

Share Your Life
Share Your Decision

Life.....Pass It On!

Transplants Save Lives, Inc.

Special points of interest:

- Awareness Bracelets are in Stock! We have spread the word with over 1,000 Bracelets sold!
- Magnetic Bumper Stickers are in Stock! We have spread the word with over 1,000 sold!
- Do You Write Using a TSL Pen?
- Awareness Key Chains are in!

March, 2007

TSL Meeting
Thursday, March 29, 2007
GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL

HEATHER GRIFFITH

**Certified Yoga Instructor from the
OM Center in NYC**

**Relax, Stretch and Get Ready for
TSL's 13th Annual Walk-A-Thon!**

7:00 PM Social Time

7:30 PM Meeting Starts

**WALK-A-THON FLYERS WILL BE
AVAILABLE FOR PICK-UP**

All Are Invited See You There!



TSL'S 13TH ANNUAL WALK-A-THON

SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 2007

9:45 AM SIGN IN 10:30 AM WALK

ROCKLAND LAKE STATE PARK

NORTH ENTRANCE, RTE.9W & CONGERS RD.

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TSL'S SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars!

MARCH 29, 2007	GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL MONTHLY MEETING
APRIL 22, 2007	13TH ANNUAL WALK-A-THON
APRIL 26, 2007	GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL
MAY 30, 2007	<i>Take Me Out</i> ELMWOOD THEATRE BENEFIT
JUNE, 2007	ANNUAL TSL DINNER MEETING
JULY, AUGUST, 2007	BREAK FOR THE SUMMER
SEPTEMBER, 2007	FIRST ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Reserve these Dates on your Calendars!

Contact a Board Member with Topic/Speaker Recommendations

TRANSPLANTS SAVE LIVES, INC.

We are a non-profit organization for transplant recipients and their families, donor families, and people waiting for transplants and their families. We meet on a monthly basis at Good Samaritan Hospital in Suffern, NY. These meetings are a combination of support and keeping our members up-to-date on all issues of transplantation. Speakers represent all facets of organ donation and transplantation and are foremost in their field. We also enjoy social events throughout the year.

We Look Forward to Seeing YOU at our Meetings!

Transplants Save Lives, Inc. Board of Directors

Barbara Blumenthal, spouse	845-352-5099	Nicholas Cinalli, liver	845-353-3062
Patricia Malone, kidney	845-354-9737	Rick Pascarella	845-215-5137
Farrah Negrin	845-627-2240	Sue Negrin, heart	845-627-2240

WHO MAKES UP TRANSPLANTS SAVE LIVES, INC.?

WHAT TSL'S PAID MEMBERSHIP LOOKS LIKE TO DATE:

KIDNEY TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS	LIVER TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS
HEART TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS	DOUBLE LUNG TRANSPLANT RECIPIENT
CORNEA TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS	KIDNEY DONORS
DONOR FAMILIES	FAMILIES OF TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS
SUPPORTERS OF ORGAN AND TISSUE TRANSPLANTATION	

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS

WHAT WE DO DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE

HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR DUES?

What We Do, Does Make A Difference

TRANSPLANT ANNIVERSARIES

Jasmine Brown, kidney, 1/2003, from husband, Barry

Joan Harris, liver, 1/1996

Steven Klein, kidney, 1/1996

James Pitt, kidney, 1/2003

Martin Silberman, kidney, 1/2004

Al Zeilberger, double cornea, 1/2000

Jack Anderson, liver, 2/1990

Thomas Dempsey, liver, 2/1996

Jennifer Horn, kidney, 2/1994, from sister, Lisa Held

Joseph Morghese, heart, 2/1997

Jerry Platzman, kidney, 2/2002, from wife, Sandy

Evelyn Rios, kidney, 2/2004

Peter Sonne, kidney, 2/1995, from father Christian

Frank Amelio, kidney, 3/2006, from daughter

Vittoria Colella, kidney, 3/2001

Jim Kingsland, kidney, 3/2005

Joseph Leeb, liver, 3/1994

John McDonald, liver, 3/2002

Love to see those transplant anniversaries!
Please call Sue @627-2240 if we missed yours.

