

VITAL LINK

A PUBLICATION OF THE FOUNDATION FOR COMMUNITY BLOOD CENTER/COMMUNITY TISSUE SERVICES™

J.R. MARTINEZ: TISSUE RECIPIENT, HERO, DANCER

Dream big. Never quit. Stay positive. Just six little words. But to tissue recipient, J.R. Martinez, these are anything but "little" words. They are words to live by - words he lives by daily.

J.R. Martinez is famous for playing Broton Monroe on the former All My Children ABC daytime drama and is currently in the spotlight for his cool moves on the 13th season of ABC's Dancing with the Stars. J.R. has wowed the audience, judges, and viewers of this popular competition not only with his fancy footwork, but also in how he approaches every situation with a positive outlook.

J.R. describes himself as a son, a soldier, and a survivor. It was during his time as a soldier that the man who inspires everyone he comes into contact with emerged out of the trauma and pain he suffered.

In 2003, while a soldier in the U.S. Army serving in Iraq, J.R. drove over a land mine in his Army humvee. He suffered smoke inhalation damage to his lungs and was severely burned over 40% of his body. When it happened, he was in a great deal of pain and saw no future. "I honestly thought it would be better if I hadn't survived the accident," he said. J.R. spent 34 months in recovery at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, where he underwent



J.R. Martinez, second from right, received skin grafts from CTS. He is pictured with David Smith, M.D., CEO of CBC/CTS, at the AATB annual meeting.

33 surgeries, including receiving skin grafts from Community Tissue Services made possible by tissue donation.

He was deeply depressed and uncertain about his future, but he made a key decision: "I made a choice that I was going to get through every single day. And the answer would come to me, and it did." That answer came when he was asked by a nurse to speak to another burn patient. He helped that patient change their outlook and discovered his calling in life—to help others.

"The way I see it, I was given a second chance, and not a lot of people get a second chance in life...so I want people to understand certain things that I've learned in a second chance on how to make their first chance that much more meaningful."

LUCKY BLOOD DONOR DRIVES AWAY IN A NEW JEEP!

Community Blood Center gave away a Jeep Patriot in September to a lucky blood donor—one of nearly 25,000 who registered to give blood this past summer. **Dan Lange** of St. Henry picked the winning envelope and gave credit to his employer, Midmark in Versailles, for holding blood drives. Lange went on to say, "I really encourage everyone to donate blood. It's a great thing to do."



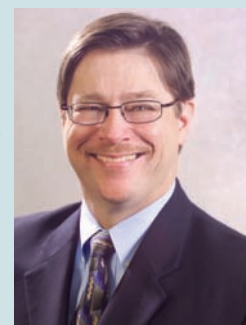
Blood donor, Dan Lange, of St. Henry wins a Jeep Patriot.

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NEWSBRIEFS

DAVID SMITH, M.D., PRESIDENT OF AATB

At its September annual meeting, David Smith, M.D., CEO of Community Blood Center/Community Tissue Services, was installed as president of the American Association of Tissue Banks (AATB). In his role as president, Smith is responsible for the oversight of more than 100 accredited tissue banks which provide more than 1 million tissue grafts for transplant in the U.S. Smith will serve a two-year term. Diane Wilson, COO of Community Tissue Services, is the immediate past president of AATB.



Breakfast with the CEO

You are cordially invited to attend a Breakfast with the CEO event in 2012. Have a bite to eat, meet with our CEO, Dr. David Smith, and take a tour of the new Center for Tissue, Innovation and Research. The breakfasts are from 8:30-10:00 am on Thursday, January 26, February 23 or March 22, 2900 College Drive, Kettering. Please reserve your space by contacting Joy Rogers at 461-3266 or jrogers@cbcts.org or Karen Duell at 461-3387 or kduell@cbcts.org. Hope to see you for breakfast!

Charitable Contributions

CBC/CTS CONTRIBUTIONS

*The individuals, foundations and corporations listed below made charitable contributions to The Foundation for Community Blood Center/ Community Tissue Services between **June 1, 2011** and **October 31, 2011**. Their support of CBC/CTS' mission of saving and enhancing lives through blood transfusions and tissue transplants is the vital link which allows CBC/CTS to maintain its margin of excellence and to provide patients in our community with the blood and tissue they need. CBC/CTS gratefully recognizes all donors.*

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Those being honored are in italics

*Of Gayle Albers
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*Of children and grandchildren
Jack & Janet Harding*

*Of Rick & Sue Cummings
Heather Moore*

*Of Michael T. & Mary K.
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*Of Judy Woll, M.D.
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Gifts in Memory:

Those being memorialized are in italics

*George Anna Bailey
LeTonda Thompson*

*Sam Baker
Gary Gillespie*

*Don Blair
Gary Gillespie*

*Samuel Blankenship
Judy Blankenship*

*Robin & Todd Blumenstock
Dana Puterbaugh*

BLOOD DONORS SAVE A LIFE

- | | | |
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Mary Beth Faile and daughter, Cassidy

Mary Beth Faile and her family moved to Beaver Creek when her husband David became one of the pastors at Patterson Park Church. They lived in Daytona Beach, Florida when Cassidy was born in 2003, a healthy baby and a normal delivery. But 12 days after birth, Mary Beth woke in the middle of the night hemorrhaging and was rushed to the emergency room where she remembers, "everyone's eyes were so wide because there was so much blood."

