

The dread is gone Kidney transplant one year old

By Maurie Walker
staff writer

For the first time in nearly eight years, the England family of Garden City is living a normal life.

No longer does Robert England, 44, have to spend time on a kidney dialysis machine.

He no longer dreads the threat of an operation. The \$750 a month charge for the kidney machine is also gone.

THE RELIEF from these dark years ended a little over a year ago when, on Nov. 17, 1981, England had what has turned out to be a successful kidney transplant at Hutzel Hospital in Detroit.

The donor was his daughter, Terri, 21, who also recovered rapidly from the surgery.

England had an unsuccessful kidney transplant in November 1978 in which his sister Shirley Alexander of Indiana was the donor.

He then underwent surgery nine times and nearly lost his right leg through infection from a transplant attempt.

Although he was hit with meningitis last February which hospitalized him for 20 days, he has now fully recovered and is attending a school for computer technicians.

TERRI, a nursing aide at Garden City Osteopathic Hospital, returned to her job January 26, a little over two months following the transplant.

"I haven't been on a dialysis machine since the day before the operation," England said.

"It's a whole new life for me as well as my family."

In addition to Terri, the England family consists of his wife, Roberta, daughter Kathy, 17, and sons Craig, 19 and Todd, 10.

"I'd be working right now except for the fact my old job with Conrail, where I worked 22 years, is no longer available," he said.

England said that the after effects of the operation were rougher on Terri than on him.

"I was on liquids the first day and solids the second day after the operation," he said. "Her recuperating time was actually longer than mine."

England said he was out of the hospital 13 days after the operation.

TERRI WAS released a week after the transplant.

"They wanted me to stay longer but I told them Nov. 26 was my birthday and no way was I going to stay," she said.

She said she couldn't understand why she was in so much pain after the operation and her father wasn't but learned that it wasn't unusual.

"I've had no effects from the operation, though," Terri said.

"I can do anything, run, swim, just like before the operation. The only thing," she laughed, "is that it was my right kidney I donated and I may be a little lopsided."

ENGLAND SAID his daughter had been giving him blood transfusions once a month for three months and had undergone all sorts of tests prior to the operation.

"I wasn't scared about the transplant," Terri said. "I told my father it was my idea. We had long talks about it. My family gave me a lot of moral support."

"It was really a simple operation, and for me to say that is something — I cry when I have a hangnail," she laughed. "I'd do it again if necessary."



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ACT career planning class offered Dec. 14

The American College Testing (ACT) career planning program will be given from 8-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14 on the Schoolcraft College campus in Livonia. The career planning program is a series of questions and short tests which summarize and interpret an individual's responses in a report. The interpretation will help identify job skills, such as reading and number skills, assess interests and identify appropriate career clusters.

Fee is \$8. To register, call the college at 591-6400, ext. 312. Adults who are thinking about going to college and need a starting point or those who are thinking about a new career direction should attend the program.

Newcor Inc. buys Dearborn Tool

Newcor Inc. has acquired all the outstanding common stock of Dearborn Tool & Machine Corp. of Dearborn, said Frank L. Gofrank, Newcor chairman of the board and chief executive officer.

The Dearborn stock was bought for cash. No stock was included. Dearborn Tool & Machine, with three plants in the Detroit area, serves the automobile, construction, agricultural and off-road machinery industries specializing in flexible manufacturing systems and special machine tools. It will continue to operate under the direction of its past management, headed by Clyde W. Clark Jr., president, and will be a part of Newcor's Machine Tool Group, directed by Richard P. Cottrell.

With the acquisition of Dearborn Tool & Machine, Newcor significantly strengthens its special machine tool capabilities and its ability to produce a full range of integrated manufacturing systems, Gofrank said. The acquisition increased Newcor's backlog of orders to \$89 million, compared with \$77 million a year earlier, of which \$12 million

was subsequently canceled.

WHILE FISCAL 1983 sales are expected to equal those for the fiscal year ended Oct. 31, 1982, the continuing softness of orders from the prime markets for Newcor products could result in an underutilization of many facilities making the projection of an increase or decrease in fiscal 1983 profits difficult at this date, he said.

Newcor, headquartered in Troy, designs and manufactures special ma-

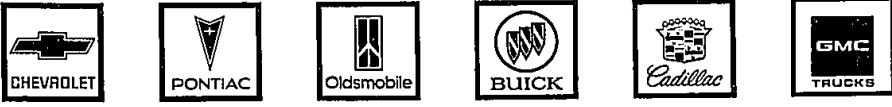
chines and turnkey manufacturing systems that incorporate automated machining, welding, assembly, heating, testing, metal forming and material handling equipment, as well as special computer hardware and software and precision machine parts with plants in Bay City, Dearborn, Detroit, Drayton Plains, Fraser, Romulus and Warren, Mich.; Windsor, Ontario, Canada; and Bornem, Belgium.

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