# LifeFacts

A Publication of South Dakota Right to Life Volume 46, Number 3 Summer 2017

Comparable to a gorgeous rose, every human life unfolds with delicate precision . . . as a perfect plan from a Perfect Creator



#### 2017 Annual SDRTL Convention Sept. 23

# **'Protecting the Circle of Life'**

South Dakota Right to Life convention organizers are hard at work planning final details of the upcoming annual SDRTL state convention. This year's theme is "Protecting the Circle of Life."

This year's convention topic is

particularly important as pro-death suicide advocates are circulating petitions to put an assisted suicide statute on South Dakota's November 2018 ballot.

Plan to bring a carload to the Abbey of the Hills in northeastern South Dakota on Saturday, Sept. 23, where the convention will convene at 9 a.m. and end at 5 p.m.

In the words of a frequent convention attendee, "The annual SDRTL convention always deals out generous Dying." doses of pro-life education, inspiration, and motivation."

"We look forward to welcoming Keynote Speaker Brian Johnston, who has spent over 30 years advocating for the medically vulnerable," according to Convention Spokesperson Jo Gilliland of Milbank. Johnston is National Right to Life's western director and also director of the LifeFest Film Festival.

Among books Keynoter Johnston has authored is "Death as a Salesman: What's Wrong with Assisted Suicide." He has testified before numerous state and national legislatures and is a frequent spokesman on the threat of assisted suicide.

Directions to the Abbey of the Hills Inn & Retreat Center near Milbank and a Convention **Registration Form** may be found on page 4

Other session headliners include Jamie Gauer from Volga, RN Julie Sampson from Watertown, and Funeral Home Director Tim Mundwiler from Milbank. Gauer's topic is "When the End Comes at the Beginning." Sampson will speak about her pro-life expe-

riences with home hospice, and Mundwiler's topic is "Lessons for Life from Serving the

Walk-ins are welcome, according to Gilliland, though she encourages pre-registrations to facilitate planning. Make duplicates as needed of the pre-registration form on page 4. Return them by Sept. 1 to the address listed.

As usual, SDRTL's prestigious Humanitarian of the Year award will be given and regional meetings will be held. There will also be a Silent

## **Assisted Suicide Petition:** the devil is in the details!

By SDRTL Vice President Spencer Cody

As was evident in South Dakota's 2016 general election, getting enough signatures to place a voter initiative on the ballot is not particularly difficult.

But **BEWARE!** The whole point of circulating a petition with more than 3,000 words and 26 sections on legalizing assisted suicide in South Dakota is that almost no one will bother to read it before they sign the petition or vote on it, if it collects enough signatures for the 2018 ballot.

Regrettably, you will hear over and over the pitch about compassion for terminally ill people, but if you read the proposed-measure line by line, you come to the scary conclusion that, perhaps, even the people circulating this petition are unaware of what it actually says and its implications.

The assisted suicide proposal is stunningly negligent in providing any type of real and comprehensive safeguards for South Dakota's most vulnerable. while leaving wide open the door for easy abuse and misuse.

For a quick tour of this legal and ethical train wreck that could easily become law in South Dakota in 2018, please turn to page 5.

## Nov. 1 is entry deadline for 'Why are YOU pro-life' teen contest

SDRTL Essay Contest Chairman Joyce Maras sums up why she goes out of her way to organize an essay contest for students enrolled and must be emailed to Maras at <jekmaras@gmail.com> by Nov. 1. in grades 7-12: "I am excited to hear the next generation express why they are pro-life, because it is so important that we have youth willing to engage their peers on this issue. Writing an essay is a stepping stone for that process because as students educate themselves, they are more able to express themselves to others. It also increases their awareness of just what being pro-life is and why it is such an important issue."

This year's contest has begun. Entries must be 300-500 words long SDRTL will be awarding a total of \$1,000 in prizes, \$500 in each of two contest divisions, 7th through 9th grade, and 10th through 12th grade. Top prize in each catetory is \$150. Additional information, including rules, may be found at www.sdrighttolife.org.

