Donor’s Motivation to Give: Daughter, Friend

When Dave Smith was allowed to enter the hospital’s ICU, he saw his running buddy lying still, attached to machines, following a quadruple bypass. Just 10 days earlier, Dave and his friend, Darryl Scroggins, had run a 10K in Bentonville.

“The race went perfectly to my plan,” Dave said. “He went out too fast and got tired. I caught up and passed him on the hill, and had less than a half-mile to go for me to beat him. To my surprise, Darryl had a second wind and caught me. The last hundred yards, we sprinted in and he beat me by only 3 seconds. It was a really great race.”

Heart surgery was a surprise, considering his friend’s overall health. One nurse tended to Darryl, while another nurse replaced a bag of blood.

“You know, he’s alive because of you,” the second nurse said. She met Dave’s confused look by nodding toward his T-shirt. “Because of blood donors like you.”

Dave had forgotten that he was wearing a CBCO T-shirt when he got the call to come to the hospital. But then her comment made sense. “That really hit home with me, that I am helping my friends, neighbors, and family in a big way,” he said.

Today when Dave tells the story, he gets a little emotional, which is easy to understand once you realize how important donating blood is not only to Dave, but to his wife and two grown children, who are also blood donors.

He was inspired to begin donating blood in 1992, when his healthy, active daughter suddenly fell ill. “When she got sick, she couldn’t even get up the staircase. I remember watching her walk, and then collapse. Her body gave out on her. I knew something was wrong.”

Dave and his wife Daphne visited nine physicians within a two-week period and received several wrong diagnoses. Finally, doctors determined that Erica had dermatomyositis, an autoimmune condition. She, like other children at the hospital, had blood drawn during treatment by “Nurse Shirley,” whose room was covered with photographs of smiling children.

“I was sitting with my 4-year-old daughter in Nurse Shirley’s office and became overwhelmed by these pictures and the love they reflected,” said Dave, who confesses to hating needles. “They loved Nurse Shirley, even though it was her job to stick them with needles. I committed to God, praying that I would start donating blood for children and people in need.”

Erica went into remission at age 12, and is now healthy. Darryl has recovered from his 2010 quadruple bypass surgery and continues to run. And Dave has now donated at CBCO 64 times – the equivalent of eight gallons of blood – sharing with others his dedication to giving blood. He has persuaded church members, friends, and co-workers to become blood donors by sharing his story with them. (Continued on page 6)
Bentonville Donor Center Undergoes Remodeling

In order to enhance your donor experience, our Bentonville donor center is currently receiving a facelift. We're looking forward to better flow of foot traffic, a more open look and feel, new flooring, and a fresh coat of paint.

Friday, July 8, 2016, we took up residence two doors to the west of our donor center so that we may continue with regular donations while work takes place in our space at 1400 SE Walton Blvd. in The Shops at the Forum.

If you have donated at our Bleed Blue Blood Drive in Bentonville, you’re familiar with our temporary location, as it is where we set up for the baseball-themed event.

While in our temporary location, we will still be open during our regular hours, which are Monday through Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

We don’t have a date of completion yet, but we’re committed to reopening our new and improved donor center as soon as possible.

Arkansas Celebration of Life
Our 2016 Arkansas Celebration of Life luncheon was held April 26 on the campus of Northwest Arkansas Community College. Click HERE to view more photos from this event on Facebook.

Missouri Celebration of Life
Our 2016 Missouri Celebration of Life dinner was held May 6 at Bass Pro’s White River Room. Click HERE to view more photos from this event on Facebook.

CBCO Garden Renamed for Founder

With the closing of CBCO’s Reser Donor Center on South Glenstone in Springfield, we wanted to find a special way to continue to honor the memory of Bill Reser, who was one of our founding board members. Monday, May 9, 2016, we held a dedication ceremony at CBCO headquarters, renaming our garden the Bill & Cathy Reser Garden.

Bill’s widow, Cathy, was surprised by the honor and delighted to see her favorite flower, a jonquil, included on the sign.

Bill Reser, Jim McLeod, and Jerry Jared were part of the group of 14 community leaders who sat on CBCO’s original board of directors when the organization was launched in 1995. The three were the signers of our Articles of Incorporation. Bill passed away in 2008 at the age of 75, survived by his wife Cathy, son Ron, and daughter-in-law Becky, who all attended the dedication.

