



Dubuque County
Right To Life, Inc.

LIFE TIME

MARCH 2024 VOLUME 27 NUMBER 3



40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

40 Days for Life is an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and a peaceful all-day vigil in front of abortion businesses.

On Thursday, March 7, the 40 Days for Life Campaign in Iowa City is hosting Steve Karlen, 40 Days for Life Campaign Director. It will begin with prayer at 10:00am in front of Emma Goldman Abortion Clinic followed by lunch and discussion at the Newman Student Center (just down the road from Emma Goldman).

If you are interested in carpooling for this event, please reach out to our office by Tuesday, March 5th. We will depart Dubuque area by 7:30am and spend an additional hour in prayer prior to the event.

Note: Thursday is the day Emma Goldman does abortions.



Mass for Life



Monday, April 8th, 6:30pm

**Cathedral of St. Raphael
(231 Bluff St, Dubuque, IA)**

Rosary to begin at 6:00pm.

Ice Cream Social to follow in Cathedral Hall.



We are honored to have the Archbishop of Dubuque, Thomas Zinkula, celebrate the Mass and join us for the social. Priests and deacons are invited to vest for Mass.

Our Mass for Life usually happens on March 25th, which is typically the Feast of the Annunciation (Jesus' Conception Day) and the International Day of the Unborn Child. Due to Easter being early this year and the feast day falling during Holy Week, the feast of the Annunciation has been moved to Monday, April 8th, this year. The Mass will coincide with the change in the feast day this year.

March 2024

Volume 27, Number 3
Published Monthly

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Dubuque County Right to Life, Inc. is a non-profit, non-sectarian, education organization dedicated to preserving and fostering respect for human life from conception to natural death. We educate the public about the dangers of abortion, euthanasia and infanticide.

March 2024

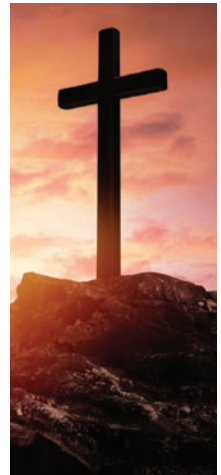
Thursday, March 7	40 Days for Life event in Iowa City - Steve Karlen, 40 Days for Life Campaign Director
Friday, March 15	RSVP deadline for Life Dinner
Thursday, March 21	Board of Directors meeting
Thursday, March 21	Holy Hour - 7:00pm St. John the Baptist, Peosta
Saturday, March 30	Pro-Life Scholarship speech contest. 9:00am. DCRTL Office.
Sunday, March 31	Happy Easter!

April 2024

Thursday, April 4	30th Annual Life Dinner - 5:00pm - Grand River Center
Monday, April 8	Mass for Life - 6:30pm Cathedral of St. Raphael (231 Bluff St., Dubuque)
Saturday, April 13	Easter Egg Hunt St. Columbkille's Church
Thursday, April 18	Board of Director's meeting
Thursday, April 25	Holy Hour - 7:00pm St. John the Baptist, Peosta

Praying outside of the abortion facility

Every Thursday morning, Art Gilloon and a couple other members carpool down to Iowa City to pray and offer life-affirming options to the mothers entering Emma Goldman abortion facility. They leave by 5:45am and return to Dubuque by 12 noon. They have open spots in the car. If you would like to join them on any Thursday, give our office a call (563-556-5960) by Wednesday (day before) at 4pm to sign-up.





A NOTE FROM AUGUSTINE PAYNE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

What do you do if you want your kids to be good at something or want them to value something that you value? Whether it is valuing your faith, having family time, sports, music, etc., they are more likely to do those things or value your values when you expose them at a young age and show them the goodness within them. When people take part in something at a young age, they are more likely to continue to value it later in life.

I personally can't say the age at which I became involved in the pro-life movement. That is because my parents had been involved long before I was born and continued to be involved during my formative years growing up. My earliest memory was attending the city council meetings with my family in an attempt to stop an abortionist from opening an abortion clinic just minutes from my home. The abortion clinic did open, and my mom would bring my siblings and me out there to pray outside of the abortion clinic on days they would do abortions. This was just the start of many other activities related to the pro-life cause that would happen during the formative years of growing up.

