

Right to Life Newsletter

of Shelby County

May 2012

P.O. Box 72 102 E. Poplar St. Sidney, OH 45365

Phone:(937)498-1812

www.shelbycountyrctl.org

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



Strobhar Urges Pro-Life Investing

Approximately fifty RTL members and other community members turned out for RTL's annual membership meeting April 17 in Russia. They were treated to an informative presentation by Thomas Strobhar of ProVita Advisors, who explained how we can extend our pro-life principles to our investments. Author of more than 70 shareholder resolutions concerning abortion and other moral issues, he told the audience stories about how he had persuaded a number of companies--including some of the largest American corporations--to stop funding abortion-promoting organizations such as Planned Parenthood.

The meeting began with a testimony by Scott and Julie Limbert of Minster, who shared their story of coming to a deeper appreciation of God's gift of life through their experiences with their unborn children who were diagnosed with Potter's Syndrome. After Strobhar's keynote address, office manager Luke Cordonnier updated the group on the developments at RTL's thrift shop. Continued on page 3.

Mark your calendar

- Golf Outing: May 19
- Deadline for submissions to the June newsletter: May 24.
- Board meeting: June 5, 7pm.

Clothing center report

We served 164 people during the month of March, of whom 29 received free items, four took literature, and one was referred to the Women's Center.

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

Right to Life Golf Outing: Register Now!

The 2nd Annual Scramble-4-Life Golf Outing will be Saturday, May 19 at Shelby Oaks Golf Course, Sidney, Ohio, with a shotgun start at 10am. With your help (and Mother Nature's cooperation!), we hope to duplicate and even exceed the success of last year's event.

To register a team or for more information, e-mail scramble4life@gmail.com, or call Julia (937-489-9129) or Tim (937-693-2753). Cost for a 4-person team is \$200, which includes golf, cart, and a meal. Cash prizes and other door prizes will be awarded. All proceeds benefit Right to Life. Deadline to register is May 12.

"Your Membership is Due, Please Renew"

If this message appears on the front of your newsletter, it means that we have not yet received your membership dues for 2012. If you have not been a member of Right to Life in the past, your address may have been given to us by a friend or family member. You may either join this year if you're ready, or you can continue to think about it--you will have a chance to become a member in 2013.

If you have been a member of RTL, please consider renewing your membership as soon as possible. You can do so by sending \$12 to Shelby County RTL, PO Box 72, Sidney, OH 45365; or by placing your dues in the drop box to the left of the office entrance at 102 E. Poplar in Sidney. Thank you!

Garage Sale Brings in Much-Needed Funding

We are grateful once again to co-chairs Maria Hoehne and Bonnie York, as they pulled off another successful garage sale. An outstanding job, as usual!

The sale is the second largest source of funding for Right to Life (after members' direct donations) and thus it goes a long way toward providing the resources necessary to run the thrift shop and RTL's many educational programs.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who assisted with setting up, staffing, and taking down the sale, to the many who donated items, and to all those who attended and purchased items. Thank you also to all those who participated in the 50/50 raffle.

A special thanks to all the local churches for providing drop-off sites and delivering the items to the sale, to Karen Rosenbeck for organizing the workers, to St. Remy Church for allowing us to use their hall free of charge, to Marcy Bensman and Boots Groff for providing lunch for the set-up crew, and to Connie McEldowney for all her help at the hall.

State Oratory Contest Results

Congratulations and thank you to Kerrie Josefovsky for representing Shelby County RTL at the state oratory contest Saturday, April 21, in Columbus. Kerrie was runner-up at our local contest and competed in place of top finisher Dan Sehlhorst, who was unable to attend. She presented an outstanding speech!

The judges awarded the top three places to: 1) Rachel del Guidice, of Right to Life of Northeast Ohio; 2) Hannah Beck, of Mercer County Right to Life; and 3) Katelynn Buchwalter, of Wayne-Holmes Right to Life. Del Guidice will represent Ohio at the National Oratory Contest to be held in Crystal City, Virginia on June 30th. Congratulations to all the participants and award winners.

Resources for Parents Confronted with Prenatal Diagnoses

As one of the presentations at our membership meeting showed, when parents are given negative prenatal diagnoses, it can be challenging to uphold pro-life principles. There are resources available to parents who find themselves in this situation:

Elizabeth Ministry (www.ElizabethMinistry.com) is an interdenominational ministry addressing many issues including the loss of a child.

The Apostolate of Hannah's Tears (hannahstears.net) offers prayer support and comfort to the brokenhearted who suffer the pains of infertility at any stage of life, difficult pregnancy, miscarriage, stillbirth, the loss of a child, or the challenges of the adoption process. It is from a Catholic perspective.