Essay participation in past years has been great. Maras hopes to surpass the 200-participants mark for this year's contest. Parents and other pro-life advocates, thank you for promoting this contest!

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LifeFacts

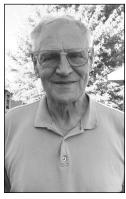
South Dakota Right to Life maintains an office in Pierre at 314 S. Henry St. Write to SDRTL at P.O. Box 1032, Pierre, SD 57501. Phone 605-224-9181 or toll free 877-216-1628 during Mon.-Fri. business hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Website: sdrighttolife.org. Email: sdrighttolife@yahoo.com.

LifeFacts Editor Gloria Duenwald email: duenwald@venturecomm.net or phone 605-948-2163.

SDRTL is a non-profit, nondenominational organization whose philosophy is that all innocent human life is inviolable and is to be guaranteed protection from conception until natural death.

What's going to happen when it's your turn to die? How hard you fight the legalization of assisted suicide now will likely have a major impact on your own eventual demise.

## Klosterman Chosen 2017 Humanitarian of the Year



South Dakota Right to Life is thrilled to announce that Tom Klosterman of Brookings is the recipient of its 2017 prestigious Humanitarian of the Year Award. Klosterman, from Brookings, has made countless contributions to the pro-life

Tom Klosterman Brookings

movement over the last  $40^{+}$  years.

It was around the time of the country's bicentennial in 1976 that Tom built a float with the patriotic theme "Right to Life, Liberty, and Pursuit of Happiness." Now 40 years later, Tom and a group of other faithful supporters see to it that pro-life floats are annually part of eight parades in Brookings county.

About the same time Tom became active with the Brookings County Right to Life chapter, he also began helping the local Birthright organization. About 40 years ago, he built Birthright a portable food stand that they still use to serve walking tacos as a fundraiser at the annual Brookings Arts Festival. Tom faithfully maintains the food stand and helps with set-up and tear-down each year.

After over 50 years of marriage, Tom lost his beloved Dorothy in 2007. He remembers her fondly as an instrument of peace in the community and in their family. The couple spent most of their married life in Brookings where they were blessed with two children through adoption and 11 grandchildren.

"It has been a pleasure getting to know Tom and learn about his work," said SDRTL Field Coordinator Debbie Pease. "He is a humble man who continues to use his gifts to serve others and maintains a profound sense of gratitude. When asked what he would like to say for this article, his only comment was, "The Lord is kind and merciful."



#### Little Charlie Gard has died.

He will be remembered for the intense love of his parents and the astonishing support they received from around the world in their vain attempt to care for the sick little boy and try to extend his life as they – not judges, not doctors, not bioethicists – thought best.

There will be much more to say about the utilitarianism drift of medicine and the increasing loss of patient autonomy when the desire is to live rather than die. And let us not forget the erosion of parental rights.

-Pro-life Activist Wesley J. Smith

# **SDRTL Donation/Membership Form**

Name	
Address	
City	_StateZip
Email	Phones

SDRTL's life-saving missions depend solely on your generosity

Annual membership \$30; Lifetime \$300. Mail to SDRTL, PO Box 1032, Pierre, SD, 57501 or epay on sdrighttolife.org.

If you receive a printed issue of LifeFacts, please attach your mailing label here:

Thank you	Thank you, Fair Volunteers, for helping SDRTL bring its pro-life message to thousands		CHILDREN
Come to the FAIR Come	Union County Fair in Alcester Sioux Empire Fair in Sioux Falls Clay County Fair in Vermillion Turner County Fair in Parker Brown County Fair in Aberdeen Central States Fair in Rapid City Corn Palace Festival in Mitchell State Fair in Huron	July 27-30 August 4-13 August 10-12 August 14-17 August 14-20 August 18-27 August 23-27 August 31-Sept. 4	LEARN WHAT THEY LIVE Make pro-life education/activity
DI	Want to help at a fair booth? Debbie at 605-929-4933 or <u>dpec</u>		a FAMILY AFFAIR!