I say this in gratitude to my parents and older siblings who were involved and were willing to bring us along, but also as encouragement to bring your children and/or grandchildren to upcoming events and activities. We have many activities where all ages are welcome, including our LIFE Dinner and other major functions.

If we want to continue to build a pro-life culture, one way we do that is by bringing our kids/grandkids to events and activities that are both for learning and having fun. They have to know that we have good reasons for our beliefs, and that we are wonderful normal people (not a bunch of "kooks" as former abortionist Dr. Levatino thought pro-life people were prior to his full conversion).

A shout out to Pulse Life Advocates, formerly known as Iowans for Life, for creating a four-part video series on raising pro-life kids. It is mostly in interview format with parents, kids, and clergy, speaking on their own personal experiences. You can check it out at www.pulseforlife.org/how-to-raise-pro-life-children/. In episode two, one of the parents stated that the only thing she regretted was not beginning to have talks with her child sooner.

Regardless of age, it is never too late to invite someone, whether it is a relative or friend, to get involved. If we want to build a movement that believes in the right to life for ALL human beings, we have to be willing to invite others. There is no better time than today to invite someone to join you in this noble cause.

I hope you have a great Easter and I look forward to seeing you at our LIFE Dinner.

Augustine Payne



MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS



In Memory of:

Bob Barton.....	Jim & Kathy Conlon
James Braden.....	Thomas & Laura Stierman
Jennifer Dazey.....	Dan & Barb Nicholson
Alice DeSotel.....	Neil & Linda Hoeger
Jerome Feldman.....	Kathy Koch, Julie Koch-Wormer, Ann March
Joan Feldmann.....	Harold & Darlene Schieltz
Fr. Richard Kuhn.....	Mike & Ann Fagerlind
Carol Pfeiler.....	Louis Pfeiler
Lyal Pfeiler.....	Julianne Fischer
Florence Puls.....	Jim & Kathy Conlon
Peter Roth.....	Dan & Barb Nicholson
Joe Wachtel.....	Logan & Ashley Steffans
Anna Mae Wimer.....	Jim & Kathy Conlon



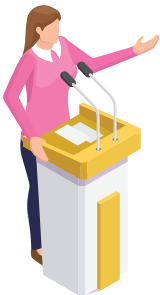
Thank You!

- Dick and Marilyn Vogt for paper and stamps
- Laura Dolehide, Erin & Sophie Heim, and Sue Lansing, for their help in the office
- Platteville Students for Life for hosting an apologetics training



Wish List

Tall Kitchen Garbage Bags
Postage stamps



High School Senior Scholarship Contest

High School Senior Scholarship Contest We are hosting our annual Scholarship Speech Presentation day at the DCRTL office on Saturday, March 30th. All are welcome. If you cannot be there in person, we will have a **LIVESTREAM** of the speeches on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/dcrtl) and possibly our Instagram page (<https://www.instagram.com/righttolifedubuque/>). If you cannot attend in-person, please tune in starting at 9:00am to watch the students present their speeches on the topic, Advancing Pro-Life Ideas to Next Generations: Goals and Strategies.”

VOTE for your favorite speech and award an additional \$250. Those attending in-person and on Facebook live, will be awarding “The People’s Award” in the amount of \$250 to the speech that receives the most votes, so be sure to tune in to choose your favorite speech if you cannot be there in-person.

NOTE: voting will open when announced and only the votes during that time will be counted.



PRO-LIFE COURT & LEGISLATION UPDATE

by Arthur F. Gilloon, DCRTL Board Member & Attorney



Dear Pro-Life friends,

Some news from Iowa and around the nation.

