



Lifeline

Pikes Peak Citizens for Life works to protect the innocent, helpless, vulnerable members of our human family - young and old, infirm and healthy, born and preborn.

Pikes Peak Citizens For Life

July 2022

No 'Right' to Abortion! "Roe & Casey are overruled."

A GREAT Day for LIFE!

Despite the unprecedented leak of a draft court opinion, death threats and weeks of vitriolic protests, on June 24, 2022 the U.S. Supreme Court reversed the horrific 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision that had nullified the pro-life laws of 30 states and mandated the slaughter of innocent pre-born humans be "legal" throughout the US.

The 6-3 opinion for *Dobbs v. Jackson's Women's Health* was written by Justice Samuel Alito with Justices Clarence Thomas, Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh, Amy Coney Barrett and John Roberts joining the majority. Justices Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor, and Elena Kagan opposed the decision.

Justice Thomas noted that the *Dobbs* decision also nullified the outrageous 1992 *Planned Parenthood vs. Casey* which had, he noted "invoked an ethereal 'right to define one's own concept of existence, of meaning, of the universe, and of the mystery of human life'."

"Now today," continues Thomas, "the Court rightly overrules *Roe* and *Casey* – two of this Court's 'most notoriously incorrect' substantive due process decisions... after more than 63 million abortions have been performed... The harm caused by this Court's forays into substantive due process remains immeasurable."

Sadly, with the passage of Colorado's barbaric RHEA, our State will continue to mandate unlimited abortion up to and including birth. The fight for LIFE in CO continues.

Jack & Bernadette: Celebrate Life!

It is particularly fitting that as we celebrate the end of *Roe v. Wade*, we have the opportunity to honor two stalwart veterans of the local pro-life movement.

For three decades **Jack and Bernadette Johnston** have carried the LIFE torch as leaders of Pikes Peak Citizens for Life. Their efforts were far-reaching as they developed the PPCFL speakers' bureau, coordinated the annual *Roses for Life Campaign*, encouraged local church partners, and recruited long-term donors – in addition to prayer and witness at the sidewalk and public square.

Julie Bailey, PPCFL VP reflected upon the couple's impact: "The reason PPCFL has continued so strong for so long is in large measure due to the efforts of Jack and Bernadette. They have very intentionally recruited,

supported, trained, equipped and encouraged the 'next generation' of leaders. They have been incredibly faithful, devoted, and concerned about providing for the future of our pro-life movement. Jack had a gift for finding the best people and inviting them to be partners in our movement. And he played a key role in the long-term financial stability of PPCFL by engaging committed annual donors."

While Jack served as a benevolent "father" – protecting and providing for PPCFL's future, Bernadette embodied the role of a caring "mother" for many years.

PPCFL President Matt Niedzielski described the importance of Bernadette's tireless commitment to the tasks that can go unnoticed, but are so very, very essential for success. "Bernadette was a constant source of encouragement. She personally hand-wrote hundreds of thank you notes, volunteered in the office faithfully, and unfailingly sent out monthly reminders for the Board while serving as Secretary for almost 30 years. These are the basic necessities that people don't always notice, but are critically necessary for an organization's success."

In considering their many years with PPCFL, the couple reflected a deep personal gratitude in having the opportunity to serve God for LIFE and an appreciation for the many gifts and talents of all the volunteers they've been blessed to work with.

Jack reflected on the road that led to his passion for defending human life: "I saw a lot of death in the two tours I served in Vietnam." As an officer he had the duty to inform parents when a soldier died. The enormity of the deaths on both sides of the battlefield weighs heavy on his heart. He deeply values the sanctity of human life.

"I sometimes pass a playground and watch the children playing and wonder if some of them are there because of the efforts of all the good people at PPCFL. If we saved just one life, it was all worth it."

Bernadette shared a beautiful story of a young girl who they helped with a pro-life presentation. After high school, the girl moved to California and became pregnant. "Her mom later told me that presentation on LIFE made a huge impact and if it hadn't been for that presentation, her grandbaby might not be here today."

These are the lives that inspire and encourage future generations to defend life. Thank you Jack & Bernadette!

PPCFL Officers and Directors

President	Matt Niedzielski
Vice President	Julie Bailey
Secretary	Kathy Thilenius
Treasurer	John Combs
Newsletter	Holly Coco
Additional Directors	Shannon Kelepolo Mark Spengler Trevor Malloy

If you are interested in attending a board meeting, contact us via phone or email below.

