

Right to Life Rolls Across the County



The message of the Right to Life float this year was “Children are Our Greatest Natural Resource.” The float, featuring a natural scene with waving children on board, rolled through parades at Jackson Center, Versailles, Botkins, Anna, and Fort Loramie.

The float won awards at Jackson Center and Botkins,

Our hope is that the float sends a positive pro-life message to the broader community and stimulates among those who see it further engagement and involvement with life issues and with RTL.

We are grateful especially to Teresa and Dave Chaney for organizing this year’s float project, and we thank all of those who assisted in building, decorating, pulling, and riding.

We are also thankful for the Women’s Center, Sidney, for allowing us to store the float in their building.

Fine Weather for Golf Outing

Twenty-one teams joined in the eighth annual Scramble-4-Life on May 12. We are grateful to the many people who strive to make this event happen. Be sure to mark your calendars for next year’s event: May 11, 2019. And please support the following generous sponsors.

Eagle: Flinn Veterinary Clinic, Sidney; Upper Cervical Health Centers, Botkins; The Hoge Family: In Memory of Megan

Birdie: Bayliff & Eley Funeral Home; McCrate, DeLaet & Co; Meyer’s Tavern; Sidney Electric; Roger & Susan Doseck; Brian & Kathy Monnin

Par: Area Energy & Electric; Bergman Drywall; Julia Monnin: Author & Speaker; Lecal Equipment; Osgood State Bank; Wells Brothers, Inc.; Gary & Anita Bornhorst; The Fullenkamps: In Memory of Dale; Steve & Rita Monnin

Hole: Dietz Painting; Custom Foam Products; From the Ground Up Ag Service; IC Church Ladies Sodality; Prueter’s Body Shop; St. Marys Chiropractic; Silver Cross; Tony & Jill Arnold; The Ray Limbert Family: In Memory of Elizabeth & Jacob; In Memory of Cara Meyer

Thrift Shop Report

April

186 Customers
10 Work-to-earn shifts
6 Free units

May

218 Customers
22 Work-to-earn shifts
13 Free units

We continue to donate boxes of excess to Goodwill and Dayton Right to Life. Thank you for your generosity.

Mexico City Policy Blocks Abortion Promotion

For decades, the global abortion lobby has worked hard to embed abortion advocacy within a wide array of projects and agendas, from maternal health to global peace and security to humanitarian relief. During that time, one policy has worked to mute the spread of abortion, Mexico City Policy.

Recently the Center for Health and Gender Equity (CHANGE) released a report detailing what they charge are the harms of the Mexico City Policy, enacted by Republican administrations since President Ronald Reagan. The policy blocks U.S. funding for foreign organizations that advocate for or provide abortions. Under President Donald Trump, the policy was expanded from family planning to all global health funding and rebranded as Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance (PLGHA). CHANGE refers to the policy as the “global gag rule” and acknowledges that most of those interviewed for the report would never refer to it by its official name, “finding the mere mention of it objectionable.”

The report launch featured several African speakers, including a representative of a Mozambique-based International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) affiliate that refused to comply with the new guidelines, costing them \$2 million, or 60% of their budget. Helene Chiquele, a gender program officer for Oxfam in Mozambique, spoke about how the country had relaxed its abortion restrictions in 2014, but the issue remains highly contentious among Mozambican people. According to Chiquele, the expanded Mexico City Policy has negatively impacted abortion advocacy. She says some in her country are asking, “Why are we considering losing [U.S. health assistance] money for the sake of abortion?”

All the speakers agreed that the loss of U.S. funding to abortion advocacy groups was having an impact on local politics, echoing previous admissions by the policy’s detractors that it is, in fact, effective.

While the expansion of Mexico City Policy under Trump may have caught them off guard, abortion advocates were not surprised by the reinstatement of the policy, nor the speed with which it was done.

Nevertheless, as representatives of CHANGE pointed out, a key strategy under President Barack Obama was to integrate abortion into other global health programs. Since abortion has infiltrated these others areas, such as the provision of clean water and HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention, expanded Mexico City provides a powerful incentive to keep abortion out. What’s more, it clearly identifies those whose commitment to abortion exceeds their dedication to other more pressing issues.

The report mentions in passing the European-led “She Decides” campaign, but acknowledges that it has not been able to replace the lost U.S. funding to abortion-promoting groups.

The IPPF and Marie Stopes International are the two largest groups among the four who have reportedly refused to comply with expanded Mexico City Policy and lost U.S. foreign aid funding. As IPPF has positioned itself as a leading global provider of LGBT-centric services, its affiliates are quick to point out that the loss of U.S. funding due to their abortion advocacy is harming marginalized communities, including people who identify as LGBT.