# How/what do I tell my kids about abortion?

By SDRTL National Right to Life Delegate Valerie Johnson

Were you involved as a kid? Back in the mid-1980s, is unique no matter how old or young that person is. when I served as a student delegate on the South Dakota Right to Life board of directors, some adults babies are not as important as older people. We didn't think children (including even young teens) know that no matter what a person looks like or should be informed about abortion or involved in where they live or their age or ability, each person the right to life movement because

"this was an adult problem." On the other hand, some adults

made sure kids knew what abortion was and how it was affecting their generation. These kids are now today's pro-life leaders.

Though some folks who are relatively uninvolved in the right to life movement will tell me, "My MOM was involved with that," we still have a younger generation that is called the most pro-life generation since Roe v. Wade. Wonderful!

What do we tell our children? What do/will our children tell their children? How do we approach this topic of abortion?

Even young children should know that babies come from moms and dads and not from the cabbage patch. These are cute stories, but children should not be told their aunt is getting fat, if in fact the big bump is really a BABY.

It's a gift to be able to have a baby, and we all come from our birth-moms. Children should know babies live inside their moms until they are big enough to live outside their moms.

It's too bad that some people don't think an unborn baby is a "real baby." We know a baby is a baby because we have seen sonograms and know

Are you involved in the right to life movement? about science and DNA and how each human being

It's too bad that some people think tiny preborn

is as important as any other, simply because he or she is a human being!

When I'm honored to give a talk at a school, that's about where I stop. I show children the models of unborn babies. SDRTL also has the models at the fair booths and we have donated many models over the years to schools and pregnancy help centers.

Parents - fill your children in. Once children know some basic facts, they can better understand abortion. Regrettably, because some people either don't know or don't want to admit the truth about unborn children, and because sometimes babies don't fit into

grown-ups' plans, some people think it's okay to kill unborn babies.

We know it is not okay to kill a baby, a defenseless human being. That is why we work to educate people of all ages about the right to life, from conception to natural death.

Every child is different. Every parent is different. There might be tears and anger. There might be a resolve to right this wrong. Maybe we can even learn something from our children.

If you're suffering from an abortion, there is help. Go to www.hopeafterabortion.com.



#### Page Four

2017 SDRTL Convention Pre-Registration (Submit before Sept. 1 ~ Duplicate as needed)
<b>'Protecting the Circle of Life'</b> Sept. 23, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Abbey of the Hills near Milbank
Name
P.O. Box or St
Address
CitySD Zip Phone
Email address
Adults \$30 High school students \$15 Under 14 free
Make checks payable to Milbank RTL Mail to Norma Kruger, 14777 468th Ave., Twin Brooks SD <b>57269</b>

South Dakota Right to Life annual conventions have been held since its beginning in 1972. Following are locations and themes (when available) dating back to 1980.

- 1980 Watertown 1980 Watertown 1981 Rapid City 1982 Aberdeen 1983 Mitchell 1984 Milbank
- 1985 Mobridge
- 1986 Mitchell
- 1987 Sioux Falls "The New Wave of the Pro-Life Movement'
- 1988 Watertown "Life, Choice of a New Generation"
- 1989 Rapid City "Celebration of Life"
- 1990 Sioux Falls "The Right Choice"
  1991 Gregory "Dads for Life"
  1992 Chamberlain "Responding
- With Help and Hope" 1993 Pierre "Helping Families Choose Life'

- 1994 Aberdeen "Life A Closer Look
- 1995 Sisseton "Working Together for Life"
- Life" 1996 Rapid City "25 Years of Trials, Tears, and Triumphs" 1997 Brookings "Speaking the Truth in Defense of Life" 1998 Madison "Roe v, Wade: Not a
- Solution Then, Still a Tragedy Now" 1999 Aberdeen "All Life Matters" 2000 Watertown "Life 2000 The
- Right Choice' 2001 Rapid City "Is There Not a
- 2002 Sioux Falls "Cherish Life" 2003 Pierre "30 Years of Defending
- Life 2004 Aberdeen "Life, the First Right -Taking a Stand'

