

## Oratory Champ Ethan Jock Wins Close Contest



C. Trisler, E. Jock, E. Waldsmith

Lehman Catholic senior Ethan Jock narrowly edged second-place finisher Christy Trisler in the sixth annual Pro-life Oratory Contest of Shelby County. Trisler is enrolled in the Post Secondary Education Program at Sidney High School and attending classes at Edison Community College. Third place went to Mary Ellen (Ellie) Waldsmith, a senior at Lehman. There were a total of eight participants in this year's competition. As the contest winner, Jock will represent Shelby County in the state contest in Columbus on Saturday April 27, with a chance to win a

paid trip to the National Right to Life Convention competition. Each of the winners of the local contest received cash prizes.

Contest coordinator, Anne Schmiesing, noted, "I know it was an especially hard decision for the judges this year. Several of the contestants spoke of personal experiences; their parents had been encouraged to abort a child whom they were told would have birth defects. After those parents made the choice to give birth, they discovered the diagnosis was not even right." Continued on page 2

### Mark your calendar

- Deadline for submissions to the April newsletter: March 21.
- Board meeting: March 5, 7 pm.
- Garage sale: March 14-16
- Golf outing: May 11.

Reminder: Please turn in your dues and membership form as soon as possible.

### Clothing center report

We served 124 people during the month of January, of whom 17 received free items, and 2 took literature.

New hours: 10am - 4pm,  
Tues. - Fri.

Right to Life of Shelby County is a 501(c)(3) educational and service organization. All dona-



## Russia Garage Sale, March 14-16

Right to Life's biggest fundraiser, our annual garage sale, will be held Thursday-Saturday, March 14-16, at St. Remy Hall in Russia. Hours will be 9 am-7 pm on Thursday and Friday, and 9 am-12 pm on Saturday.

As a friendly reminder, we ask that you continue to donate only clean and salable items. Clothes that are stained do not sell. It would also be extremely helpful if clothes were sorted by size and bagged/boxed accordingly. To donate, drop items off at the RTL office (102 E. Poplar, Sidney) during its open hours or see your church bulletin for your local drop off site. You may drop items off at St. Remy Hall on Tuesday, March 12 from 7-8 pm and Wednesday, March 13 from 9 am-6 pm.

If you would like to donate large items, such as furniture, and are not able to store them until the sale, please contact Maria Hoehne at 937-526-5008.

There will be a bake sale and two raffles (see story on page 2 and newsletter inserts) held in conjunction with the garage sale. Baked items may be brought to the garage sale on Wednesday, March 13 (correction from last month's newsletter), from 9 am-6 pm. Additional baked goods will be accepted throughout the sale.

Volunteers are needed to help work at the sale, Wednesday-Saturday. A phone call to Karen Rosenbeck, 937-526-5814, would be greatly appreciated!

## Win Big with RTL's Garage Sale Raffles!

This year there will be two raffles in conjunction with the Russia Garage Sale. One is the 50/50 raffle, which will be conducted like last year's. A single winner will collect half of all proceeds from the raffle.

The second is a quilt raffle. Thanks to the generosity of the late Mary Ann Sommer, who left this item to Right to Life in her will, we are pleased to offer this outstanding quilt, titled "For Heaven's Sake" (photo at right). It is approximately 8 feet by 8 feet, blue and white, and there is a \$500 price tag on the package. The quilt will be available for viewing at the garage sale and you will also be able to purchase tickets for both raffles there.

Included in this newsletter are two pages of raffle tickets, one for each raffle. For both drawings, donations are \$1 per ticket or all 12 tickets (whole sheet) for \$10. Please send completed tickets and money to Right to Life, PO Box 72, Sidney, OH 45365; or place in the secure drop box to the left of the office entrance no later than Friday, March 16; or drop off at the garage sale itself no later than 11am Saturday, March 16.



Thank you for your support.

### Oratory Contest Continued from page 1

"Those families were able to see what they would have missed, had they despaired in the face of a disability."

Jock's speech addressed the racist, eugenicist foundations of so-called pro-choice groups, such as Planned Parenthood. He also addressed the harmful social and economic effects of the widespread use of abortion as birth control. The other prize-winning speeches, by Trisler and Waldsmith, both outlined the numerous psychological dangers of abortions, as well as the physical dangers which can even be fatal to the mother, despite pro-abortion groups touting the procedure as safe as long as it's legal.

The contest was open to any local 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. They were asked to research, write and present an original pro-life speech on abortion, infanticide, euthanasia/assisted-suicide or embryonic stem cell research. They were judged on presentation, organization, use of current and accurate facts, and affirmation of the value of human life in all stages of development. Judging the competition were Amy Gleason, a speech and communications teacher at Sidney High School; Pastor Jonathan Schriber of St. John's Lutheran Church in Sidney, where the contest was held; and Michael Staudt, a local attorney. RTL is grateful to Pastor Jon and St. John's Church for graciously hosting this annual event; to the judges for donating their time and expertise; to those who contributed prizes; and to all of the participants.

### Thrift Shop Update: New Hours

A reminder that thrift shop hours are now 10am to 4pm, Tuesday through Friday. In addition to our gently used thrift shop clothing, we also have promotional pro-life tee shirts, currently up to 40% off for our winter sale. Adult tees are \$6; adult polos, \$12; and children's shirts, \$3. Various sizes, colors and messages are available, while supplies last.

