

Life Lines

A quarterly publication of Right to Life of East Texas

"To promote respect for the worth and dignity of all human life, including the life of the unborn child from the moment of conception."

RECOGNIZING 40 YEARS OF PROTECTING LIFE IN 2017

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2ND ANNUAL YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT RALLY

We are planning the 2nd annual Youth and Young Adult Rally for January 20 and 21, 2017. The event will feature multiple speakers and subjects, grouped into three categories: pop-culture, history and local pro-life resources. This will be held at White Oak High School on Friday from 6-9 pm and Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm, with lunch provided. Please make plans to attend and invite your church youth group, school organizations and friends.

There is also a Sanctity of Life for Teens event planned for January 7, 2017 in Tyler. This is sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Tyler and will feature speakers about bioethics and stem cell research, euthanasia and assisted suicide, theology of the body and same-sex attraction, abortion, contraception and human trafficking. Visit www.dioceseoftyler.org/youth to register.

CELEBRATE LIFE BANQUET

The 24th annual Celebrate Life Banquet will be held on Saturday February 18, 2017 at 6:30 p. m. The program will be a

presentation by CARE- Christ-centered Abortion Recovery and Education. They will share their model of helping women and families suffering from post abortion syndrome (PAS). With over 60 million abortions in the past 44 years, it is estimated that 43% of American women have had an abortion, which means that most of us know women and families that may be suffering from PAS.

We will recognize Reverend Keith Rothra as the Pro-Life Person of the Year. He has been a strong supporter of pro-life issues for many years as a pastor, teacher/professor and political leader.

We will recognize Lumberjacks for Life at Stephen F. Austin State University as the 2017 Pro-Life Ministry. They have provided a pro-life presence on campus for the past ten years.

As part of observing our 40th anniversary, we will present the Virginia Denny Award to Ginger and Glenn (posthumously) Canfield for many years of pro-life work. Glenn was the editor of this newsletter for several years and was instrumental in adding and maintaining pro-life planks in the County and State Republican Party Platform.

Reservations are required by February 10, 2017. See the enclosed flyer for reservation details.

CEMETERY OF THE INNOCENTS

The annual Cemetery of the Innocents is a powerful tool to draw attention to the tragedy of abortion in America. We mourn the loss of OVER 58 million babies by abortion since the Supreme Court Roe v. Wade decision on January 22, 1973. The rows of white crosses present a silent memorial that has a profound impact on all who pass by. The cemetery saddens and draws to prayer those who respect life. It is meant to touch hearts of the undecided and confront those who favor abortion. It compassionately draws to repentance those who have had an abortion. The 2017 event is recommended from January 14 to 28. Some churches also install a banner with the suggested message: "In Memorial of the 175 Baby Texans Who Die Each Day From Abortion." (63,849 for 2013 from the state website which is the latest final data available.)

www.dshs.state.tx.us/CHS/VSTAT

The good news is that this is a 6.5% reduction over 2012 and further reductions are expected since 2013 due to additional restrictions that have been enacted.



You can order the crosses from The Good Name Company, www.goodname.com or call 906-428-6363. They are provided as painted yardsticks and the website says they are now available in pink and blue besides the standard white. This year we recommend 175 crosses to represent the number of abortions daily in Texas.

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual membership meeting will be Tuesday January 24, 2017. A notice has

been mailed to all members. If you need additional information please call the telephone number on the front of this newsletter. If you are interested in serving in this ministry, contact president Tom Mittler prior to the annual meeting.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Please see the enclosed application for the scholarship essay contest for 2017 graduating high school seniors. You are encouraged to copy this form for your church or school. The deadline for submitting the application is January 28, 2017. Please note that the scholarships are available for graduating seniors planning to attend a trade school, join the military or other career choice besides college.

THE TEXAS RALLY FOR LIFE

The Texas Alliance for Life is sponsoring the Texas Rally for Life in Austin at the Texas State Capitol on Saturday January 28, 2017. The march up Congress Ave is scheduled to begin at 1 pm. Consider joining thousands of other pro-lifers in Austin to publicly show your support for LIFE. You can get more information at www.texasrallyforlife.org or phone 512-477-1244.

WEBSITE

Please visit www.righttolifeofeasttexas.org to check on current events and activities. The site includes links to other helpful pro-life groups and organizations. We will continue to add to the site.

ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

Our annual garage sale is scheduled for March 24 and 25, 2017. Please note that this is the week after spring break for Longview area schools.

The sale will be held at St. Matthew's family center. It is located on Arrow Lane,

one block southeast from Pine Tree Road and Dundee Road.

This is our largest fundraising event which enables us to do most of our programs, including sharing this newsletter with 3,000 households and funding the scholarships. Please save your surplus, but usable, items for donation and plan to come and shop for those missing treasures. Donations can be dropped off in Longview at St. Matthew's on Arrow Lane beginning Monday March 20.

We have some limited donated storage space so if you aren't able to save your items at home contact us to donate your items now.

Help is always needed Monday through Thursday, March 20-23 to set-up and Friday and Saturday during the sale. We need extra help Saturday afternoon for the clean-up.