Mary Beth was transferred to critical care and began blood transfusions which continued into the next day but the bleeding wouldn't stop. With Mary Beth critically ill, a hysterectomy was ordered but her doctors weren't optimistic about her outcome and she tearfully recalls having to say goodbye to her parents over the phone. Thankfully, the surgery, which required eight more units of blood, was successful and the bleeding and the war against her body stopped.

"Before this happened to me, I never really considered donating blood. I knew it was important, but I learned it is definitely life saving." Today, Mary Beth is the chairperson of the Patterson Park Church blood drives where she shares her story to encourage the congregation to give blood. Cassidy is eight and has an older sister and brother, Bethany and Luke and Mary Beth concludes, "I cherish every day I'm here because I have so much to be thankful for."

LUCKY BLOOD DONOR DRIVES AWAY IN A NEW JEEP!

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Ten finalists were randomly picked from all entrants for the Jeep Patriot Giveaway event and each finalist chose an envelope hoping for the winning golden ticket.

Dr. David Smith thanked all who gave blood saying "not for us—we're just the middle men—but for the people you have helped who need and depend on the gift of life." The other nine finalists received \$50.00 gasoline cards.



The summer blood drive program was sponsored by Walker Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep and Ram in Centerville and REACH magazine. Anyone who registered to donate blood between Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day was automatically entered into the Jeep drawing.

COMMUNITY BLOOD CENTER WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS

At its June annual meeting, Community Blood Center welcomed three new board members, **Colleen Ryan**, **Marcos Amongero, M.D.** and **Richard Hasz**.

Ms. Ryan is president of Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio and formerly served on the board of The Foundation for Community Blood Center/Community Tissue Services.

Dr. Amongero is an orthopedic surgeon with the Orthopaedic Institute of Dayton and Mr. Hasz is vice president, clinical services for Gift of Life Donor Program, Philadelphia.

The organization also bid a fond farewell to departing board members **John Simpson**, **Randal Lennartz** and **Dr. James Lehner**, president, with sincere appreciation for their many years of outstanding service.



Colleen Ryan



Marcos Amongero, M.D.



Richard Hasz

Patricia McDowell, M.D., medical director, transfusion services for Kettering Medical Center, was installed as president of the board while **Christopher Conard, Esq.**, Coolidge Wall, LPA, was named vice-president. **Matthew Graybill**, Children's Medical Center is secretary while **Mark W.**

Shaw, Premier Health Partners, continues as treasurer.

At large members are **Allen Elijah**, United Way of Greater Dayton and **George Brown, M.D.**, retired surgeon while James Lehner, M.D. will serve as past-president.

NOAH'S RIDE HONORS 15 MONTH-OLD TISSUE DONOR

Noah's mother, Erica Boyer, and her family have an annual motorcycle ride, Noah's Ride, to remember and honor Noah and to benefit a non-profit charitable organization which has touched their lives. This year's ride benefited The Foundation for Community Blood Center/Community Tissue Services and was held in Chandler, Indiana on August 7.

After the ride, Erica shared her thoughts in a letter to Community Tissue Services. "Noah was such a beautiful little boy and still to this day, I will never understand what happened and why he was picked to earn his wings at

such a young age. His accident has brought our family closer than what we already were and has made us more aware of our surroundings. I don't want to say that we were naïve but we were the naïve family that never thought something like that would happen to us. I'm truly honored to be Noah's mom and to know he has given so much to two other families and that his perfect little heart will continue to live on in these other children. My goal is to make sure Noah is never forgotten and that people are aware of tissue and blood donation and that it truly does save lives!

Our family has been touched by Community Tissue Services twice now with Noah being a donor and my nephew being a recipient of donor bone for his jaw surgery. This organization is extremely close to my heart and I truly feel like the staff of Community Tissue Services is my family away from home."

Noah...and his blanket.



Bikers in formation start the Ride.



Community Tissue Services staff at the event.



A group of bikers gather before Noah's Ride.

CENTER FOR TISSUE, INNOVATION AND RESEARCH HOSTS CHAMBER

More than 260 persons attend Business After Hours Hosted by CBC/CTS

On October 19, the Dayton Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours event was hosted by Community Blood Center/Community Tissue Services at the new Center for Tissue, Innovation and Research. Chamber officials indicated more than 260 attended the event. We thank our main sponsor, Service Master Clean, and also Kohler Catering, Prime Time Party Rental, Nova Creative and Shumsky for their support of this event.



Attendees visit the exhibits and enjoy the refreshments.



Phil Parker, CEO, Dayton Chamber of Commerce and David Smith, M.D., CEO, Community Blood Center/Community Tissue Services.

*Happy Holidays!
It's the season to give.*

Give blood if you are able! Register to be an organ, eye and tissue donor. And, please give a gift to support our mission of saving and enhancing lives.

Giving is Easy!

- Make a gift on-line; visit www.cbcts.org or www.communitytissue.org or www.givingblood.org.
- Make a gift by phone: 937-461-3266
- Send a gift by mail: Use the envelope included with Vital Link!



The reception area of the Center for Tissue, Innovation and Research.



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