

# LIFE TIME

ife s or everyone

DUBUQUE  
COUNTY  
RIGHT TO LIFE  
**BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS:**

Arthur F. Gilloon  
President

Mike Meyer  
Vice-President

Maureen Ward  
Secretary

Jim Giese  
Treasurer

Sara Brehm

Dr. John Dolehide

Dennis Mai

Fr. Richard Schaefer

Mike Scherr

**Executive Director:**

Ellen Markham  
(563-556-1934)

**Executive Assistant:**

Colleen Pasnik

**OFFICE:**

1205 Cleveland  
Dubuque, IA.  
563-556-5960

FAX: 563-556-5606

web site:

www.dcrtl.org

e-mail:

dcrtl@mwci.net

**Hours:** 9 am - 1 PM  
Monday - Friday

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

### PATIENCE PAYS OFF

It's been two long years, but we finally did it!! Yes, there is news about a new office for us. An official announcement will be made at our upcoming LIFE Dinner, but we're so excited and you have been so patient with us on this project that we couldn't wait to tell you that the final legal work is being done for purchase of the building at the corner of Asbury & Carter (formerly Linehan & Molo). We thank you for your past support and ask you to keep this project in your prayers because . . . we've only just begun. Once we have the keys, there will be remodeling and decorating and cleaning and moving to be done. It will take a lot of time and hard work and we will be counting on you, our friends, to help us once again. There isn't a time line yet, but we will be needing volunteers (unskilled & skilled in carpentry, plumbing, painting, etc). Let us know (563-556-5960) how you can help!

### DEATH WITH DIGNITY? DEATH, NO DIGNITY!

Terri Schiavo collapsed under disputed circumstances February 25, 1990, suffering brain damage when her heart stopped momentarily. She is not on life support, but requires a feeding tube for nourishment and hydration. Michael Schiavo, Terri's husband wishes to have the tube removed, saying she told him she didn't want to be kept alive artificially. Robert & Mary Schindler, her parents insist she has demonstrated a strong will to live and are fighting removal of the tube.

Following the Terri saga is depressing. It feels hopeless, knowing the judge is an activist for groups promoting euthanasia. Right To Die activists are promoting "death with dignity" for her. However, many people are joining together to help save Terri's life. U.S. & Florida state lawmakers have introduced legislation to protect her (see p.3). National pro-life groups are rallying at the scene with prayer vigils, lobbying and public events. Her parents have filed a motion claiming that judge (Greer) made a reversible error in the 2000 trial where he determined she wouldn't want to be kept alive. Experts have issued statements about Terri's cognitive abilities and potential for rehabilitation.

Following the Terri saga is frightening. Euphemisms and hard case scenarios plagued proliferators in the early days prior to legalization of abortion. And, the similarities are alarming—this case might well be the *Roe vs. Wade* of euthanasia. Dr. Gian Luigi Gigli, president of the World Federation of Catholic Medical Associations (FIAMC) warns that the "core of the problem is the attempt to decide about the right to life of a human being, not on the basis of her/his dignity but on an external evaluation of the quality of life. The importance of this case goes beyond this deplorable circumstance. It will open the floodgates to euthanasia in the United States, at all ages, **without even a legislative decision.**" [emphasis mine]

As this issue of LIFE TIME goes to press, the outcome remains unknown—the March 18th deadline (no pun intended) for removal of Terri's feeding tube has not yet arrived. Keep informed. Keep praying.



**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

Dubuque County Right To Life, Inc. does not endorse any legislation, candidate or political party. Our goal is to provide the public with information with which to make an informed decision.

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: <http://www.nussle.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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

**Legislation Passed in the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress**

- **Unborn Victims of Violence Act**, known as Laci and Connor’s Law, which recognizes the life of the unborn.
- The ban on **Partial Birth Abortion**, which prevents babies from being murdered when they’re less than an inch from taking their own first breath. UPDATE: the ban has not gone into effect because of the three separate lawsuits filed against it. On February 11th the Bush administration filed another brief defending the ban. It comes in an appeal of a Nebraska Judge Richard Kopf’s decision overturning the ban. Kopf says the ban is too vague and is unconstitutional because it does not contain an exception for to protect the health of the mother. Because the US Supreme Court has previously ruled that such bans must have a health exception, Congress reworked the ban to include findings with medical and legal evidence that it’s not necessary.

