

For Immediate Release
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Contact: Lynette McCullough
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Handmade Galleries to Host Bone Marrow Drive

Sherman Oaks, CA ... **Handmade Galleries** is proud to support the care of one of their own, leukemia patient Jack McCullough, at their retail center in the heart of The Village at Sherman Oaks on Ventura Blvd. The event takes place Sunday, June 10, 2007 from Noon-6:00pm. Funds raised will benefit the care of Jack and City of Hope's Bone Marrow Center. This event will offer the opportunity to rally around one of our neighbors, while enjoying live music, artist demos, and treats.

Jack and Lynette, his wife of 40 years, have been affiliated with Handmade Galleries from the beginning. The items they have shown in Handmade have changed over the years. Currently, they have original handmade jewelry, ethnic folk art from Central & South America, Africa and Asia, museum quality framed butterflies and insects, and butterfly wing jewelry to name a few.

Jack is not alone. There are thousands in need of a life saving donor match. In addition to the fundraiser, there is an opportunity to become a bone marrow donor by joining the national registry through City of Hope. Screenings, information and other details will be provided at the event. For more information about bone marrow registration, please visit www.marrows.org.

Handmade Galleries is a light, airy boutique, bustling with the individual works of nationally recognized and local established artists. These artists feature handmade and manufactured pieces, handcrafted jewelry, unique collectibles, trendy new items and holiday gifts. The friendly, helpful staff provides a warm atmosphere and can advise you on the perfect decorating items for yourself, or that unique gift for someone special. In addition to the holiday items, trendsetting handbags and

cutting edge housewares are currently among the hottest selling items. Fun baby clothes and accessories will be the hit of any shower. Recently remodeled, Handmade Galleries boasts gifts and collectibles in all price ranges for the holidays. Items from the gallery have been featured on DailyCandy.com and “The Gilmore Girls.” The distinctive inventory evolves constantly, and these items are often be found at higher prices elsewhere.

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Information: Handmade Galleries

Handmade Galleries has been owned and operated by Andy Spyros since 1995. The entrepreneurial mom of two began her retail career in Chicago at the famed I Magnin department store. She then relocated to Los Angeles where she worked in law and launched the local Limited Express flagship locations in Downtown Los Angeles and Santa Monica. Ms. Spyros is a graduate of University of Michigan Business School, and now resides in the San Fernando Valley with her husband and two children.

Andy Spyros, Owner
www.handmadegalleriesLA.com
14556 Ventura Blvd. (west of Van Nuys) Sherman Oaks, CA 91403
818.382.3444

Handmade Galleries Store Hours:
Monday - Saturday 11:00am – 8:00pm
Sunday 12:00pm – 6:00pm

City of Hope

NATIONAL MARROW DONOR PROGRAM®
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is the National Marrow Donor Program?

City of Hope and The National Marrow Donor Program® (NMDP) facilitate unrelated marrow and blood stem cell transplants for patients with life-threatening blood diseases. Today, more than 100 patients receive marrow or blood stem cell each month. However, the number of patients who could benefit from this lifesaving therapy is several times greater, and the NMDP is working to close the gap.

2. What are marrow/stem cells?

Stem cells are the cells transplant patients need to make healthy new marrow. They are immature cells that can develop into any of the cells present in the blood stream: red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets. These cells usually live in bone marrow, but are also released, in small numbers, into the circulating (peripheral) blood. There are several treatments that will dramatically increase the release of stem cells into the circulating blood so that enough stem cells for transplant can be collected directly from the blood stream. This method is called peripheral blood stem cell (PBSC) donation.

3. Who needs a marrow/stem cell transplant?

Stem cell transplants are most frequently used to treat leukemia and other life-threatening blood diseases. Each year, more than 30,000 children and adults in the U.S. are diagnosed with diseases for which a stem cell transplant can be a cure, but only 30 percent will find a matching donor within their families. The other 70 percent must look for an unrelated donor.

4. Who can donate marrow/stem cells?

Anyone between the ages of 18 and 60, in good general health with no history of cancer, diabetes, heart disease or heart attack can donate. Volunteer donors must not be greatly overweight or at high risk for contracting AIDS or the HIV virus. All medical guidelines apply for both marrow and PBSC donation and are established to protect both the donor and the patient. For further specific medical guidelines, please contact City of Hope National Medical Center, NMDP office at **1-800-535-7119 x68483**.

5. How do I become a volunteer marrow/stem cell donor?

The first step to becoming a volunteer marrow or blood stem cell donor is to join the NMDP Registry. Contact City of Hope National Medical Center, NMDP Office at **1-800-535-7119 x68483**.