Abortion Pill Reversal Information Bills Introduced

With chemical abortions, also known as RU-486 or medication abortions, on the rise (58% of all abortions in Kansas in 2017) there have been advances to counteract the trend. The chemical abortion procedure is when mifepristone is first administered, followed by misoprostol 24 to 72 hours later. Abortion Pill Reversal (APR) is a protocol that, when used after the first pill is administered, can potentially reverse the mifepristone’s effects and save the baby. Mifepristone blocks the necessary progesterone to support the pregnancy, but APR counteracts this effect by providing extra progesterone. Since APR needs to be utilized within 72 hours, time is of the essence. Many women regret their abortion decision immediately after taking the first pill, and knowing about APR may save their babies.

Kansans for Life supports HB 2274 and SB 167, Abortion Pill Reversal Information bills. The bills require that women seeking a medication abortion using mifepristone are informed that it may be possible to reverse the intended effects of the mifepristone and continue the pregnancy, if the second pill is not taken. Information on how to obtain timely assistance with attempting to reverse the medication abortion is also provided. Women seeking a medication abortion using mifepristone will be informed of the potential for the reversal and how to get timely help in four ways:

- The information must be posted on a sign at the facility providing the abortion; and
- The provider must inform the woman about the possibility of reversal by phone or in person 24 hours in advance of the abortion; and

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Topeka Rally for Life 2019

By Julie Anderson

Prior to the opening prayer, Mary Kay Culp, executive director of Kansans for Life, offered some introductory remarks, sharing the likelihood of the Kansas State Supreme Court finding a right to abortion in the state constitution adopted in 1859. The “so-called right to abortion,” she said, is one she fully expects the justices to announce any day. It’s been nearly two years since the justices first heard arguments on Hodes and Nauser v. Schmidt, a case filed by late-term abortionists Herbert Hodes and Traci Nauser, against Attorney General Derek Schmidt after governor Sam Brownback signed the Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Act in 2015.

Elsewhere in her remarks, Culp said, “It’s going to take the right to legislate on this issue away from the legislature,” adding, “They’re [pro-abortion people] afraid of Roe v. Wade being overturned at the Supreme Court level, and they have reason to be afraid. And so, what are they doing? They’re trying to change every state constitution into a version of Roe v. Wade.”

“It’s expensive. Tennessee went through it. It took them a decade, but we can do it. So, that’s what we’re going to do.”

Continued on page 3
How to contact your state legislators

**E-mail alert system:** As bills come up and legislator contact is important, we will send legislative alerts via e-mail. Please help us add to our e-mail alert constituent list by recommending to your pro-life friends that they sign up at www.kfl.org.

**Legislative hotline:** To identify and leave a message for your senator and representative now through mid-May, call the KANSAS LEGISLATIVE HOTLINE anytime 8 AM to 5 PM weekdays at: 1-800-432-3924.

**State website:** to identify your elected representatives yourself, and get direct phone numbers to their offices, go to www.kslegislature.org.

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**Kansans for Life News**

is published by Kansans for Life (KFL)

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Kansans for Life is a statewide non-profit educational organization also engaged in social action. It is dedicated to protecting and fostering the most basic human right: life itself.

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**MEMORIAL GIFTS**

Please pray for the families who have honored their loved ones with a gift to Kansans for Life:

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<th>Dorothy Peitz</th>
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**Pro-Life Events in Kansas**

**March**

Tuesday, March 5: RESCHEDULED DATE Hour for Life, “Abortion Pill Reversal” with Dr. Jonathan Scafferd. Wichita office, 7 p.m., refreshments served, no charge.

**April**

Tuesday, April 2: Hour for Life, “Grace Multiplied” Rebecca Billups, CEO of the Wichita non-profit Grace Multiplied, will speak about the organization’s programs to help women recovering from domestic violence, sex trafficking and addiction. Wichita office, 7 p.m., refreshments served, no charge.

Saturday, April 27: Statewide Oratorical Contest for high school juniors and seniors, Salina. NOTE: THIS IS A DATE CHANGE.

**May**

Tuesday, May 7: Hour for Life, “Social Media Skills for Pro-Life Activists” with Amy Torkelson and Kate Gruver. Wichita office, 7 p.m., refreshments served, no charge.

