## LAKESHORE LIFE NEWS Spring 2023 / Issue 50

A PUBLICATION OF TRI-CITIES RIGHT TO LIFE

An Affiliate of Right to Life of Michigan serving Grand Haven, Spring Lake, Ferrysburg & Immediate Area



Above is a panoramic shot during the walk that followed the 2023 Memorial for the (many) Victims of Abortion held on Feb. 18th in Spring Lake. This is so epic because if you look very closely, not one frown can be found. Lifeaffirmers are happy people! We landed across the street from Rite-Aid because it was a key stop on the 1.3 mile total trek- "key" since the pharmacy chain decided to make its stores abortion providers by dispensing Mifepristone, a drug used to induce dangerous chemical abortions. So we prayed there! For Walgreen's and CVS, too.

The Memorial itself had a low turnout for some reason, but we didn't let that stop us. \$407.80 was raised for Project Rachel, a national postabortion healing ministry. Area youth proclaimed readings, and also carried roses to honor last year's abandoned lives and bodies of the nearly 300 preborn Ottawa County residents, plus their mothers, fathers— even all of the unrealized legacies.

A sixteen year-old local high school Junior gave the keynote address sharing how she became a lifeaffirming youth; how she lovingly responds to those who bully her for defending life from conception to natural death, and encouraged those present to "Stand up for life even if you're the only one standing." She also sang a <u>beautiful</u> rendition of *"The Goodness of God"*. We love when youth lead in this way— they are the pro -life generation!

Special thanks to Shar Boerema, Diane Murray, Katrina Curtis and St. Mary's Church, the Heart2heart Girls, Pastor & Paula Cate of St. John's Lutheran, and all attendees at this year's Memorial.

If you missed it, we'll be doing it again in 2024, right around St. Valentine's Day because we truly love all victims of abortion and will honorably remember them because someone <u>must</u>. The good news is this: While walking, we received far more honks of gratitude than disapproving gestures! And that really is GOOD NEWS! How many times have

Below: Bailey Quiney tells her story of becoming prolife and encouraging her peers to, "Stand up for Life, even if you're the only one standing."



we noticed how easily kids 'get it' yet some adults just don't seem capable?



The weather was also lovely with bright sunshine to cheer the soul.

For events, scan this code with your smartphone camera or app.



Or enter manually: <u>https://Linktr.ee/TCRTL</u> (clickable for e-news subscribers)

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## A Bird's Eye View in Skies of Blue

Okay, I suffer from Seuss-itis (well, that's what I call it): tending to rhyme all the time. Since it worked for the title, I flew with it, using 'a bird's eve view' in the sense that you may be wanting more perspective on who we are, what we do, or whether financial support is best sent to us or pregnancy resource centers. I'll spend the next three columns answering those questions, then we'll all be on the same page. Maybe you noticed that despite it being the first year in a post-Roe world, it's, sadly, more confusing than ever.

Next month will mark 3 years of me at the helm of Tri-Cities RTL. After coming aboard, I assessed that we'd been running under the radar a bit— likely because much of what we do is in a support role. I describe it as a hug: Pregnancy resource centers, like Positive Options, meet people when they walk through their doors; and then help by providing an ultrasound, counseling, and/or material goods like clothes and diapers. That's one arm of the hug. And TCRTL is the other. We make sure those centers are supported both legislatively and ideologically.

We pop a billboard up against a blue sky to change some hearts. We advise when there is crazy voting in Lansing (like what's happening as this is typed— Whitmer doing everything she said *wouldn't* happen if Prop 3 passed. Late-term abortion, anyone?!)

Is it too Pollyanna to juxtapose such evil with this familiar feelgood song? "I see skies of blue and clouds of white. The bright blessed days, the dark sacred nights. And I think to myself...What a wonderful world."

I've said it before— I'm a glass half full person. And that's ok, especially given my rhyming issue. Any dashed hope will just become a ...

Meet Our Oratory Contest 3-time Winner



Miss Hannah Abel, a senior at Western Michigan Christian in Norton Shores, will be graduating this spring with plans to enter a soon-to-be-determined university Honors program pursuing a degree in Elementary Education with an emphasis in mathematics—<u>but</u> not until she competes at the state level oratory contest in Charlotte, MI on May 20th because she WON

< Hannah Abel, a Senior at Western Michigan Christian High School, delivers her speech at Tri-Cities Right to Life's 3rd annual Theresa Stevens Prolife Oratory Contest on 3/22/23 in Grand Haven, Michigan.

our local contest on 3/22! Jeremiah Miller *[full disclosure: Theresa's son]* was the runner-up. Jeremi is a homeschooling Junior planning a career in music and admitted in post-contest remarks that, "I'm really a musician not a speaker," causing some of us to consider one day hosting a pro-life music contest! Great idea, as were the

Pictured below are the two contestants with judges, Patrick & Jen.



poem (or a country song!), LOL. Incessant hope is a natural outcome of Faith, though. It helps us continue. Seek a better tomorrow. How about with you? Is it all too much to bear? I understand. I really do. So let's do what we can. Lean on each other. Encourage. Leave some white space so as not to overwhelm ....

#### {{{{ aaahhh }}}}

... then get outside of ourselves by serving. We have big goals: foster care and adoption awareness, plus raising funds for both; researching housing for expectant mothers; educating at VBSes and Boot Camps for Babies training events; and much more than there's room to list ...

