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Newsletter May/June 2022 Volume 49, Issue 3

Building a culture of life in Shelby County since 1974

Dates to Remember May 14, 2022 (Saturday) — Scramble for Life at Shelby Oaks Golf Course. Shot gun start at 8:30am. Golf Outing registration deadline: May 2. May 3, 2022— Milling at primary elections for statewide candidates for Governor, US Senate, Secretary of State and other offices.



Thank you, volunteers!

The 3rd week of April is National Volunteer Week. Our organization is sustained by volunteers who work in many ways to further the pro-life cause. We honor our stalwart Thrift Shop volunteers, who help weekly, serving our community. Other event crews that put in countless volunteer hours include our amazing garage sale and golf outing fundraiser crews, our dedicated fair booth crew, and we even have some local students help regularly at the Thrift Shop. Additionally, some of our staff also donate time and resources. Their giving goes not just to an organization, but to a life-affirming cause, fostering strong and secure marriages, families, and individuals by education and support.

Garage Sale Benefits

Once again our dedicated garage sale crew pulled off a successful fundraiser and thrift opportunity for our community, March 24-26. A core group from Russia—where the event is held-was joined by many other countywide volunteers. The funds raised contribute significantly to the mission of Right to Life-SC, and left over items are distributed to area thrift shops and charities.

"Words cannot express how appreciative we are for all who worked at, supplied items to sell, or purchased items from the Shelby County Right to Life garage sale. A special thanks to all the local churches that provided a drop-off site and delivered items to the sale. A great big thanks to the volunteers that organized and managed the sale. Your time and generosity are truly a blessing," stated garage sale co-chairs, Maria Hoehne and Bonnie York, who report that the volunteers enjoy working at the sale.

Volunteer Spotlight! Christian Academy Eagles Volunteers



Garage Sale Volunteers



May-June Prayer Intentions

For young people to recognize the value of all human life, at every stage, and to have the courage and strength to help others in need. For high school juniors and seniors in Ohio's prolife oratory contest in May, especially those representing Right to Life of Shelby County.

Abortion Brutality Nothing New, Abortuary "Waste-to-Energy" Program Appalling

Regarding the recent exposé of very late-term abortions, and/or post-birth infanticides at a Washington DC abortuary, <u>Bradley Mattes of Life Issues Institute reflects</u>, "In my time as a pro-life advocate, I've seen some gruesome and discouraging realities of abortion on demand in America. But nothing prepared me for the latest round of evidence that abortion is a crime against humanity...These children were brutally murdered in ways that violate federal law. So far authorities have refused to conduct an investigation and independent autopsies to deliver justice for these precious babies."

Writer Maureen Ferguson, at <u>Lifenews.com</u> (Apr 18, 2022), decries the fact that the media unabashedly publishes pictures of war and race-related deaths, but routinely censors images of abortion brutality, as in the recent case of the murdered babies recovered by pro-life activists. Ferguson opines,

"In searing images like these, the truth speaks for itself....In the comparable case of notorious late-term abortion doctor Kermit Gosnell of Philadelphia, officials looked the other way for 17 years. Gosnell performed thousands of abortions, delivering many infants alive and "snipping" the backs of their necks to sever the spinal cord. Gosnell's technique only came to light during a drug bust at his clinic, because he also dealt in illegal prescription drugs.

"The photographs of the late-term babies allegedly aborted at D.C.'s Washington-Surgi Clinic are eerily similar to the images of Gosnell's victims. Medical experts told pro-life group Live Action that the babies appeared old enough to survive outside the womb, raising the question of whether they had been born alive. D.C. police seem to be looking the other way, however, declining to do autopsies to determine cause of death. Sixty-nine members of Congress have written to the FBI requesting an investigation, since local detectives have demonstrated such a strange lack of curiosity.

"D.C. police have (prematurely) declared these bodies are simply the result of five legal late-term abortions. Furguson goes on to explain that "They may be correct.... D.C. has no time limit on when a woman can get an abortion...The difference between a legal and illegal abortion is mere inches. Place of death, oddly, is what determines the question. Whether these babies died in a legal abortion or were murdered rests upon which side of the birth canal they died on."