### March Prayer Intention

Please pray for the success of the RTL garage sale and our membership table there. Please share your newsletter with another person this month asking them to consider joining Right to Life. We need to be connected with each other. We need to keep learning about the pro-life cause so we can share the truth with others. The newsletter helps us to do that.



## Local Pro-Life Businessmen File Suit Against Obamacare

Frank and Julie Gilardi are long-time members and valued supporters of Right to Life. Frank and his brother Phil have filed a lawsuit to prevent federal law from forcing their business to pay for contraceptive and abortifacient drugs for their employees under their company health care plan. RTL stands with Frank and Phil and their families as they seek to preserve religious freedom and promote a culture of life. Please keep them in your prayers. The following is a report taken from the website of the American Center for Law and Justice, an organization assisting the Gilardis.

My ACLJ colleagues and I have filed a motion for a preliminary injunction in *Gilardi v. U.S. Department of Health & Human Services*, which is the fourth lawsuit the ACLJ has filed against the HHS Mandate. The Mandate requires most employers, under pain of penalty, to pay for employee health insurance that covers contraceptives, abortion-inducing drugs, sterilization procedures, and related education and counseling.

In this case, we represent two brothers, Francis and Philip Gilardi, and their family-owned Ohio companies, Freshway Foods and Freshway Logistics. Freshway Foods is a fresh produce processor and packer that has about 340 full-time employees, and Freshway Logistics is a for-hire carrier of mainly refrigerated products that has about 55 full-time employees. The two companies serve twenty-three states.

The Gilardi brothers are Catholic and they contend that the HHS Mandate violates their religious beliefs because it will require them to direct their companies to purchase and provide health insurance that covers contraceptives, abortion-inducing drugs, and sterilization procedures, and related education and counseling, all of which run contrary to their religious beliefs.

For the last ten years, the Gilardi brothers and their companies have specifically excluded the above-mentioned goods and services from their employee health insurance plan based on their religious beliefs. Through this motion for a preliminary injunction, we are asking the federal court to allow the Gilardi brothers and their businesses to continue to provide the same health insurance they have been providing for the last ten years, in keeping with their religious beliefs.

If the two companies do not comply with the HHS Mandate, they face crippling penalties totaling over \$14 million per year. In the motion, we are asking the federal court to block the application of the Mandate to our clients before April 1, 2013, which is when they must renew their employee health plan and when the Mandate applies to them.

The lawsuit filed on behalf of the Gilardis and their companies is the fourth direct challenge filed by the ACLJ against the Mandate. In the three other lawsuits, we were successful in obtaining injunctions on behalf of our clients. The ACLJ has also filed "friend-of-the-court" briefs supporting the plaintiffs in thirteen other Mandate cases.

By Edward White, [www.aclj.org](http://www.aclj.org), February 11, 2013.

## Lima Abortion Clinic Closes After Pledging to Stay Open

An abortion clinic in Lima, Ohio, Capital Care Women's Center, has finally officially closed, after reports last year indicated it would do so and despite a pledge from its operators to stay open.

As LifeNews reported last year, Cheryl Sullenger, Senior Policy Advisor for Operation Rescue and Pro-Life Nation, notified LifeNews the abortion center would close, saying Capital Care has been plagued with decreased business and financial problems and recently cut back clinic hours due to difficulty keeping an abortion practitioner employed. An increasingly strong pro-life presence in Central Ohio is credited with contributing to the decision to close, she added.

Two days after the LifeNews report, a representative of the abortion business assured the local media it was not closing. "I don't want people to think an abortion facility is closing, or that it can't get doctors, because that's not the case," she said. Now, multiple pro-life groups inform LifeNews the abortion clinic has closed, including Ohio Right to Life and Shawn Carney of 40 Days for Life.

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### Lima Clinic Closes Continued from page 3

“We were about to announce the launch of campaigns in 262 locations ... but we lost one,” he said of the upcoming campaign to pray at abortion clinics. “Well, the reason there will not be a campaign in that 262nd city — Lima, Ohio — is that the local abortion center shut down this week ... and permanently went out of business. This now makes 27 abortion facilities that have gone out of business following peaceful 40 Days for Life vigils outside their doors.”

“We called the Capital Care abortion center,” said one of the volunteers, “and they said they were ‘all done in Lima’ and not taking appointments.”

“We were a little skeptical, but we went out to pray,” she said. “At the end of the day, one of the abortion workers started throwing furniture from the abortion center in the dumpster! They were taking boxes out of the building and putting them in their cars. It was a wonderful sight!”

Faithful Christians have held 40 Days for Life vigils in front of that abortion center in Lima, Ohio “God has heard the prayers of all those who have been praying and witnessing to life,” said the volunteer.

Emmalee Kalmbach of Ohio Right to Life is also ecstatic about the closing. She told LifeNews, “We are overjoyed with this great news and we celebrate with Heartbeat of Lima in this outstanding victory. Anytime the doors are closed to an abortion clinic we know lives are saved. With this closing and a Columbus clinic’s closing last fall, we are encouraged that 2013 will be a promising year for the unborn.”

By Steven Ertelt, LifeNews.com, January 30, 2013. Edited for space and corrections to original story.