
ON THE STARTING LINE
FROM CHICAGO, SKOKIE, AND DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS ...

THE VANGUARD!

THE VOICE OF ***THE VANGUARD***

www.DesPlainsVanguard.com

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July/August 2006

***Keep alum Dolan Heard (Contra, '68 through '71)
in your prayers.***

Anthony Davis (Drumline, early '70s) forwarded me the following email from Dolan Heard. Dolan lives in the Belleville, Illinois, area:

Dear family and friends,

I was diagnosed with chronic end stage kidney disease in April, in short total kidney failure which now necessitates dialysis for four hours, three times weekly until my death or upon receipt of new kidney via (transplant). Unfortunately there are 50,000 people ahead of me unless I can locate a kidney from a live donor, so if you, or if you know of anyone who might be willing to help out, could you forward this information please?

Research has been done to learn why living kidney donors donate and the results are very positive. Past studies have found that over 92% of living donors had no regrets about donating, were very satisfied with their transplant experience, and would make the same decision to donate again today. The main reason why living donors donate is that they want to help improve the health of someone they love. One donor explained why they donated in this way:

“Most people are dead when they donate; I’m alive and I get to see the results of my gift. I also enjoy hearing the activities my brother-law tells me about between him and his children.”

So what does live donor transplant involve and who can donate? In order to qualify as a living donor, the person must:

- Ø Be willing to donate, maybe a family member, friend, or someone you know.
- Ø Have a blood type that is compatible with the recipient's blood type, though it does not have to be an exact match (mine is A positive).
- Ø Not have any major physical or mental illnesses.
- Ø If a woman, not be pregnant
- Ø Usually between the ages 18 and 65.
- Ø Be fully healthy

In order for someone to be a donor for me, they must call (314)-362-5430, the recipient's transplant coordinator (my coordinator is Ms. Jennifer Colletta). The Barnes Jewish Hospital transplant coordinator will then schedule a series of donor tests:

- Ø Urine and blood tests to find out if the donor's blood type (mine is A Positive) matches the recipient and to assess the donor's kidney function
- Ø Medical history and examinations. A person will not be able to donate if they have a disease or condition that affects the kidney such as high blood pressures (uncontrolled) or diabetes. They will also not be able to donate if they have heart disease or any other major medical problem.
- Ø Routine test including a chest x-ray and EKG (electrocardiogram)
- Ø Specialized tests to look at how well the donor's kidneys are working.
- Ø Further tests, such as a mammogram or colonoscopy, if needed.

It may also help to know that.....

- Ø All the information shared by the donor with the transplant team is confidential. This is important because it protects the donor's right to privacy.
- Ø All potential donors' testing and evaluation are covered by Medicare. The donor is responsible for lost wages from time off work, childcare cost, and any travel or lodging cost. Even though most donors have at less than \$100 in out-of-pocket expenses, some donors, mainly those with small children or donors from out of town, can have more out-of-pocket costs.
- Ø The choice of when the transplant surgery is made jointly by the transplant team, the recipient, and the donor.
- Ø A donor has the freedom to withdraw from the process at any time, even the day of donation.
- Ø The entire process from testing to surgery can take a few months or years.

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Dolan: I think I can speak for all of the Vanguard alumni when I say that we will keep you in our prayers and wish you the best of luck with finding a donor. Thank you, Anthony, for keeping us posted on this. -- Editor Cathy O'Connell Letourneau

Upcoming Activities:

Bill O'Connell's Chicago Skyliners Big Band Schedule of Events

Tuesday, Jun 27	Glencoe Kalk Park	7:00 PM
Wednesday, Jul 12	Bensenville (12 South Center)	7:30 PM
Thursday, Jul 13	Mt. Prospect Veterans Band Shell	7:30 PM
Tuesday, Jul 18	Buffalo Grove Willow Stream Park	7:00 PM
Thursday, Jul 20	Des Plaines Lake Park Bandshell	7:00 PM
Sunday, Jul 23	Fitzgeralds	6:00 PM
Tuesday, Jul 25	Northbrook Village Green Park	7:30 PM
Sunday, Jul 30	Hawthorne Woods – Old McHenry Rd. And Quentin Rd.	6:30PM
Thursday, Aug 3	Lake Forest – Western Ave. between Deerpath and Westminster Avenues	6:00 PM
Sunday, Aug 13	Chicago Boulevard Arts Festival – 2710 N. Sawyer	1PM & 3PM
Sunday, Aug 27	Fitzgeralds	6 PM
Wednesday, Sep 6	River Grove Riverfront Park	7:30 PM
Saturday, Sep 9	Oakbrook Terrace – One Parkview Plaza	8:00 PM

Fitzgeralds is located at 6615 Roosevelt Rd. in Berwyn.

For more Skyliner info, email Bill at billbigband@aol.com or call him at 847-352-BILL.

Schedule of Events for **Bill's new rock band,
ONE FOOT IN THE GROOVE. (Editor's note: Think *Blood, Sweat, and
Tears* meets *Chicago, Chase, and Earth, Wind, and Fire!* Awesome!)**

Thursday, Jul 27	Cary – Lions Park, 255 Briargate	7:00 PM
Sunday, Aug 6	Frankfort – Breiderts Green on Kansas Street	6:30 PM
Tuesday, Aug 8	WoodDale – Franzen Grove Park on Thorndale and WoodDale Rds.	7:00 PM
Sunday, Aug 13	Chicago Boulevard Arts Festival 2710 N. Sawyer	1PM & 3PM
Sunday, Aug 13	Hawthorne Woods – Old McHenry Rd. And Quentin Rd.	6:30 PM
Sunday, Sep 10	Darien Fest	1:00 PM

DCI CHAMPIONSHIPS 2006 IN MADISON, WISCONSIN!

In last month's *VOICE* I mentioned the idea of having a casual get-together in Madison during DCI week. Thus far, I've only heard from five people! If you are planning to go to DCI (dates: quarterfinals Thursday, 8-10, semifinals Friday, 8-11, and Saturday, 8-12) and would like to meet for some food, drinks, and fellowship, please respond to this email as soon as possible. In addition to myself, the five people who have responded so far are:

Marguerite (Hohs) Glaeser

Penny (Kwetinski) Cook (all the way from Phoenix!)

Lee Kwetinski

Mickey Antosiak (driving a bus for Garfield – can try to get some time off to meet us)

Bill Buck

If we get a few more interested people, I will begin investigating some possible venues near the stadium. I'm shooting for Friday, August 11th for lunch. The semi-final show (what we used to call Prelims!) starts at 4:30.

I know that Bill O'Connell is not the only alum who uses his drum corps chops professionally! Send in your band schedules and other news.

Happy Summer! I'll see some of you in Madison!

Cathy O'Connell Letourneau

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