We promote LIFE wherever possible. I just recorded a radio spot which emphasizes the theme of our recent billboard— a positive message about less regret. There'll be a morning show interview on WGHN that'll be posted on our Rumble Channel after it airs. Watch for that! Meanwhile, recall how the song ends: *"I hear babies cry, I watch them grow. They'll learn much more ... than I'll ever know ... And I think to myself: What a wonderful world."* 

While fulfilling our missions [see pg. 4 for ours], let's be the irresistible face of joy and sunshine no matter what kind of crazy is happening all around. Yes, hold people accountable, but be more attractive than the other side's violent 'solutions'; *then* they'll figure it out ...whose idea of love is truth.

Joyfully, *Theresa Giacalone* PS: Both 'arms of the hug' need \$upport

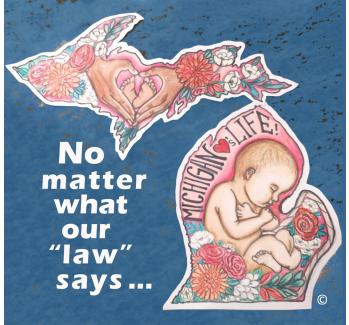


speech themes which centered on what we do now after all the losses on Life last November (Hannah); and how to speak with pro-abortion people, but also what can be done to prevent the immorality that leads to abortions in the first place (Jeremiah).

Special thanks to the contest volunteers who helped set up, participated as the audience, donated goodies or drinks, and served as judges!

**YOU ARE INVITED!** Feel the inspiration in-person by attending the state competition on 5/20! :) Support youth.

#### TriCitiesRightToLife.org



For real change, don't feed the monster! Financially supporting a company that supports abortion advances both. > <u>2ndVote.com/</u> company-scores/

Want the latest Life news? Check if you're getting Right To Life of Michigan <u>emails</u>. Subscribe today for crucial updates on everything LIFE!

TO SAVE TIME AND RESOURCES, WE NEED TO SWITCH TO AN EMAIL NEWSLETTER GOING FORWARD. IF YOU FIND OUR INFOR-MATION VALUABLE, <u>PLEASE SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS</u> SO WE CAN SEND MONTHLY UPDATES. tg@TriCitiesRightToLife.org

Our billboard message, March 2023 \*<u>Can't Stay Silent</u>



# **93%** said they're glad abortion was **NOT** an option\*

\*Can't Stay Silent, LiveAction.org

{{{{{{ and... more white space :) See pg. 2, 3rd column }}}}}}

**For a tax deduction** when giving to TCRTL, make your check payable to: *RLM Education Fund— and write "Tri-Cities RTL Escrow" on the memo line.* 

Easily Give Online >>> <u>https://give.cornerstone.cc/TCRTL</u>

TriCitiesRightToLife.org

< GET A TOTE BAG, T-SHIRT, OR SOME STICKERS!! Control the narrative: *Michigan* 



\$6 to \$20 \*Customizations *NOT* extra! :)

\*The message can be customized; and the art has three optional background colors.

Art by Amanda Fickel



And... if you have a story everyone tells you should be shared, you could be one of the featured speakers at our event (usually in Oct.). There's nothing as powerful as a testimony! Contact us to learn more.

MORE chances to volunteer:

Mother's day/Father's day, resales, VBSes, music festivals, float building/riding, craft shows, and much more...

## ▼ FUNDRAISER!

Conference Book Ads! Claim your affordable spot today. Last deadline is in June.

 First ever Heart2heart Girls
baby shower will be June 11th.
Details will be on our Linktree & at the Girls' new page here: https://Linktr.ee/heart2heartgirls
Also, RLM's Meme Contest to be announced soon. \$400 - 1st

♥ 40 Days for Life! If you joined a campaign this Spring, or prayed from home, thank you! It made an impact!

<u>SAVE the DATE</u>! NOV. 8th <u>March</u> for Life in Lansing!







Post Office Box 943 Grand Haven, MI 49417 **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED** 

Spring Ts available now! \$10-15

NON-PROFIT US POSTAGE PAID GRAND HAVEN, MI Permit No. 185

## National Pro-life T-shirt day was April 3rd. Stock up & be summer-fest ready!

## **Tri-Cities Right to Life**

Mail:P.O. Box 943, Grand Haven, MI 49417Phone:616-201-7813E-mail:info@TriCitiesRightToLife.orgWebsite:www.TriCitiesRightToLife.orgfacebook.com/TriCitiesRightToLife



## **Our Mission**

To raise public awareness about the issues of abortion, embryo destructive research, euthanasia, and assisted suicide. To be a community resource for area organizations about pro-life issues. To educate legislators and to promote legislation by grassroots lobbying. To support pro-life candidates for public office as endorsed by the Right to Life of Michigan PAC.

## TCRTL invites you to:

Visit our website today! See above.

<u>Step right up</u>! :) There are two vacant board seats.

## <u>Be moved</u> by Thomas More:

"You must not abandon the ship in a storm because you cannot control the winds....What you cannot turn to good, you must at least make as little bad as you can.

~from "Utopia" (1516)

Did you know? Just over half of all abortions are now committed using dangerous Rx drugs, but in most cases, can be reversed at an early stage. Say it with our merchandise! —->>>

Another way is with outdoor advertising. Last month, we were able to run a digital billboard message thanks to

## your **\$UPPORT**!

(one day you may learn how many lives you helped save!)



Lakeshore Life News