Seventh annual Red Cross Blood Drive at Gateway

Huntington – According to the American Red Cross, every two seconds someone in America needs blood.

The seventh annual Red Cross Blood Drive will take place in the Gateway High school gymnasium on Tuesday, November 7 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., where students, staff and community members can donate their blood for a great cause. Students 16 and older may donate, but must get a parent’s consent; donors 17 years or older do not need consent.

This event is organized and run by members of Gateway’s Red Cross Club. They are responsible for checking students in, setting up and cleaning up after donations, and checking on donors to make sure they are feeling well before and after they donate their blood. The blood that we give as a community qualifies student organizers for scholarship money, if enough people donate.

Anyone wishing to schedule an appointment may call (800) 733-2767. Walk-ins are also welcome and everyone is advised to bring a positive I.D.

Donors must be at least 17 years old, (16 years old with a signed parental permission form) and present a picture ID at the drive. They must also meet minimal weight and blood pressure requirements to donate, which are outlined on the Red Cross website and will be reviewed at the blood drive.

Those who sign up are advised to get a good night’s sleep, have a healthy meal ahead of time, and try to avoid fatty foods.

Sign-ups for students and staff will be in the high school cafeteria during lunch, the week starting October 30.

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