**Priorities in the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress**

- **CHILD INTERSTATE ABORTION NOTIFICATION ACT (CIANA) H.R. 748** was introduced on February 10th. The current Senate version is called the **Child Custody Protection Act**. Over 30 states have enacted parental consent or notification laws which are being circumvented by minors crossing state lines to obtain their abortion. This law will protect the welfare of the minor and the rights of her parents. The abortionist will be required to notify the parents unless the minor has authorization from a court in her home state or, if the minor asserts that she is a victim of abuse, the abortionist would be required to notify the appropriate state agency instead of the parent. It will be a federal offense to transport a child across state lines for an abortion unless parental notification laws in effect in the home state are fulfilled.

- **Right to Life Act of 2005/Life At Conception Act** - This bill would implement equal protection under the 14th amendment for all preborn human beings. It states that human person and human being include each member of the species homo sapiens at all stages of life, including but not limited to the moment of fertilization, cloning or other moment at which an individual member of the human species comes into being. This bill also addresses the Supreme Court's key admission in its 1973 *Roe v. Wade* ruling: "*We need not resolve the difficult question of when life begins...the judiciary at this point in the development of man's knowledge, is not in a position to speculate as to the answer.*" "*If this suggestion of personhood is established, the appellant's case (or Roe) collapses, for the fetus' right to life is then guaranteed by the 14th Amendment.*"
- The **Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act (S.51 and H.R. 356)**—Introduced on January 26th, this bill would require abortion providers to notify any woman seeking an abortion at least 20 weeks after fertilization of the growing medical evidence that the preborn child in her womb can feel "severe and extreme pain" during the abortion procedure. The intent of this bill seems to be to inform mothers and cause them and others to think about the person (the child) who would suffer pain during the abortion. However, there is some concern that it legitimizes abortion **if** the mother requests anesthesia.
- **Cord Blood Stem Cell Act** was introduced by Representatives Chris Smith (R-NJ) & Artur Davis (D-AL). The Bill will provide funding for cord blood bank collection centers and the promotion of their use. This is an ethical form of stem cell research. The **Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2005** sponsored by Arlen Specter (R-PA) & Tom Harkin (D-IA) would lift the current ban on the number of stem cell lines eligible for federally funded research. Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT), announced his intention to re-introduce the "Hatch-Feinstein bill" that would "allow vital research to proceed using the technique of somatic cell nuclear transfer . . ." The bill bans the uterine implantation of a cloned human being. It doesn't ban human cloning! On the contrary, it allows human cloning to take place and requires that the cloned embryo be killed prior to implantation. A **United Nations declaration** passed by the UN's legal committee on Friday, February 18, 2005, calls on member states "**to prohibit all forms of human cloning** inasmuch as they are incompatible with human dignity and the protection of human life." **Senator Sam Brownback (R-KS)** plans to re-introduce legislation in the Senate to ban human cloning very soon.
- Senator Jim De Mint & Rep Roscoe Bartlett re-introduced the **RU486 Suspension & Review act (Holly's Law) (H.R.1079 and S. 511)** in early March. The bill would pull the drug from the market while a Congressional agency reviews its safety. Last November the FDA put a new warning label on the drug because three women have died from its use.
- Representative Cliff Steams (R-FL) has introduced the **Informed choice Act (HR 216)**, which would allow use of grant money to place 4-D ultrasound equipment in pregnancy resource centers.
- **Parental Notification and Intervention Act**—which provides for parental notification and intervention when a child under 18 seeks an abortion.
- The **Incapacitated Person's Legal Protection Act (Terri's Law) (S.539, H.R.1151)**- will give Terri Schaivo & others in similar situations their own counsel to argue their case, a constitutional protection of due process (a right given to any criminal in the U.S.). The new measure would not apply to cases in which an advance medical directive is in effect. Tony Perkins, president of the Family Research Council commented that "we don't execute people without due process and we shouldn't execute the incapacitated by starvation. Beyond being cruel and unusual punishment, this is an opportunity for Congress to finally check the power of runaway courts." **ACT NOW:** If this bill hasn't come up for vote by the time you're reading this, call your Congressmen about it!

