

Lifelines



2009 Precious Baby Contest Winners



#13 JACOBY

First Place



#31 LILY

Second
Place



#6 MIYAH

Third
Place

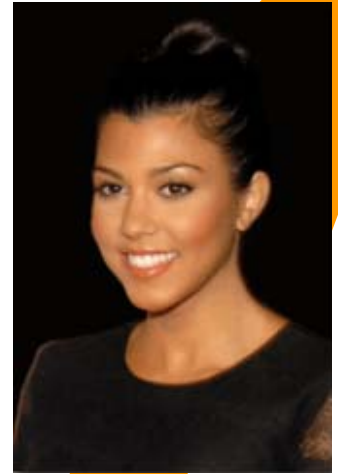
Thank you for entering your beautiful babies in the contest and for witnessing to those that visited our booth at the Midland County Fair that every baby is precious!

These three winners were awarded with savings bonds. All the precious babies were given gift certificates donated from Image Photography.

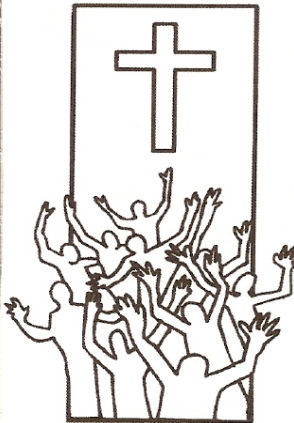
If you would like to sign up for next year's contest, please send us an email at midlandrtl@yahoo.com with the subject "baby contest entry form" and we will add you to the list to receive an entry form early next summer.

Pro-Life Pluses

- + **Late-term abortionist lays off nearly half his staff due to decreased abortions.** Late-term abortion practitioner LeRoy Carhart announced this on August 21, 2009. These layoffs occurred at his Omaha, Nebraska-area abortion center soon after a coalition of pro-life groups officially submitted a complaint asking for an investigation – concerning legalities, the dilapidated conditions of the “clinic” and botched abortions – to the state attorney general. According to a former employee, four out of 10 employees were fired. (<http://www.lifenews.com/state4367.html>)
- + **An abortion facility in Sarasota, Florida closed.** This abortion facility – Premier Institute for Women’s Health – was one of three abortion facilities there, and it was the only one that had done second-trimester abortions. (<http://www.lifenews.com>)
- + **Reality TV star Kourtney Kardashian chooses life.** Kourtney considered aborting her child. But after reading about the devastating effects of abortion online, she decided to choose life. “I felt in my body, this is meant to be. God does things for a reason, and I just felt like it was the right thing that was happening in my life,” said Kardashian. Kourtney still believes that every woman has the right to choose, but she also believes that women do not adequately talk through the decision to keep or abort their child. This is a step in the right direction. (<http://www.lifesitenews.com/ldn/printerfriendly.html?articleid=09082004>)
- + **A federal judge has ruled that women in South Dakota must be informed that their unborn child is a human being.** This ruling was handed down by U.S. District Judge Karen Schreier. The ruling upheld the law that states that women must be told that an abortion “will terminate the life of a whole, separate, unique, living human being.” (<http://www.lifesitenews.com/ldn/printerfriendly.html?articleid=09082403>)



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

Newsweek Reporter Witnesses an Abortion

*Story reprinted with permission by Citizen Link

By: Kim Trobee, editor of Citizenlink

Pro-abortion reporter, Sarah Kliff, is surprised by her reaction to witnessing an abortion.

Sarah Kliff has covered abortion at *Newsweek* for two years. So she was surprised at the discomfort she felt when faced with the prospect of watching an abortion for a story she was doing on Nebraska late-term abortionist, LeRoy Carhart.



Surprised by Life

Kliff spent four days at Carhart's Omaha clinic interviewing patients, hearing their stories and eventually viewing at least one first-trimester abortion.

"There was a discomfort I hadn't expected," she said, "my emotional reaction to watching abortions. I had (and still have) difficulty understanding my own reaction, both relieved to have watched...and distressed by the emotionality of the process."

It's something many in the pro-abortion camp are reticent to admit. Kliff faced odd reactions when she returned home.

"Friends who supported legal abortion bristled slightly when I told them where I'd been and what I'd watched," she said. "Acquaintances at a party looked a bit regretful to have asked about my most recent assignment."

Carrie Gordon Earll, senior bioethics analyst at Focus on the Family Action, said the inner struggle is hard to ignore.

"When you come face to face with the violence of what abortion really is," she said, "it can be a different story, as this reporter learned. Abortion kills children, and witnessing an abortion demands a response to that truth."

Kliff acknowledged that abortion is not just another medical procedure.

"Abortion involves weighty choices that, depending on how you view it," she said, "involve a life, or the potential for life."

Earll said, "The finality of abortion is almost palpable and once it's done, someone has died and you cannot reverse it. That may be what the reporter experienced."

