



You were there for another successful Missouri Right to Life Pro-Life Action Day!

Thanks to a crowd of nearly 400 people, the pro-life message once again resounded in the halls of the Missouri State Capitol at Pro-Life Action Day.

With thirty-two pro-life bills introduced during this legislative session, attendees were kept busy visiting with senators and representatives to encourage their support for the life-affirming pieces of legislation. Information and direction was provided by the Missouri Right to Life state office staff and by volunteers who were there for the day to lend a hand.

In addition, pro-life/pro-family organizations from across the state manned information booths to introduce -- or re-introduce -- themselves to the many in attendance.

The Noon Rally featured Guest Speaker Susan Jaramillo. Susan spoke to the crowd of her years of pain and denial -- including three abortions -- before being touched by God's healing. Hoping to save the lives of unborn babies as well as to offer God's grace, she now travels, speaks, and writes, shar-

ing with others the secrets she once kept hidden.

Missouri Right to Life thanks Msgr. Greg Higley, Pastor Gary Schultz, Sen. Wayne Wallingford, Rep. Kathy Swan, Speaker Tim Jones, and all those who attended, once again demonstrating that Missouri citizens are for *Life*!



(Above) Some of the nearly 400 pro-lifers attending Pro-Life Action Day at the State Capitol. Here they listen as speakers at the Noon Rally relate their missions and pray for the day when our state and nation return to a respect for life.



(Left) Gathered at Pro-Life Action Day, (l-r) MRL President Pam Fichter, Guest Speaker Susan Jaramillo, Legislative Liaison Susan Klein, and Director of Development Bill Zobrist pause for a moment during a busy day of greeting pro-life attendees and talking with legislators.

Good News!

PLANNED PARENTHOOD IN COLUMBIA NO LONGER LICENSED TO PERFORM ABORTIONS

Columbia Planned Parenthood is no longer licensed to perform abortions in the State of Missouri. Its website now specifies abortion referrals instead of abortion services.

During the years of being on the sidewalk outside this location, the team of pro-life prayer warriors and the counselors had seen a dramatic decrease in abortion-bound clients, and one abortionist after another quit doing abortions in Columbia. There had not been an abortionist at the location for nearly two years. Now, as of early March, it has officially ceased killing unborn babies.

This is certainly cause for great rejoicing! And a sign of what could happen across our nation. Columbia's pro-life team has a presence there not only during 40 Days for Life, but all year long!

40 Days for Life

40 Days for Life reports 541 babies saved during this year's spring campaign which concluded on April 13!

Thanks be to God and to countless faithful pro-lifers. Continue your blessed mission of saving babies and rescuing mothers.

Please plan to participate in the fall 40 Days for Life campaign, taking place September 24 – November 2. Christ told us that some demons can only be driven out by prayer and fasting. The two go hand in hand. This is a perfect place to put that into action!



Scientists grow human body parts in lab

In a north London hospital, scientists are growing noses, ears, and blood vessels in the laboratory in a bold attempt to make body parts using stem cells.

It is among several labs around the world, including in the U.S., that are working on the futuristic idea of growing custom-made organs in the lab.

While only a handful of patients have received the British lab-made organs so far - including tear ducts, blood vessels, and windpipes - researchers hope they will soon be able to transplant more types of body parts into patients, including what would be the world's first nose made partly from stem cells.

"It's like making a cake," said Alexander Seifalian at University College London, the scientist leading the effort. "We just use a different kind of oven."

During a recent visit to his lab, Seifalian showed off a sophisticated machine used to make molds from a polymer material for various organs.

Last year, he and his team made a nose for a British man who lost his to cancer. Scientists added a salt and sugar solution to the mold of the nose to mimic the somewhat sponge-like texture of the real thing. Stem cells were taken from the patient's fat and grown in the lab for two weeks before being used to cover the nose scaffold. Later, the nose was implanted into the man's forearm so that skin would grow to cover it.

Seifalian said he and his team are waiting for approval from regulatory authorities to transfer the nose onto the patient's face but couldn't say when that might happen.

