

Coming Up! A Book Sale To Support Life – Not Destroy It!

Iowa Right to Life Book Sale
September 12-15 and 17-18

You won't believe the incredible selection of books on every subject, magazines, videos and music available! Proceeds go to assist expectant mothers and pro-life pregnancy centers in Iowa. It's scheduled at the same time as Planned Parenthood's fund raising book sale, to provide book lovers with an alternative. To donate books and other media for the sale, bring them to: Iowa Right to Life warehouse, 1500 Illinois St., Des Moines, IA 50314; phone (515) 244-1012. Monday – Friday, 8 AM – 3:30 PM; contact Rhonda Phillips at (515) 205-8024

Make Plans Now To Attend The NRLC Convention in Kansas City, June 14-16

National Right to Life's annual convention is close by in Kansas City, MO, June 14-16. Hear great speakers, get the facts on upcoming issues and network with Pro-Lifers from around the country! Special rates for seniors and students!

For more info, call NRLC: (202) 378-8842 or visit: www.nrlc.org

Support Iowa Right to Life

There is much to be done but, to accomplish it, we need your help. Iowa Right to Life's mission is to restore the value of human life and to protect the weak, the infirm, and the unborn from the moment of conception until the moment of natural death. We believe that every person is valuable. Your gift can go a long way to help our Pro-life efforts in the areas of Legislation, Education, Advertising and Events. Help support the important work that we do for life on behalf of the most vulnerable among us.

Donate Your Money!

Donate online or send check, payable to: Iowa Right to Life and send your gift to: IRLC, 1500 Illinois Street, Des Moines, IA 50314

Donate Your Time and Talents!

To Volunteer for Iowa Right to Life, contact us at (515) 244-1012 or email us at: committee@IRLC.org

Iowa Right to Life Committee

1500 Illinois Street
Des Moines, IA 50314
www.IRLC.org



"Thanks!"

Local Events Coming Up: Golf For Life Tournament to benefit the Pregnancy Care Center

Bos Landen Golf Club
Pella
Saturday, May 19
8 AM

Cost: \$75 per person
Free with \$200 in pledges

Registration deadline is May 4.

For more information contact:

Marilyn Van Mersbergen: 641-628-4827 or by
email: pccpella.org.

**Send us your info and photos on your local
pro-life events: committee@IRLC.org**



Iowa Right to Life Committee • May, 2007

U.S. Supreme Court Upholds Partial Birth Abortion Ban!

Pro-Lifers Command Respect At Capital



Rachel Coppinger, Nikki Huss, Emily Becker and Lindsay Beckman of St. Edmonds Catholic School in Fort Dodge show their support at the "Prayer for Life" in Des Moines. The teens are active in their "Respect Life Club" at school.

About 150 pro-lifers from around the state gathered inside the Capitol Building in Des Moines to show legislators they are a force to be reckoned with at the annual Prayer for Life in January.

As long as the people upstairs feel safe in their jobs, we aren't going to see any changes," said Bryan English, a District Representative for popular pro-life U.S. Rep. Steve King of the Fifth District. English also noted the turnout for the event is getting bigger every year.

Speakers for the rally, including Kim Lehman, President of Iowa Right to Life; Fr. Mike Peters; Sally Proctor from Iowans for Life; and Rep. Betty De Boef (R-76th District); called for the end to the violence of abortion, alternatives to Embryonic Stem Cell Research and a new respect for the human person.

For many, the event was a family affair. Jeane Bishop of Des Moines, who attended with her daughter Sydney and
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Partial Birth Abortion is finally banned in the United States, thanks to a recent ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court. President Bush's new appointments made the difference and for the first time in years the United States can be proud of a ruling.

Sadly, the new ban will not prevent abortion in the second and third trimester, as Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton allow abortionists to kill unborn children up to the ninth month. The ban is directed toward only one procedure.

Planned Parenthood, with other abortion proponents, will continue to fight for every form of abortion, no matter what stage of development or how gruesome. It is because of their militant extremism that it has taken this long to successfully stop this one procedure called partial birth abortion. (see more information on partial birth abortion <http://www.nrlc.org/>)

We applaud the last Congress and President Bush for passing and signing the ban, and we give thanks to our Creator who gave the Justices the wisdom to uphold a good law.

For more information: Kim Lehman, President, Iowa Right To Life Committee, Cell 515-202-2517; Kim@IRLC.org; www.IRLC.org

Pro-Life Pancakes Taste Great!



Johnson County Right to Life had a great turnout for its recent pancake breakfast fund-raiser.

Kim's Comments

President, Kim Lehman



Welcome to the new IRLC newsletter! Our goal is to promote sharing of info among pro-life groups in Iowa and highlight the people and ideas making a difference. Send us info, stories and photos on upcoming and past events!

It's the busy season at IRLC with many volunteers springing into action. Thanks to the tireless efforts of those who made our Spring Fling fund raiser a big success! And also the volunteers who have generously donated their time in the chilly warehouse, sorting books for the next Iowa Right to Life Book Sale, coming September 12-15 and 17-18. If you are doing some spring cleaning, donate your gently-used books, CDs, videos, DVDs, cassettes, records and more at the Iowa Right to Life office: 1500 Illinois St., Des Moines, Iowa, 50314, Mon-Fri 8:00-3:30.

The current legislative session has been rough with the passage of two anti-life bills: a repeal of Iowa's ban on public funding of Human Cloning/ Embryonic Stem Cell Research and a Planned Parenthood's anti-abstinence Sex Ed bill. The Human Cloning bill was passed by just two votes in the Iowa Senate.

