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**Home** 

<u>Viewpoint</u> <u>Classified Ads</u>

**Archives** 

# ?

### Metro.net (web)

#### Resources

- ▶ Safety
- ▶ Pressroom (web)
- ▶ Ask the CEO
- ▶ CEO Forum
- ► Employee Recognition
- **▶** Employee Activities
- ▶ Metro Projects
- Facts at a Glance (web)
- Archives
- ▶ Events Calendar
- Research Center/ Library
- ▶ Metro Classifieds
- ▶ Bazaar

## Metro Info

- ▶ 30/10 Initiative
- Policies
- ▶ <u>Training</u>
- ▶ Help Desk
- ▶ Intranet Policy

#### Need e-Help?

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## Metro Mechanic Seeks Blood Donations for Daughter Facing Surgery

- Any blood type will be accepted. Donors are asked to donate at a Kaiser Permanente facility as soon as possible in order to allow time for the blood testing.
- More about donating blood: 50 quick facts

(Jan. 21, 2010) Nothing's more precious than the gift of life.



Mechanic Larry Remata is seeking blood donations on behalf of daughter Tiffany.

How to Donate: Employees and friends who are able to make donations can call Kaiser Permanente Woodland Hills Medical Center at (818) 719.4329 to make an appointment or the Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center at (323) 783.6667.

When making the appointment, please indicate you are making the donation on behalf of Tiffany Remata. For identification purposes, give the patient's birth date and location and date of operation: 8.28.91 / Los Angeles Medical Center Sunset facility / Feb. 1.

For Metro West Valley Div. 8 Mechanic "A" Larry Remata, the gift of life comes in the form of blood donations for his 18-year-old daughter, Tiffany.

Tiffany, who is facing an upcoming heart surgery, is the daughter of Remata, a 31-year-veteran of the transit agency, and his late wife, Donna, a storekeeper and beloved friend at Metro Headquarters who was among the 25 passengers and train crew members killed in the Metrolink train accident Sept. 12, 2008.

The operation is necessary to repair the damage caused by bacteria that lodged in the high school senior's heart valve, leading to life-threatening complications during the summer of 2009.

Remata is asking donors to make donations in time for his daughter's surgery in order to replenish the hospital's blood supply.

"It's another way to support our daughter through this surgery," he said.

Employees and friends who are able to make donations can call Kaiser Permanente Woodland Hills Medical Center at 818.719.4329 to make an appointment or the Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center at 323.783.6667.

Any blood type can be donated and donors are asked to make their appointments as soon as possible in order to allow time for the

necessary blood testing procedures to be carried out.

The Woodland Hills facility is closest to Division 8, while the Los Angeles Medical Center on Sunset Blvd. is located in Hollywood near the Metro Red Line Sunset/Vermont Station, said Remata, noting that several employees

at Div. 8 have already donated.

When making an appointment, he said, please indicate that the donation is on behalf of Tiffany Remata, birth date 8.28.91, whose operation at the Kaiser Sunset facility is scheduled for Feb. 1.

Although some communities often have more blood than they need, other more densely populated areas, such as the Los Angeles region, are constantly in need. A blood shortage that the Red Cross describes as critical in Southern California has severely reduced the blood supply of area hospitals, which sometimes have less than a day's supply of certain types of blood crucial to an emergency room situation.

The need is for a healthy and reliable blood supply is constant. Health care officials are reporting that most blood centers have difficulty keeping any more than a three-day supply of blood for transfusions.

-- from Gayle Anderson

Home | Phone Directory | Forms Online | FIS Online