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Permit No. 3030



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news

August / September 2008

www.iowaRTL.org

40 Days for Life Returns to Iowa

**September 24—
November 2, 2008**

DES MOINES – The wildly successful “40 Days for Life” prayer vigil outside of Planned Parenthood will begin again this fall. Iowa Right to Life Committee is signing up churches and other volunteer groups to supply people to pray outside Planned Parenthood locations over each 24-hour period.

40 Days for Life is a peaceful prayer vigil, it is not a protest. Participants unite in prayer for the mothers and the babies whose lives are being destroyed by the abortion industry, as well as for the employees of these abortion processing centers, that they may have a change of heart. 40 Days is part of a nationwide movement and groups in 46 states will be taking part at the same time.

For more information, visit:
www.40daysforlife.com/iowa or call IRLC at: 515-244-1012

Here Comes *The Big Book Sale*

DES MOINES – Who doesn't love a good book bargain? The deal is even sweeter when the proceeds go to a great cause—to help women at pregnancy centers around Iowa.

**IRLC Book Sale
September 9-13, 2008**

**KJJY/ 7 Flags Event Center
2100 NW 100th St.
Clive**

Hours:
**Sept. 9 (Premier Night):
4 PM-9 PM:**
\$5 Admission—Premier Night only (Age 17 & under are free)

**Sept. 10: 9 AM-9 PM
Sept. 11: 9 AM-9 PM
Sept. 12: 9 AM-9 PM
Sept. 13: 9 AM-9 PM**

A big thanks to all of the volunteers who have been donating and sorting books and all of the churches working on book drives,



Roger and Sandy Penn of Ankeny stop by the Iowa Right to Life office to donate some books for the IRLC Book Sale.

including:
Gloria Dei Lutheran
New Hope Assembly of God
Berean Assembly of God
First Church of Open Bible
First Federated
Glad Tidings
Ankeny Baptist Church
St. Pius X
Mt. Olive Lutheran
Martensdale Community
St. Francis/WDM

St. Mary of Nazareth
St. Theresa's
Sacred Heart
St. Augustin's
Basilica of St. John

More books and more volunteers are needed!
Contact Rhonda: Phillips: 515-205-8024 or email: Rhondie27@aol.com

DONATE to IRLC ONLINE! For your convenience, Iowa Right to Life has added a way to donate online through Paypal. It's fast, it's free and it's secure! **Visit: <http://irlc.org/about-us/>**

New Chapter: Raccoon Valley Right to Life



PANORA—Enthusiastic pro-lifers in Panora have a new place to go—**Raccoon Valley Right to Life**. The group is already 26 members strong and growing.

Raccoon Valley RTL has wasted no time hitting the streets — in Panora's 4th of July Parade and then in the Panorama Days Parade on August 2. They have been passing out Lifesavers candy, pro-life “Precious Feet,” pencils and bookmarks. The group is currently raising money to provide an ultrasound machine for a crisis pregnancy center.

For more information on **Raccoon Valley Right to Life**, contact: Mary Merritt: 641-755-2804 or email: merritt278@hotmail.com.



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Fun on parade with the all new Raccoon Valley Right to Life

See photos and story on Page 4

Iowa Right to Life Board Endorses John McCain



DES MOINES—The Iowa Right to Life Board of Directors voted to endorse John McCain for President at their quarterly meeting on Saturday, July 19.

IRLC refrained from endorsing any candidates earlier in the Presidential race, out of respect for the diverse pro-life candidates running for the Republican nomination.

But now, with the race narrowed down to Senator John McCain vs. Senator Barack Obama, IRLC is getting behind McCain, whose pro-life record includes the following:

- Voting against federal funding of abortion; supporting the Hyde Amendment
- Voting for the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act
- Voting for the Infants Born Alive Act, to protect infants born alive during an abortion
- Voting for a Parental Notification bill that would have required abortionists to notify a parent before performing an abortion on a minor girl from another state.

"We want to recognize all of the pro-lifers in Iowa who worked so

hard on the campaigns of the pro-life candidates in the presidential race," said Kim Lehman, President of Iowa Right to Life. "We are proud of you and hope you will never lose that fire."

"John McCain has a good pro-life record and he is committed to nominating judges who are strict constructionists, in the model of Chief Justice Roberts and Justice Samuel Alito," said Lehman. "We need pro-lifers to get to the polls in November and support McCain and all our local pro-life candidates."

For more information on political candidates endorsed by IRLC: <http://irlc.org/get-the-facts/political-elections/>

New IRLC Endorsements

DES MOINES—Iowa Right to Life has announced endorsements for the following state candidates:

Larry Disney
House Dist. 67
Pleasant Hill and much of East and Southeast Des Moines



Mark Brandenburg
Senate Dist. 50
Council Bluffs and Pottawattamie County



Doug Smith

House Dist. 95
Clarke, Decatur, part of Union County, including Osceola & Creston.

