



**Blood Bank of Hawaii**

2043 Dillingham Boulevard  
 Honolulu, HI 96819-4024  
**PHONE:** (808) 845-9966  
**NEIGHBOR ISLANDS:** (800) 372-9966

Non-Profit  
 Organization  
 U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
 Honolulu, HI  
 Permit No. 350

**Downtown Donor Center**

Monday ..... 6:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
 Tuesday ..... 6:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday ..... 6:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
 Thursday ..... 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
 Friday ..... 6:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Dillingham Donor Center**

Monday ..... 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
 Tuesday ..... 6:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday ..... 6:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
 Thursday ..... 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
 Friday ..... 6:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
 Saturday ..... 6:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
 Sunday ..... Apheresis by appointment only  
 7:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.

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News from Your Community Blood Center The Blood Bank of Hawaii



**The Blood Bank of Hawaii holds drives on the Neighbor Islands about every eight weeks. Times and locations are subject to change, so please call 1-800-372-9966 to confirm the drive locations.**

**Kona**

**Monday, January 5**  
 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
 W.M. Keck  
 Hualalai Lecture Theatre

**Tuesday, January 6**  
 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
 Kona Daifukuji Soto Mission  
 Mission Hall

**Wednesday, January 7**  
 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
 LDS Kona Stake Center  
 Cultural Hall

**Wednesday, March 4**  
 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
 LDS Kona Stake Center  
 Cultural Hall

**Thursday, March 5**  
 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
 Hawaii Preparatory Academy  
 Gates Performing Arts Center, lobby

**Friday, March 6**  
 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
 Kealakehe High School  
 Gym

**Hilo**  
**Tuesday, January 20**  
 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
 Naniloa Volcanoes Resort  
 Crown Room

**Wednesday, January 21**  
 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
 Auntie Sally Kaleohano's Luau Hale  
 Meeting Room

**Thursday, January 22**  
 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
 Auntie Sally Kaleohano's Luau, Hale  
 Meeting Room

**Wednesday, March 18**  
 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
 Hilo High School

**Thursday, January 19**  
 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
 Auntie Sally Kaleohano's Luau Hale  
 Meeting Room

**Friday, January 20**  
 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
 Waiakea High School

**Kauai**  
**Monday, February 2**  
 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
 Kapaa High School, Library

**Tuesday, February 3**  
 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
 Kauai War Memorial  
 Convention Hall

**Wednesday, February 4**  
 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
 Kauai War Memorial  
 Convention Hall

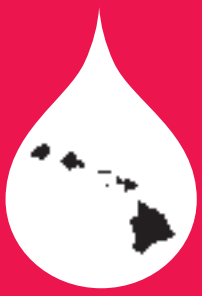
**Maui**  
**Wednesday, February 18**  
 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
 H.P. Baldwin High School  
 Multipurpose Building

**Thursday, February 19**  
 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
 Cameron Center

**Friday, February 20**  
 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
 Cameron Center

**Neighbor Island Calendar**





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News from Your Community Blood Center  **The Blood Bank of Hawaii**

January 2009

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## All in the Family

### The Merriam family legacy runs in the blood

Some families pass down secret recipes to the next generation. Others leave priceless heirlooms. For the Merriam family of Kailua, passing on the legacy of blood donation has been their trademark for three generations.



*Merriam family patriarch Robert Merriam (back row, middle) is flanked by son Mark and daughter Carol. In front of them are, from left, grandson Paul, son Keith and granddaughter Sarah Medeiros.*

It all began with Robert Merriam in the mid-1960s. The senior Merriam began giving the gift of life while serving as a United States forester working out of an office in downtown Honolulu.

"It was very convenient for me to donate on a regular basis because, at the time, the Blood Bank of Hawaii was located across my office building on Punchbowl Street," recalls Robert. "Even after they moved, I kept doing it because it felt satisfying to be able to do something that doesn't cost you anything, doesn't hurt, doesn't take much time, but makes a big difference."

The elder Merriam's commitment to Hawaii's patients influenced his children, each of whom has followed in their father's footsteps as regular donors. Son, Mark, first donated at a high school blood drive and has since given

more than 120 times at the Downtown Donor Center on Queen Street, a couple blocks from his print shop. "My dad really didn't need to encourage me to donate," said Mark. "I knew what he was doing helped save lives and I wanted to do the same."

More family members are also regular donors. Son, Keith, started giving while attending Hawaii Loa College and was a regular apheresis donor for a number of years in Los Angeles. Daughter, Carol, donates frequently at Dillingham and mobile locations.

Last year, the third generation of Merriam men—Mark's son, Paul – made his first donation at a Kailua High School blood drive. Just like his father, Mark didn't need to motivate his son to donate. "I remember while Paul was growing up and watching me donate, he would ask when he could start," said Mark. "He was very excited about his first donation ... and I was very proud of him."

