

## Renew Your Commitment During 40 Days for Life

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 28 to November 6. Pastors and other group leaders are encouraged to organize pro-life events during this time. On page 2 of this newsletter is an initial schedule of area events. Please let us know of your events so that we may add them to our schedule in October. And please take the time to join us in prayer for an end to abortion and all violations of the dignity of human life.



See schedule, page 2. Learn more at [www.40daysforlife.com](http://www.40daysforlife.com).

### Attention College Students: Ohio Right to Life Internships

Ohio Right to Life has internship opportunities for college students. Each intern will get an inside look into how Ohio Right to Life works and will also have a chance to use their background and skills to assist on various projects within their specific departments. Deadline is Sept. 12. See [www.ohiolife.org/intern](http://www.ohiolife.org/intern) for details.

#### Mark your calendar

- Deadline for submissions to the October newsletter: September 22.
- Board meeting: Sept. 6, 7pm.

#### Clothing center report

We served 189 people during the month of July, of whom 75 received free items, 11 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.

## Soles for Souls

One way of observing 40 Days for Life is through sponsoring the presentation of "Soles for Souls." This pro-life display was featured in a March 4 article by Terry Pellman in the Sidney Daily News.

The display consists of a small casket containing 137 shoes, one for each abortion that takes place in the United States every hour. Russia's St. Remy Knights of Columbus council constructed the casket and presented it to the parish's Respect Life Committee. The committee is working through Right to Life to promote the display of Soles for Souls around the county.

Committee member Deb Timmerman explained the purposes of the display: To change the hearts of women who may be contemplating abortion; To touch the hearts of anyone encouraging a woman to have an abortion; To heal women who have undergone abortions by offering God's forgiveness; To touch the hearts of all who see it and stir a greater respect for life.

The Soles for Souls casket has been carried in the March for Life earlier this year, and has been displayed at Right to Life booths at the Shelby County and Auglaize County fairs and at several local churches.

If anyone would like to organize a visit of Soles for Souls to their church, school, or other public venue, please contact Jenni Bohman at [bohmanag@live.com](mailto:bohmanag@live.com) or 937-526-3451.

## 40 Days for Life Schedule



Wed., Sept. 28, 7pm	Holy Hour for Life	Holy Angels Church
Suns., Oct. 2-Oct. 30, 6pm	Pro-Life Stations of the Cross	Holy Angels Church
Sun., Oct. 2, 2:30-3:30 pm	Life Chain	Court Square, Sidney
Fri., Oct. 14, noon – Sun., Oct. 16, 7:30pm	40 Hours for Life	Holy Angels Church
Sun., Oct. 23	Teens for Truth Pro-Life Pumpkin Prayer Vigil	Location TBD
Tues., Oct. 19	Elizabeth's New Life Center Banquet Keynote: Shawn Carney (founder of 40 Days for Life)	St. Michael's Hall, Ft. Loramie
Sun., Nov. 6, 6pm	Pro-Life Patriotic Rosary	Holy Angels Church

## Thank You, Fair Booth Volunteers

Led by long-time chairperson Karen Berning, an army of volunteers again made possible Right to Life's public witness to the dignity of life at the Shelby County Fair.

This year the location of our booth was moved by fair organizers from the Merchant's Building to the former Activity Center/Blue Building near the main entrance of the fairgrounds. The new location provided increased traffic allowing more fairgoers to view our displays of fetal development models, pro-life literature, and Soles for Souls. We are grateful to everyone who assisted with the fair booth.



## Christmas Ornaments for Sale

At the fair RTL booth, we quickly sold out of the 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.

## Shelby County Already a Winner in ORTL Sweepstakes!

Thank you to all who have returned Ohio Right to Life sweepstakes tickets. Our members' amazing support of this fundraiser is highlighted by the fact that Shelby County RTL won the \$50 incentive prize from ORTL for selling more tickets than any other chapter in the month of July. We've long believed that Shelby County, though not as big as many other Ohio counties, has a potent pro-life movement and that our local RTL group enjoys extraordinary support from its members. This is proof!

If you haven't yet returned your tickets, please do so by sending \$1 per ticket or \$10 for the entire sheet of 12 to Shelby County Right to Life, PO Box 72, Sidney, OH 45365. (Checks should be made payable to Shelby County RTL.) They may also 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.

