



# Media Alert

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**Gulf Coast Regional  
Blood Center**  
*Commit for Life.*

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## **BLOOD DRIVE TO BE HELD AS PARK RENAMED AFTER JOHNNY ROMANO**

*Public May Donate and Save Lives in Honor of Young Pro-Skater Who Lost Life to Cancer*

**WHAT:** The community is encouraged to donate at a blood drive in honor of Johnny Romano, an Oppe Elementary student and young pro-skater who lost his life to cancer last year. The drive will take place as friends, family and city officials gather at a ceremony to rename Galveston's Menard Park in Johnny's memory. The public is encouraged to *Commit for Life* and donate once a quarter to help keep a strong blood supply for cancer patients and others in need.

Johnny's family continues to further the cause of childhood cancer research and they share his story to help others. Read updates from Johnny's mother, Julie Romano, at her blog: <http://j-grom.blogspot.com>.

**WHEN:** April 25 – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**WHERE:** Menard Park  
2119 27th St.  
Galveston, TX 77550

To schedule your donation, visit [www.giveblood.org](http://www.giveblood.org) or call 1(888) 482-5663.

**ABOUT US:** Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center is asking its donors to *Commit for Life*. It takes three simple 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 health care facilities in a 25-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 their parents' consent also may donate. The donation process is simple, taking only about one hour. Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center is a nonprofit, independent blood center that is not affiliated with the American Red Cross.

**Interact with us on the Web:** [www.giveblood.org/blog](http://www.giveblood.org/blog) • [www.giveblood.org/Facebook](http://www.giveblood.org/Facebook) • [www.twitter.com/commitforlife](http://www.twitter.com/commitforlife) • [www.flickr.com/photos/commitforlife](http://www.flickr.com/photos/commitforlife)

### **MEDIA**

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