The polymer material Seifalian uses for his organ scaffolds has been patented

and he's also applied for patents for their blood vessels, tear ducts, and windpipe. He and his team are creating other organs including coronary arteries and ears. Later this year, a trial is scheduled to start in India and in London to test lab-made ears for people born without them.

"Scientists have to get things like noses and ears right before we can move onto something like a kidney, lungs, or a liver, which is much more complicated," said Eileen Gentleman, a stem cell expert at King's College London, who is not involved in Seifalian's research.

"Where Seifalian has led is in showing us maybe we don't need to have the absolutely perfect tissue for a (lab-made) organ to work," she said. "What he has created is the correct structure, and the fact that it's good enough for his patients to have a functional (windpipe), tear duct, etc. is pretty amazing."

Some scientists predict certain lab-made organs will soon cease to be experimental.

Associated Press 4/8/14

Mother dies after sacrificing her life for that of her baby

Last month, Elizabeth Joice, a strong woman, beautiful wife, and courageous mother, died after a roller coaster ride with cancer, leaving behind her husband and beautiful newborn daughter.

Joice began an arduous regimen of cancer treatments after learning that she had a malignant tumor in 2010. It took surgery and four rounds of chemotherapy, but she beat the cancer - and predictions that she would not be able to get pregnant after treatment.

Last year, the couple received the hoped-for news that they were pregnant, and shortly thereafter the dreaded news that Elizabeth's cancer had returned.

Elizabeth had to choose among ending the baby's life, endangering it with aggressive cancer treatments, or foregoing treatment for the duration of the pregnancy in order to nurture her baby and give her a chance at being born healthy. Elizabeth chose to postpone treatment, knowing that doing so could have devas-

tating effects on her ability to beat cancer a second time around.

Baby Lily was due this past March, but doctors delivered her a few weeks early in order to begin treating Elizabeth as early as possible. In January, Lily was born, and Joice began the long-awaited round of treatment. But the cancer had spread too far by that point, and it was too late. Elizabeth spent a few precious weeks with her daughter before dying on March 9.

LiveActionNews.org 4/4/14

Cute as a button: A sweet video about the unborn child's nine month journey

There are a lot of ways to "document" the nine months of pregnancy. You can go heavily into prenatal development, providing pictures and/or illustrations that take you from well before the union of sperm and ovum to the conclusion - the birth of a child.

A great example is "The Biology of Prenatal Development," which is 42 minutes long, although it is so breathtakingly beautiful, it seems more like ten minutes.

Or you can take the approach of another lighthearted video.

In a dash over a minute and a half, we see the mom from barely showing to very large and about to deliver to the arrival in her arms of their little one. The video is very sweet and is subtly built around the continuity of the baby's development and the constancy of the couple's love for one another and their baby.

Very nice. Take 1:36 seconds and watch the video at <http://youtu.be/nKn-fjdEPLJ0>

NRLC News Feb./March 2014

Missouri Right to Life News

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Jefferson City MO 65102

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For all you do, thank you!

From the President ~

You -- Protecting Every Unborn Child and Every Expectant Mother

May 16 is the final day for this year's legislative session. As I write, 32 pro-life bills are being considered. With bipartisan pro-life majorities in both houses of the Missouri legislature, we are hopeful that many of these bills will become law. And those laws will save lives.

While Missouri Right to Life works hard to pass these life-saving measures, we would have little chance of success if it hadn't been for what you - a pro-life citizen of Missouri - have done.

It is your votes for pro-life legislators that have made this possible.

Missouri has been a leader in enacting life-saving legislation. It was the 1989 U. S. Supreme Court decision in *Webster v. Reproductive Health Services*, in which the court upheld a Missouri law, that made possible the subsequent deluge of state laws across the country.

It was the language of the Missouri law banning partial-birth abortion that was used as the model for the successful ban at the federal level after two failed attempts with different language.