To see IRLC's endorsements, go to www.irlc.org/get-the-facts



FOCA: The Law to End All Pro-Life Laws

WASHINGTON D.C.—Barack Obama, speaking at the Planned Parenthood Action Fund conference in Washington D.C. on July 17, 2007,

made this pledge: "The first thing I'd do as president is sign the Freedom of Choice Act." (FOCA)

Voters need to know that the passage of FOCA would wipe out every state law designed to lower the number of abortions—including partial birth abortion bans, parental consent laws, ultrasound laws, women's informed-consent laws and Laci's Law (a pregnant woman and her child are two victims in a crime).

FOCA is legislation by pro-abortion extremists that would turn back the clock on all progress pro-lifers have made after the 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision.

Pro-Life News Briefs

Planned Parenthood to Open Dubuque Clinic

DUBUQUE—Planned Parenthood has announced they will open a clinic in Dubuque, Iowa, but they are not saying where or when, the *Dubuque Telegraph-Herald* reported July 30.

Local pro-life groups are planning to fight the new Planned Parenthood location. Earlier this year, Planned

Parenthood opened a location about 45 minutes outside of Dubuque in Monticello, Iowa.

South Dakota Closes Last Abortion Clinic

SIOUX FALLS, SD—A new state law is being championed for closing the last abortion processing center in South Dakota.

Planned Parenthood in Sioux

Falls locked its doors July 21, just days after a woman's informed consent law went into effect requiring abortionists to inform women about the humanity of the child they are carrying and possible adverse mental health effects of the abortion.

Because of this, Planned Parenthood may step up abortions at their Sioux City location, less than an hour and a half away from Sioux Falls.

The Drive for Choose Life License Plates



DES MOINES—Iowa Right to Life is joining forces with Iowans for Life, the Iowa Catholic Conference and others to make Choose-Life license plates available in Iowa. The funds from the

plates will go to support women at pregnancy centers around the state.

Russ Amerling, a national coordinator for the Choose Life plates, recently came to Iowa to meet with the groups to discuss a plan to collect 10,000 names of Iowans who are interested in the plates.

Choose Life, Inc., was started in Florida, in 1996 by Marion County

Commissioner Randy Harris. Florida's Choose Life license plate law was signed in 1999 by Governor Jeb Bush. Choose Life plates are now available in 18 states and are under consideration in 20 more states.

If you would like a Choose Life license plate or would like to distribute a petition for other interested drivers, call IRLC at: 515-244-1012 or visit us on the web: www.irlc.org

Pro-lifers are not "Single Issue" Voters

Don't let anyone dismiss you as a "Single Issue" voter because you are pro-life. Let people know about the many issues you care about:

Crime:

If someone kills a pregnant woman and her unborn child, the person should be charged with two murders and not one. Not so in Iowa, where "Laci's Law," which recognizes a woman and her unborn child as two victims, was vetoed by former Governor Tom Vilsack in 2004.

Disability Rights:

Downs Syndrome children are celebrated at the Special Olympics here in Iowa. But over 90 percent of Downs Syndrome children across the U.S. are aborted every year. If imperfection is justification for taking a life, then who is safe?

Education:

Governor Chet Culver turned down \$320,000 in federal funds for abstinence education in Iowa in March of 2008, yet he is backing Planned Parenthood's efforts to redefine Human Growth and Development (sex ed), so Iowa school children will be told life *does not* begin at conception and condoms will keep them safe from sexually transmitted diseases. With the passage of House Bill 611 earlier this year, anti-abstinence organiza-

tions will be the only sources of "researched-based information" that Iowa educators can use.



Health Care:

Women in Iowa are in real danger, because abortion clinics here are not regulated. In 2007, a woman in Lincoln, NE almost bled to death after Dr. Meryl Severson, Medical Director for Planned Parenthood of Council Bluffs and Nebraska, performed an abortion on her. Severson also performs abortions in Iowa.

Health Research:

Last year, Chet Culver signed into law legislation overturning Iowa's ban on human cloning. Scientists can grow human embryos to any stage of development for any reason—including the harvesting body parts. College students in need of money will be the most likely targets for the demand for

human egg donors.

Senior Citizens:

Many of our state's senior citizens are in danger of being deprived of food and water, when they are unable to speak for themselves. Our most vulnerable citizens need protection when they cannot speak for themselves.

Taxes/Less Government:

Should taxpayers in Iowa fund wealthy organizations like Planned Parenthood that perform abortions? They do already, to the tune of over \$5 million a year.

The current Democratically-controlled legislature gave Planned Parenthood of Greater Iowa a \$750,000 raise in 2008. Iowa taxpayers should not foot the bill for an already fat abortion industry.

Women's Rights:

The Women's Right to Know bill, that would have given pregnant women considering abortion optional information on fetal development and pro-life pregnancy resources available, was vetoed three times by former Governor Tom Vilsack. A tougher informed-consent law in South Dakota just shut down the state's last abortion clinic.

Life is NOT a Single Issue. Support candidates who support life!