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IRTL NEWS

Happy New Year from the board and staff of IRTL!



January 2011

Prayer for Life to Feature Woman Planned Parenthood Doesn't Want You to Hear

DES MOINES—This year's Prayer for Life, on February 8, 2011, will feature Abby Johnson, the former Planned Parenthood director who made national news when she left Planned Parenthood after assisting with an abortion.

February 8, 2011

Morning Session

DM Diocese Catholic Center
601 Grand Avenue
9:30 AM-12:30 PM

Prayer for Life

State Capitol Rotunda
1007 East Grand Avenue
3:00 PM



Abby Johnson, former Planned Parenthood clinic director turned pro-life advocate.

There are two events planned. At the Morning Session at the Des Moines Diocese Catholic Center, Johnson will talk about her conversion and answer questions. At 3:00 PM, she will speak at the Prayer for Life in the State Capitol Rotunda.

Johnson, who had worked for Planned Parenthood in Bryan,

Texas for eight years as a volunteer and then a paid director of the clinic, was forever changed in September of 2009 when she was asked to assist with an

Prayer for...continued on Page 8

Dahl's Removed from PP Boycott List

DES MOINES—IRTL has removed Dahl's grocery stores from the Boycott List of Planned Parenthood supporters. Dahl's was initially placed on the list because they were listed in Planned Parenthood's annual report as having donated "goods and services."

After pressure from pro-lifers who contacted Dahl's, a spokesperson from Dahl's contacted IRTL and assured us that the company does not donate to Planned Parenthood, nor are they in any way affiliated with Planned Parenthood.

The company plans to further investigate the matter.

The Year of the House Party

DES MOINES—Iowa Right to Life wants you to party. The organization is encouraging Iowans to have pro-life house parties to educate and fire up the grassroots in Iowa.

"2011 is going to be the year of the house party," said



Jenifer Bowen, Executive Director of IRTL. "We want people to gather, enjoy food and beverages and invite friends who may or may not agree on pro-life issues."

The house parties can take many forms. Participants can gather to watch and discuss a pro-life movie, have a book discussion, or talk about pro-life issues and ways to get involved. Have a brunch, a barbecue, a cookie exchange, a cocktail party, coffee and dessert or another food theme.

House Party...continued on Page 8

Welcome to Iowa, LeRoy Carhart

DES MOINES—The arrival of late term abortionist LeRoy Carhart on Iowa soil might be one of the best things to happen to our state.

"The loopholes in our laws have made Iowa a very attractive state for Carhart," said IRTL Executive Director, Jenifer Bowen. "His arrival will be the catalyst for much needed



updates to Iowa's abortion laws."

Carhart, who operates a clinic in Bellevue, Nebraska, has been looking for new locations after Nebraska passed a new law banning abortions after 20 weeks. The Nebraska law is based on the fact that a baby in the womb can feel pain at 20 weeks. (Experts argue that the baby in utero will feel pain at 13-1/2 weeks.)

Carhart...continued on Page 2

Can New Iowa Legislature Keep Carhart Out?

DES MOINES—While many pro-lifers slid into easy victories in this past election, there were a few that won big over embedded abortion activists. Here are examples from the State Senate and the State House:



Kent Sorenson

In a contentious battle, Kent Sorenson knocked out Democratic State Senator Staci Appel, a notorious abortion activist for the seat in Senate District 37. Appel not only consistently voted pro-abortion, she was also on Planned Parenthood's donor list.

Sorenson, of Indianola, is married with six children. He was elected state representative in 2008, before running for State Senate.



Kim Pearson

Democratic State Rep. Geri Huser had served in the Iowa House for District 42 for 14 years before she was replaced by Kim Pearson, a pro-life mom, with a law degree from the University of Iowa. Pearson, her husband and two daughters live on an acreage out near South East Polk.

Pearson replaced Geri Huser, who just in the last few years, voted to legalize Human Cloning in Iowa and also for a radical sex education bill pushed by Planned Parenthood (HF 611.)