Your 2009 Right to Life of Midland County, Inc.
officers and board members are:

President: Joe Sheffouch, Vice President: Donna Simons,
Secretary: Lorie Shane, Treasurer: Joanne Bober,
Board Members: Julia Hoving,
Stephanie LaFramboise, Liz Pahl

RIGHT TO LIFE OF MIDLAND COUNTY

Focus on Life

2009 annual benefit dinner

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
1550 S. POSEYVILLE ROAD
MIDLAND, MICHIGAN 48640

TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 29, 2009

5:30 P.M. DOORS OPEN
6:00 P.M. DINNER/PROGRAM

WITH SPECIAL GUEST GEORGETTE FORNEY

Georgette Forney had an abortion at age 16 and later experienced healing, forgiveness and reconciliation through an abortion recovery program. Georgette says she developed a greater understanding of the negative impact abortion has on women and the need to highlight the issue as an abortion survivor.



Today, Georgette is the President of Anglicans for Life, the only Anglican/Episcopal organization dedicated to ending abortion and euthanasia, protecting embryos from research abuse,

and promoting abstinence and adoption. She is also the co-founder of the Silent No More Awareness Campaign, an effort to bring light to the physical, spiritual and emotional harm abortion does to women and to let those who are hurting from abortion know help is available.

She has spoken at many Crisis Pregnancy Center banquets, prolife conferences and has addressed the Pro-Life Caucus of the U.S. House of Representatives concerning abortion and women. Georgette also gave testimony at the Senate Commerce sub-committee on Science, Technology and Space Hearing, chaired by Senator Brownback (KS-R) regarding the impact of abortion on women's health.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (989) 839-1017



PLEASE RESERVE MY PLACE

Please return your reservation and payment by September 14, 2009 to
Right to Life of Midland County
2811 Canterbury Drive
Midland City, MI 48642

RESERVATIONS:

- I (We) would like to reserve _____ ticket(s) at \$35 per person.
- I (We) would like to reserve _____ table(s) at \$280 per table of 8.
- I (We) are unable to attend. Enclosed is my CONTRIBUTION of \$_____.

PAYMENT:

- Enclosed please find my check in the amount of \$_____.

INFORMATION:

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone Number

E-mail Address

Please make checks payable to: RIGHT TO LIFE OF MIDLAND COUNTY. Reservations are not tax-deductible. Tickets will be mailed.

Health Care Bill: The Facts

The current health care system is in need of reform. However, this does mean that just any plan is going to make an improvement. No plan is better than a bad plan.

If the health care system is to be reformed, a sound plan is necessary that first and foremost appreciates and upholds the dignity of the human person. Lack of this basis has caused corruption and a plan that lacks this respect will fail to improve the health care system.

The National Right to Life Committee has put together a helpful list of facts about the current bills being pushed by Obama.



Key Points on Pro-Abortion Provisions in Obama-Backed Health Care Bills

National Right to Life Committee, Washington, D.C.

<http://www.nrlc.org>

Legfederal@aol.com

- Both of the health care bills backed by the Obama White House – H.R. 3200 in the House, and the “Affordable Health Choices Act” (unnumbered) in the Senate – create two big new federal programs that would cover abortion for any reason: (1) a national health insurance program that would be run entirely by the federal government, called the “public plan” or “public option,” and (2) a huge new program to provide subsidies to help tens of millions of Americans buy health insurance.
- **Both bills will result in government funding of abortion.** As the independent FactCheck.org reported in an August 21, 2009, analysis, “Despite what Obama said, the House bill would allow abortions to be covered by a federal plan and by federally subsidized private plans.” FactCheck.org also wrote: “Obama has said in the past that ‘reproductive services’ would be covered by his public plan, so it’s likely that any new federal insurance plan would cover abortion unless Congress expressly prohibits that. Low- and moderate-income persons who would choose the ‘public plan’ would qualify for federal subsidies to purchase it. Private plans that cover abortion also could be purchased with the help of federal subsidies.” This is all also true of the Senate bill.
- **Abortion is explicitly mentioned 17 times in the current House bill.** On July 30, the Democrat-controlled House Energy and Commerce Committee added to H.R. 3200 an amendment written by staff to Chairman Henry Waxman (D-Ca.) and offered by Rep. Lois Capps (D-Ca.), both of whom have consistently pro-abortion career voting records. This “phony compromise” amendment explicitly authorizes the “public plan” to cover all abortions. This means that any citizen who wants to take advantage of the public plan will be compelled to purchase coverage for abortion on demand. **Furthermore, the Capps Amendment explicitly requires the federal agency to raise every enrollee’s premium by an amount sufficient to pay for all the abortions paid for by the agency.** So: a federal agency will collect the premium money (which, once collected, becomes public funds and federal funds), will receive bills from abortionists, and will send the abortionists payment checks drawn on a federal Treasury account. **This is clearly government funding of abortion – the federal government would be running a nationwide insurance plan covering abortion on demand.**
- The abortion coverage would not be optional – no citizen would be allowed to enroll in the federal insurance program without paying the abortion surcharge. As *Time* magazine accurately reported (August 24), “The problem is that all those who sign up for the public option would have to pay into the account for abortion coverage, an amount ‘not less than \$1 per month,’ according to the legislation. So in effect, anyone who

wanted to sign up for the public option, a federally funded and administered program, would find themselves paying for abortion coverage.”

