

# Matt's Update

As of today, 4/21/08, Matt is over halfway through his radiation program. He has only (12) more treatments. He will then have a 5-6 week break before his chemo program.

Matt has had some rough days the last two weeks. He's been getting sicker than normal and the doctors are trying to find a medication that agrees with him. He hasn't been able to put any of the weight back on that he lost during surgery. The doctors are getting concerned, and we have a consultation this Wednesday to discuss our options.

We added a few people to the "Hair Buzzing Club". Tom, Kyle, Joey, and Ryan Kraft showed up to join the club. The Gilbert boys, Ben and Jack, now have their new do's as well. Several of the local fire fighters including Mark, James, Paul, and Rodney showed up to get their summer cuts. Mark has challenged the other shifts at the Arnold firehouse to shave their heads. Mathew O. buzzed his hair along with his firefighter Dad, Mark. At the same time firefighter James was getting his hair buzzed, his daughter Sam buzzed her hair as well. Sam's new haircut motivated Lauran to buzz her hair. When the Hatfields brought dinner over, Dave and Scotty joined the hair buzzing club. The last one added to club this week was Uncle Richie.

Matt's sister, Hannah, and several other girls including Lauran, Taylor, Kylie, Devon, and her mother, Isela, have cut their hair and donated it to Locks of Love. If you or anyone you know is interested in donating their hair to Locks of Love, check out the website at [www.locksoflove.com](http://www.locksoflove.com)

Matt didn't feel well enough to attend the basketball clinic put on by the Golden State Warriors, but he did receive a few things from the event.

We want to thank everyone for your donations and for your generosity with your time. It's amazing how many people come together in times of crises. A few of the kids from Matt's school coordinated a bake sale this last weekend and raised money for Matt. Thanks to Matt's classmates, Madison, Emily, Haley, Sarah, Jessie, Lauran, Sami, Sam and Ryan. If we have forgotten anyone, we apologize.

The Fremont School District and Avery Middle School along with the Fremont Kiwanis Club and the Arnold Rotary Club, made a special gift possible for Matt recently. He has a new camera computer which allows him to communicate with his teacher and classmates at Avery Middle School while he is in Fremont. He can actually sit in on the lessons in Ms. Chudler's class. His classmates often talk to him through the camera computer. This has been a great way to keep him connected to school and his friends. A special thanks to Matt's home school teacher, Gigi, for helping Matt stay on track with his school work and getting him through the sixth grade.

**The Relay for Life will be held at Bret Harte High School this Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Avery Middle will have two teams this year. Their theme is Avery Hawks Walking For Matt. We will be walking with Matt's brother, Michael, at 6:00 pm and invite all of you to join us. We are going to try to be there at about 4:00 pm. We would like to thank Sandi Kraft of Sequoia Printing for donating the Hawks Walking for Matt t-shirts, and Ms. J. and Ashleigh for volunteering their time to be team captains.**

**Our community is planning a big "Fundraiser" for Matt. It will be held on Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> in Arnold from 12:00-6:00 at Cedar Center. There will be a few bands, a lot of food, and fun activities. This should be a great uplifting event for all of us, and we are looking forward to it. Thanks to everyone involved in organizing the fundraiser. Words cannot express our appreciation. We will post more details, as the event gets closer. A special thanks to Ralph and Cindy for coordinating this special event for Matt. Thank you also to Cindy and Dean for making the Tug McGraw baseball brain tumor bracelets available to the community. It has been so nice to see so many people in the community wearing them.**

**Irene and Matt are back in Fremont now for Matt's treatments this week. Thanks for checking in and as always, thanks for all the love and support.**

**The McCullough Family**