Carhart...continued from Page 1

Steps are being taken to try and block Carhart from opening a clinic in Iowa. The Council Bluffs City Council voted unanimously in November to restrict a city-owned property from being used for an abortion clinic. That, however, would not prevent a private property owner from selling to Carhart.

Rep. Matt Windschitl (R-Missouri Valley) has set his sights on Carhart. Windschitl will be pushing for a law similar to Nebraska's law limiting abortions to 20 weeks. Such a law might move Carhart on to the next state.

"Many people don't believe that it is legal in Iowa to abort a child throughout all nine months of a pregnancy," said Bowen. "The new legislation will be a tremendous opportunity to reveal the shocking truth that babies who can survive outside the womb are being killed in Iowa."



Planned Parenthood's standards are lower than LeRoy Carhart's

Planned Parenthood's silence in the media on Carhart seemed curious. Then we looked at the numbers.

DES MOINES—Did you know that Planned Parenthood in Iowa charges more for a medication abortion (also known as RU-486 or the abortion pill) than late-term abortionist LeRoy Carhart?

We thought it was curious that Planned Parenthood of the Heartland refused to comment in each story the *Des Moines Register* wrote on Carhart coming to Iowa. Planned Parenthood LOVES to talk to the *Des Moines Register*. Some columnists' and writers' pieces for the *Des Moines Register* read like an expensive, glossy Planned Parenthood brochure. So why the tight lips?

Then we started looking at the numbers. Planned Parenthood's standards are *lower than Carhart's*.

Both Planned Parenthood and Carhart ignore FDA protocol for medication abortions. The Food and Drug Administration's Protocol for RU-486 advises not using the drug cocktail on women beyond 49 days (7 weeks) into the pregnancy.

Planned Parenthood uses RU-486 on women up to 63 days (or 9 weeks) into a woman's pregnancy and Carhart advertises on his website medication abortions for up to "8 weeks and 6 days."

Carhart charges a maximum of \$515 for a medication abortion (\$500 with the cash discount). Planned Parenthood of the Heartland charges up to \$650 for a medication abortion. (That's a lot of coin for that extra day of pregnancy. Maybe it pays for the webcam.)

The other reason Planned Parenthood is tight-lipped on Carhart is that although they approve of third-trimester abortions, they don't want the public to associate them with third trimester abortions.

FLASHBACK: *Gonzalez v. Carhart* "Today is a dark day for women's health and safety."

—Planned Parenthood of Greater Iowa CEO Jill June reacting to the Supreme Court's *Gonzales v. Carhart* decision April 18, 2007, upholding the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban. Planned Parenthood lost its battle to keep legal the grisly procedure that even the American Medical Association said was not medically necessary.

For more background, the *September* issue of the **IRTL News** had an in-depth look at medication abortions and webcam abortions. **Find it and other back issues of the IRTL News on our website at: www.iowaRTL.org**

Third Trimester Abortions: *Legal in Iowa*

How Big is the Baby Carhart Will Abort?

This picture is of a five-month old baby in the womb. Carhart will abort babies in the womb that are this size and older.

By this time the baby has fingernails and toenails, facial expressions, and an adult's taste buds.



Five Months

For more on fetal development, visit: www.iowaRTL.org/help-i-m-pregnant/fetal-development/

About the Benjamins



If you think providing third trimester abortions are about helping women out of a difficult situation, think again. This is about a tremendous amount of money. Abortion businesses like Carhart and Planned Parenthood literally make a killing.

According to LeRoy Carhart's website at www.abortionclinics.org, he charges \$3,090 to abort a baby that is developed to 24 weeks and six days in the womb. And that's not even the highest rate. For later abortions, "fees will be quoted by arrangement," according to Carhart's website.

There are discounts available. An abortion at four weeks costs \$450 if you pay cash and only use a local anesthesia. If you are four months into your pregnancy, you will pay

For more information, visit: www.iowaRTL.org/get-the-facts

How Can Carhart Abort Viable Babies in Iowa? *It's Legal*

Iowa's ban on third trimester abortions is not a ban

Iowa has a "Ban on Third Trimester Abortions" on the books, under "Feticide." But if you read the language, it's not a ban at all, because it allows physicians to do an abortion at any time to preserve the pregnant woman's "health." This is not the same thing as the woman's life being in danger. The definition of "health" is at the doctor's discretion, so anything could be used to justify aborting a baby that is developed enough to be living outside the womb.