Continued on page 3.

IN MEMORIAM

Right to Life continues its work for the protection of all human life, in honor of those who have offered time, prayer and other resources to this cause during their lifetimes.

In memory of: +Lewis Argabright In whose name a memorial was made in March.

Right to Life of Shelby County is a non-profit charitable organization. Board officers are: Ron Meyer (President), Teresa Chaney (VP), Michael Monnier (Treasurer), Melissa Blenman (Secretary). Board Members are: Ann Joslin, Brenda Bensman, Tim Dietz, Kathy Vogler and Luke Berning.

Bimonthly newsletters are produced by Right to life of Shelby County Program Director, Anne Schmiesing. Questions can be directed to <u>director@shelbycountyrtl.org</u>.

Thrift Shop Report

2

Month of Jan 1 Work-to-Earn Shift 225 Units, Assistance Program

Month of Feb 4 Work-to-Earn Shifts 245 Units, Assistance Program

Month of March 5 Work-to-Earn Shifts 250 Units, Assistance Program

Hundreds of additional shoppers served each month.

Abortuary Brutality Continued from page 2

Ferguson rightly acknowledges that the brutality of feticide and infanticide is nothing new at abortuaries. The Mattes article, however, also poignantly highlights another gruesome and even more astonishing aspect of the case: "It was revealed that **Curtis Bay Energy**, the company that came to collect these and other aborted babies from abortion centers, **routinely incinerates their broken bodies to generate electricity** for the greater Baltimore area. Curtis Bay's website advertises their "Waste-to-Energy" program, which means if you live in the Baltimore, Maryland area, aborted babies have been burned to keep your lights on and your house warm."

"You aren't alone if this appalling revelation stirs up memories of the Jewish Holocaust. History is repeating as a modern-day holocaust called abortion," Mattes concludes.

Ferguson's article concludes with a juxtaposition exposing what should have been: "The abortion clinic is located just five blocks from the White House. President Joe Biden supports legal late-term abortion, and used his State of the Union address to promote a bill to make abortion legal through nine months of pregnancy nationwide. [But] Also just a few blocks from the D.C. clinic is a hospital with a neonatal intensive care unit that welcomes preemies as 'little miracles.' D.C. has a 'Safe Haven' law (the type of law noted by Justice Amy Coney Barrett during oral arguments in *Dobbs*) that encourages parents in crisis to leave their baby at a hospital as a 'responsible alternative to abandoning or discarding a newborn.' If those five infants were 'accidentally' born alive, they could have been left at the hospital, no questions asked, and welcomed by one of the millions of couples waiting to adopt."

It should be criminal for them to be killed, and it's a further abomination for human persons to be used as fuel. That's why so many people are calling for justice, not just for the five, but for all vulnerable pre-term children whose lives have been terminated.

Food for Thought: Using Words in a Pro-Life Way

In defining abortion, legal and medical professionals often use inappropriate equivocations that muddy the meaning, such as calling abortion "termination of *a pregnancy*," rather than acknowledging a clearer and more up-to-date meaning of abortion as the "termination of *a life* and all life functions." Another outmoded practice is using the term "spontaneous abortion" to refer to miscarriage. The purpose of legal definitions is to clarify and distinguish between actions. It's time for clarity.

April is Pro-Life T-Shirt Month

Shelby County Right to Life is again offering pro-life T-shirts designed and produced by <u>Mercer</u> <u>County Right to Life</u> members. (Thank you MCRTL!) Shirts will be available after April 19 at the Shelby County Right to Life Thrift Shop in Sidney. No pre-orders. Children's and adult's sizes are available.

Volunteers Needed in July for Shelby County Fair Booth

The 2022 Shelby County Fair will be **Sunday, July 24th — Saturday, July 30th**. The Right to Life booth provides a pro-life witness and life-affirming information to our community. Volunteers to staff the booth are needed. If interested, please contact Fair Booth Chair, Jen Bohman, at <u>office@shelbycountyrtl.org</u>.