Iowa

On February 15, 2024, the Iowa Board of Medicine approved administrative rules to govern physicians' actions if the Iowa Supreme Court approves the Iowa heartbeat law passed in July 2023. These rules now go before the Iowa legislature's administrative rules committee for final approval. If approved by the committee, and if the Iowa Supreme Court approves the Iowa Heartbeat law in June, the rules will govern how a doctor's actions are reviewed if he / she performs an abortion that kills a child with a detectable heartbeat. Fortunately, the rules define an "unborn child" to include any individual from "fertilization to live birth." Additionally, every physician considering abortion must make a "bona fide effort to detect a fetal heartbeat in the unborn child." This requires the doctor to perform a trans-abdominal pelvic ultrasound to determine whether the unborn child has a detectable fetal heartbeat.

To review the Iowa Heartbeat law, google "Iowa Code Chapter 146E". Note that the law specifically provides that no woman will be prosecuted criminally or civilly under the heartbeat law if she has an abortion. The penalties apply only to the baby-killing abortionist.

In the Iowa legislature, several pro-life bills made the funnel/cutoff date of Friday, February 16, and are still alive to be considered further by the Iowa legislature before the session ends this Spring. These include: Iowa House Study Bill 621 defining an Unborn Child as a person under Iowa criminal law; HF 2518 allowing parents to sue in civil court if their unborn baby is killed in an auto accident; HF 2031 requiring that schools include a "Baby Olivia" realistic unborn baby growth video in grades 7 through 12 of the health and human development curriculum (google "Baby Olivia video" to see it.); HF 2276 protecting maternity homes from discriminatory zoning actions, such as those that Mary's Inn faced here in Dubuque in 2023; HF 2252 expanding Medicaid benefit eligibility for new moms from 60 days after birth to 1 year, thus providing help for newborns and their moms for a much longer period of time. Unfortunately, the bill also lowers the eligibility requirement from at or below 300% of the federal poverty level to 215% (the bill can be amended prior to final passage). HF 2252 expands the MOMS law to allow more pregnancy resource centers to apply for grants to help women facing unintended pregnancies; SF 2286 protects the rights of pro-life hospitals and doctors who refuse to perform abortions because of their moral and/or religious objections; and HF 2395 requires the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) to create a website with information on perinatal hospice services available in Iowa and nationally.

Alabama

We have some great news from Alabama, which now recognizes frozen human embryos as people with rights. On February 16, 2024, the Supreme Court ruled that parents whose frozen embryos are destroyed due to the negligence of the storage facility, are entitled to sue for the death of these unborn children because, although they are located outside of the mother's body, Alabama's Wrongful Death of a Minor Act "applies... to all unborn children." In this case, the cryogenic storage facility, where several frozen embryos were stored, allegedly allowed them to be removed and dropped by a patient from an adjoining hospital who wandered into an unsecured area. The embryos were removed and dropped on the floor, killing them.

The Alabama Supreme Court ruled that Alabama's law protecting unborn children also protects "unborn children who are not physically located 'in utero' — that is, inside a biological uterus — at the time they are killed."

Pro-Life Court & Legislative update

...continued from page 5

This is a major Pro-Life victory, but it also illustrates the moral and legal issues surrounding the practice of creating unborn children, allowing them to grow to a certain point, and then freezing them as embryos. Importantly, the Alabama Supreme Court noted the following, a beautiful testament to the scientific facts of creation, and a statement of what all parties to the case AGREED to:

Before analyzing the parties' disagreement about the scope of the Wrongful Death of a Minor Act, we begin by explaining some background points of agreement. All parties to these cases, like all members of this Court, agree that an unborn child is a genetically unique human being whose life begins at fertilization and ends at death. The parties further agree that an unborn child usually qualifies as a "human life," "human being," or "person," as those words are used in ordinary conversation and in the text of Alabama's wrongful-death statutes. That is true, as everyone acknowledges, throughout all stages of an unborn child's development, regardless of viability.

You may read the case at this link:

<https://publicportal-api.alappeals.gov/courts/68f021c4-6a44-4735-9a76-5360b2e8af13/cms/case/343D203A-B13D-463A-8176-C46E3AE4F695/docketentrydocuments/E3D95592-3CBE-4384-AFA6-063D4595AA1D>

Illinois

In other state news from around the country, a bill was introduced in the Illinois legislature that would prohibit parents from attempting to stop their minor child from having an abortion. If the parent violated the law, they could be charged with child abuse. So far this proposed law has not been passed.

