

# LIFELINES



[midlandrtl@yahoo.com](mailto:midlandrtl@yahoo.com)

February 2007

## Prayer Vigil

It was so nice to see so many dedicated pro-lifers at our annual prayer vigil on Sunday, January 21. Your dedication to the unborn is an inspiration. Sometimes it feels like the world is against us, so it's good for us to get together to pray and encourage one another.

I hope you were all as inspired as I was to do a little more, speak up a little more, and pray a little more for the innocent voiceless babies that are being taken from our society. We need to let women know they have better options and that abortions are never easy or painless.

Our thanks goes out to Pastor Ed Lawrence from Auburn First Baptist for a truly awesome reflection on God's creation and love for these little beings. We truly appreciate your time and prayers!

Thanks also to the First United Methodist Church for allowing us to gather for refreshments in their Fellowship Hall after the vigil.

*Your 2007 Right to Life of Midland County, Inc. officers and board members are:*

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*President: Joe Sheffbuch*

*Vice President: Liz Pahl*

*Treasurer: Joanne Bober*

*Secretary: Allegra Gipson*

*Board Members: Julia Hoving, Kate Martin*

*Newsletter Editor: Joanne Bober*

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**Have you thought about becoming more active in the pro-life movement? We are currently organizing our Focus on Life Dinner committee. If you are interested in helping to bring a pro-life speaker to our area, call Julia at 835-7691 and see what it's all about. **We need you!****

## Health Hut

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**"It is a very great  
poverty to decide that  
a child must die that  
you might live as  
you wish."**

**Mother Teresa of Calcutta**

# Knights of Columbus

SAINT AGNES

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**Dennis Taylor**

*Financial Secretary*  
**Frank Cieszlak**



FATHER DURUSSEL

*Grand Knight*  
**Mike Large**

*Financial Secretary*  
**Paul Card**

St. Agnes Council No. 8043 of Sanford &  
Father Henry P. DuRussel Council No. 2141 of Midland  
*support the work of Right to Life of Michigan!*

## Attention High School Students

**Take a stand for life!**

### *2007 High School Oratory Contest*

Research one of the life issues below and make a  
5-7 minute presentation to a panel of judges

**Abortion - Infanticide - Euthanasia - Stem Cell Research - Cloning**

**LOCAL PRIZES- \$100 - \$50 - \$25**

**STATE PRIZES- \$500 - \$300 - \$200**

**NATIONAL PRIZES- \$1,000 - \$750 - \$500- \$250**

*Coordinator:* Liz Pahl, Phone: 839-9308

*email:* midlandrtl@yahoo.com

*Entry Deadline:* Friday, March 9, 2007

*Open to:* Midland Co. H.S. students

*Local Contest Date:* Monday, March 12, 2007, 7:00pm

Winner advances to state contest

*Location:* Grace A Dow Library Lounge

Call or email for registration form!



## Focus on Education...

### Meet Northwood University's Students for Life...

Good news! This fall Students for Life became an official Northwood University organization. Headed by Maria Pate, President, and Jon Weidhuner, Vice President, and under the advisement of John Pafford, an adjunct faculty member, the group meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 8PM in the Dubois Lounge. All are welcome to attend. The next meeting will be held March 15 due to Spring Break the first week of March.

If you know anyone attending NU, encourage them to join! They can just show up at the meeting or they can contact Maria at [patem@northwood.edu](mailto:patem@northwood.edu) or 281-881-9124.

Welcome NU students! We're so happy to have a SFL chapter in town!

### More News on Stem Cells

Stem Cells continue to be in the news with the new Congress passing a measure to finance Embryonic Stem Cell Research. As you probably know by now, Right to Life opposes Embryonic Stem Cell Research (ESCR) but do you know why? Each embryo is a unique human individual. We can't justify killing any of our smallest lives even if it might mean finding cures for others. Just as we oppose taking a life from within a mother's womb, we oppose taking a life from within a Petri dish.