Right to Life Membership Renewal

If you have not yet renewed, you may still do so by mail, in person, or online. Like most online credit card services, our online service deducts a percentage per transaction, but the online payment is a worthwhile convenience for our members.

We're a non-sectarian organization; membership is open to people of any faith who share a profound respect for all human life, as well as concern for the erosion of societal protections for human life.

Our Thrift Shop is open to anyone in the community for shopping. We provide special assistance for those in particular need.

FDA Warns Prenatal Screenings Often Wrong, Lead to Abortions

[In April] the U.S. FDA warned parents not to put their faith in non-invasive prenatal screening tests because they often produce "false results." The new FDA announcement came months after <u>a</u> <u>New York Times report exposed an average false positive rate of 85 percent</u> among the five different tests it examined.

"While genetic non-invasive prenatal screening tests are widely used today, these tests have not been reviewed by the FDA and may be making claims about their performance and use that are not based on sound science," said Jeff Shuren, director of the FDA Center for Devices and Radiological Health, in a statement.

Though Shuren did not mention abortion specifically, he hinted at the likelihood that healthy unborn babies have been aborted based on false positives, saying, "Without proper understanding of how these tests should be used, people may make inappropriate health care decisions regarding their pregnancy."

U.S. Rep. Chip Roy, a pro-life Republican from Texas, was encouraged to see the new FDA warning. <u>Speaking with The Daily Wire</u>, Roy said doctors recommended that his godson be aborted due to a false positive on a prenatal screening test. "His parents chose life," Roy said. "The test was wrong. He was born perfectly healthy, and to this day, we are all grateful for the joy he has brought with him into this world."

More accurate tests come with risk of miscarriage and can be expensive, so some parents go on the early, unreliable results alone to make a decision about their unborn baby's life. What's more, parents frequently report feeling pressured to abort unborn babies with disabilities.

By <u>Micaiah Bilger. LifeNews.com. April 20, 2022.</u> Edited for space.

[SCRTL note: Even when screenings prove accurate, every child deserves the right to life and to be treated with dignity, regardless of any disabilities or adverse prognoses. (See <u>SCRTL's brochure</u> on adverse prenatal diagnosis.)]

KY Abortion Ban and Fetal Remains Legislation Updates

The Enquirer of <u>Cincinnati.com</u> reported (April 13, 2022): "Kentucky's two abortion providers have filed federal lawsuits challenging a new state law they say effectively bans the procedure and are asking a judge to suspend it. Meanwhile, both have ceased offering abortions until a judge weighs in on whether they may resume, making Kentucky the first state to end all access to abortion, representatives for the Louisville clinics said." (As of 4-25-22, the law is blocked in court.)

The Kentucky legislation has a high word-count and covers extensive facets of abortion law, from parental notification and informed consent requirements to disposition of fetal remains. A summary of the law, from the online resource <u>LegiScan</u>, shows that portions of the law amend previous abortion regulations in regard to fetal disposition (burial or cremation):

- to include fetal remains [provisos] and to prohibit simultaneous cremations of fetal remains;"
- to include abortions on the combination birth-death certificate;

• to define "fetal remains," require within 24 hours before a surgical or chemical abortion the health care facility or abortion clinic to inform the parents both orally and in writing of their rights to determine the final disposition of the fetal remains; if a chemically induced abortion, inform the mother she may expect to expel a fetus after leaving the facility and she may return the remains to the facility for final disposition; require the parents to inform the facility of their choice for the disposition of the fetal remains;

• to exclude fetal remains from the definition of "pathological waste."

The "combination birth-death certificate" is a fairly recent initiative in pro-life legislation, and reasonably has gained some traction. Fetal burial laws have already been upheld by the US Supreme Court (e.g., an Indiana law in 2019). Ohio's law requiring humane burial or cremation of fetal remains is still tied up in Ohio courts by a Hamilton County judge. Meanwhile, Shelby County's new burial ground, Morgan's Place Cemetery, is poised to provide free, humane burial for aborted children if the courts would grant at least that dignity to the tiny human persons.