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News From Around PA

After two years of litigation, **Conestoga Woods Specialties** has been granted a permanent exemption from the Obamacare abortion mandate. Following the recent Supreme Court decision, Judge Mitchell Goldberg, who had previously ruled against the owners, was left with no choice.

Chief executive of **Boal Mansion Museum in Boalsburg**, Centre County was jailed on federal child-sex and porn charges. The illegal acts with the minors occurred between January and June on the museum premises, where students from across the US and other countries volunteer to work as guides.

The **House Judiciary and Health committees** will hold

at least one joint hearing about Senate Bill 1182 and the issue of medicinal cannabis during the remaining legislative session.

The House unanimously passed Senate Bill 1290 — known nationwide as the **Kelsey Smith Act** — and now awaits a concurrence vote in the Senate. The bill is named for 18-year-old Kelsey Smith, who was kidnapped, sexually assaulted and strangled in a Kansas City suburb. Using cell phone “pings,” authorities discovered her body four days later. Verizon Wireless’ reluctance to cooperate with police during those four days spawned legislation in 13 states that requires wireless providers to “ping” an endangered person’s phone at the request of police.

News from National Scene

By a unanimous vote, the **Seattle City Council** is replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples’ Day. Councilmember Bruce Harrell, a co-sponsor, said he believes the city won’t be successful in its social programs and outreach until “we fully recognize the evils of our past.”

Citing the **Supreme Court’s** refusal to take up same-sex marriage cases—essentially legalizing same-sex marriage in another 11 states—Senator Ted Cruz announced plans to introduce a constitutional amendment barring the federal government or the courts from overturning states’ marriage laws.

Late Friday afternoon **U.S. District Judge Max Cogburn** threw out North Carolina’s Marriage Protection Amendment. In 2012 61% of NC voters said marriage should only be between one man and one woman.

AFA of PA encourages Christians, through education, to become involved in pro-family issues in their community, state and the nation.

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