Iowa Right to Life will be circulating a petition to repeal the Human Cloning act. I will be on the road speaking throughout the state in support of this and other initiatives. We also have a compelling advertising campaign coming soon.

A brand new Iowa Right to Life website will launch in June. It will be full of info, facts and statistics you can use in your grassroots efforts. We will also promote your local events around the state, and feature your photos!

Thank you for all your support for Life!

Kim's Calendar

IRLC's Kim Lehman is coming to a town near you!

May 5: Fairfield, Iowa: Fairfield Public Library

June 29: Keokuk, Iowa: Keokuk Public Library

Kim's visits generate excitement for pro-life efforts in your area. She will also do interviews with local newspapers and radio. Want Kim in your town? Contact the IRLC office: (515) 244-1012.

Pro-Lifers Descend Upon State Capitol

(continued from cover)



The Iowa winter could not keep a crowd of pro-lifers away from the Capitol rotunda for the annual Prayer for Life in January.



Brian English, District Rep for U.S. Rep. Steve King, chats with Chris Witschke, who works for Iowa Sen. David Hartsuch (R) at the "Prayer For Life."



Alyssa Harder, Abbie Stout and Brettley Ruggles of Iowa Christian Academy are proud to be pro-life!

sons Matthew and Luke said she had three older sons who were at the March for Life in Washington D.C. "We're a pro-life family," she said, "We support the cause!" Mary Kay Kluesner, also of Des Moines brought three of her daughters. "I homeschool and thought this would be a good homeschool experience," she said.

Attendees browsed informative booths from groups such as Lutherans for Life, Catholic Charities and Silent No More. Charlotte Hunkele's booth for Professional Educators of Iowa promoted an alternative for teachers who oppose the National Education Association's (NEA) pro-abortion agenda. "This was very uplifting today," said Hunkele, "It's nice to know you're not alone."

Muscatine Teens Organize Right To Life Affiliate

Andrew Rauenbuehler has always had an interest in politics. And in the summer of 2006, when the teenager from Muscatine was browsing through the Iowa Right to Life website, he came across the link to information on how to start a chapter.

A few weeks later, Muscatine Right to Life was born.

"The public has responded in a way that I didn't expect," said Rauenbuehler, who is President of Muscatine Right to Life. "I knew that there were a lot of people interested on this issue but there were more people than I had thought before."

The Muscatine High School sophomore has been getting other teens involved and they are using their tech savvy to organize and get their message across.

(Check out Muscatine Right to Life's blog at muscatinerighttolife.blogspot.com) The Muscatine Journal will be featuring a regular editorial by the group.

Rauenbuehler said his parents and his parish priest, Fr. Jasson Crossen, have been very supportive and the entire Muscatine community has responded to the new group eagerly and in big ways. "Everyone wants to help with the pro-life movement," he said.

The group, which meets once a month, featured a talk by IRLC's Kim Lehman in January. "Everyone really enjoyed it," said Rauenbuehler. "It was a good way to start off MRL's first full year."

For more information on Muscatine Right to Life, email Andrew Rauenbuehler at: muscatinerighttolife@hotmail.com



President Kim Lehman, second from left, visits with three of the teenagers involved in the new Muscatine Right to Life affiliate; left to right, Madeline Flanders, Andrew Rauenbuehler and Hannah Flanders.



Good News

Missouri Pulls Planned Parenthood Funding

Missouri Governor Matt Blunt pulled taxpayer funding of Planned Parenthood, according to an article in The Joplin Globe, March 20, 2007. Planned Parenthood of Southwest Missouri had been getting \$27,000 funding for the "Show Me Healthy Women Program" for breast-cancer and cervical-cancer screenings. The screenings will be transferred to Ozark Tri-County Health Care and Jordan Valley Community Health Center, so women with objections to Planned Parenthood, will not have to go to their offices for testing. "Patients should not have to go to an abortion clinic to access life-saving tests," Blunt said in a written statement to the Globe.

MLK, Jr.'s Niece Gives Pro-Life Talks

The niece of Martin Luther King, Jr. is speaking out against abortion. "Abortion is not a civil right. How can the dream survive if you're killing babies?" asked Alveda King, to a group of 100 in Springettsbury Township, Pennsylvania April 13, according to The York Daily Record. King, who had two abortions in the 70s, would have had a third, but her boyfriend and grandfather refused to pay \$250 for the abortion. "Today, that baby is 30 years old, and he's beautiful," said King.

King's speeches are causing discomfort for Planned Parenthood, as she talks about post-abortion syndrome and also Planned Parenthood's racist founder, Margaret Sanger and racist legacy. (More info at www.kingforamerica.org)

Abortions Decline in Wisconsin

Abortions in Wisconsin declined for the third straight year, with 9,580 reported abortions in 2006, down from 9,817 in 2005, according to the Associate Press, April 10, 2007. Of the 2005 abortions, 57 percent were performed on women between the age 20 and 29.

Sue Armacost, legislative director for Wisconsin Right to Life, told the AP the decline is due to an increase in pro-life young people as well as a 1996 state law that provides more info to women considering abortion and a 24-hour interval before the abortion is performed. Abortions in Wisconsin hit a high of 21,754 in 1980.



Bad News

Planned Parenthood Nets \$350,000 Grant in Iowa

Planned Parenthood of Greater Iowa received a \$350,000 grant from the Kresge Foundation, *The Des Moines Register* reported April 12, 2007. The grant is to create a new education resource and advocacy center in Des Moines.

Planned Parenthood chapters in Indiana, Kansas, Minnesota, New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Florida and California have been past recipients of the foundation's largess, to the tune of hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. The Foundation was started by the founder of Kresge stores, which later became Kmart. However, the independent foundation is not affiliated with the current Kmart stores.