Saturday, May 10: Nonprofit Night at the Wichita Force Arena Football game in Wichita. Come out and enjoy a family fun night with your pro-life friends. KFL has purchased tickets at a group rate; tickets are $10 per person and KFL gets to keep $5 of your ticket price! Stop by the Wichita KFL office or call us to purchase tickets.

Sunday, May 12: Baby Bottle Project begins

**Coming Up**

June 23 – 29: PULSE, Pro-Life Teen Institute, Wichita. Registration forms at kfl.org in March. Open to high school students from anywhere in Kansas.


Friday, July 13: Youth Forum, KFL teen youth event, Colby

Saturday, November 9: KFL State Convention in Wichita

**Mark your calendar!**

Pro–Life State Convention

Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019 Wichita
Sharing her award-winning speech from the Kansans for Life Oratorical Contest, Stacia Mendoza, St. James Academy Lenexa Senior, discussed the importance of language and the power words have played in the abortion movement.

While at a forensic tournament at another school, Mendoza noticed a list of euphemisms students had posted on a bulletin board. One, “Don’t say abortion. Say sending a baby to heaven,” led her to consider how the abortion industry has manipulated the English language in order to hide the horrible truth about abortion.

“I was stunned. How could they have reduced such a brutal and inhumane procedure into such a pleasant-sounding phrase? Sending a baby to heaven seemed to hide all the horrors of abortion. It glossed over the death of a child,” Mendoza said.

“I couldn't get it out of my head,” she said later, adding she even researched Planned Parenthood’s website and could not find mention of the word “baby” or “fetus” anywhere. Instead, the unborn child was reduced on the website to “pregnancy tissue.”

If I, someone who has been educated on the subject of abortion, had trouble understanding that pregnancy tissue is a code word for human baby, how is a scared and pregnant teenager supposed to make an educated choice?

Back ing up her arguments with statistics, Mendoza said that if society held a moment of silence for every life lost to abortion, we’d be silent for 10 years.

“Kansans loudly and clearly. Rep. Ron Ryckman, Jr. said he will work to get a right to life amendment passed in the state, if necessary.

“Kansas is a pro-life state, and I firmly believe the voters deserve to be allowed to vote in defense of our most sacred right,” Ryckman said.

Pastor Cecil Washington, chaplain to the Kansas Senate, closed the rally with this: “Lord, I thank you for the life you’ve given me and for the lives of everyone here. Thank you for the variety of gifts, abilities and talents that you have so miraculously encoded in the DNA of our being that each of us might be a unique blessing to others. Help us to learn to value the life that you give.”

State Treasurer Jake LaTurner addressed the crowd, encouraging everyone, but especially the young people, to not be afraid to speak the truth, adding he draws some of his inspiration from President Abraham Lincoln.

“He did not try to appease the adversaries. He spoke loudly and proudly. He said, ‘If slavery is not wrong, then nothing is wrong.’ And he was right. He stood on his faith. He stood on his principles. He stood on the truth, and he spoke out on the issue of his day. We need to do the same, and say in one loud, clear voice, "If abortion is not wrong, then nothing is wrong."

Having been in political office for 28 years, Kansas Senate President Susan Wagle said she appreciates the stand everyone involved in the pro-life movement has taken, and it is making a difference. By the movement’s activism, the tide has turned in Kansas from when she first took political office.

“We [prolife legislators] were a very small group, and if you were a female and you were pro-life, you were ridiculed, you were looked down upon because then you were considered anti-women.”

“You have changed things in Kansas. … You are making a difference. We hear you,” she said.

One of the other legislators said he, too, hears the voice of Kansas for Life
Continued from page 1

To participate in the KFL Baby Bottle project:
Contact us now or well before Mother’s Day:
Most of KS: 316-687-LIFE (5433),
800-928-LIFE, kfl@kfl.org
Johnson Wyandotte and No. Miami County:
913-642-LIFE (5433);
Kansansforlife@aol.com
February 8th, 2019 was an exciting evening for the Wichita Kansans for Life. That evening the annual Valentine Dinner & Fundraiser was held at the DoubleTree Hilton.

