

HardisonInk.com

Tri-County Area scores in Top 10 in five categories during 2017

Donors from here save 5,000-plus lives in one year



LifeSouth Director of District Operations J.D. Pettyjohn (left) presents *HardisonInk.com* owner Jeff M. Hardison with the 'Oscar' for being a media outlet to help attract blood donors to save lives in 2016. This *HardisonInk.com* file photo was taken during the 2017 LifeSouth Annual Media/Chairperson Appreciation Luncheon last year. Although he wanted to go this year, the

daily news website owner was otherwise engaged during the event that happened on Friday (Feb. 2, 2018).

2017 Photo By LifeSouth Regional Manager Trish Andress

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GAINESVILLE -- Blood drive chairpersons and members of the media were thanked Friday (Feb. 2) at the LifeSouth Annual Media/Chairperson Appreciation Luncheon held in Gainesville.

There are several categories for competition in this life-saving enterprise, and groups in the Tri-County Area of Levy, Dixie and Gilchrist counties placed in the Top 10 in five categories, including placing fourth highest of all competitors in the Overall Blood Drives. That is where people who donated at the Walmart in Chiefland, and they came from all over to donate there, brought that to be #4 in the Top 10 Overall Blood Drives category.

Community and Government are two Blood Drives, too, where Tri-County Area interests came in #1.

With three lives potentially saved per each one donor, just **from this list of Top 10 donor categories ALONE**, the people of the Tri-County Area of Levy, Dixie and Gilchrist counties saved an estimated 5,340 lives. There were many more donations where people from these three counties save lives in 2017 too.

Following are all of the Top 10 wins from Tri-County Area interests.

Top 10 Overall Blood Drives

#4 Walmart in Chiefland 408 donations in 2017 = 1,224 lives saved

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Top 10 Community Blood Drives

- #1 Chiefland Community Walmart 408 donations in 2017 = 1,224 lives saved
- #4 Bronson Community 118 donations in 2017 = 354 lives saved
- #6 Cedar Key Community 117 donations in 2017 = 351 lives saved
- #7 Dixie County Rotary 78 donations in 2017 = 234 lives saved
- #9 Williston Community 70 donations in 2017 = 210 lives saved

Top 10 Government Blood Drives

- #1 Lancaster Correctional Institution 109 donations in 2017 = 327 lives saved
- #6 Cross City Correctional Institution 77 donations in 2017 = 231 lives saved
- #10 Gilchrist County Courthouse 43 donations in 2017 = 129 lives saved

Top 10 High School Blood Drives

- #6 Bronson High School 94 donations in 2017 = 282 lives saved
- #7 Bell High School 65 donations in 2017 = 195 lives saved
- #9 Williston Middle High School 56 donations in 2017 = 168 lives saved

Top 10 Business Blood Drives

- #6 Suwannee Lumber 82 donations in 2017 = 246 lives saved

Top 10 Church Blood Drives

- #8 Williston First Baptist Church 43 donations in 2017 = 129 lives saved
- #9 Faith Baptist Church-Old Town 42 donations in 2017 = 126 lives saved

"Thank you to *HardisonInk.com* for their tireless work in informing the public when local blood supplies are low, posting stories and pictures of blood drives and for listing our community and special event blood drives on their calendar," a LifeSouth Community Blood Centers representative noted. "One hundred percent of the blood used in local hospitals is supplied by LifeSouth Community Blood Centers. Every donation matters to those patients; who may be our family members, neighbors, friends or coworkers. Our sincere appreciation goes out to our donor chairpersons and our community media."

LifeSouth Community Blood Centers is mailing the certificate of appreciation this year to *HardisonInk.com* due to the owner being called to other service and hence being unable to accept the award in Gainesville as he had planned.

"It's a great day to save a life!" publisher Jeff Hardison exclaimed as he read that comment from the LifeSouth representative who sent the email with information about the impact of blood donors from the Tri-County Area in 2017.