New Hampshire

In other state news, an attempt to enshrine abortion rights in the New Hampshire Constitution recently failed in the state Senate by a 14-9 vote along party lines. The Republicans successfully stopped a broadly worded proposal to add language to the constitution protecting “personal reproductive autonomy.”

Note that our Iowa constitution cannot be amended by a simple vote of the legislature. Iowa allows our state constitution to be amended only after two votes of the full Iowa Legislature in separate sessions, followed by an affirmative vote of the people.

Wisconsin

In Wisconsin, you may recall that last summer a Dane County court judge ruled that Wisconsin's 174-year-old law protecting Unborn babies only prohibits feticide — that is an attempt to kill an unborn child by certain means (like an assault on the mother) but the judge said it did not prohibit abortions. (I know, it is a very odd ruling.) That ruling is headed to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. In the meantime, Planned Parenthood, which had ceased killing babies in Wisconsin following the U.S. Supreme Court decision in Dobbs, resumed operations in Wisconsin. The State Assembly in Wisconsin recently acted to negate the judge's ruling by passing Assembly Bill 975, a 14-week protective bill. The fate of this bill is uncertain, as it has not been passed in the Wisconsin Senate, and pro-abortion Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers has vowed to veto it.

Be aware that the merits of this bill are an issue among our pro-life Wisconsin friends. The bill arguably has no mechanism to verify the rape and incest exception, and it would go into effect prior to the Wisconsin Supreme Court ruling on the Dane County case mentioned above.

...continued on page 7



Pro-Life Court & Legislative update

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Federal News

Iowa U.S. Representative Ashley Hinson's federal bill entitled, "Pregnant Student's Rights Act" H.R.6914 has been passed in the U.S. House of Representatives and is now in the United States' Senate for consideration. This law would require that colleges advise pregnant students of the protections and options available to them to continue their education while pregnant, including flexible class schedules, excused absences for doctor's appointments, and childcare assistance. It also directs colleges to advise students of campus and community resources to support their pregnancy, and how pregnant and parenting students can report discrimination under Title IX, the federal law that bars sex-based discrimination.

It is a major step forward in the continuing effort by all pro-lifers to educate women facing unintended pregnancies and the general public that resources exist to help them, and that they will be protected from those who want to push them to abort their child. That's all for now. Please contact our office if you have any questions. Keep reading, viewing, and learning about legislation and court cases that affect the culture of life in our city, state, and country. DCRTL will help you do just that.

Arthur F. Gilloon

You are invited
to our 30th annual

Love Dinner

Thursday April 4th, 2024
5pm - 8:30pm

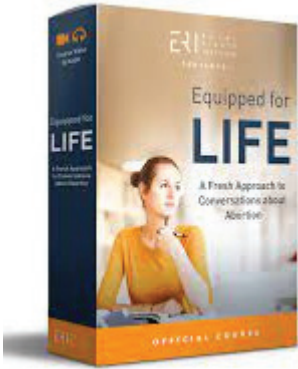
Keynote Speaker: Grand River Center (500 Bell St, Dubuque, IA)
Mark Houck



Mark Houck is the Founder and President of The King's Men, Inc. He is an author, activist, and internationally known motivational speaker who developed in 2004 a highly successful ministry to help others become better leaders, protectors and providers. As a former All-American collegiate athlete and high school coach, Mark has drawn on his personal pursuit of excellence in sports to encourage and mentor thousands across North America and Europe. Through his seasoned life experience as a human resource manager, youth counselor and high school teacher, Mark brings practical insight and wisdom to all his presentations. Mark is a husband and father of 7 children. He has a B.A. in Human Resource Management from Catholic University and holds a Master's degree in Education from Holy Family University.

