

## Life, interrupted»

Abruptly diagnosed with cancer, Mike's life took an unexpected turn. Now that he's healthy again, he's not wasting one minute.

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STANFORD BLOOD CENTER  **Give blood for life!**

give blood • volunteer • donate money • host a blood drive

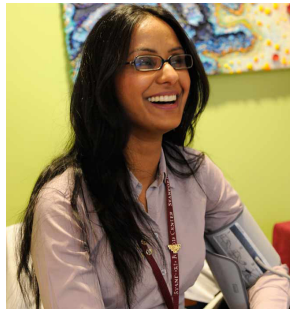
At Stanford Blood Center, we provide hope for the future: **teaching** tomorrow's leaders in transfusion medicine, **researching** to unlock mysteries inherent in blood, and **connecting** donors to patients every day.

If you have any questions about or suggestions for upcoming issues of *LifeLink*, please contact Brooke Krannich at [krannich@stanford.edu](mailto:krannich@stanford.edu), or 650-723-8270.

Special thanks to the following for making our Canteen area more comfortable for donors:  
 Better Bagels, Mountain View  
 Hobe's, Palo Alto  
 JJ&F, Palo Alto  
 Stanford Floral Design, Palo Alto  
 Sunnymount Produce, Mountain View

**Contact Us:**  
 888-723-7831  
<http://bloodcenter.stanford.edu>  
[giveblood@stanford.edu](mailto:giveblood@stanford.edu)

## Message from donor services»



**G**iving blood and platelets is one way for regular citizens to be heroes. Our blood donors literally save lives every day.

Here at Stanford Blood Center, we have many heroes; just look at the bottom of this page at some of the recent milestones achieved. We take pride in the number of donors who come in regularly to give blood, most of whom are on a first name basis with our staff!

Oftentimes, new blood donors come in at the urging of a friend, family member or coworker.

After hearing first-hand about the patients' lives being saved and the ease of the donation process, a first-time donor will commit to giving blood at least once. For an example, read about new donor Daniel Chui on page 4. He really went above and beyond by sharing his experience as a first-time donor with us in a video and by speaking at our "Fearbusting" event in May. Can you think of anyone you could encourage to donate blood?

With a holiday weekend approaching, many of us are busy making plans to visit with our loved ones. I hope you'll include giving blood in your holiday plans (please note our holiday hours on the adjacent page). You can provide the opportunity for others to spend another day with their loved ones.

Come visit us again at Stanford Blood Center; let us take care of you while you become a hero!

Warmest regards,

Harpreet Sandhu, MT (AAB)  
 Director of Donor Services

# Milestones

### 100 donations:

**Marc C. Abrams**  
 Gordon Brandt  
 Robert W. Brown  
 Mark James  
 Christopherson  
 Gordon Covell  
 Donald Crisp  
 Joseph Dooling  
 Ellen Gilkerson  
**James Gonsalves**  
 Calvin Herrick  
 David Hjortsvang  
 Mildred Lincoln  
 Pam Mitchard



David Nicholas  
 Richard Randolph  
**Daniel Scales**  
 James E. Sharp  
 Daniel Siehl  
 Brad Sorensen  
 Chris Steinbronner  
 John Votaw



### 200 donations:

Michael K. Davis  
**Allan Delfino**  
 Stephen B. Martin



### 300 donations:

**Craig Lunow**  
 Mark Passeau



### 400 donations:

**Don Durr**  
 Tom Tamaru



# calendar

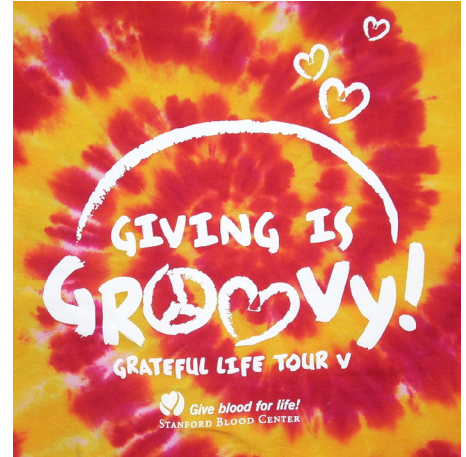
We know you do it to save lives, but here are a few thank-yous we have planned for our donors.

## Grateful Life Tour Returns, with a New Twist that Turns us Green»

- ALL CENTERS
- JUNE 26, 27, 29, 30
- JULY 1, 2, 3\*, 4\*, 6

It's back and better than ever! The tie-dye shirt you know and love will be here for the fifth consecutive year with a new design (see image at right). But we have a bonus to make your summer a little greener. Our new "recycle life. give blood." shirts (see image below) will be an option this year. The simple, modern design is printed on 100% organic t-shirts! This year, the choice is yours.

