Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Bill Emmel, lifelong blood donor and community advocate for blood donations, who I have named as Citizen of the Month in the Fourth Congressional District for July 2001.

The significance of Bill’s commitment is profound. Particularly now, when Long Island is faced with a blood shortage crisis, his example is so important. He has helped to inspire a whole new generation of blood donors.

Bill has received the American Red Cross’s Silver Medal Award, which he has received each year since 1981. In his lifetime, he has donated 69 pints of whole blood and has made 91 platelet apheresis donations, for an incredible total of 129 whole blood donations. Bill and his family have been lifelong blood donors, helping to avoid another crisis in the future.

I urge all of my colleagues to recognize Bill Emmel’s commitment to blood donation and to support the American Red Cross and the American National Blood Bank.

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