The 13th Annual Walk-A-Thon is coming.....
Sunday, April 22nd 9:45 am sign up 10:30 am Walk
107.1 *The Peak FM* Van will be there!

Members' Corner

Congratulations and best wishes to **Paul Witte**, for receiving his new heart December, 2006.

Thank you to **CABLEVISION**, for allowing TSL to tape a public service announcement for TSL's 13th Annual Walk-A-Thon, which will be shown on t.v. during March and April. Thank you to **Nick Cinalli**, liver transplant recipient, **Pat Malone**, kidney transplant recipient, and **Sue Negrin**, heart transplant recipient, for being on the psa.

TSL welcomes **Jack Schwartz**, kidney transplant candidate, and **Jay Lackritz**, lung transplant candidate.

Thank you **Eileen Albus**, aunt of **Jack Gilroy**, 8-year-old heart transplant recipient, for volunteering with the 13th Annual Walk-A-Thon!

On Tuesday May 15th, the Latino Organization for Liver Awareness will host its 3rd Annual NYC Hepatitis C Walk. For more info, call LOLA at 718 892-8697.

On Saturday, April 14th, TRIO Manhattan will offer its 12th Annual Ecumenical Service *Remember and Rejoice*, from 2 pm—3:30 pm at St. Patrick's Cathedral. The general public is invited to remember donors and their families and to rejoice with recipients. No tickets are necessary.

This newsletter is brought to you through the
generosity of **Mr. Gregg Farrell Brie**
1-866-I Don't Know, Inc.

What is I Don't Know, Inc. and How Can it Help You?

I Don't Know, Inc. is a free information service. You speak to live operators 24 hours a day 7 days a week who will assist you in locating services and any other information you need. Finding the greatest merchants and suppliers in the county doesn't have to cost you time and money.

CALL: 1-866-436-6856

You will receive names of people, services, to contact.

Any Question Answered.....Any Time.

Any questions, call: 1-866-436-6856!

1-866-I DON'T KNOW

NOTICE OF TSL MEMBERSHIP DUES

No increase has been taken in the membership dues!

A family membership is \$25

A single membership is \$15

Fill out the form below and send it back with your check to:

TSL P O Box 516 Nanuet, NY 10954

This notice is in lieu of receiving a separate membership dues notice to save on postage.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Transplant/Hospital/

Anniversary Date: _____

Occupation: _____

I would like to be involved with:	Membership	Website
Monthly Speakers	Special Projects	Publicity
Speaking Engagements	Board of Directors	Monthly Newsletter
NYODN	Greater NY area Coalition on Donation	

Be An Advocate for Organ and Tissue Donation

Join the TSL Family!

They say it takes a community to help raise a child — it takes a member of TSL to help raise the awareness in our community!

WHAT WE DO, DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

TSL GOES TO ELMWOOD THEATRE!

Wednesday, May 30, 2007

TAKE ME OUT

A Neil Simon Play

Pre-Theatre Dinner and Play Package

Available to First 50 People

Full Dinner at Amici's Restaurant

\$40 per person

\$35 per person Seniors

Single Play Ticket

\$25 per person \$20 per person Seniors

CONTACT: Nick Cinalli: 845-353-3062

It's time to visit: www.transplantssavelives.com

**COME CELEBRATE LIFE! ORGAN & TISSUE TRANSPLANTATION WORKS!
SUNDAY, APRIL 22ND, ROCKLAND LAKE STATE PARK, 9:45 AM SIGN IN**

TSL'S 13TH ANNUAL WALK-A-THON

NORTH ENTRANCE, RTE 9W AND CONGERS ROAD. FREE! FREE! FREE!

FREE GIFT BAGS! FREE CAPS! FREE REFRESHMENTS!