\*July 3rd and 4th we're open for platelet donations only.



# recycle life. give blood.



STANFORD BLOOD CENTER



## AMC Movie Tickets»

- ALL CENTERS
- MONDAY, JUNE 29 THROUGH SATURDAY, JULY 11, THEN FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS THROUGH JULY 31

Be a life-saver this summer! Come by to donate and you'll receive an AMC movie ticket.

## Café Scientifique Event»

### Truth vs. Fiction

- HILLVIEW CENTER, IN THE "BREEZEWAY"
- THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2009 FROM 7 - 9 P.M.

Abraham Verghese, MD, Professor of Medicine at Stanford University, and best-selling author of *My Own Country* and *The Tennis Partner*, discusses the topic: Is Fiction a Higher Form of Truth?

## Prize Drawing for San Jose Earthquakes Soccer Tickets»

- ALL CENTERS
- MONDAY, JUNE 22 THROUGH FRIDAY, JULY 3

Enter to win a pair of tickets to see the San Jose Earthquakes battle Toronto FC. Game day is Saturday, July 11, 7:30 p.m. at Buck Shaw Stadium on the Santa Clara University Campus. There will be 10 winners per day!

## Sports Basement Coupons»

- ALL CENTERS
- NOW THROUGH SATURDAY, JUNE 27

Pick up your coupon for 20% off your entire purchase at the Sports Basement! You're sure to find your summer gear, apparel, and equipment at this unique outdoor sporting store. Thanks to the Sports Basement for sponsoring this generous promotion!

## Baskin Robbins Pint for a Pint Coupons»

- ALL CENTERS
- FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS, AND MONDAYS IN JUNE

Donate on one of the days above at any of our Center locations and you will receive a coupon good for one pint of ice cream at any Northern California Baskin Robbins. It's a sweet treat!

## Bach & Bite Event»

- HILLVIEW CENTER
- SATURDAY, AUGUST 1 FROM 11 A.M. - 3 P.M.

Enjoy an afternoon of classical music and a variety of gourmet foods.

## Hearts of Summer Event»

- HILLVIEW CENTER
- THURSDAY, AUGUST 20 FROM 12 - 7:30 P.M.

Come by for food, games, prizes and a special t-shirt!

## special holiday hours

(ABC donors should call 888-723-7831 to check appointment availability)

### THURSDAY, JULY 2:

**Mountain View Center** opens early for an extra round of platelet donations (appointments available from 7:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.), and will be open for whole blood donations from 1-8:30 p.m.; **Campus and Hillview Centers** open 1-8:30 p.m. for whole blood and platelet donations.

### FRIDAY, JULY 3:

**All centers** closed for whole blood donations, open for platelet donations regular hours (7:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

### SATURDAY, JULY 4:

**All centers** closed for whole blood donations, open for platelet donations regular hours (7:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

# Stanford Blood Center + Stanford Hospital Transfusion Services: *working together to ensure safe blood transfusions*

Have you ever wondered how your blood donation gets from point A to point B? Stanford Blood Center and Stanford Hospital Transfusion Services are both part of the Department of Pathology at Stanford University. We work seamlessly with one another to move blood from donor to patient. Although Stanford Blood Center provides blood to several other local hospitals and clinics, the majority goes to Stanford Hospital and Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford.

- 1 After donating at one of our three centers or mobile blood drives, all blood is transported to our Hillview Center for processing and testing. Whole blood is separated into two components—red cells and plasma—using a centrifuge machine.
- 2 White blood cells are removed by filtration or collected for research (see page 6 for more info about what happens to these “discarded” white cells).
- 3 Stanford Blood Center runs a plethora of tests to ensure the safety of the recipient. “The Blood Center is regulated by AABB and the FDA,” reports Dr. Juliana Gaitan, a transfusion medicine fellow at Stanford University School of Medicine.  
Tests include, but are not limited to: **ABO** and **Rh** (blood type), **Cytomegalovirus** (CMV) (which may cause severe infection in patients whose immune systems are impaired), **Hepatitis B**, **Hepatitis C**, **Syphilis**, **HIV** and **West Nile Virus**.
- 4 Couriers transport blood products from the Hillview Center to the Transfusion Services unit. These products will be for the use of patients at Stanford Hospital and Lucile Packard Children's Hospital.
- 5 At the hospital, the patient's blood type and antibody screen is checked to see if they require any specific blood antigen profile, and diagnosis is checked to see if the patient has special needs such as CMV negative blood.
- 6 After all the matching and verification is completed, blood is transfused into the patient\*. From trauma victims to scheduled surgeries, and from cancer treatment to heart transplants, all of the blood transfused at the world-class institution of Stanford University Medical Center is provided by Stanford Blood Center.