Kansans for Life’s new logo was unveiled at the event and attendees received a gift of a tote bag featuring the new logo.

Returning from previous years, Josh and Sarah Holthusen provided a beautiful ambience with live music as people entered and mingled.

Guests could purchase stunning, handcrafted crucifixes donated by local carpenter Matthew Shibley, with the proceeds benefiting Kansans for Life.

A full schedule of dinner and entertainment was presented to a full banquet room. The festivities began with a social hour to welcome guests. The many in attendance enjoyed talking with fellow pro-lifers.

The evening began and ended with heartfelt prayers lead by Pastor Steve Slack.

Guests were seated and welcomed by Master of Ceremonies, Mayor Jeff Longwell. The pro-life mayor led the evening with lighthearted cheer and appreciation for the deeply important pro-life work that needs to be done.

A hearty dinner of pot roast and veggies was served, perfect for the chilly evening.

U. S. Representative Ron Estes remarked on how treacherous the current pro-abortion culture is.

Amy Torkelson, KFL Wichita Office Director, addressed the crowd to share about the special work of Kansans for Life and to thank each and every person. She said, “Your gifts to KFL save lives, but you probably won’t ever know the people you saved. That is unselfish giving.”

Keynote Speaker, Archbishop Joseph Naumann. Photo by Del Torkelson.

Wichita Bishop Carl Kemme then took the stage to posit on the importance of being pro-life and to introduce keynote speaker, Archbishop Joseph Naumann of the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas.

Archbishop Naumann reigned the audience with personal stories and reiterated the importance of the pro-life movement and work. He encouraged support of Kansans for Life and local pregnancy resource centers as a way to win the fight against abortion.

To complete the evening a boisterous live auction was hosted by Fr. Bernard Gorges. With smooth speed Fr. Gorges sold a Seiko watch donated by Athena Jewelry, golf for four at Crestview Country Club and Rolling Hills Country Club, $1000 of airtime on Bott Radio donated by Bott Radio, a Bill Snyder autographed KSU football, an autographed 2017-2018 WSU Men’s Basketball, an autographed 2006-2007 KU Men’s Basketball, and a limited edition Tom Dubois lithograph, “Snow White’s Magical Forest.” In addition, bottles of custom-blend, Kansans-for-Life-label red wine with Rep. Ron Estes’ autograph on the label were auctioned.

At the conclusion attendees slowly exited the hotel as if no one wanted the fun to be over. The evening was a successful and blessed one for Kansans for Life.
Tuesday, February 12, was an out-of-the-ordinary evening for Kansas City Kansans for Life supporters. That evening was the Kansas City Valentine Dinner and Fundraiser at the DoubleTree Hilton in Overland Park.

The beautiful evening started with a social hour and opening of a silent auction and raffle. An elegant dinner of Chicken Florentine was served to the delight of guests.

Eben Fowler, Director of Operations for Bott Radio, was master of ceremonies, introducing speakers and entertaining in between them.

Kansans for Life State Executive Director, Mary Kay Culp, welcomed the crowd and shared about Kansans for Life’s current projects and successes.

Archbishop Joseph Naumann, archbishop of the diocese of Kansas City, Kansas, led a blessing before the meal and reiterated the importance of pro-life activities on the state level, like with Kansans for Life, given the multiple states making pro-abortion changes.

So much of KFL’s successes come from its volunteers. That’s why the Kansas City KFL office awarded the Rose Rielley Pro-Life Award at the Valentine event. Mrs. Culp presented the 2019 award to Rosemary Maher. Mrs. Maher has 7 children, 15 grandchildren, and has been doing lots of different pro-life work for 30 years! She began teaching in 1988 at St. Thomas Aquinas High School where she started a “Teens for Life group” and the “St. Thomas Aquinas High School Walk for Life” that is still held today. She has also previously served as president of the Kansans for Life Board of Directors.

Next, Anastacia Mendoza, senior at St. Thomas Aquinas High School and winner of the 2018 KFL State Oratory Contest, gave her winning, thought-provoking speech.

Then it was time for the keynote address. This year’s presenters were Sara Hart Weir, president and CEO of the National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS), and Kayla McKeon, National Down Syndrome Society Capitol Hill Lobbyist and the first Congressional lobbyist with Down syndrome.