The 2013 omnibus pro-life bill in Texas that received nation-wide attention contained laws already passed in Missouri - requiring doctors to have admitting privileges at nearby hospitals, that abortion clinics be regulated as ambulatory surgical centers, and banning abortions after 20 weeks.

In fact, the Missouri law that required doctors to have admitting privileges at nearby facilities brought about the closure of the Springfield abortion clinic. That abortion facility - where hundreds of children lost their lives - is now the Missouri Baptist Children's Home.

You made this possible.

In addition, Missouri has provided protection for expectant mothers by passing laws requiring they be given information on the risks of the abortion and the development of their unborn children; that they be offered an ultrasound; requiring parental consent for minors seeking an abortion and malpractice insurance for abortionists; providing funding for alternatives-to-abortion programs and tax credits for pregnancy resource centers. And the list goes on. (see [missourilife.org/Missouri Law](http://missourilife.org/MissouriLaw))

Abortion numbers in Missouri have fallen from the all-time high in 1980 of 21,671 resident abortions to 9,027 in 2012 (the last year for which numbers are available). The number of abortion clinics has fallen from an all-time high of ten in 1980 to one abortion clinic.

Without doubt, Missouri legislation has saved lives! And Missouri voters made that possible!

But there is more you must do -- and more you can do this year. Please pray that our legislators continue the rich Missouri heritage of saving lives with good laws. Please support Missouri Right to Life as we represent your voice for life in the state capitol - protecting every unborn child and every expectant mother.

"You are the light of the world. ... let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

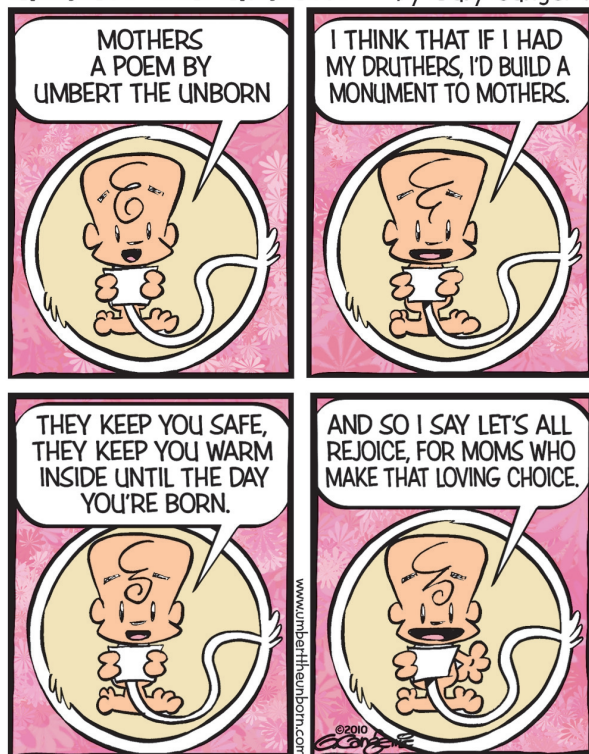
Matthew 5:14,16



Pam Fichter

*Blessings,
Pam Fichter*

Umbert the Unborn by Gary Cangemi



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Jefferson City, St. Louis, and Washington.



U.S. Supreme Court Hears Hobby Lobby Case

Religious liberty at stake

by Joshua Hawley

Tuesday, March 25, the Hobby Lobby team made our case to the U.S. Supreme Court. The questioning was vigorous and fair, and following the argument, we remain confident that the Court will side with religious liberty.

Our case came down to two main points. First, we argued that the Green family, who own Hobby Lobby, don't lose their right to religious liberty just because they run a business. The government's extraordinary position in this case is that some non-profits may have the right to conduct themselves according to their religious beliefs -- but business owners do not. In fact, the government has claimed that the Greens shouldn't even be allowed to bring suit to challenge the government's pro-abortion regulations in this case. Multiple Justices expressed their skepticism at the government's position, as well they should. Going into business should not amount to forfeiting your convictions.

