

Media Alert

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SAVE LIVES WITH CENTERPOINT ENERGY AND WEST HOUSTON CRUISERS

Community Blood Drive Scheduled for Saturday, May 18 at America Buffet in Stafford

WHAT: The Stafford-area community is invited to help save lives with CenterPoint Energy and the West Houston Cruisers on Saturday, May 18. The two organizations will host a joint blood drive from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at America Buffet, 12815 Southwest Freeway.

The donation process is simple and every donation can help save as many as three lives. All who donate or attempt to donate will receive a free *Commit for Life* T-shirt. Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center's *Commit for Life* program encourages all donors to give blood four times a year to help ensure a healthy blood supply is always available for those in need. Every day, The Blood Center must collect 1,000 donations to meet the needs of patients throughout the 26-county Texas Gulf Coast region.

WHEN: Saturday, May 18 – 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WHERE: America Buffet 12815 Southwest Freeway Stafford, Texas 77477

To make an appointment online, visit <u>giveblood.org</u> and click on Digital Donor. Or, call blood drive chairperson Otis Harris at (713) 534-5939 or call The Blood Center at 1(888) 482-5663.

ABOUT US: Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center is asking its donors to *Commit for Life*. It takes three steps: 1) Donate once per quarter; 2) allow The Blood Center to contact you; and 3) spread the word, encouraging others to *Commit for Life*. The Blood Center is the primary supplier of blood components to more than 170 hospitals and healthcare facilities in a 26-county Texas Gulf Coast region. Donors must be at least 17 years of age, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and be in good general health. Individuals who are 16 years old, at least 122 pounds, in good general health and have parental consent also may be eligible to donate. Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center is an independent, non-profit blood center that is not affiliated with the American Red Cross.

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MEDIA CONTACTS:

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