

# Everyday Heroes

Blood Centers of the Pacific's Quarterly E-newsletter

July 2008

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## And the Winner is...!

During the month of June, all blood donors were entered into a raffle to win a trip for two to see the All-Star Game on July 15th, in New York City.

And the lucky winner of the raffle is...Marcus Okuda from Suisun City! Marcus and a friend will be flying to the Big Apple, staying three nights and seeing the All-Star Game (one of the last played at Yankee Stadium) courtesy of BCP. Thanks Marcus for being an Everyday Hero!

Congratulations Marcus!

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## We're Taking You to the Ball Game!

Bummed you didn't win the big raffle to the All-Star game in New York City? Don't be! Every day in July, at every center and every blood drive, BCP will raffle a pair of tickets to a Giants game in San Francisco!

Simply donate blood in July at any of our centers or drives and you'll automatically be entered for that day's drawing.

To make your lifesaving appointment, visit [www.bloodcenters.org](http://www.bloodcenters.org) or call 1-888-393-GIVE. Batter up!

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## Not Looking Good for O Negatives

Blood shortages are an all-too-common occurrence in the summertime. Unfortunately, our Type O negative blood is already in short supply. Three times in the past two months, our supply of Type O negative blood – the type that can be given to anyone in an emergency and is reserved for newborn babies – had dipped dangerously low.

We need all blood types all the time but if you're Type O negative, please donate blood ASAP. Call 888-393-GIVE or visit [www.bloodcenters.org](http://www.bloodcenters.org) to make an appointment.

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### **BCP to Serve Santa Rosa Memorial, Petaluma Valley Hospitals**

BCP will soon supply blood to two more hospitals - Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital and Petaluma Valley Hospital - both part of the St. Joseph Health System. Approximately 8,000 pints and 1,000 pints of red blood cells will be supplied to the respective hospitals annually to meet the needs of their patients.

BCP has a long history in the North Bay, with more than 30,000 pints of blood donated each year by area residents giving at local centers or at mobile blood drives held at businesses, schools and places of worship. BCP serves several other hospitals in the North Bay including those in the neighboring communities of Napa (also a St. Joseph hospital), Novato, San Rafael, Willits, Clearlake and Ukiah.

"We're excited to expand our relationship with St. Joseph Hospital System to provide blood to patients in these two hospitals," said Nora Hirschler, M.D., BCP President.

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### **"The Power of Two"**



Identical twins, Anabel and Isabel Stenzel moved the audience with their story at BCP's Blood Heroes Luncheon recently. Held at the Ritz-Carlton, San Francisco, about 290 blood donors and blood drive coordinators from San Francisco/Marin and North Bay were honored at the event.

"Ana" and "Isa" were diagnosed with cystic fibrosis a few days after birth. A genetic disease, cystic fibrosis affects the lung and digestive system. A defective gene and its protein product causes the body to produce unusually thick, sticky mucus, which clogs the lungs and leads to life-threatening lung infections, obstructs the pancreas and stops natural enzymes from helping the body break down and absorb food.

Ana received her first double lung transplant on June 14, 2000, and a second one on July 13, 2007, while Isa had hers on February 6, 2004. To support the organ transplants, the twins used a total of about 90 pints of blood!

Ana and Isa however, are unstoppable! They are members of Team Northern California, of which BCP is a sponsor, and will be attending the U.S. Transplant Games in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania this summer. And to add to their plates, they've also written a memoir entitled, "The Power of Two" as part of a therapeutic writing process.

To read more about Ana and Isa, please visit [www.stenzeltwins.com](http://www.stenzeltwins.com). To register to be an organ donor, please visit [www.donatelife.net](http://www.donatelife.net).

BCP wishes Ana, Isa and Team Northern California the best of luck at the Transplant Games!

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**BCP Wishes All Our Blood Donors a Happy and Safe July 4th!**



**Donate Blood. Save Lives. | 1-888-393-GIVE | [www.bloodcenters.org](http://www.bloodcenters.org)**

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