

## 40 Days for Life, Now in Progress

40 Days for Life is a special period of prayer, fasting, and action in support of respect for all human life. This fall it stretches from September 22 to November 4. Some remaining local events are listed below. Please take the time to join us in prayer for an end to abortion and all violations of the dignity of human life.

Pro-life Stations of the Cross, Holy Angels Church: Every Sunday, September 23 through October 28, 5pm

October: Field of Crosses on display on St. Rt. 66 at Sts. Peter and Paul Church

Life Chain, On the court square in Sidney: Sunday, October 7, 2:30-3:30pm

Prayer at Abortion Mill in Kettering: Friday, October 12, leaving Lehman High School at 10am; and Friday, October 19, leaving St. Michael Church, Ft. Loramie, at 9:30am

Vigil Day of Prayer, Holy Angels: October 20 after 8am Mass until 7:30am Mass on Sunday

Pro-Life Patriotic Rosary: St. Michael's, Sunday October 28, 7pm; and Holy Angels, Sunday, November 4, 4pm

See [40daysforlife.com](http://40daysforlife.com) for more information about this national observance.

### Mark your calendar

- Deadline for submissions to the November newsletter: October 25.
- Board meeting: October 2, 7 pm.

### Clothing center report

We served 128 people during the month of August, of whom 29 received free items, 2 took literature, and 3 were referred to the Women's Center.

Thank you to an anonymous donor who provided funds for RTL's diaper program for October. 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

## Botkins Waffle Stand Helpers, Thank You

The Right to Life Waffle Stand at the Botkins Carousel has been a great fundraiser for Right to Life for many years. The following is a message from chairpersons Mark and Sherry Cisco:

The RTL waffle stand at the Botkins Carousel had another successful year as this was our 31st. It was a year we dedicated in loving memory of Ruberta Hemmert for all her work for the first 30 years of the waffle stand. Many thanks to everyone who helped with mixing the batter, and frying, powdering, bagging, and selling the waffles. A personal thanks goes to Jeremy and Mary Hughes, Craig and Linda Grisez, Larry and Katie Doseck, Ann Vehorn, Shirley Ellinger, Tim and Shandra Parker, She Parker, Dan and Carol Hemmert, Chad Leffel, Clarissa Cisco, Gerry and Linda Christman, Elaine Limbert, Edie Huelskamp, Jane Uppenkamp, Lois Dietz, Steve and Rita Monnin, Steve Fullenkamp, John Bauer, Dean Steinke, Kathy George, Dick and Joyce Platfoot, Ron Meyer, Wayne Krebs, Nate Cisco, Faith Cisco, Isaac Cisco, and Elmo Hemmert. Our success would not have been possible without your help. Also, thank you to all of those who bought waffles.

Our chairpersons, having earned a well-deserved break, have retired from running the stand. Thank you, Mary and Sherry, for all of your hard work over the years.

Reminder: Ohio Right to Life Sweepstakes Tickets must be returned to the office by October 19

## Election 2012: Information on Local Contests

Right to Life of Shelby County does not endorse candidates. However, it is an important part of our mission to educate voters on candidate positions. To that end, we invited those candidates (local) who were not covered by the Ohio or National Right to Life reviews to meet with us so that we could share about our local pro-life educational and service activities. This meeting also provided them with an opportunity to ask questions and gave us the chance to go over a questionnaire which we asked them to return to us.

We recognize that questionnaires are not perfect, but it is the most objective way that we have to compare candidate positions. We also realize that the office for which a candidate is running may not require votes on some of the questions presented. However, we believe that the questions are a good way to determine a candidate's position on what we believe to be a priority issue. In an effort to be fair to all the candidates, we presented them all with the same opportunity to respond to these statements. Please see the candidate questionnaire report on the following page (page 3), and President/Senator comparison (insert).