MEET SPORTSCASTER DAVE JENNINGS!

107.1FM THE PEAK VAN WILL BE THERE!

LIFE: LOVE IT, LIVE IT, GIVE IT!

Doctors Plan Uterus Transplants. Women with removed or damaged wombs could have babies. By Marilynn Marchione. THE JOURNAL NEWS. January 16, 2007.

A New York hospital is taking steps to offer the nation's first uterus transplant, a radical experiment that might allow women whose wombs were removed or are defective to bear children. The wombs would come from dead donors and would be removed after the recipient gives birth so she would not need anti-rejection drugs her whole life. Organ transplants usually are performed to save lives, but increasingly they are being done to improve quality of life.

Thank you to Nick Cinalli: Organ's Roadblock License Format makes it tough for potential donors to sign off. By Celeste Katz. THE DAILY NEWS. January 15, 2007.

New Yorkers who want to donate their organs when they die have long had the option of making their wishes known by signing the backs of their driver's licenses. But the slick ID cards the state uses resist all but the most permanent of pens — meaning someone's wish to pass on organs could go ignored. The signature alone doesn't constitute full legal permission to harvest organs, but it may at least indicate a desire to do so. The state promotes organ donation by urging license holders to join the state donor registry. Drivers who join get "organ donor" permanently printed on their IDs.

What Living Organ Donors Need to Know. Even as Transplants Surge, Data on Long-Term Impact on Givers Remain Scant. By Laura Meckler. THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. January 30, 2007

With the demand for organ transplants far outstripping the supply of deceased donors, the hunt for friends, family and even strangers willing to donate a kidney or piece of liver has never been more intense. But as the number of living donors rises, so has concerns that donors themselves face significant medical, psychological and financial risks. In all, more than 7,000 people became living donors in 2005, triple the number of just a decade ago. In many cases, relatives volunteer. In others, patients set up Web sites and monitor the Internet in search of altruistic strangers—and sometimes they find them. Amid this growth, many patient advocates and bioethicists say that hospitals and federal agencies aren't doing enough to inform living donors of the consequences of giving a piece of themselves. Complications can include a wide range of medical problems. Some donors report feeling dejected if the transplant fails, or ignored after all the attention surrounding the surgery. And while surgery is covered by the recipient's health insurance, donors are responsible for medical problems down the road, so it's essential that they have their own insurance. To be sure, many if not most living donors have positive experiences and few if any lasting medical problems. Many donors feel great joy in having helped save someone's life, and encourage others to consider live donation as well. Driving the surge is the lengthening waiting list for organs, amid an increase in chronic disease such as diabetes and transplantation advances that make the surgeries more popular. Ten years ago, fewer than 50,000 people were on the national transplant waiting list; today that number is approaching 95,000.

Some resources for more information on living organ donation:

Livingdonorsonline.org lodap.com transplantliving.org/livingdonation

The High Price of Keeping Dad Alive. Mark Foster Already Had A Rocky History With His Father. Could he give him part of his liver? By Laura Meckler. THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. 1/20/2007.

In a stark office at Mt. Sinai Medical Center last summer, Mark Foster sat on a leather couch alongside his parents, scared into silence. The question he faced: should he donate half his liver to save his father's life? Mark's father was uneasy about the plan. His mother opposed it, angry her husband had exacerbated his illness by drinking. Liver donations made up more than 300 of the 7000 living donors in 2005, with a close relative the typical beneficiary. Most of the rest are kidney donations. If all goes well, the two pieces of the divided liver each grow large enough to do the work of a complete organ. Yet more than a third of liver procedures have complications. Since the operation was first performed in the 1980s, more than a dozen donors are known to have died world-wide, including three in the U.S. The decision to surrender a piece of a liver can be an affirmation of love and selflessness. As Mark Foster and his parents discovered, it also can be an agonizing choice for the donor and recipient, one that forces families to confront tensions they might have preferred remain dormant.