Does that mean that Right to Life doesn't care about people who are suffering with Alzheimer's, ALS or Parkinson's Disease? Absolutely not! RTL supports ethical forms of stem cell research. Just recently Anthony Atala, director of the Institute for Regenerative Medicine at Wake Forest University School of Medicine reported that stem cells found in amniotic fluid are just as promising as embryonic stem cells. The benefit of these young cells is that they can be multiplied outside of the human body indefinitely while adult cells have a short life span outside the body. This is wonderful news! After all, there are over four million births each year in the United States. The process for collecting the amniotic fluid is the same as it is for genetic testing done with the fluid. Currently there are about 700,000 amniocentesis procedures performed in the US and Western Europe each year.

Stem cells can also be found in bone marrow, umbilical cord blood, placentas, fat, and some adult tissues. Research from these types of cells has shown much more promise than ESCR. So why doesn't the scientific community jump for joy at the discovery of amniotic stem cells? Why don't you hear about all the progress of adult stem cells? Two reasons: Human Cloning and money. Research on embryonic stem cells is the same thing as human cloning. Crying wolf about Embryonic stem cells gives them the ability to clone humans that they wouldn't have otherwise. The other reason is money. They want us to pay for their unethical research through our taxes. If they cry loud enough, many compassionate, pro-life people in their ignorance will support them financially through donations and taxes. Don't let them fool you. These companies are pulling dollars away from adult cell research which has shown much more promise for spinal cord injuries, MS and Sickle Cell Anemia. Let your Congressional Representatives know where you stand. Tell them the truth about stem cells!

### Students for Life of MI

Please encourage any college students you know to join (or start) a Students for Life group on their campus. For more information about Students for Life or to find out if your college has a group, go to [www.sflmichigan.org](http://www.sflmichigan.org).

Students for Life of MI holds an annual conference to equip pro-life students with resources to help them educate people on their campus. This year's conference is taking place on March 31, 2001 at Ave Maria Law School in Ann Arbor.

Contact Lauren Migliore for more information at 313-580-9080 or [Lauren.Migliore04@kzoo.edu](mailto:Lauren.Migliore04@kzoo.edu).



## Midland RTL Happenings and Wishes...

- **Speakers:** Our Right to Life affiliate has speakers available to address your church or youth group on various pro-life topics at no charge. To arrange for a speaker, please call 835-2222.
- **Spiritual Adoption:** We are currently looking for people to participate in a spiritual adoption program. The way it works is that you sign up to “adopt” a baby in danger of abortion. We will send you a prayer card. You name your baby and recite the short prayer from the card, or one of your own, every day for nine months. At the end of nine months we will host a baby shower. All the gifts received at the baby shower will be donated to a local crisis pregnancy center. Call Julia, 835-7691 if you are interested in participating.
- **Elder-Beerman:** We have once again been invited by Elder-Beerman to participate in their Community Day program. Tickets to the sales event cost \$5 and contain coupons including one for \$10 off your first purchase! If you will be shopping March 3 and are interested in going to Elder-Beerman, call 835-2222 to get your ticket. Right to Life gets to keep the full \$5 of the ticket price.
- **Conference Book Ads:** If you would like to purchase an ad to place in the Right to Life of Michigan Conference book, please contact Julia at 835-7691.
- **Midland County Citizens for Life:** If you would like to have your name displayed in the RLM Conference book to show your support for life please sent a check for \$10 to Midland County RTL. Make a note that it’s for the conference book ad and please neatly print the way you would like your name to read. (i.e. The Smith Family, Mr. & Mrs. A. Smith, Mr. Bob Brown...)

### Midland Area Catholic Churches



*Assumption BVM Parish*

3516 Monroe Road  
Midland MI 48642  
989 631-4447

*Saint Brigid Parish*

207 Ashman Street  
Midland MI 48642  
989 835-7121

*Blessed Sacrament Parish*

3109 Swede Avenue  
Midland MI 48642  
989 835-6777

*Respecting Life from Womb to Tomb*

Yes! I want to be a member of Right to Life of Midland County, Inc.