By Iowa law, an abortion can be performed at any time in a woman's pregnancy. The doctor does not even have to be an M.D. A D.O. (an osteopath) can perform a third trimester abortion in Iowa.



Iowa Law:

707.7 FETICIDE (emphasis added)

1. Any person who intentionally terminates a human pregnancy with the knowledge and voluntary consent of the pregnant person, after the end of the second trimester of the pregnancy where death of the fetus results commits feticide. Feticide is a class "C" felony.
2. Any person who attempts to intentionally terminate a human pregnancy, with the knowledge and voluntary consent of the pregnant person, after the end of the second trimester of the pregnancy where death of the fetus does not result commits attempted feticide. Attempted feticide is a class "D" felony.
3. Any person who terminates a human pregnancy, with the knowledge and voluntary consent of the pregnant person, who is not a person licensed to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery under the provisions of chapter 148, commits a class "C" felony.
4. **This section shall not apply to the termination of a human pregnancy performed by a physician licensed in this state to practice medicine or surgery or osteopathic medicine or surgery when in the *best clinical judgment of the physician* the termination is performed to preserve the life or health of the pregnant person or of the fetus and every reasonable medical effort not inconsistent with preserving the life of the pregnant person is made to preserve the life of a viable fetus.**

Pro-Life Movement Loses Outspoken Icon

Dr. Mildred Jefferson, 1926—2010

“I am at once a physician, a citizen and a woman and I am not willing to stand aside and allow this concept of expendable lives to turn this great land of ours into just another exclusive reservation where only the perfect, the privileged and the planned have a right to live.”

—Dr. Mildred Jefferson, from *The American Feminist*, 2003.

Iowa Right to Life and the pro-life movement have lost a good friend in Dr. Mildred Jefferson, who passed away October 15 at her home in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Dr. Jefferson was not just a hero in the pro-life movement, she was a woman who shattered ceilings for both women and African-Americans. She was the first African-American woman to graduate from Harvard Medical School. And was the first female doctor at Boston University Medical Center, where she was a surgeon. Dr. Jefferson was also a professor of surgery at Boston University’s medical school. She was one of the founding members of National Right to Life and served as NRLC’s president from 1975 to 1978.

Dr. Jefferson remained active in the pro-life movement and members of Iowa Right to Life would see her smiling face at NRLC’s annual convention, where she would assist with the Oratory Contest for high school students.

She was known for her eloquent oratory skills and as you can see from the quote above from *The American Feminist* magazine, she was a person who pulled no punches. *The New York Times* also quoted Jefferson as testifying before Congress in 1981 that the Roe vs. Wade decision legalizing abortion, “gave my profession an almost unlimited license to kill.”

From humble roots, Dr. Jefferson was born in 1927 in Pittsburg, Texas. Her father was a Methodist minister and her mother a school teacher. She was educated in public schools in Texas, then went on to graduate summa cum laude from Texas College in Tyler with a B.A. She earned a M.S. from Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts, before going on to Harvard Medical School.

In addition to her surgical credentials, Dr. Jefferson has an impressive resume within the pro-life movement, having served as director of Massachusetts Citizens for Life, past president and founding member of Value of Life Committee of Massachusetts and also active in Black Americans for Life. She was 84.



Dr. Mildred Jefferson at the 2008 National Right to Life Convention in Washington D.C.

Changing of the Guard at IRTL

In January, long-time IRTL President **Kim Lehman** announced she would be leaving to take a new position with another solid pro-life organization, the John Paul II Stem Cell Research Institute in Iowa City.



Jenifer Bowen, the new Executive Director of IRTL was introduced at IRTL’s Spring Fling fundraising dinner in May. Bowen transitioned easily into the job after having worked with Kim as an office administrator and also a volunteer for IRTL. When Jenifer is not on the road meeting with Iowans all over the state, you can find her on IRTL’s *Facebook* page, which she regularly freshens with new information.

