



## Red Cross urges donors to give the perfect gift this winter

The American Red Cross is urging eligible donors to give the perfect gift this holiday season—a lifesaving blood donation. By rolling up their sleeves, donors can help ensure patients continue to receive treatment throughout the holiday season.

Busy holiday schedules and travel plans make it more challenging for regular donors to give, and many businesses and organizations postpone hosting blood drives during the holiday season for these same reasons. This can lead to a decline in blood donations, but the need is constant.

"While many of us gather with friends and family this time of year, patients may spend the holidays in a hospital room," said Jan Hale, interim communications manager of the Arizona Blood Services Region. "The need for blood doesn't take a break for the holidays. Please make an appointment to give the most meaningful gift of all — the gift of life through a blood donation."

"With just a little extra time at their appointment, donors can have an even greater impact on patients in need," added Hale.

Donors of all blood types are needed to give and help save hospital patients' lives. The next blood drive scheduled in Chandler is 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11., at the Hilton Phoenix Chandler, 2929 W. Frye Rd.

Blood donors with type O, B negative and A negative blood can help

more patients with one appointment by making a Power Red donation at select Red Cross blood donation centers and blood drives. Power Red donors give a concentrated dose of red blood cells — the most commonly transfused blood component. Red blood cells carry oxygen throughout the body and are frequently given to trauma and surgery patients. During a Power Red donation, red blood cells are separated from other blood components, and plasma and platelets are then safely and comfortably returned to the donor. Blood can be safely donated every 56 days, and double red cells can be donated every 112 days.

The Red Cross must collect approximately 14,000 blood and platelet donations every day for patients at about 2,600 hospitals and transfusion centers nationwide. Blood and platelets are needed to respond to patient emergencies, including accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those receiving treatment for leukemia, cancer or sickle cell disease.

To make an appointment to give blood, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call 800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Info: [redcrossblood.org/RapidPass](http://redcrossblood.org/RapidPass). Donors are encouraged to make appointments and complete the RapidPass online health history questionnaire at [redcrossblood.org/rapidpass](http://redcrossblood.org/rapidpass) to save time when donating.

## Community invited to discuss improvements to Dr. A.J. Chandler Park

A series of meetings to discuss the Dr. A.J. Chandler Park master plan are being held Wednesday, Dec. 7, in the Copper Room of the Downtown Library, 22 S. Delaware St. The project will examine the existing features of the park and develop a conceptual master plan to ensure the park will sustain current and future growth of the downtown.

City staff are meeting from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., members of the Downtown Chandler Community Partnership are meeting 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., and the public from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Originally developed in 1912, Dr. A.J. Chandler Park is a 5.62-acre special use park in the downtown core. It's located between Buffalo Street to the north, Boston Street to the south, San Marcos Place to the west and Arizona Place to the east. Arizona Avenue, which runs north and south, divides the park into

two areas.

Dr. Chandler envisioned a landscaped central park that would be surrounded by businesses. Today, the downtown storefronts have been restored to a modern version of their original turn-of-the-century look and both the downtown and park serve as a popular draw for family festivals, unique shops, entertainment and a variety of restaurants.

The park was last renovated in 1985. Since the park's initial renovation more than 30 years ago, the area has grown to also include residential development. The conceptual plan will recommend new improvements to the park, which will include sighting of amenities, development of plant palette, color palette, hardscape elements, site furnishings, light concepts, landforms, identifying circulation patterns, activity zones and buffer areas.



ICAN volunteers hold the #volunteerchandler sign.

## ICAN is first organization in state to receive service enterprise distinction

ICAN: Positive Programs for Youth is the first organization in Arizona to be certified as a Service Enterprise by Points of Light through the Governor's Office. ICAN completed an extensive assessment, over 20 hours of training and consulting and extensive internal planning and change.

Research conducted by the TCC Group, a national program and evaluation firm, found that organizations operating as Service Enterprises outperform

peer organizations on all aspects of organizational effectiveness and are more adaptable, sustainable, and capable of scaling their work. According to ICAN, it is now better equipped to leverage the time and talent of its volunteers to better meet its mission.

ICAN is a free, family-centered youth service in the East Valley that provides programs for youth, teens, families and the community. Info: 480-821-4207 or [icanaz.org](http://icanaz.org).

## P.B. Bell celebrates 40-year anniversary with giveaway

P.B. Bell, a multifamily housing and real estate development, management and acquisitions company, surprised a resident at its Alante at the Islands community at 2222 N. McQueen Rd. in Chandler with a month of free rent. The giveaway was the culmination of a year-long celebration marking P.B. Bell's 40-year anniversary, during which the company celebrated its milestone throughout the year by organizing 40 acts of kindness.

Outreach events included an outing to Build-A-Bear Workshop allowing P.B. Bell employees to build bears to be donated to the Child Life Services

team at Cardon Children's Hospital. In Peoria, P.B. Bell worked with city officials to arrange utility grants for several community residents. Other activities included employees cooking and serving dinner for patients and caregivers at the Mayo Hope Lodge, employees painting bells as part of Ben's Bells kindness project, and several other events at P.B. Bell communities.

P.B. Bell manages more than 9,000 apartment homes and has developed nearly 5,000 apartment units in 27 communities, many of which are award winning. Info: [pbbell.com](http://pbbell.com) or 480-951-2222.