If you've lost your tickets or you want additional tickets, they are available at the office or online at [www.ohiolife.org/sweepstakes](http://www.ohiolife.org/sweepstakes).

REMINDER: Pro-Life Technology Symposium, Dayton, September 10.

More info and registration at [www.prolifetechnology.org](http://www.prolifetechnology.org).

## Tickets Available for Glenn Beck Event in Columbus

In cooperation with Ohio Right to Life, Shelby County RTL is selling tickets for ORTL's "Life-Faith-Freedom" rally featuring Glenn Beck. It will be October 27 at Veterans Memorial Auditorium.

You may order a ticket by sending a check to RTL, PO Box 72, Sidney, OH, 45365 (deadline: Oct. 1) Shelby County RTL receives 50% of all proceeds from tickets that we sell, so please purchase tickets from us if you plan to go. Tickets are at three levels of seating: Red (\$125); White (\$60); and Blue (\$39). See <http://ohiolifeglennbeck.weebly.com> for more information.

## HHS Approves Insurance Mandate to Cover Abortion Drugs

The Obama administration has approved a recommendation from the Institute of Medicine suggesting that it force insurance companies to pay for birth control and drugs that can cause abortions under the Obamacare government-run health care program.

The IOM recommendation, opposed by pro-life groups, called for the Obama administration to require insurance programs to include birth control—such as the morning after pill or the ella drug that causes an abortion days after conception—in the section of drugs and services insurance plans must cover under "preventative care." The companies will likely pass the added costs on to consumers, requiring them to pay for birth control and, in some instances, drug-induced abortions of unborn children in their earliest days.

Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced that it accepted the IOM guidelines that "require new health insurance plans to cover women's preventive services" and those services include "FDA-approved contraception methods and contraceptive counseling" — which include birth control drugs like Plan B and ella that can cause abortions. The Health and Human Services Department commissioned the report from the Institute, which advises the federal government and shut out pro-life groups in meetings leading up to the recommendations.

HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, an abortion advocate, said new health plans will be required to include coverage with plan years beginning on or after August 1, 2012 but that also exempts group health plans sponsored by certain religious employers. Those exemptions would include a nonprofit religious employer that has the inculcation of religious values as its purpose, primarily employs persons who share its religious tenets, and serves persons who share its religious tenets.

Jeanne Monahan, director of Family Research Council's Center for Human Dignity, which covers pro-life, issues, panned the IOM report and HHS' decision to adopt it. "The mandate will include FDA-approved drugs like Ella and Plan B that are misleadingly labeled 'emergency contraceptives' despite the fact that they can actually destroy a developing baby prior to or after implanting in the mother's womb," she told LifeNews. She also said the conscience protections were not sufficient.

"HHS offered a fig leaf of conscience protection for certain churches that fulfill very specific criteria. However, religious groups that provide social services, engage in missions work to people of different religious faiths, religious health insurance companies, let alone religious health care providers and individuals in such health plans are not protected from any discrimination whatever. The new rule will force many Americans to violate their consciences or refrain from participating in health care insurance, further burdening an already costly system," Monahan said. Continued on page 4

In memory of

Mary Ann Sommer, volunteer and Right to Life's first "Lifetime Member,"

In whose name a memorial donation was made.

+May she rest in peace.+



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## Abortion Drugs Mandate continued from page 3

“The preventive care provision of the health care law was intended to prevent diseases, not to end pregnancies,” said Americans United for Life president Charmaine Yoest.

Bill Saunders of Americans United for Life is also concerned about the recommendations:

PPACA requires all private health insurance plans to provide coverage of “preventive care for women,” not just those plans participating in the insurance exchanges that the law requires be established by 2014. These services must be covered without cost-sharing, meaning these services must be fully covered without a co-pay. Significantly, this means that no American will be able to choose a health insurance plan that does not cover what is determined to be “preventive care for women.”

Instead of defining “preventive care” in the statute, Congress left this determination to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Tasked with advising HHS, the IOM serves an important role in determining what constitutes “preventive care for women.”

At the IOM’s three public meetings on “preventive care,” groups that were invited to present to IOM on “women’s issues” nearly all took a public stance in favor of abortion. The list included Planned Parenthood, the nation’s largest abortion provider, who stands to gain financially if abortion and abortion-inducing drugs are included in this mandate. This huge conflict of interest was not disclosed at the meeting.

By Steven Ertelt. LifeNews.com, August 1, 2011. Edited for space and used with permission.