- 2005 Watertown "Working Together for Life" 2006 Sioux Falls "Vote Yes for Life on 6"
- 2007 Pierre "Revitalizing Our Right to Life Roots"
- 2008 Aberdeen "Defending Life A
- Cause for All People" 2009 Mobridge "The Divine Right to Life"
- 2010 Mitchell "Educate, Communicate, Celebrate Life'
- 2011 Tea "Proudly Pro-Life" 2012 Rapid City "Back to the Basics"
- 2013 Platte "Gift of Love"
- 2014 Watertow 2015 Mitchell "Keeping Our Focus"
- 2016 Rapid City



Peggy Veal, Diana Landis. and Teddi Carlson are excited to utilize the new banner they received from SDRTL for their work with the Stateline RTL chapter in Bison.

#### Sleeping accommodations at Abbey of the Hills

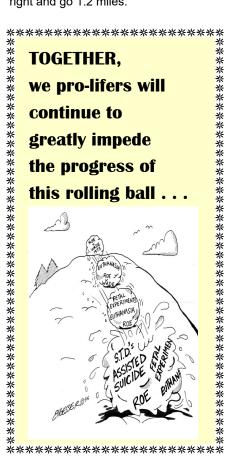
A large variety of options in sleeping accommodations are available at this year's SDRTL annual convention site, the Abbey of the Hills near Milbank. Room rates start at \$50 per night. Log on to abbeyofthehills.com/lodging-options to view possibilities or contact the Abbey of the Hills at 605-398-9200.

#### Directions to Abbey of the Hills

Please note-Typically, car/cell GPSes will not accurately direct you to the Abbey of the Hills. Please use the following guidelines.

From the east, from Milbank: Take US Hwy 12 west 12 miles to 147th St. where there is an Abbey sign, turn left and go 1.2 miles.

From the west, from I-29 Exit 207: Take US Hwy 12 east 9 miles to 147th St. where there is an Abbey sign, turn right and go 1.2 miles.



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**OPENING** South Dakota Right to Life is looking for a dedicated individual to work 10 flexible hours JOB per week as a membership clerk/office person. Preference will be given to individuals who are able to work in our Pierre office, but skilled individuals working remotely from other locations will also be considered. Wages are hourly/competitive. Must be familiar with Microsoft Word, Excel, and Access. Call 605-224-9181 or look on sdrighttolife.org for details or send a resume to SDRTL VP Spencer Cody at spencercody@hotmail.com.

## Assisted suicide initiative: legal and ethical train wreck

(Continued from page 1)

In Section 1 of the proposed measure, the definition for "competency" includes this dubious language: "...an informed decision to impede an assisted suicide issued by any of South Dakota's major healthcare providers, including communication through persons familiar with the patient's manner of communicating if those persons are available." Yes, you read that correctly. This petition language, which cannot be altered for the 2018 ballot, allows someone, ANYONE, to speak or suicide drugs would need to meet patients in sites off the premises of write or even gesture to communicate your intentions to die supposedly their provider and collect funds in various side arrangements. It leaves on your behalf.

Interestingly, the language in the petition specifically leaves open the possibility of abuse by allowing those who would have a special interest in seeing your premature demise to have a central role in your undoing.

owner, operator, or employee of a healthcare facility" to be the two witnesses required to request a drug for assisted suicide. Either of these witnesses who stand to financially benefit from your passing could communicate your assumed wish to die for you!

