

Right to Life Newsletter

of Shelby County

April 2011

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Volume 38 Issue 4

Building a Culture of Life in Shelby County, Ohio, since 1974

Volunteer Corner

We keep in our prayers thrift shop volunteers Velma Holdheide, Betty Johnson, and Ruth Bensman; and welcome new volunteers Ann Joslin, Velma Wuebker, and Debra Weiskittel.

Many thanks to all who assisted with the Russia Garage Sale. A report on the sale will be included in the May newsletter.

Mark your calendar

- Deadline for submissions to the May newsletter: April 28.
- Board meeting: April 5, 7 pm.

Clothing center report

We served 73 people during the month of January, of whom 23 received free items.

Remember RTL

Please remember the pro-life cause when planning your estate or making funeral arrangements for a loved one. Remittance envelopes for memorial donations to Right to Life are available at the office.

Right to Life of Shelby County is a 501(c)(3) educational and service organization. All donations are fully tax-deductible.

Membership Meeting: April 8, 7pm

Those of you who attended our membership meeting last year know what a terrific opportunity it was to be encouraged and informed about the pro-life cause. We have another impressive program in store for you this year.

Dr. Courtney Slonkosky, an Ob-Gyn at Wilson Care, will speak briefly about pro-life services and women's health issues. Dr. Slonkosky completed a medical and surgical fellowship in NaPro (Natural Procreative) Technology. She is one of only eight physicians in the United States who have advanced training in this area of expertise.

Our keynote speaker is Bryan Kemper, founder and president of Stand True Ministries, a Christ-centered pro-life group determined to awaken the youth of this country and share the message of life and the Gospel of Christ. He is a passionate and compelling orator who has spoken at high schools and universities around the world.

Mike Monnier, treasurer of Right to Life, will also present a brief financial report.

Don't miss this chance to learn more about life issues and the work of our local Right to Life organization. Please join us at the American Legion Hall, 1265 4th Avenue, Sidney, Friday, April 8, 7-9pm.

Phillips Wins Oratory Competition, On to State

Congratulations to high school junior Makayla Phillips of Maplewood, who won first place in Right to Life's Oratory Contest in February.

Congratulations, too, to runner-up Cameron Jock of Sidney, and Adrian Helton, a student at Upper Valley JVS, who placed third.

All local high school juniors or seniors were eligible to participate in the contest, in which students were asked to research, write and present an original pro-life speech on abortion, infanticide, euthanasia/assisted-suicide or embryonic stem cell research.

We are grateful to our judges, Amy Gleason, Pastor Jon Schriber, and Anne Schmiesing; to Pastor Schriber and St. John's Lutheran Church for hosting the event; and to the anonymous donors who sponsored the cash prizes.

We wish all the best to Makayla, who will go on to compete at the state level contest, sponsored by the Center for Life and Hope, to be held Saturday, April 16.

ACTION ITEM

40 Days: Door to Door for Life

We need many volunteers to go door to door, simply asking people to pray for an end to abortion. Each person or group will be asked to cover a certain neighborhood, so it is very important that you register by calling or visiting the Right to Life office so we don't duplicate streets.

When visiting a home, we will invite the residents, verbally, to pray for an end to abortion (see script below). You are not asked to say anything more or less than that. If no one is home at the residence, you may leave a half page flyer at their door. Gently roll the flyer, and tuck it in the handle of the door. Flyers and canvassing assignments may be picked up at the Right to Life office, in Sidney anytime after April 1. Volunteers may canvass homes anytime during the month of April prior to Easter, but we will concentrate our efforts during the week of Sunday, April 10 through Saturday, April 16. Canvassing day, on which you may work with a larger group, is Wednesday, April 13 at 6 pm; please meet at the Right to Life Office by 6 pm where groups will be assigned streets to canvass that evening. We need volunteers to be coordinators for each community: Anna/McCartyville, Botkins/Jackson Center, Hardin/Houston, Fort Loramie/Newport, Russia. Please call Anne Schmiesing at 937-492-5584 to volunteer or if you have questions. The script will be printed on the flyer as follows. (You are welcome to print flyers at home with this script or pick some up at the RTL office.) We are simply asking members of our community to:

Pray For An End To Abortion

Regardless of one's views about the legality of abortion,
everyone can agree it would be best if no one ever felt they needed an abortion.

Trust that God will decide
how best to answer our prayers for an end to abortion.

Donation Receipt Policy

In keeping with IRS guidelines, at the end of each year RTL sends a letter of notification to any donor who has contributed \$250 or more. We are very grateful for every donation, but our small staff and budget mean we must minimize paperwork as much as possible; therefore, we do not send receipts as a matter of course for every contribution. We are, however, happy to supply a receipt to any donor who requests one. All you need to do is contact the office or e-mail director@shelbycountyrtl.org and we will issue an IRS-compliant receipt as quickly as possible.

Fore! First RTL Golf Outing: May 14

RTL board member Tim Dietz and his family are organizing the first Scramble for Life, a golf outing scheduled for May 14 at Shelby Oaks Golf Course. This will provide an opportunity to raise awareness of the work of Right to Life, to enjoy fellowship with other pro-lifers, and to raise funds for RTL's programs and services.