The Walk-A-Thon is Coming! April 22nd 9:45 Am!

Turning the Grief-Stricken Toward Organ Donation. By Richard Perez-Pena. THE NEW YORK TIMES. January 16, 2007.

There was barely a mark on her 9-year-old daughter's head, and when doctors told Surangni Gunaratne that the girl she adored was brain dead, she responded with fury. But over the next few days, the people at St. Vincent's Hospital Staten Island helped Mrs. Gunaratne accept that Tiffany was gone. Ms. Atkinson was an especially persistent presence. She works for NY Organ Donor Network, not the hospital, and her mission during that week was to persuade Mrs. Gunaratne and her husband to donate their daughter's organs. Five days after Tiffany was hit by a car outside her family's house, her liver and kidneys were transplanted, prolonging the lives of three strangers, one of them just 7 years old. Such tales have become increasingly common as organ donation across downstate NY has risen sharply, to 319 donors last year from 199 in 2001. According to the Organ Donor Network, the main reason for that success is people like Ms. Atkinson. One of 58 regional organizations designated by the federal government to find organs, the NY network traditionally lagged well behind other parts of the country. There were some years when fewer than 40% of potential dead donors' families in the region gave consent, compared with 50% or more nationally.

But last year, the NY Network reached a 56% consent rate, its highest ever, closing the gap with the rest of the country as the national rate rose to near 60%. Most organs go to people in the regions where they are donated. So the shortage of donors in NY has meant that people in the region wait longer to receive transplants and are more likely to die while waiting than are people in most other parts of the country. Administrators at some hospitals in NY concede that they once paid too little attention to organ donation. St. Vincent's in Staten Island did not put anyone in charge of the field until about a year ago. The hospital's consent rate has risen to 80% from 13%. NY Organ Donor Network worked more closely with hospitals than it used to and increased the number of volunteers who go to community groups promoting organ donation. But the most important change has been the family services coordinators, like Ms. Atkinson. Some of the family coordinators' relatives have given or received organs. Some are chosen in part to reflect the ethnic communities they will work in. All receive training.

Thank you to Jason Blatter: Heart Transplant Recipient Blatter Gets a Third Lease on Life. By Robert Schmelter. THE FORT LEE SUBURBANITE. December 15, 2006.

Some people get a second lease on life. Fort Lee resident Jason Blatter has just gotten his third thanks to a recent heart transplant; the second one in the young man's life. Born in Orangeburg, NY in 1970, Jason moved with his family to Fort Lee 3 years ago to be closer to Columbia Presbyterian Hospital, which is known as one of the most prolific transplant hospitals in the country. "Jason was born with several severe health conditions," explained Jason's mother, Sydelle Blatter. In the 1970's they were not performing surgeries on babies. Finally, when Jason was 2 years old, he underwent heart surgery. Although the surgery had been relatively successful, when Jason was 9 he got sick again. He underwent another surgery at age 10 where surgeons unsuccessfully attempted to repair his heart. Doctors then discovered that Jason suffered from cardiomyopathy. Because of his weakened condition, and the fact that he had had prior surgeries, doctors and surgeons from across the country decided that Jason was a poor candidate for a heart transplant surgery. At the time, heart transplant surgery was still in its infancy. Everywhere the Blatters went, the conclusion was always the same: There was no chance for Jason's survival if he received anew heart. Eventually through their research, the Blatters learned of a children's hospital in Pittsburgh. On June 14, 1984, Jason underwent a successful heart transplant surgery. Over the course of the next 22 years, Jason began to lead a normal, active life, though there were complications along the way. Then in the latter half of 2005, Jason underwent a slow decline in his health, due to coronary artery disease. He was rushed to Columbia where he suffered a cardiac arrest. For three months, Jason was placed on a Biventricle Assisting Device. "It was the size of a refrigerator," Jason explained, "and it kept me alive until they could find a donor." On March 27, 2006, a donor was found that was a match for Jason's body and blood type and Jason underwent the second heart transplant surgery. The surgery was not without complications. Because Jason was bed-ridden for so long before and after the surgery, he developed a large ulcer on his back, a complication he continues to deal with. He also had to learn how to walk all over again, as the surgery left him so weak he was unable to walk or stand on his own. Now that he is back home in his Fort Lee apartment, Jason is working to re-establish his life. While the family's long battle is winding down now, they are still recovering emotionally from the ordeal. "If there is one thing people need to learn after reading this," Sydelle said, "is how important it is to be an organ donor. There is such a shortage of organ donors in this country. We are so grateful to the donor family for making the decision that ended up saving my son's life."

