

Coordinator e-News



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Gallon Grads Are Great!

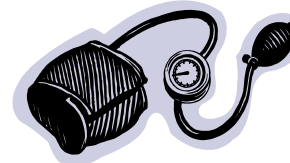
Our Gallon Grad Program was, once again, a huge success! Sixty-three graduating seniors, representing 22 area high schools, achieved this level. These young adults donated 522 pints of whole blood and 66 apheresis platelets and plasma.

The Gallon Grad Program is designed to honor high school students who have eight successful donations prior to graduation. Students can earn this status by donating whole blood and apheresis platelets and plasma at their school blood drives, community blood drives, or any of our donor centers! These students are recognized in front of their peers with a framed certificate and special graduation cord.

We are looking forward to continuing to work with our young donors to grow the Gallon Grad Program.



Important Updates on Blood Pressure Cuffs & Pulse



The Community Blood Center has upgraded to new blood pressure cuffs! In order for the blood pressure cuffs to work effectively, the cuff needs to make contact with bare skin. We are asking our donors to wear short-sleeved shirts, or make sure sleeves can be easily raised above the elbow.

The Blood Center is removing pulse readings from the blood donation process! Although we'll listen for irregular beats, we will no longer be counting pulse beats per minute, like we had done in the past. Pulse readings are not a requirement of donating blood and most blood centers have discontinued or are discontinuing the practice. If you know donors who have not been able to donate due to a high or low pulse, please encourage them to try to donate again—we'd love to see them!

~Friendly Reminder~

During the donation process, from sign-in through post-donation refreshments, we ask our donors to silence and put away cell phones. We want to lessen distractions, keep the donation process running smoothly, and ensure we have everyone's full attention.

Thank you!

Help us Boost our Summer Blood Donations— UP, UP, AND AWAY!

Blood donations decrease each summer. Many people take vacations or head to the lake during the summer. And 15% of blood donations are collected at school blood drives, which do not run during the summer. It is very challenging to collect enough donations in June, July and August. A big THANK YOU goes out to all of our sponsor groups who were able to host a blood drive (or two!) during the summer months. The need for blood doesn't take a summer break!

Make it 'Social'! Not like we ever need another reason to break out the ice cream in summer, but it *does* make a great themed blood drive! Host an ice cream social at your next blood drive- it's sure to bring in a few new donors.

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Coordinators of the Quarter

★ The Fox Valley Coordinator of the Quarter is Beth Miller from Nestle Foods! Beth puts amazing effort into her 2-day blood drive. She makes it fun and exciting to be a blood donor. Beth plans for replacement workers so donors can leave their line work and donate conveniently. Every donor is entered into a drawing for prizes. The May blood drive prizes included a laptop computer and tickets to the Manawa Rodeo. Nestle also promotes donating at the donor centers between drives- these donors also get entered into a prize drawing. At the end of the 2-day blood drive, Nestle had 199 people signed in to donate! Thank you, Beth, for all you do!

★ The Northwoods Coordinator of the Quarter is Marge Engel, the coordinator for the Winchester Woman's Civic Club. Marge and her members did an outstanding job recruiting donors for their drive on June 16. Her dedicated club members and their supporters had 24 donors come to the drive and also recruited 3 new donors! Their drive is now held at the new Winchester Municipal Building.

Best Practices of the Quarter

★ Jen at the Hand and Upper Extremity Center does a fantastic job with her blood drives! Jen's daughters volunteer to watch employees' children so they can donate, and also offers a great incentive for donating— an extra day off! Each time you donate, you earn a point, and the first person to 10 points wins the time off!

★ US Bank Consumer Loan and Lease calculated how many units have been donated at their drives, filled up clear gallon jugs with pink water, and arranged the jugs into a heart. This gave donors a great visual on just how many patients they have helped!

★ St. Jude the Apostle Parish in Oshkosh held their blood drive along with their Parish Picnic! They announced the blood drive throughout the picnic, and all donors who registered to donate earned meal tickets so they could fill up on goodies after donating! All donors were entered into a drawing for a chance to win prizes too!

★ Ministry St. Mary's Hospital in Rhinelander had a "**Dark Chocolate is Healthy**" promotion for their drive on June 2. Donors could learn why dark chocolate is beneficial and enter to win a solid dark chocolate basket filled with candy and/or a \$15 gift certificate to the Hospital gift shop.

★ Agra Industries in Merrill had an outstanding blood drive on April 28. They dedicated the drive to one of their employees' spouses who was ill. The coordinator, Carol Easter, and the staff all supported the drive. 26 units were collected!



Big Red's Quick Fact #9:

94% of blood donors are *registered voters*.