Perhaps one of the more disturbing components of this proposed measure's language is that it forces all adults to potentially participate in an assisted suicide since any living wills, advanced directives, oral or written agreements that exclude the use of assisted suicide on you, personally, are now null and void: "No provision in any contract, will, or other agreement, whether written or oral, to the extent the provision would affect whether a person may make or rescind a request for medication to end the person's life ... "

If Section 1 allows someone to communicate for you and Section 3 allows for an heir or any facility operator or worker to witness and attest that you truly do want to commit suicide, what good is a living will or advanced directive-or free will, for that matter? This is the legal language needed to get rid of anyone perceived to be terminal or made to be terminal by withholding necessary treatment.

With all of these opportunities to abuse, this proposed measure pushes people into an early grave or outright murders them for an inheritance or to free up a hospital or nursing home bed. You may ask exactly what are the safeguards put in place to prevent this seemingly built-in language for abuse and misuse from going completely off the rails....

CONSIDERING THE DEGREE TO WHICH ASSISTED SUICIDE WOULD BE WILDLY UNREGULAT-ED IN SOUTH DAKOTA – with such vague and intentionally permissive language – THERE IS LITTLE IN THIS PROPOSED STATUTE TO ALLAY SUCH CONCERNS.

Case in point: in order to get around any regulations that might medical providers, Section 23 allows any physician to assist in suicides by acting as an independent contractor of the patient. This invites scenarios where a doctor well-known to write prescriptions for assisted one to wonder exactly how, for instance, a Rapid City Police Department would be able to distinguish between a common drug deal on the street and a legal independent contractor consultation to an assisted suicide victim.

The cloud of secrecy will further push assisted suicide providers, Section 3 carves out specific allotments for an heir and/or "an witnesses, and those who may speak for you into a black box of unknowns where all individuals involved are given blanket immunity to anything that may go wrong (Section 19), and physicians are required to allow patients to doctor shop via a forced transfer to another provider even if the suicide goes against the professional opinion of the attending physician (Section 22).

> If any of the likely drug complications arise or foul play or coercion is involved, no one will ever know. The state cannot release records for public inspection (Section 15); family and friends may not know about the suicide (Section 8). Physicians are forced to cover up the assisted suicide by listing the underlying illness as the cause of death, not the suicide (Section 4). Documentation of an assisted suicide can be mailed to the Department of Health up to 30 days after the suicide occurs (Section 15). The sad result of these provisions is that even family and friends will be left entirely in the dark if a suicide is the result of elder abuse, malpractice, or any other possible scheme or coercion. Neither the state nor the physician will report the death as a suicide. The state will only be made aware of the suicide many weeks after it happens, in which case all of those involved with the suicide are immediately granted immunity from any legal prosecution.

> Just in case you are not quite yet convinced that this language is not exactly ready for prime time, here is one more point to ponder: Section 25 in the petition language provides guidelines for suicides in public places: "any governmental entity that incurs costs resulting from a person terminating the person's life under this Act in a public place has a claim against the estate of the person to recover such costs...."

> Well, that's a relief! If someone chooses to commit suicide in, say, Sioux Falls Falls Park, the city might be reimbursed a portion of the cleanup costs! Let that thought be the silver lining to your day when you find a body floating in the water. Remember, according to this petition's language, that man died from "cancer" when he took the suicide drugs, had a seizure "from cancer," and fell overboard into the Falls "of cancer." Unfortunately, there is no provision for costs related to therapy associated with emotional trauma to the living. Perhaps, they should have put that in Section 27 before submitting this insulting language to the attorney general's office.

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South Dakota Right to Life encourages you to come to...