**You can RSVP by calling the office at 563-556-5960, emailing us at dcrtl@dcrtl.org, or returning the RSVP card by mail. There is no cost to attend!
Please kindly RSVP by Friday, March 15.**

Equipped for Life Course



The Equipped for Life Course provides a fresh approach to the dialogue about abortion. Equal Rights Institute developed this method from thousands of conversations with pro-choice people. We want to continue to introduce this approach to our members. The seminar will help you have charitable dialogues with anyone regardless of their religious or political beliefs.

Each meeting will include learning the topic of the day, time for discussion, and practicing with fellow pro-lifers. If you can't attend a certain day during the course, we have a plan for you. The topics we will cover are: Habits of Highly Ineffective Pro-Lifers, Practical Dialogue Tips, Trot Out a Toddler, The Biological Case for the Unborn, The Philosophical Case for the Unborn, The Question of Rape, and Bodily Rights Arguments.

This is FREE and kids are welcome.

Upcoming training sessions are:

- Two Saturdays - March 2nd & 9th - 9am - 1pm (2 sessions - Lunch is provided)

Last call to join us for the DCRTL Bus Trip to the National Celebrate Life Rally in Washington, DC

Please let us know ASAP if you are able to join us!

Who: Anyone who would like to attend.

When: Thursday, June 20 (evening) - Monday, June 24

Why: To participate in the Celebrate Life Rally that marks the day (June 24) *Dobbs v. Jackson decision was handed down from the Supreme Court that overturned the Roe v. Wade decision which made abortion legal in the whole United States.*

Cost: \$450 per person

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 13th 11:30am

*at the green space behind St. Columbkille Catholic Church
(1240 Rush St, Dubuque)*

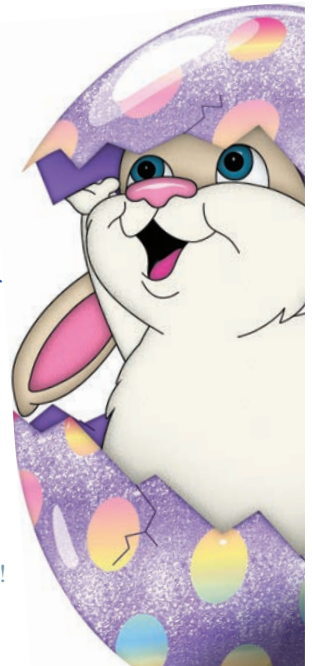
There will be an All ages are welcome! Please bring an Easter basket to collect eggs for children 3 and under. Also it may be muddy so don't forget your boots! If it rains we will move festivities inside. Bring the whole family for lots of fun – we can't wait to see you there! We will provide pulled pork and buns. If you wish, bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Some of the featured activities:

Easter Egg Hunt, Scavenger Hunt,
Egg Races and more!
followed by a Potluck Lunch



Come join us
for an Easter Celebration!!
All denominations
are welcome!



A baby saved and a family helped in Iowa

Background

Dubuque County Right to Life actively organizes carpools to the Emma Goldman abortion clinic in Iowa City to offer life-affirming resources as we pray for these women. Stats have shown that many mothers and families pursue abortion because they feel they can't afford to raise this child. The abortion clinic will do nothing to help them. When standing outside of the abortion clinic, we have to be willing to offer them real support that will empower them to choose life for their child.

Last fall, during the 40 Days for Life Campaign, there was a couple who already had three other children and were in financial uncertainty, saw no other option other than abortion. Through a series of contacts with sidewalk advocates, of which Dubuque County Right to Life was one, we were able to speak with them about their concerns and partner with Johnson County Right to Life to provide financial assistance as well as other resources that this beautiful family needed. They **CHOSE LIFE** for their baby boy who is due in May 2024!

The family is very grateful

The mother and father sent a handwritten letter to express their gratitude for the help. Below is what they said as well as a picture of that note.

"We wish to express our immeasurable gratitude for the assistance you have rendered and continue to provide to us. You can't imagine how grateful we are for both the financial assistance and counsel your organization has given to us when we most needed it.

