

THE ARGUS

First Class
Permit 30

Illinois Wesleyan University

*In this Issue*Main Street
Corridor study
a step in the
right direction

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**Students with heart****DANIELLE LAURITSON**
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Sarah King considers herself lucky.

Her father, once one of more than of 97,000 Americans in need of an organ transplant, twice received a life-saving liver transplant. The second transplant was made necessary after the first made him sick.

He now leads a healthy life.

King, a senior at Illinois Wesleyan University, along with IWU's Tri-Beta Biology Honor Society, is now helping with donor registration efforts on

campus for Donate Life Illinois, an 18-month campaign to register 3.5 million Illinois residents in the state's new organ/tissue donor registry.

"It affects all generations," King said. "Anyone young or old can be helped by it."

Donate Life Illinois is launching the inaugural "I Am. Are you?" Campus Challenge this October to raise awareness about the change in the United States organ donation laws that took effect January 2006.

A new organ donation registry was created, making it necessary for adults in the country to

re-register.

Signatures on the back of a driver's license before January of 2006 as registration for organ donation are now invalid. Only those who are on the new registry can be sure that they are secure as an organ donor.

Before this registration, the family of the deceased still had the final decision on organ donation. In many situations, families of the deceased who had signed their driver's license chose not to donate the organs.

So far, Donate Life has registered about 2.5 million residents.

October's Campus Challenge

is a friendly competition among schools to register the most people. Among colleges in Illinois, 17 have signed on to participate in the challenge.

"We're seeing excellent response from students getting their schools involved with the challenge," said David Bosch, Campaign Chair of Donate Life Illinois. "It's a testament to the impact that can be made when students are provided with the right tools and information to serve as advocates for the issue."

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*Organ Donation
by the numbers*

- 97,000 Americans on national organ wait list
- 4,700 Illinois residents on national wait list
- Donate Life goal: To re-register 3.5 million Illinoisans
- 2.5 million Illinoisans already re-registered
- 17 Illinois universities signed on for Campus Challenge

<http://www.giftsofhope.org>

DONATION

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College students have gotten the message out about the challenge on popular student websites.

Each college has an organ donation chapter on its school's Facebook network providing a link to where one can re-register.

Tri-Beta is sponsoring a registration table every Wednesday in CNS through the month of October. Registration cards will be available at the table as well as laptops for those who wish to register online.

Registering online allows the students to identify their school, which gives their college credit for the challenge.

Any student can register at the table, even if they are not from Illinois.

Students who are not from Illinois can go to the national registry at ShareYourLife.org and pick their own state, King said.

Tri-Beta members are enthusiastic about King's efforts and are hoping to gain support.

"College students are a fast way to spread the message," said Tri-Beta member Sudil Mahendra. "They can provide a network by telling their family and friends about it."

King hopes that the efforts for organ donation will continue every year at IWU.

"I think college students are a huge avenue for change," King said. "Their involvement can really have a ripple effect on the community."