- **The current “Hyde Amendment” law would not apply to the new premium subsidy program.** Under H.R. 3200 as amended by the Capps Amendment, some private plans may elect not to include abortion, but private plans that cover elective abortion will be federally subsidized. Both bills provide funds for the new premium-subsidy program through a new funding pipeline that would **not** be subject to the Hyde Amendment, which is a year-to-year provision that currently prevents federal funding of abortions in the Medicaid program. As the Associated Press accurately reported in its August 5, 2009, analysis, “A law called the Hyde amendment applies the [abortion] restrictions to Medicaid . . . [But] The health overhaul would create a stream of federal funding not covered by the restrictions.”
- **The proposed provisions are a radical departure from the status quo.** Currently, the federal government does not pay into any health plans that cover elective abortion, and the federal government certainly currently does not run a national abortion insurance program. *Time* magazine reported (August 24, 2009), “The health-care reform proposed by House Democrats, if enacted, would in fact mark a significant change in the Federal Government’s role in the financing of abortions.”
- **In four congressional committees, pro-abortion Democratic committee chairmen and majorities, allied with the White House, rejected amendments to keep elective abortion out of the “public plan” and to prevent federal subsidies from going to private plans that cover elective abortion.**
- Under the Senate bill, there is an additional problem: Both the “public plan” and, in time, most private insurance plans, would be required to cover all “essential benefits.” These must include (but are not limited to) ambulatory patient services, hospitalization, and preventive services. Under numerous past federal court decisions, such broad categories will include elective abortion unless Congress adds an explicit exclusion for abortion – but the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee rejected such an exclusion. **Thus, under the Senate bill, many private health plans would be required to pay for and to provide local access to abortion, and many state laws that regulate abortion could be invalidated.** For additional information and documentation, or for an up-to-date report on the status of this legislation, go to <http://nrlactioncenter.com> or <http://www.nrlc.org/AHC/Index.html>.

August 26, 2009

Memorable Quote

I've noticed that everyone who is for abortion is already born."
~ Ronald Reagan



Know What You Believe

Anti-Life Argument: (Abortion) It is just a blob of tissue.

Pro-Life Response: This is very simple to refute. Just use science. At conception, the pre-born baby has his own 46 unique chromosomes. During the very first week of development, the cell layers form that will develop into the various parts of the body such as the digestive system, the nervous system, muscles, bones and the respiratory system. Early organ formation begins and the brain and spinal cord are developed in week four. The heart starts beating on day 22.



These are only a few of the many, many developments of the pre-born baby. From day one, the baby is developing and growing. It does not become a human person. It is a human person with a unique identity in his 46 chromosomes from day one. (Information from class lectures: BIO 203 Human Embryology, Pro. Edward Bessler, Franciscan University, Spring 2008)

Knights of Columbus

GRAND KNIGHTS

Dennis Taylor
St. Agnes

Mike Grekowitz
Father DuRussel

Tom Erickson
Cardinal Hickey



FINANCIAL SECRETARIES

Frank Ciesziak
St. Agnes

Paul Card
Father DuRussel

Bruce Grant
Cardinal Hickey

St. Agnes Council No. 8043 of Sanford
Father Henry P. DuRussel Council No. 2141 of Midland &
Cardinal Hickey Council No. 14056 of Midland
Support the work of Right to Life of Michigan!

Thank You!

Thank you for reading this issue of *Lifelines*, and thank you for supporting and defending life. Tell us what you think of our new look, and tell your friends about our newsletter. We are always open to donations and there are many ways for you to get involved in the right to life effort. Just contact us at midlandrtl@yahoo.com, go to our website at www.midlandrtl.org or call Joanne Bober at 989.839.1017.



Calendar of Events

40 Days for Life September 23 – November 1 – pray & fast to end abortion. www.40daysforlife.com/saginaw

Focus on Life Dinner, Tuesday, September 29, at 6pm at Messiah Lutheran Church. Speaker: *founder of Silent No More Georgette Forney*. Tickets \$35 or a table of 8 for \$280. Be a table leader - table leaders can either buy the table for \$280 and invite others to sit with them for free or they can encourage friends to buy their own seats but sit at their table with them. Call Joanne 989.839.1017 for more information. The deadline for your RSVP has been extended until September 24, 2009.

Mid Michigan Life Chain – Sunday, October 4, 2:30 – 3:30 pm. Stand in witness to the unborn along Saginaw Road in Midland. Pick up signs behind Pathways Christian Bookstore starting at 2:15. 631-3810.

Right to Life of Midland County Monthly Meeting, October 8, 2009 and November 12 at 7 p.m. at the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library, Conference Room A. Affiliate elections at Nov. 12 meeting.