MARION-HARRISON CHAPTER



The Chapter had a very successful baby bottle fundraiser in 2016 with 23 churches collecting over \$14,000. They have donated \$12,000 to The Pregnancy Resource Center in Marshall (formerly Living Alternatives). Chapter president Pamela Payne is shown presenting a check to Father John Hines, president of the PRC board. The fundraising will also be used to fund two of the scholarships.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PAST 40 YEARS

We will feature some highlights in each newsletter in 2017 of Right to Life of East Texas as we observe our 40th anniversary. The articles of incorporation were signed on March 15, 1977 by three directors: Virginia Denny, Sam Burt and Pat Kilpatrick. The group was actually started in 1976 with the adoption of bylaws and opening of a bank account. In October 1976 \$387 of donations were deposited.

There were ten families listed as paying dues in 1977. Original fundraising included a raffle of two Cotton Bowl tickets, which cost \$21! Other events started in 1977 were the Mothers' Day ad and Gregg County Fair booth, both of which have been done annually since then. In May 1977 100 copies of the first newsletter were printed. This was typed by Virginia Denny and was likely one or two pages. Each was hand addressed. Tom Mittler reports that one of Virginia's early policies was "You can't have an organization without a newsletter."

In 1978 the officers were: president Virginia Denny, VP Tom Mittler, treasurer Sam Burt and secretary Robert Denny (Virginia's husband). There were 19 members. We also received our IRS 501.c.3 non-profit designation. We also had our first entry in the Longview 4th of July parade.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2017

Jan 7 -----Sanctity of Life for Teens
Jan 14 to 28-----Cemetery of the Innocents
Jan 20 and 21---Youth & Young Adult Rally
Jan 28----- Texas Rally for Life, Austin
Jan 28----- scholarship applications due
February 18-----Celebrate Life Banquet
March 24,25 ----- fundraising garage sale
May 2-----Mother's Day Ad deadline
October 1-----Life Chain

RIGHT TO LIFE OF EAST TEXAS
Recognizing 40 years of protecting life in 2017
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Right to Life of East Texas is offering four \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors who plan to further their careers (college, trade school, military, other). The scholarships will be awarded to individuals, not to institutions, based on the quality of the essay submitted in accordance with the theme described below. The scholarships will be presented at our annual Celebrate Life Banquet in Longview in February 18, 2017; the winners and their parents will be invited guests.

Name _____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip Code _____

Parents/Guardians _____

High School _____

Career Plan _____

Home Church _____

ESSAY REQUIREMENTS

Theme: **In the context of the recent election results in a divided America, what political, ethical, legal and constitutional advice would you give to state and national elected officials to win the culture war for the pro-life cause.**

TO ASSURE IMPARTIAL JUDGING DO NOT USE YOUR REAL NAME IN THE ESSAY

Length: Maximum 500 words, MUST BE TYPEWRITTEN

Deadline: **Postmarked by JANUARY 28, 2017**

Submit to: Right to Life of East Texas
P. O. Box 9294
Longview, TX 75608

Telephone: Longview 903-295-8608

Right to Life of East Texas may publish my essay submitted for this scholarship

Signature: _____ Date: _____

RIGHT TO LIFE OF EAST TEXAS
OBSERVING 40 YEARS OF PROTECTING LIFE
24th ANNUAL
CELEBRATE LIFE BANQUET

Saturday, February 18, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.
Calvary Baptist Church 4715 Tennyville Road
At Pine Tree Road (FM1845), 2 miles north of Loop 281
Longview, Texas 75604

JOIN US FOR A DELICIOUS MEAL AND A MEMORABLE EVENING

-----**FEATURING**-----



CARE- their mission is to restore lives that have been wounded by abortion and to educate the public regarding the effects of abortion and its impact on men, women and families. "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." Psalm 34:18

At the banquet we will honor:

REV. KEITH ROTHRA
PRO-LIFE PERSON OF THE YEAR

LUMBERJACKS FOR LIFE- SFA
OUTSTANDING PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

GINGER AND GLENN (posthumously) CANFIELD
VIRGINIA DENNY AWARD

FOUR PRO-LIFE ESSAY WINNERS FROM EAST
TEXAS HIGH SCHOOLS
WILL RECEIVE \$1,000 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

-----**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**-----

\$25 per person, attendees will be seated together upon request up to eight per table
Seating is limited, mail or phone for reservations by Friday February 10, 2017

Reserve ___ seats at \$25 per plate, total enclosed \$ _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Tickets will be mailed if payment received
by Feb. 1, otherwise check-in at the door

Right to Life of East Texas
P.O. Box 9294
Longview TX 75608-9294

DIRECTORS

Tom Mittler Chris Hagstrom
Gail Gilbert Neal Frey
Pamela Payne Mark Dickson
Susan Wells Pat Smith
Peggy Duvall
 Phone
 903-295-8608

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LONGVIEW, TX
PERMIT NO. 43

MEMBERSHIP FORM

MAIL TO: RIGHT TO LIFE OF EAST TEXAS
PO BOX 9294
LONGVIEW TX 75608-9294

_____ **YES**, I would like to become a member of Right to Life of East Texas.
Enclosed are 2017 membership dues (\$10 for a family; \$7.50 for single).

I agree to promote respect for all innocent human life from the moment of conception until natural death.

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

County _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email address _____

[You will receive the quarterly newsletter that will keep you informed of pro-life activities and news.]