

Let me begin by saying that Denise and I cannot tell you how much we appreciate the prayers and support from the Forest Hill softball and baseball program. The strength we have received from all of your prayers and well wishes has been a true blessing to Kara and our family. So many of you have reached out to us with love and concern and it is that circle of friendship that is carrying Kara through this horrific ordeal. Over and over again the doctors and nurses at the hospital have commented on the unusual strength and positive attitude of Kara. They are amazed that a sixteen year old is demonstrating so much courage through such a horrific ordeal. We know this is due to an unshakable faith and the loving support of her teammates, friends, and their families. God is truly at work and looking over Kara and our family. You never realize how many people are there for you until, you need some help.

Most of you are aware of the fire that caused Kara's injuries, but we wanted to clarify what happened for those who do not. On Tuesday, Kara was involved in a grease fire at our home and sustained serious burns throughout her body. She was taken to Bayview Burn Center at Hopkins and is in ICU. She sustained first degree burns on her face due to grease splatter as well as an abrasion on her eye. These injuries will heal quickly and the doctors are optimistic that her sight in the wounded eye will be restored. The most severe burns are on her stomach, arms and legs. She will need skin grafts to cover her right hand, stomach and the majority of the front of her legs. The original plan was for Kara to have one surgery to graft the skin. Unfortunately she has been getting weaker over the last two days due to unforeseen complications. The doctors did not want more trauma placed on Kara's body and have elected to do the grafts in a series of three surgeries.

She had her first surgery this morning where the doctors cleaned out bacteria and removed dead skin. Basically what they do is cut away all the bad areas to prepare it for the new skin. They cover the exposed area with a temporary skin to start the regeneration process. She had a rough night last night but the surgery this morning went well. Her vitals are improving and she is stable but will remain on a respirator for several days. The dates for the next two surgeries have not yet been determined but will involve skin grafting. Skin from her back will be used to cover her stomach, hand and legs. These surgeries will be more painful due to the donor site, which would be a new injury equal to a second degree burn.

After the surgeries have been completed, Kara faces months and months of physical and occupational therapy. Even more important is her emotional condition, which is the greatest factor in how fast she will heal. She is being treated by some of the finest doctors in the country and we know, although it will be a long, hard road, Kara will bounce back and once again be on the softball field. She keeps insisting it will be this summer, and it might be, but just to visit! Emotionally, the love and concern she has felt from everyone will continue to be the best therapy she could ask for. You have all done so much and have helped in so many ways, but this is the greatest gift you have given...overflowing friendship for our daughter.

Kara will most likely be out of the hospital by early June. Until then, she can have visitors, receive text messages, and facebook. We are not allowed to talk on cell phones in the ICU unit but hopefully a room phone will be available soon. Once that happens, we will let you know what that number is. A "Caring Bridge" page will be completed by Sunday night. If you are not familiar with it, Caring Bridge is a website for people who are critically ill. This is a wonderful way to communicate with her! Again, we will let everyone know how to access it once it is up and running! If you would like to visit Kara, please contact one of us to let us know you would like to come.

We are out of our home for about two to three months while repairs are being made so if you need to get in touch with us please call our cell phones: Mike 410-299-3549 Denise 410-960-3299.

Once again, words can't begin to express our gratitude for all you have done. We hope that nobody ever has to go through what we are experiencing with their child, but the kindness and compassion from each of you has helped us be strong for Kara. Forest Hill softball and baseball have shown us what family is all about...we are forever grateful.

Michael, Denise, Dakotah, Kara, Brady and Delaney Bosworth