

## Pumpkin Vigil Marks 40 Days Observance

Four hundred jack-o-lanterns set the court square alight in Sidney on October 23, as pro-lifers gathered for a Sunday evening vigil. Prior to the event, youth from Teens for Truth carved crosses into each of the 400 pumpkins--one for every ten babies killed by abortion each day in the United States.

After a period of prayer, attendees were permitted to take the pumpkins home, where they could continue to be on display as a symbol of Christ's victory over death.

Thanks are due to Kim Poepelman and the Teens for Truth, Green Thumb Market for donating the pumpkins, Jeff Banks for providing music, and the Steve Woodruff family for the decorated pumpkins given as door prizes. Teens for Truth looks forward to hosting the event again next year. For more information about this pro-life youth group, please contact Kim at 419-925-1411 or pupman@roadrunner.com.



### Mark your calendar

- Deadline for submissions to the January newsletter: Dec. 23.
- Board meeting: Jan. 3, 7pm. No meeting in December.

### Clothing center report

We served 198 people during the month of October, of whom 83 received free items, five took literature, and six were referred to the Women's Center.

### 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.

## 40 Days Makes Impact

With the 40 Days for Life campaign for 2011 now complete, we thank all of those who participated in local events. Your prayer and witness make a difference. Thank you especially to all who helped to organize these vigils and prayer services. What follows are excerpts from an article by Shawn Carney, national campaign director for 40 Days and keynote speaker at the recent Elizabeth's New Life Center banquet.

Another 40 Days for Life campaign has come to an end — and we can look back now at lives forever changed. During these 40 days, there have been 508 lives saved — that we know of — because of God's response to your prayer!

From past campaigns, we expect the number to KEEP GROWING, as our local campaign leaders get their final reports in.

Let's look at some of the ways lives have been changed during 40 Days for Life — and thank God for his abundant blessings during this time of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion.

Austin, Texas. A volunteer spoke to a teenaged couple approaching the abortion center and learned that the girl just found out she was pregnant. She was afraid of telling her parents and wanted to go behind their backs to get a judicial bypass — a court order — in order to have an abortion.

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## For High School and College Students: Essay Contest, Academy

### National Right to Life 2012 Pro-Life Essay Contest

There are two separate contests, one for grades 10-12 and one for grades 7-9. Prizes are awarded in each category, with first place winning \$200. Essays should be 300-500 words in length and address the following question: What effect has abortion had on my generation?

Essays must be submitted between December 19, 2011 and January 23, 2012. Questions can be directed to Michelle Fishbach at [michellefishbach@yahoo.com](mailto:michellefishbach@yahoo.com) or find more information under the Special Events tab at [www.nrlc.org](http://www.nrlc.org).

### National Right to Life Academy, June 24-July 27, 2012

A unique, 5-week academic summer course for college students who are eager to put their pro-life passion to work. \$3810 tuition includes lodging at a university in Washington, D.C., admission to the National Right to Life Convention, and five weeks of the most comprehensive pro-life education around!

For more information, see [www.nrlc.org/Academy](http://www.nrlc.org/Academy) or e-mail [academy@nrlc.org](mailto:academy@nrlc.org).



## Christmas Ornaments for Sale

At the fair RTL booth this summer, we quickly sold out of Christmas ornaments with pro-life messages. We have restocked and the ornaments are available at our thrift shop downtown for \$8 each.

These are good quality ornaments from Heritage House. We have 5 different kinds (one of which is pictured at left). We also have packages of pro-life Christmas cards for \$3 each.

## RTL's Quiltmaker Featured in Sidney Daily News

We at Right to Life have long been aware of the generosity of Russia resident Patricia DeMange, and she recently received some well-deserved recognition by virtue of a nice article by Terry Pellman in the November 11 edition of the Sidney Daily News.

Mrs. DeMange, 83, has quilted scores of baby blankets for our thrift shop and also donates cakes to the garage sale in Russia--this year she baked 30 of them!

"It's just my thing to do," Mrs. DeMange told Mr. Pellman, "I guess that's why God's kept me here so long."

Thank you, Pat. And may God keep you here for a long time to come.



## "Abortion is a local problem. It has a local solution."

That was the message of keynote speaker Shawn Carney at November's Sidney Women's Center banquet. We couldn't agree more. Thank you for your support of Shelby County Right to Life and all local pro-life efforts in 2011.