—Brian Mendoza  
Community Writing Project, Stanford University

## \*Who needs blood transfusions?



**ALVINA** lives in Pacifica. She has a bachelor's degree in Broadcasting and a masters in Education. When she's not teaching preschoolers at the Jewish Community Center, she loves playing volleyball every chance she gets—with leagues, her friends, whoever wants to play. Alvina also received regular blood transfusions because of aplastic anemia—a disease that causes the body to under-produce red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets. She's doing great now, and hasn't needed a transfusion in weeks. Receiving transfusions gave her more strength and energy and helped prevent internal bleeding. “When my platelet count was below 100, my doctor said I couldn't play volleyball or go to the gym,” she said. “I didn't stop, though, I just slowed down. I came to Stanford for a transfusion if I needed it, and got back to my life.”

# Friends of Stanford Blood Center»

## blood donors who make it a family affair»



Here is a recent picture of my “boys” when we spent the day in Santa Cruz. Their names, starting clockwise at the top are **Tom Zumsteg** (23), **Dan Zumsteg** (18), **Greg Zumsteg** (16), myself, **Mary Sullivan** (old enough), and **Steve Zumsteg** (21). We laughingly call ourselves “**Mary and her merry men!**” We all give blood at Stanford Blood Center as a family thing! We often “race” to see who will be the fastest in giving blood. The fastest so far has been Dan at 4.5 minutes!

When they were little, they would come with me as I went up to Welch Road donation center—often sitting on my lap. They always enjoyed talking with the staff and volunteers handing out cookies and pretzels. Stanford Blood Center is a wonderful organization with a friendly, helpful staff that make the process practically painless! Thanks for all the good work you do!!

—Mary Sullivan

*42 donations and counting*

## first-timers who conquer their fear of donating»

**Daniel Chui** remembers getting shots when he was a child: “The orderlies pretty much had to hold me down,”



he reminisced. “I guess I’ve always had a fear of needles.”

At his girlfriend’s urging, Daniel decided that it was time to conquer his fear. After asking questions of and talking the process through with our staff, Daniel was a first-time donor on May 27.

Before donating, Daniel participated in an event at our Hillview Center called “Fearbusting”. He represented the apprehensive donor population in a panel discussion.

At the canteen enjoying his second cookie, Daniel said “I think I could make this part of my lifestyle after all!”



## groups who reach out to our community in many ways»

On Wednesday, May 20, twenty members of **Urban Dog Walkers** descended upon Stanford Blood Center’s Hillview Donor Center to do their second center-based blood drive, along with six of their cherished canines. Many thanks for their much-needed blood donations, and for their life-giving work with breast cancer patients and families in our community! Urban Dog Walkers is a local volunteer organization which provides support services (educational, financial, mentoring, and day-to day activities) for people with or affected by breast cancer.

**Back row, from left to right:** Laura Stewart, Jeff Chaknova, Gary Egan, Monica Hernandez, Sandra Testa, Darlene Heath, Mary Lautner, Erin Storm, Steve Robertson and Beverly Gemello; **Front row, from left to right:** Helen Chaknova, Ofelia Angulo, Greg Kunkel and Karen Kunkel

# Life, interrupted»

Abruptly diagnosed with cancer, Mike's life took an unexpected turn. Now that he's healthy again, he's not wasting one minute.



## Mike Wu

was diagnosed with Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia (CML) in January, 2003, after complaining to his doctor about persistent abdominal pain. It was one week before his wedding. He began taking a laundry list of prescribed medications that compromised his immune system; he lost about 30 pounds. He and his fiancée, Jennifer, postponed the wedding so Mike could get better.

After being ultimately disappointed with the results of drug therapy which did not help to control his CML, Mike was relieved to hear that a suitable marrow donor had been found in China through the National Marrow Donor Program Registry. He underwent a bone marrow transplant in July, 2004, and several transfusions of platelets and red blood cells in the following weeks of recovery.

Having leukemia has changed Mike's focus in life. "I decided not to go back to my previous job after my treatment. Being so close to death made me realize how important time is, so now I spend it doing things I enjoy and doing things that matter." Mike and Jennifer were married on May 14, 2003.

They are both actively involved with Team-in-Training, The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and the Asian American Donor Program to support other people who are battling cancer.



### Update from Mike:

"Jen successfully fundraised and completed the Nike Women's 1/2 marathon last November. My last fundraising event with Team-in-Training was Tour of Palm Springs in February. I have just signed up as an honoree for this Summer's Team-in-Training cycling team. Our 1st group ride was in early June. We feel we are just giving back to a community from which we have benefited enormously."