WHATImage: Muse Life Chain Event, "Gosnell" movie introduced by Co-Author Ann McElhinney, with Q&A to followWHENImage: Chain Event, "Gosnell" movie introduced by Co-Author Ann McElhinney, with Q&A to followWHENImage: Chain Event, "Gosnell" movie introduced by Co-Author Ann McElhinney, with Q&A to followWHENImage: Chain Event, "Gosnell" movie introduced by Co-Author Ann McElhinney, with Q&A to followWHENImage: Chain Event, "Gosnell" movie introduced by Co-Author Ann McElhinney, with Q&A to followWHENEImage: Chain Event, "Gosnell" movie introduced by Co-Author Ann McElhinney, with Q&A to followWHENEImage: Chain Event, "Gosnell" movie introduced by Co-Author Ann McElhinney, with Q&A to followWHENEImage: Chain Event, "Gosnell" movie introduced by Co-Author Ann McElhinney, with Q&A to followWHENEImage: Chain Event, "Gosnell" movie introduced by Co-Author Ann McElhinney, with Q&A to followWHENEImage: Chain Event, "Gosnell" movie introduced by Co-Author Ann McElhinney, with Q&A to followWHENEImage: Chain Event, "Gosnell" movie introduced by Co-Author Ann McElhinney, with Q&A to followWHENEImage: Chain Event, "Gosnell" movie introduced by Co-Author Ann McElhinney, with Q&A to followWHENEImage: Chain Event, "Gosnell" movie introduced by Co-Author Ann McElhinney, with Q&A to followWHENEImage: Chain Event, "Gosnell" movie introduced by Co-Author Ann McElhinney, with Q&A to followImage: Chain Event, "Gosnell" movie introduced by Co-Author Ann McElhinney, "Gosnell" movie i

#### MORE DETAILS (For more details as plans progress, search on Facebook for "Gosnell Movie Sneak Peek Screening in Sioux Falls" )

• The Sioux Falls Life Chain is a prayerful demonstration proclaiming our desire to end abortion. Hundreds of participants will line 41st St. from Planned Parenthood to Minnesota Ave., silently praying and displaying signs with a pro-life message. Signs will be available at locations to be announced.

After the Life Chain, you are invited to move to a location to be announced, to meet the co-author of "Gosnell" and view an early showing of the entire Gosnell motion picture, which won't be in theaters across the country until the summer of 2018. *This is a free event, but seating is limited, so participants must RSVP.* Contact Debbie (605-929-4933 or <<u>dpease84(@yahoo-.com</u>>) to RSVP or for more information.



#### Tentative Schedule

1:30 p.m. - Signs available for pick up
2 - 3 p.m. - Life Chain along 41st Street
3:30 p.m. - Gosnell Program begins
4:00 p.m. - THE "Gosnell" movie in its entirety!
5:30 p.m. - Q&A with Gosnell book Co-Author Ann McElhinney (A huge privilege!)
6:00 p.m. - Visit booths and enjoy supper. Edmunds County Right to Life has already booked a bus that will be picking up people all over northeast South Dakota and along I-29. Spencer <Spencer.Cody@k12.sd.us> is the contact person to ride the bus. To offset expenses, a \$30 donation is requested from each person.

#### South Dakota Abortion Statistics: doh.sd.gov/statistics/2015Vital/Abortion.pdf

The South Dakota Department of Health (DOH) is required by law to collect and publish many statistics about abortions performed in South Dakota. Many interesting statistics surface on the South Dakota DOH's website.

In 2015, for instance, there were 444 abortions performed in South Dakota, down from 551 abortions performed in 2014. Of those 444 abortions, 385 or 86.7 percent were performed on South Dakotans. DOH's Table 64 provides ages of mothers who aborted. Table 65 shows the breakdown of abortions by county of residence and Table 66 shows the breakdown of abortions by city of residence. Table 68 indicates that of the abortions that occurred in South Dakota, 76.6 percent were for white moms, 10.1 percent were for American Indians, 9.0 percent were for blacks, and 4.3 percent were for some other race.

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# Many logical reasons against assisted suicide

#### Reasons #19 and #23 from Jane St. **Clair's 30 Logical Reasons Against Assisted Suicide:**

In the movies and on TV shows, the dying person is always in excruciating pain and crying out for help to the only one who will listen: an old friend or spouse or daughter or whatever. The writer presents the scene as totally hopeless unless the loved one helps the dying person commit suicide. This is, of course, absolute nonsense.

