

Kids Around the Square

Right to Life reached out to more than 150 children and their parents on the court square in Sidney, Saturday, June 25, for the annual Kids Around the Square event.

The coloring page distributed to the children read: Before you were even born. Before your mom could even feel you move. You could swim in the waters of the womb. You could somersault, kick and jump. You probably still enjoy doing those things. The kids then tested their ability in the high jump and on a standing long jump mat.



(Above, a young volunteer from Only Believe Ministry's booth tries the high jump. Photo courtesy of Andrew Rogers.)

Thank you to the Armstrong, Bensman, and Schmiesing families, who helped staff the RTL stand.

Mark your calendar

- Deadline for submissions to the August newsletter: July 21.
- Board meeting: Aug. 2, 7pm.

Clothing center report

We served 190 people during the month of May, of whom 74 received free items, 3 took literature, and one was 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.

Ohio Right to Life Sweepstakes Enclosed

Please find enclosed a page of tickets for Ohio Right to Life's annual sweepstakes. This is a vital fundraiser for ORTL, which does important pro-life work at the state level. In addition, our local RTL chapter receives a portion of the proceeds.

The tickets are \$1 per ticket or \$10 for the entire sheet of 12. Completed tickets and money should be returned to Shelby County Right to Life, PO Box 72, Sidney, OH 45365. They may be dropped off at the office, 102 E. Poplar, during open hours, or placed in the secure drop box to the left of the entrance door. All tickets must be received at our office by Monday, October 17.

Additional tickets are available at the office or online at www.ohiolife.org/sweepstakes. Thank you for your ongoing and generous support of Right to Life.

Remember Your Dues...

If there is a dues reminder stamp on the front of this newsletter, that means we have not yet received your dues and membership form for 2011. Please send them as soon as possible. If you've misplaced your form, you can renew your membership by simply sending a check for \$12 to Right to Life, PO Box 72, Sidney, OH, 45365. Thank you!



ACTION ITEM

Volunteers Needed for Fair

The Shelby County Fair will be held July 24-30. As always, Right to Life will sponsor a booth and we need workers to staff it. If you indicated interest on your membership volunteer form, someone will contact you. If you didn't (or you're not sure) and you'd like to help, please call Karen Berning at 492-7875. Thank you!

Vatican Puts \$1 Million Behind Adult Stem Cell Research

The Catholic Church is teaming up with a biotech firm that is engaging in adult stem cell research — helping prove its contention that it is supportive of stem cell research without destroying human life. The Vatican's Pontifical Council for Culture has announced details of their partnership designed to advance adult stem cell research with NeoStem, an international biopharmaceutical company.

In a press conference at the Vatican, Cardinal Gianfranco Ravasi, President of the Pontifical Council for Culture, Dr. Robin L. Smith, Chairman and CEO of NeoStem, and Reverend Tomasz Trafny, Head of the Science and Faith Department at the Pontifical Council for Culture, provided further details on both their ongoing partnership and on a groundbreaking event, the international Vatican conference on adult stem cells, which is scheduled for November 9 – 11, 2011 at the Vatican.

“Today we are making history. I am here with you today because of an historic collaboration between the Vatican and NeoStem which is already underway, and also to tell you about our upcoming event in November to further these effort,” NeoStem's Smith said. “We believe Adult Stem Cells will be the answer to so many debilitating problems impacting people all over the world, of all ages, in all walks of life. We look forward to working together with Father Trafny, Cardinal Ravasi and other Church leaders to be able to demonstrate that faith and technology can work together to find ethical solutions to humankind's most ancient problems.”

Fr. Trafny added, “The unique collaboration with NeoStem must focus on two considerations. The first one is related to the sharing of the same sensitivity for ethical values that has at its center the protection of human life at all stages of its existence.” Continued on page 3

Ohio Pro-Life Policy Update

There are a number of pro-life bills currently before the Ohio legislature. Information about most legislation is available at www.ohiolife.org (click on “Legislation”).

House Bill 78/Senate Bill 72 is a Late Term Abortion Ban. It would prohibit abortions after 20 weeks when the child is proved to be viable and can live outside the womb.