To schedule a PPCFL Presentation

Julie Bailey (719) 630-1999

Join us as a volunteer!!

Staff our office; assist with computer work; become a PPCFL church or group contact; assist with educational programs; staff an educational booth; or assist in fundraising. Feel free to bring fresh ideas or "Chair" a project... the opportunities are endless.

FREE Subscription: LifeLine Newsletter

To receive our electronic *LifeLine* subscribe online. For a paper subscription, call or email:

Phone: 719-630-1999

Email: contact@ppccitizensforlife.org

Website: www.ppccitizensforlife.org

✂ -----

Support PPCFL

All-Volunteer / Tax Exempt Organization

PPCFL is an approved tax-exempt Public Charity under the IRS Code section 501(c)(3).

Donations are tax deductible.

Our EIN is 26-0770794.

Donate Online, or Send Your Gift to:

Pikes Peak Citizens For Life
707 N. Nevada Ave, Suite R (Rear)
Colorado Springs, CO 80903-5019

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Is this a memorial? If so, for whom?

PPCFL does NOT sell or release any reader or donor information.



The President's Corner

It is now official. The tremendously flawed *Roe v. Wade* decision, and all the judicial decisions based on it, have been overturned by the Supreme Court of the United States.

Thank you to all of you who helped in any way for this day to come! There are many pro-life warriors who worked hard to see this day but passed on before it was realized. I'm sure they are celebrating in heaven, just as we are here on earth.

The post-*Roe* United States, in which we now live, will have the issue of abortion returned to the states. Hence, **the legal situation will resemble that of slavery prior to the Civil War. Where there were free and slave states in antebellum America, there will be life and death states in post-*Roe* America.**

Some nearby states, notably [Arizona](#), [Texas](#), [Oklahoma](#), [Utah](#), [Nebraska](#) and [Wyoming](#), appear poised to become life states very soon if they haven't already done so by the time this newsletter gets to you.

Unfortunately, Colorado has come down firmly as a death state, especially given the passage of the Reproductive Health Equity Act (RHEA) earlier this year.

One consequence of the new environment is that abortion tourism to Colorado is very likely to increase.

Also, since the overturning of *Roe* means it can no longer be claimed that abortion is a "constitutional right," there is already an effort in Colorado to declare it a right in the Colorado constitution within the next couple of years.

So, a significant victory has been achieved, but the struggle for life is not yet over. At Pikes Peak Citizens for Life we have already geared up for the new environment and will be adding new techniques to the tried and true methods we have already been employing to continue building a culture of life in the Pikes Peak region and in Colorado.

Our objective now is to flip Colorado from a *State of Death* to a *State of Life*. Please join us in this struggle for LIFE!

Matt

¹Ref: LifeNews.com, Micaiah Bilger, "[26 States Will Likely Protect Babies From Abortions Now That Roe Has Been Overturned](#)" 24 Jun 2022

Sidewalk Advocates for Life: Trained for Impact

PPCFL is hosting two training opportunities for Sidewalk Advocates at our PPCFL offices this summer.

Saturday, July 30, 1-3pm: Advanced Training for all who have completed *Sidewalk Advocate Basic Training*. Advanced training will include role-playing and will be very helpful in bridging the gap between the video training and being on the sidewalk stopping cars.

Saturday, August 27, 10am – 5:30pm Basic Training – teaches a peaceful, prayerful method for offering women and men entering an abortion center more life-affirming options. Use QR Code or link.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0f45aba72ca46-basic3>

or contact Michele at prolifefamilyof15@gmail.com or 719-659-2097.





CSPGS Joins Year-Round 40 Days for Life Vigil

Colorado Springs has "officially" joined the international 40 Days for Life 365 team. This "40DFL365" describes a team of dedicated pro-life volunteers who pray year round in front of abortion clinics during the hours of operation.

When launching **40DFL365** leader training in 2020, Shawn Carney, President and CEO of *40 Days for Life*, explained that the new program does not replace the spring and fall 40 Days for Life campaigns, "We have seen in many locations how effective 40 Days for Life campaigns twice a year feed into a year-round presence that closes an abortion facility."

40DFL365 training and implementation grew from grass-roots demand, "Local leaders have been asking for this, and those who qualify for the program are going to see saved baby numbers go up and ultimately see abortion facilities close," shared Carney. "40 Days for Life has experienced so much growth that we've learned a lot about what works and doesn't work, and the leaders are eager to build upon success. Developing a platform for organizing year-round vigils was the logical next step toward ending abortion."

