

Pro-Life Float Making the Rounds

The Right to Life parade float has been on its annual tour of area festivals. So far it has appeared at Jackson Center Community Days, Botkins Carousel, Versailles Poultry Days, and Anna Homecoming. Later in the summer it will roll in the Sidney Applefest Parade.

As a tribute to the hit cable show and to the Robertson family who are well known for their Christian views — including on abortion — the float's theme this year is Duck Dynasty. It displays the message, "Don't Hide the Truth. Choose Life. That's a Fact, Jack."



Don't ask us who the guys in beards are. We don't know either.

A big thank you to Randi and Chris McVety, who volunteered to organize the float project for 2014. Thanks, too, to all of those who helped decorate, transport, and staff the float during the parades.



Weather Cooperates for Scramble

The 4th Annual Scramble-4-Life golf outing, held May 10 at Shelby Oaks Golf Course, was a great success. Many thanks to Tim and Darla Dietz, Julia Monnin, and all of those who organized the event, and to the 22 teams that participated.

Special thanks to our generous sponsors, and to all of our door prize donors.

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Birdie Sponsors

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Bergman Drywall; Dietz Painting; Hoying & Hoying Builders; IC Church Ladies Sodality; Inn Between; Koenig Equipment; Meyer's Tavern; Palazzo; Prueter's Body Shop; Repacorp, Inc.; Silver Cross; Tony & Jill Arnold; Gary & Anita Bornhorst; Chris & Heather Monnin; Steve & Rita Monnin; Ben & Erica Paul; The Bruce Hoge Family - In Memory of Megan; The Ray Limbert Family - In Memory of Elizabeth & Jacob

Gosnell Movie Is a Go

They did it. The producers of the Gosnell movie have raised the \$2.1 million they needed to make the Hollywood-style film that will tell the story of the gruesome abortion practitioner.

The campaign reached its goal four days ahead of schedule thanks to a unified effort by pro-life advocates and almost 24,000 people who agreed to fund the movie. Proving its grassroots appeal, most of the 23,471 donors contributed \$100 or less while only 72 people claimed the perks from donating over \$1,000. Continued on page 2

Clothing center report

In April, 206 clients purchased items, 18 used certificates from classes, and 26 received free items. In May, 151 clients purchased items, 12 used certificates from classes, and 19 received free items.

In April, Right to Life speaker Anne Schmiesing gave a presentation at the Shelby County Ministerial Association meeting, a gathering of pastors from numerous denominations in Shelby County who work to unite area Christians in prayer and service to our community. The talk, "Facing Reality," dealt with aiding the healing process for those struggling with post-abortion trauma and was well received by the approximately 30 pastors in attendance.

During the presentation, Anne explained the unfortunate reality that, because abortion is often considered a controversial topic, many women and men are left feeling that they can't talk about their secret because of fears of how they will be treated. After 40 plus years of abortion on demand, a tremendous number of people are struggling with the emotional, psychological and spiritual effects of a decision they thought would be a problem-fixer. At over 1 million abortions per year, that affects a lot of people.

The negative psychological effects of abortion also impact extended family of those choosing abortion. Some studies indicate that aborting an otherwise "wanted" child because of a diagnosed disability can actually increase the risk for psychological trauma.

Medical professionals involved in abortions in varying degrees also feel the negative psychological effects. Joan Appleton, a nationally known speaker in the 1980s for the pro-abortion National Organization for Women, was also an abortion nurse until viewing an ultrasound during an abortion awakened her to the reality of the human life being destroyed in the procedure. Before she noticed post-abortion effects in herself, though, she had not been able to ignore it in her clients: "One of the things that bothered me even during the time that I was head nurse at the clinic is that it—abortion—was such an emotional trauma for a woman and such a difficult decision for a woman to make. If it was right, why was it so difficult?" She said she had to ask herself that all the time, thinking: "I counseled these women so well, they were so sure of their decision, so why were they coming back months and years later, psychological wrecks?... I couldn't deny their presence." (More of her story can be found at www.prolifeaction.org.)

Anne distributed information from The Elliot Institute summarizing systematic reviews and meta-analyses of numerous studies indicating a dramatic increase in self-destructive behaviors related to post-abortion trauma, including clinical depression, suicidal tendencies and substance abuse. She emphasized that those in ministry often are called upon to help those struggling in these ways, but we are missing the mark if we are not getting to the root causes. There are more and more findings that indicate abortion is often one of those root causes that is frequently overlooked. She added, "In ministry, these individuals (suffering from post-abortion trauma) are counting on us to ask the right questions. Even if they are hard! And they are counting on us to listen to them."

Several of the pastors said they were interested in training to start a post-abortion support group. Right to Life is looking into this possibility. Anyone interested in helping should contact Anne Schmiesing at 492-5584.

Gosnell Movie Continued from page 1

Gosnell is the abortion practitioner who killed babies in live-birth abortions that were more akin to infanticide than abortion. The media virtually ignored Kermit Gosnell until the pro-life movement launched a concerned effort to call them out on their bias during the early stages of his trial for murder. Now, he is in prison, having been convicted of murder in the deaths of multiple babies, though he was accused of killing thousands of viable babies. Still, one report from Gallup showed a large percentage of Americans still have no idea who Gosnell is and what he did. A new crowd-funded campaign for a Gosnell movie hopes to change that.