You’ll find the Reser Garden to the north of the main entrance at 220 W. Plainview Road in Springfield.
The UltraCrit device allows us to check the donor’s hematocrit levels.

AB Plasma Donors are Needed!

AB plasma donors provide the universal plasma type most often used in emergency situations. When an emergency happens somewhere in the Ozarks and someone’s life depends on an immediate plasma transfusion, AB is the type physicians will request until the patient’s actual blood type is determined. At Community Blood Center of the Ozarks, we call these special donors U-Donors, short for Universal Donors.

Your blood type is not common – less than 5% of the population has it, yet more than 15% of all plasma transfused in our community requires it. The result is chronic and often severe shortages of the universal plasma type.

As a U-Donor, you have a very special calling, indeed. In order to encourage frequent plasma donations, we are introducing some U-nique LifePoints advantages for U-donors. Click HERE to learn more.

Will AABB and FDA Changes Affect Donors?

The following changes to AABB (formerly known as American Association of Blood Banks) and FDA standards are now being followed:

1. Men’s minimum hemoglobin requirement went up from 12.5 g/dL to 13.0 g/dL (women’s remains unchanged at 12.5 g/dL).
2. Lowered maximum pulse value to 100 from 110 bpm (staff may recheck the pulse once).
3. For pulse under 50 bpm or over 100 bpm, medical director approval is required and a second check of pulse is required to be taken.
4. Added a new question to the donor history form. If donor has been outside the continental U.S. in the past four weeks, they are eligible to donate blood one month from date of departure.
5. Registrar must verify the donor can be reached within eight weeks at given postal address.
6. Added a new question to donor history form regarding receipt of a Xenotransplantation product.

Hemoglobin is the protein in red blood cells that delivers oxygen to the tissues. We need your help to increase recruiting efforts for males at blood drives, since this new hemoglobin requirement is causing blood centers across the country to lose a few male donors at each drive. Perhaps you could bring a friend, co-worker, or family member with you when it’s time to donate.

To avoid being deferred for low hemoglobin, increase your consumption of iron-rich foods several days prior to the blood drive. Good choices include red meat, poultry, liver, fish and shellfish, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, beans, raisins, and leafy dark greens such as spinach or kale. For more ideas click HERE.

In addition, avoid beverages that contain caffeine for two hours before and after meals to optimize iron absorption. They contain compounds that can substantially reduce the amount of iron you absorb from the foods you eat.

Most of our donors won’t notice a difference in our procedures with these newly implemented changes. However, for some donors, the changes may take a few extra minutes during the registration process. For example, in the cases of military donors or college students, we’ll need to capture an address “back home” rather than a current address on a military base or at school.

New Equipment: Time for an Upgrade

Next time you’re at one of our donor centers or blood drives, you may notice that we’re using a different device to test your blood prior to donation. The new machines are called UltraCrit and their purpose is to test the hematocrit levels in your blood. Hematocrit measures the volume of red blood cells compared to the total blood volume.

Our UltraCrit devices hit the road July 1, after all phlebotomists completed training on their proper use.
Students Hit Gallon Grad Status

Graduating seniors recognized for donating 8 or more times

One hundred and nine high school seniors made the list of CBCO’s Gallon Grad Class of 2016.

Our Gallon Grad program encourages students to make regular blood donation part of their high school careers, and recognizes those who meet the gallon level (8 donations) by the time they graduate. Students receive a certificate of achievement and honor cord.

In addition, 31 students exceeded the 8-donation mark this year.

If you are a high school student who would like to be recognized as a Gallon Grad when you graduate, fill out a Gallon Grad card at your next blood drive or click HERE to sign up online.

Congratulations, graduates! We hope your spirit of giving follows you throughout your lives. If your future college or employer hold blood drives, become involved. If they do not, we hope you get one started.