### **SEXUAL PREDATORS PROTECTED AT ABORTION MILLS!**

Sexual activity with underage girls is illegal in **all 50 states**. You may recall the LDI investigation which revealed the widespread cover up of statutory rape by abortion clinics throughout the United States.

Under **Kansas** law, any girl under 14 who is impregnated is a victim of statutory rape and the sexual predator can be charged with a felony crime. Public records indicate that girls as young as 10 obtained abortions in 2003. Kansas attorney general Phil Kline is conducting an investigation involving at least 90 girls who had abortions that year. He is seeking records from two abortion mills who are refusing to cooperate, citing 'privacy' laws. He recently published a press release explaining the nature of the investigation, drawing national attention to the case.

Mark Crutcher, president of Life Dynamics Inc. (LDI) says ten other attorneys general have requested data from that investigation since the media story broke.

In **Iowa**, two bills (HSB 253 & HF 287) have been introduced that do not address the problems with our **Parental Notification Law (Iowa Code 135)**. Currently, Iowa Right To Life is working with our legislators to amend them and create a law that will protect children. Code 135 gives parents a right to be notified before their child undergoes a surgical procedure but does not provide a way of knowing if the notification was given to the actual parent or grandparent. Anyone can say they are the parent and sign the notification. The law only applies to girls 11 and under. If the girl is 12, 13 or 14 the abortionist or judge is not required to report potential abuse. Iowa code includes the judicial waiver, meant to protect a child from an abusive parent, to be used to circumvent the parent. In addition, there are no protections and checks in place to assure that the girls are not going back to an abusive situation. Under current law, judicial records can be destroyed within a year. This makes it impossible to identify whether or not the state is doing its duty in reporting abuse or to even determine how many judicial waivers are being granted.

**ACTION:** Call your legislator to express your feelings about the law.

**WITHOUT GIVING A REASON, THE SUPREME COURT** announced on February 22 its refusal to consider an appeal from Norma McCorvey to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. Her lawsuit sought to demonstrate to the high court that underlying assumptions of their 1973 ruling have, by 32 years' hard experience, proved untrue. Allan Parker, president of the Justice Foundation and lead attorney in the case commented that it was "disturbing that the highest court in the land is not willing to consider the compelling and significant scientific and medical evidence and at least formally reevaluate its far-reaching decision." He also pointed out that the Court's decision was "not a reaffirmation of *Roe*." Parker did not say whether or not the Justice Foundation will take further action. In commenting on the decision, Dr. David Reardon, director of the Elliot Institute explained that McCorvey "retains the right to file a new motion with every change of facts in law." He pointed out that this "leaves the door open for future attempts to have the High court revisit the case."

**THE U.S. SUPREME COURT HAS AGREED TO REVIEW** the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals ruling which barred the Justice Department from enforcing the federal Controlled Substances Act within Oregon. A lower court ruling had barred the Justice Department from enforcing the federal Controlled Substances Act within Oregon because of their assisted suicide law. At the heart of the case is the argument by then-Atty. Gen. John Ashcroft last November that prescribing and/or administering drug overdoses to kill the patient is "not a legitimate medical purpose." The case is *Gonzales v. Oregon*, 04-623.

Commenting on the **Supreme Court's** decision against executing those who are 16 or 17 years old, a Wall Street Journal Online editorial (3-1-05) mused, "as Scalia pointed out in the dissent, that the court just decided this the other way around a few years ago; yet it is claimed that the abortion decision can't be reversed on the ground that it is now settled law. Indeed, Rehnquist and some others were known to think that the Miranda law doesn't make legal sense but they refused to overturn it when they had the chance and basically used the argument that it was settled law or had been in effect for some time—like the laws that allow execution of 16 and 17 years old, which have now been overthrown." And a response: "Even weaker is the *Roper* majority's selective reliance on scientific and sociological "evidence"—the kind that legislatures (and juries) are used to weighing. The American Psychological Association claims in this case that killers under the age of 18 are incapable of making appropriate moral judgments. But this is the same organization that has told the Court in the past that teen-age girls are mature enough to decide whether to have an abortion without parental input. Which is it?"