Weir reiterated the parallel philosophy of advocating for the rights of the pre-born and that of advocating for those with Down syndrome.

Speaking about McKeon, Weir said, “She’s in the arena fighting for her peers with Down syndrome and fighting for future generations of people with Down syndrome so that they have the same rights as every other American. She’s fighting to ensure people with Down syndrome have a fair shot at the American dream,” and “She’s making others understand all people with Down syndrome should be valued, have dignity and respect.”

McKeon then inspired the audience, “My message to kids is to persevere… I tell them about my friends that are thriving and that own businesses today.”

Weir said the NDSS “knows that people with Down syndrome make this world a better place,” a direct contrast to the 2017 push of abortion to “eradicate” Down syndrome. Weir, McKeon, and others “will continue to stand up and condemn the societal threat to Down syndrome, to our families, caregivers, and most importantly, people with Down syndrome, and we stand before you to thank you for being part of our army.”

Attendees were then treated to a screening of the music video for the song “This Time,” written and performed by John Elefante of the group Kansas. “This Time” is the story of a baby whose life almost ended on the abortion table but whose mother courageously left. Eventually, Mr. Elefante and his wife were able to adopt the baby. The music video was generously provided directly to KFL by Mr. Elefante to be shared at the dinner.

Once the entertainment was complete a fun live auction was held for a signed Patrick Mahomes jersey and Michael Buble tickets. The raffle winners were then announced and the evening concluded with a showing of the trailer for the movie Unplanned. Unplanned is the biography of Abby Johnson, former Planned Parenthood clinic director who crossed the life line and now directs multiple pro-life ministries and projects. The movie premieres March 29 across the nation.

The evening closed with a prayer after a lovely time was had by all in attendance.
KFL PAC Hosts Luncheon at GOP Convention

By Julie Anderson

The first Lunch for Life was held Saturday, Feb. 16, during the Kansas GOP State Party Convention. In years past, Kansans for Life held a breakfast for pro-life lawmakers and elected officials but this year the PAC changed it up. The lunch was held in the Sunflower Ballroom of the Maner Conference Center in Topeka.

The luncheon featured opening and closing prayers by Pastor Michael Snowden, the singing of “The Lord’s Prayer” by Kansas Representative Willie Dove, a keynote address by Fr. John Jirak, pastor of the Church of the Magdalen in Wichita, a State of the State address by Mary Wilkinson, president of the Kansans for Life Board of Directors, and brief comments by Tim Hand, co-director of the Kansans for Life Political Action Committee.

The luncheon’s host committee members included U.S. Senators Pat Roberts and Jerry Moran, U.S. Congressmen Ron Estes, Roger Marshall and Steve Watkins, Kansas Senate President Susan Wagle, Speaker of the Kansas House Ron Ryckman and Kansas House Majority Leader Dan Hawkins. The Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Honor Guard posted the colors, and Garrett Love served as master of ceremonies.

During the luncheon, the Kansans for Life Political Action Committee presented the David Gittrich Life Awards to former United States Congressman Kevin Yoder, former Governor Jeff Colyer, and United States Senator Pat Roberts.

Accepting his award, Yoder said he could not have done it without the love and support of his wife and all those who worked on his campaign.

“We took an anti-life seat back. We had it for eight years, and we lost it this year. We’re going to get it back in 2020,” Yoder said.

Concluding his remarks, Yoder said, “I was told by many people throughout the campaign trail that if I changed my views on this issue, that if I was willing to get up every day and criticize the president or oppose our unalienable rights in the Constitution, if I was willing to turn against those things, life and liberty, that I might actually get reelected, but I’d have to change who I was. If you looked me in the eye and told me that if I’d done all those things, I actually would have gotten reelected, I still wouldn’t have changed one single thing because our values and who we are and what we stand for is way more important than a single election.”

As he accepted his award, former Governor Jeff Colyer said, “I can remember when there were pro-life breakfasts where there would be a dozen tables. Now, we fill a ballroom.”

“When you have a pro-choice governor, things go differently...” Colyer said, “So, we have a lot to do, and we have very good legislative leadership to help us achieve that because they’re going to be fighting a very difficult fight.”