The correct response is, "I can't do that, but I can stay by you, love you, help you through this, make sure you get pain relief, counseling and help. We can get through this together. Please don't ask me to hurt someone I care about. I love you." By the way, pain relief has never been more effective.

On the surface, it looks like you gain a new "right" when you vote for assisted suicide. Actually, you turn over more power to the government and medical establishment. You already have the

power to commit suicide at any time. But as to who lives and who dies. if you sign a paper agreeing to have your doctor do it for you, you are turning over your power to someone else. You are creating a mechanism for the government and medical people to enter into decisions

You are taking away the power of the individual. If the federal government takes over even more of the medical care system, you will be turning over your right-to-decide to the federal government.



SDRTL Region 6 met July 24 at Northern State University's Newman Center to discuss goals and how best they can be achieved. Representatives from Aberdeen Area RTL, Edmunds County RTL, Leola Area RTL, and Redfield Area RTL attended.



Thank You!

Welcome. New/Renewing Members Those donating \$30 or more are members

## FOR DONATIONS OF \$50 OR MORE . . .

Aberdeen Laura Sichmeller, Bob & Eileen Graham, Michael Keller, Charles & Jeanette Nietert; Brandon Jean Moser, Don & Louella Jellema; Corsica Bonnie Vanderley; DeSmet James & Margaret E. Mourek; Egan Mark & Helen Lebrun; Elkton Robert Even; Faulkton Dale and Lorraine Gebhard; Hartford Lisa Ulmer; Hoven Andrew Rausch; Huron Rita Hilgedick; Kadoka Thomas Grimes; Marty Oblate Sisters; Mina Spencer Cody; Mitchell Dusty Johnson; Rapid City Donald & Florence Skinner; Redfield James Burdick; Roscoe John & Patty Beyers; Rosholt Veoma Renelt; Sioux Falls Jim Stalzer, John Overland, Tim & Nancy Burns, Roger Haugo; Vermillion William Dendinger; Volga Doug Post; Watertown James & Ardys Berven; SD State Knights of Columbus; Hamilton, Mont. Bradley Williams; Springfield, Neb. Peter & Loreta Demarco; City Unavailable Mary Pierce, Jim Mckee

## MEMORIAL DONATIONS . . .

Because the SDRTL office is in transition, recent memorials were not available for this issue. Watch for an updated list of memorials in the Fall 2017 issue.

> Many thanks, also, to much-appreciated pro-lifers who, with sometimes even greater sacrifice, donate smaller amounts



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South Dakota Right to Life P.O. Box 1032 Pierre, SD 57501

#### **Return Service Requested**

SDRTL Annual Convention Saturday, Sept. 23 Abbey of the Hills (near Milbank)

# – A Call to Action –

Greetings Fellow Pro-Lifers,

Follow us on Twitter

I hope you are fired up about educating the public on this poorly conceived and, frankly, dangerous assisted suicide petition that is currently making its rounds. (See details pp. 1 & 5.)

I have good news and bad news on this subject. First the bad news: it is likely that assisted suicide will end up on the 2018 ballot due to a combination of South Dakota's low signature requirements and all the money coming into the state from a pro-suicide group in Oregon. And now the good news: South Dakota Right to Life and its allies are laying the groundwork to successfully oppose this ballot measure and the out-of-state dollars that will promote it.

#### BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP!

If you feel strongly about this issue, please take this opportunity to donate toward our Anti-Assisted Suicide Fund. We guarantee that these funds will be targeted toward the assisted suicide issue. Work is already underway for an education campaign, including plans to directly oppose the ballot measure.

Please donate either online at <u>www.sdrighttolife.org</u> or send a donation to our Pierre office at South Dakota Right to Life, P.O. Box 1032, Pierre SD 57501. In either case please indicate that your donation be designated for our Anti-Assisted Suicide Fund if that is your wish.

Together we will overcome the darkest depths of the culture of death. Thank you.

Sincerely, Spencer Cody