**Life & Hope:**  
*It's in your blood.*

# How blood donors help fight cancer»

A cancer vaccine based on research originating in the lab of Stanford scientist **Edgar Engleman**, MD, has been found to extend survival in patients with an advanced form of prostate cancer, according to a study presented in April at the American Urological Association's 2009 annual meeting.

Engleman is professor of pathology and of medicine at the Stanford University School of Medicine and director of the Stanford Blood Center and the Cancer Immunology and Immunotherapy Research Program at the Stanford Cancer Center.

If approved by the Food and Drug Administration, the vaccine would represent an important proof of principle of Engleman's research – that individualized immune therapies are effective in the treatment of certain cancers. His research began in 1992, and was performed on by-products—white blood cells that are filtered out

of donations and discarded because of their tendency to cause adverse reactions in recipients—from Stanford Blood Center's volunteer donors. "Thanks to our donors, we have a constant supply of white cells for research," said Engleman. "These cells—especially, dendritic cells and T cells—are the key component to researching and developing immunotherapy treatment for cancerous tumors."

In a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of 512 men with advanced, androgen-independent prostate cancer, the vaccine, called Provenge® (sipuleucel-T), prolonged average survival by over four months – nearly twice as long as a standard chemotherapy regimen used in these patients – and increased three-year survival by 38 percent. Moreover, the vaccine produced none of

the unpleasant side effects associated with other prostate cancer treatments.

Provenge targets the prostatic acid phosphatase antigen, which is present in approximately 95 percent of all prostate cancers. "From a scientific perspective, this news is very exciting and very significant," said Engleman, who was not involved in the research presented at the April meeting. "As a physician, it would be great to offer such a promising new treatment to cancer patients."

Prostate cancer is the most common non-skin cancer in the United States and the third most common worldwide. More than 1 million men in the US have prostate cancer, with an estimated 186,000 new cases and about 29,000 deaths annually.

Engleman co-founded Dendreon, the company that makes the vaccine. He is no longer employed by or involved in business decisions, consulting or operations at the company, but still owns shares of its stock.



« The focus of Engleman's research is dendritic cells. As part of the immune system, they play a crucial role in crafting an immune response to foreign, harmful cells. Unfortunately, cancer appears harmless to the body's immune cells; they identify cancer as "self". Engleman was able to extract, isolate and "teach" dendritic cells and T cells how to better recognize and fight off the cancerous tumor cells. Re-introducing those educated cells to the patient's bloodstream allows them to share that education with the entire immune system.



# Give blood for life!

## STANFORD BLOOD CENTER

3373 Hillview Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1204  
<http://bloodcenter.stanford.edu>

NONPROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
PALO ALTO, CA  
PERMIT NO. 28

Give blood for life! • 888-723-7831 • <http://bloodcenter.stanford.edu>

### Hillview

Donor Center  
3373 Hillview Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA 94304

### Campus

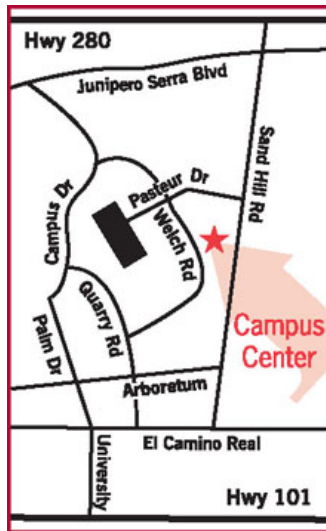
Donor Center  
780 Welch Road, Suite 100  
Palo Alto, CA 94304

### Mountain View

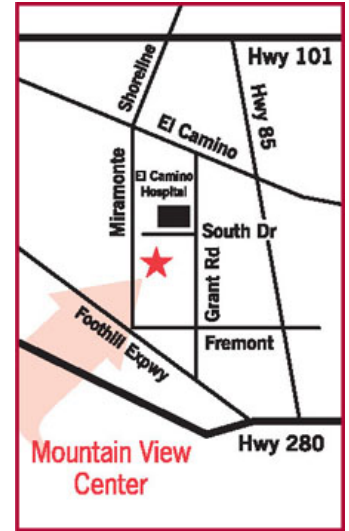
Donor Center  
515 South Drive, Suite 20  
Mountain View, CA 94040



Monday 7:30 am to 3:00 pm  
Tuesday 7:30 am to 3:00 pm  
Wednesday Noon to 7:30 pm  
Thursday Noon to 7:30 pm  
Friday 7:30 am to 3:00 pm  
Saturday 7:30 am to 3:00 pm  
Sunday Closed



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