What a Year We've Had! A Look Back at 2010

It's been a very busy year at Iowa Right to Life! Here are some highlights of the activities your donations to IRTL supported.

Battle Against Webcam Abortions



Iowa Right to Life was the first back in 2008 to expose Planned Parenthood's plan to use Iowa as a launching pad for webcam abortions across the nation. When Operation Rescue made a complaint before the Iowa Board of Medicine, IRTL worked with them and a coalition of pro-life organizations in state and from around the country. In a short time, IRTL has gathered over 7,200 signatures against webcam abortions in Iowa.

Town Hall



IRTL held a Town Hall meeting at the Downtown Church in Des Moines on October 22 to discuss webcam abortions. Participants included President of Operation Rescue **Troy Newman** (pictured), Americans United for Life Vice President of Government Affairs, Dan McConchie, Attorney General Candidate Brenna Findley, Senator David Johnson, among others.

Look for more Town Halls in 2011.

Growing Book Sales



IRTL's Fall 2010 Book Sale in September brought in \$41,000! The total for both the Spring and Falls sales totaled \$83,000! Not bad for our seventh and eighth sales. Proceeds went to pro-life pregnancy centers around the state.

Populate Iowa



IRTL continued its positive, slightly cheeky campaign to show that children are a good thing and to encourage Iowans to have more of them. During RAGBRAI in July, riders couldn't get enough of IRTL's free pro-life *Populate Iowa* t-shirts, Koozies and water.

Protest of PP President Cecile Richards



IRTL was proud to take part in the high-profile protest against Planned

Parenthood CEO Cecile Richards in Cedar Rapids, Iowa in May, which included Joe Scheidler (pictured), a long-time hero of the pro-life movement, who is based in Chicago.

Facilitator Training for Post Abortion Bible Studies

IRTL welcomed back Melissa and Mark Ring from SaveOne to do the training at the Walnut Creek Community Church in June. Several Post Abortion Bible Studies have been started in Iowa.



Exposing Businesses That Fund Planned Parenthood in Iowa

IRTL researched Planned Parenthood donors and the businesses they owned, then published the list.

Your letters, emails and phone calls to those businesses are making a difference. IRTL was able to drop 15 businesses from the list, whose owners have not given to PP in the last two years. Dahl's also contacted us and said that Planned Parenthood should not have listed them, as they do not support Planned Parenthood as a business.

Spring Fling with Jan



IRTL's Spring Fundraising dinner in May was a huge hit with keynote speaker, Jan Mickelson, from WHO-

Look Back...Continued on Page 8

Life Calendar: Jump Into the New Year!

There is so much to be done and so many ways to share your enthusiasm and passion for life! Here are a few:

March for Life Monday, January 24, 2011 Washington, D.C.



Get to Washington for this annual event where pro-lifers network and make new friends, lobby and share ideas. The March for Life is an energizing experience because of the unprecedented numbers of young people who participate. The majority of the attendees were born after Roe vs. Wade. It is also a great opportunity to hear all kinds of pro-life heroes, who fire up the crowd before the March begins.

If you haven't been, you need to go. For more information, visit: www.MarchforLife.org

Prayer for Life February 8, 2011 Featuring Special Guest Speaker Abby Johnson

Morning Session
Diocese of
Des Moines
601 Grand Avenue
9:30 AM-12:30 PM

Prayer for Life
State Capitol
Rotunda
1007 East Grand Avenue
3:00 PM



Join us for two events featuring Abby Johnson, the former Planned

Parenthood clinic director who made national news when she left to join the pro-life movement. (See story on Page 1.)

Lunch will be served after the Morning Session at the Diocese of Des Moines. A \$10 donation is requested to cover the cost.

The Prayer for Life is sponsored by a coalition of groups, which includes Iowa Right to Life, Catholic Charities, Council of Catholic Women, Iowa Catholic Conference, Iowa Family Policy Center, Iowans for Life and the Knights of Columbus.

