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COMMUNITY BLOOD CENTER
give what's in your heart.

Springfield Clinic, LLP

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Springfield Clinic kicks off ninth annual High School Blood Challenge

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. – Lanphier High School's blood drive served as the backdrop for today's kick-off of the ninth annual Springfield Clinic High School Blood Challenge.

The Springfield Clinic High School Blood Challenge encourages high school students, faculty, friends and community members to donate blood in recognition of the high school of their choice.

Competing in three categories based on size, the high school in each category with the highest percentage of blood donations receives a $1,000 scholarship from Springfield Clinic to award to a graduating senior to further his or her education. The Medicine Shoppe of Springfield also awards a $500 scholarship to the school that is most improved from the previous year.

"I can honestly say that the High School Blood Challenge is one of the most rewarding projects we support at Springfield Clinic. We look forward to this time of year knowing that a new group of students will learn the importance of blood donation and others will return to support this life-saving effort," stated Mark Kuhn, Chief Administrative Officer at Springfield Clinic. "The collective efforts of the students, faculty, friends, family members, and of course the staff of the Central Illinois Community Blood Center, are truly outstanding. Springfield Clinic, for the ninth consecutive year, is honored to be their partner in this important cause."

"Springfield Clinic's dedication to this program over the past eight years has given area students a helping hand in continuing their education, as well as helped to save thousands of lives in area hospitals," said David Parsons, CEO of Central Illinois Community Blood Center. "We simply cannot thank Springfield Clinic enough for their generosity."

Blood drives will be held at the participating high schools, and the winners will be announced in May. Extra credit is awarded to those who donate the day before or after a holiday.

Donations for the Challenge may be made at your local high school blood drive, the donor center at 1134 S. Seventh Street in Springfield, or at any CICBC mobile blood drive. Donors can credit their donation to their favorite high school by telling the registrar at the drive.

“Area high schools provide a tremendous service to the community,” said Parsons. “Their blood donations account for over 20 percent of our annual blood supply. We cannot thank the students, faculty and community enough for all that they do to improve the lives of patients in area hospitals.”

A total of 8,418 blood donations were made during the 2008-2009 Springfield Clinic High School Blood Challenge. Triopia High School placed first in the small school category, Virden High School placed first in the middle size category and Sacred Heart-Griffin High School placed first in the large school category. Springfield High School was awarded the $500 scholarship for being most improved from the previous year. A total of 41 area high schools participated in the Challenge.

For more information on donating blood, or to schedule an appointment, contact Central Illinois Community Blood Center toll-free at 1-866-GIVE-BLD or visit www.CICBC.org. Walk–ins are always welcome!

Central Illinois Community Blood Center, a not-for-profit organization, is the provider of blood for 19 hospitals throughout central and southwestern Illinois. Central Illinois Community Blood Center collects more than 40,000 units of blood and blood products annually to meet the needs of patients in area hospitals.

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2009-2010 Springfield Clinic High School Blood Challenge
Participating Schools

Athens High School
Auburn High School
Bluffs High School
Calvary Academy
Capital Area Career Ctr
Carlinville High School
Carrollton High School
Edinburg High School
Franklin High School
Gillespie High School
Girard High School
Glenwood High School
Greenview High School
Hillsboro High School
IL School for the Deaf
Jacksonville High School
Lanphier High School
Lincoln Community High School
Lincolnwood High School
Lutheran High School
Meredosia High School
Morrisonville High School
Mount Pulaski High School
North Greene High School
Northwestern High School
Pawnee High School
Petersburg P.O.R.T.A. High School
Pittsfield High School
Pleasant Plains High School
Riverton High School
Rochester High School
Routt High School
Sacred Heart-Griffin High School
South Fork High School
Springfield High School
Springfield Southeast High School
Taylorville High School
Tri-City High School
Triopia High School
Virden High School
Waverly High School
Williamsville High School
Winchester High School