

Right to Life Newsletter

of Shelby County

November 2012

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



Pro-Lifers Gather for Life Chain

Around a hundred area RTL members and others gathered for the annual Life Chain on the court square in Sidney, Sunday, October 7. The Rev. Kenneth Castor of Redeemer Lutheran Church offered an opening prayer and read from his sermon for the day, urging Christians not to let abortion be "just another issue."

Then participants spread out along the streets adjacent to the courthouse, holding signs such as "Abortion Hurts Women" and "Life, the First Inalienable Right."

Thank you to all those who participated in this year's Life Chain. Thanks, too, to Tim Dietz for emceeding the event, to Dan Jock for providing the sound equipment, and to those who supplied refreshments. The afternoon was a wonderful time of prayer and of witness to our community of the importance of respecting human life.

Mark your calendar

- Sidney Women's Center banquet: November 8, St. Michael's Hall.
- Deadline for submissions to the December newsletter: November 21.
- Board meeting: November 6, 7 pm.

Clothing center report

We served 161 people during the month of September, of whom 21 received free items, 2 took literature, and 2 were referred to the Women's Center.

Thank you to an anonymous donor who provided funds for RTL's diaper program for November. If you would like to sponsor a month, please contact the office.

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

Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness

In 1988, President Ronald Reagan declared October to be Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month. As the month draws to a close, we remember all babies lost by miscarriage, abortion, illness, or accident, and we keep in prayer all of those -- parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters, friends -- who suffer the pain of such a loss.

A Mother's Love by Helen Steiner Rice

A Mother's love is something that no one can explain,

It is made of deep devotion and of sacrifice and pain,

It is endless and unselfish and enduring come what may.

For nothing can destroy it or take that love away.

It is patient and forgiving when all others are forsaking,

And it never fails or falters even though the heart is breaking.

It believes beyond believing when the world around condemns,

And it glows with all the beauty of the rarest, brightest gems.

It is far beyond defining, it defies all explanation,

And it still remains a secret like the mysteries of creation.

A many splendored miracle man cannot understand,

And another wondrous evidence of God's tender guiding hand.



Right to Life Finishes Parade Season

Thank you to all who assisted with this summer's parade season, as Right to Life again sent its positive, pro-life message to the area's festival-goers. At left is a photo of the Applefest parade in Sidney in September.

Anyone interested in helping design or drive the float, please check the appropriate box on your 2013 membership forms, coming in January.

Ohio Right to Life Opposes Issue 2

The Ohio Right to Life Board of Trustees recently announced its unanimous vote in opposition to State Issue 2, the proposed constitutional amendment to alter how Ohioans elect their officeholders, also known as the "Redistricting Amendment."

"Ohio Right to Life strongly opposes Issue 2 and urges every pro-life Ohioan to vote 'no' on this attempt by special interest groups to take away our right to vote," said Ohio Right to Life President Mike Gonidakis. "If pro-life Ohio does not defeat Issue 2, we will forever lose the ability to pass strong pro-life laws in our state. Simply put, a 'no' vote protects your right to vote."

As written, State Issue 2 would amend the Ohio Constitution and forever take away the power from the hands of Ohio voters and instead create an unelected and unaccountable commission whose sole purpose would be to redraw the legislative and congressional districts throughout Ohio. This would, in effect, greatly reduce the number of pro-life officeholders representing Ohio at both the state and federal level.

Groups opposing ballot Issue 2 span across the state in a truly bipartisan effort. Editorials and columns opposing the redistricting issue were printed recently in two of the state's largest newspapers, The Columbus Dispatch and The Cleveland Plain Dealer.

From Ohio Right to Life press release, August 21, 2012.

Ann Romney Would be First Pro-Life First Lady Since Roe

Ann Romney recently interviewed with the liberal women of The View but didn't back down in proclaiming her pro-life position. If her husband Mitt Romney wins the presidential election, she would become the first pro-life First Lady since Roe v. Wade. Although Presidents Ronald Reagan, George Bush and George W. Bush were pro-life and crafted extensive pro-life records, their wives did not share their pro-life positions.

Ann Romney did not demure on abortion and proudly said she has also converted to the pro-life position. "The good news is, I'm not running for office and I don't have to say what I feel. But I am pro-life. I'm happy to say that," the candidate's wife said.

Mrs. Romney went through the explanation of how Mitt Romney, when confronted with legislation that would allow human embryos to be destroyed in a person's earliest days of life, that Mitt had a genuine change of heart. "He could not have, on his conscience, creating human life for experimentation," Romney said. "That's when he came out saying he was pro life. I think we all have to understand this is an issue that is so tender and there are people on both sides of the issue, with very good conscience, coming with a different opinion."

Excerpted from Steven Ertelt, LifeNews.com, October 18, 2012.

