P.M. and Saturday @ 1:00 P.M.

LIFE DINNER DONATIONS:

For those of you who had the misfortune of missing our annual LIFE Dinner this year, we have once again enclosed a pledge card in this newsletter so that you might have the opportunity to show your support for DCRTL. We operate strictly on donations, so please be generous. All contributions are tax deductible and will be used for educational purposes. Our speakers did a marvelous job and the evening was lovely. We're sorry you had to miss it!

P.S. Mark your calendar for next year. The dinner will be on Friday, April 8th.

South Dakota bill blocked by National Right to Life Committee (NRLC)

State Representative Matt McCaulley asked the Thomas More Law Center to help draft a bill that would directly confront the holding of the Roe decision. The result became House Bill 1191 and it banned virtually all abortions in SD and made abortion a felony punishable for up to 15 years in prison. The preamble to the bill established that life begins at fertilization and that based on evidence derived from 30 years of legalized abortion in this country, abortion causes significant harm to women. After passing both the state House & Senate, the governor sent it back with a “style and form” veto suggesting some technical changes. The changes needed approval by both houses of the legislature. With the help of NRLC and its state affiliate South Dakota Right To Life, Inc. the bill was defeated. Pro-lifers were shocked to learn that the largest pro-life group opposed this effort to ban abortions arguing **it is not the right time**.

Shock and disbelief also plagued DCRTL. It just doesn’t seem right that any time would be bad for us to stop abortions and that a pro-life group would side with PP, NARAL, NAF and the ACLU. Having received a number of phone calls and being unable to explain what was going on we decided to contact NRLC for their side of the story. To date, we have not received a reply. Nor have we received any news item about the case from NRLC sources. Here’s what others are saying:

- “After 31 years and over 40 million babies killed, the case of Roe vs. Wade making abortion a constitutional right is still the law. . . . Still, according to National Right To Life, the time is not right.” (Thomas More Law Center press release.)
- “In effect, they aborted the right to life bill” (Leslee Unruh, a member of SDRL and director of the South Dakota Alpha Health Center.)
- “. . . once the pro-life bill was introduced, all legitimate pro-life organizations had a moral duty to support it. Any group that could not do so should have remained neutral, which is bad enough since such a position would inherently have a negative impact. Working overtly—or especially-covertly to defeat a pro-life bill is simply unconscionable.” (Doug Scott, Life Decisions International)

Dubuque County Right To Life, Inc. is affiliated with American Life League & Iowans for Life. We are in no way associated with the National Right To Life Committee.

DEATH MARCH ‘04

Many of you read MY VIEW of the “March for Women’s Lives” in either the Witness or the Telegraph Herald, so I won’t dwell on it here. However, I do want to mention a few things about it. There was such a contrast to the pro-life March for Life and this march—it was like dark vs. light or good vs. evil. I mentioned their shouting, chanting and gyrating. I told about their crude language, vulgar signs, and half naked bodies—used as billboards. (We held signs of preborn infants.) I didn’t mention how sad it was to see parents pushing little children in strollers. It was difficult to watch grandmothers carrying their granddaughters. It was disheartening to see the numbers of people who were there. It was frightening to think about the future may bring. But, as Bryan Kemper (STAND TRUE) said in his report on the march, “They may have had almost a million people marching in their parade, but we have the most important Person on our side, Jesus. . . . With the truth of Christ in our hearts and the strength He gives us, we will continue this fight. We will Stand True.”

Lord, help those trapped in the abortion industry find the strength to repent and turn to you for hope and forgiveness.

Boycott update: Mrs. Field's Famous Brands, Schering-Plough and the Home Depot are *no longer targets*. In addition, Hudson Trail Outfitters is not a subsidiary of Lost Arrow Corporation. Kmart Corporation is supporting the anti-life March of Dimes (MOD). CEO Julian C. Day states. "At Kmart we hope that every baby is born healthy. That is why Kmart is proud to support March of Dimes WalkAmerica in helping our customers and associates get the information they need to have healthy babies." Other corporations supporting the MOD include Farmers Insurance Group, GUM (oral care products), Famous Footware, discovery Health Channel, Gymboree, General Nutrition Centers (GNC), Motherhood Maternity, CitiGroup, Sprint Communications and the Planned Parenthood-funding CIGNA Corporation and Bank of America..

Looking for a baby gift? Dubuque County Right To Life, Inc. has blue and pink baby blankets for sale for just \$20. It's a great gift not only because its soft and warm but it also is a great conversation starter with the life rose and "Every Life is a Gift from God" embroidered on it.