Help us promote the Prayer for Life by downloading the event flyer at www.iowaRTL.org

IRTL Spring Book Sale March 8-12, 2011

7 Flags Event Center
2100 NW 100th Street, Clive



Thousands of used books, DVDs, CDs, Craft/Cooking magazines, games, puzzles and much more. All at recession-friendly prices. IRTL's book sales were started to give book lovers an alternative to those other big book sales that support the abortion industry. Proceeds support pro-life pregnancy centers, maternity shelters and adoption agencies around the state.

For details on how to donate to the IRTL Book Sales:
<http://iowartl.org/events/book-sale/>

To volunteer for the IRTL Book Sale, contact Rhonda Phillips at 515.205.8024 or by email at rhonda@iowaRTL.org



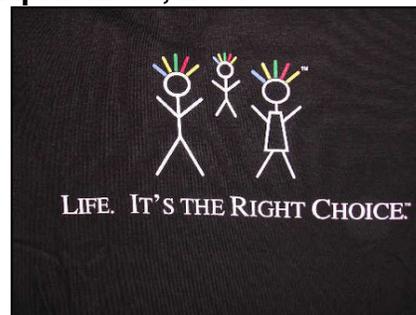
40 Days for Life March 9-April 17, 2011 Locations throughout Iowa

There have been 788 babies saved world-wide with this nascent and growing movement—and those are just the ones we know about. Come together with other pro-lifers across Iowa to pray outside of Planned Parenthood in this non-confrontational approach to ending abortion.

Others who cannot be there, can make a commitment to pray for the end of abortion, through prayer and fasting during that time.

For more information, visit: www.40daysforlife.com/iowa

National Pro-Life T-Shirt Week April 12-18, 2011



High school and college students show their commitment to life by wearing pro-life t-shirts to school. If you don't have one, IRTL will have some available for sale at the March Book Sale and year-round in our office location at 1500 Illinois Street in Des Moines.

Make a 2011 New Year's Pledge to Get Involved

Volunteer Book Sorter



We can't do it alone! Putting on two book sales a year takes a lot of volunteers. As a volunteer, you can help sort, price and box the donated books that come in to our warehouse.

Book Sale Volunteers



The Spring Book Sale is March 8-12, 2011. Volunteers are needed to staff the sale, as well as help unpack and organize the books. Volunteer for a whole day or just put in an hour or so.

Host a Book Drive

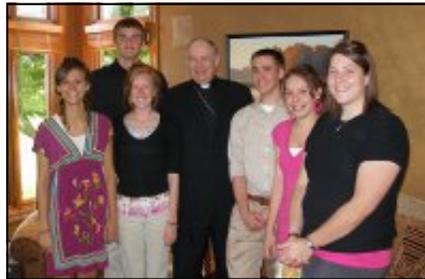
Organize a book drive through your church, organization or neighborhood. Collect gently used books, DVDs, CDs, games, puzzles and more for the Iowa Right to Life Book Sales.

To donate books or volunteer, contact Rhonda Phillips at 515.205.8024 or by e-mail at rhonda@iowaRTL.org



Become our fan!
Link up with Iowa Right to Life on Facebook.

Host a House Party



Invite friends over to watch a pro-life film, have a book discussion or meet and discuss the issues with a pro-life speaker. It's a great way to build the grassroots' support for life. (See House Party story on Page 1)

Perform Service Hours with Iowa Right to Life!

If you have service hours to complete for school or a Confirmation program, consider volunteering with Iowa Right to Life! Or do it because it's the right thing to do!



For more information, contact us at iowa@iowaRTL.org or call 515.244.1012. Visit us at <http://irlc.org/get-involved/>

Set up Baby Crosses



To provide a visual impact of the shocking numbers of human lives lost to abortion, Iowa Right to Life supplies a display of hundreds of small crosses, to be placed in a yard or field along with a large sign that says, "Abortion Stops A Beating Heart."

Peaceful Protest



There are those in the abortion industry who wish we would just stay home. But sometimes, just by being there, pro-lifers have changed women's hearts and saved babies. We know, because women have told us their stories.