Veronica Adams        Springdale, AR
Melinda Alexander     Wheatland, MO
Ashlee Armes          Protem, MO
Samantha Baldwin      Pittsburg, MO
Dalton Black          Lincoln, AR
Hannah Blakley        Rolla, MO
Jasmin Bowling        Marionville, MO
Hallie Boyd           Springfield, MO
Sean Bray             Fayetteville, AR
Chelsea Bridges       Hermitage, MO
Chelsey Byrd          Saint James, MO
Jordan Chilson        Springfield, MO
Dalton Clark          Pleasant Hope, MO
Ariel Cliburn         Rolla, MO
Ranger Collard        Springfield, MO
Jesse Collier         Aurora, MO
Stormy Concoby        Rogers, AR
Shalaina Conner       Chetopa, KS
Sydnee Cotter         Taneyville, MO
Maleena Daily         Conway, MO
David Van Every       Rockaway Beach, MO
Taylor Denton         Battlefield, MO
Hunter Dieterich      Nixa, MO
William Dry           Conway, MO
Trenton Essex         Springfield, MO
Sylas Feemster       Springfield, MO
Brian Fields          Waynesville, MO
Cayla Foster          Galena, MO
Garrett Gorder        Strafford, MO
Brittany Gray         Rolla, MO
Shannon Hall          Pineville, MO
Madeleine Hansberger  Fayetteville, AR
Alexandra Heinrichs   Springfield, MO
Mikil Hernandez       Springfield, MO
Hunter Hicks          Phillipsburg, MO
Chase Holden          Waynesville, MO
Chantal Holmes        Rogersville, MO
Brian Hosmann         Bolivar, MO
Madoch Jamroch        Stockton, MO
Christopher Johnson   Billings, MO
Tessa Johnson         Prairie Grove, AR
Christina Johnston    Mansfield, MO
Shyloh Kessler        Pleasant Hope, MO
Jacob Klimiuk         Nixa, MO
Stephen Koller        Pleasant Hope, MO
April Kreiter         Salem, MO
Kelly Lafon           Springfield, MO
Seth Lankford        Bentonville, AR
David Lester          Fayetteville, AR
Harold Lofts          Mount Vernon, MO
Amy Lormand           Springfield, MO
Logan Lött-Ingles     Nixa, MO
Makayla MacLeod       Ozark, MO
Abigail Mangandi      Green Forest, AR
Payton Martin         Mount Vernon, MO
Jaclyn Martindale     Strafford, MO
Cindy Martinez        Aurora, MO
Heather McAtee        Brighton, MO
Taylor McCuen         Crane, MO
Blake McMasters       Aurora, MO
Kacey Merritt         Springfield, MO
Bryan Millard         Bolivar, MO
Corey Morrison        Willard, MO
Sydney Moser          Springfield, MO
Justine Neill         Mountain Grove, MO
Loren Neyland         Springfield, MO
Dillon Noblett        Joplin, MO
Raymond Osborne       Fordland, MO
Parker Owens          Noel, MO
Emily Pace            Crocker, MO
Mykayla Pankey        Salem, MO
Melody Patten         Stockton, MO
Rebecca Paul          Salem, MO
Matthew Paulik        Billings, MO
Brandon Pike          Salem, MO
Michael Prestwic      Nixa, MO
Alyssa Pulley         Conway, MO
Jacob Reed            Springfield, MO
Aireanna Reynolds     Macks Creek, MO
Gabrielle Roberts     Fair Grove, MO
James Rollins         Strafford, MO
Haley Rushing-Collins Buffalo, MO
Samantha Schalns      Thayer, MO
Eric Schmittling      Springfield, MO
Joseph Schott         Salem, MO
Brenna Scott-Cassidy  Brighton, MO
Daniel Simpson        Dixon, MO
Dakota Sims           Springfield, MO
Joshua Sirois         Salem, MO
Bailey Slifer         Springfield, MO
Austin Slisz          Fair Grove, MO
Ryan Smith            Salem, MO
Katelyn Stewart       Rogersville, MO
Courtney Sweigard     Rolla, MO
Ross Thompson         Pierce City, MO
Hannah Todd           Nixa, MO
Michael Vernatti      Ozark, MO
Carla Waite           Stockton, MO
Dakota Watson         Springfield, MO
Keven Wedemeyer       Ava, MO
Emma Weiler           Springfield, MO
Molly West            Jerico Springs, MO
Dustin Wilson         Half Way, MO
Rosa Wilson           Springfield, MO
Zachary Wolfe         Washburn, MO
Cole Worthington      Marshfield, MO

Congratulations on your achievements!
CBCO is proud to welcome 39 new members into our Hall of Fame, a group of individuals who have made giving of themselves a priority in their lives.

