

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 4, 2009



BLOOD DONOR FRANK KNIGHT TO JOIN NEW CENTURY DONOR CLUB

(St. Petersburg, FL: 8/4/09) Franklin Knight III has donated whole blood as well as platelets with concurrent plasma for the past 50 years of his life. On Tuesday, August 18 at 10 am, he will donate again and achieve a milestone of having donated a total of 100 gallons of blood! The public is invited to attend a recognition event at 11:30 am that morning at Florida Blood Services (FBS) Corporate Offices, located at 10100 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St. N. in St. Petersburg.

Over the past few years, Florida Blood Services has had only 6 other donors give enough blood components regularly to reach the 100 gallon level of donations. Their names are, Dell Ward, Nick Marino Jr., John Vanberkel and Petra Stentz who donate at our Bradenton Center, Frank Aumack who gives at the Largo Donor Center, and Roy Richards who shares his gift of life at our Lakewood Ranch Center. In recognition of their commitment to saving patient lives a **Century Donor Club** plaque will be dedicated to them, as well as to Frank, at this event to which all have been invited to attend.

Frank Knight is a retired High School teacher having mentored students in Tampa Bay for 40 years. Early in his busy career when he gave blood less frequently, he did some self examination and decided to become "more serious about the really important things in my life, and one of those was to get back on a regular schedule of whole blood donations." Obviously, Frank took this resolution to heart and over the course of his donation history has helped to sustain or save an estimated 1,260 patient lives!

Three years ago, Frank reflected on paper why he donates so often. In closing he wrote, "I feel there is one basic underlying factor that guides me in my compulsion to donate. It has been the same reason that lead to a very successful forty-year career as a teacher. In both arenas I have been able to give of myself for the betterment of humanity. Does this make me feel really great? You bet! The real reward for me has been in the results from the act itself."

Headquartered in St. Petersburg Florida, FBS provides over 350,000 blood donations to patients at 92 hospitals and other ambulatory healthcare facilities throughout 42 Florida, Georgia, and Alabama counties, through the participation of volunteer donors.

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Additional Blood Supply Information is Available at www.fbsblood.org

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