**TSL'S ANNUAL WALK-A-THON SUNDAY APRIL 22, 2007
ROCKLAND LAKE STATE PARK 9:45 AM SIGN UP 10:30 AM WALK**

**TSL'S ANNUAL THEATRE BENEFIT WEDNESDAY MAY 30, 2007
CALL NICK CINALLI FOR TICKETS: 845-353-3062**

Thank you to Barbara Blumenthal: **Living Organ Donors' Subtraction Modification.**

Section 612 of the Tax Law was amended to provide a subtraction modification for full-year New York State resident taxpayers who, while living, donate one or more human organs to another human being for human organ transplantation.

Human organ means all or part of a liver, pancreas, kidney, intestine, lung, or bone marrow.

The New York State subtraction modification is limited to the lesser of:

- The amount of unreimbursed expenses incurred by the taxpayer for travel, lodging, and lost wages relating to the taxpayer's organ donation, or
- \$10,000

A taxpayer may claim this subtraction modification only once in a lifetime, and it must be in the tax year in which the transplant occurs.

This provision applies to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2007.

(Tax Law, section 612(c) (38))

Thank you to Belle Stein, liver recipient: **DMV Effort Simplifies Organ Donation. Rising Numbers: State Residents can join the Donate Life California Registry when Renewing Licenses. By Jessica Zisko. THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE SOUTHWEST.**

In the past six months, more than a half million Californians have signed up to be organ donors on the Donate Life California registry, a 40% increase from the first 15 months of the program. The list is now at 865,000 participants. Organ advocates thank a new state partnership that has revitalized donation efforts. Since July, Californians have been able to automatically join the registry by checking a box when they renewed or applied for a driver's license at the Department of Motor Vehicles. To celebrate the success and inspire others to sign up at the registry, organ donors and recipients from across the nation rode a Donate Life float at the 118th Rose Parade in Pasadena.

Thank you to Pat Malone, kidney recipient. **Rules May Alter Kidney Waiting List. Chicago Tribune.**

If someone needs a kidney transplant today, it doesn't matter if she's 25 or 60 years old. What counts is how long she's spent waiting for a suitable organ to become available. That would change under a controversial new proposal by the nation's organ transplant network. The plan would give kidneys to patients who would live longest after a transplant, not those who have languished longest on waiting lists. The goal is to make sure organs go to patients who can get the most benefit from a kidney transplant, extending more peoples' lives. But experts worry that older patients would be far less likely to get transplants if the plan is adopted. The change would apply only to kidneys from deceased donors; organs from living donors wouldn't be affected. The proposal, which may be altered and would not take effect until December at the earliest, comes from the Organ Procurement and Transplant Network, which oversees all transplants in the U.S. and the agency that runs it, the United Network for Organ Sharing.

Jeannie's Gift. PEOPLE MAGAZINE. March 19, 1007.