### Considering Boycotts: Businesses and Non-Profits

Are boycotts even effective? Yes, there is a history of effectiveness. Your family's part in a boycott may seem small, but together with others, it adds up. The effects of boycotts may not be as noticeable to very large companies, as to small companies, but even large companies can feel the sting. What makes a boycott even more effective, are letters to the corporation that accompany your decision not to patronize a company. Drawing lessons from Tom Strobhar's experience with ProVita, however, we see that the purchase of minimal stocks which gives the shareholder leverage for influence, is in a separate category from boycotting a company by refusing to purchase their goods or services.

Are you inconsistent or hypocritical if you boycott some companies, but not others who fit the same bill? Absolutely not. While boycotting is a useful tool, there is no moral obligation to boycott a company. (Of course there is a moral obligation not to buy goods or services that are in themselves morally objectionable, such as pornography, but this is a different category from boycotts.) There are so many different litmus tests for boycotts; if you tried to boycott every company that had any policies or practices that were objectionable to some degree, you might be left with few buying options. So it is important to have a focus, to look at what is most important. That is why many people in the pro-life movement follow the lead of Life Dynamics International in focusing on a boycott of any companies or organizations that financially contribute to Planned Parenthood with its deadly, nationwide abortion agenda. This criterion is measurable and important.

Boycotting businesses involves varying levels of sacrifice on the part of those participating in the boycott. Sacrifice, of course, is giving up something of value for the sake of something considered to have higher importance. It is important to look at some questions to discern how much you are willing or able to sacrifice: Is the good or service available elsewhere? How important or necessary is the good or service? Could you live without it, if it is not available elsewhere? If it is available from another company, is the price comparable; are you willing to pay more, drive further or pay shipping to get it? In other words, how willing are you to overcome inconveniences in order do something you think is important? We think boycotting businesses that contribute to a culture of death is worth some sacrifice, so please consider it, and include a letter to the company.

Perhaps even more important than boycotting businesses, however, is boycotting non-profit organizations that contribute to Planned Parenthood. The difference between boycotts of non-profits and of businesses is important. Boycotting a non-profit does not require you to give up a good or service, nor to make a financial sacrifice. Obviously people make financial sacrifices for a non-profit when they want to support the cause or services promoted by the non-profit, although there may be cases in which donors contribute to organizations with a lack of sufficient information or under pressure from family or friends.

In general, it is good to give to a non-profit organization whose cause you support, but what if the organization is a mixed bag? What if the organization does some things you like, but also has some strongly objectionable policies or practices?

A couple of those "mixed bags" are the Susan G. Komen Foundation and the American Cancer Society, well known for its Relay for Life. Recently, it seems these organizations are becoming more problematic, as they bow to pressures from Planned Parenthood. Here is a summary of why the American Cancer Society (ACS) is considered detrimental to pro-life efforts:

Continued on page 4

## Right to Life Local Candidate Questionnaire

Statements (reply yes or no)

1. I will vote against the use of tax money to fund abortions.
2. I will vote against the use of tax money to fund pro-abortion groups.
3. I believe we can love and protect both the mother and the child. I will vote for legal protection for the unborn child from the time of conception.
4. I will vote for conscience protection for those opposed to abortion.
5. I will support only pro-life candidate for public office.
6. The new federal health care legislation contains no conscience protection and no abortion funding ban. I support repeal.

Candidates for County Commissioner

Tony Bornhorst: met with us ; replied Yes to all six statements.

Jim Yost: met with us; did not return questionnaire.

Candidates for County Sheriff

Scott Evans: met with us; did not return questionnaire; sent a pro-life statement.

John Lenhart: did not meet with us; did not return questionnaire; sent a pro-life statement.

