

Brady hosting bloodmobile Monday in honor of BHS grad

Written by Deb Egenberger
Friday, 11 January 2013 15:08 -

The American Red Cross is planning to add more staff members for a blood drive at the Brady Community Center 12:30-6:30 p.m. on Monday.

Because of the huge turnout in November, the Red Cross will send three additional nurses and have an extra cot available to cut down on wait time.

The last bloodmobile collected 45 units during a drive done in honor of long-time donor Terry Grasz, who was severely injured in an auto accident Oct. 25 and continues recovery in a Lincoln hospital.

This month's drive will be done in honor of Brady native Nyla Gengenbach Fenster, daughter of Delores Gengenbach of Brady.

Fenster is battling cancer and although she is home now she spent much of the time between Thanksgiving and New Years in the hospital. During that time, she received six blood transfusions.

Every two second, someone in the United States needs blood, according to the Red Cross. Fenster is only one of thousands of cancer patients, transplant recipients and accident victims who need blood transfusions each day.

Donors are reminded to begin drinking extra fluids a couple of days in advance. Carbonated drinks don't count.

Everyone 17 and older is eligible to donate. Sixteen-year-olds may donate with a signed parental permission form available at the school. First-time donors are asked to bring photo identification.

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The average age of blood donors in the Midwest is 57 so younger volunteers are needed.

Appointments are encouraged by calling Marilyn Bratten at 584-3257. Walk-ins are also welcome.