A recent letter brought to our attention a tragic development in our Sept. 4 "Superpets!" story. Ten-year-old Jeannie Stout, whose Irish terrier Curley woke her family as she was having an acute asthma attack, died Dec. 21 from another attack. Just a month earlier she had told her parents she wanted to be an organ donor. "Jeannie was a compassionate child beyond my understanding," says her mother, Ellen. She and husband James donated Jeannie's liver, kidneys and pancreas. "The miracle wasn't for us this time," says James. "The miracle was for the four recipients of her organs." They also established the Jean Stout Memorial Fund to benefit the New York Organ Donor Network and a music scholarship for Commack High School, where Jeannie dreamed of playing drums in the marching band. (Checks can be mailed to PO Box 721, East Northport, NY 11731) As for Curley, says Ellen, "his eyes tell me how sad he is he couldn't help her this time. He sleeps on Jeannie's bed every night.

LIFE: LOVE IT, LIVE IT, GIVE IT

Thank you to Doug Negrin. **My Father's Life (After Death) Seven Years Ago, my dad gave a stranger the most valuable gift of all: life. You could do the same one day. All it takes is 2 minutes and a pen. Why aren't you an organ donor yet? By William G. Phillips. MEN'S HEALTH. December, 2006**

My father died on October 26, 1999, after falling down eight steps. That's where some stories end. It's where this one begins. Dad was an organ donor. And when you're an organ donor in today's world, where miracle machines can sustain the mechanical functions of the body, you don't die in a conventional sense. You don't stop breathing. Your heart doesn't stop beating. You don't turn cold. Rigor mortis doesn't set in. You're dead, but every organ continues to function normally. Well, except one. Your brain. It's called brain death and it's especially confusing to grieving families because it looks a lot like life.

Consider: As my family gathered at my father's bedside to say our last goodbyes, machines beeped and whirred behind him. His face was flushed. His skin was warm. Five minutes before, he was alive, technically. Then two doctors came by and declared him dead, technically. But nothing seemed to have changed, really. Time of "death" was 1:26 pm. Dad was only 59. Two days before, he'd met my future in-laws for the first time. They talked of grandchildren to come and vacationing together someday. I couldn't believe this was the end. As I left Dad's hospital room, I stopped and looked back. I saw him lying there as he'd been for the previous 44 hours. I saw the organ-recovery coordinator entering the room. I suddenly became uneasy, overcome with guilt. It felt as if I was abandoning my father. For 7 years after, I wondered: *What happened to him next?*

Now I know.

And as I pieced together the past, I learned a few things: That organ transplantation is brutal, gruesome, lifesaving, and far too rare. That there's a huge shortage of organs in this country. That the extraordinary efforts of scientists will soon bridge that gap, saving many more lives—perhaps yours, perhaps mine.

But mostly, I learned how my father changed one man's life that day.

Even if you're among the 46% of Americans who've checked the organ-donor box on your driver's license application, you're not likely to ever become one. If your heart stops—the most common cause of death—odds are your organs will go to the grave with you. After heart failure, they begin shutting down within minutes, poisoned by the hormones a dying body releases specifically for that purpose.

This keeps the pool of organs from deceased donors pretty small. With rare exceptions, they all come from patients who are hooked up to lifesaving equipment in a hospital at the moment their neurons cease firing. Patients like my father. Because the heart has its own built in pacemaker, it can continue beating as long as it has access to oxygen. So doctors can trick the body into thinking it's still alive long enough to recover healthy, functioning organs for transplant.

But of the 2.2 million people who die in U.S. hospitals each year, only 20,000—less than 1%—are brain deaths. Almost half don't consent to organ donation. A quarter of the rest can't donate because at the time of death they're either too old or too sick. (All cancer patients are disqualified.) That leaves 7,500 deceased donors annually who pass on an average of 2 organs each.

Right now, 94,000 Americans are waiting for an organ transplant. Today, 77 of them will get one. But also today, 18 will die waiting and 122 new patients will be added to the list.

"Even if every person in this country who died of brain death donated his or her organs, there still wouldn't be enough to go around," says F. Lakkis, MD, scientific director of the Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute. "We need to find other sources, sure, but we must also reduce the number of recipients who need second and third transplants. This means eliminating organ rejection."