Our second main point was that the government does not have what the law calls a "compelling interest" in forcing the Greens to pay for the four abortion-inducing contraceptives at the heart of this case when the government has exempted so many businesses from this mandate for non-religious reasons that over 50 percent of the nation's workforce isn't covered. Moreover, the government has other means of making these four abortion-inducing drugs available to women who want them without forcing

people of conscience, like the Greens, to pay for them.

Justice after Justice questioned the government on this second point, but the government had no satisfactory answer. The truth is, the government wants to hand out exemptions to this mandate for just about any reason except religious belief. That kind of favoritism is something our Constitution does not allow.

The Justices will begin work on their opinions in this case immediately, with a final judgment likely to come sometime in June. We are as certain as ever that the law and the Constitution are on our side.

Please remember Hobby Lobby -- and all business people of conscience -- in your prayers in these coming months. May justice be served.

Joshua Hawley, a Missouri native, is an attorney with the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty and an associate professor at the University of Missouri Law School.



Joshua Hawley

Saving babies. Protecting moms.

For one woman with cancer, Obamacare means loss of coverage for essential drug

By Jennifer Popik, JD, Robert Powell Center for Medical Ethics

As millions of Americans are attempting to start using their new Obamacare exchange health insurance, stories about denial of payment keep piling up. All throughout the debate leading up to the controversial law, and up until late last year, the Obama Administration kept asserting that “if you like your plan, you can keep it.” But by last December, the fact checker PolitiFact was awarding this assurance its Lie of the Year for 2013.

When hundreds of thousands lost plans they liked, the administration moved on to its next claim -- that “the new exchange plans would be better than your old plan.” This new promise is already proving to be at odds with the facts.

A February 23, 2014, *Wall Street Journal* piece illustrates the heartbreaking consequences of being forced into an Obamacare exchange plan that will not pay for a cancer-fighting drug – a denial traceable to provisions in the law that have the effect of forcing reduction in America’s health care usage.

Under the title, “Obamacare and My Mother’s Cancer Medicine,” Stephen Blackwood chronicled his mother’s struggle to find coverage in a post-Obamacare environment. He wrote, “*The news was dumbfounding. She used to have a policy that covered the drug that kept her alive. Now she’s on her own.*”

In 2005, at age 49, his mother was diagnosed with a rare cancer. The cancer is terminal. However, it typically responds to a drug called Sandostatin that slows growth and reduces symptoms. Blackwood wrote:

“And then in November, along with millions of other Americans, she lost her health insurance. She’d had a Blue Cross/Blue Shield plan for nearly 20 years. It was expensive, but given that it covered her very expensive treatment, it was a terrific plan. It gave her access to any specialist or surgeon, and to the Sandostatin and other medications that were keeping her alive.

“And then, because our lawmakers and president thought they could do better, she had nothing. Her old plan, now considered illegal under the new health law, had been canceled.”

His mother, a former medical-office manager, no stranger to navigating insurers, was unable to use the Virginia exchange, and called around to individual exchange insurers. After she spent days and weeks searching, no one could tell her for sure if her drug was covered.

Finally a representative for one plan, Humana, told her that her drug would probably be covered. Unbelievably, this was the closest to a commitment she could get from any insurer. According to Blackwood,

“With no other options, she bought the plan and was approved on Nov. 22. ...Then on Feb. 12, just before going into (yet another) surgery, she was informed by Humana that it would not, in fact, cover her Sandostatin, or other cancer-related medications. The cost of the Sandostatin alone, since Jan. 1, was \$14,000, and the company was refusing to pay.

“The news was dumbfounding. This is a woman who had an affordable health plan that covered her condition. Our lawmakers weren’t happy

with that because . . . they wanted plans that were affordable and covered her condition. So they gave her a new one. It doesn’t cover her condition and it’s completely unaffordable....

“But there is something deeply and incontestably perverse about a law that so distorts and undermines the free activity of individuals that they can no longer buy and sell the goods and services that keep them alive. Obamacare made my mother’s old plan illegal, and it forced her to buy a new plan that would accelerate her disease and death. She awaits an appeal with her insurer.”