IRTL has signs, brochures and other materials available if you are organizing a protest.

For more on resources, call IRTL at 515.244.1012 or email us at iowa@iowaRTL.org

Donating to Iowa Right to Life through United Way

If you work for a company that has a United Way campaign you can donate to Iowa Right to Life through the United Way.

When you fill out your United Way pledge form, simply write in **Iowa Right to Life**.

This is not an endorsement of the United Way, which also takes donations for organizations IRTL does not agree with. Donations to United Way's General Fund do not go to Iowa Right to Life.

For other ways to donate to Iowa Right to Life, visit: <http://irlc.org/about-us/donate> or call IRTL at 515.244.1012.

IOWA RIGHT TO LIFE
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Phone: 515.244.1012 or 877.595.9406
www.iowaRTL.org



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

Notes and News from IRTL

Children's Movies Are Target of Condom Campaign

DES MOINES—The Iowa Initiative's "Avoid the Stork" campaign has been running before the new Disney cartoon, *Tangled*, which is the story of Rapunzel. The commercial appeared at the Carmike Cobblestone 9 Theater in Des Moines.



As IRTL has reported before, the Iowa Initiative's Stork campaign is parroting a failed federally funded campaign

called "Stop the Stork." The Iowa Initiative is funded by billionaire investor Warren Buffet and led by Christie Vilsack.

Planned Parenthood Adds Abortions at Two Locations

URBANDALE—Planned Parenthood's locations in Urbandale and Newton, Iowa, have changed to sites that offer "abortion services" according to the website for Planned Parenthood of the Heartland.

It is not known whether these are additional webcam abortion sites.

More at www.iowaRTL.org

Look Back...from Page 5

Radio, 1040 AM. Mickelson fired-up the sold-out crowd. "Overturning Roe just means we come home to fight," said Mickelson, adding, "I'm up for that, by the way."

Supporting Pro-Life Efforts on Campus

IRTL is at work with pro-life groups at Iowa State, Drake University and Des Moines University and a new group at the University of Northern Iowa.

Prayer for Life

IRTL welcomed Father Tad Pacholczyk who talked on Stem Cell Research at last February's Prayer for Life.



Stories continued from Page 1...

House Party...from Page 1

Bowen said she will be happy to take part in any discussions and answer any questions about the issues. The parties are also a great opportunity to invite your local representative and introduce him or her to friends and neighbors. IRTL can make additional recommendations for pro-life speakers.

For those looking for pro-life movies and books to discuss, look no further than www.iowaRTL.org, where there is a wide selection of pro-life DVDs and books to choose from.

The House Parties can also be used as a way to raise funds for IRTL or collect book donations for the Pro-Life Book Sales.

"The most important thing is that we get together and discuss the issues," said Bowen. "The parties will be a great way to reconnect with friends and educate the public too."

Find books, DVDs and other resources at www.iowaRTL.org

Prayer for...from Page 1

abortion by holding the ultrasound probe on the abdomen of a woman. On the screen, she saw the image of the 13 week baby in the womb fighting for their life.

Johnson told ABC News that she later looked out the window and saw two women praying and said, "That's where I need to go."

As Johnson began sharing her story, Planned Parenthood panicked. On November 6, 2009, Planned Parenthood tried to silence Johnson by filing a temporary injunction against her, but District Court Judge J.D. Langley in Bryan, ruled in Johnson's favor.

Since then, Johnson has been a sought-after speaker, warning others about the abortion industry and Planned Parenthood's true mission.

"I soon found that one of their goals was to make money," Johnson told Mike Huckabee in an appearance on his Fox News talk show.



Abby Johnson with 40 Days for Life Co-Founder Shawn Carney.

"And the way they make money is to increase the number of abortions that they do."

Johnson hopes for healing of others in the abortion industry. On her website she reaches out to other Planned Parenthood employees and urges them to leave as she did. "You have to trust in yourself and know that you are better than the work you are doing now," writes Johnson.

For more on Abby Johnson, visit: www.abbyjohnson.org