## GOOD NEWS!

1. Members of the Senate rejected (53-46) the Schumer Amendment to the **Bankruptcy Reform Bill**. As written, it would have singled out pro-life protestors, blocking them from using bankruptcy protection to shelter personal assets from fines or other judgments ordered in connection with their activism. [Under the FACE Act, abortion clinics can bring civil lawsuits against pro-life protestors for physically obstructing access to the clinic, even if the obstruction is completely non-violent (prayer, silently holding a sign, etc.) Many protestors have been heavily fined and have sought relief through the bankruptcy laws.]
2. In a ruling by Judge Jeffrey Lawrence II on Friday, February 4th, a frozen **embryo** destroyed in a Chicago fertility clinic was **deemed a human being** whose parents are entitled to file a wrongful death lawsuit. Judge Lawrence II said, “a pre-embryo is a ‘human being’. . . Whether or not it is implanted in its mother’s womb. Philosophers and theologians may debate but there is no doubt in the mind of the Illinois Legislature when life begins. It begins at conception.”
3. January 24th marked the completion of a **successful lawsuit against an abortion clinic** and a physician for performing an abortion on a 15-year-old without informing her of the psychological risks and the increased risk of breast cancer. It is the second successful abortion-cancer lawsuit prosecuted in the United States and the first to obtain a judgment. All Women’s Health Services, a clinic in Portland, Oregon, made an offer of judgment last year, allowing the plaintiff to win without a trial. The amount of judgment is confidential. Karen Malec, president of the Coalition on Abortion/Breast Cancer, applauded the decision. She remarked, “Women have been told lies about the research and have been cruelly exploited by two industries - the breast cancer fundraising industry and the abortion industry. Women will not receive justice until they file civil lawsuits.”
4. Doug Scott, president of Life Decisions International (LDI) reports that the **ongoing boycott** of corporations that fund Planned Parenthood has cost the industry approximately \$35 million over the past decade. LDI’s corporate Funding Project was implemented in 1992. To date, 111 corporations are known to have stopped funding the group. Scott expected the project to be much more difficult than it has been. He stated, “This is due to the fact that once corporate leaders are made aware of Planned Parenthood’s true agenda and activities and start receiving letters from concerned customers, most of them quickly decide that they want nothing to do with the group.”

The MARCH OF DIMES (MOD) walk is coming up again. We recently received the following email printed here with permission:

to whom it may concern,

i was surprised to find march of dimes on a pro-life page as a charity worthy of support. many of the tests the march of dimes offers are to detect babies with defects. for example for every 100 babies tested positive for down's syndrome, 1-4 are born. and for every one that is aborted, two more die from complications of the test that was administered. why perform tests for which there is no know way to help the unborn baby? the proof is the results. march of dimes claims to be abortion neutral. however they work with planned parenthood openly. planned parenthood is the number one abortion provider in our country. please research whether you think march of dimes is life friendly. They also fund embryonic stem cell research.

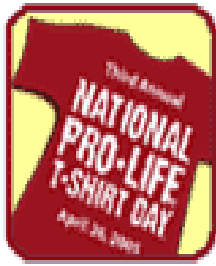
Sincerely

God bless!

tonya r

the goal of march of dimes is preventing birth defects. how are they prevented in the question to ask. it seems that the answer is by abortion.

**DCRTL RESPONSE:** For years we have been publishing the link between the MOD and the abortion industry in our LIFETIME newsletter. **BEFORE CONTRIBUTING TO ANY CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION—KNOW WHAT THEY ARE DOING WITH YOUR MONEY!!!!** We can help—call 563-556-5960 for more information.



**NATIONAL PRO-LIFE T-SHIRT DAY** is April 26th! There are some local schools participating; is yours? If not, do you want to do it on your own? It is your legal right to wear a shirt with a pro-life message UNLESS you are bound by a uniform or dress code (in that case, you will need to get permission from school or work place authorities). To participate, you may wear any pro-life shirt you own. If you don't own one, now is the time to buy! We have some shirts available on first come first serve basis and we can order from the American Life league this year's design for anyone who prefers to have the "official" shirt. Let us know (563-556-5960) by April 15 if you'd like one.

**Abortion mill visits:**

Now that the weather is getting nicer, its time for you to commit to praying at the mills! Remember that the best way to close these killing centers is to have a constant pro-life presence there. We can't do that without your help. The April dates for joining our group are the 16th and 19th. We will accommodate your needs to the best of our ability. One group is going to Iowa City to pray on the third Saturday (April 16th). If you can join us, please call the office (563-556-5960) to let us know. If you can go on the 19th, meet the group after 7:00 A.M. Mass @ Resurrection's parking lot on April 19th. Call Bill @ 563-582-4436 to let him know you are going.