Ann McElhinney and Phelim McAleer, the directors behind Not Evil Just Wrong and Fracknation are behind the Gosnell movie project. Their made-for TV movie is based on real life Grand Jury testimony with actors to tell the Gosnell story. They launched a historic crowd-sourcing campaign to fund the film, Gosnell, through Indiegogo that was successful thanks to the help of some notable pro-life celebrities like Kevin Sorbo and despite the fact that Kickstarter initially kicked the movie off its web site. As the directors say: "The mainstream media or Hollywood don't think this is a story. Even though Gosnell killed more people than Gary Ridgeway, John Wayne Gacey, The Zodiac Killer and Ted Bundy combined. In a 30 year killing spree, it is thought he killed 1000s of babies. And that wasn't a national story?" By Steven Ertelt, LifeNews.com, May 9, 2014. Edited for space.

We pray in thanksgiving for good weather during our successful golf outing.

We pray for blessings on all of our Shelby County Fair volunteers as they promote respect for life to fair visitors.



For Sidewalk Counselor, Compassion Saves a Baby

Compassion is something I think about a lot. I strive to be compassionate and respectful to every human being – whether preborn baby or mother, elderly adult or teenager, pro-lifer or abortion advocate.

Yet, I struggle. It's easy to throw compassion to the wayside when someone starts yelling. Our natural urge is to defend ourselves. It takes a lot of self-control and compassion to keep calm, but it's a virtue we must strive for as pro-lifers. When we respond in love, not anger, we show that person that we care about them enough to put our anger and discomfort aside. I was reminded of this the other day when I was talking to a dedicated sidewalk counselor in our area.

A few weeks ago, she approached a couple going into the abortion center. The father berated her and cursed at her as they walked by. She kept calm, assuring them she only wanted to offer free support to them and their baby. They ignored her and walked inside the building.

About 15 minutes later the father came out and approached her. First, he apologized for yelling at her, and then he confided that he did not want the abortion. She encouraged him to talk to his partner and told him about the free help available at the local pregnancy center. As he walked back inside, she began praying. Soon, he came out again with his partner. They were beaming as they told her they were going to keep their baby.

I'm pretty sure it was her compassion that made all the difference to him. He could see that she genuinely cared about him and his family. If she had yelled back, I wonder if he would have confided in her the way he did. Probably not.

It's hard to be compassionate when we know babies are being killed every single day in our towns. We should be upset that abortion is legal, but we're not going to change minds by reacting in anger. When we react in compassion and love, we demonstrate our ultimate purpose as pro-lifers – to ensure that every human life, born and preborn, is valued and protected.

By Micaiah Bilger, Education Director, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation. LifeNews.com, June 4, 2014.

You Might Not Be Pleased with What Your Tax Dollars are Paying For

Lila Rose and the Live Action team are launching a new comprehensive campaign, "Lies, Corruption, and Scandal: Six Years of Exposing Planned Parenthood." Live Action will hand-deliver a packet to every U.S. congressman and senator that includes a cover letter providing an overview of Live Action's investigative findings against Planned Parenthood over the course of six years, and a report detailing Planned Parenthood's expansive malfeasance.

Live Action is also conducting a public campaign by unveiling a new website, PlannedParenthoodExposed.com, launching a petition drive, and releasing a video that gives a truly shocking six minute synopsis of Live Action's six years of undercover investigations of the United States' largest abortion corporation.

Those findings include: Child sexual abuse; Racism; Deceptive and manipulative counseling; Sex trafficking help; False advertising and fraud; Sex-selective abortion; Lies about clinic safety.

Each of Live Action's undercover investigations has been shocking in and of itself. But ultimately each has revealed only a sliver of Planned Parenthood's evil underbelly. Put together, Live Action's findings are truly unbelievable, particularly when one takes into consideration the fact that taxpayers hand Planned Parenthood over half a billion dollars EVERY YEAR - \$1.4+ million A DAY. Live Action is urging our legislators to halt funding of Planned Parenthood. The report, spanning six years and documenting a series of undercover investigations, shows "an institutionalized pattern of dangerous and illegal behavior," said Live Action president Lila Rose.

"Abortion is a sickening human rights abuse against both women and children," Rose said. Continued on page 4

Your Tax Dollars to Planned Parenthood Continued from page 3

“When I first began to go undercover in these facilities in 2007, I thought I would find illegal and harmful activity. But even I had no idea of the huge, company-wide commitment to abortion at any cost – the fraud, the lies, the cover-ups.”

Rose is calling for the immediate and complete revocation of all taxpayer funds to Planned Parenthood. “It’s a grave injustice that our government and our president actively promote this extreme form of violence,” she said. “It’s a disgrace that we are all forced to fund it.” Per its latest annual report, Planned Parenthood received \$540.7 million in government (i.e., taxpayer) funds in 2011-2012. The corporation performed 327,166 abortions during that time.

“Planned Parenthood is an abortion corporation,” Rose said, “no matter what its gold-plated marketing department tells you. These facilities need to be investigated, inspected, and shut down. Most if not all of these abortionists should be prosecuted – along with destroying thousands of lives, they regularly skirt or outright violate state statutes. Our report shows where the true ‘war on women’ is – it’s front and center in America’s abortion facilities. And it will never end until their doors are shut forever.”

Do we want to fund an organization that is willing to cover up the statutory rape of a 13-yr-old by a 31-yr-old? That is “excited” to take donations specifically to abort black babies? That lies to vulnerable women about child development? That aids and abets child sex traffickers, whose victims may also have been illegally smuggled into the United States? That engages in false advertising (at the highest levels) and fraud? That is willing to commit sex-selective abortions of baby girls, just because they are girls? That lobbies in favor of infanticide?

The only explanation for a politician to support taxpayer funding of Planned Parenthood is corruption – mutual backscratching. We must stop this madness. Be sure to sign Live Action’s petition and get the word out.

By Jill Stanek, LifeNews.com, May 28, 2014. Edited for space.