While many are quick to blame insurance companies, the real culprit is the Obamacare provision under which exchange bureaucrats must exclude insurers who offer policies deemed to allow “excessive or unjustified” health care spending by their policyholders.

Under the Federal health law, state insurance commissioners are to recommend to their state exchanges the exclusion of “particular health insurance issuers

... based on a pattern or practice of excessive or unjustified premium increases.” The exchanges not only exclude policies in an exchange when government authorities do not agree with their premiums, but the exchanges must even exclude insurers whose plans outside the exchange offer consumers the ability to reduce the danger of treatment denial by paying what those government authorities consider an “excessive or unjustified” amount.

This means that insurers who hope to be able to gain customers within the exchanges have a strong disincentive to offer any adequately funded plans that do not drastically limit access to care. So even if you contact insurers directly, outside the exchange, as Blackwood’s mother did, you will find it hard or impossible to find an adequate individual plan. (See documentation at www.nrlc.org/medethics/healthcarerationing.)

When the government limits what can be charged for health insurance, it restricts what people are allowed to pay for medical treatment. While everyone would prefer to pay less – or nothing – for health care (or anything else), government price controls prevent access to lifesaving medical treatment that costs more to supply than the prices set by the government.

While Obamacare continues to roll out in 2014, it is important to continue to educate friends and neighbors about the dangers the law poses in restricting what Americans can spend to save their own lives and the lives of their families.

This article first appeared in National Right to Life News, Feb./March 2014.



Cherishing life. Because of you!



Legislative Session Drawing to an End

Susan Klein, Legislative Liaison

As you read this newsletter, the 2014 Missouri legislative session is in its last weeks with the final day of May 16 fast approaching.

While it has been a very busy year with 32 pro-life bills being filed and working their way through the legislative process, at this writing it is yet to be seen which ones will be truly agreed to and finally passed and what the Governor will do with any pro-life legislation sent to him.

The priority legislation for Missouri Right to Life for 2014 has been to pass legislation requiring greater oversight and accountability of abortion clinics. Some of the other important legislation under consideration by legislators are: expanding the current 24-hr. waiting period before an abortion to 72 hours, acknowledging the parental rights of both custodial parents of a minor, protections for pregnancy resource centers (PRC's), an increase in the tax credit program for PRC's and the alternative-to-abortion program, providing conscience protection for health care workers, and preventing taxpayer funding of unethical research.

We thank all of the legislators for proposing and supporting these and all life-saving measures, and we're very hopeful that many of these bills will become law.

Thank you for all your support and prayers throughout the year and especially in these last days of this legislative session!

Read weekly legislative updates for details on all bills or see 2014 session information at missourilife.org/legislation/index.htm

Memorials

*In memory of a loved one or a friend,
these gifts were made to Missouri Right to Life.*

In memory of ~	Given by ~
Alicia M. Brauer	John & Audrey Brauer
Virginia Ernstmann	Pat Filley
Shirley McGhee	Mary Ernstmann
Ruby R. Orf	Mary V. Orf
Lester Sullentrup	Joyce Unnerstall
Betty Weber	Mary Ernstmann

Missouri Right to Life thanks those who honor their deceased loved ones or who celebrate an important event by making a gift to MRL.



PREPARE NOW FOR PRIMARY ELECTION ACTION

Dave Plemmons, MRL PAC Chairman

Ahhhh. Springtime. Warm breezes, allergies, and political candidates. What?!? Candidates?

Such is life. In an election year, work begins early for Missouri Right to Life Political Action Committee (MRL PAC) volunteers who gather data on those running for office. The focus now is on August when Missourians' primary election votes will determine who runs in the fall general election.

There are eight congressional districts, 17 of 34 State Senate districts, and all 163 State Representative districts where we will elect those who represent us in state and federal government, as well as the election for State Auditor. Pro-Life citizens must carefully consider which ones to support as we continue to advocate for the lives of innocent unborn babies and their mothers.