Planned Parenthood Admits It Does Not Do Mammograms for Women

The Planned Parenthood abortion business put out a statement in response to this week's pushback against President Barack Obama for his misleading statement in the October 16 debate claiming it does mammograms. "There are millions of women all across the country who rely on Planned Parenthood for mammograms, for cervical cancer screenings," Obama claimed during the debate.

The statement goes on at length to talk about the referrals Planned Parenthood makes for women — referrals that women can obtain at any legitimate medical health provider that does not also destroy lives in abortions. "In short, Planned Parenthood helps women nationwide get access to mammograms, as part of the range of health care Planned Parenthood health centers provide to nearly three million people a year. Planned Parenthood doctors and nurses do this like any other primary care provider or ob-gyn does," it admits.

"Women rely on Planned Parenthood for referrals," the abortion business admits. "Planned Parenthood doctors and nurses refer patients to other facilities for mammograms."

Meanwhile, Factcheck.org confirms Planned Parenthood does not actually do mammograms.

At the second presidential debate, President Obama said that women "rely on" Planned Parenthood for mammograms. Actually, mammograms are not performed at the clinics; Planned Parenthood doctors and nurses conduct breast exams and refer patients to other facilities for mammograms.

Obama said: "When Governor Romney says that we should eliminate funding for Planned Parenthood, there are millions of women all across the country who rely on Planned Parenthood for not just contraceptive care. They rely on it for mammograms, for cervical cancer screenings."

Obama used a similar line again on Oct. 18, telling a Manchester, N.H., crowd: "Governor Romney said he'd end funding for Planned Parenthood, despite all the work it does to provide women with mammograms and breast cancer screenings."

Women can't walk into a Planned Parenthood clinic and get a mammogram on the spot. The clinics don't have mammography equipment.

When the Komen Foundation announced in February that it would no longer provide grants to Planned Parenthood—partly due to the fact that Planned Parenthood does not directly provide mammograms – its ideological and political supporters sprang into action. They decried Komen's decision to eliminate funding for this imagined provider of mammograms. Planned Parenthood's Executive Director, Cecile Richards, made the claim. So did President Obama. And an unsuspecting public was led to believe that such bold claims, by people who should know, must be true.

Planned Parenthood itself has admitted that it does not perform mammograms for women — something the Komen for the Cure breast cancer charity confirmed last year. LifeNews.com and pro-life blogger Jill Stanek followed up with phone calls to various Planned Parenthood centers and confirmed they do not do mammograms.

Then, the organization Live Action released videotaped footage of calls to 30 Planned Parenthood centers nationwide in 27 different states where abortion facility staff were asked whether or not mammograms could be performed on site. Every one of the Planned Parenthood centers admitted they could not do mammograms. Every Planned Parenthood, without exception, tells the women calling that they will have to go elsewhere for a mammogram, and many clinics admit that no Planned Parenthood clinics provide this breast cancer screening procedure.

By Steven Ertelt, LifeNews.com, October 19, 2012. Edited for space.

In memory of Ruth Ann Burch, in whose name memorial donations were made.

+May she rest in peace.+



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Ohio Abortions Drop to Historic Low

Reported abortions have never been fewer in the state of Ohio, according to the latest report released by the Ohio Department of Health. The 2011 Abortion Report reveals not only a new all time low in the number of abortions, but also one of the largest decreases in state recorded history, dropping by 12% (3,359 abortions) since 2010. Tragically 24,764 abortions were still performed in Ohio during 2011.

“Our mission at Ohio Right to Life is to protect women and children. Our goal is to change hearts and minds to impact our culture positively for life. This report represents not only the success of Ohio Right to Life's advocacy, but successes of a combined strategy to change attitudes regarding abortion,” said President Mike Gonidakis.

The 2011 Ohio Abortion Report demonstrates that of all abortions: The majority occur in the metropolitan areas of Cuyahoga County at 36%, Franklin at 23%, and Hamilton at 18%; 49% were performed upon young women and girls under the age of 24; 85% occur during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy; 46% were performed upon Ohio residents who have previously had an abortion; and 39% were performed upon African American women, while they make up less than 10% of the population.

“Because of the leadership provided by Governor John Kasich and Ohio's pro-life majorities in the General Assembly, Ohio Right to Life and its affiliated chapters were able to pass an unprecedented amount of pro-life legislation in 2011,” said Gonidakis. “As such, we’ve coined 2011 ‘the best year yet’. Today’s 2011 report gives that statement real meaning. The entire pro-life movement's advocacy extends beyond the halls of government and into our Churches, schools and communities. We firmly believe Ohioans’ attitudes towards abortion are changing with the deepest respect for life.”

The full report can be viewed at www.ohiolife.org/polls-and-reports/.

From Ohio Right to Life press release, October 1, 2012. Edited for space.