



# TOWN OF RIVERHEAD NEWS

Office of the Supervisor  
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## **TOWN SUPERVISOR SEAN WALTER ALERTS RESIDENTS OF AN EMERGENCY BLOOD SHORTAGE FOR THE AREA**

**Riverhead, NY** - The New York Blood Center (NYBC) has declared an emergency blood shortage in our area and is asking the public to please find time to donate blood to help replenish the community's blood supply.

According to NYBC, historically, during the summer months, blood centers have had to focus on building up the community's blood supply, as it tends to diminish due to seasonal factors. While summer months are marked by a long vacation period, with schools in recess and leisure time, the need for blood never takes a vacation.

Both Supervisor Walter and NYBC urge all who are eligible to donate blood. "The Town of Riverhead is committed to ensuring the safety and security of our entire community. We continue to support NYBC and their efforts to ensure that there is an adequately stocked blood supply in our community. A low blood supply is a major public safety concern that can affect all residents and visitors," said Supervisor Walter.

The NYBC strives to maintain a seven-day inventory of ALL types of blood that must be continually replenished, especially O negative blood. O negative blood is considered "universal" – it is in high demand and in short supply. They are encouraging individuals with this blood type to consider stepping forward and donating today.

"By spreading the word or even hosting your own blood drive, inviting friends, family and community organizations, you may save lives in your community," said Andrea Cefarelli, Executive Director of NYBC. "We are in dire need of O negative blood with a reserve that is currently below a two day supply, and that is just too low."

Supervisor Walter issued a proclamation to Susan Lingenfelter of the New York Blood Center (NYBC) at Wednesday's Town Board meeting proclaiming July as "Blood Donor Awareness Month" to bring awareness of the need to donate blood this summer.

The town's Senior Center will be the location of the July 11<sup>th</sup> blood drive hosted by the North Fork Community. Every donor will receive a McDonald's coupon for a free large sandwich with any purchase and will also receive a complimentary cookie from Hampton Coffee Company.

To donate blood, you must be a minimum weight of 110 lbs, have not had a tattoo in 12 months, be between the age of 16 and 75 (16 year olds must have parental permission - age 76 and over requires doctor's note), and bring ID with signature or photo. For more information on medical eligibility, please call 1-800-688-0900. For other blood drives and locations to donate, visit [nybloodcenter.org](http://nybloodcenter.org).

P R E S S   R E L E A S E

Town Supervisor Sean Walter Alerts Residents of an  
Emergency Blood Shortage for the Area



Below are a few of the Blood drives that are scheduled throughout the town this summer.

**July 11**

Manorville Firehouse  
14 Silas Carter Road, MANORVILLE, NY 11949  
Meeting room  
2:00 PM – 8:00 PM

North Fork Community  
Town of Riverhead Senior Center  
60 Shade Tree Lane, AQUEBOGUE, NY 11931  
Meeting room  
2:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Wading River Fire Department  
1503 North Country Road, WADING RIVER, NY 11792  
Large Meeting Room  
3:00 PM – 9:00 PM

**July 12**

North Shore Public Library  
250 Route 25A, SHOREHAM, NY 11786  
Large Meeting Rm  
12:30 PM – 6:30 PM

**July 17**

Assemblyman Anthony Palumbo  
Tanger Outlet Center-Food Court  
Tanger Drive, RIVERHEAD, NY 11901  
Busmobile  
2:00 PM – 8:00 PM

**July 27**

Sunken Ponds Estate Clubhouse – Stoneleigh Woods  
1350 Pebble Beach Path, RIVERHEAD, NY 11901  
Clubhouse  
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

**August 7**

Peconic Bay Medical Center  
1300 Roanoke Avenue, RIVERHEAD, NY 11901  
Conf. Rm A, B & C  
7:00 AM – 6:00 PM

**August 20**

North Shore United Methodist  
260 Route 25A, WADING RIVER, NY 11792  
Fellowship hall  
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**August 24**

Riverhead Free Library  
330 Court Street, RIVERHEAD, NY 11901  
Grand Room  
1:00 PM – 7:00 PM