Senator Roberts accepted his award, noting the Kansas Congressional delegation is all pro-life except for one representative, Roberts said, “You can’t have a better right to life delegation than that, and I’m extremely proud to serve with them.”

Fr. Jirak discussed pro-life scripture, “You see this verse many times. ‘Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you. And before you were born, I consecrated you.’”

Father Jirak said what’s often missed in the passage is not just what the battle is about—the dignity of the human person—but the person who is called to stand up and promote that light.

Unpacking the Scripture passage, Father Jirak said the Book of Jeremiah contains four separate movements. The first focuses on Jeremiah’s wrestling with God’s call.

“What’s God response? He says, ‘I’ll give you what you need.’”

The next movement, Father Jirak said, reveals that Jeremiah will be battling against God’s people who have turned away from...
Abortion Pill Reversal Information Bills Introduced
Continued from page 1

- The information must be included on the written follow-up instructions the abortion provider gives to a woman after the first pill is administered; and
- The information must be included on the Kansas Department of Health and Environment’s Women’s Right to Know website, www.womensrighttoknow.org (a link to which is required to be located on each abortion facility’s website homepage).

Rep. John Eplee (R-Atchison), is the lead sponsor of the House bill, HB 2274, and there are sixty co-sponsors. HB 2274 has been assigned to the House Health and Human Services Committee, chaired by Rep. Brenda Landwehr (R-Wichita).

A parallel APR Information bill has also been introduced into the senate, SB 167. The lead sponsor is Sen. Molly Baumgardner (R-Louisburg), and there are 21 co-sponsors. The senate bill has been assigned to the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee, chaired by Sen. Gene Suellentrop (R-Wichita).

A hearing was held February 20 in the House Health and Human Services Committee. Please contact your house representatives and encourage them to vote in support of HB 2274. Representatives phone numbers and emails can be found at kslegislature.org or contact them via the legislative hotline at 1-800-432-3924.

KFL PAC Hosts Luncheon at GOP Convention
Continued from page 6

Him. The third movement of the Book of Jeremiah focuses on how the battle will be fought while the fourth movement indicates people will fight against him, but they shall not prevail against Jeremiah because God will be with him.

Father Jirak then noted, “You know what the problem is? God is with us, but are we with God?”

“What this really leads us to is the importance of prayer,” he said.

Beginning her State of the State address, Wilkinson reflected on the recent law passed in New York allowing abortion for any reason up to birth and the celebrations that ensued after the law’s passage.

“All of America has now seen more clearly what the pro-abortion movement is all about. A veil has been pulled back. The same veil has been pulled back here in Kansas as the Kansas Supreme Court is expected to rule on the constitutionality of the KFL-sponsored dismemberment ban. The expected ruling is they will strike this law down on a right to abortion in the Kansas Constitution. These two strategies are being utilized all across the United States to accomplish their ultimate goal — abortion on demand for any reason at time during pregnancy with no protection for a baby born alive following an abortion,” she said.

When the ruling comes down, Wilkinson said Kansans for Life will lead the initiative for a constitutional amendment to protect human life, a campaign that will require millions of dollars to adequately educate all Kansans so they can make the right choice to protect human lives.

Nearing the end of her address, Wilkinson invited those in attendance to “take a principled stand for life.” She added, “We must pray every day for God’s help to enable us to succeed. Prayer is the foundation of all pro-life work, and each of us who believe, as President Trump does, that life is sacred and a gift from God who created each one in His image, each one of us who believe that here in Kansas must join together and pool our resources for those who cannot defend themselves.”
A few weeks ago I was competing in a forensics tournament at a local school. I have this weird obsession with schools and I like to see what signs they put in their hallways, what the layout is, and get a sense for the overall culture it seems to have.

As I was waiting outside my room I was studying a list of euphemisms that students have made: “Don’t say heavy, say big-boned; don’t say jail, say correctional facility; don’t say abortion, say sending a baby to heaven.”

I was stunned. How could they reduce such a brutal and inhumane procedure to such a pleasant phrase? Sending a baby to heaven seemed to hide all of the horrors of abortion. It glossed over the death of a child, and the pain and the guilt of a mother. I couldn’t get it out of my mind and the more I thought about it the more I realized that the small little poster acted as a microcosm of the bigger issue in the abortion industry: the manipulation of language.

