

## **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

December 6, 2007

### **A second chance**

I am writing to commend Judy Masterson on her Nov. 29 article, "Shiloh Baptist minister needs a new heart."

In her article, Masterson calls attention to Marcus Burnett and the ever-increasing importance of organ and tissue donation. As the article accurately portrays, Mr. Burnett is an incredible role model and inspiration to the Waukegan community. Like thousands of others, he deserves a transplant -- a second chance at life.

In conjunction with Gift of Hope Organ & Tissue Donor Network and donation agencies across the state, Donate Life Illinois is a campaign working diligently to register 3.5 million Illinois residents in the state's donor consent registry by April 2008.

Many Illinois residents still assume signing the back of your driver's license makes you an organ donor, which is no longer adequate. It is important to make sure you have re-registered since Jan. 1, 2006. That is when state law established the donor consent registry that, unlike the old donor intent registry, ensures that your wishes to donate will be honored.

Our campaign progress has been fantastic, but with more than 4,700 Illinois residents and 98,000 people nationwide currently awaiting lifesaving transplants, we have a long way to go.

Please take 30 seconds today to register. You can access the donor consent registry at [www.DonateLifeIllinois.org](http://www.DonateLifeIllinois.org) . It could be the most important moment of your day - and someday, someone else's life. Just ask Marcus.

David Bosch