Pope John Paul II on nutrition and hydration:

In a statement to 400 participants of an international congress on the treatment of patients described as being in a persistent vegetative state, Pope John Paul II said medical personnel "cannot ethically justify abandoning or interrupting basic care, including food and hydration, of a patient." The theme of the congress, organized by the World Federation of Catholic Medical Associations and the Pontifical Academy for Life, was "Life-Sustaining Treatments and Vegetative State: Scientific Advances and Ethical Dilemmas."

"I feel the duty to affirm energetically that the intrinsic value and personal dignity of every human being does not change, regardless of the circumstances of his life. A man, even if he is gravely ill or limited in the exercise of his higher functions, is and always will be a man, he will never become a 'vegetable' or an 'animal.' Our brothers and sisters who are in the clinical condition of 'vegetative state' preserve all their human dignity. God the Father continues to look upon them lovingly, recognizing them as his children, especially in need of assistance. Doctors and health agents, society and the Church have moral duties toward these persons, of which they cannot exempt themselves without betraying the demands of professional deontology and of human and Christian solidarity. Therefore, the such person, in a vegetative state, awaiting recovery or his natural end, has the right to basic health care, and to the prevention of complications linked to his state." The prolongation of the vegetative state "cannot justify ethically the abandonment or interruption of the minimal care of the patient, including food and water. Death by hunger or thirst, in fact, is the only possible result should these be suspended." If caused, in a "**conscious and deliberate manner,**" it is "**genuine euthanasia by omission,**" the Pontiff concluded.

It so often comes up that abstinence isn't the answer to solve the AIDs crisis. Today, I read another editorial stating such. My thought: Give it a try! I once heard a quote stating that one of the signs of insanity is to keep doing the same thing over and over again and to expect different results. Abstinence worked in Uganda. The promoters of contraception say there was more to it than abstinence. Well, we've been trying 'more and better' contraception since it came into widespread use in the early '60s and it hasn't worked. Let's try something different and see if we can get different results!



- DUBUQUE COUNTY
RIGHT TO LIFE'S WISH
LIST:**
- ⇒ 1 ream of legal size paper
 - ⇒ 1 box of file folders
 - ⇒ one month's rent (\$450)
 - ⇒ Stamps
 - ⇒ volunteers (for odd jobs)
 - ⇒ prayers for the intentions of DCRTL
 - ⇒ vacuum cleaner - ours is on its last leg - so if someone has an old one in good working condition, we'd love it!
 - ⇒ Speaking engagements
 - ⇒ Kleenex
 - ⇒ Dish soap

- COMING EVENTS - Plan now to join us!**
- ◆ **Pro-Life Mass every Wednesday** at 2:25 P.M. at the Power of Prayer - 75 W. 17th Street - Fr. Tom McAndrew, celebrant.
 - ◆ Two opportunities to **Visit** the abortion mills to **pray and sidewalk counsel** each month. Call 563-556-5960 for details. (more information inside this issue)
 - ◆ MODERN NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING - 4 **classes**, 1/month - call 582-1673 for details.
 - ◆ Our **next monthly meeting** will be held @ **6:30 P.M. on June 3, 2004** at the Cathedral Center. Please let us know if you are coming because our speaker will be bringing handouts. [See inside this newsletter for details.] **NOTE CHANGE OF TIME!**
 - ◆ Dubuque County Fair—July 27—August 1, 2004.
 - ◆ Reminder: we do not hold a general membership meeting in July—so don't miss our June meeting! Our annual picnic will be held on August 5th—details will be in our next newsletter.
 - ◆ LIFE Dinner 2005—April 8, 2005

**PLANNED PARENTHOOD-
DESTROYING A GENERATION ONE BABY AT A TIME**

<p>DII JD</p> <hr/> <p>DYERSVILLE IMPLEMENT, INC. 13845 ROUTE 136 DYERSVILLE, IOWA 52040 (319)875-2724 or 800-530-2724 A.G.&C.P. PRODUCTS</p>		<p> Spieg's Tree Farm Trees, wreaths, swags, soy candles</p> <p>Jerry/Bonnie Spiegel 12979 Sundown Rd. 563-583-0182 Peosta, Ia 52068 spiegel@dubuque.net</p>	<p>Would you like to see your ad here?</p> <p>Call DCRTL 556-5960.</p>
<p>Knippel's Religious Goods [Gifts and Supplies for the Sacraments] 129 Main Street Dubuque, IA 52001 563-582-5845</p>	<p>St. Joseph's Woodshop <i>Hand Crafted Furniture and Woodwork Built to suit our Customers Needs</i></p> <p>Mike and Sara Brehm & Family 8605 Tennis Lane • Peosta, Iowa 52068 563-557-7041</p>	<p>(563)582-1676</p> <p>Expressions of Faith Religious Gifts & Books</p> <p>2255 JFK, Astory Square Hours: 11:00-5:00 Dubuque, Ia. 52002 Mon thru Sat. (Closed Sun.)</p>	

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