TSL'S 13TH ANNUAL WALK-A-THON—SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 2007

ROCKLAND LAKE STATE PARK 9:45 AM SIGN IN

TSL'S ANNUAL THEATRE BENEFIT—WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 2007

CALL NICK CINALLI 845-353-3062 TO RESERVE YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

PRE-THEATRE DINNER PACKAGE AVAILABLE

WHAT WE DO, DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

The Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration has launched a "webisode" on www.wcbs880.com. There is a web banner or you can also enter the keyword: EYES.
<http://wcbs880.com/pages/285271.php> This is a special that will run for March as Eye Donor Month. Also it will be promoted on the air directing listeners to go to the radio station's website to hear more.

Thank you to Jim Kingsland, kidney recipient: ***Picking Winners More Kidneys For Transplants May Go to Young.*** By Laura Meckler. THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. March 10, 2007. *SIDE BAR. ON THE TABLE. The United Network for Organ Sharing is overhauling its policy for distribution of donated kidneys. Some considerations in kidney policy, and how they might be affected by the new policy:*

ISSUE: Perfect matches

Current policy: Donor kidneys that match a recipient on all six antigens are automatically given to that recipient. About one in five kidneys is allocated this way. Regions that receive kidneys from other areas must pay back the donor region with a future kidney.

Possible change: Eliminate these "zero mismatch" trumps, which provide less of a medical advantage than they once did due to better drugs. Eliminate paybacks.

ISSUE: Waiting time

Current policy: Transplant candidates get one point for every year they have been waiting on the list, making this the dominant factor in kidney allocation

Possible changes: Substitute time on list with time on dialysis; use time as a secondary factor in allocating kidneys, particularly for the best-quality kidneys

ISSUE: Children on the waiting list

Current policy: Kidneys from donors under age 35 are automatically offered first to children under 18, if any are on waiting list in same region.

Possible change: Policy not likely to change.

ISSUE: Living donors

Current policy: Living donors who have given away one of their two kidneys or any other organ get extra points if they need a kidney transplant

Possible change: Likely to maintain advantage for prior living donors.

ISSUE: B blood type

Current policy: No special treatment. Because there are more patients than donors with B type blood, the wait is much longer. Black patients are more likely to have B blood type, so they are particularly disadvantaged.

Possible change: Allow some A blood type kidneys, which are compatible with A or B patients, to be offered to B-type patients.

ISSUE: Highly sensitized patients

Current policy: Some patients have antibodies that make them unable to accept 80% of kidneys and get extra points to help them snag those kidneys that are a good match

Possible change: Likely to maintain advantage for highly sensitized patients.

From Advertiser To Lifesaver. By Steve Lipman. THE JEWISH WEEK. March 16, 2007.

A former television production assistant and promo producer, Lauren Finkelstein is the founder of Save 1 Person, Save the World, an independent Brooklyn-based charity that is under Orthodox auspices but offers moral and financial help to individuals on an ecumenical basis. Finkelstein had read an online notice about Hershey Fellig's plight waiting for a kidney donor. She decided to help. She wrote advertising copy that was carried by several TV and radio stations across the country. Finkelstein's advertising campaign last year found a match, a woman from Alabama whose kidney may be transplanted into Selig's body within a few weeks. Finkelstein finds other people in need of help. Each week she writes and sends out advertising copy for another person, infirm with failing organs in need of transplants, indigents who need help paying their mortgages, orphans who need toys. Finkelstein's work has touched hundreds if not thousands of people, since 2002, says Rabbi Jacobson. It is very nondenominational, helping Jews and Christians, whites, and blacks, infants, and senior citizens, he says.

About 15 stations carry Finkelstein's ads—1010-AM WINS is the only one in the NY area. I think one day Save 1 Person will be a household name in the country, Finkelstein says.

Finkelstein says her efforts have saved two lives, through organ transplants arranged, and Save 1 Person is compiling a database of people willing to serve as future organ donors. Past appeals have brought scores of willing donors, she says. "People do respond," Finkelstein says. "People want to help."