Be Not Afraid (www.benotafraid.net) is an online outreach to parents who have received a poor or difficult prenatal diagnosis. The family stories, articles, and links within this site are presented as a resource for those who may have been asked to choose between terminating a pregnancy or continuing on despite the diagnosis. The Be Not Afraid families faced the same decision and chose not to terminate. By sharing their experiences, they hope to offer encouragement to those who may be afraid to continue on.

In memory of Tony Cordonnier, in whose name a memorial donation was made.

+May he rest in peace.+

Help Babies in Need; Be a Diaper Sponsor

One of RTL's major expenses is purchasing diapers for needy mothers. Would you be willing to partner with us by sponsoring one month of the diaper program for \$100? This would be a great project for a youth group, church group, or other organization. You can select which month out of the year you would like, and we will list your name in the newsletter as sponsor for that month (unless you request anonymity). Please contact Kevin or Anne at director@shelbycountyrntl.org or 937-492-5584 if you would like to sign up for a diaper sponsorship.

Thank you to an anonymous donor who responded to this notice in last month's newsletter and provided sponsorship funding for the month of May.

Several months remain open in 2012; please let us know if you would like to support the cause of life in this way.

Membership Meeting Continued from page 1

Board member Tim Dietz announced planning for the second annual Scramble-4-Life golf outing, after which the meeting closed with a period of refreshments and fellowship.

A big thank you to Jenni Bohman for chairing the meeting committee, to all those who assisted her, and to all our members who attended.

Abortion Group Endorses Senate Candidates

Today, NARAL Pro-Choice America PAC released its next round of House and Senate endorsements for the 2012 elections. For the first quarter of the year, the pro-abortion PAC reports that it contributed nearly \$180,000 to like-minded candidates.

For US Senate, NARAL has endorsed incumbent Sen. Sherrod Brown (D) in Ohio. Brown has a 0% career rating from the National Right to Life on abortion-related issues. Brown's extremism on abortion goes as far as voting against the ban on partial-birth abortion and against the Unborn Victims of Violence Act. Brown will face pro-life Republican Josh Mandel, who currently serves as Ohio's State Treasurer. Mandel has earned the backing of key pro-life organizations in Ohio, including Ohio Right to Life.

In the races for the open Senate seats in Hawaii and New Mexico, NARAL issued endorsements for Rep. Mazie Hirono (D) and Rep. Martin Heinrich (D), both of which have not cast one pro-life vote during their time in Congress. Hirono will face former HI Governor Linda Lingle (R) in the general election. Lingle has a mixed record on pro-life issues. However, a win for Republicans in Hawaii would bring pro-life advocates one step closer to ousting the pro-abortion Democratic leadership in the Senate, which has been responsible for blocking key pro-life legislation.

In New Mexico, polls indicate Heinrich will likely win the Democratic nomination for Senate. In the general election, he will face off against either former Rep. Heather Wilson or conservative businessman Greg Sowards. Wilson has a mixed record on pro-life issues but stood with pro-life advocates in support of the Mexico City Policy and against embryonic stem cell research. Sowards notes in a campaign video that he holds a pro-life position.

These three new NARAL endorsements for Senate follow previous endorsements of Rep. Tammy Baldwin in Wisconsin and Rep. Shelly Berkley in Nevada, both of which have received the maximum donation of \$10,000 from the pro-abortion PAC.

By Andrew Bair, LifeNews.com, April 3, 2012. Edited for space (Senate endorsements only) and used with permission.



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Ohio House Move to Defund Planned Parenthood Halted

In a surprising turn of events, the Ohio House of Representatives removed a pro-life amendment from Governor Kasich's Mid-Biennium Review (MBR) legislation, which would have defunded Planned Parenthood in Ohio. The House Finance Committee stripped the pro-life amendment, therefore terminating any opportunity to fast track this initiative.

"The pro-life movement is deeply disappointed with this decision, but not disheartened," said Mike Gonidakis, President of Ohio Right to Life. "The debate to defund the abortion industry has captivated the pro-life movement, not only in Ohio but also across the nation. This is not the last you will hear from Ohio Right to Life and the pro-life people of Ohio. If further vetting is what this amendment needs, we expect hearings on House Bill 298 to begin next week."

Ohio Right to Life is extremely grateful to all of its chapters, supporters and affiliated pro-life groups for unifying behind this powerful pro-life initiative. Ohio Right to Life depends upon all pro-life Ohioans to continue to advocate for the unborn and act against the abortion industry through our efforts before the Ohio House of Representatives.

House Bill 298 is pending in the House Health Committee to defund Planned Parenthood, and we are calling on all supporters to join us and call on the Ohio House of Representatives to pass this legislation. They can be contacted at www.house.state.oh.us.

You can sign up to receive updates from Ohio Right to Life at www.ohiolife.org.

From Ohio Right to Life press release, April 24, 2012.