The entry fee for the outing is \$200 per foursome, which covers greens fees. There will be prizes for placing as well as other awards and door prizes. The deadline to register to participate is May 7.

It is also an opportunity for businesses and individuals to support RTL by sponsoring holes. Sponsorships are available at various levels from \$100 to \$500. The sponsorship deadline is April 15.

All proceeds will benefit Right to Life. For more information about the event, including registration or sponsorship, please contact: scramble4life@gmail.com; 937-489-9129.



Ohio Sen. Sherrod Brown Favors Tax Money to Planned Parenthood

As the Senate works to pass a House-approved short-term bill funding the federal government and debate begins on a long-term measure, a group of Senate Democrats have promised to not support anything de-funding Planned Parenthood.

Some 54 Republicans voted against the measure because they wanted to see the Pence Amendment de-funding Planned Parenthood and the pro-life riders that stop abortion funding in various instances included in the measure. However, Senate Democrats have balked at those pro-life provisions and Republicans hoped to avoid being blamed for a government shutdown by insisting they be included in the short-term bill.

Going beyond voting against the first long-term bill House Republicans sent them with the Pence Amendment, 19 Senate Democrats today sent a letter to Vice-President Joe Biden vowing to vote against any federal funding bill that contains the Pence Amendment.

“We wanted to offer our support in rejecting the ideological, divisive riders passed by the House of Representatives, which serve only a purely political agenda,” they write in the new letter, according to a report in The Hill.

The stalwart pro-abortion Democrats say the Pence Amendment would “effectively shut down health centers that serve three million women each year and provide nearly one million lifesaving screenings for cervical cancer, more than 830,000 breast exams and nearly four million tests and treatments for sexually transmitted infections, including HIV.” Among the senators signing the letter was Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio).

However, the letter ignores the fact that a new report the Planned Parenthood national abortion business recently released shows the embattled agency did more abortions in 2009 than it has done in any prior year. The report also shows it providing fewer pregnant women with non-abortion services. This document, dated February 2011, shows Planned Parenthood affiliates nationwide did 332,278 surgical abortions or abortions using the dangerous RU 486 abortion during 2009. That’s 2.5 percent more abortions than the September 2010 report the abortion business released covering 2008. With approximately 1.2 million abortions done annually in the United States via surgical abortions or the mifepristone abortion drug, Planned Parenthood has increased its share of the abortion industry to 27.6 percent of all abortions done annually.

The new document the abortion organization posted shows Planned Parenthood provided prenatal services to merely 7,021 women and referred only 977 women for adoption services. These numbers were a 25 percent drop in prenatal care clients and a whopping 59 percent decline in adoption referrals from the 2,405 adoption referrals in 2008. The abortion business helped only 9,433 prenatal clients in 2008, down substantially from the 11,000 women it provided prenatal care to in 2007 — showing health care given to pregnant woman has fallen substantially over the years.

As a result, 97.6 percent of pregnant women going to Planned Parenthood are sold abortions while less than 2.4 percent of pregnant women received non-abortion services including adoption and prenatal care. That’s up from 96.5 percent of pregnant women going to Planned Parenthood getting abortions in 2008.

By Steven Ertelt, LifeNews.com, March 16, 2011. Edited for space and used with permission.

In memory of

Freda Daugherty, Clarence Meyer, Al Schulze, and the Rev. Anselm Boeke,

In whose name memorial donations were received.

+May they rest in peace.+

Right to Life of Shelby County

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Thrift Shop Serves Community, Supports Pro-Life Cause

One important part of Right to Life's pro-life ministry is providing low-cost or no-cost items to needy mothers and families. We accomplish this through our thrift shop, which is open Monday through Thursday, 9:30-4 and Saturday mornings during the summer.

The thrift shop is open to the public, and anyone in need of baby items (such as strollers, cribs, blankets, or books) or children's clothing up to size 12, is encouraged to visit the shop. Income from thrift shop sales helps to offset the staffing, rental, and utilities costs that the store entails.

Donations of these kinds of items are welcome and appreciated. Diapers, especially larger sizes, are always needed. Two items that we can no longer accept are stuffed animals and car seats that are more than two years old.

We are grateful for the dedicated work of more than a dozen volunteers who assist our office manager in staffing the shop and keeping it running smoothly. We are always in need of volunteers for regular shifts, as well as people willing to work occasionally as substitutes.

The thrift shop also gives RTL a venue in which to promote life. We refer many women to the Women's Center for assistance, we also frequently distribute pro-life literature to visitors, and we offer the Protective Medical Decisions Document as a pro-life legal document for end of life care.

There is a pro-life resources library that contains books and videos, which are available for lending. (A new resource is Abby Johnson's book, *Unplanned*.) More information about the thrift shop and the resource library are available at our web site, www.shelbycountyrctl.org, by clicking on "Office Information" at the top of the page. The RTL thrift shop and office are located at 102 E. Poplar, on the north-west corner of the court square in Sidney.