**TSL'S ANNUAL THEATRE BENEFIT
 WEDNESDAY MAY 30, 2007 ELWOOD THEATRE
 TAKE ME OUT—A NEIL SIMON PLAY
 CALL NICK FOR TICKETS: 353-3062**

Thank you to Paul Meigs:

House Passes Bill That Would Allow 'Paired' Kidney Donations.

<http://www.kaisernetwork.org/dailyreports/healthpolicy>

Main Category: Transplants / Organ Donations News

Article Date: 12 Mar 2007 - 22:00 PDT

The House on Wednesday unanimously approved legislation (HR 710) to specify that "paired" kidney donations do not violate laws prohibiting compensation for organ donations, the AP/Long Island Newsday reports. The bill -- named the Charlie W. Norwood Living Organ Donation Act, after the former Georgia representative who died of cancer last month -- was introduced in January by Norwood (R) and Rep. Jay Inslee (D-Wash.) to increase the number of paired kidney donations performed at hospitals each year. In paired donations, a patient in need of an organ transplant with a willing, but medically incompatible, friend or family member is matched with a similarly incompatible pair so that both patients can receive a transplant. Current law makes the legality of such donations questionable because of the concern that trading organs constitutes compensation. Some hospitals refuse to perform paired donations and there is no formal matchmaking system to expand their use, AP/Newsday reports (Evans, AP/Long Island Newsday, 3/7). Norwood estimated that the bill could save Medicaid an estimated \$220,000 per transplant patient in dialysis costs (Kemper, Atlanta Journal-Constitution, 3/7). The Congressional Budget Office has estimated that paired donations could save Medicare \$500 million over 10 years in dialysis costs (AP/Long Island Newsday, 3/7).

**Life:
Love It,
Live It,
Give It!**

Celebrate Life!

**TSL'S 13th Annual
Walk-A-Thon**

Sunday, April 22, 2007

9:45 am sign in

10:30 am walk

Rockland Lake State Park

North Entrance

Rte. 9W and Congers Rd

Join other transplant recipients, donor family members, hospital staff, and organization professionals on a trip to local Senate and Legislative offices to meet with New York State legislators to discuss ways to help increase organ, eye and tissue donation.

The goal is a call to action which both raises awareness with the public about the critical need for organ, tissue and eye donation, as well as results in an increase in donor designations by enrolling in our state Registry. To this end, we are reaching out to you to seek your support during National Donate Life Month coming in April. We are asking our volunteers to make visits to Legislator's district offices in March and April and to share your stories about the importance of organ, tissue and eye donation.

As we all know, the **over 95,000 people on the waiting list need our help**, and here's your chance to have your voice heard.

The purpose of these meetings will be to;

- Thank legislators and staff for their support of legislation passed in 2007.
- Create positive relationships with policymakers.
- Provide real-life experiences to bring home the message of the critical importance of organ, eye and tissue donation.
- Provide legislators and/or their staffs with a template for newsletter articles for coverage of Donate Life Month and website links to the State Registry.
- Provide legislators and/or their staff with poster and brochures for use in their offices.

No experience is necessary. Easy-to-understand information and talking points will be provided in advance. Also, if you're nervous about speaking solo, set your worries aside, we will try to set up a buddy system.

FOR SIGN UP OR MORE INFO, CONTACT:

Kathryn Dwyer and/or Miriam Perez

New York Organ Donor Network

132 West 31st Street, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10001

Telephone: 646-291-4459/646-291-4455

Email: kdwyer@nyodn.org and/or mperez@nyodn.org

Transplants Save Lives, Inc.

P. O. Box 516
Nanuet, New York 10954

Phone: 845-627-2240
Fax: 845-627-7804
E-mail: newheart93@aol.com

*What We Do Does Make
A Difference*



SM

**I support
organ and
tissue
donation.**