

HEALTH NEWS

Kidney Donor Needed for Dad

Lisa Loving
Of The Skanner
News

Hasan Artharee is a big, strong man. In his years of working in his family's business, and now as a supervisor for Portland Parks and Recreation, Artharee has helped a lot of people.

Now he needs someone to step up and help him.

Artharee, 35, suffers from a rare genetic condition called polycystic kidney disorder – and he needs a kidney donor as soon as possible.

This is because the only cure for polycystic kidney disorder is a transplant.

The donor could be anybody, of any race or gender – they just need to have type-O blood, be physically healthy and have a selfless desire to save someone else's life.

A married father with four young sons, Artharee counts a small handful of life goals he would like to achieve, including at some point rejoining his family's company, Coast Industries, the oldest Black-owned business in Oregon.

It's where his mother,



A married father with four young sons, Artharee counts a small handful of life goals he would like to achieve; here he is with his baby son Emil.

Bernadette Artharee – who also received a kidney transplant about 15 years ago and is one of the most staunch volunteer spokespeople at Donate Life Northwest – is president of Coast Industries. Over the years Bernadette, her mother,

her brother, and an array of cousins have all been diagnosed with the kidney disorder and so far, everyone has been able to find a donor before it was too late; currently, Artharee says, he has one cousin

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One Million March Against Colon Cancer

African Americans are disproportionately hit by this preventable disease



Michell and Marsha Baker's lives were transformed by the death of their father, Steve, from colorectal cancer -- which is preventable if detected early enough through screening.

by Michell Baker
Special To
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Editor's note: The National March Against Colorectal Cancer comes to Portland on Saturday, April 12, in Pioneer Courthouse Square. More on the event below.

At the time of my father's diagnosis, I was living in beautiful sunny San Diego, Calif., without a care in the world. Life was good, so I thought.

In July of 2007, we found out our strong, sensitive, humble father had colon cancer. Just hearing the word cancer was a huge blow to the stomach,

and then days later finding out that it was stage IV cancer was a complete body blow.

In August, I flew home to Portland, OR for my daddy's surgery. It removed a portion of his colon and some lesions on his liver. The waiting

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Missed the Healthplanfinder Deadline?

Washington officials are reaching out to catch folks who fell through the cracks



Of The Skanner News

With the deadline to enroll in a Qualified Health Plan through wahealthplanfinder.org now passed, Washington Healthplanfinder is reaching out to residents who couldn't complete their application by March 31 with important guidance to qualify for a special enrollment.

Washingtonians who were prevented from submitting their application by the deadline should complete these steps as soon as possible to qualify for coverage that begins May 1, 2014.

As a reminder, those who qualify for Washington Apple Health (Medicaid) may enroll at any point during the year, as well as American Indians/Alaskan Natives who are enrolled members of a federally recognized Tribe or an Alaska Native

Corporation.

"We recognize that some customers may have experienced difficulty meeting the deadline due to long wait times at the Customer Support Center or other barriers to enrollment," said Richard Onizuka, Chief Executive Officer for the Washington Health Benefit Exchange. "If these individuals are seeking coverage by May 1, they should complete these steps as soon as possible to have their case reviewed by staff."

The Exchange has already reviewed several groups of applications in the system based on application activity and will open a special enrollment period for individuals who have encountered technical problems on or before March 31. Individuals who

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