As a matter of fact, the young Merriam was so excited to give that he forgot to bring his signed parental consent form required for all 17-year-old donors. Determined not to let this opportunity pass, Paul faxed his father the proper form and received it back in time to allow him to continue the legacy of Merriam blood donors.



## BBH AT-a GLANCE

**Starting on December 1, 2008, the Dillingham Donor Center has new hours:**

**Whole blood collection:** ...Thursday, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

**Apheresis collection:** .....Monday, starting 9 a.m.  
Tuesday, starting 6:30 a.m.

All other collection hours will remain the same.

The Blood Bank of Hawaii is pleased to announce that it has achieved an excellent rating after an unannounced inspection by the **American Association of Blood Banks (AABB)**, the organization that sets industry standards for family relationship testing in the United States.

Welcome to **TSA Maui**, which joined BBH in December as its newest **Lifesaver Club** and helped to recruit needed donors during the holiday season.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2009**

**From Your Blood Bank of Hawaii**



### *Mahalo to Our Caring Donors*

On behalf of the patients whose lives you saved, thank you for your ongoing support for Hawaii's community blood program.

The Blood Bank of Hawaii and our entire state are proud of you and truly grateful. As a committed donor, you helped us meet Hawaii's needs this past year. Voluntary donors like you give life. You give families hope and make many medical procedures possible. You keep our community strong and prepared for hundreds of personal tragedies that happen every day.

Thank you again for your selfless generosity. We wish you all the best in 2009!

Sincerely,

Robyn Yim, M.D.  
PRESIDENT AND MEDICAL DIRECTOR

### **All in the Family** Continued from Page 1

Another third generation member is granddaughter Sarah, now with the Air National Guard, but a donor since she was a student at Waialua High School.

Many of Hawaii's loyal donors – now in their 40s and 50s and older – give almost twice as much as their younger counterparts. As these donors will someday reach a point that will make them ineligible to donate, it's important that the next generation continue the lifesaving efforts of those before them.

"It's great to see families like the Merriams encourage each other to donate," said Blood Bank of Hawaii Director of Donor Services Aaron Knapp. "Encouraging others to give the gift of life – whether they are family members, friends, co-workers, fellow churchgoers, or neighbors – will do a world of good for the patients of Hawaii."

But the tradition of blood donation isn't the only thing that binds the Merriam family. They all participate in many other community organizations: Robert actively works with his church and the local chapter of professional foresters; Paul, an Eagle Scout, volunteers with a conservation group; and Mark continues to serve as a Rotary Club member and a Boy Scout scoutmaster. The community service of which Mark is most proud, however, is donating blood.

"Giving blood is an easy way to give back to the community," he said with characteristic enthusiasm. "Taking just an hour of your time every two months or so amounts to really no time at all."

## **Commuter Communities Take Drives to New Heights**

Imagine sitting back, relaxing and saving lives at the end of a busy day. Now, East Honolulu residents will be able to do just that by donating blood on their way home at the Hawaii Kai Towne Center commuter drive, starting on Tuesday, March 10, 2009 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Bloodmobile. The drive is the result of a successful pilot program, held at the same location in 2008.

"The donors really appreciated having another option to donate after work hours," said Assistant Director of Donor Services Suzanne Kariya-Ramos. "It gave them an opportunity to give blood at the end of the day without the stress and worry of rushing back to the office."

Stay tuned as the **Blood Bank of Hawaii** continues to build more evening drive options in "commuter communities" in the near future.



## Clinical Spotlight

Part of a good education is learning how to give. Blood Bank of Hawaii Associate Medical Director Dr. Randy Covin makes a point about the blood donation process to a group of medical technology students from Kapi'olani Community College during their recent tour of the Dillingham Donor Center. The tour is one part of the Blood Bank of Hawaii training program; the other includes a classroom lecture.



## BBH Observes National Blood Donor Month

When Judith K. Stucke was born on the mainland in 1951, her mother needed an emergency transfusion of A-negative blood. None was available at the hospital, so her father got on the phone and started calling people. He managed to find enough A-negative donors to save her life.

"I cannot even imagine what my life would have been like if my mom had not received the blood transfusions," said Judith, now a Hawaii Kai resident. "Maybe that is why I feel so passionately about donating blood. Two years ago, I met my goal of becoming a super donor!"

The impact of every blood donation is beyond measure. Donations made more than 50 years ago to save a mother's life have today resulted in Judith's generosity that has touched hundreds

of lives. In honor of Judith and all voluntary blood donors who truly give life itself, January has been proclaimed as National Blood Donor Month.

When National Blood Donor Month was first designated in 1970, President Richard Nixon said, "No manifestation of the generosity of spirit is more expressive, and no gift more priceless in time of personal crisis, than the donation of one's blood." He encouraged more people – men and women, young and old – to help provide a steady and increasing supply of blood throughout the year.



**The Blood Bank of Hawaii** thanks each and every donor for your selfless support. If it's been eight weeks since your last donation, please celebrate National Blood Donor Month by donating once more.

[www.bbh.org](http://www.bbh.org)