

Blood drive held at hospital today



Photo provided

River Park employee Shanna Atterson shows one of the special T-shirts that will be given away during the Blood Assurance blood drive at River Park Hospital today from noon until 5 p.m. in the Medical Office Building Classroom.

River Park Hospital will hold a Blood Assurance blood drive today from noon until 5 p.m. in the Medical Office Building Classroom.

Since this is Memorial Day weekend, the hospital is holding this blood drive in honor of our troops and in memory of our troops and in memory of Spc. Jeremy Brown, who died serving his country in Afghanistan.

All donors will receive a free "American Heroes Give Blood" short sleeve T-shirt and a chance to win one of two Trek Cruiser Classic Steel Deluxe Bicycles to be given away Tuesday, June 1.

If you are eligible, please take the time to come and give. Donating blood takes, on average, less than 30 minutes and refreshments will be provided.

Donors must be at least 17 years old (16 with parental consent), weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good health. Certain medications and physical conditions may affect eligibility. Donating blood is safe, simple and saves lives.

Here are some facts about the importance of donating

blood:

- Someone needs blood every three seconds in the U.S.

- Someone needs blood every six seconds in our area.

- It takes over 400 donations every day to meet the need for blood in our area.

- One out of every 10 people entering a hospital needs blood.

- You stand a 95 percent chance of needing blood by age 72.

- One pint (one unit) of blood can help as many as four patients.

- The average American has 10 pints of blood in their body.

- Donated whole blood needs to be used within 35 days.

- Of all eligible donors, only 5 percent actually donate.

To donate, you must provide a valid form of ID as well as your name, address and telephone number.

Blood Assurance is a non-profit, full-service regional blood center that is responsible for providing all of the life-saving blood products used at River Park Hospital.