House Bill 63 would revise Ohio's current Judicial Bypass for Parental Consent law, closing loopholes that permit minors to obtain abortions without parental consent. It would strengthen current law by requiring a “clear and convincing evidence” standard, require judges to specifically inquire about the minor's understanding of the possible physical and emotional complications of an abortion, and require judges to question how much the minor has been prepped to respond to such questions.

House Bill 79 would exclude abortion coverage from the State Exchange created in the federal health care reform law. The Federal law includes a provision allowing states to opt out of abortion coverage.

Sub. House Bill 125, the “Heartbeat Bill,” would prohibit abortion after the baby's heartbeat is detected (approximately ten weeks of pregnancy). It would require doctors to check an unborn baby for a heartbeat and to inform the mother if a heartbeat is present.

RTL Float on Display in Area Parades

Thanks to the assistance of many volunteers, the Right to Life float was designed and entered in a number of local parades during this summer's festival season. It appeared in Versailles Poultry Days; Botkins Carousel, and Anna Homecoming. At Botkins, it won third place in the organizations category.



More importantly, we brought a pro-life message to the thousands of spectators who lined parade routes around the county. Our beach theme was highlighted by the motto, "Be a Lifesaver for the Unborn."

Thank you to Jenni Bohman, Sara Stueve, Ron Meyer, Carol Dircksen, and everyone who helped. Watch for the float in the Sidney Applefest parade in September.

Vatican Backs Adult Stem Cell Research continued from page 2

Fr. Trafny continued: "The second concerns investigation on cultural consequences that will be caused by scientific discoveries in the field of adult stem cell research and adult stem cell applications in regenerative medicine. For these reasons, we've entered into a long term formal agreement with Neo-Stem and are working together tracing paths of further developments, activities and additional collaborations." The joint mission of the partnership, with the complete support of the Pontifical Council for Health Care Workers and the Pontifical Academy for Life, will be to foster the highest levels of scientific research on adult stem cells and to explore the cultural, ethical and human implications of their use and to create awareness about the promise of scientific research in concordance with ethical values through the further development of adult stem cell technology.

The joint venture will work to determine short-term and long-term actions which political, scientific, educational, and religious leaders can take to be part of the cultural paradigm shift arising from the next wave – regenerative medicine and to lay the groundwork for a collaborative network of scientists and patrons who embrace the promise of adult stem cells to reduce human suffering, advance scientific research on adult stem cells and explore their clinical application in the field of regenerative medicine, as well as the cultural impact of such research.

The November conference will include the foremost experts in adult stem cell research and recognized leaders in medicine, but, unlike a research-focused conference, attendees will include Church and scientific leaders, policymakers, ethicists, educators, Ministers of Health from around the world, ambassadors to the Holy See, and representatives of the stem cell therapeutic business community to foster a multidisciplinary approach to advance science as there are ethical, spiritual, societal, religious and cultural impacts with every discovery creating the potential to influence many people worldwide.

By Steven Ertelt. LifeNews.com, June 20, 2011. Edited for space and used with permission.

In memory of
Stephen Freeman and Jerome Meyer,
In whose name memorial donations were made.
+May they rest in peace.+

Right to Life of Shelby County

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What Every American Needs to Know ...

Unwanted, coerced or even forced abortions are common in America. Pregnancy-related discrimination, abuse and injustices, and serious aftereffects are also common.

Why are they calling abortion The UnChoice?

64% of abortions involve coercion; 84% were not fully informed.
Over 50% of women having abortions felt rushed and uncertain, yet
67% received no counseling and 79% were not told about alternatives.
Most suffer symptoms of trauma. Most face a higher risk of injury or death.
Coercion can escalate to violence. Homicide is the #1 killer of pregnant women.

After abortion ...

Risk of death for women is 62% higher after abortion.
31% suffer health complications after abortion.
65% suffer symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).
Clinical depression risk is 65% higher after abortion.
Suicide rates are 6 times higher after abortion.

Advocate for authentic women's rights. Learn more on-line: **TheUnChoice.com**

citations: theunchoice.com/whateveryamerican.htm

Happy
4th
of
July