According to one of CHANGE’s interviewees, “In many countries, it is the reproductive health community that is often one of the biggest allies of LGBT issues.”

The IPPF affiliate in Mozambique reportedly closed 20 clinics offering LGBT services, indicating the degree to which PLGHA is uniquely effective at impacting both abortion and the broader “sexual rights” agenda.

By Rebecca Oas, C-Fam.org, June 8, 2018.



For the nomination and approval of a Supreme Court justice who will recognize the right to life, and for the overturning of Roe v. Wade and a return to legal protection for the unborn.

Kennedy Retirement Raises Possibility of Roe Reversal

Leading pro-abortion Justice Anthony Kennedy announced today that he is retiring from the nation's highest court after spending over 30 years on it. Kennedy sometimes sided with pro-life advocates on upholding key pro-life limits on abortion but he continually upheld Roe v. Wade and its allowance for virtually unlimited abortions throughout pregnancy.

His retirement will set into motion a massive battle to replace him with a justice who would uphold the rule of law and potentially pave the way for reversing the most horrific Supreme Court decision in history. The retirement will be effective July 31, according to a statement. That will set the wheels in motion for President Donald Trump to name his replacement.

Since 1973, pro-life people have been yearning for the day that a majority pro-life Supreme Court would overturn Roe v Wade. Although the high court has been closely divided over the years it has always stayed at least one vote on the pro-abortion side. Justice Anthony Kennedy is one of those votes in favor of keeping Roe vs Wade in place and its allowance for virtually unlimited abortions nationwide.

Although Kennedy was expected to be like the other Republican-appointed members of the Supreme Court, he has wandered away from the pro-life position on abortion and confirmed Roe vs. Wade. Generally, he has sided with the pro-abortion justices on abortion cases, as he did last summer when the court struck down a Texas abortion clinic regulations law. However, he has sided with pro-life justices on a few occasions, including his decision to uphold the partial-birth abortion ban in 2007.

Trump promised to nominate "pro-life" justices to the high court, and Kennedy's retirement could mean a pro-life justice would fill his spot and swing the court toward life-affirming decisions.

"Justice Kennedy's retirement from the Supreme Court marks a pivotal moment for the fight to ensure every unborn child is welcomed and protected under the law," said Susan B. Anthony List (SBA List) president Marjorie Dannenfelser. "The most important commitment that President Trump has made to the pro-life movement has been his promise to nominate only pro-life judges to the Supreme Court.... We trust him to follow through on his promise."

Abortion advocates understand the monumental consequences of what is at stake. The liberal group People for the American Way described Kennedy's possible retirement under Trump as a "disaster for the rights of all Americans."

Several other liberal justices on the high court also are getting older. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg is 84, and Justice Stephen Breyer is 78. Both are strongly pro-abortion, but there are no rumors of their retirement right now.

By Steven Ertelt, LifeNews.com, June 27, 2018. Edited for space.

In Memory of Patricia Kerg, a founding member of Shelby County RTL.

+ May she rest in peace. +

Assisted Suicide Corrodes Canadian Culture

The experience with every jurisdiction that permits euthanasia or assisted suicide is that once it is legalized it expands in the number and situations whereby death by lethal drugs is considered a response to difficult human conditions.

In Canada, *The Third Interim Report on Medical Assistance in Dying* (euthanasia and assisted suicide) was recently released by Health Canada indicating that the number of deaths by lethal drugs has increased by 30% in the second half of 2017 (July 1 - Dec 31, 2017). The data indicates that there were 1525 *reported* assisted deaths in the last 6 months of 2017. There were 1179 *reported* assisted deaths in The Second Interim report for the first 6 months of 2017.

Recently Roger Foley, of London Ontario, launched a court case based on the fact that he has been told that he qualifies for an assisted death, but he does not qualify for assisted living. Doctors and hospices are being pressured to participate in euthanasia. Doctors in Ontario are being told that they must refer for MAiD and a BC Health Authority has told hospices that they must participate in MAiD.

A Canadian bioethicist published an article promoting euthanasia / organ donation and a study was published stating that up to 138 million dollars can be saved by euthanasia. A study was published in the New England Journal of Medicine finding that requests for euthanasia are often based on existential distress and not physical pain. To make matters worse, in June 2017 an Ontario judge extended euthanasia to people who are not terminally ill. The judge redefined the phrase "natural death must be reasonably foreseeable" to permit doctors to kill people who are not terminally ill.

By Alex Schadenberg, Euthanasia Prevention Coalition (www.epcc.ca), June 28, 2018. Edited for space.