Local 40DFL365 leader, Michele Mason, posted on the [40 Days For Life - Colorado Springs Facebook page](#), "No matter what happens with the anticipated Supreme Court decision on *Dobbs v Jackson*, sadly, abortion will continue to be available in Colorado for all 9 months of pregnancy. We are already seeing an influx of abortion-seekers from Texas, and we anticipate numbers will increase from other neighboring states if *Roe v Wade* is overturned."

Michele encourages pro-life advocates to participate in the "threefold plan" of prayer, fasting and outreach to moms and dads in need.

1. **Join the Colorado Springs 40DFL365 Team** by praying weekly, biweekly, or monthly – never alone, always with a partner - at the sidewalk throughout the whole year.

To view the 365 schedule or to sign up to pray at the sidewalk during the hours Planned Parenthood is open, go to www.40daysforlife.com/coloradosprings

2. **Get Trained as a Sidewalk Advocate** – and help women and men choose LIFE for their babies! – More details and registration information for Sidewalk Advocate Training on page 2.

3. **Be a Barnabas Buddy!** Barnabas Buddies are people who are unable to pray at the sidewalk for some reason but would like to participate and pray daily or weekly from home or church.

To pray as a Barnabas Buddy, sign up at www.slotted.co/inmuy1gh



Ref: 40 Days for Life Blog, Steven Karlen, "Coming 2021 — 40 Days for Life 365" 7 Dec 2020

Memorial Gift

Received from
Dianne Klazura

in memory of



Aron Brown
41 year old mother of three

~~~~~  
Our thanks & blessings

### Memorial Gift

Received from  
*Linda Gurreri*

in memory of



*Joseph John Gurreri*

~~~~~  
Our thanks & blessings



SAVE the DATE
for LIFE CHAIN 2022
Sunday October 2
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Mark your calendar and help spread the news! Watch for details in future PPCFL newsletters.

If you can help us organize a church or community groups, please email Linda or Stephanie newlifeinhim.jesus@gmail.com or stephanierkemp@gmail.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Newsletter by Email

To receive your newsletter by email, sign up at
www.ppcitizensforlife.org/our-how/newsletters/

If you have received the paper newsletter
in error, please call 719-630-1999 or email
contact@ppcitizensforlife.org



**Pikes Peak Citizens for Life & Save the Storks
Bring LIFE to the Ballpark!**
Friday, Aug 26th at UC Health Park in CSPGS

The game starts at 6:30 p.m.

Come Early to Get Your Special Event T-Shirt

Sharing LIFE – beyond the “in” field of people who already agree with us –
is a **critical step in winning our culture.**

Pikes Peak Citizens for Life & Save the Storks are hosting **Celebrate
Family Night at the Ballpark** to do just that.

Baseball lovers will experience:

- **Pro-Life giveaways to those arriving early.**
- Life-changing ‘Stork Buses’ at the park for folks to tour
- The game: *Rocky Mountain Vibes vs Ogden Raptors*
- Matt Hammitt, known for *Sanctus Real* and the hit song [Lead Me](#) will offer a mini concert following the game, prior to fireworks.

For Tickets, scan the QR Code above or visit TicketReturn.com:

<https://www.ticketreturn.com/prod2/BuyClear.asp?EventID=324655&continue=-buynew.asp#.Yq-5hnbMLIU>

LIFE Opportunities

Volunteers needed to help staff booths at the El Paso County Fair (July 16 – 23), and the Colorado State Fair (Aug 26-Sept 5)

★ **Booth Volunteer Training**

- Tuesday July 12; 6pm-7:30pm OR
- Wednesday July 13; 6pm-7:30pm

Held at the Pikes Peak Citizens for Life office

RSVP to janetcampbell729@comcast.net or call Janet Campbell at 719-660-0048

★ **Sidewalk Advocates Training**

Basic Sidewalk Advocate Training

- Saturday, August 27, 10am – 5:30pm

Advanced Sidewalk Advocates Training

- Saturday, July 30th from 1-3 pm

Held at the Pikes Peak Citizens for Life office.

More details and QR Code on pg 2. Register at:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0f45aba72ca46-basic3>

★ **Life Chain:** October 2, 2022 – see pg 3 for more details and contact information.