To understand this further we must first notice when the abortion industry begins to warp words, review what has happened in other societies when words begin to change, and finally discover the truth of abortion that is buried under all that jargon.

I went on the Planned Parenthood website and looked up how to get an abortion, for research purposes only, of course. I learned that you get prepped for an abortion, had the abortion, then went home. After much more searching I found what Planned Parenthood actually said happened during that procedure. “A combination of medical tools and a suction device gently take the pregnancy tissue out of your uterus.”

Am I missing something here? I scrolled up and down the entire page and couldn’t find the word baby or even fetus once. By using medical diction like pregnancy tissue, they are able to completely hide the fact that an already developing baby is being vacuumed out of it’s mother’s womb. It puts them at a scientific distance — cutting off the natural human bond with babies. If I, someone who is rather educated on the issue of abortion, has trouble realizing that pregnancy tissue is code word for a human baby, then how are scared pregnant teenagers supposed to make a well-educated choice about what to do with their child?

Choice. That is a word that the pro-abortion movement loves to use. It sounds so freeing. One would never estimate the immense pain and guilt that could manifest itself from such “liberty.” Choice seems to put the power in the women. But in reality it’s more like what I learned at my babysitting class. You can give a child two choices: “Instead of jumping on the bed we can go get ice cream or go watch a movie. Which do you choose?” Although the child ultimately gets the choice, you will get what you want no matter what: them to stop jumping on the bed. Choice seems to put the power in the chooser, but in all actuality it has never left the hands of the one who manipulates what is being offered.

This idea of twisting words, changing the meaning, isn’t a new one. We can see the consequences of a society with controlled language in two classic dystopian novels. In the book 1984 by George Orwell, he crafts a society in which the government has deliberately eradicated words so that it is impossible to even express concepts such as freedom or civil disobedience. Winston, the story’s protagonist, reflects on their language saying “Every year fewer words and the range of consciousness always a little smaller.”

In the book The Giver by Lois Lowery, death has become “Release to Elsewhere”, to the point where death isn’t even a concept. During a “Release Ceremony,” Jonas sees his father sing to a baby, give him a lethal injection, then throw him in the trash to be Released to Elsewhere. This society has twisted their words so much so, that the killing of a baby is socially acceptable, if not honored, simply because it goes by a different name. “Sending a baby to Heaven,” softens it, but doesn’t change the reality.

Those words don’t tell you that one-third of my generation has been aborted; those words don’t tell you that the birth control injection that they give to women is what they use as punishment for sex offenders in the state of California; those words don’t tell you that if we were to have a moment of silence for every child aborted, we would be silent for ten years; those words don’t tell you that the suicide rate for women having an abortion is six times higher than that of women who give birth. And those words can’t even begin to tell you the hurt, the hate, the helplessness that follows those women around for the rest of their lives.

Pregnancy tissue. It sure didn’t seem like pregnancy tissue to Abby Johnson, former Planned Parenthood director, who left her position after she assisted in an abortion where she saw the baby’s perfectly developed backbone be sucked from the mother’s womb into the tube after the baby had kicked and fought against the vacuum. It was not a choice for the over 25 women who testified in the Whole Women’s Health vs. Hellerstedt Supreme Court case vehemently stating that choice or consent was not part of their experience.

At the end of the day, everyone in this room understands that life deserves to be fought for from conception until natural death; to protect the life of the mother and the child. But, unfortunately, there are words deceiving the public about what abortion actually is. We have the facts. No, we need the passion to go out and fight for what we believe in. For me, as a writer, seeing the abuse of words that results in the manipulation of strong women, is what makes me want to stand up and speak out. I want to use my words to strip down the linguistic shell that guards the brutal truth about abortion and build up a culture of life.

Anastacia ("Stacia") Mendoza is a Senior at St. James Academy, Lenexa, Kansas. The KFL 2019 junior/senior high school statewide oratory contest is April 27 in Salina. For more information and to register go to “upcoming events” on kfl.org. Registration must be turned in by April 5 to qualify.