These donors have surpassed the 20-gallon mark (160 donations) in order to become a member of the Hall of Fame. Additional honorees have been selected for their service as a volunteer, benefactor, or board member.

They may never know how much their generosity has meant to hundreds of people in the Ozarks. Congratulations on this milestone, and welcome to our 2016 Hall of Fame members.

Volunteering: Your Time Can Make a Difference

Do you have spare time? Looking for a rewarding way to give back to the community? CBCO is in need of volunteers at our Thomson (Springfield), Joplin, and Bentonville donor centers, and we’d love to talk to you about making a difference.

We’re flexible! Volunteers can come in for any length of time during the day, and for however long of a duration that they are able.

Donor center volunteers:

- Work in the Donor Café to serve refreshments to blood donors
- Encourage donors to sit for 10-15 minutes after they have donated
- Alert CBCO staff if a donor has a reaction
- Keep refreshments area clean and refreshments readily accessible
- Occasionally help with folding T-shirts, stuffing bags, etc.
- No medical experience is necessary
- Must be customer-service oriented

If it sounds interesting, please contact Lori McLerran at (417) 227-5396 or mclerranl@cbco.org for more information.
ICU Nurse’s Comment Reinforces Smith’s Dedication to Give Blood

(Continued from page 1)

He shares online, as well, often tweeting photos and a message while at CBCO’s Bentonville donor center.

“For me, it’s a real simple way of giving back. I give because I want people to be healthy,” Dave said. “To me, the best way to celebrate your life and your good health is to periodically donate blood.”

Dave is overwhelmed by the generosity of blood donors. “They make time to make a difference, and they truly are saving lives with their simple gift of one pint of blood,” he said. “If people would give two or three pints a year, what a difference that would make.”

Runner receives blood during quadruple bypass

In May 2010, Darryl Scroggins, of Rogers, AR, found himself undergoing quadruple bypass surgery. “It was quite a shock because I’m slender and I’ve been a runner for a long time,” he said. Darryl, who was 58 years old at the time, had donated blood in the past. When he learned he had needed blood during surgery, he didn’t give it much thought until later. “I think we take blood donation too casually. We forget about it, or get kind of ho-hum about it,” Darryl said. “But after my heart surgery, I realized how important it is, on a daily basis.”

His cardiologist and family doctor encouraged Darryl to keep running. He has run a marathon since heart surgery, along with half-marathons, 5Ks, and 10Ks.

Darryl is glad the blood was available when he needed it. “We talk a lot about reaching out and helping others, and that’s a very good way of doing so,” he said. “You’re helping people you’ll never meet.”

Don’t miss out on these upcoming events!

August 9 & 10
Sundae Fundaes
All participants will receive a treat card redeemable for a FREE regular sized one-topping sundae from Andy’s Frozen Custard.

August 26 - 29
Holiday Hero - Second Donation
Calling all heroes! If you signed up for the Holiday Hero program, it’s time make your second of three donations.

Our mission is to provide a quality blood supply, in a timely manner, at the lowest reasonable fee, while remaining accountable to the local community, blood donors, and health care providers.

Four convenient CBCO Donor Centers near you!

Springfield
Thomson Center - 220 W. Plainview
(417) 227-5000 or 800-280-5337
Monday through Friday - 7 am to 7 pm
Saturday - 7 am to 1 pm
Sunday - 9 am - 3 pm

Joplin - Northpark Mall
101 N. Range Line Rd.
(417) 626-8323 or 866-401-5143
Monday through Friday - 11 am to 6 pm

Springdale - 3503 S. Thompson
(479) 927-1200 or 866-401-5144
Monday through Thursday - 11 am to 6 pm
Friday - 8 am to 2 pm

Bentonville - 1400 SE Walton Blvd.
(479) 464-2506
Monday through Thursday - 11 am to 6 pm
Friday - 8 am to 2 pm

Click an icon to follow us on social media!
Don’t forget! Share your donation selfie on social media using the hashtag #redcellfie and tag us @OzarksBlood

Circulator is published quarterly by Community Blood Center of the Ozarks and is available upon request.