In memory of

Becky Grillot,

In whose name a memorial donation was made.

+May she rest in peace.+

## Another Planned Parenthood Employee Sees Truth

Thousands of pro-life advocates on November 14 were introduced to the latest Planned Parenthood official to quit working for the abortion business and become a pro-life advocate. Sue Thayer, former Planned Parenthood manager from Storm Lake, Iowa, shared her conversion story with thousands of pro-life people who participated in a webcast sponsored by 40 Days for Life to wrap up its latest successful campaign resulting in more than 500 unborn children saved from abortions.

“Sue spoke out publicly about her 17 years of working inside Planned Parenthood and witnessing — first hand — how the organization was aggressively striving to increase their abortion numbers,” said Shawn Carney, the director of 40 Days. “As someone who had believed the lie that Planned Parenthood was all about “preventing abortions,” Sue voiced her concerns about this within Planned Parenthood ... and they promptly fired her.”

“After a time of healing from her experiences, Sue took a leap of faith this fall and led the 40 Days for Life campaign outside the Planned Parenthood center she used to manage,” Carney said. “Like you, Sue spent this fall praying for an end to abortion ... but Sue was also praying for those who used to work with her inside Planned Parenthood.”

During her time as the manager for the abortion business, Thayer said the “dirty little secret” of Planned Parenthood that she learned is that Planned Parenthood was doing everything it could to encourage and increase the number of abortions rather than prevent them. “Abortion became a number or a goal,” she said.

Thayer also talked about telemed abortions — where Planned Parenthood gives women the dangerous RU 486 abortion drug via a videoconference but denies them an in-person visit with a physician as recommended by the FDA. She said the focus on increasing telemed abortions is designed to reduce costs by keeping “little overhead.”

Thayer said she was driven out of the abortion business after she expressed her views that Planned Parenthood put its profit motive ahead of the care and well-being of women. Carney said the addition of new pro-life advocates who formerly worked in the abortion industry is a big step forward for both 40 Days for Life and the pro-life movement as it attempts to continue reducing the number of abortions while simultaneously working to obtain legal protection for unborn children.

By Steven Ertelt, LifeNews.com, November 14, 2011. Edited for space and used with permission.

## Winter Float Spreads Pro-Life Message

Hundreds of onlookers lined the streets of Sidney during the 2011 Winter Wonderland Parade. Right to Life sponsored a float with the message, “Every Human Being: Unique as a Snowflake.” The float was decorated with white lights and dozens of paper snowflakes cut out and contributed by area schoolchildren.

We continue to be in need of a volunteer to oversee construction of float for 2012. If you are willing to help in this way, please contact the office or indicate your interest when you return your 2012 membership form (coming in January...).



Wishing you a blessed Advent and a Merry Christmas,

From all of us at Right to Life.



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Her boyfriend was not in favor of the abortion, but reluctantly said he supported her because it was her decision. "I showed them what her baby might look like, based on how far along she thought she was — six weeks," said the vigil participant. "I also discussed alternatives and resources that I could connect her with." The couple walked into the abortion center, but soon left "with smiles of joy and satisfaction. They had decided to not to have an abortion," said the volunteer. "Praise God!"

Sharonville, Ohio. A vigil participant in Sharonville says a woman pulled into the driveway and stopped to talk to her. "She thanked me for praying," said the volunteer. "She said that a few days earlier she was driving by and was considering an abortion. She has five boys and is pregnant with a girl. Her husband of twenty-plus years has left her."

This woman told the 40 Days for Life participant, "Never feel that what you are doing is in vain. It was your prayers that changed my mind and saved my little girl and me."

"I prayed with her for quite some time," said the volunteer. "It was extremely powerful."

Schenectady, New York. "Prior to 40 Days for Life," said Diane, "I wanted to get involved in prolife work but didn't know how or thought I didn't have the time to do so. The Lord changed that for me and opened a big door so that I am now able to be involved in 40 Days for Life and pro-life work."

Through these 40 days, Diane has experienced changes in her life. "I'm willing to stand up for my faith and to be a witness," she said. "I'm willing to take a risk and share my ideas with people. I have the opportunity to pray with people on the street who need God's love and healing. I have new prayer partners and have made new friends."

Excerpted from LifeNews.com, November 7, 2011. Used with permission.