**Memorials to DCRTL:**

**Thanks to all who have given a gift of life:**

**In memory of** the following: for **William J. Gerlach & for Dennis "Trick" Trickel** from Dan & Barb Nicholson; for **Mrs. Leibold** from Joe & Eleanore Gansen; for **Virgie Kass** from Terry & Dee Schilling; for **Cy Friedman** from Bill & Doris McDermott; for **David Woods** from Leo & Judy Woods; for **Marian McDermott, Robert Pierce, Marvin Willenborg, Charles Kramer, Duane Gibbs, Natalie Woodward, Virginia Kass, Linus Thole, John Nobisch, & Bertha McDermott** from Jeff & Theresa Chapman.

**In honor of** : **Stephen & Mary (Mulgrew) Bennis** from Paul & Betty 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 engraved on our memorial plaque which is displayed in our office.**

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. Upcoming programs feature Life Dynamics News Magazine —the latest in pro-life news from around the country! The last two weeks in March will feature our membership meeting with the March for Life bus trip participants telling about their experiences. Other local programs will follow, alternating with the Life Dynamics programs.

**STATISTICS DON'T LIE—BUT THEY CAN BE MANIPULATED.** News that abortions have increased under the Bush administration has caused concern to the pro-life movement. However, an analysis of the report done by Professor Glen Stassen and journalist Gary Krane reveals conflicting results regarding abortion rates. The Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation and the National Right to Life both revealed flawed data was used. National statistics only go through 2001, the first year of the Bush administration. According to the CDC, the numbers of abortions have been falling since 1990; 2001 was no exception. Stassen supports his claim that abortions increased under Bush by selecting data from only 16 states, as representatives of the entire nation. He claimed that 11 of those states reported increases but figures from those state health departments didn't match his. Also, two of the states with the largest increases in numbers of abortions cautioned that it is "unclear whether the increase . . . represents a better response rate of providers. . ."

## LIFE DINNER '05

This year our speaker for the Life Dinner will be Debi Vinnedge. Mrs. Vinnedge is the Executive Director of Children of God for Life, a non-profit, pro-life organization focused on the bioethical issues of human cloning, embryonic and fetal tissue research. She is considered the foremost authority on the use of aborted fetal cell lines in medical products and vaccines.

Mrs. Vinnedge is a nationally recognized author and speaker and has provided written testimony for the Embryonic Stem Cell Research (ESCR) Congressional hearings. She has appeared on both local and national television programs, radio broadcasts, and in numerous periodicals.

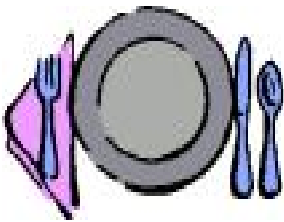
Mrs. Vinnedge's extensive knowledge allows her to take the complicated subject of Embryonic Stem Cell Research and make it understandable to the average person. You will walk away with an increased understanding of this issue and its moral implications.

Her presentation, **"Science's Strategy: Stem-Selling the Public"** is sure to inform and inspire us.

The Board of Directors of Dubuque County Right To Life, Inc. cordially invites you to our thirteenth annual L.I.F.E. Dinner featuring Debi Vinnedge—"Science's Strategy: Stem-Selling the Public." It will be held on Friday, April 8, 2005 in the Ballroom of the Grand River Center, 500 Bell Street.

5:30 Social Hour & Silent Auction  
7:15 Dinner

RSVP by April 1  
\$25 per person



PLEASE FILL IN AND CUT OUT  
THIS RESPONSE CARD AND  
MAIL TO US WITH YOUR  
CHECK TO:

DCRTL  
1205 Cleveland Avenue  
Dubuque, IA 52003  
If questions, call 563-556-5960.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, we can attend. Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ tickets.

\_\_\_\_\_ We cannot attend. Please accept \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as a donation.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to be seated with other guests, please list below. \*  
Tables of 10 are available.

---

---

---

---

---

---

Please make checks payable to DCRTL.  
Your tickets will be held at the door.

\*Sorry, reservations and seating requests cannot be guaranteed after April 1<sup>st</sup>.  
Please make your reservation now!