Ohio Supreme Court Justice Candidates (Courtesy of RTL of Greater Cincinnati-Aug/Sept. 2012 General Election Candidate Survey Issue)

1. Which former U.S. president's political philosophy best matches your own? Gerald Ford /Jimmy Carter / Bill Clinton / George H.W. Bush / Ronald Reagan / George W. Bush / Barack H. Obama / Other (please specify)
2. Which U.S. Supreme Court Justice's legal philosophy best matches your own? Roberts / Stevens / Scalia / Kennedy / Thomas / Ginsburg / Breyer / Alito / Sotomayor / Other (please specify)
3. Rate your judicial philosophy regarding the U.S. Constitution on a scale of 1-10 with "living/evolving document" being 1 and "strict constructionist" being a 10 .
4. In Roe v. Wade, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), the U.S. Supreme Court recognized a "right to privacy" under the Constitution that includes abortion. The Constitution does not include this right. Agree / Disagree / Undecided
5. Judges should refrain from "legislating from the bench." Agree / Disagree / Undecided
6. There is no provision in the current Ohio constitution intended to require the use of public funds for abortion.

Justice of the Supreme Court of Ohio (Term expiring 1/1/13)

Terrence O'Donnell (R): 1. R.Reagan 2. Scalia 3. 10 4. [blank] 5. Agree 6. [blank]

Comments on #4, #6: This is an issue that may come before the court, I cannot answer via the Judicial Canons.

Michael Skindell (D): not yet surveyed

Justice of the Supreme Court of Ohio (Term expiring 1/2/13)

Robert R. Cupp (R): 1. Reagan 2. Roberts 3. 9 4. [blank] 5. Agree 6. Agree

Comment on #2: I agree with Chief Justice Roberts view of the role of judge... "Judges are like umpires. Umpires don't make the rules, they apply them."

William O'Neill (D) Did Not Respond

Justice of the Supreme Court of Ohio (Unexpired term ending 12/31/14)

Yvette Mcgee Brown (D): Did Not Respond

Sharon L. Kennedy ( R): 1. Reagan 2. Scalia 3. 9 4. Agree 5. Agree 6. Agree

Comment on #4: The Constitution does not provide a right to choose. Judges derived that through case law by broadening the 14th Amendment."



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### Boycotts Continued from page 2

Support for human embryonic stem cell research [and] grant funding at facilities known prominently for human embryonic stem cell research; Grant funding to Planned Parenthood; Referrals to Planned Parenthood as a health information/education resource; Failure to acknowledge the link between previously induced abortion and risk for breast cancer; Suggested fertility options including IVF, embryo freezing, egg/sperm donation and surrogacy. (See <http://www.lifenews.com/2012/08/21/pro-life-people-should-avoid-the-american-cancer-society/>)

Connie McEldowney, a member of Shelby County RTL, used to be involved with ACS, joining after her father died of cancer. Her later research into the organization's policies led her to withdraw her support. Here is what she wrote about that process:

A few years ago, I came across an article that suggested the American Cancer Society supports Planned Parenthood, cloning and embryonic stem cell research (which is the extraction of stem cells from an unborn baby, which in turn causes the baby to die instantly). I have to admit, I dismissed it as hogwash and nothing but rumors. I felt really good about the work I was doing to help the American Cancer Society, and I chose not to believe the article. Because of my involvement in many pro-life groups, however, this information kept popping back up at me. Each time I would see something that suggested any involvement between the American Cancer Society and Planned Parenthood, I would find myself getting angry. Finally, I decided to do the necessary research to prove that this was nothing but a rumor. What I found, though, was heartwrenching, to say the least. After literally weeks of researching this topic, I found solid evidence time and time again that proved exactly what I didn't want to be true. The American Cancer Society has, in fact, donated millions of dollars to Planned Parenthood.

Make sure your sacrifices are going toward the good you want to achieve. All of us want to find viable treatments and cures for cancer and to support those who have suffered. If you want to contribute to a cancer research institute that does not support embryonic stem cell research or Planned Parenthood, some good choices are The Polycarp Research Institute ([www.polycarp.org](http://www.polycarp.org)) or The Breast Cancer Prevention Institute ([www.bcpinstitute.org](http://www.bcpinstitute.org)).