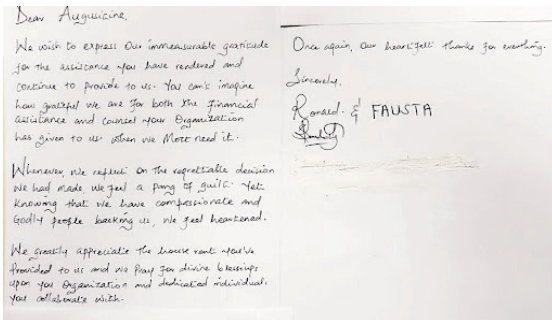
Whenever we reflect on the regrettable decision we had made, we feel a pang of guilt. Yet knowing that we have compassionate and godly people backing us, we feel heartened.

We greatly appreciate the house rent you've provided to us and pray for Divine blessings upon your organization and dedicated individuals you collaborate with.

Once again, our heartfelt thanks for everything.

*Sincerely,
Ronald & Fausta*

With our continued trips down to Emma Goldman, the Board of Directors would like to create a special fund for couples or moms we may meet who are being driven by financial strain to the abortion clinic to give them the support they need to choose life for their child. Will you support this initiative? If the answer is yes, you can donate with "Moms in Need," or "Helping Moms" in the memo line on the left hand corner of your check, or if donating online, put it in the the comments section. Let's help more people choose LIFE for their child.



Thank YOU!!!

We wanted to share this note with you because truly this would not have been possible without YOUR support. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! You have made a difference in this family's life and the people this child will impact. You have saved a life!

Help us help more moms and families.



Fifth Grade Poster Contest Results

During Respect Life Month, several of the area schools participated in our 5th grade poster contest! That means hundreds of 5th graders! The theme this year was “Every Life Matters” which encouraged great creativity from the students. The students did such a great job! Thank you to all the volunteers who helped pick our 2023 winners!

A big thank you to all the students who participated and especially to the parents and teachers who helped encourage the students in this endeavor. It’s such a fun and creative way to build awareness of the sanctity of all human life.

Each student who participated received a pro-life lollipop (it has the size of the pre-born child’s feet at 12 weeks coated on it) and one of our 12-week life size preborn models to take home. Congratulations to our 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place overall winners as well as a top winner from each school listed below!! The winning posters will be showcased at the Life Dinner for you all to see. The other posters we offer to local nursing homes and hospitals to display in their halls for their people to enjoy.



1st Place overall
Maggie Hunt
La Salle



St Francis Xavier - Ruby Francois
Oberlberding - 2nd place overall



Aquin - Sophia Hutchins - 3rd Place overall





Seton - Caleb Kluesner



Our Lady Of Guadalupe -
Madeline Hesselman

In the News...




Planned Parenthood Closures

Planned Parenthood on the south side of Des Moines has permanently closed. Praise God! There are still two Planned Parenthood abortion clinics in the Des Moines area. The Planned Parenthood in Cedar Rapids has been temporarily closed since last fall. Continue to pray for its permanent closure.


Pro-Life Kansas City Chiefs Kicker Harrison Butker Sets Super Bowl Record

Harrison Butker set the record for the longest field goal in Super Bowl history with his 57-yard kick. In the Super Bowl, he scored 13 of the team's 25 points including the game-tying field goal with 3 seconds left in regulation.



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John 23

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Dr. David & Eva Stabenow

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& Key West, IA



Council #5513

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Council #7527

Bishop O'Neill Chapel
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Council #7823

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Council #15813

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St. Faustina,

*"How very much
I desire the
salvation of
souls!"*

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*Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.
Jer. 1:5*

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If you would like to know more about being a regular adorator at the Power of Prayer Adoration Chapel, or if you are willing to sub occasionally, please contact Melissa Noel, 563-564-6365 or powerofprayerchapel@outlook.com

Catholic Parishes of the Emmaus Pastorate: 

St. Patrick, Colzburgh; St. Mark, Edgewood; St. Joseph, Elkader; St. Mary, Strawberry Point; and Sacred Heart, Volga.

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you."
Jeremiah 1:5

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LIZ CUSHMAN
USA Coordinator

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www.stcolumbkille.net

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