

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MEDIA ADVISORY

Dinner and Silent Auction in honor of Kali Grace McKellips

Brooklyn Park, MN – A fun, family-friendly spaghetti dinner and silent auction will be held on July 28th to raise funds in honor of a one-year old Minneapolis native who is successfully recovering from a double lung transplant.

On July 11, 2006, 16 weeks premature, Janice (Eason) and Eric McKellips gave birth to Kali Grace. Weighing a mere 1 ½ pounds, it was inevitable that Kali would have significant health issues but it was her severely underdeveloped lungs that would prove the most problematic.

Since birth, Kali was hospitalized and on constant life support at Minneapolis Children's Hospital. A tracheotomy was performed on Kali at 5 months but her damaged lungs still weren't developing with her body. In April, the decision to transfer Kali to Texas Children's Hospital was made and she was donor listed for a shot at a new, healthy set of lungs. Many days passed and just as Kali's health took another turn for the worst, a qualified donor was located and on Tuesday, April 17, 2007, 9 month-old Kali underwent a risky, yet successful, double lung transplant. With countless days of recovery ahead, Kali and her parents remain in Texas, hundreds of miles away from home, family and friends. Kali is the youngest patient, in Texas Children's Hospital history, to ever receive a double lung transplant.

In hopes to help compensate for expensive medical, living, and travel costs that aren't covered by insurance, the dinner and silent auction is being hosted by family and friends of the McKellips. This event will take place at the Palmer Lake VFW in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota on Saturday, July 28th, 2007 from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Cost is still to be determined but will include spaghetti, salad, bread and non alcoholic beverages. A cash bar will be on site and the silent auction, featuring hundreds of dollars in merchandise, will run throughout the dinner.

Those interested in finding out more about the dinner and silent auction and those who would like to RSVP for the event are encouraged to visit www.kali-rocks.com for more information.

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