Enclosed is payment for: \_\_\_\_\_ New membership or: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal ( ) \$5.00 Student ( ) \$8.00  
Senior ( ) \$12.00 Single ( ) \$18.00 Family  
( ) \$25.00 Silver ( ) \$50.00 Gold ( ) \$75.00 Platinum ( ) \$\_\_\_\_\_ Extra Donation

**\*\*\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I Would Also Like To Volunteer My Time\*\***

Send me information on:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| ( ) Attending monthly meetings                     | ( ) Roe v Wade Vigil (January 22)               |
| ( ) Being a public spokesperson for RTL            | ( ) High school oratorical contest (Spring)     |
| ( ) Making phone calls for membership drives       | ( ) Adopt-a-highway cleanup (April & September) |
| ( ) Making phone calls to lobby politicians        | ( ) Midland County Fair booth (August)          |
| ( ) Coordinating community events                  | ( ) Life Chain (October)                        |
| ( ) Fundraising                                    | ( ) Rummage sale                                |
| ( ) Working on newsletter                          | ( ) Focus on Life dinner                        |
| ( ) Being a church representative for _____ Church |   |

( ) YES, make our Right to Life funds do more! Send my newsletter by e-mail to my address below

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Gifts and membership to Right to Life of Midland are non-tax deductible for income tax purposes.**

## More Happenings and Wishes...

- **Memorial Day Parade:** We had a lot of inquiries last year about our Memorial Day Parade float and why RTL wasn't represented in 2006. The family that spear-headed organizing the float was transferred to Indiana. RTL sincerely thanks them for their dedication the past few years! We have a trailer available for anyone who has a truck with trailer hitch and would like to organize this year's float. We can also put you in touch with past participants to get hints and suggestions of how to make it a successful event. We have the pieces but we need YOU to be the organizer! Call 835-2222 to help.
- **Baby Bottle Fund-raiser:** We are looking for churches that would be willing to participate in a fundraiser for our affiliate. This is how it works: On Mother's Day, representatives from your church would hand out baby bottles (supplied by us) to members of your congregation. The parishioners would then take them home and fill them with loose change. On Father's Day, the full baby bottles would be collected at your church. A RTL representative would then come and pick up the full baby bottles. Proceeds would go toward local events and needs (see below) and a donation would be made to a pregnancy support agency.
- **Baby Bottle Fund-raiser Again:** If the Mother's Day through Father's Day time slot doesn't work out, we are also planning on handing out baby bottles that can be returned directly to us at our Midland County Fair booth in August. If you or your church would like bottles, please call 835-2222.
- **Web-site:** One of our wishes this year is to set up our own web-site instead of going through the Midland Daily News page. This will make our site easier to find as well as give us the ability to post forms or other event flyers on line. We are hoping that donations from the Baby Bottle Drive will be enough to cover the start up costs. If you have any experience in web design or know the ins and outs of having your own web-site, give us a call. We'd love your input!
- **Storage Unit:** Another need our affiliate has is for storage of our growing materials. Right now all of our books, display cases, inventory, brochures, videos and our trailer are scattered throughout a number of different houses. A few years back we rented office space but it was expensive and we couldn't come up with enough volunteers to staff it. We would like to rent a storage unit to set up as a mock office. It would be a place that all of our officers and board members could access and people could come to browse our literature. We are hoping with successful baby bottle fundraisers, we can afford the web-site, storage units or both! If you know of any pro-life storage unit owners, let us know!

Right to Life of Midland County, Inc.

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## Calendar of Events

**Thursday, March 8, *Monthly Meeting***, 7:00p.m., Library Conference Room B. Join us!

**Monday, March 12, *Oratorical Contest***, 7:00 – 8:30p.m., Library Lounge. Contact Liz Pahl ([Tpahl8@hotmail.com](mailto:Tpahl8@hotmail.com) or 839-9308) or the RTL office if you are interested in registering.

**Saturday, March 17, *Women's Expo***, Valley Plaza 10AM -5PM. Stop by our booth!

**Thursday, April 12, *Monthly Meeting***, 7:00p.m., Library Conference Room B.  
Everyone Welcome!

**Saturday, April 28, *Adopt-A-Highway***, 10:00a.m. Join us in highway clean-up along M-20 between Meridian and 8 Mile. Watch our website ([ourmidland.com](http://ourmidland.com), click on community websites, scroll to non-profit organizations, click on Right to Life) for more information.

**Thursday, May 10, *Monthly Meeting***, 7:00p.m., Library Conference Room B. Hope to see you there!