Do you *know* your officeholders? Do you *know* their voting record? That's where Missouri Right to Life and MRL PAC come in. As a member-driven organization, your Missouri Right to Life takes seriously our responsibility to inform you concerning the men and women who make decisions about budgets and about legislation that affects public policy including abortion, embryonic stem cell research, euthanasia, and related matters.

Take the time to learn about your local candidates. If you have been asked to volunteer for a candidate who claims to be pro-life, don't hesitate to contact MRL to ask about them.

We will be publishing voter material in July before the primary election to help Missourians choose good pro-life candidates. This information is compiled using voting records, surveys, and public

statements. MRL PAC is a trusted source for candidate vetting because we don't use partisanship or biases to pick candidates. Candidates who align themselves, and their records, with the strong pro-life positions of MRL are the ones pro-lifers support.

Let's work this spring and summer to get good pro-life candidates elected for the good of Missouri and our nation!



Election Ahead

**Last day to register to vote
in the primary election -
Wednesday, July 9**

**Last day to register to vote
in the general election -
Wednesday, October 8**

Pro-Life Across Missouri

save date

- May 7** St. Louis Chapter meeting - 7 p.m. Florissant Valley Branch Library, 195 New Florissant Rd. (not to be confused with West Florissant Ave.) Guest speaker Mason Weaver, from former Black Panther to noted speaker on family, personal responsibility, and the sanctity of life.
- May 10** 40 Days for Life Closing Rally, Holts Summit Doors open 6 p.m. St. Andrew Church, 400 St. Andrew Drive.
- May 16** MRL Ed Fund Annual Spring Golf Tournament, Belton MO, Eagles Landing. Information at mrlwesternregion.org.
- June 14** Missouri Right to Life Statewide Leadership and Information Meeting, Jefferson City - 10 a.m., Immaculate Conception Parish, Pleus Hall, 1207 McCarty St. All are welcome!
- June 26 - 28** National Right to Life Convention, Louisville KY. Join the national meeting of the pro-life grassroots -- the perfect place to learn, grow, and get energized to take a stand for life!

We Are The Pro-Life Generation!



Above and right - Just look at all of these young pro-life Missourians attending the 2014 March for Life. The MRL-Shelby County Chapter is well represented in Washington D.C. Thanks, dads and moms, for helping your children be part of the pro-life generation!

SEMO Lifesavers hold Organizational Meeting in Cape Girardeau



(L-R) Cheri Adcock, Bill Zobrist, MRL Director of Development, Patti Anderson, MRL Board member and chairman of the SEMO Lifesavers Chapter, and Kathleen Kee-see, vice chair, attend the March organizational meeting of their reactivated MRL chapter. They are all showing off the MRL t-shirt available from the state office.

East Central Area Chapter Witnesses, Prays During 40 Days for Life



East Central Area Chapter-MRL members (l-r) Mary Armistead, Joan Atkins, Glenn Kluesner, Dan Schwartz, and Shirley Maune gather outside Planned Parenthood-St. Louis to encourage moms to choose life.



Generous friends like you underwrite Missouri Right to Life activities that *save lives*. Without you, these accomplishments would not be possible! To make a donation that will save lives, use the enclosed envelope. Or make a donation at our website, www.missourilife.org.



Inside ~

- Supreme Court hears Hobby Lobby Case
- For one woman with cancer, Obamacare means loss of coverage for essential drug

A Call to Prayer for Our Nation

Important cases concerning religious liberty and the right to follow one's deep religious beliefs are being considered by the U.S. Supreme Court. Please pray for the Justices to have the wisdom and the courage to uphold God's Holy Will.



If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

2 Chronicles 7:14

O God our Creator, from your provident hand we have received our right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. You have called us as your people and given us the right and the duty to worship you, the only true God, and your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through the power and working of your Holy Spirit, you call us to live our faith in the midst of the world, bringing the light and the truth of the Gospel to every corner of society. We ask you to bless us in our vigilance for the gift of religious liberty.

Grant, we pray, O heavenly Father, a clear and united voice in this decisive hour in the history of our nation so that, with every trial withstood and every danger overcome, this great land will always be "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.